



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

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MENUCHA . . . Sacred Space, Purposeful Work

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:

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Email address _____

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

I would like to receive Menucha communications via:
 Email Regular mail

**PLANNED GIVING:
SECURING MENUCHA'S FUTURE**

Remembering Menucha in your estate planning can have positive consequences for both Menucha and you. By setting up a Charitable Trust, you provide Menucha with a source of income in the future while guaranteeing yourself and/or your loved ones a steady income stream now. You may even avoid costly capital gain taxes. It's a wonderful way to support the mission of Menucha for years to come. We have excellent representatives who can speak with you and your financial planner to answer any questions you might have about planned giving or estate planning. Please call our office at 503-695-2243 for more details.

DONATE ONLINE

Now, it's easier than ever to support Menucha. You can donate using your credit card with our secure on-line form. Simply go to www.menucha.org and click on the "Donate" link. You may also print out a Donor Form and mail it to Menucha.

We are grateful for all gifts, large or small. Your gifts help us expand our program, improve our facility and reach out to groups and individuals from around the Pacific Northwest and beyond. Please contact our office if you would like to remember someone special with your gift. Thank for your continued support.



We are grateful for all our guests who, this past year, have visited us and allowed us to share a part of their lives. It is truly a joy to be able to serve so many groups that do such wonderful work in our community and in our world. By serving groups like Habitat for Humanity, the Creative Arts Community, Pacific Northwest Great Teachers, Oregon Health Science University, the World Forestry Center, and the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards program (just to name a very few), we have witnessed commitment, passion and dedication. We have felt supported by your presence and privileged to offer you the hospitality of our hearts and hands. It has been a pleasure to work with you.

For all the volunteers who gave the most precious gift of their time, we cannot say "Thank you" enough. Your efforts totaled over 3200 hours this year. Through your commitment we have been able to improve our grounds, make progress in our battle against invasive plant species, and expand our services to our guests. You are an inspiration to us all and Menucha would suffer without your care.

It is with humble and thankful hearts that the staff at Menucha wishes you all the blessings of this holiday season. May it be a time of peace and joy in your lives, and may you be filled with hope and happiness.

Season's Greetings, The Menucha Staff



KITCHEN

Becky Lindsay, Food Service Director
Dennell Baher
Austin Bates
Sarah Bollenbacher
Colin Bradley
Adriana Lopez-Bierer
Josh Luna
Jeremy Martin
Mark Moshofsky
Jordan Potter
Shannen Sasaki
James Wilde
Jessica Winters



MAINTENANCE

Ernie Yoder, Maintenance Supervisor
Lynn Gibbons, Assistant Supervisor



OFFICE

Spencer Parks, Executive Director
Scott Crane, Program Director
Becky Leamy
Donna Leamy
Margaret McShea
Christine Olsen
Betty Welch



HOUSEKEEPING

Cindy Wheeler, Housekeeping Supervisor
Betty Jane Wright, Assistant Supervisor
Jeanette Handley
Laken Higbee
Marcia Lunsford
Denise Troen



MENUCHA COMMISSION MEMBERS

Victoria Alley	Dick Malin
Jenny Bergemann	Erich Merrill
Bob Blum	Kent Neff
Jon Clemens	Candace Primack
John Eddins	Mike Starosciak
George Erdenberger	Phyllis Whittington
Jeff Foley	Amy Wood
Murlan Kaufman	

**FRIENDS OF MENUCHA FOUNDATION
BOARD OF STEWARDS**

Joyce Malin, President
Nanita Sammons, Secretary
Erich Merrill, Treasurer
Erik and Shannon Berg
John Morris





THE FARM REPORT

Rev. Spencer Parks—Executive Director

A few months back Sarah, my wife, and I became landed residents of Corbett. For the past six years we have lived in the McCall House at Menucha. It was a lovely home with a spectacular view of the gorge, but it wasn't our home. The time seemed right so we bought a house just a few miles south of Menucha.

The house came with an attached farm. It's not a large piece of property—about 7 acres—but enough to keep us very busy in our spare time. Besides, it has been a secret dream of mine to do a little farming on the side. Sarah and I are becoming "sometimes farmers." We already have a few hens that provide us with eggs, a bit of free fertilizer and hours of entertainment. Plans are in the works for other livestock in the coming year.



