



MENUCHA CONFERENCE CENTER
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The Menucha Meander



MENUCHA SUMMER FAIR & ICE CREAM SOCIAL Saturday, August 11 from 10 am – 4 pm

Want to spend a nice summer day at Menucha? The Friends of Menucha Foundation invites you to join us for our 1st Annual Summer Fair and Ice Cream Social.

This new event has something for everyone: vendors and crafts, lawn games, face painting, a magician and lots of music. Menucha's kitchen will serve ice cream plus other picnic-style food. Admission is only \$10; kids 12 and under get in for free. (Admission includes games, music and an ice cream sundae; food and vendors are an additional cost.) Bring the whole family! This is a fundraiser, so please bring your friends, too!

Tickets are available online, www.menucha.org/tickets or at the gate. We hope to see you there!

16th ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER "The Road Ahead"

Sunday, September 9 • 5:30 pm

Honorary chairs: Don and Norma Fales • Guest Speaker: Gordon Kennedy

We invite you to join us as we celebrate Menucha at our annual dinner on September 9th. The evening begins with wine, hors d'oeuvres, champagne and live music on the terrace overlooking the beautiful Columbia River Gorge. You'll move into the elegant Great Hall to enjoy an amazing three-course dinner prepared by Menucha's incredible kitchen staff. The highlight of the evening centers around Menucha and why it is vital for individuals, families and communities to experience this wonderful place. The monies raised will benefit "The Road Ahead" campaign.



Don and Norma Fales moved from Klamath Falls to Beaverton in 1965. Norma's first experience at Menucha was for a St. Andrew's Presbyterian women's retreat. Their Spinnaker Mariners group also had its first retreat at Menucha with Dr. Paul Wright as their leader. They became members of First Presbyterian in 1993, and both have especially enjoyed choir retreats throughout the years at Menucha. Their Empty Nester fellowship group was responsible for organizing the Menucha Ball for five years, and they have attended many Menucha events: Palm Sunday Brunches, retiree luncheons, and the annual Fundraising Dinner. They have been blessed with two wonderful daughters, and have three grandchildren. It is a joy to have them as our honorary chairs.



Gordon Kennedy was introduced to Menucha as a child when he came here with his parents, longtime First Presbyterian Church members, Evan and Betty Lou. After college Gordon and his wife Liisa Mannery settled in Seattle. In 2011 he was delighted to see an advertisement for our first Ukulele Band Camp. As a uke aficionado, he jumped at the chance to make music at Menucha. While here, he noticed the Menucha maps put out for guests could use a little freshening. He offered to share his professional expertise as a cartographer and created the beautiful new map we use today. We so appreciate Gordon's gift of time and talent, and look forward to having him with us.

Tickets for table sponsorships and individual seats will go on sale on Sunday, July 22nd. We hope you'll come and celebrate with us as we raise funds to support Menucha.

Summer 2018

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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.friendsofmenuchafoundation.org and click on the "Donate Today" 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 programs, 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 you for your continued support.



DREAMS AND VISIONS

Rev. Spencer Parks, Executive Director

Lately, as part of our weekly staff meetings, we've asked our department heads to share their vision for their areas of responsibility. This has been helpful as we all are now privy to the hopes and dreams of our department leaders. We not only know their direction, but we have found out some of the road blocks they are facing and have learned how we might help them achieve their goals. Ultimately, I think this makes our staff stronger and Menucha a more robust facility.



Frankly, I think having a vision is not just important, but fundamentally basic to moving forward. Without a vision, there is no direction, no goal, and thus no progress. Moreover, I think the better defined a vision is, the more likely it is to be achieved. I once knew of a financial planner who, during his seminars on retirement, said, "It's good to have a vision of what you would like retirement to be. Saying things like 'I'd like to own a sports car' is a good start. But if you say something like 'I'd like to drive a red, convertible Corvette with white leather seats' you raise the probabilities of achieving your vision considerably."

A vision provides a kind of road map as well. If you can define the end goal, the steps to getting there become clearer. You can plan more efficiently and waste less time, money and energy. In short, if you want to intentionally get anything done, a vision is a great place to start.

I truly believe that the Menucha staff and the facility as a whole is a great incubator for visions, dreams and plans of all sorts. First, we start off by providing an environment where guests feel relaxed and comfortable. It's kind of like I remember my grandmother's house. When we visited, I knew it definitely wasn't home, but I felt just as cared for there as I did in my own home. It was a place where I was allowed to be me and I was accepted for who I was. And just like at grandmother's house, we'll feed you well too!

That great hospitality is followed up with a truly inspiring physical environment. Our views of the Columbia River Gorge, the grounds with so many places to play and relax, and our hiking trails that allow you to get away and think, all provide the perfect environment for dreams and vision to form.

