

# Words From



## Letter from the Board of Directors

The Wonderworks Board of Directors has been very busy the past year and we are hoping to embark on even more exciting adventure. After our very successful fundraising events as well as a lot of active searching, we are ready to purchase a building to house the full-sized children's museum we have been dreaming of. We have a building in mind that fits our needs and are waiting to dot our I's and cross our t's so that we can make the big announcement.

We know from the enthusiastic reception that we receive at community events as well as fundraising drives that our goal to build a permanent home for children of all ages to explore and enjoy is something that the Gorge community wants and needs.

## Playstation Holiday Hours

The playstation is officially closed for the week of Thanksgiving and 2 weeks over the New Year holiday season.

Our volunteers enjoy their own family gatherings for these festivities and therefore Wonderworks cannot commit to our usual opening times.

However if a volunteer does happen to open the doors then all are visitors are welcome! See if the Wonderworks A-board is outside before unloading your kids!

We are always grateful to our many volunteers who keep the Wonderworks' Playstation running, and now we are asking for even more help. Inside this newsletter you will find a list of specific needs for our exciting project. Just imagine being able to help the community create such an important and exciting place!

We hope that our upcoming Pledge Drive (details inside) will give us an opportunity to let people know the exciting things in store for Wonderworks and the many ways they can help. Thank you for your continued support, please contact any board member if you have questions about our plans or want to find out how you can contribute to our exciting future.

Anne Kelly - WW President

Volume 2, Issue 3

October 2007

### Dates To Remember

- *Wonderworks Photos*  
October 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>
- *Pumpkin Photos*  
Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup>
- *PJ Party at The Mint*  
Saturday November 3<sup>rd</sup>
- *2nd Annual Pledge Drive*  
November 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>
- *Santa Photos and the Starlight Parade*  
November 23<sup>rd</sup>

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**We are on the web!**

**Check us out at:**

**[www.wonderworkstd.org](http://www.wonderworkstd.org)**

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## Spring / Summer Fundraising Updates

It has been a busy spring and summer with our fundraising endeavors taking us from a Garage sale, to flower sales, to the Birdhouse Auction and Garden Party and then the Rodeo concessions.

May brought the Wonderworks Garage Sale which had a wide array of household and children's items.

Downtown Cinco de Mayo celebrations brought us a lot of foot traffic we may not have seen downtown on a Saturday and made it a successful fundraising event.

Thanks to Barb Kuechman, Mandy Morgan, Anne Kelly and Victor Johnson for their help with the event.



Later in May, Wonderworks volunteer Jo Anglin coordinated flower sales at the Studio Elan Spring Dance Recital.

With help from many volunteers who assembled the bouquets the night before we were able to provide convenient flowers sales to families of the dancers on site.

Thanks to Jo for her donation.



The inaugural Birdhouse Auction and Garden Party was an incredible success and a real boost to our fundraising for our new home for Wonderworks.

Over 150 people enjoyed the outdoor garden party at Dry Hollow

Vineyard sampling the wines, perusing the wonderful array of silent auction items and enjoying the spirited Live Auction by Marcus Morgan & Dave Griffith to cap off the evening – all made possible by generous sponsors and friends.



Very special thanks to the following community members who made our event possible. Their support helped to raise more than our \$10k goal for the event, helping us move toward our capital goal to find and purchase a permanent home for Wonderworks.

Please join us in thanking them by offering them your support and business.

Marcus Morgan & Dave Griffith Auctioneers, Dry Hollow Vineyards, Westwind Frame & Gallery, Klindt's Booksellers, Erin Glen Winery, Mt Hood Cycling Classic, Mid Columbia Medical Center, West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Nursery, Jerry Bull of Morgan Distributing, H2Oregon, The Dalles Chronicle, Cooper Orchards, and Dan & Kay Erickson.

Of course, we must extend our thanks to the numerous artists that created unique and interesting

birdhouses and garden art and to the businesses and individuals who donated items for the silent and live auction.

We would also like to thank all the board members and volunteers who worked tirelessly to pull this event off. Thank you for finding child care and finding time in your already full and busy lives. Many hours were spent in preparation and making the event go off with a bang. Thank you, thank you, thank you!



It seems that due to the success of the event that there will be a "next year".

Stay tuned for more info in the new year. File away any ideas you may have to create a unique and interesting birdhouse or garden art piece. We will be looking for new artists for this fun event.



