

# THE GCA GRAPEVINE

The Monthly Newsletter of the Grapeview Community Association

#### **MONTH AT A GLANCE**

The Port and Fire Commissions are meeting in person with a remote option via Zoom – please visit their websites or contact them directly for the information. The Grapeview School Board Meeting is currently scheduled to be held at the School Library or with a Zoom option – please check their website.

Feb 1	GCA Board Meeting – 10AM Zoom	
Feb 9	Valentine's Potluck & Dessert Auction – (Horton C	Center 6pm)
Feb 20 Feb 21 Feb 23	Grapeview Port Commission Meeting 7:00PM Grapeview Fire Commission Meeting 7:00PM Men's Breakfast – Burger Claim 8:30AM	NOTICE: THE CRAB FEED ON 3/15 & 3/16 IS SOLD OUT!
Feb 27	Grapeview School Board Meeting 5:00PM	SOLD OUT:

From Our New President's Desk – Jim Hanson!! Valentine's Cards are stocked in our local stores and the Super Bowl selection is complete! FEBRUARY IS HERE! That also means this is my first message to our amazing members. I must say how excited and honored I am to be your President. When looking at past presidents I am humbled reading the names. So many wonderful people who have given their talent and time to help make GCA the community association we are so proud to be a part of.

Speaking of past presidents, we said thank you to a great one at the Black & White Potluck earlier in January. Edward Johnson finally gave up the "gavel"! As his Vice President this past year I can honestly say he gave the GCA his passion, energy, talent, and wonderful wit. OH, and his voice as well for those that were at the Snacks With Santa event in December as we sang carols with the kids. Thank you, Edward, for making 2023 a year to remember.

#### Mark Your Calendars:

- We are bringing back the Valentine's Day Potluck & Dessert Auction- February 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. The community bakers are busy once again doing their magic! What table will be the first to pick?? Don't forget to bring some extra \$\$ "it's all for the community."
- The **CRAB FEED** is March 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are almost gone! This continues to be an event not to miss!
- Our Event Coordinator, Debbie Black, promises some additional surprises for this year- BINGO!!

**GCA Cares:** We are looking at ways to help Michele Hecht deliver even more "Outreach" opportunities in support of our greater community. Leslie Nuttman, after many years of service, is going to transition out this year as the Scholarship Chair. With Leslie's help, Steve Hecht will take over the role and continue to develop our "Scholarship Programs" Nothing can be more important than supporting our future leaders!

**Grapeview Community Conversations:** We had our 2<sup>nd</sup> Grapeview Community Conversation on Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. This new event will continue to bring important topics to our community. If you have any topics you feel would benefit our community please let us know. I could go on and on but let's stop here and say 2024 will be another exciting year for the GCA!

Respectfully, Jim Hanson



FEBRUARY 2024 Vol. 14 Issue 2



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#### VALENTINE'S DAY POTLUCK AND DESSERT AUCTION - FEB 9TH 6PM

Last year's **Valentine's Day Potluck & Dessert Auction Event** was such a hit, we thought we'd do it again!! **On Friday, Feb 9**<sup>th</sup> **at 6PM** we will have delicious, delectable, yummy, irresistible desserts for each table to bid on. The table that raises the most money will get the 1st choice of a dessert for their table, then the next highest bidder will choose theirs, and so on until they are all gone. Don't miss out on the fun evening! **Bring cash for bidding.....** and get to know the people at your table a little better! We could not have this event without all the bakers donating the delightful desserts to auction. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.



For our potluck we're asking members to make something from the "A Taste of Grapeview" cookbook. No desserts because of the auction! Last year we had an array of dishes from our wonderful members' recipes. There will be name cards to write the name of the dish, and by who, so we can honor that member. If you don't have one of the GCA cookbooks (happy to sell a copy) choose a dish you'd like to make in the following categories based on the first letter of your last name:

A-G....Sides H-N....Salads O-Z....Mains

Please remember to bring the beverage of your choice, table service (plates, utensils etc.) and money for the Dessert Auction. Water and coffee will be provided.

Help with setup and cleanup is always appreciated! Setup starts at 10AM on Friday morning, and cleanup immediately following the event.

FEBRUARY 2024 Vol. 14 Issue 2



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#### NEW YEAR'S PARTY FUN!

As the clock struck "midnight" (okay it was really 9pm) the air was filled with excitement and joy at the GCA's annual New Year's Eve Party. Attendance set a new record of 78 people, far exceeding the 2022 events attendance of 46. The Horton Center was all decked out for this wonderful event. The Champagne Fountain was filled, and a selfie/photo station was ready for attendees to take photos to remember the evening.