Hundreds of groups every year come to us to dream and plan. Our work at Menucha has helped be the catalyst for new programs, better organizations and energized people. It's a part of our identity that we take very seriously because we know that without clear visions and thoughtful planning, the world would be a lot less compassionate, kind and healthy. It's what makes us different from other retreat and conference centers. It's how we make a difference in our part of the world.

We hope you'll be able to visit us soon. Plan some time here either as an individual or as a group and dream up something inspiring!

FACILITIES UPDATE—Tim Kurkinen, Facility Operations Director

We have a few things planned for this summer. Besides preparing for the Summer Fair in August and the Fundraising Dinner in September, we have plans to pave and repair the Menucha roads, buy a new tractor, repair decks, paint some buildings and do some much needed tree work.



The paving may require a two-stage process since road work is easiest to do when Menucha is not so busy. Replacing our older tractor will be a great improvement for our grounds maintenance. Much of Menucha's equipment and machinery is old and well used, but it lasts a long time because we take care of it. That's why we have tractors and trucks that are over thirty years old. We are grateful to have the support to do so when there is a need.

Deck repairs, painting, and tree work to clean up winter damage are on our summer maintenance schedule as well. We will also have a few volunteer work days through the summer and into the fall, so keep an eye out for those opportunities.

We hope to see you at Menucha this summer!

WE WILL MISS YOU, JOHN AND BRENDA!

On March 29, 2007, John and Brenda Morris came to Menucha to volunteer for the very first time. During the past 11 years, they have done a wide variety of tasks, including:

- weeding flower beds in the rockery, the labyrinth and around buildings,
- planting bulbs, mowing lawns, picking up limbs and raking leaves,
- whacking weeds and keeping the entrance road looking great,
- working in the cutting garden, mulching and trimming
- clearing brush and trails, and folding brochures



John also volunteered his time for a number of years on the Menucha Commission and the Friends of Menucha Foundation Board of Stewards.

Together, John and Brenda have accumulated more than 4,500 volunteer hours! We couldn't ask for happier volunteers. They both always arrive with smiles on their faces and willing attitudes to do whatever needs to be done.

Life is full of great adventures, and John and Brenda are about to embark on a brand new one. It isn't easy to see them go, but we will cherish our many good memories of their time at Menucha.

May love and laughter light your days, and warm your heart and home.

May good and faithful friends be yours wherever you may roam.

May peace and plenty bless your world with joy that long endures.

May all life's passing seasons bring the best to you and yours.

John and Brenda, you will always hold a special place in our hearts!



SUPPORT THE MINISTRY OF MENUCHA BY VOLUNTEERING

Lucinda Rydell, Volunteer Coordinator

At Menucha we encourage and support purposeful work in this sacred space so guests who come here will return to their own communities rejuvenated and better able to serve their fellow human beings.

There are a lot of things that come together to make this happen on a daily basis. As a nonprofit serving other nonprofits, Menucha, by design, operates on a shoestring budget.

For years, we've welcomed, and thrived because of, many volunteers who've invested hours and energy into furthering the vision and mission of Menucha. For that we are grateful. Though we've enjoyed working with groups and many individual volunteers, we've only scratched the surface in terms of what we could accomplish by partnering with a larger pool of volunteer partners. With that in mind, we're looking to expand and develop our Menucha volunteer program.

We need help getting the word out about Menucha volunteer opportunities. Who do you know that might be interested in partnering with us in this way? We're looking for:

- **Corporate Partners:** More and more companies are recognizing the benefits of encouraging their employees to volunteer. It develops camaraderie among employee groups and it can be gratifying for individuals, promoting a sense of well-being...happy employees equals higher productivity. It's a win-win!
- **Community Partners:** We're located in a beautiful part of the world and surrounded by many who appreciate it and desire to preserve it. We'd love to expand our reach into the community, both to serve and to partner with those who want to support our mission.
- **Individual and Organizational Partners:** Many people and organizations have benefitted from all that Menucha has to offer. We often hear from our guests about how much they love and appreciate the space here. Offering volunteer opportunities can give our groups and individual guests a way to give back in tangible ways.
- **YOU!** What do you know how to do that might help Menucha? Please talk with us! Projects are always available, from small to large and accommodating almost any skill set. Come join with us in our work of providing a beautiful, sacred space for those who need it. Bring your friends, family, youth group, or church group. If you've got time, skills and talents you would like to share, please contact us.

Call Lucinda Rydell in the Menucha office, 503-695-2243, email her at lucinda@menucha.org, or visit our website, Menucha.org/volunteer-opportunities for more information.



THE COOKTOP

a favorite recipe from the Menucha Kitchen

MENUCHA JAM—Makes about 9 cups

5 cups crushed berries

7 cups sugar

1 package fruit pectin

Measure berries into a saucepan and bring to simmer.