In assessing things, I don't think it's been an actual functioning farm for some time. At one time we suspect there were horses on the property; possibly even cattle and other livestock, but that was years back. The barn roof leaks, the fences are more down than up, and the pastures are suffering from neglect. In fact, the whole of the property suffers from neglect, if not some abuse. I have long been under the opinion that successful farming wasn't trying to get the most out of the land that was possible, but rather taking care of the land so that it could produce the best possible. It's a subtle difference but an important one. It's one of the guiding principles behind sustainable farming. If you are a good steward over the land, the land in turn will provide; not just in the short term, but for years down the road.

I've already begun to see a difference in the few short months we've been there. We've trimmed back some undergrowth, mowed the pastures, started a rather large compost heap and taken care of a few fallen trees. There are fewer weeds in the pastures now. The place looks healthier. It's amazing to see how positively the land responds to just a little TLC. I like how that works. It's pleasing to care for something and to help restore it back to health and wholeness.

In that sense, I guess I've always been a farmer of sorts. For most of my adult life I've worked at places like Menucha. You see, we at Menucha aren't concerned with how much people produce, or getting the most out of a person, but rather we're much more concerned with making sure they are healthy and whole so that they can produce the best they can. We often see people who suffer from a kind of neglect (spiritual, and/or emotional) or people who are just tired and need a break from the everyday world. It is a wonderful thing to see how positively these folks respond to a little TLC. In that sense we see ourselves as being good stewards over the people who come here. We try and return them to the world a little better than when they arrived.

At this time of year I'm especially reminded that the people who come into our lives are a wonderful gift. They are to be treasured and cared for. We are thankful for all the people who have come into our lives this past year. We look forward to all those who will be apart of us in the year to come.

From all of us at Menucha, we wish you and your families all the blessings and happiness of this holiday season.



WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THOSE WHO HAVE GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED FRIENDS OF MENUCHA FOUNDATION

Nov. 16, 2009 - Nov. 15, 2010

SEVEN GENERATIONS (5000+)

Collins Foundation
Meyer Memorial Trust
Don and Rosemary Pullin
Wheeler Foundation

OLD GROWTH (2500-4999)

Erich and Laura Merrill
Chris Rasmussen
Chip and Nanita Sammons

TOUCHSTONE (1000-2499)

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Jerry and Sally Fish
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Ginny Bistodeau
Tim and Linda Killen
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Spencer Parks and
Sarah van Haeften
Peg Paulbach
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Pepper Pollock
Jeff and Mary Kay West
Tom and Kathy Withycombe

JOURNEY (500-999)

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Creative Arts Community
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Tom and Gayle Hughes
Marlin and Nancy Icenogle
John and Brenda Morris, Jr.
Marcia Randall
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Dan and Myra Rounsavell

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of Twins Clubs
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Matt Simpson and Linda McNulty
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Joe and Phyllis Whittington
Rich and Julie Williams

HERITAGE (100-249)

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Egon and Diana Bodtker
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Virginia Cate
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Ilene Hayes
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John and Sara Hortenstine
John and Emily Jo Jensen
Ted and Debbie Kaye

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Richard and Patricia Yeager

We appreciate the nearly 60 donors who have given amounts of less than \$100, and regret that space limitations prevent us from listing each of their names. Thank you!



FRIENDS OF MENUCHA FOUNDATION YEAR-END UPDATE

Joyce Malin, Foundation President

Holiday greetings, Menucha Friends.

The Friends of Menucha Foundation (FOMF) is completing its sixth year. These years have been exciting and rewarding, largely due to the vision, talent, time and commitment of two of its original stewards, Nanita Sammons and Erich Merrill. Nanita and Erich have been diligently leading the Foundation's efforts since its inception in December 2004 and are now finishing their second three-year term.

Under their leadership, FOMF has spearheaded fundraising support for Menucha primarily through appeals and events. The Annual International Croquet Tournament in the summer and the Fundraising Dinner each September, combined with our appeal letters, have been instrumental in providing Menucha the additional funds it needs to continue to be one of the finest retreat and conference centers in the Pacific Northwest.

Because of the groundwork that was done in the early years, FOMF was in the position this year to put its energies and talents into launching the *Raise the Roof* campaign. We are just over halfway to our goal. At this time next year we should all be enjoying the new chimneys, roof and foundation work that Wright Hall needs to continue to be Menucha's historical anchor for years to come.

