

## Volunteer News

SUMMER 2011: Issue 37

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join the party August 28th

**Volunteer!**

(four shifts available)

see insert for information



## Celebrating 20 years of Potluck Volunteers



At the Park Sunday, July 10, left-to-right: David Utzinger (19+years), Larry Gilmore (15yr), Hal Bernton (9yr), Tania (1yr+), Mario (20yr), Brent Filler (1yr), Denise Williams (11yr), Julius Brown (8yr), Eva (1yr+), John Pigott (9yr), Ray Crawford (9yr). Behind them is "Big Green" (16yr).

**Mario** and a group of homeless friends sat talking on a stone circle in the South Park Blocks one sunny August Sunday in 1991. **Sharon Darcy** and several of her friends walked up with small pots of home-cooked food. "Are you hungry" Sharon asked. Yes, they were hungry. Fifteen Guests shared the meal that first Sunday. "Sharon said to tell all our friends to come back next Sunday," Mario remembers. The weekly Potluck meal Sharon founded is now serving 400-600 Guests. and Mario is a regular volunteer with Sharon's successors. The secret to the staying power of Potluck is the story of its people. Here, we'll celebrate some Park regulars...

*"Are you hungry?" Sharon asked. Yes, Mario and his friends were hungry.*

### Board of Directors

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Stephen Kelly

Kreeg Peeples

Augusta Shipsey

Denise Williams

### Advisory Board

Maxine Borcharding

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Shelley Darcy

Peggy Reuler

Don Richardson

About four months after that first Sunday, Sharon recruited **David** at a political event. Potluck didn't use a truck for the first few years, storing equipment near the Park Blocks instead. David was involved in securing the donation of both the first truck, and the current "Big Green" van in 1995. David has worn many hats for Potluck. He is currently the driver, and the Logistics Coordinator at the Park.

Christ Church Episcopal Parish Volunteers cooked for Potluck from the beginning (see story inside). In 1996, about the time Potluck moved from the Park Blocks to Terry Shunk Plaza and then to O'Bryant Square, **Larry** began volunteering at the "CCP" kitchen. "We started with a casserole called "Shepherd's Pie" which had the mashed potatoes (supplied by WCI) on the bottom," Larry remembers. "We did not realize the potatoes had a lot of cream and as we started to serve it the mashed potatoes had turned to more of a soup; which we started calling 'Shepherd's Soup,' and which people also liked."

**Denise** was a homeless Guest in 2000, when she offered to help take tickets at the Square. Potluck's "Ticket Lady" now has a home, and the afghan throw she is holding will be her third annual hand-crafted contribution to Potluck's Winter Warm Auction (December 4th this year).

Three of our Food Service Supervisors joined the team in 2002: **John** was invited by a lady he met at Church; **Hal** also heard about Potluck from a friend. **Ray**, a Guest at the time, was in a treatment program near the Square and volunteered to help David set up the tables every week. When the job of Cold Food Supervisor opened up, Ray stepped in. He directs Volunteers serving fruit, bread and pastries. Settled in West Portland, Ray is kept busy by four grandsons.

The next year, **Julius** came to eat and stayed to talk to Denise. He started his volunteer career with Potluck helping to unload Big Green, as Ray did. Julius stuck with the truck, however, and now works with David as Logistics Supervisor. Our Park "Quarterback," he keeps the operation running smoothly. Two of the ladies above came to Potluck from different directions in early 2010. **Tania** started serving with her PSU Global Healing class, and is one of several students who return regularly to volunteer on their own. **Eva**, a Guest, offered to help one Sunday, and now fills in anywhere across the Park as needed, including food supervision. Eva and Mario are both fluently bilingual, ready to help our Spanish-speaking Guests. A longtime volunteer serving the needy, **Brent** had been looking for a new weekend opportunity when he was led to Potluck by Mother's Kitchen, a local service group. (Several other "MK" members are active at Potluck.) Brent's first job as a Potluck Volunteer was cooking corn at last year's Anniversary BBQ.

facebook

*"It's easy to see the human condition through the lens of poverty when one volunteers at Potluck."  
Brent Filler, Mother's Kitchen and Potluck Volunteer*

## Christ Church Episcopal Parish Potluck Teams



1st Sunday Team, clockwise from top left: Larry Gilmore & Alison Gilmore Team Leader (15+yr), Arta Crawford (new), Dan Pirrung (2+yr), Mary George-Whittle & Bill Whittle (1.5yr), Peggy Crawford (2+yr), Liz Myzak (new). Not pictured: Hayden & Cathie Price (1.5yr).

