



MENUCHA

Sacred Space - Purposeful Work

The Menucha Meander

PHILANTHROPY AT MENUCHA

Indiana University's Center on Philanthropy comes to Menucha! The first, in a series of courses known as the nationally acclaimed **Fund Raising School**, is being sponsored by Menucha and offered to our community and the non-profit sector. The premier course entitled *Principles & Techniques of Fund Raising* equips non-profit organizations with tools which will enable them to form the foundations for fund development. Individuals involved (or who would like to become involved) in fund development will be given the framework and inspiration to guide their non-profit organization to its financial goals. The value of this program has been recognized by a number of well known organizations such as the *Sierra Club*, *Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services*, *Wheaton College* and *St. Vincent Healthcare Foundation*. Thanks to the generosity of a number of



Photo courtesy of Indiana University

Menucha supporters the *Principles* course is being offered at a substantially lower-than-normal cost. Participants include members from:

- *Portland Rescue Mission*
- *Mt. Hood Community College*
- *Marion-Polk Food Share*
- *Willamette Valley Hospice*
- *The Koinonia Center*
- *Native American Youth Association*
- *Adventist Health*

Menucha is proud to be a partner with these organizations as they strengthen their own presence in the community. It is just one more example of Menucha making a difference. This course will take place March 19-23. Future fundraising workshops will concentrate on planned giving, preparing successful grants, the annual fund campaign, and the capital fund campaign. We will post more information on our web site as it becomes available. For the latest in workshop registration and course information, please see: www.menucha.org

Without fund raising, none of it happens!



LEND US YOUR SUPPORT—Rev. Spencer Parks, Executive Director



Talking about money is one of the most uncomfortable conversations people can have. For the most part, we avoid it all together. A question like “How much do you make?” or “How do you spend your money?” just doesn’t come up in polite society. It’s way too personal. In fact, the only folks I know who are comfortable asking these types of questions are financial planners. But as uncomfortable as it may be, those of us in the not-for-profit sector find ourselves talking about money a good bit. It is the life blood of our organizations. It is not the end to which we strive, but the means by which we accomplish our mission. “If we only had more financial resources,” goes the cry, “we could do so much more and reach so many more people.”

We at Menucha are no different. The greater our financial resources, the more impact we can have upon our community and the individual lives that make up our community. But how do you know that the gift you give will make a difference? That basic question is a good question to ask. Will your gift have an impact? Will it be used wisely? Will it go to achieve the greatest good?

There is a parable in the New Testament that speaks of financial responsibility (among other things). Briefly, it goes something like this: There is a fairly rich fellow that decides to leave town for a bit. He has (one presumes) many servants, but picks three to which he entrusts some money. To one he gives a large amount, to another a medium amount, and to a third a small amount. He goes on his extended vacation leaving instructions for these servants to “take care of his money.” When he returns, he finds that the first has invested wisely and is returning much more than he was given, the second also has invested wisely and returns more than he was given. Alas, the third buried his allotment and only has the original sum to return. Needless to say the rich guy was not pleased with the last servant.

At Menucha, we would like to think of ourselves more in the role of one of the first two servants. We take the gifts you give and use them to their maximum benefit. For example, because of the generosity of a number of people, we were able to grow over 10% last year while keeping our costs to other not-for-profit groups relatively stable. We were also able to offer our own retreats, conferences and workshops which help develop leadership in our community (and throughout the Pacific Northwest), empower individuals to reach their potential, and offer chances for folks to deepen their sense of spirituality (no matter what denomination, faith, or creed). Because of the gifts of others, we have had a more powerful impact on the lives of individuals than ever before. As we look to the future, we are planning even more events to address the needs around us.

Now for the uncomfortable, personal part. We need your financial support. We invite you to be a partner with us as we provide resources to individuals and communities throughout our area. The gift you give will help us grow, develop new conferences and workshops, and will reach out to countless people. It will show them that you care. It will make our world a little better. Please consider a donation to the Friends of Menucha Foundation; we’ve included a donor form on page 7. A few cents a day can add up to a significant gift. You don’t have to make your donation all in one lump sum, but can spread it out over a year or more. You can make a difference, for us at Menucha and for so many people who visit here. We promise to use your gift wisely. We promise that your gift will have an impact. We promise that, through your gift, the benefits to our community will come back with interest. Thank you so very much for your support.



EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE AT MENUCHA *Sunday, April 8* *6:30 a.m.*

You are cordially invited to attend the second annual Easter Sunrise service at Menucha. This community service, sponsored by Menucha and

the Presbyterian Churches of East Multnomah County, will begin at 6:30 a.m. Easter Sunday (April 8th). Weather permitting, we will gather at the pool area for a brief worship service. If the weather is poor, we will meet in Wright Hall.

