

[View this email in your browser](#)**Phone: (503) 308 - 8223****email: info@wllovillage.org**

Note from the editor: This long issue might get clipped automatically by some email programs. If that is the case for you, don't forget to click on the link at the end that says, 'read the entire message' or similar wording. Or just click on the top where it says, 'view this email in your browser'. Either way, we hope you will enjoy reading what's new and newsworthy with WLLO.



We hope you have been enjoying the sunshine of the last few days, even if the temperatures are still frigid. Still, signs of spring are popping up here and there. In some places more so than in others.

News and Noteworthy

WLLO is in the enviable position to be able to offer **financial support to**

potential members who cannot afford to pay for a membership by themselves. We have a limited number of partial scholarships available. If you know of anyone who might qualify, please reach out to the office.

If you haven't attended, we have had great fun getting together for our virtual Zoom gatherings! They're a great opportunity to see faces of fellow volunteers and members. **Friday morning coffee at 9am. Come in your PJs. Thursday afternoon Happy Hour! 5pm Share a glass of wine with friends.** Remember there is help here at WLLO getting you comfy with Zoom. Call us or send us a note.

WLLO is prepared to help you fight COVID. We have a limited supply of **COVID tests and KN95 masks** at hand if you are in need of either one. Our drivers are prepared to do a contact-less delivery to your doorstep. While we don't have a ton of supplies, if you are in need, we will do our utmost to help! Also, remember that since January, you can **order free covid-at-home tests** from the government website www.covidtests.gov.

WLLO members can expect our popular **drop-in visits** on Saturday, February 12. In addition to the birthday deliveries, drop-in seem to be the second most popular affair. By the way, we hope you enjoyed receiving a beautiful **birthday card** on your special day. We all are thanking Karin M. for those.

If you have been on the receiving end of our **puzzle exchange program**, you can attest to how much fun a new puzzle can bring. This might be especially true during the winter months when the weather keeps one indoors more so than otherwise. Call the office to set up a contact-free delivery and pick-up.

Calling all WLLO members with **serious and not so serious artistic tendencies**. We started a group for all of you to meet (online for now) and exchange ideas. Please reach out to the office if you would like to join our newest initiative.

Last but not least, we are putting together a list of folks **who would like a check-in call** from us during any emergency kind of situation- power outage, extreme cold, extreme heat, snow, etc. We have started calling a few of you to ask but don't hesitate to give the WLLO office a call or send an email if you would like to be on this list. (Or if you can assist someone who needs help during this time.)



WLO Village would like to thank everyone for their generous year-end donations to support WLO Village! We appreciate the enthusiastic support and will use the donations wisely! And, a generous group of donors matched \$1500 of the donations. A special thank you to those individuals as well.

Thank you, everyone!
Your Village Council



We were welcoming Susan and Jim J. in January as our newest members and unfortunately misspelled Jim's name. We are very sorry about that. A heartfelt 'welcome' again!



February Birthdays

Our best birthday wishes to our January birthday ladies and gentleman, Joan W., Steven C., Bonnie M., and Kathy S. We wish you a very happy birthday and all the best for the year to come.

The Village Movement will turn 20 years old on February 15th, and along with other Villages all over the U.S., we are planning commemorative celebrations in the Portland area. Villages



in Portland are 10 years old! WLOO is about to turn 3. Stay tuned and read your local paper for information on celebrations all year.



The NO-GUILT Book Club meets again on the second Tuesday of the month. In February, our theme is "translations". Find a book that is a translation from an international author. There are many! You might be surprised to realize many favorite books were translations. If you are stumped for a book, there are many lists out there, such as [this one](#).

Bookclub meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am. See you on February 8th! As usual it is fun to chat with anyone who shows up even if you didn't read a book on our theme or anything at all. All are welcome!



Don't forget that February 14 is Valentines Day. If you have someone special in your life, let them know how much they mean to you.

Electronic "Waste": Repair, Reuse, Repeat

As always, credit and many thanks go to our own Terence (Terry) Shumaker who puts this advice column together for the benefit of all of us, and the planet.

The WLOO recycling team will be collecting electronic "waste" (e-waste) on February 8, so scour your closets and storage space for those old or inoperable items that are just occupying space. The items we collect will be taken to Free Geek in southeast Portland. They take most anything with a power cord. Except microwave ovens. Just contact Suanne Jackson at suannej@wloovillage.org and get yourself on the pickup list.

The term "waste" is an improper term to use, since the materials that compose such things as computers, phones, printers and small appliances are valuable resources. And the word "garbage" is used most often to refer to items that are no longer useful to us, and are relegated to the dustbin. A majority of toxic waste in America is e-waste.

A closer examination of any of the above products reveals that they are composed of a variety of materials and substances. All of the materials in a typical laptop computer or smart phone came from minerals and compounds in the earth. Resources that are finite. They can't be regrown like trees or vegetables. So the best avenue is that of repairing and reusing these devices. And that is just what Free Geek does.

All items donated to Free Geek are evaluated to determine if they are useable or repairable. If so, the items can then be sold in their store, and computer equipment can be donated to people who may not be able to afford it.

Electronic items that can't be repaired may contain components that can be reused in other devices. Parts that cannot be reused are systematically disassembled by employees into basic parts such as plastic, metal, screws and fasteners, computer chips, processor system boards, wires and cables. All of these components are sold to processing companies that render them into new raw materials. All of the companies that Free Geek sells materials to have been vetted to assure that they maintain ethical working standards and process the materials in a safe and environmentally sound manner.