Thank you Nanita and Erich! We thank you for your hard work on behalf of the Foundation. We are grateful that Nanita has agreed to stay on as Bookkeeper, but will miss you as Board Members.

With goodbyes come hellos, and FOMF is very pleased to introduce our newest stewards: John Morris, and Erik and Shannon Berg.

Many of you may know John from his long-time commitment of dedicated volunteerism on the grounds of Menucha, along with his wife Brenda. John is a member of First Presbyterian Church.

Erik and Shannon Berg are probably best known right now for their son, Charlie, who joined all of us just a few months ago and has become the highlight of our board meetings. Erik is employed at Intel Corporation and Shannon works at Gallatin Public Affairs. Erik has previously served on the Menucha Board of Commissioners. The Bergs are members of First Presbyterian Church.

On behalf of our old board and our new board, I wish all of you a blessed holiday season surrounded by friends, family, and those you hold dear. And I wish Menucha and its exceptional staff a New Year that surpasses all expectations. Menucha is truly a special place in the hearts and minds of all who travel down its winding paths.



A NOTE FROM ONE OF OUR RECENT GUESTS

My sister has had so many challenges in her 61 years. She and our family have praised God, sought God, worshiped God, trusted God, and thanked God. We have both been baptized in the Presbyterian Church.

It just seemed so fitting that we were having such a wonderful experience in the sacred space of Menucha. It was very touching to realize that God had a plan for us that day. It was nice to meet the staff, to view the center, and have such a wonderful time. THANK YOU for your warm welcome and the care that you took to help us enjoy Menucha.

—Carol



COMING SOON: MENUCHA'S OWN ESPRESSO BAR

For our guests who have to start their day with a latte, we have exciting news: Menucha will be opening its own espresso bar in the new year!

Located downstairs in the old prohibition bar in Wright Basement, guests will be able to purchase espresso drinks, cappuccinos, mochas, lattes, hot chocolate, as well as coffee with an assortment of flavorings. Pastries and cookies from our own kitchen will be available as well.

We are looking for a good name for our new coffee bar, and we need your suggestions! If we pick yours, you will receive a complimentary overnight stay in the Hideaway with breakfast for two.

Email suggestions to spencer@menucha.org by January 31st. Make sure to include your contact information. You may also mail us your suggestions to Menucha, PO Box 8, Corbett, OR 97019—attention, Espresso Bar.



THE COOKTOP

A Favorite Recipe from the Menucha Kitchen—Enjoy!

CHOCOLATE MOUSSE CAKE—serves 10

This delicious cake was one of the desserts served at the Menucha Ball, and would make a wonderful addition to your holiday table!

CRUST:

- 1 cup chopped walnuts
- 1 cup chopped hazelnuts or almonds
- ¼ cup butter, softened

FILLING:

- 1 pound chocolate chips, chopped
- 1 cup heavy cream, or you can use the whipped cream in a can, thawed as a heavy cream replacement
- 6 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup flour
- ⅓ cup sugar



Preheat oven to 325°. Prepare crust. Mix together nuts and butter. Press evenly over bottom and up sides of a 9-inch springform pan.

To prepare filling, in a small double boiler heat chocolate and cream over low heat, stirring constantly until chocolate is melted and smooth. Cool to room temperature, 10 minutes. Beat together eggs and vanilla at low speed until foamy. At high speed, gradually beat in flour and sugar until thick, 8 to 10 minutes. Fold in one third of egg mixture into melted chocolate mixture. Fold chocolate mixture, one-quarter at a time, into remaining egg mixture. Spread batter in prepared pan; smooth top.

Bake cake until puffed around outer edges, 45 minutes. Transfer pan to a wire rack to cool for 30 minutes. Remove sides of pan.

Chill cake for 4 hours or overnight. Garnish with whipped cream and orange twist, strawberry slice or chocolate.



MENUCHA PROGRAMS FOR 2011 ARE UP AND RUNNING!

Scott Crane, our Program Director, will be taking parental leave this next spring, but programs are still taking place at Menucha. Take a look at our program offerings for some incredible opportunities to spend quality time at Menucha in pursuit of purposeful work.



FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 3, 2011 PCCCA KITCHEN CONNECTION

The 2011 PCCCA (Presbyterian Church Camp and Conference Association) Kitchen Connection is a gathering of food service staff from camp and retreat ministries from across the United States and Canada. It provides an opportunity to exchange ideas, share recipes, and trade helpful hints among the people who best understand it all! Also included will be bread baking and a tour of three other facilities on the Pacific Coast. Come join us for a Pacific Northwest tour you won't forget!