Coffee, tea, hot cocoa and pastries will be served following the service. All are welcome. We hope you can join us as we celebrate together.



POST-EASTER SABBATH RETREAT April 9-11, 2007

For pastors and educators looking forward to a break after the very full Easter season, come to Menucha to rest, renew, and just relax with your colleagues.

Massage times are available on Tuesday April 10th, ½ hour or 1 hour with Massage Therapist Leslie Mellott (\$35 for ½ hour, \$60 for 1 hour).



If you just want to rest with a good book and do nothing, your wish is our command! The only schedule you need to worry about is the meal time. Join us for your Sabbath.

Please check one: Community Lodging & Meals **\$250.00** Semi-Private Lodging & Meals **\$360.00**

Please return this form with your check postmarked no later than March 16, 2007. Visa and MasterCard accepted

Online Registration is available on our website: www.menucha.org

Name (as you'd like it on your name tag): _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Physical/Dietary needs _____

Requested Roommate (Group okay) _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS: _____ Visa _____ MasterCard _____ Check enclosed (make payable to Menucha)

Name on card _____ Card # _____

Expiration date _____ Signature _____

Confirmation of all payments will be sent promptly.

Directions: www.menucha.org

Telephone: 503-695-2243

Email: office@menucha.org

Menucha is a community based ecumenical outreach ministry of First Presbyterian Church Portland, Oregon

The Small Church Conference was a successful event with lots of good information on the dynamics of small churches, leadership styles, and a wonderful time for networking among folks who are all leaders in small churches from across Oregon and Washington.



Representatives from multiple denominations were present, which broadened the scope of the conference and deepened the awareness and appreciation of one another's ministries to small church communities. Five dynamics of congregational transformation around the idea of the small church's corporate calling and eight characteristics of growing, developing small churches were explored. Due to the success of the event, plans are being laid to make it an annual event. Thanks to Rev. Jim Cushman, the conference had excellent informational content with enlightening discussions.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT Betty Jane Wright

I began working at Menucha in May, 1997. My friend, Sylvia Maly, had been working part-time in housekeeping at Menucha, telling me what a wonderful place it was. Because additional help was needed at the time, she encouraged me to apply. Since I had just decided to enroll my youngest son Paul in private school for the 6th grade, I thought a part-time job would be an opportunity to help cover tuition expenses.

I fell in love with Menucha from the first drive down the entrance road. Working at Menucha has been an ideal fit for me. A country girl at heart, I grew up on a farm in northwest Washington with immigrant Scandinavian parents. My early experiences supplied me with a strong work ethic to learn to do whatever needed to be done and do it well, whether it was thoroughly cleaning the house (and barn), milking cows or driving the tractor mowing and raking hay, or working in the garden. I have always loved serving the needs of others, and working co-operatively to get the job done.

I have developed many wonderful friendships with my co-workers at Menucha—it's like one big, happy extended family!

After I had been working six years part-

time, Madeline Richardson, Cindy Wheeler's assistant in Housekeeping, decided to retire, and I was offered the position in 2003. The timing was right for me to work full-time, because my children were pretty much grown, with four of them married and the youngest in high school.

My husband Bob and I have been married for 41 years. After graduating from UCLA, I taught elementary school in California for several years before we started our family. After our first child was born, I decided to be a stay-at-home mom. We moved to the Seattle area in 1978 with our two sons, Karl and Erik. We were blessed with three more children: Christopher, Amanda, and Paul. Having been a teacher, it was an easy decision for me to teach my children at home, so we became a "home-schooling" family. In late 1990, Bob was working at Boeing in Seattle and was transferred to Gresham. We then moved to Troutdale in 1991.

Our four oldest children are married and amongst them have provided us with eleven wonderful grandchildren so far. Our youngest son still lives at

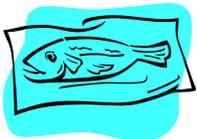


Betty Jane and her husband Bob with ten of their eleven grandchildren

home and works for his brother in his landscaping business.

In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my grandchildren (and their parents, of course). I also enjoy gardening and sewing, and traveling with my husband when we can get away!

I feel that working at Menucha is such an enjoyable privilege—not just a "job"! It is such a reward to feel "retreat" in your workplace and to see guests enjoy the wonders of Menucha, knowing that we have helped make it a clean, attractive, special place.



THE COOKTOP . . . A favorite recipe from the Menucha Kitchen — Enjoy! TANGY TOPPED SALMON Serves 9

1 ½ pounds salmon
½ cup sour cream
2/3 cup whole milk
3 eggs
1 cup croutons, crushed

¼ cup onion, finely chopped
¼ cup celery, finely chopped
4 teaspoons lemon juice
1 teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon pepper

1 1/3 cups mayonnaise
4 teaspoons prepared mustard
2 egg whites
Parsley flakes

Cook salmon (alone) at 350° for 10-15 minutes. Set aside.

