



Following His Muse

The dream took hold in 3rd grade when Michael Dora won an award for drawing at that tender age. The possibility of becoming an artist became a reality, inspiring Michael to pursue the idea throughout his elementary and high school career, where he wound up graduating with an art major from High School.

A native Californian, Michael attended college at Cal State Fullerton briefly but found himself distracted from his goal of working as an artist. So in 1966 he joined the Army, serving as a Medic and travelling the world, including a tour to Vietnam.

Life calls: after leaving the Army, Michael contemplated careers, eventually settling on the detailed work that insurance provided. (Little did he know the impact all that detailed work would have later when he decided to revisit his muse.)

The SAIF company called and he moved to Oregon in 1981 where he worked until 1990. He also had his own agency, with a focus on high risk auto insurance. This work kept him very busy, proving to be so lucrative he was able to retire in 1991 at the age of 54.

At that point, Michael decided to dust off his artistic muse. He hadn't picked up a pencil, charcoal or paintbrush for 44 years.

Inspired by a photograph he had taken of his wife Betty, he decided to see how rusty his creative muse had become. He found himself pleasantly surprised, realizing that his life experiences, though taking him away from his artistic pursuits had informed his skill level. He was encouraged by how well this first re-introduction to his creativity turned out!

From this point forward, Michael continued to hone his skills, learning more than he had ever dreamed possible. He was able to devote his entire focus to the art work in front of him and his

concentration took center stage.

He has a masterful eye and has on occasion, shown his work at the Keizer Art Association and taken awards for his stunning body of work.

Looking though his catalog is similar to a dive into the depths of a gorgeous black and white photograph. The subject reigns supreme, with every minute detail perfectly placed and given exact attention.

Oftentimes he will work from stills he captures while watching old films. His office is a gallery and tribute to old time stars whose charisma shines through in every detail of Michael's work. Yet there is more: a baseball mitt and ball realistically jump off the canvas. Bedouin travelers faces, marked from years travelling the desert invite a deeper look.

A recently completed piece, Paul Newman contemplating from behind a coffee cup invites you to spend time noticing the shadow & light. You will feel like you are reaching into the nuance of this scene where Newman is center stage.



Look for Michael's work hung to the right of the reception area. He changes his elegant displays fairly frequently and if you are lucky, you will have a few minutes to talk to this talented artist about his artistic muse. You yourself may be inspired to take a page from this artists playbook and revisit a forgotten dream.

by Zoe Morrison

Around the Center

Presidentially Speaking by Camille Lockling



July is here and I begin it embracing my 7th decade. We certainly never know what to expect as we move through our aging process, do we? The Center is the place to embrace our life's journey's and the changes ahead. We welcome you to share your knowledge and Joie De Vivre with us. Come visit. Share. We encourage you to celebrate every moment!

We have created a committee to reach out to you and our newest members. I would ask you to please have a heartfelt conversation with the person who calls you and share with them your thoughts. The last two Membership Meetings have had more people on the board present than actual members. Our small gathering scratch our heads and ask each other why do members join and never enter the Center again?

There are other Center's that offer activities and services that we do not. We function as a unique entity. **South Salem Senior Center** is a non-profit that was started and continues to be run by dedicated volunteers. We have a Board that makes many decisions involving the operation of the Center. **Feel free to raise your voice at a board meeting and consider what you can offer at a membership meeting.** Feel free to attend a Board Meeting. Let me know what you want to address the Board with and I will call on you.

This Senior Center has a plethora of activities: **computer, yoga and Tai Chi.** We want to hear your **Life Story.** Express yourself in an **art class.** We have a Chef on the premises who can teach you to **create a new dish.** Don't see something you like? Suggest a class, or offer to conduct something yourself! Take advantage of your \$20.00 a year and be among an audience of your peers. Did you join so you could get a 20% discount on a room rental? (Oh, by the way, you can.) How can YOUR CENTER offer what you were looking for? We value your honest feedback.

The Center wants and needs your energy and fresh ideas! **We need YOU!** This is your Center: come and share your experience. Your input is WELCOME and is an investment in the future of your Center.

Camille



Monday June 17th was a perfect day for luncheon in the garden hosted by sisters Kay Renschler and Gail Cummings. More than a dozen garden club members and guests strolled the summerhouse decorated in chintzes & set with delicate chairs and tables. A tour continued: onto to flower beds filled with mock orange, cotoneaster, penstemon and other sweet, old fashioned garden plants. Fireweed, normally wild, looked luminous and healthy in its cultivated state. Decorative red plum trees were ripening, and a beautiful back deck tempted sunbathing. However, more garden to see drove us on.

