

THE SCOOP

Spaghetti western supper fundraiser for Ken Jones Respite program

By Mable Hastings

On Saturday, March 23, as the snow fell, hour after hour and the wind picked up, organizers of the spaghetti western supper to benefit the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre Ken Jones Respite (KJC) program for the intellectually and physically challenged,

began to wonder if the event planned was doomed for failure due to the weather!

By 6 p.m. ticket holders began making their way into the Municipal space located in the basement of the Mansonville Catholic Church. With over 100 tickets sold and some available at the door, it was a relief to see spontaneous attendees arrive as well as those with

pre-purchased tickets in hand. Most had braved the snow that continued to fall outside.

Members of the Ken Jones Committee of the CABMN as well as volunteers worked steadily serving spaghetti with meat or vegetarian sauce, garlic bread, coleslaw, carrot cake... A wine bar was on site as well as a beer bar. The beer was donated by Microbrasserie Equinox with all profits from beer sales going to support the KJC program and they even provided the barmaid, Barbara Guilbault to serve customers!

A half and half draw was held and the winner, Madeleine Langlois donated the half she won back to the KJC program. Door prize baskets containing products, gift certificates, Bresee wine and more items all provided by generous merchants in support of the cause were drawn with three lucky winners taking home some amazing treasures!

Volunteer, Lucie Maurer and her husband Rolf were not only on hand to help with sound equipment but Lucie had also created an amazing PowerPoint of Spaghetti western film clips that truly made the theme of the evening shared to perfection. Maurer even provided music for the event and also made a speech explaining the theme.

Four members of the KJC Respite program were in attendance, Brigit and Tom Peacock, Michelle Field and Ally Leonard, who were all smiles as Maurer presented a four-minute photo montage clip on the KJC group to the song, "Thank you for Being a Friend."

While the exact amount raised in support of the program has not been finalized it is expected that this event was the most profitable one held by the KJC committee over the past year.

"We received a lot of donations prior to the dinner," said KJC committee

member, Krysten Vanier. "People really came through in support and we could not be happier," she added.

The KJC program offers a respite day to caregivers every Thursday. The clients meet at the CABMN Youth Centre to enjoy crafts, games, music and time with friends.

"We thank the volunteers who helped with the event, those who donated in a variety of ways and those who attended," said Debra Harding who is also a member of the KJC committee. "We must repeat that, It takes a village and in true Potton fashion, everyone helped make this fundraiser a success!"

For more information about the Ken Jones Respite program visit: www.cabmn.org



Two of the smiling faces at Saturday's fundraiser



Cheers! A toast to a successful fundraiser for the KJC Respite program!



Over 100 people attended the Spaghetti Western Fundraiser to benefit the Ken Jones Respite program of the CABMN.



COURTESY OF TERRY STOTT AND KRISTEN VANIER

Municipality of Potton Council Members (left to right) Andre Ducharme, Francis Marcoux and Jason Ball pose with KJC program participants who are also CABMN volunteers, Michelle Field. Alison Leonard and Tom Peacock at Saturday's fundraiser

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