



Idaho P.E.O. Chapter House Newsletter

Our goal is to share, educate and enlighten each of you regarding our Idaho treasure, The Idaho P.E.O. Chapter House!

JANUARY 2019

CHRISTMAS DINNER

At the Chapter House with Family and Friends

A lovely evening was enjoyed by CH residents and guests at the annual Chapter House Christmas dinner on Dec. 19th. Each year Gene Kaplan (Kapi) and the staff work extra hard to make it special. Each of them was introduced after dinner and applauded by those attending.

Besides the residents, there were some special guests attending. Idaho State President Barb Jensen and her husband were especially happy to

be with Barb's mother, Margaret Vernon, who is a CH resident. Retiring board members traditionally are also invited. A special friend of the CH, Sgt. Chelle Sperry, of the Caldwell Police Dept. brought her friend and her adoptive Australian marsupials, (Sugar gliders) which she is bonding with. It made for some interesting conversation!

Entertainment was provided by Fran Woodhead, Chapter AU, Caldwell, who led the group in singing Christmas songs. All in all, it was a festive occasion for all. Thanks to Karen Ray, CH manager for arranging the evening.





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SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MEMORIES of the Chapter House Residents



Ann said, that though she has many, a favorite memory was a Christmas/New Years Riviera cruise with her late husband Karl. It was a two-week sail, designed for families, complete with kids and Santa!

Per usual, **Edith's** daughter from California is here for 10 days — always a special time with her and other family members visiting. December 15 was Edith's #92 birthday; her Eastern Star friends came caroling and laden with two large shopping bags of gifts! Overwhelming!!



Katie expressed that Christmas 2018 was extra special because almost all of her family was together from Nevada, Arizona, Idaho — kids, grandchildren, and greats — **15** total.

Margaret reports that this was an especially happy one, celebrating with all her family — **14** in all.





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SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MEMORIES *(continued)*



Amanda's Christmas story actually happened before she was born!

Amanda's Mom grew up in a farming community with many of her family members as neighbors. At Christmas they all joined together. Her mother, who loves to cook, planned for dessert a surprise, **Cherries Jubilee**. She poured the liqueur over the top, lighted it, and proceeded into the dining room. Amanda's Aunt thought this was an accident and grabbed a towel to dash the flames. Instead, she spread liqueur and fire all over the table! The house was saved, the Cherries Jubilee was not! And the story lives on.



In **Sue's** own words: "One of my most memorable Christmas times was in 1941. I was in the first grade, and my parents and I lived in Tacoma, WA, with my Great Aunt and Uncle. When Pearl Harbor was attacked on December 7th, it changed the way we lived. The biggest change was **NO LIGHTS!**

Eighteen days before Christmas (to protect ourselves) we had to plan on no outside lights and

small amounts of light coming out the windows at night. Certain windows were painted half or totally black. There were many other restrictions. But in spite of all this, my Aunt Anna and Uncle Franz made a wonderful Christmas time for all of us-with my aunt's famous cooking and my uncle's Christmas Stories. He was a perfect vision of Santa — including his tummy and his beard!

Best of all — Santa brought me a 14 in. tall Shirley Temple doll! My birth name was Shirley Sue Anderson!"



A really special Christmas for **Donna** was the one she spent in Connecticut with her daughter. They cut their own Christmas tree, then decorated it and the house.





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JANUARY LUNCH & LEARN



Music & Memory

Presented by Gini Cunningham

A movie about the effect of music in a care facility, prompted Gini to launch an exploratory mission in Winnemucca, NV. With help, a program was implemented with amazing results — fewer medications, more joy, less agitations, increased animation among residents, peace and happiness. Gini's presentation will enable one to use the methods for loved ones and friends who are facing dementia.

★ Registration date for lunch Wednesday, Jan. 9th
(by noon please)

NOTE: If you are not able to attend lunch, but wish to attend the session, please contact Karen Ray or Bobbie Bonaminio (listed to the right). These sessions are open to all P.E.O.s and their guests.

Thursday, January 10, 2019

12:00-1:00 pm

Lunch with the residents \$13

Limited to 15

1:00 Learning Session

TO REGISTER PLEASE CONTACT:

Karen Ray
(208) 459-3552
idpeoch@gmail.com

Bobbie Bonaminio
(208) 459-3104
bobbiebon@cableone.net

Contact Us:

We invite you to submit your stories, experiences and testimonials so that we can spread the word about the Chapter House. Email to idpeoch@gmail.com, with your questions or comments. Thank you.

Chapter House Newsletter Team

- Patricia Benedict, BT
- Judy Grunke, T
- Bobbie Bonaminio, AU
- Karen Ray, BT
- Mary Buchanan, H



<http://peochapterhouseidaho.org>