

BVO

*25th Anniversary
1982 - 2007*

Beaver Valley Outreach

CHILDREN/YOUTH PROGRAMS

Crayon Box, Nursery School
Kids Club
Ontario Early Years Centre
Blue Mountains Homework Club
Youth Music
Hip and Cool Start School
Breakfast Club
Recreational Funding

SERVICES

Treasure Shop
Emergency Food Services
Information Referrals
Valley Visitors
Transportation
Good Food Box
Christmas Hampers

EVENTS

Silent Auction
Thanksgiving Community Dinner
Christmas Food Drive
Easter Eggstravaganza
Volunteer Appreciation

[BVO also participates in Jazzmania
and the annual Chili Cook-off.
Additionally, we host Kindermusik
in our building]

64 Bruce Street South
Thornbury, Ontario
519-599-2577
www.bvo.ca

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2006-2007 BVO YEAR

Thanksgiving Community Dinner

This festive community dinner and the number of people participating keeps growing and getting better each passing year! Over 700 meals were served last October thanks to the help of many generous and talented volunteers. Our goals is to serve 800 meals in October 2007. Please plan to join us.

11th Annual Silent Auction

In October 2006, we changed the venue for the Auction to the Beaver Valley Community Centre. Over 780 items were amassed and over 500 bidding cards were purchased.

Recreational Funding

Because funding from Grey County was no longer available, BVO established a fund which has been supplemented by funding from Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary to ensure children in the TBMs can play soccer, take dance, learn to bead or go to camp. We are committed to this funding!

Volunteer Appreciation Event

In April 2006, we held a special event for our volunteers where they were treated to lunch as well as enjoyed a number of "funshops" to test their talents!

Hip and Cool Start School

Registration in our school readiness program was 25 children in 2006 – this was our highest number ever!

Sessions for Success

This program is an off-shoot of our Blue Mountains Homework Club and was offered beginning in Sept 2006, to Grade 9 and 10 students at GBSS.

Emergency Services

We continue to be supported by our community with dry and canned food items which help to assist a significant number of individuals and families. We also helped with emergency housing when the need arose.

Public Awareness

BVO ran a series of ads in the Courier Herald to provide information about our organization to those who may not have known what we are all about.

Report From The Chair

Marlene Yen

Beaver Valley Outreach is about to celebrate its twenty-fifth year as an organization. When you think about it twenty-five is an exciting age!

As adults, we have a sense of where we're going. We have aspirations and goals for what we want to accomplish in life. We have made close friends and have many connections within our community. Thanks to our family, many mentors and other significant people in our lives, we have established a set of values that are generally shared with those with whom we work, socialize and do business. By the age of twenty-five, we have an understanding of what role we wish to play in our community and have aligned ourselves with others who have the same goals. As we mature, we become responsible for property, financial resources, and most importantly, for the well-being of people in our family. At the same time, we take steps to ensure the sustainability of all that we value and cherish.

BVO enters its twenty-fifth year with a clear direction, a number of goals we wish to accomplish and a plan to ensure our success in reaching those goals. Over the years, we have established close working partnerships with community groups and we will expand those connections as we continue to fill gaps in community and social services. It is the members of the BVO community, volunteers, staff, mentors and friends that have exhibited the values that we articulate today for the first time, values that will help us be true to the community we serve, as well as the people we work with and for. This past year, we listened to members of the community and will, at every opportunity, give voice to their many concerns.

Together, we enter our 25th year stronger than ever. We are debt-free, have the largest number of volunteers ever, over 200, provide employment for 10 people and offer 21 programs, services and events. We have taken steps to ensure that the programs and services we offer can be sustained in the years ahead. Together with these talented volunteers, our dedicated staff and committed partners, we enter this new year with optimism, hope and a comprehensive plan to lead us forward. Thank you, everyone for your generosity and commitment to this amazing organization.

As we begin our 25th year, we start with a clear "vision", a revised "mission statement" and an articulated set of "values". We are proud to share them with you at this time.

BEAVER VALLEY OUTREACH

"making good things happen in our community"

OUR VISION STATEMENT

Beaver Valley Outreach is instrumental in creating a healthy, vibrant community in the Town of The Blue Mountains.

