



MENUCHA

Sacred Space - Purposeful Work

The Menucha Meander

MARINERS IN MISSION: Dedicated, Caring and Enthusiastic Volunteers



One definition of a volunteer is "someone who serves in a community primarily because they choose to do so." What an appropriate description of Mariners in Mission (MIMs). MIMs are retired Presbyterians who organize 2-4 work weeks each year at Presbyterian Camps, and Menucha was a grateful recipient of their time and talent for a week in April. The persistent rain could not dampen the enthusiasm of these dedicated, energetic volunteers who worked an amazing 413½ hours on:



- **THE BARN:** Removed and rebuilt handicap approach ramp
- **GARDENING:** Removed many bags and tarps full of garlic mustard, fern clippings and other leaves and debris; cleaned five pools in the rockery (most of which was done in the rain), planted and mulched 6 new apple trees, raked trails and collected limbs
- **THE HABITAT:** Removed old flooring and installed new floor tile, cove and baseboard; refitted doors, repainted bathrooms and showers, and reinstalled toilets
- **FURNITURE:** Repaired 8 chairs, and cleaned all the chairs in Wright Hall
- **OFFICE:** Filled out group readiness sheets and organized 3 years of back files. Thanks to Hazel for donating an electric stapler for the office—we love it!
- **BALLARD HALL:** Installed new tile in entryway
- **MAINTENANCE SHOP:** Made 10 signs, cut and assembled 14 bedrails, painted 2 large trellises, and sorted lumber
- **GIFT SHOP:** Organized inventory and put out new stock of shirts

"On behalf of the MIMs we express our thanks to you for the opportunity to be of service to your beautiful center. We got cold in the rain, but all was forgotten when we realized what we had accomplished. We liked the variety of work, and appreciated the opportunity to learn about Menucha."



THANK YOU, MIMs—we are grateful for your commitment to God's work!
Dale and Carolyn Cook
Jim Easter
Larry and Mary Ruth Embry
Norm and Avis Metz
Jack and Hazel Potts
Janet Siegel
John and Barb Taylor
Ray and Leatrice Thurston





THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS—YOU'RE PART OF THE FAMILY!

In this edition of our newsletter, we have highlighted a number of volunteers who have recently visited us. Ramps have been built, trails maintained, new floors laid, new signs made and installed; the list of accomplishments is lengthy. Our volunteers have logged well over 1200 hours at Menucha for this year alone. To put that into some sort of perspective, a person working full time would have only worked 880 hours in that same period. That is a huge savings for us, but to say that our volunteer's work just saves us a bit of coin vastly undervalues their contribution. There is an economic side to be sure. They free up time for paid staff to be more productive. They help us complete tasks when we are under the gun. They do indeed save us a great deal of money by helping out. But they provide so much more.



First, let me say that we understand the sacredness of time. It is a priceless gift from God that is to be used wisely and that, once used, can never be used again. We also understand that people have a choice in how to use their time and what kind of thought goes into making that choice. Therefore we understand the kind of gift people give when they volunteer here. We are even more grateful that they would choose to spend their time doing mundane tasks like weeding flower beds, mowing grass and washing windows. That they do these jobs with a smile on their face and a song in their heart is even more amazing. It is a humbling validation of the ministry and mission of Menucha. It serves to remind us all that Menucha plays an important role in the life of many individuals and communities. When we, as staff people, see the dedication of our volunteers, we are pushed even harder to make sure that we are worthy of such service.

Even though we are awed at the commitment of our volunteers and the time they spend here, there is a personal element for us as well. It doesn't matter whether we see a volunteer once a week or once a year, over time they become a part of our family. We eat together, we swap stories and since we share a common interest and goal, Menucha, we find ourselves becoming wrapped up in each other's lives. Somehow our volunteers are gently transitioned from people who come to work here into our friends. The service they provide is made all the more precious by the friendship they offer.