This newsletter and our celebration on August 28th are all about 20 years, the phenomenon that is Potluck. Potluck serves every Sunday. We are there to serve all who wish to join us. What very few see, what no one has a glimpse of, is the preparation of the 14 to 16 casseroles that make up the bulk of every Potluck meal.

Five teams, one for each Sunday in a month, work together to deliver casseroles, salads and drinks. The pictures are just some of these wonderful team members. Some are brand new and some have been doing this since the beginning. Some have never been to a Potluck meal to see their creations enjoyed. Their kitchen is overwhelmingly cheerful and there is a pervasive aura captured in the words of one team member; "Give back what's so graciously been given to me."



### CCP Food & Beverage Servers

First Sunday Drink Team: Len, Jan, Kurt & Winkler Family.

Second Sunday Drink Team: Tom Stanwood (above) & Larry Gilmore.

Third Sunday Drink Team: Bob, Carolyn, Allison, Andrew, Douglas & Jay Heymann.

Fourth Sunday Food Team: Alternating, Kathy Moller and Dick & Kitty Irving.

Fifth Sunday Food & Drink Team: Jan & Keith Huffstutter Family, and Larry.

**Our heartfelt thanks to all of Potluck's lifelong friends from Christ Church Episcopal.**

**Thank You!**



Thank You to the following businesses and volunteers. We apologize for the omission of names of anyone who has helped Potluck accomplish its mission this year.

A-1 Storage  
Albertsons-Cedar Mill  
Albertsons-Shattuck Road  
Alpenrose Dairy  
American Linen  
Anonymous Donor  
Association of Catering  
and Event Professionals  
Audrey and Jim Metcalf  
Baker & Spice  
Barry Rice  
Becki Bosley  
Birch Community Services  
Bradley Clark  
Brattain International Trucks  
Bravo!  
BridgeCity Community Church  
BSA Troop 221

Bunches and Bunches LTD  
Café Voila,  
Jonathan and Tammy Goodrow  
Casey Eye Institute  
Cash & Carry Wholesale Foods  
Cathedral School Community:  
students, teachers, staff, parents  
Christ Church Episcopal Parish,  
Lake Oswego ("CCEP")  
Clackamas Greenhouses  
Clark Center Residents  
Classic Pianos  
Coastwide Laboratories  
Comcast  
Community Health Screening  
Fair Participants  
Concannon Paper  
Corvallis Unitarian Fellowship Youth

Dave's Killer Bread,  
Dave Dahl & Family  
Dean Mitchell  
DeAngelo's Catering,  
Steve DeAngelo  
Deseret Industries  
Don Richardson  
Donna and Chuk Steadman  
Doubletree Hotel, Lloyd Center  
Expert Auto Repair  
First Congregational Church  
Wholesale Florists, Frank Adams  
Franz Bakery  
Fred Meyer Volunteers  
Fred Meyer, Inc.  
George Mitchell  
Grand Central Bakery  
Graphic Information Systems, Inc.  
Hands On Greater Portland  
Haircolor Salon Dirk  
Hilton Hotel, Tracy Marks  
Implus Footcare, LLC  
Infinity Impressions, Robin McFall



*2nd-Sunday Team, above: Augusta Shipsey (20yr); Bob Armour (10yr), Louise Gerity (10+yr), Mary Gurney (18+yr), Shirlee Perkins (18+yr). At left: Tom Stanwood (8yr). Not pictured: Suzanne Expinosa (8yr).*



*3rd-Sunday Team, above: Pattianne Carmical (5yr), Helen Ball (18yr), Eleanor Suman Team Leader (19+yr), Kathy Aliment (c.2yr).*



*At left: Kathryn and Abby Ernst (c.2yr).*

*Not pictured: BJ Finch.*

#### **Integra**

**Interstate Inventory Service**

**Interstate Special Events**

**K103**

**Karen Story**

**Kelly Bean**

**Kiwanis Club of Portland**

**Kobos Coffee**

**Koida Greenhouses**

**KTVA Productions, Rick Phillips**

**Larry Chusid, the Pongo Fund**

**Lice Newing You**

**Loaves and Fishes**

**Mary Lou Burton**

**Meridian United Church of Christ,  
Wilsonville**

**Monarch Hotel**

**Mother's Kitchen Volunteers**

**Mt. Olivet Baptist Church**

**NAO**

**Odwalla**

**OHSU**

**Olive Bridge Fund**

#### **Oregon Culinary Institute**

**Oregon Food Bank**

**Pacific Seafood**

**Parks Educational Foundation,**

**Loren Parks**

**Patagonia**

**Patrick Lamb**

**Peet's Coffee and Tea**

**Peter Corvallis Productions**

**Peter & Sheila Bozikovich**

**Phi Theta Kappa,**

**Clackamas Community College**

**Pitman Restaurant Supply,**

**Dan & Jason Pitman**

**Portland Rent-All**

**Portland Screen Printing (Blue Ink)**

**Proctor and Gamble**

**Project Access Now**

**PSU Capstone:**

**Julie Porter & students**

**Ramsey Embick, Al Craido**

**and Tim Paxton**

**Rosebridge Construction Corp.**



4th-Sunday Team:(below, all 6yr+): Monica Schneider Anthony, Ted Washburn, Liz Washburn, Jane Massey, Charles Leckey, & Teresa Long. Not pictured: Bill Long.