Measure exact amount of sugar into a separate bowl.

Stir 1 package of fruit pectin into the crushed berries. Bring mixture to a rolling boil on high heat, stirring constantly.

Add sugar to fruit mixture in saucepan. Return to full rolling boil; boil exactly one minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Skim off any foam with a spoon.

Cool in jars at room temperature to set.



ANNOUNCING MENUCHA'S 2019 CALENDAR CONTEST WINNERS

Thank you to all who participated in our first annual Menucha Photo Calendar Contest! We received more than 30 photographs conveying Menucha's beauty in ways large (like gorge views) and small (a hummingbird). A panel of judges reviewed these images without knowing who submitted them, ultimately selecting 14 pictures for publication. (April has a pair of flower photos; June has a pair of animal photos.) Two talented photographers, Joe Whittington and Lizann Schultz, had more than one photo chosen.

Our 2019 Menucha Photo Calendar Contest Winners are:

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|--|-----------------------------|
| • January, February, March: Joe Whittington | • August: Joey Razzano |
| • April: Audrey Schindler and Lizann Schultz | • September: Nancy Woods |
| • May: Gretchen Stahmer | • October: Nicole Keim |
| • June: Lizann Schultz | • November: Joe Whittington |
| • July: Jeannine Powers | • December: Karen J. Hawley |

The Grand Prize Winner (chosen from among the winners by the whole Menucha staff): Joe Whittington's photograph of sky reflected in a rock garden pond. Congratulations, Joe!

Every entrant will receive a complimentary copy of the calendar later this summer. Winners will receive five copies, and our grand prize winner will also receive a night in the Hideaway with breakfast for two. "We're delighted with how this is turning out," said Menucha's Executive Director Spencer Parks. "Big thanks to all who participated and to Jennifer Matthewson, who volunteered many hours to make this dream a reality for us."

Please consider our 2019 calendar as you plan your holiday giving. They will be available for purchase in our gift shop and on our website starting in September.



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Follow us on Twitter
[@MenuchaRetreat](https://twitter.com/MenuchaRetreat)



CHECK OUT OUR MENUCHA PROGRAMS

BLUES IN THE GORGE

September 28-October 2, 2018



We have just a few remaining spots for a week with Blues legends Mary Flower, Duke Robillard, Pat Donohue and Michael Jerome Browne. These players not only know how to perform, they are excellent teachers. More information and registration links are available on our website, www.menucha.org/program

Don't play the guitar? Come listen and soak up the sounds at the Acoustic Blues Masters Concert on Sunday, September 30 at the Grange Hall in Corbett. Show starts at 7:00 pm. Tickets will be available from our website.

FALL WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP: “ELEMENTS OF NATURE AND TEXTURE”

with ANJI GRAINGER October 29-November 1, 2018

Join Anji Grainger in exploring nontraditional techniques to use alongside watercolors. In the workshop you will create dynamic, textured patterns in your watercolor paintings by using plant materials, herbs, legumes, salt, stones and other elements. See how watercolor pigments react and leave beautiful patterns on your paper. The workshop will also emphasize composition and design principles.



BLUEGRASS IN THE GORGE -“Let's do it again!”

We are so thankful for Laurie Lewis, Tom Rozum, Brandon Godman and Justin Hiltner, who shared themselves and their love for bluegrass at our inaugural “Bluegrass in the Gorge.” During the fourth week of April, sounds of bluegrass filled the air all around Menucha. Participants and leaders alike enjoyed the fabulous weather, but even more so, the ways that music draws people together. Two songs we heard sung during the course of the event point to the heart of what Menucha is and does by bringing people together:

“A Beautiful Life”

Each day I'll do a golden deed
By helping those who are in need
My life on earth is but a span
And so I'll do the best I can

“Here Today” (Laurie Lewis & Scott Huffman)

We're here today, and then we're gone
This life will end just like a song
We only have this little time
So come and let our voices 'twine

If you missed it this year, we'll open registration in the fall for our 2nd Annual Bluegrass in the Gorge, April 17-20, 2019 with Laurie Lewis and Friends!



Find all the details at menucha.org/programs

WHAT'S COMING IN 2019

February 11-14, 2019	Transitional Ministry Workshop
February 15-17, 2019	Scrap & Sew Craft Retreat #1
March 25-29, 2019	Ukulele Band Camp
April 8-11, 2019	Menucha Dulcimer Festival
April 17-20, 2019	Bluegrass in the Gorge
May 6-9, 2019	Spring Watercolor Workshop with Judy Morris
May 10-12, 2019	Scrap & Sew Craft Retreat #2
September 25-29, 2019	Blues in the Gorge
October 27-31, 2019	Fall Watercolor Workshop with Chris Stubbs & Rene Eisenbart
November 2-4, 2019	Scrap & Sew Craft Retreat #3

