



Table of Plenty in Chelmsford Newsletter

Annual Meeting 2012

In January, the Board of Directors, along with Committee Chairs, convened for the Annual Meeting. This board, which was re-elected for another term, brings together a talented group of individuals with varied skills. Expertise in many areas - community organizing, finance, computer programming, scheduling, and more - along with a strong and compassionate work ethic, have helped to make Table of Plenty successful.

Despite a difficult economy over the past few years, Table of Plenty is fortunate to continue to receive generous assistance from individual donors. This past year, the local business community has also stepped forward in a big way, as

many dinners are now being sponsored in full.



Board Members/Committee Chairs

In the coming year, Table of Plenty will continue its outreach to the community to make sure that those in need are aware of the Tuesday night dinners. Additionally, Table of Plenty board members will be presenting to community organizations so that our business and community leaders are familiar with all that we provide.

February 2012

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By the Numbers...in 2011:

- **50** weeks served (we had two "snow days")
- **3,243** meals served
- Average number of meals served per week: **65**
- **6,983**: the number of times the Table of Plenty web site was visited
- **138** Facebook Fans
- **15**: Average number of volunteers who prep, serve, and clean up at each meal

Cooks' Report

The death of Chef Pat Schroeder was a blow to the Table of Plenty kitchen crew. Pat's leadership and mentoring was important in establishing and improving the work done in the kitchen. She will be missed by all of us.

We are now a member of the Merrimack Valley Food Bank, which lets us take advantage of low cost food on a weekly basis.

We also receive regular donations of bread from Panera Bread, a monthly donation of cake from Kelly Boshar, a

monthly dessert baked by Debbie and Mike Kendrick, and many incidental donations like cookies from La Bella Dolce.

With more time in the kitchen, our core volunteers gained a great deal of experience in producing tasty, nutritious meals for our guests. We hosted a visit from board members of Open Table in Concord, who were impressed with our organization and the meal we served. Our weekly guests report to us with their thanks and their clean plates!



Cooks at a recent meal: Rev. Ellen Spero, Jim Comeau, Nancy Grove, Fran Guerard, Paul Windt



Members of Chef Pat Schroeder's Family at the meal honoring her.

Many Thanks Go Out to Our Meal Sponsors

- Carolyn Clancy
- Bill Dalton
- The Falco Family
- Home Depot
- Friends of Pat Schroeder
- Soha - Gregoire Families
- St. Mary Vacation Bible Fest
- Kevin and Patsy Sullivan

Support From the Faith Community

- Each year, ***St. Mary Vacation Bible Fest*** chooses an organization to donate to whose mission is to give back to our community. For the week they are in session, they place two collection jars at their entrance and exit. This past year, they raised enough to sponsor a meal at Table of Plenty. One child shared, "I asked my mom to open my piggy bank. I had \$5.34 in there and I put it all in the jar!"



- Thanks to the ***Central Baptist Church*** for the use of their parking lot on Tuesdays for our volunteers and guests. When parking at Table of Plenty and around the Common fills up, it's convenient to have another place close by.
- First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church Children's Chapel Fund***
- Table of Plenty guests in December each received a gift card to a local grocery store. The gift cards were compliments of ***The Spirit of Christmas program at St. Mary Church.***

Sponsoring a Meal

Is your business or organization interested in sponsoring a meal? The cost of each meal is \$200, and we will advertise your support at the dinner you sponsor, on our sponsor board, and in our literature that is distributed throughout the Chelmsford area. We would also welcome employees of

your business or members of your organization to come and help our volunteer team serve the meal. The reward is special, and the need is great.

Call Joe Hehn at 978-250-5954 for more information or to reserve a date to sponsor.



President's Message

January 2012 marks the second year that Table of Plenty in Chelmsford has been serving a weekly meal to our guests whose needs are many. The support of the business community and individuals has allowed us to continue our programs at a time when many non-profits have had to reduce their services.

Over the course of the past year, many generous donations of goods have provided joy as we conduct "raffles" for our guests. Particular gratitude goes to St. Mary Parish Spirit of Christmas who provided gift cards for food at local markets for all our guests.

One fundraising idea that has reaped

many benefits: we have sent letters to businesses and individuals asking them to consider sponsoring a meal. They are welcome to attend on a specified evening and their name can be added to our sponsor board if they so wish.

We have built a dedicated, talented group of cooks who work tirelessly to plan nutritious meals each week.

Our guests look forward to musical entertainment and a donated monthly birthday cake.

As has been the case since the beginning, we could not do this work without the enthusiastic support and substantial financial contributions of the First Parish Unitarian Universalist

Church members, and, in particular, Reverend Ellen Spero.

We will be planning our goals and visions for the year ahead, always mindful of the privilege and how greatly rewarding it is to serve those who join us for dinner.



Maureen McKeown

Board of Directors

President: Maureen McKeown

Vice President: Jerry Serra

Treasurer: Deborah Kendrick

Secretary: Mary Moriarty

Craig Bonaceto

Joe Hehn

Marianne Hutchins

Mike Kendrick

Caithlin O'Brien

Merri Serra

Committee Members

Accountant

Gerry Paolilli

Attorney

Kevin S. Sullivan

Cooks Committee

Jim Comeau, Coordinator

Nancy Grove, Nutritionist

Colleen Craven

Fran Geurard

Adelle Stavis

Angie Taranto

Paul Windt

First Parish Representative

Bonnie Rankin

Fundraising Coordinator

Joe Hehn

Inventory Coordinator

Sharon Hehn

Publicity Coordinator

Diane Taylor

Technical Communications

Craig Bonaceto

Caithlin O'Brien

Volunteer Coordinator

Marianne Hutchins

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