

JULY 2010

## community news

### SUMMER

#### WE ARE A SOCIAL CENTER BY JUNE GUMZ

Last month, the **Women's Retreat** was held at the usual place, Silver Falls Conference Center. Maggie Cole, Sharon Foley, Linda Rossi, LaRhonda Steele and Janice Scroggins provided 36 women with ideas, music, love and freedom. The lovely setting, the cozy accommodations, and occasional sightings of blue sky made camaraderie easy.



Cheri Smith and LaRhonda Steele perform Interpretive reading at the talent show.

The talent show this year broke all records for length. Many people were featured several times and even shy folks wanted to express themselves. There was an infusion of "new" women, which added to the festivities. Now that the PCSL men are forming a group, perhaps they will have their own version of an annual retreat.

**Divine Dining is underway.** The process for deciding which dinners/parties to attend was less chaotic. Last year we bid on the meals and got them, or not, depending on the strength of our bids. This year it was cash on the line with a ticket to prove your right to attend. Personally, I was in such a hurry to get tickets to the dinners I wanted, that I didn't notice that two were scheduled at the same time on the same day. Sigh, I brightened someone's day by giving them a paid ticket to attend one of my choices.

My daughter-in-law, Sachiko Manome, enjoyed teaching my divine diners how to make sushi rolls, which everyone shared at our "**Authentic Japanese Dinner.**" Larry says that his "**'80s Flashback**" divine dining (actually dancing) went very well. By the time this is printed, many more gatherings will have transpired. We are a social Center.

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*Beautiful Abundance  
is everywhere.*



Five-course Japanese dinner begins with sushi demonstration. Al Kaufman learns how to roll from Sachiko Manome and son, Pierson.



Jose & Suzi Farmer-Agricola dance to '80s music.



Annette Sanders & Charlotte Fry sample the night-club snacks.

## GET TO KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY BY JUNE GUMZ

### LEXY DILLON - A FASCINATING LADY



Lexy Dillon

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*We are responsible for  
co-creating our lives.*

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**Many of you may not know her name**, but you know she is the nice lady who is director of youth church. Well, there is more to Lexy Dillon than her five-year teaching stint at PCSL!

Did you know she has a Master's Degree in Human Resources, which she obtained in her 50s? In that decade she also did two cross-country bike rides in Wisconsin and Iowa. Did you know she was in the Peace Corp in Chile in the 1960s? Would you believe Lexy crewed for Hot Air Balloons when she lived in Philomath? Who knew?

Lexy is short for Alexsan. She was attracted to Religious Science because of her "fuzzy concept of God." She likes the idea that we are responsible for co-creating our lives and that we incorporate sacred teachings from around the world. "Jesus dying for my sins never fit for me."

One of Lexy's favorite pastimes is acting. She loves the whole process of creating a separate person and working with others to bring enjoyment, laughter or new thoughts to the audience. Now that she has retired, she plans to do more theatre work.

Speaking of retirement, Lexy has a huge list of things she plans to tackle with her new found freedom: visiting her sons more often, creating a garden, learning to weave, volunteering for hospice, traveling to foreign places, and spending time at her family's cabin near Tahoe.

Theatre and youth church are similar processes according to Lexy. They are creative group processes, which entertain and educate. She wants to attract more children to our Center so that we aren't strictly a place for old ladies and gentlemen. She isn't prejudiced against older people, since she is one herself, she is just interested in an age diversity, which will enliven the place and give children a sense of their uniqueness.



*Lexy In front of the church on Lemuy Island, Chile, where she and her husband lived while in the Peace Corp.*



*Lexy and her granddaughter visit a deserted beach on the island of Chiloé in southern Chile. The Pacific Ocean is in the background.*

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#### Editor's Note:

*I will put in a personal plug for youth church. The older children could be learning SOM principles but Lexy needs more help. It is difficult to make lesson plans for ages two through fourteen. If you feel inspired to assist, talk to the nice lady who works with the kids upstairs.*

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## SPIRITUAL LEADER'S MESSAGE

### SUMMER FUN AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT

**Hello Everyone**, I trust you're enjoying the summer as much as I am. I've been to two **Divine Dining** parties so far and have been so pleased to connect with people from the Center on a deeper, more personal level. Many thanks to the 15 hosts that are opening up their hearts and homes to other folks at PCSL. But Divine Dining is only one of the ways we're creating a *Summer of Connection*.

The **Annual Picnic** is a little over a week away (July 25th). This is a traditional family event that gets bigger every year. The Center supplies the meat (or vegetarian "meat-less") and everyone else brings the best picnic potluck side dishes. Peninsula Park provides a sweet location for an easygoing afternoon of conversation, food and fun.

We'll top-off the summer with the **Annual Community Retreat** at Menucha at the end of September. This year the theme is Spirit Soars! We'll have three days together overlooking the Columbia Gorge. With kite flying, treasure hunts, spiritual workshops and family activities, there will truly be something for everyone.