Any praise of Christ Church Episcopal would be understated considering all their enormous contributions over 20 years (our beautiful Potluck Safari Cargo van is an example). All of these good and generous people, so many not pictured, have helped to make our meal every Sunday a joy to serve and share with our guests.... A special thank-you to Larry Gilmore for his invitation to visit the CCP kitchen. He devotes at least 20 hours a week to Potluck. including oversight of the teams. -- *a Potluck in the Park volunteer*



5th-Sunday Team:  
Richard & Phyllis Clark  
(4+yr), Liz & Team  
Leader Ted Washburn  
(5+yr). Not pictured:  
John & Nancy  
Stephenson (10yr), Joe &  
Debbie Emmerich (10yr),  
Bonnie Umland (5yr).

Ryan Orchards	Toys N More
Salon Centric	Transport Refrigeration
Sauvie Island Farms	Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
Sawasdee, Thai Food Cart on Alder	Versatile Sash & Door
Shaka Sound Inc., Dave Craft	Volunteers of America: Men's & Women's Residential Center
SHARE, Susan Oberst	Vox Public Relations
Sherman Clay Pianos	Wallace Medical Concern
Sidlab	Walmart
Starbucks Coffee	Waste Management of Oregon
Street Roots	West Coast Event Productions
Students from: OHSU, Concordia, PSU, Lewis and Clark, and other area schools	West Hills Friends
Sun Snacks, Dave Kuhn	West Linn Lutheran Youth
Sunshine Dairy Foods	Western Pet Supply
Sysco	Westside Secretarial Service
Teufel Farms	Whole Foods, Hollywood
The Acadian Ballroom	Wilco Farm Store, Oregon City
The Ambridge Event Center	Willamette Week Give!Guide
The Movement Center	Wilsonville Market
The Prop Shop	World Cup
Tidewater Barge Lines	Wreath Source
Tom Grant	YesYoga
	YWCA Downtown Center



## 2003 Anniversary Party



## Join the Celebration --Volunteer!

Potluck in the Park will celebrate its 20th year of service with a BBQ and Resource Fair on August 28th, in the South Park Blocks between SW Hall and Montgomery. (See more about plans for the celebration on the reverse.)

We expect to have 1,500 guests, so we are hoping for a great turnout of volunteers to make the event go as smoothly as possible. All volunteers will sign up on the Hands On Greater Portland website: [www.handsonportland.org](http://www.handsonportland.org). On the Hands On home page, click on [Featured Project, Potluck in the Park], which will link to the sign-up page.

**Shifts will be:** Set up 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Meal 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.,  
Breakdown/Clean up 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. & 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

**Groups will be limited to ten or fewer people. Sign up as soon as possible!**



20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

### Free Barbecue & Resource Fair Sunday, August 28 South Park Blocks

AT PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

Special  
location  
for this  
event!

**Resource Fair**  
11:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Free!**

Haircuts ♦ Bicycle Repair  
Resource Guides ♦ Pet Food and  
Supplies ♦ Blood Pressure Checks  
Vision Care ♦ Foot Care

**Plus info on:**

Legal Services ♦ Health Services  
Shelter & Housing ♦ Veteran's  
Services ♦ Youth Services ... and  
much more

**Free Barbecue**  
Starts at 2:00 pm

Please pick up a free meal ticket when  
you arrive. And join us at 3:00 pm any  
other Sunday in O'Bryant Square, SW 9th  
and Washington, for our regular Potluck in  
the Park meal.

POTLUCK IN THE PARK is a grassroots effort which  
provides free hot meals every Sunday, rain or  
shine, to anyone in need. New volunteers and  
guests are always welcome. For more information  
please call 503-255-7611 or visit [www.potluckin-the-park.org](http://www.potluckin-the-park.org).

While several celebrations have been held at Pioneer Courthouse Square, Potluck will celebrate 20 years of service in the South Park Blocks, where it all started.





## from the Potluck Kitchen...



*Peggy Reuler (18yr), 20th Anniversary Committee Chair, preps potatoes at the Kitchen.*

The Potluck Kitchen will be providing cole slaw, beans, cottage cheese and some beverages for this year's BBQ. At about 1:30pm Potluck's Cargo Van will head for the Park Blocks with the last load.

