



Table of Plenty in Chelmsford Newsletter

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner—THANKS!



A great time was had by all at the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner held last month at Mount Pleasant Golf Club! When volunteering at Table of Plenty, we are usually so busy preparing and serving dinner, that we don't get the chance to socialize. It was nice to be able to chat with our fellow volunteers, and catch up with friends from different teams as well.

Table of Plenty, now in its eighth year, **operates completely with volunteers**. Volunteers shop for the food, pick up the bread from Panera, prepare the dinner, set up the tables and chairs, set the tables, serve our guests, do all the clean up, put the tables and chairs away, entertain, and so much more.

To all of our wonderful volunteers who make this dinner happen each week, we say **THANK YOU** for all that you do! We wish you and your families a very Happy Thanksgiving and holiday season.

To see more great pictures from the event, click on this link: [Table of Plenty Appreciation Dinner](#).

November 2017

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Some Thankyous...



- * **Micky Ward Foundation**— for once again sponsoring a meal. Micky and friends helped prepare and serve the meal, and Micky visited with guests.
- * **St. Mary Parish**— for the use of their kitchen and hall this past summer! We are so fortunate to have such wonderful community support.
- * **Chelmsford Swim and Tennis Club**— for the use of their grills whenever we need them.



Honoring our Chefs and Sous Chefs



Front Row L-R: Irene Masson, Paul Windt, Maureen McKeown, Giancarla Kalpas, Mel Starr, Carol MacDonald, Ann Pelley

Back Row L-R: Jim Meenaghan, Doug Drake, Sue MacDonald, Jim Comeau

Missing: Kirk Marshall

At this year's Volunteer Appreciation Event, our Chefs and Sous Chefs were recognized for the tireless work they do at Table of Plenty. Always the first to arrive and the last to leave, many of them can be found volunteering each and every week to put the meal on the table. In addition to all they do on Tuesdays, they often spend other days shopping and preparing for the week ahead.

You can find them in the kitchen wearing their swanky new "Table of Plenty in Chelmsford" aprons.

Celebrating their 50th



Where else would Jerry and Merri Serra want to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary but at Table of Plenty—a dinner spot that is near and dear to their hearts. The special meal was sponsored in their honor by their family.

Happy 50th Merri and Jerry! We're happy to be able to celebrate with you.

Thank You to Our Meal Sponsors

- ◆ Blake Funeral Home
- ◆ Chelmsford Dental Associates
- ◆ Chelmsford Women of Today
- ◆ Tim and Heather Clark
- ◆ Circle Health
- ◆ Dunkin' Donuts/Adie-Conway Inc.
- ◆ Elm Hill Labs
- ◆ Enterprise Bank
- ◆ Hardy Doric
- ◆ Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union
- ◆ Joanne Sargent & Associates
- ◆ Lockheed Martin
- ◆ The McCoy Restaurant
- ◆ Micky Ward Foundation
- ◆ And many Anonymous Sponsors...

Sponsoring A Meal



If you or your business are interested in sponsoring a meal, contact Table of Plenty at 978-710-8EAT(8328) or tableofplentyinchelmsford@gmail.com.

President's Message



Maureen McKeown

At this year's Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, Maureen was honored for her innumerable contributions to Table of Plenty. Jerry Serra created a beautiful video tribute to Maureen. A theme throughout the video was how Maureen had an "idea", a "vision", and a "dream" to create a community meal—a vision which through a lot of hard work and perseverance she turned into a reality. Following is Maureen's beautiful speech from the evening:

It is such a blessing to be here tonight.

The past two years have personally been very challenging, but thanks to a dedicated Board of Directors, an incredible team of cooks and over 200 volunteers in various roles our mission continues to thrive.

I read this story recently and it resonated with me. The late Larry DiPaul was a titan in social justice ministry in the Philadelphia area. He loved to tell the story of the night he stopped for coffee at his local 7-Eleven after a party. Outside the store, he saw Sam, a homeless man who was often hanging out there. Sam said he was hungry. Larry remembered he had some leftover lasagna from the party in his car, and so he went to his car to retrieve it. Larry held the container out to Sam. Sam told him to hold on a minute. He walked into the store and returned a moment later with two knives and two forks. "Why do you have two, Sam? Do you have a friend around?" Larry asked. Sam held out one set to Larry. "A meal goes a much longer way when you have someone to share it with," Sam said. And so they sat on the curb and ate the lasagna together.

Although we don't always get a chance to sit with our guests, we do share their stories. And they have the occasion to break bread together at a meal with their friends.

So THANK YOU to each one of you for providing this opportunity each time you come to volunteer.



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