

ANNUAL MEETING

Help Redwood celebrate! The Annual Meeting, Tuesday, May 11, 2010 will be a commemoration of our 57th year of service to the people of Northern Kentucky and the Greater Cincinnati region. The festivities will be at the Cincinnati Airport Marriott. It is located at 2395 Progress Drive in Hebron, Kentucky (travel 275 to Exit 4A; turn left on KY 20 and right on Progress Drive). Enjoy cocktails at 6:00 p.m. followed by the dinner meeting at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25. RSVP to **Connie Stebbins**, 859 331-0880 or cstebbins@redwoodnky.org.

PASSAGES

Congratulations to trustee **Karen Finan**—an Outstanding Woman of Northern Kentucky! Bilz Insurance received an Automation Award thanks to the efforts of trustee **Diane Booth**.

Bridgette Hightower has a new role! After years of providing exemplary leadership to Workforce Success, she has made a career change. She is now putting her excellent skills to good use for Redwood in a new way as the Community Outreach & Training Coordinator.

Welcome aboard to **Kristi Kinman**, the new Director of Workforce Success. Congratulations to **Kim Hughes** for her promotion to Work Activity Center Supervisor.

Our condolences to **Jeff Stern** whose mother passed away. We also extend sympathy to **Jude Hehman** as well. **Paul Hehman**, Jude's father and former Redwood board member passed away.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Congratulations and thanks to **Phil & Lynn Schworer** and the amazing Redwood Express Committee, volunteers, sponsors, and donors! If you weren't at the **Redwood Express**, you missed a fabulous evening of friends and fundraising for a great cause! Moving forward, the 2011 Redwood Express will be March 4, 2011, chaired by the dynamic **Heidrich Brothers** (aka **Gary, Dave, Rich, and Ken**), and sponsored once again by our good friends at the **Chas H. Bilz Insurance Company**.

Next up, **The Derby!** Here's how it works. Only 600 membership tickets/stubs are sold. Beginning in May, three ticket stubs are drawn each month for a \$100 cash prize. All tickets are put back in the hat for a chance to win in the next month's drawings. You can get your ticket, only \$50 per year, from a Derby Broker or from Redwood.

Lynn Ehlman and **Mike Haas** are planning a delightful **Redwood Derby Dinner**, Friday, April 30, at Notre Dame

Academy to wrap up the current Derby year. Contact **Beth Moore** (859 331-0880) to buy a ticket or to attend the Derby dinner. RSVP for the dinner by 4/23/10.

The **Golf Outing** will be Friday, June 18 at Twin Oaks Golf & Plantation Club. Come to the kick off meeting to plan the outing Tuesday, April 20th at 1:00 at Redwood. Contact **Beth Moore** (859 331-0880 or bmoore@redwoodnky.org) for more information.

March 2010 Derby winners: **Robert Cooper**, **Art Heidrich**, **Thomas Kordenbrock**, and **Cesar Quiroz**.

BOARD EDUCATION – ENDOWING OUR FUTURE

Most people have heard of a "nest egg." This is a term for when an individual or family sets aside a sum of money for purposes such as retirement, tuition, or to build overall financial wellbeing for the future. The main idea is that money in the nest egg shouldn't be touched except for the purpose for which it was saved.

To be financially healthy and stable over time, nonprofit organizations also put money into a nest egg—but it isn't called that. It is called an endowment. An endowment is a pool of money that is invested so the income can produce a reliable level of annual support (usually 5% of the value of the fund) for daily operations of the organization.

Redwood co-founder Al Wood, in honor of Redwood's first executive director Dorothy Wood, had the foresight to plan for our financial future through the establishment of the Dorothy Wood Foundation (DWF) in 1979. Our nest egg has been growing since that time.

DWF, as a separate legal entity with its own board, accepts endowment gifts directly. Additionally, any gifts specifically designated for endowment are deposited into the DWF Account. Last but not least... in support of the goal to "develop sufficient resources to endow our mission for the future," Redwood makes discretionary deposits into DWF whenever budgetary conditions permit. Due to the poor economy and the impact on our budget, there have been limited discretionary deposits to DWF in recent times. Redwood's leadership is optimistic that with prudent planning and an improved economy, we may continue building our endowment fund to a sufficient size to support future financial sustainability.

PARTIES FOR A CAUSE!

A message from the Marketing Committee

Gift gathering parties are an important and relatively easy way to raise gifts for prizes and cash donations for special events; and at the same time, promote Redwood's mission.