- We fill gaps in community and social services by providing programs, services and events.
- We foster close partnerships with community leaders and organizations.
- We advocate on behalf of the community for improvements to the well-being of its members.
- We provide new programs and services as required.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Beaver Valley Outreach is a not-for-profit, community-based organization of staff and volunteers that provides quality programs and services to enhance the social, economic and environmental well-being of people in the Town of The Blue Mountains.

VALUE STATEMENT

Beaver Valley Outreach strives to be:

- inclusive and welcoming to all members of the community;
- accountable to its supporters and to those who use its services;
- proactive, serving the community with integrity and respect



Reports from our Executive Directors

Norine Baron

[Interim ED August 2006 – August 2007]

I've been on the governing body of BVO since 1982 except for a couple of years when my life was full of other adventures. This year I moved to the other side of the table, so to speak to assume responsibilities as a BVO employee.

In the early days of BVO, there were no employees. Volunteer members of the Board did all the work. For me taking on the job of Interim Executive Director was like a return to those early years – day-to-day work on the important business of BVO. However, in 1982 there were only three or four programs, now BVO has over 20!

Fortunately, our Board members still do a ton of work and Carolyn, our on-maternity leave Executive Director has always been available for questions. Also to my benefit, all BVO staff members are so capable and have taken on many new roles during Carolyn's leave. BVO has ten part-time staff and a few people who do relief or casual work. We have supported each other through this year of change and challenge and now know each other much better. I think it was especially helpful that we all know BVO's business and philosophy and we are passionate about this organization.

I want to thank our volunteers. They keep many of our programs, services and events ticking along smoothly. It certainly makes a big difference to the role of an Interim Executive Director.



Carolyn Letourneau

[ED on Maternity Leave – returning Aug 2007]

As we move into our 25th year, I am very proud and honoured to be part of this amazing organization! There is so much that goes on behind the scenes in every program and at every function that BVO brings to fruition, it would astound most people. I want to express my appreciation to our wonderful staff at BVO – not only for their usual contributions, but also for all the extra duties they have assumed, without hesitation, during my maternity leave. Together with Norine, I know that, all the gaps have been filled sufficiently!

BVO could not accomplish a fraction of what we do if it were not for the volunteers and the numerous hours of time and talent they share with us, day after day.

Each volunteer, from the folks who have just joined BVO to the women and men who have been around for many years, please know from the bottom of my heart how much you are appreciated!

BVO is so fortunate to have such a dedicated volunteer Board of Directors. These people work tirelessly on various projects and committees. Not a day passes that I do not appreciate your efforts and support. Without your passion and presence, we could not fulfill our mission and vision.

We said goodbye this year to several employees. We wish them well in their new endeavours – Carole McGee, Katie Pearson, Amy Mayer and Michaelle Pratt.

As we continue to make every effort to fulfill our mandate, we will strive to raise the bar and be the best we can be – because together, we are an effective and cohesive team!

I look forward to returning to BVO and helping to carry on with the great programs, services and events we provide in our community!



*Being a Volunteer creates opportunities and we want to say
THANK YOU!*

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of our volunteers for all that you do on behalf of Beaver Valley Outreach.

You bring to BVO many different talents and abilities to make us a successful organization. Although the skills and interests of volunteers vary greatly, something that all of you share is the commitment to BVO and to our community in general. We truly appreciate all the ways you show initiative by assuming responsibility and for thinking of ways to improve how we operate and how we provide the many programs, events and services that contribute to *"making good things happen in our community"*.

We know that all of you are busy with family and home commitments and other community involvement. We are truly thankful that you have selected BVO as a place to commit your time and efforts. We hope that in return, you find what you do rewarding and gratifying.

Our volunteer family is the ♥ of BVO.

A Few Members of our Important Team of Volunteers!

Currently at BVO, we have over 200 people who volunteer their time and talents in helping us continue "making good things happen in our community". There are a few people we would like to mention for their commitment and contribution to BVO.

BVO's VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR – 2006

Wanda Winters

Known to many of us at BVO as Wonderful Wanda, she was one of the original community activists who recognized a need for Beaver Valley Outreach. Back in the early 1980's Wanda was a Kindergarten teacher and she frequently visited the basement of Muriel Shaw's – first home of the BVO Clothing Depot, to collect hats, mitts, shoes and boots for school children who needed those things to keep away the winter chill.

