



POTLUCK

By the Numbers

Now **1434** CONSECUTIVE Sundays Served Since 1991

January 31, 2019

Greetings everyone, and a belated Happy New Year to all!

We're going to be sending this By The Numbers email on a monthly basis for a little while. I ask your forgiveness for the recent gap in communication.

We continue to serve a free, hot, heaping nutritious meal every Sunday in downtown Portland. That will not change, as long as our numerous guests make the walk.

By "We" I mean "You." We all do this because it is necessary today.

Thank you for all you've ever done and will do in support of Potluck in the Park.

PARKING LOGISTICS

Please plan ahead to park your cars a little further from the under-bridge parking lot. It will be fenced-off for construction until who-knows-when. The nearest/cheapest parking garage can be found with a map search of -

SmartPark 123 SW Jefferson St, Portland, OR 97201

It'll cost around 5 bucks

HAWTHORNE BRIDGE LOCATION

It has been a relatively dry winter. Not as cold as in the past, but we're only halfway through the potential winter weather. If it rains or worse, we have solid cover under the bridge deck. Thanks going to the Parks Dept, the city DOT, and all offices along the line.

Our weekly guest numbers are lower compared to this time last year. Factors beyond our control

play into this. Variable weather, crackdowns on urban camping, fixed-rent building sales with evictions, hostile/defensive architectural installations (think jagged boulders under road overpasses), a misunderstanding of mental illness and addiction, an influx of condo buyers, and a general distraction away from the needs of our most vulnerable cohabitants.

It's easy to push away a problem one cannot solve. It's a tremendous challenge to resolve, with so many human variables. Surmountable, though, is the embarrassing gap between the amount of available food and the number of people who are without access to that food. We work to shorten that gap.

People need to eat.

Below there will be a few spreadsheet snippets to show our tracked numbers. These show the number of ticketed guests we've counted each week. It's our most accurate numbers system.

We always cook enough for the predicted number of guests. Sometimes we overestimate, and on those days we are fortunate to have people willing and able to drive this extra hot food to various local agencies and facilities in parallel service. Sometimes it goes to a recognized funded facility, and sometimes it goes to the tarped-in group clinging to the leeward sides of our onramps.

We are doing the most we can with what we have. If you or someone you know could benefit from or contribute to our efforts, send them over. Come on down, take a look.

We will be under the Hawthorne bridge, downtown side, waterfront, until mid-Spring. Every Sunday from Noon-6ish

Please join us when you can.

Thank you for reading this, and thank you for continuing to be part of Potluck in the Park. Be in touch!

Dan Talbott

Month	Week	2017		2018		+/- Prev. Yr.
		Day	Count	Day	Count	
November	1 st	5	395	4	354	-10%
	2 nd	12	466	11	382	-18%
	3 rd	19	363	18	284	-22%
	4 th	26	367	25	257	-30%
	5 th					
Month Total			1,591		1,277	
Month Ave.			398		319	-20%
Year Total			22,965		18,423	
Year Ave.			478		392	-18%

Month	Week	2017		2018		+/- Prev. Yr.
		Day	Count	Day	Count	
December	1 st	3	220	2	169	-23%
	2 nd	10	216	9	106	-51%
	3 rd	17	239	16	161	-33%
	4 th			23	163	
	Christmas Dinner	24	820	25	1120	37%
5 th	31	240	30	247	3%	
Month Total			1,735		1,966	
Month Ave.			347		328	-6%
Year Total			24,700		20,389	
Year Ave.			466		385	-17%

Month	Week	2018		2019		+/- Prev. Yr.
		Day	Count	Day	Count	
January	1 st	7	179	6	126	-30%
	2 nd	14	269	13	209	-22%
	3 rd	21	300	20	124	-59%
	4 th	28	460	27	197	-57%
	5 th					
Month Total			1,208		656	
Month Ave.			302		164	-46%
Year Total			1,208		656	
Year Ave.			302		164	-46%