A recent Super Bowl party, hosted by **Jackie & Denny Hirt** with their good friends **Chris & Shelly Maxwell** is a perfect example. They added "gift gathering" to the party menu. Guests attending the party contributed \$1,300 in cash and gifts for the silent auction and baggage claim. Wow!

Please consider how you can have a "party for a purpose" as well. Are you hosting a Derby party? Why not ask friends to bring an in-kind gift or donate any of their win, place, or show "winnings" to Redwood? Planning your parties for the summer? You can do the same thing! Everyone loves a good Fourth of July celebration, so why not talk up the independence Redwood helps children and adults achieve and ask your guests to make a donation? There are so many creative ways to host a party and benefit Redwood. With a little pre-planning it's as easy as including the wording on your invitations and just accepting the gifts!

"Our gift gathering Super Bowl party was more successful than I imagined," Jackie told the Marketing Committee. "Even people who lived in Ohio and had never heard about Redwood were compelled to make a donation. Anyone can do it."

Jackie's right. Anyone can do it, so please consider what parties you've got planned and how you might make it a matchmaking event for Redwood. If you have any questions or would like ideas or a gift gathering party packet, contact Telly McGaha at tmcgaha@redwoodnky.org or (859) 344-5566.

OFF WITH THEIR HATS!

Redwood was the site of the World Premiere of *Off with their Hats, Alice in Looking Land*. Adults from the Work Activity Center and Adults NOW applied acting skills to help this classic shine with new wrinkles. Imagine sliding down the rabbit hole with Alice, the Mad Hatter, and a grinning Cheshire cat in a world where things are not always as they seem. This production of Intuition Theatre was part of the *Artists on Tour* program provided by the Cincinnati Arts Association through support of the Luther Foundation.

FOR FAMILIES

Did you know National Nurses Week is May 6-May 12? We appreciate the energy, compassion, and dedication our nurses bring to their work each day. We know you do too! Take a minute to brighten their week with a cheery note and a friendly smile during National Nurses Week.

Dream Disney Vacation – Once again the **Tay Robinson Family and the Koeninger Family** are sponsoring a trip to Disney to a lucky child and family. The trip will consist of four days/nights at Disney World, including park passes, transportation, accommodations, and meal tickets. Redwood will make reservations on behalf of the child/family. The trip must be taken no later than 9/30/10.

Applications, available on our website and at Redwood, are due to **Barbara Howard** by 5/15/10.

Claim your Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). Have your return prepared and e-filed for FREE. Visit a Free Tax Prep Site. Call 2-1-1 for the location nearest you.

BLOGGING AND REDWOOD

Feel free to undo your seatbelts, ladies and gentleman, and move freely about the cabin: Redwood has entered the blogosphere! You can view Redwood's fabulous new blog here: <http://redwoodnky.tumblr.com/>. This blog is connected to Redwood's Facebook and Twitter accounts, so we now have a one-stop shop for posting and updating.

HEALING TOUCH

Come join us for another relaxing and fun Healing Touch level 1 weekend on Saturday and Sunday, May 22nd and 23rd from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You will learn energetic techniques to help others, as well as yourself! Cost is only \$30. This program is beneficial to parents, staff, and just about anyone. Five scholarships will be offered to Redwood employees. Contact **Chris Wilson** (859 331-0880) in the Nurses station to sign up.

CALENDAR

04/30 Redwood Derby
05/11 Annual Meeting
05/22 & 05/23 Healing Touch Workshop
06/18 Golf Outing
06/07 to 08/18 – Summer Respite for Children
06/14 to 07/29 – Summer Preschool Education Program

VOLUNTEER REDWOOD

Calling all teens! Summer Respite for Children is a great way to earn service learning hours during the summer. Volunteers serve as peer mentors for children enrolled in the program. Sample activities include playing sports, helping children with communication skills and helping with field trips. To learn more, contact **Bridgette Hightower** at 859 331-0880 or apply online at www.redwoodnky.org.

WISH LIST

Digital camera, board games, clay flower pots, gardening tools, case of wet wipes post-it notes, dry erase boards, and cooking ingredients.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

When you can't control the wind, adjust your sails.

COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

This is your newsletter. Suggestions or comments for/about articles are welcome. Direct responses to **Barbara Howard** at Redwood, 71 Orphanage Rd., Ft. Mitchell, KY Phone: 331-0880, Fax: 331-6177, Email: bhoward@redwoodnky.org