Since it is a not-for-profit organization it is important that donations to Free Geek are ready for processing and recycling by following these basic guidelines:

- Bring as little packaging and boxes as possible. Recycle these at home.
- Dispose of manuals and paper instructions in your curbside bin.
- Do not include software in your donations.

- Attach power cords and power adapters to their associated equipment.
- Coil all cables and cords with rubber bands or twist ties.
- If you are donating an Apple (iOS) mobile device with an activation lock and/or password, please turn off the activation lock by following [these instructions](#)

Free Geek handles all electronic devices that contain data in the most secure manner possible. All data is destroyed using the most advanced methods to ensure your data is not copied or stolen.

Although Free Geek accepts a wide variety of items that plug in or use electricity, there are items they do not accept. Before preparing your devices for pickup by the WLLO team, please check out the [items they cannot accept](#).

Electronic waste in America composes 70% of the overall toxic waste generated. Therefore it is critically important that we are all cognizant of how we dispose of those electronic items that are no longer of use to us. Free Geek strives to make that task easy for us, and for a good [overview of their operational process](#).

So remember, **February 8th is the day to donate all those electronic items**. Thanks for your conscientious participation in our WLLO recycling program.

The Tax Benefit of Supporting WLLO Village through your IRA Required Minimum Distribution

Did you know you can use your Required Minimum Distributions from your IRA to fund a donation to WLLO Village? Giving less to your favorite charities since you no longer itemize? You can reduce your taxable income by making donations from your required minimum IRA distribution. If you pay taxes on a portion of your Social Security benefits, you can also lower the level for determining taxation.

Talk to your financial adviser or CPA about how to fund your charitable giving through your IRA or other retirement accounts. You choose the amount to donate – a portion or all of a distribution – and ask your financial manager to make the gift for you. Just let us know to expect it, as often the donor is not identified with

the incoming funds!

Checks should be made out to Villages NW fbo WLO Village and mailed to
333 S State St, Suite V1, Lake Oswego OR 97034.

Questions? Contact Villages NW, info@villagesnw.org or call 503.515.1948

WLO Events in the Month of February

If you know of any event that would be a great addition to our activities, or if you have comments or suggestions about an event you attended, we want to hear from you. Please email us at info@wlovillage.org or leave us a message at (503) 308 8223.

Wednesday, February 2 Chat & Stroll

10:00 am

Luscher Park

Weather permitting we will be meeting at Luscher Farm's parking lot off Rosemont. Watch your email for an announcement. Members and volunteers are welcome to join.

Every Thursday. February 3, 10, 17, 24 Online Happy Hour

5:00 pm

Online

Join us for our fun online gathering. Be prepared with your own beverage and snack and let's enjoy each other's company. Contact the office (503-308-8223) or email info@wlovillage.org to get log-in details and the password.

RSVP required to get the dial-in information.

Every Friday. February 4, 11, 18, 25 Friday Coffee

9:00 am

Online

WLO is hosting a virtual gathering every Friday at 9 am. Contact the office (503-308-8223) or email info@wlovillage.org to get log-in details and the password.

RSVP required to get the dial-in information.

Friday, February 4

LO Library Learning Group

The group will meet on the **first Friday of each month at 7:00 pm**. To sign up for a session you are interested in, just go to the Library Events Calendar

[https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/calendar?
og_group_ref_target_id=13](https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/calendar?og_group_ref_target_id=13)

7 pm - 8 pm
Online

Every Monday.
February 7, 14, 21,
28
TED Talk &
Discussion

1:00 pm
Online

Tuesday, February 8
The No-Guilt Book
Club

10:00 am
Online

Tuesday,
February 8
Recycling
Registering required

Wednesday, February
9
Brisk Walk
9:00 am
George Rogers Park

and look for the first Friday of the month to find the Learning Group and click on the link to be emailed the invitation:

<https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/library/learning-group>

Each week we will choose a brief TED Talk to watch together then have a short discussion. Call or email the office for sign-in or call-in information!

RSVP required to get the dial-in information.

Join us for our no-guilt book club meeting where you can read whatever you want following a general theme. In February, our theme is "translations". Find a book that is a translation from an international author. There are many! You might be surprised to realize many favorite books were translations.

Come prepared to talk about your favorite piece of literature. If you haven't read for a while, maybe you'll be inspired after our discussion! We will send out an email with the Zoom link to all members and volunteers a day or two before the gathering. Or call the office! 503-308-8223.

RSVP required to get the dial-in information.

This month we will once again focus on electronic. Read the article above for more details. Just remember to call the office to make sure you are going to be on the list of stops.

Weather permitting we will be meeting at the lower parking lot of George Rogers Park. Watch your email for an announcement. Members and Volunteers are welcome to join.



Have you been checking out our [YouTube Channel](#)? We keep on adding videos frequently. Learn about how we started, listen to members explaining WLLO and what it means to them in their own words, and relive how we managed through last year's turmoil together.



Last but not least: As we warm up during the cold winter days you may find some enjoyable activities on our website. Check out [our tips for PlayTime on our website](#). We're sure you'll find a distraction that will brighten your day.

[Facebook](#)[Website](#)[YouTube](#)[Email](#)

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