All of this is a rather round about way of saying "thank you" to all those who have spent time volunteering at Menucha. There really is no way we can tell you how much you mean to us nor is there a way to measure the service you provide to the countless people who visit us each year. We would like you to know that the grass you cut, the windows you wash and the flower beds you weed have a profound impact on our guests and our staff. Through your willingness to serve we have learned the truth behind the saying, "Volunteers are not paid—because they are priceless."

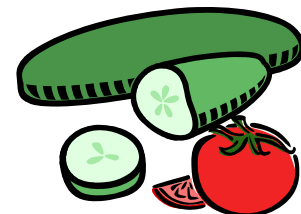
If you have been thinking about becoming one of our priceless volunteers we would encourage you to call our office. We have a number of volunteer jobs and work hard to assign you tasks that suit your interest, skill and time availability. There is much to do here. It will require the dedication of us all, volunteers and staff alike, to further the ministry and mission of Menucha. It is really great work....and we can't wait to welcome another member into our family. For more information about volunteer opportunities at Menucha please call our office at 503-695-2243.

THE COOKTOP—A favorite recipe from the Menucha Kitchen

TOMATO-CUCUMBER SALAD — serves 6

Simple and refreshing, great for a summer picnic

2 cups chopped tomatoes	¼ cup olive oil
2 cups chopped cucumbers (see note)	1 teaspoon minced garlic
¼ cup chopped red onion	¼ cup red wine vinegar
1 teaspoon salt	1 teaspoon basil
1 tablespoon fresh chopped parsley	Lettuce leaves



Mix tomatoes, cucumbers, red onion and salt; place in a colander. Drain for 30 minutes. Transfer to a bowl and add parsley.

Combine olive oil, garlic, vinegar and basil. Mix by hand or with blender. Pour over the salad and let chill for at least 1 hour. Salad can be chilled overnight, but does need to be stirred a couple of times before serving. Serve on a bed of lettuce leaves.

NOTE: English cucumbers do not need to be seeded and can be peeled in strips. Regular cucumbers need to be seeded and peeled.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

To register for any of these programs, please go to our website www.menucha.org or call Scott Crane at 503-695-2243

DEVELOPING MAJOR GIFTS October 29-31, 2007

The second program available through Indiana University is course two in the CFRM series. In this program, you learn the eight steps to developing major gift donations to your specific program.

The Fund Raising School is the only school of its kind housed in a university. It helps thousands of fundraising professionals per year around the world achieve new levels of success. Instructors from the school will teach the historical and philanthropic context, the current issues, and the art and science of fundraising and philanthropy at our lovely setting here at Menucha.

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY RETREAT The Practice of Spirit Nurture November 2-4, 2007

As this popular event heads into its second year, we are fortunate enough to have both Kathy Stewart and LaVae Robertson return as spiritual directors for a weekend of renewal, reflection and practice.

Note: The retreat will be held in November, a change from last year. Some new modules will be available in the Spirituality Center, now located separately from our gathering space. In addition, there are a few more options available for overnight accommodations — less top bunks, more semi-privates!

UPCOMING IN 2008

- Paul S. Wright Lecture Series
- Men's Conference: Coaching the Spirit
- Small Church Leadership
- Certified Christian Educator professional development courses
- Additional Fundraising courses through Indiana University's Center on Philanthropy
- Quilter's Retreat
- Oregon Presbyterian Pilgrimage

PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES OF FUND RAISING

August 6-10, 2007

This is the first course of four in the series leading to a Certificate for Fund Raising Management (CFRM). The course is taught by faculty from Indiana University's Center on Philanthropy Fund Raising School.

Online registration is available for this incredible course designed to set your nonprofit organization on the road to financial success.

As one person said upon taking the course last March, "It would be worth it to advertise with the folks in this and the surrounding Presbyteries, especially people at mid to large size churches and those in specialized ministries." — Jennifer Martin, Koinonia House, campus ministry at University of Oregon

NONPROFIT LEADER BOOT CAMP

September 17-21, 2007

The highly acclaimed Institute for Nonprofit Management at Portland State University will present a five-day immersion experience at Menucha to help you "hit the ground running" as a new nonprofit leader.