We chatted about the garden and asked questions. Hosts Kay and Gail put on a lavish luncheon: croissant sandwiches and lot of fruit and veggies- my favorite were the incredibly sweet large strawberries with chocolate and caramel sauce to put on them, and delectable cheeses. A gigantic maple tree was the centerpiece for the luncheon.

It was a lovely, lovely time, and I'm sure everyone was enchanted as I was, with the garden, the event, and our thoughtful and gracious hosts.

By Michele Taylor

Follow our **Facebook Page**

<https://www.facebook.com/southsaalemseniors/>

We post helpful tips, plenty of photos, plus happenings in and around the South Salem Senior Center on our Facebook Page.

Activities



Tai Chi

Introductory **Tai Chi class** one day a week ends on July 22nd.

People who need walkers, or to sit can also participate.

Time will be from 10:15 to 11:15 AM, cost is a total of \$40.00 for 8 classes.

If that is a hardship for someone they can pay \$20 each month, or talk to the instructor.

Jill Corcoran (503) 385-3257

Monday Afternoon Crafters

by Arlene Williams

Many of our knitters and crocheters are busy with summer activities-vacations, relatives stopping by, lots of activities to go to with the good weather, etc.

Even with the summer activities we are producing lots of beautiful items, hats, scarves, socks, sweaters, slippers, lap blankets, etc.

With all of that, we are welcoming new members. It is great to have new crafters join us.

If anyone would like to join us, we meet on Mondays from 1:00 to 3:00. We have yarn, needles, hooks, patterns and help if it is needed.

Come and join us. We have a wonderful time.



Garden Club News

July 2019

SUMMER TIME and the Garden Club is enjoying the great outdoors at Nurseries & in backyards.

NEWS regarding the Plant Sale in early May shows almost \$900. was made for the Senior Center. THANK YOU, Rose, Linda, Sandy & numerous others who donated plants, soil, seedlings, pots, equipment, tools & their TIME to make this a success. You know who you are & that you are MUCH APPRECIATED!!! This would not happen without YOU...."Volunteers Are **WONDERFUL**"

If you or friends have small plant pots from purchases for your garden PLEASE save for US & bring to the Senior Center or better yet, come to our Garden Club monthly meetings to join in the fun with us.

New folks are always WELCOME! During this lovely & warm season, we are 'un-scheduled' & have no idea where we will be next month.

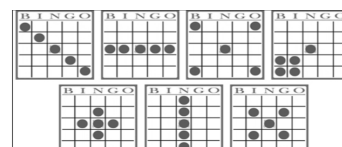
If you have ideas for places to visit OR want to share your garden with us, PLEASE call me & we will discuss.

Barbara PHONE 503.375.7723

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Announcements

WELCOME to our Newest Members

Cheryl Keeney
Nancy Ballclers
Darrel Dennis
Carol Laybourne
Richard Saul
Eileen Ehret

We are glad you've joined us!

Tables, Chairs and Windows. Oh My!

We had a fantastic crew of volunteers Saturday May 25th doing the dirty work— washing and polishing all the folding tables and chairs— it's amazing how many there are! We even took on washing all the windows, inside and out, cleaned the tables and chairs in the card room too for good measure!

And who was this outstanding crew? They included, (in no particular order) Linda Peyton, Paula Hindman, Nancy Ellis, Susan Duncan, Charlie Meithof, Ted Laverick, Dick McCullen, Judy Allen, Camille Lockling, Arlene Williams, Jean Peterson, Maurine McDonald and me.

It's a dirty job, but someone has to do it— why not these fabulous people? So when you see them around the Center, please tip your hat and say "thank you!"

A huge thank you to everyone who made helped make this happen!

Alice Wells

South Salem Senior Center

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Camille Lockling , President	503-269-1463
Randy Miles, 1st Vice President	503-585-3077
Paula Hindman, 2nd Vice President	
Alice Wells, Office Manager	503-362-5139
Kate Bayne, Secretary	

Warmest thanks to
Senior Helpers our

June Pancake Breakfast Sponsor



Board Meeting

Monday, July 8 at 10 a.m.

Meeting is open to any
interested member.

Agenda is posted on the hallway bulletin board.