Place sour cream, milk and eggs in mixer bowl. Beat on low speed until combined. Add crushed croutons to sour cream mixture and mix just until blended. Let stand for 10 minutes until croutons are softened. Beat again until mixture is smooth.

Crumble the salmon into a bowl, removing any bones you may find. Add onions, lemon juice, salt, pepper and crouton mixture. Mix well. Pour into a greased 8x8" baking dish. Bake at 350° for 20 minutes, or until a knife inserted in center comes out clean.

While salmon mixture bakes, mix mayonnaise and mustard. Beat egg whites until stiff. Fold in mayonnaise mixture. Spread on salmon. Return to oven and continue baking for 10-15 minutes, or until topping is slightly browned. Sprinkle with parsley. Cut into squares and serve.



MENUCHA NIGHTS : THE NADAL TELESCOPE AND HOW IT WORKS

Galileo Galilei, the 16th century genius, is credited with the invention of the first telescope and the first to view the moons of Jupiter and the rings of Saturn. This discovery gave credence to the Sun centered theory of Nicholas Copernicus and cast great doubt on the Earth centered system of Ptolemy. It was the Ptolemaic system that Rome preferred; it appeared to be most consistent with the scriptural interpretation of the time. Galileo's attempt to depart from the rigid beliefs in Rome got him into trouble with a capital T. So great was the threat posed by the thought that the creation was not exactly as it appeared to be in Genesis, Earth first and at the center, then the heavens, stars, moon and Sun, that Galileo was silenced and placed under house arrest for the rest of his life, leaving the continued pursuit of the "nature of the universe" to those who followed to champion.

History is replete with ironies of one sort or another. In the year that Galileo died, 1642, in the tiny hamlet of Wollingthorpe, England Isaac Newton was born into a dysfunctional family. His father died prior to his birth, and his mother turned him over to her parents at the age of 4 and departed after marrying Reverend Barnabas Smith. This traumatized and withdrawn child, in spite of an awkward childhood and with proper English grammar schooling, entered Cambridge's Trinity College. His genius was immediately recognized, and his place in history assured.

What has all this have to do with the Nadal telescope? In the course of his meteoric career, pun intended, Newton invented a telescope that utilized a mirror instead of a lens to gather light. He also was struck (by an apple, some say) with ideas about gravity and the role it played in the orbital mechanics of the solar system.

A telescope is an optical instrument that collects and focuses light. Celestial objects are either emitters or reflectors of light. Some telescopes, called refractors, use lenses to collect this light while others, called reflectors, use mirrors. The Nadal telescope is the latter with some important differences.

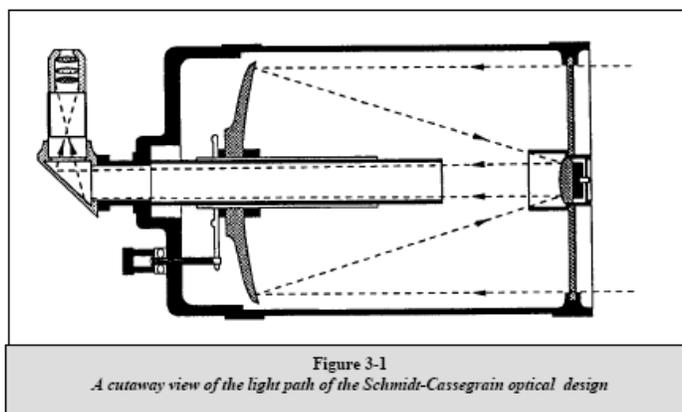
At this point I am going to ask you to refer to the diagram at the end of this piece as it will make it easier to understand what follows.

The Nadal telescope consists of a tube which is 11 inches in diameter, allowing it to accommodate a concave mirror with a diameter of 11 inches. This mirror, called the primary mirror, is located in the back of the telescope. Its role is to collect light from the object being viewed and focus it on the other mirror, called the secondary mirror, which is located in the front of the telescope facing the primary mirror. It is a convex mirror; its job is to send the light back through a 1 inch hole in the primary mirror where it strikes a third mirror called a diagonal. The light then passes through an eyepiece lens system which magnifies the image and enters the eye. The object that produced this image, if you are looking at the Andromeda galaxy, is 2.2 million ly (light years) from us. This means the light we are seeing began its "light speed" journey 2.2 million years ago. It also means that we are looking at an object that is 1,900,000,000,000,000 miles away! Of course the object we are looking is very large: 230,000,000,000,000 miles in diameter, making it no less an accomplishment.

