



The Alliance of
THE OPEN DOOR AND THE UPPER ROOM
919 Pandora Ave, Victoria, BC V8V 3P4

VOLUNTEER'S NEWSLETTER

www.ourplacesociety.com Number 24 - March 15, 2008 Bruce More - Editor

"ourplace Society works in compassionate Christian love with those who are homeless and others in need to enrich and improve the lives of all."

IN MEMORIAM



Janet Bauer

one of our long-time soup kitchen volunteers, passed away on Thursday, February 21, 2008 as a direct result of a traffic accident. Janet was a kind, gentle, selfless soul who gave

her time generously to not only Our Place but to the Garth Homer Society, the Sierra Club and a number of other charities. She will be dearly missed by the many volunteers, particularly the Thursday morning gang, staff and family members who have come to know her over the years.

Happy March Birthdays!

Al, Barbara, David, Dennis, Hope, Liz, Pat, Penny, Scott, Sean

Ask Vickie

What volunteer opportunities will there be at the new building?



Dear Gentle Reader,

There will be many exciting volunteer opportunities at the new building. It is our sincere hope that those of you who are currently volunteering will wish to continue to do so. If you would like to work in a different program area or to try something new, Antoinette would love to meet and chat with you further to discuss the opportunities that we have available — for example, in the clothing room, the hygiene area and the computer lab.

Next month's question:

When will the opening celebration for the new building be held?

Relocation of the Drop-in Centre

The drop-in centre currently located at 713 Johnson Street will be relocating to our new building at 919 Pandora Avenue very soon. The last day of operation on Johnson Street will be Thursday, March 27, and our target date for being fully operational in our new building is Monday, April 7. All program areas — including the drop-in centre and the soup kitchen — will be closed from March 28 to April 6, inclusive.

Easter Feast

Our Place will be serving an Easter Feast on Good Friday, March 21, starting at 11 a.m. Everyone is welcome to come and eat. If you would like to volunteer to help prepare or serve this meal, please contact Antoinette at 388-7112, extension 243 or e-mail her at volunteer@ourplacesociety.com.

Drop-In Hours

A number of volunteers have shown a preference for dropping in to see me, which I greatly appreciate. Unfortunately, I often find myself unavailable when you do drop in. For this reason, I have set aside two hours (from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.) on Tuesday of every week to meet with volunteers on a drop-in basis.



"We can claim tax credits for living in zero-carbon homes."

Calling All Volunteers

In addition to our ongoing efforts to recruit volunteers for the soup kitchen and the drop-in centre, we are also currently looking for volunteers in the following areas:

- * Bread Pick-up
- * Hygiene Area
- * Clothing Room
- * Lending Library
- * Computer Lab

If any of these current opportunities would be of interest to you, please contact Antoinette at 388-7112, extension 243 or at volunteer@ourplacesociety.com.

DONATIONS - We Need:

Clean adult clothing (such as socks, hats, coats, sweatshirts and pants) in good repair are needed. In addition, we need towels, toiletries, warm blankets and sleeping bags. Because of our drop-in centre relocation, we will be unable to accept in kind donations from March 15 to April 15. Please contact Audrey at 388-7112, extension 221 or by email at audrey@ourplacesociety.com if you have any questions about dropping off donations.

Financial donations

If you wish to make a financial donation, please stop by our new building at 919 Pandora Avenue. Our staff will gratefully receive donations, whether by cheque, cash or credit card.

A Volunteer Gathering

I would like to invite each and every one of you to a volunteer gathering. In an effort to ensure that you all have an opportunity to attend, I will be hosting two gatherings: Tuesday, March 18 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursday, March 20 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. My plan is to share any information I have about the relocation of the drop-in centre and the official opening of the new building. I would also love to hear from each of you. What is working well? What is not working so well? I hope to see you there!

"Unconditional love given in a non-judgemental way."