Fabulous appetizers were enjoyed, followed by New York Cheesecake with a selection of delicious topping choices prepared by Bonnie Townsley and Leslie Blaisdell. Members danced the night away to a variety of songs. It was a sight to see!

Thanks to all who sent in song requests! A few games were played, but the majority of people were having too much fun catching up with each other.

After a 10-second countdown at 9pm (midnight in New York) we had a champagne toast while Auld Lang Syne played. Attendees continued dancing, playing games and socializing.

A huge thank you to those who helped with setup and cleanup! Many hands make light work and your assistance was much appreciated.



OUR
THANKS
TO MIKE &
LESLIE
BLAISDELL
FOR A
GREAT
NIGHT!







#### JANUARY BLACK & WHITE EVENT!

The Black & White event took place on January 12th, 2024, with the threat of a winter storm. Around the 6pm timeframe it looked like the event was going to be a bust, but then members slowly started trickling in. In the end, about 70 brave members ventured out for a fun night!

After the social hour we all enjoyed the wonderful, delectable food the members had prepared for sharing. It was so exciting to see all the creativity everyone brings to the table.

The night continued with OUR THANKS to the outgoing Board Members for all their hard work and announcing the new 2024 Board. All in all, the evening was about friendship, laughs and a few speeches!









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### **Calling All High School Seniors**

Did you know that the Grapeview Community Association offers scholarships to high school seniors? <u>The scholarship committee is asking all GCA members to help get the word out to any high school seniors you know.</u>

Any senior may apply, but special consideration will be given to students who attended Grapeview School and/or who provided service in the Grapeview Community. Students at North Mason High School can apply through the scholarship notebook program that has a mid-March deadline. There is more information and a link to an online application for students from other high schools on the **GCA website at grapeviewwa.com with a March 15**<sup>th</sup> deadline.

#### MEMBERSHIP NEWS - IMPORTANT!!!!

Keep your 2024 due payments coming in! We've had a great response so far, and many of you are now using the online method to renew your memberships – that's GREAT! If you haven't paid your dues yet, it's time to pay up!

To pay by check, just click on the <u>2024 Membership Form</u>. Complete the form, print it out and mail along with your payment to:

Grapeview Community Association P. O. Box 355 Grapeview, WA 98546 THE 2024 DIRECTORIES
WILL BE OUT SOON! MAKE
SURE YOU ARE IN IT!!!

**OR.....** 

You can <u>pay your renewal online with your credit card</u>, and let us know of any changes to the directory information. THERE IS NO FEE to pay online. There IS an option to donate to Zeffy (the company who makes this function possible). When the donation amount comes up, click on "OTHER" and put AN OPTIONAL DONATION AMOUNT in that space. Simply click here right now to make that payment!

Thank you for your continued support and participation.

Dan Peel, Membership Co-Chair

FEBRUARY 2024 Vol. 14 Issue 2



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### GCA CARES.... AN UPDATE ON COMMUNITY OUTREACH...



Congratulations to GCA members David and Pam Mueller (and the school children of course) on the success of Willie Wonka, the Musical. The sets were wonderful! All their hard work certainly paid off!

Do you know how to tune a string instrument? The Ukulele unit just started again at the school. 27 Ukes need to be tuned before 9:45am on Thursdays and Fridays. Please contact Michele Hecht (410-598-7258) if you would like to help.

Where does our money go? How do we support the community? It's done by our Community Outreach Committee, and we review Requests for Donations for local organizations who need help. While we donate to many worthy causes, our most recent grant went to the *North Mason Teen Center* where we gave \$600 to help supply healthy snacks for the kids. It is a safe and inspiring place to go after school. Brad Pomroy has been volunteering at the North Mason High School location twice a week. Please call him if you would like to help financially or in person. It is a great program!

**Got a program you'd like us to consider?** Just fill out this **Request for Donations** form or visit the <u>GCA website</u> if you know of a need in our community! Our team will be happy to look at it for possible support.

Thank you! Michele Hecht, Community Outreach

Bookmark the GCA Website and GCA Facebook! Keep up to date with the latest news and

events from the GCA and the greater Grapeview Community by visiting and bookmarking the <u>GCA Website</u> and the <u>GCA Facebook</u> page. Both the website and Facebook page are updated throughout the month as news and information are made available regarding both the GCA and our community.