Boot Camp sessions combine theory and practice and cover critical areas of non-profit leadership.

In addition you'll learn about balancing work-life issues, develop a short-term plan of action, and have access to ongoing peer support and expert coaching. With this course, you get the edge to be well on your way!

Registration is two-part:

- **Tuition** to be arranged with Portland State University. Please contact the Institute for Nonprofit Management at Portland State, 503-725-8221 or Sharon Hasenjaeger by e-mail: hasenjs@pdx.edu or inpm@pdx.edu
- **Lodging and meals** for the week to be arranged directly with Menucha.



VOLUNTEERING AT MENUCHA

Volunteers are a growing part of the ministry at Menucha, and are a tremendous encouragement to our staff as well as our guests. Just this year alone, volunteers have given more than 1200 hours of service to Menucha.

No matter if you have just a few hours or can give us time on a weekly basis, there is a job that is right for you. We have a variety of tasks from landscaping to hosting our gift shop. There is beautiful scenery, new experiences, great food and good fellowship to be found here. If you are interested in volunteering on a regular or occasional basis, please contact the Menucha Office for a Volunteer Survey. We want your time here to be fulfilling and enjoyable, and we try to match people willing to share specific skills to jobs that fit into the framework of our mission. A variety of individuals, couples, families and groups have discovered what a rewarding experience volunteering at Menucha can be. Join us and enjoy the wonder and beauty of Menucha while being a vital part of our staff. We'd love to hear from you!



Volunteers Brenda and John Morris pulling garlic mustard

ROSE GARDEN LABYRINTH UPDATE



Our labyrinth has reached a milestone: it is nearly halfway finished! Several members of the Menucha staff have spent many hours prepping the site. In addition, this spring we have had a total of 60+ hours of volunteer work laying stone and brick. It looks wonderful—the pattern is easy to see now that so much of the stone has been laid. Our target date for completion is mid-summer.

Many thanks to George Erdenberger for all the volunteer hours he has given toward the planning, coordinating, directing and building of our labyrinth. His expertise and direction have been invaluable. The next time you come to Menucha, please drop by to see the progress we've made.

GoodSearch

SURF THE WEB AND HELP MENUCHA

What if you could support Menucha just by doing something you probably already do every day? We've found a unique way for anyone with a computer to donate money to Menucha each time they conduct a simple Web search.

GoodSearch, a search engine powered by Yahoo, will donate \$0.01 to Menucha for each search performed. The money GoodSearch donates comes from its advertisers, so it doesn't cost the users or the organizations anything. A penny per search doesn't sound like much. However, if 250 supporters pledge to raise money for Menucha, and each searches the web five times a day, that adds up to \$4500 a year!

Here are the ways you can start using GoodSearch:

- Go to the GoodSearch homepage (www.goodsearch.com) and indicate that you would like Menucha to be the charity of your choice.
- Download the GoodSearch Toolbar to your computer(s) from the same page.
- Make GoodSearch the homepage on all computers in your company or school.
- Tell your family and friends.
- Use GoodSearch whenever you search the web. Get great search results and support Menucha all at the same time!

For more information or help, please contact Scott Crane at Menucha, 503-695-2243.



5th ANNUAL MENUCHA HARVEST DINNER and FUNDRAISING AUCTION Sunday, September 9th • 5:00 pm in Wright Hall

There is excitement in the air as we look ahead to our 5th Annual Harvest Dinner and Fundraising Auction on September 9th. Wright Hall, built in 1927, turns 80 this year! We hope you'll plan to join us as we honor Menucha's past and look ahead to the future.

Co-chairs Justie Braestrup and Sharley Bryce and committee members are hard at work soliciting donations, thinking of creative and unique packages and opportunities, and planning for an evening of celebration.