When donated kitchen space at OCI became unavailable in 2009 due to the school's growth, Potluck moved into our first leased kitchen space, on SE Ankeny. In April of 2010 we found our current lease on SE 3rd -- lots of work space, lots of storage... lots of potatoes....

## fresh hot BBQ at the Park



*Cheri Baber (10yr), Board Chair, works upwind of the barbecues at the 2003 Anniversary Party*

The 20th Anniversary BBQ menu will include a variety of protein choices, including 140lb of ribs already in storage at the Kitchen, and 50lb of salmon fillets from Pacific Seafood.

BBQ chefs: Hollis Harris, Porter's Catering, and Jodel Hinojosa, Jo Foody's Catering, will be grilling for the party.



## Potluck Turns 20

August 28th in the South Park Blocks, 11:00am - 4:00pm.

There will be a brief ceremony at 1:45p.m. to celebrate 20 years of serving a free hot meal to anyone in need.

**A RESOURCE FAIR** will run from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. and will offer bike repair, hair cuts, pet food provided by community partner, The Pongo Fund, and other pet services provided by Portland Animal Welfare (PAW) Team. Steve Goldberger, people of the street ministry, will be bringing pet food and hygiene kits. Live music will be provided by local musicians such as Shelly Rudolph, who has performed in all four Winter Warm benefit concerts.

Our own volunteers will be joined by other service agency representatives to provide the broadest spectrum of information possible. Agencies and individuals confirmed so far include: Street Roots newspaper with Rose City Resource Guides; Youth Services/Yellow Brick Road, Janus—Dennis Lundberg; legal information—Michael Fuller and other attorneys from the Oregon Trial Lawyers Assn. and the Multnomah Bar Assn.; and Transition Projects programs.

Health services will include: Casey Eye Institute/OHSU, vision screening, vision evaluations/Mobile Outreach Van—Katie Coughlin; Lions, vision screening, reading glasses; Project Access NOW, medical referrals—Linda Nilsen-Solares; foot care—Ginna Vickory and volunteers; basic health screening/blood pressure—students from local nursing and medical schools; pharmacy/health information—Irene Crosswell; Veterans' Services—James Satterwhite, Ryan McNabb. Hopefully, the Adventist Medical Center HealthVan will be present, too!

Thanks to Deseret Industries in SE Portland, who have donated mini-hygiene kits, and to Christopher Black, who is conducting a drive for hygiene products to be given to guests.



**A BBQ** starts at 2:00p.m. The menu will include a variety of grilled protein choices, fresh corn on the cob, ice cream and birthday cake as well as fresh fruit, salads, casseroles, and bread.

Potluck has invited other agencies who serve meals to those in need. They can be represented in the meal line providing a needed food item which their own volunteers can serve. At this time, Portland Rescue Mission has confirmed.

Sawasdee, a Thai food cart on Alder, will be donating tasty hot food as they do throughout the year. Peet's Coffee & Tea is donating the coffee. Sauvie Island Farms will donate the fresh corn, as they have for 19 years. Christ Church Parish will be cooking and serving as they have been since the very early days (see the article in this newsletter on their Potluck Teams). UCC/Congregational Church will also be serving drinks as they do once a month (see box below).

At the very least, Potluck will provide the protein, birthday cakes and ice-cream.

### ***Celebrating the life and service of Potluck Volunteer Jim Lawlor***

*Jim Lawlor, a long time supporter and volunteer of Potluck in the Park, died of a cardiac arrest on April 4, 2011. He was the Outreach Commission chairperson at First Congregational United Church of Christ. In 2004 he was contacted by Susan Mansfield of the Lake Oswego church which was supplying the beverages every Sunday. She requested First Congregational to do the beverages on the fourth Sunday of each month. Jim went to his committee and with great enthusiasm convinced them that, of course we could help. He went to work on a fund raiser to purchase drink containers and signed up volunteers to prepare and serve. He always enjoyed the fundamental service of feeding everyone who was hungry and with no questions asked. He felt anyone could help, but that churches had a responsibility to share. -- Myrna Lawlor*

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SOME OF WHAT IT TAKES TO MAKE  
POTLUCK HAPPEN...

Paper products and  
plastic utensils  
\$6000 per year



Turkeys for Christmas  
Dinner \$1400



General  
liability/accident  
insurance  
\$2500 per year



Security officers for  
O'Bryant Park  
\$5800 per year

Food  
service gloves  
\$65/month  
\$780 per year



FOOD  
Over \$7500  
per year



Potluck's kitchen,  
and utilities, for  
preparing 400-600  
meals per week  
\$12,000 per year