## Spring / Summer Fundraising Updates continued...

We thought we'd have time to relax after the big auction, but just two weeks later we ran the concessions for the Fort Dalles Rodeo.

The rodeo concessions have been a part of Wonderworks fundraising for many years, and continue to be a fun and reliable way to keep the Playstation's bills paid and fund our other activities.

Thanks to many volunteer groups and business this year was very successful.

Groups from Bank of the West, UPS, Safeway, Home Depot, Mid Columbia Medical Center, and the St

Mary's Academy Foundation helped flip burgers and quench cowboy thirst.

Thanks to all the volunteers from those organizations for giving time to help us, and to Pilar Cox, Sarah Ziegenhagen, Robert Schwarz, and the Wonderworks board members for lending a hand late night cooking and cleaning.

Additional thanks to Papa Murphy's and Safeway for help with food and preparation,, and a special thanks to Betsy Hege and Susan Whitmire for running the show once again, we couldn't do it without you.

## Membership Changes for 2008

Due to the exciting changes that are happening within Wonderworks, the board of directors have voted to increase membership dues by \$5, bringing the new membership fee to \$30 per family, starting in January 2008.

As a thank you to current members for their continued support, Wonderworks is offering a loyalty membership at the 2007 rate of \$25 per family.

Any current member wishing to subscribe at this rate may renew their membership between January 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup> 2008.

If you are not a current member there is still time to sign up and get 2 years for \$50.

(Example: A new member can subscribe in November 2007 and immediately renew for 2008 and extend their membership to November 2009!)

Please be sure to have your membership card on hand when renewing – ask a volunteer at the Playstation for details, or call Caroline 509-637-3162 or Anne 541-296-1057.

## Wonderworks 2nd Annual Pledge Drive

Last year Wonderworks first annual pledge drive was a great success. We had an enthusiastic response from our community, and this year we hope to increase our pledges. Once again brochures requesting donations have been sent out to the members of our Wonderworks community, and on

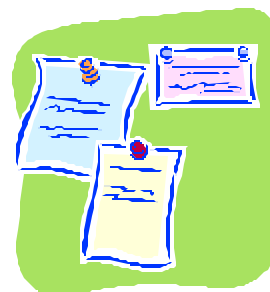
November 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

we are following up the brochure mailing with a phone-a-thon.

4 - 5 volunteers are needed each night.

A script, phones, snacks and wine will be provided!

Please call Kristen Booth at 541-298-7268 for location information if you would like to volunteer.



## Fall / Winter Schedule of Events

### YOUR CHILDREN AT PLAY

October 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, from 9:30 am – 11:30 am

at the Wonderworks Playstation

Photographer Louie Buzas will be at Wonderworks Playstation to capture on film your children at play.

Cost \$30:

Includes one 8x10 print, five 4x6 prints. Plus the photos on CD and, one free admission to the Wonderworks Playstation.

Photographs and CDs will be available to collect at Wonderworks Playstation from October 29<sup>th</sup> with an opportunity to create cards, calendars and bookmarks of your pictures.

Pre-booked participants will have preference over walk-ins but walk-ins are welcome.

Please sign up by calling the Northern Wasco County Parks & Recreation District at 541-296-9533 starting October 1<sup>st</sup>.

For more information call Laura at 541-993-3573.

### CHILDREN'S PJ PARTY @ THE MINT

For those of you who attended the Birdhouse Auction and signed up for the Children's PJ Party...it is right around the corner!

Saturday November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm

Have the kids wear their PJ's and bring their favorite stuffed animal or blanket.

Victor Johnson will be singing lullabies, and hopes that we will join in too!

At the time of printing there are 4 spots available; please call Kristen Booth at 541-298-7268 if you are interested.

Cost is \$15 per child.

A special thanks to Erin Schechtel of Erin Glenn Winery for donating the space and to Victor Johnson for donating his talent!