When the idea of providing Christmas hampers to families in our community who could benefit from a helping hand was first crystallized, Wanda helped to identify those families. Additionally, she brought to the attention of many families the opportunities for subsidized summer camp programs for children.



Over the years, Wanda has had a variety of involvement with BVO. She helped to kick start Breakfast Club. She offered her teaching expertise to the School's Cool program [now known as BVO's Hip & Cool Start School]. Her love of crafts has helped in the Treasure Shop where she matches toys and book for our Book Buddy Kits. She is our official archivist. She has been involved for a number of years in the Christmas Hamper preparations and in 2006 she coordinated this event as well as the Fire Fighters Food Drive! Wanda has been a Board member of BVO since 2000 and recently stepped down from the Board. She continues in her archival duties and still volunteers in the Treasure Shop and as a member of our Volunteer Committee.

There is no doubt that Wanda is at the very heart beat of BVO and her efforts to make our organisation an asset in our community are not over yet! Congratulations Wanda – you will always be wonderful to your BVO family!



Ted DeCorso

Ted is one of our community partners who is completely dedicated to “making good things happen in our community.”

In 1996, Ted together with Teresa Pearson, came up with an idea for a community dinner on Thanksgiving weekend for people who might otherwise be eating alone. This first dinner was held in the lower level of Grace United Church and through the efforts of local chiefs about 25 people were fed and enjoyed their comrades. Last year Ted and

Sherrie Lee from BVO organized and prepared the 10th Annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner where over 750 people dined, were musically entertained and celebrated thanks together. BVO is the recipient of all donations given at this dinner

Without Ted’s assistance in past years, BVO’s volunteer picnics would have been less delicious! Ted has also been a motivating force for the food drive from Georgian Peaks benefiting the BVO emergency food supply.

We know at BVO that Ted is always thinking of the community with a special focus on children. He doesn’t rest until the job is done. He is an idea man whom you can count on to follow through.

The entire BVO family celebrates the warm and worthy recognition of Ted’s efforts to enhance the welfare of our citizens and our community by naming him the 2006 Volunteer of the Year for the Town of The Blue Mountains. Congratulations dear friend!



Peter Brown

For quite a few years Peter has been a real handyman at BVO answering our needs on a prompt basis! A few years ago we received some shelving, which we desperately needed for storage in the Treasure Shop – again, Peter to the rescue! The shelving was cleaned and painted by Peter and friends – Peter even donated the paint. His current claim to fame at BVO is Man-With-Truck-Goes-To-Dump! AND how we appreciate that effort is beyond words. Thank you Peter [and frequently other Brown family members] for your efforts to make BVO a cleaner and tidier place of business.

THREE WISE WOMEN –

Frances Baker, Ada McKinlay, Alison Parker

As you may or may not know, we receive a multitude of donated items for our Treasure Shop from our very generous community. All items need to be examined. Frequently they require cleaning, and then each item needs to be priced for resale. Frances, Ada and Alison work furiously each Monday while the Treasure Shop is closed to prepare items. Ada is the “display” guru of the three amigos, while Frances and Alison decide if the item can be sold at BVO [there are several items we cannot legally sell] and price the goods. These women are the behind the scene volunteers who play a very important role in making the Treasure Shop a success for BVO! Thank you! Thank you!



Memories



RILEY BRETHOUR

Riley was a dear friend and mentor of Beaver Valley Outreach for over ten years.

At his first meeting with three long-time Board Members he wanted to know everything about the organization. After many insightful and challenging questions and comments, he finished the conversation with, "How can I help?" From then on Riley became a major supporter of our organization. He dedicated his time and considerable energy to all things BVO.

Along with Teresa Pearson, he was a major influence on our expansion and growth. It was his advice and support that enabled us to purchase the former fire hall in Thornbury that has now become the hub of BVO activities. He supported us along the way with his famous positive thinking, encouraging us to take risks and to dream big.

When Riley became a Board member, we continued to benefit from his business acumen as well as his belief in BVO. He quickly became known in the BVO family for his great humour and joie de vivre. Riley never underestimated what we could do and despite his illness of the past three years, his interests in BVO affairs remained keen.

At his last Board Meeting, Riley had to leave early. In fact the Board was in the middle of a discussion about a family in crisis. He left a note with the Chair as he left. What he wrote has become a mantra for BVO today: "If we have it and they need, we give it".