*Hors d'oeuvres • Wine and champagne • Dinner
Raffle for Instant Wine Cellar
Silent Auction
Live auction with Pat & Pat Brothers
Cocktail attire*

Tickets are \$75 per person
or \$525 for a table of 8
and will go on sale July 16th



There are a number of ways you can support our event:

- Buy a ticket and join us!
- Purchase a table and invite friends to sit at your table
- Buy raffle tickets (\$25 each, or 5 for \$100) for the opportunity to win an Instant Wine Cellar (100 bottles)
- Give a cash donation
- Donate an item, service or one-of-a-kind experience for our silent or live auction.

Ideas include, but certainly are not limited to:

- Gift certificate from your favorite restaurant
- Weekend getaways to Sunriver, Oregon Coast, downtown Portland, Seattle, the Columbia Gorge, B&Bs
- Tickets to sporting events, cultural activities, local attractions
- Bottles of wine
- Airline miles
- Gift cards for movies, coffee, bookstores
- Gift baskets
- Timeshares
- Electronics (iPod, digital camera, etc.)



If you would like an auction donation form or have questions, contact the Menucha office at 503-695-2243.

Please save the date and plan to join us to honor our legacy. We invite you to help us continue as a valuable ministry of Portland First Presbyterian Church, serving groups and individuals from across the Pacific Northwest who find us to be a place of quiet rest, renewal, and restoration.

Save the date—you won't want to miss this wonderful evening to support Menucha.



THE BATTLE AGAINST THE INVASIVE GARLIC MUSTARD

Garlic Mustard is an invasive species that is endangering our community and potentially the Columbia River Gorge as a whole. East Multnomah County has one of the highest concentrations of the plant in the state, and according to a map put out by the East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, Corbett has the highest concentration of the infestation.

We at Menucha have noticed its spread over the last several years. It started taking over pockets of our lovely grounds and completely killing off the native flowers and forbs we cherish. Garlic Mustard does this by emitting a chemical from its roots that is poisonous to all other plants around it, killing them off and thus providing more room for itself in subsequent years. Each plant produces hundreds of seeds a year.



Lee Guelette, Industrial Weed Control, spraying one of the mono-culture sites at Menucha

We have responded in a number of ways. This spring Menucha received a \$1000 grant from the East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District to help us begin controlling the weed. We have worked with them and Industrial Weed Control to map the extent of it on our grounds, and have used an herbicide to spray out the monocultures. In addition, many volunteers have come to hand-pull more sensitive areas where we could not spray, or where there were too many other species that could be affected by the herbicide.



We will seek additional grants for continuation of this challenge, as seed can lay dormant for up to five years in the soil. We have many years of plants that have seeded into our woodlands and watershed areas. So far, it has not reached the base of the canyon trail and Chanticleer Creek, for which we are thankful, but it is poised to drop seed down that watershed if we don't act quickly and decisively to stop it.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped to weed it. Keep coming — there is more work to do!

THANK YOU to the East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, and especially to Julie DiLeone and Eann Rain. We are grateful for all their help, and for the \$1000 grant the EMSWCD awarded to Menucha. The monies were given specifically for garlic mustard removal, and were spent (with thanks to Lee from Industrial Weed Control) for labor and supplies for spraying. A special thanks to Julie for coming to Menucha and mapping the spread of garlic on our property.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? Walk your entire property and look for garlic mustard. The best identifying feature is the garlic odor of crushed leaves. If you know you have garlic mustard on your property, act now. If you find plants that you suspect to be garlic mustard, contact EMSWCD at 503-222-7645 x105. They can help with identification and provide technical assistance with control methods. Help us spread the word by sharing this information with your friends and neighbors. Don't let garlic mustard spread in Oregon!



You can find the Menucha Meander in full color on our webpage at www.menucha.org



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

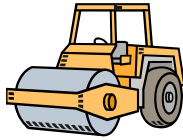
Phone 503.695.2243
Fax: 503.695.2223



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

NON-PROFIT ORG
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The work on Corbett Hill Road is done and Exit 22 has reopened!



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 giving: *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.