MARCH 20-23, 2011 WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

Harold Walkup and Susan Spears, watercolor specialists, will present a double workshop at Menucha in March! Come paint with the best, practicing various techniques from using shape, texture and values or mixing your own special colors and using color sequences to express harmony and mood. You won't want to miss this event! Both Harold and Susan are members of the Watercolor Society of Oregon; Harold is the current president of the organization.



MAY 23-27, 2011 MENUCHA UKULELE BAND CAMP

We are excited to offer Menucha's first ever Ukulele Band Camp! Join us for four nights and three days of intense fun, ukulele instruction, and merry music making within the structure of a band, led by some of the ukulele world's finest band masters:

- James Hill – Ukulele Big Band Swing
- Del Rey – Skiffle Orchestra
- Jere and Greg Canote – Old Time Ukulele String Band
- Brook Adams – Rhythm & Blues.

Instrumental support provided by Matt Weiner on bass, Nova Karina Devonie on accordion, and Piper Heisig on percussion.



JUNE 2-5, 2011 COLUMBIA GORGE MOUNTAIN DULCIMER FESTIVAL

If you want to learn to play the mountain dulcimer, this festival is for you! Beginners through experienced players all gather for four days of amazing musical fun! Put us on your calendar and stay tuned for registration materials on the festival page! <http://www.menucha.org/programs/dulcimer-festival>

For additional details on any of our spring programs, go to our webpage <http://www.menucha.org/programs>



CELEBRATING 60 YEARS: FROM THE ARCHIVES



MENUCHA MEMOS by Lorraine Heller June 8, 1951

A new road, baseball field, and parking lot are in the preliminary stages of development. Bulldozing of these areas was done last week through equipment furnished by Mr. William Wylie of Howard Cooper Corporation. Mr. Wylie provided the bulldozer and operator for this particular work, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Glover, chairman of the committee of roads, parking and trails. Mr. Arthur James, chairman of the recreational facilities committee, also took over the operation of the bulldozer during the lunch hour and from the time that the regular operator left the job until dark. The parking area will provide room for 60 additional cars, while the additional road will make possible a one-way system of traffic and will also provide an entry road during the winter months.

One weekend the Young Adults formed a work party, went to Menucha and scrubbed the swimming pool and dressing rooms, getting them ready for summer activities. Then on Memorial Day they were at it again, this time their activities were centered on the tennis court which had long been in need of attention. The trees and shrubs hadn't grown up through the concrete floor, but they had reached in from all sides, trying to fill up the enclosure. Thanks to the Young Adults we now have a beautiful tennis court all neat and trim, ready for the new tennis net which was presented by Mr. Colin Livingstone.

On a Saturday morning the Altruas gave Guyer Grove a thorough sprucing up in anticipation of summer picnics. They did such a good job that Neil Fahrion enlisted them to work in the greenhouse. One day they transplanted into flats several hundred marigolds; a few weeks later they set these plants into well prepared flower beds. The Business and Professional Women did a splendid job cleaning and edging the flower beds around Wright Hall. They also spent many hours getting the rock garden and trails cleaned. A walk up the steps and around the fish pools is now a pleasure indeed.



A transformation has taken place in the rose garden. Under the guiding eye of James Cormack, many hands have contributed to this work and it has been changed from a wilderness into a beautiful and inspiring place.

The House Furnishing and Decoration Committee for Menucha is helping prepare for a busy summer season. Thanks to members and friends of the church, Menucha has become a convenient and comfortable retreat and conference center, but a few things are urgently needed immediately. Individuals or groups could help by gifts of money, material, or time for the following specific items:

- Money for a beautiful sacred picture in color for the main entrance hall so that guests will know at once that Menucha is dedicated to Christian purposes.
- Books for use of those attending the conferences and retreats.
- High chairs or seats for small children for the dining room.
- Money for curtain material for windows of guest house porch, recently converted into sleeping space, for shades for necessary privacy; and for dining room windows where the summer sun can be most annoying to diners facing the light.
- Shower curtains and washable mats or rugs for the bathrooms.
- Rugs of all sizes. The committee would like to see the rugs to check on size and suitability and would be glad to call on potential givers.