Please join me in our *Summer of Connection*. We have such great moments together—let's take the time to get to know one another even better! All of these events (and more) are highlighted in this issue of our newsletter and on-line at [www.pcsl.us/calendar](http://www.pcsl.us/calendar).

Much Love and  
Many Blessings!

*Larry*



Rev. Larry King

*Highlights from 2009 picnic.  
Join us this Sunday and help  
create new memories!*



**SPIRIT SOARS!**  
Community Retreat  
SEPTEMBER 24-26, 2010 • MENUCHA CENTER

KITE BUILDING & FLYING • LABYRINTH WALK • FAMILY TREASURE HUNT • WORKSHOPS  
Lodging, meals, all activities included. • \$180 EARLY BIRD ADULT RATE if paid by August 1  
\$195 ADULTS • \$30 KIDS 7-12 • \$10 KIDS 3-6 (under 3yrs free) • SIGN UP at the Center

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*This is the time.  
We are the people.  
This is the place.*

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## PORTLAND Center for Spiritual Living

6211 NE M L King, Jr. Blvd.  
Portland, Oregon 97211

503.261.0677  
info@PCSL.us

*Opening Hearts  
Igniting Minds  
Making a Difference*

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### EDITOR

June Gumz  
[greetingsjg@comcast.net](mailto:greetingsjg@comcast.net)

### DESIGN

Cheri Smith

### CONTRIBUTORS

Rev. Larry King  
Kate Barrett, RScP

## PRACTITIONER'S PERSPECTIVE

BY KATE BARRETT, RScP

**CLIENT:** I want to sell my house for what it is worth. How do I keep a positive outlook in the present economy?

**PRACTITIONER:** If we watch or read the news reports, we are going to see a lot of reasons to be unsure, hesitant and fearful of what is going to happen tomorrow. The truth is that tomorrow never comes. Spirit always works in the present moment. It is always today when we make any choice or decision.

Today is no different than any other day so I would say, "Do your homework; and then proceed with confidence in the direction you are led." Spirit, God, Divine Creator, Eternal Friend—whatever you call that One—I know that It is a Power that always says "Yes." Whatever we believe in, we receive.

Your homework includes more than checking current market prices. It also involves the spiritual practices of visioning, affirmative prayer, meditation and faith. These are some of the tools that we use in our practice of Science of Mind. We have many opportunities for you to participate in these practices at the Center. Please join us and let us be witnesses to each other's affirmative demonstrations. Love and blessings in all ways, Kate Barrett RScP



## COMING ATTRACTIONS

### JULY

#### ANNUAL COMMUNITY PICNIC

July 25, Peninsula Park

Join us for our Center's Annual picnic following the Second Service. Beverages, Hamburgers, Veggie burgers and hot dogs are provided by the Center. Bring your favorite picnic side dish to share, as well as your enthusiasm for fun, games, and friendship.

### AUGUST

#### DIVINE DINING

Fun you can taste! The parties continue.

### ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

**DRUMMING CIRCLE**, on hold until Fall

**TRANSCENDENCE 12-STEP**, on hold until Fall

**WOW BOOK STUDY**, on hold until Fall

**FORWARD FLOW**, bring your donations to the Forward Flow table. For more information contact Suki McDonough: 360-624-5615 or Annette Sanders at 971-227-9050.

### SEPTEMBER

#### FALL CLASSES

##### RELATIONSHIPS: BEING REAL

Thurs, Sept 9 - Oct 21, 6:30-9:00pm

Rev. Lynn Johnson

Release old misperceptions about relationships and embrace the freedom to love and be loved.

##### 5 GIFTS FOR AN ABUNDANT LIFE

Mon, Sept 13 - Nov 1, 10:00am-1:00pm

Rev. Sharon Lee Foley & Rev. Larry King

Ignite the realization that God is the Source of the abundant life we are created to live.

#### FOUNDATIONS

Tues, Sept 14 - Nov 16, 6:30-9:30pm

Rev. Larry King

Enhance your spiritual connection to a Higher Power. Learn the nine spiritual principles and practices that will change your life forever.

#### FAMILY COMMUNITY RETREAT

Sept. 24-26, Menucha

Something for everyone - kite building & flying, labyrinth walk, family treasure hunt, and workshops. SIGN UP at the Center.

All events held at the Center unless otherwise noted. Details at [www.pcsL.us/calendar](http://www.pcsL.us/calendar).

**ABOUT US:** PORTLAND CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL LIVING is a community of people dedicated to *Opening Hearts* by knowing that the Divine Presence of Good lives in and as every person; *Igniting Minds* by teaching people how to use this Power for Good to create the life they want; and *Making a Difference* in the world by using love to remember that we are One with all of life and with each other. We enrich global consciousness by demonstrating the Wisdom of Spiritual Principles in all our affairs.