### PUMPKIN PLAY

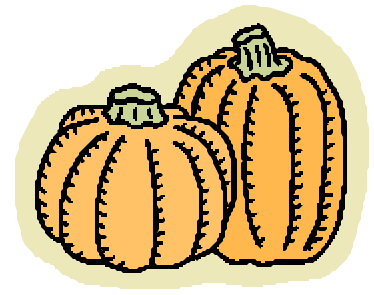
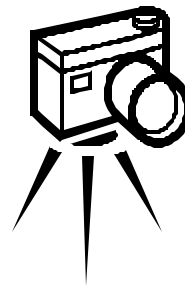
October 20<sup>th</sup>, from 3 pm - 5 pm

Following the success and enthusiasm at last year's event, Louie will once again be at Sorosis Park on Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup> for a special seasonally themed event.

He will be there to take pictures of your children at play (alongside pumpkins!) at the Tree Top Play Park from 3 pm – 5 pm.

You can order photo packages on the day, or you can pay \$5 for 5 4x6 photographs which will be available at Wonderworks Playstation on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

Subject to fine weather.



### SANTA PICTURES & SLEIGH RIDES

Wonderworks brings you more than 20 years of family Holiday tradition.

Come get your photo taken with Santa!

Saturday pictures include the chance to ride with Santa in his sleigh through downtown The Dalles.

When:

Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup>  
after the Starlight Parade and  
Saturdays in December (1, 8, 15, & 22)  
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Where:

The Dalles Transportation Center at  
201 East Federal

Cost: \$3 for one print, or two for \$5.

## Wonderworks is in need of some help!

As we embark on our new building project we have come to the point where we really need help from our members and our community. Come out in force to share your skills! Even if you feel that you can only handle a minimal amount - we can find a project for you! Think how great you will feel after making this project happen for our children and our community's children!

Our initial planning process has shown us that there is a lot of work that needs to be done, and we can't do it alone!

We would love to hear from anyone who is interested in volunteering and has skills or interest in the following areas:

### **Marketing**

Help develop and create a marketing plan and assist with its progress during the project. We will need a six-month commitment, which will include the monthly board meeting. (Currently, the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month)

### **Writing / Journalism**

Writing regular articles to paper as part of the marketing plan. No more than 1 article per month. We will need a six-month commitment

### **Photography**

A photographer to take photos of WW children at play and at our new building. These photos are needed for marketing, promotion materials and fundraising presentations. Photos taken during Playstation hours, approx three-hour commitment.

### **Architect/Design**

An architect for design work in our new building.

### **Fund raising Committee Members**

Events and activities are planned to help us reach our fund raising goal, but we need enthusiastic creative folks to help. Meetings 2 times per month for 6 months and communication by email.

Please contact Laura Faherty at 541-993-3573 for more information or if you are interested in taking on a job. All offers will be gladly accepted.

## Calling all crafty Moms...or Dads...or...

The weather is changing, its getting colder, and some of the stores are already getting the Christmas decorations out...which reminds us that the Festival of Trees is coming.

Last year two of our dedicated volunteers put together a great tree with decorations made by the kids at Wonderworks. Our entry earned \$900, which benefited the Mid-Columbia Heath Foundation. It was great fun and we would love to do it again this year, but...

We need a couple of volunteers to spearhead the project.

If you are interested in tackling this fun project please contact Laura Faherty at 541-993- 3573 for more information.





Wonderworks Playstation  
PO Box 355  
The Dalles, OR 97058

Anne: 541-296-1057  
Laura: 541-993-3573

info@wonderworkstd.org

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We're on the Web!  
www.wonderworkstd.org

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## Wonderworks Slogan Quest

Wonderworks is now officially Wonderworks Children's Museum of the Gorge so it is a fine time to create a slogan unique to us that we may call our own; a quip, no less, that trips off the tongue lightly, linking the *name* of Wonderworks with the *nature* of Wonderworks.

The original name Wonderworks was the fabulous idea of a young boy who frequented the then new children's play space, when first conceived in The Dalles in 1977 by Carolyn Thomas.

Now you have the chance to be recognized as 'the individual with the fabulous idea for a slogan'!

Fill in the gap:

Salem Discovery Museum "where kids can look with their hands"

Ashland ScienceWorks "amaze yourself"

Bend Working Wonders "Explore. Discover. Imagine. Create. Connect."

Olympia Hands On Children's Museum "where fun and learning go hand in hand"

Wonderworks Children's Museum of the Gorge: "-----"

Please submit all ideas online at [www.wonderworkstd.org](http://www.wonderworkstd.org) or write to PO Box 355, The Dalles, OR, 97058.

Entries will be collected and collated and an impartial and upstanding member of the community will make the final choice!