Membership Meeting

Wednesday July 10 @ 1 pm

June Donations

- ◇ Richard & Lela Bates
- ◇ Linda and Joseph Fowler
- ◇ Loretta and Irv Hersha
- ◇ Alice Wells

Thank you for your Generosity!

Are you missing your keys?

This set of keys were found in the South Salem Senior Center van and we think they may belong to a helper who was in the van assisting us with a run .



Stop by the front desk to identify them if they are yours!

South Salem Caregiver Connection

June 26 (4th Wed of each month) 2-3:30

Terrace Lake Park Clubhouse, 2120 Robins Lane SE, Salem

Presented by Northwest Senior & Disability Services

Open free to unpaid family caregivers and friends of older adults receiving care. Our monthly group explores ways to cope with the challenges & stresses of caring for a loved one and provides valuable information and resources. Drop-ins welcome!

Group Facilitator: Amy Crevola, MSW 503-606-7620

Alice Wells, South Salem Senior Center Office Manager has worn many hats!



Alice, far left, with Eastern Airlines colleagues

Alice Wells is known for her warm and frequent laughter. Upbeat and energetic, she has worked many interesting jobs, and has done a great deal for the Senior Center as a wise and well-informed leader over the years.

Her earliest employment was working for the old **Eastern Airlines** in Washington DC, and one of her assignments was to pose with her colleagues for a "South of the Border" flight promotion.

Alice was raised in New York and Connecticut, studied a year at college and at nineteen quit to pursue her dream of an airline career. She worked as a ticket agent in Washington D.C.

In 1953 she married Bud Wells, who also worked for the airline, and in 1958 moved to San Francisco, and got a job at an advertising agency, and was quickly promoted to production manager. Her Husband worked in Saigon for an airline ferrying soldiers back and forth during the Vietnam war.

After the war, Alice and her husband adopted two children, My Linh and Keoki, and moved to Rohnert Park, near Sonoma, California, and with school age children, soon became involved in Education, running for, and being elected to the **school board** three times.

While she lived in Rohnart Park, she also worked part time as **office manager**, keeping books and all aspects of the job. Due to her good work for the Dean of that church, she was asked to help with other area churches, and discovered that in another church, someone absconded with fifty thousand dollars! Wow.

My Linh attended Crescent City State University studying the Criminal Justice system. She now works for the Sonoma County Justice System. Keoki worked himself up from the bottom to become a Construction Manager in Portland.

Alice retired in 1990 and promptly became an office manager in **Neighbor To Neighbor**, a mediation service, where she helped to plan, schedule and even do bill collecting!

After her second retirement in 2002, Alice joined SSSC only to become president for four years. and now, 17 years later, still volunteers, letting us enjoy her knowledge and good humor.

By Michele Taylor

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- * Charleston & Myrtle Beach – Dec 4-10
- * Shore Acres Christmas – Dec 16-18
- * Snow Coach in Yellowstone – Jan 16-20

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On the Bulletin Board

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Would you like to write an article for the newsletter? Have something to share? Drop your article off at the front office or email it to zoe@mybeautifulstory.com **Deadline for submissions is July 15th** for the August newsletter.

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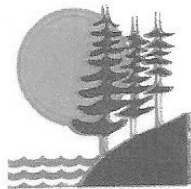
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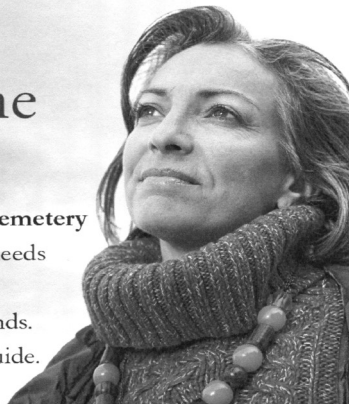
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Monthly Publication

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If your membership expiration date is highlighted, please renew to support your organization

VOTING BEGINS JULY 10, 2019

Voting for the Board of Directors of the South Salem Senior Center is this month!

If you receive your monthly membership newsletter by email or by viewing on our website, please stop by the Center for a paper ballot.

Voting begins July 10th and concludes at the August Membership Meeting.

Vote. Make your Voice Heard!



\$5
Pancake or
Sausage & Gravy
Breakfast



July 20, 2019
8 to 10 a.m.

Join us for pancakes or homemade biscuits and gravy. Served with eggs, sausage or ham, orange juice, coffee or tea