The earth is rotating from west to east at a speed, at this latitude, of about 800 miles per hour and revolving about the sun at a speed of about 70,000 miles per hour. The telescope is on a moving platform, and is like trying to shoot a rabbit a mile away from a seat on a merry-go-round. The stars, galaxies and other stuff move as a result of an expanding Universe, but this has little effect compared to the other motions.

Thanks to space age and computer technology we have a solution. The telescope is equipped with a GPS and a computer. The GPS gives the telescope the ability to know where it is (latitude and longitude), when it is (date and time) and the computer has stored in its memory the precise location of 40,000 celestial objects. Once it is aligned on 2 pre-selected stars, all one has to do is select and enter the object using the key pad and it will find the object, center it and track it by moving in the opposite direction of the earth's rotation at just the right speed.

Now that you know how the telescope works, we invite you to come to Menucha and either attend a star party or volunteer to join our group of amateur astronomers and learn how to operate the telescope. David Leatherwood, Dan Rounsavell or Tom Showalter would be happy to talk with you — just contact the Menucha office (503-695-2243).





LABYRINTH UPDATE—Scott Crane, Program Director

In February a brief workshop at the Wednesday Feast (First Presbyterian Church, Portland) set off the next phase of our interest in and use of labyrinths. Menucha’s Rose Garden Labyrinth has been dormant under fallen leaves, some ice, and occasional snow. As spring unfolds, we anticipate at least three volunteer work groups between the first weekend of March and the start of summer. Thank you ahead of time to Women’s Retreat weekenders from First Presbyterian Church, Portland, the annual March spring clean up work group March 10 (it’s not too late to come!), and the Memorial Weekend work group (sign up early!). I would be happy to gather a few more folks at other times this spring to work on the labyrinth to ensure its completion in time for summer groups to use when they come to our sacred space.

The pictures show how far we have come. The tasks set before us are to continue laying the stone into the path, probably some re-leveling of the second half of the labyrinth, leaf clean up from the winter, and tucking it in with sand. I have a much better appreciation for stone masons and the art of matching stones like a jig-saw puzzle!



FACELIFT FOR “THE HABITAT”

Guests who will be staying in The Habitat will notice that we have been busy at work updating the facility.



Choosing a color palate of cream and green, the walls have been repainted, new carpet installed, and the curtains in Room 1 have been replaced. We have also added a coffee service out in the lobby.

The Habitat includes two large dormitory-style rooms, each sleeping up to 8 persons, with two showers, two toilets and three washbowls, each in separate areas.

The space is used either for a group which will sleep in the Habitat and meet in another meeting area, or to increase the sleeping space available to a group which has another building as its primary space.

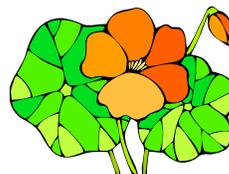
It’s been a long time coming, but we think you’ll enjoy the results.

THE MENUCHA GARDENS

With spring just around the corner, we begin to think about flowers and gardening. Although we have many established plantings and perennials growing on the Menucha grounds, we also have many spaces where we plant annuals.

Annuals are great for filling in bare spaces in perennial beds. When spring bulbs die back, for example, we can fill the void with annuals. Annuals also provide season-long interest in pots and containers.

If you would like to help by donating plants or seeds, we always accept donations! Some suggestions:



- Flats of bedding plants (petunias, impatiens, etc.)
- Asiatic lilies
- Packets of flower seeds (cosmos, zinnia, nasturtium)

If you have any questions, please contact Lynn Gibbons at Menucha (503-695-2243). His knowledge of the gardens at Menucha is amazing!



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

P.O. Box 8
Corbett, Oregon 97019

E-mail: office@friendsofmenuchafoundation.org
Web: www.friendsofmenuchafoundation.org

Phone 503.695.2243
Fax: 503.695.2223



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

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SAVE THE DATE!
5th Annual Harvest Dinner & Auction
Sunday, September 9, 2007

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

planned giv-ing: *verb* 1) An act of incredible philanthropic kindness. 2) A means to insure the future of the mission of Menucha. 3) Open to everyone and easier than you think. 4) May have positive tax consequences!

Remembering Menucha in your estate planning is a wonderful way to support the mission of Menucha for years to come. Due to recent changes in federal law, certain giving opportunities may be more attractive now than in the past (please consult with your financial planner concerning any tax questions). We have excellent representatives who can speak with you and answer any questions you might have about planned giving or estate planning. Please call our office (503-695-2243) for more details.

DONATE ONLINE

You can donate to Menucha using your credit card with our secure on-line form. Simply go to 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. Your gifts help us make Menucha available to groups and individuals from around the Pacific Northwest and beyond. We are grateful for your continued support.