Riley's death has been felt keenly at BVO but he lives on in spirit as we continue to provide services in our community.



LUDWIG PFUETZNER

Ludwig had quite an impact on a lot of people and he will be well remembered. He and his spouse, Roberta, were founding members of The Blue Mountains Probus attesting to their love of people and social activities. Ludwig and Roberta shared a love for outdoor activities such as hiking, canoeing and skiing.

Luckily for BVO, Ludwig blessed us by sharing his many talents! He was one of those people who helped with so many different facets of life at BVO, from installing our food cupboards, to putting up shelving and pictures. And when Ludwig took on a job, you knew it would be well done - he didn't take short cuts. But Ludwig helped in other ways as well. He picked up food for the Good Food Box and hauled it from IGA to BVO. And heaven knows how many runs he made to the dump! On top of all this, every year he and Roberta helped with the annual food drive and Christmas hampers. They were always there for the Thanksgiving Dinner doing more than their share of dishes and anything else that needed doing. Ludwig also joined Roberta on Wednesdays to help in the Treasure Shop.

Through Ludwig's long association with Georgian Peaks he organized a winter food drive to benefit the BVO's emergency food supply. I can't tell you how many loads he and Roberta picked up and delivered to BVO. I can tell you that this gave him immense pleasure and satisfaction. Ludwig was kind, caring and generous and this is what has impacted all of us at BVO so deeply. We are thankful for having met Ludwig and for continuing to have Roberta as part of our BVO family.

In Sympathy

In January this year our community lost five wonderful young boys. BVO remembers and honours -

**Michael Fleming, Drew Perry, Andrew McKean,
Michael O'Hara and Morgan Fitzgerald**

There is a sorrow for which no heart could ever be prepared...

To the families and friends of these young men, BVO wants you to know that you have the support of so many who keep you close in thought and wish you comfort and peace.

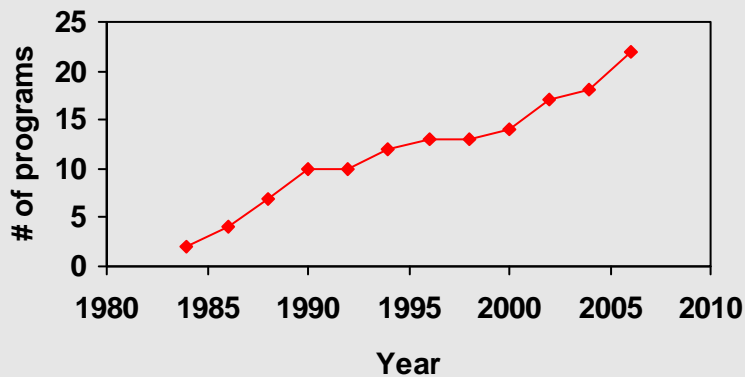


Our Community Partners

Beaver Valley Community School
Community Living Meaford
The County of Grey
Breaking Down Barriers
Military Family Resource Centre
Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary
Bill Muns – Century 21

L.E. Shore Memorial Library
Town of The Blue Mountains
Errinrung Nursing Home
Tracks Youth Employment
Community and Social Services
Beaver Valley Kinettes
Churches in The Blue Mountains

SEE HOW WE'VE GROWN



PLANS FOR 2007/2008

- Grocery delivery for seniors
- School lunch program
- Finalization of our Strategic Plan
- Communications Multi Media Package
- Renovation of Treasure Shop
- Shop and Support Fundraising Program

Some Numbers!

[For the calendar year 2006]

Treasure Shop –

Over 6600 volunteer hours! WOW!

Valley Visitors –

140 visits and 200 volunteer hours!

Transportation –

Over 100 rides and 220 volunteer hours!

Breakfast Club –

During the average school year, BVO volunteers serve about 4125 breakfasts to about 950 children and donate about 450 hours of time and talent!

Thanksgiving Silent Auction –

Over 1500 volunteer hours invested annually in this event.



BEAVER VALLEY OUTREACH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2006/2007

Marlene Yen	President
Karen Newton-Stewart	Vice-President
Marty Lacey	Treasurer/Secretary
Rita Mary Coté	Past President
Norine Baron	Director
Cathy Innes	Director
Mary Johnston	Director
Roy Longard	Director
Wanda Winters	Director

STAFF 2006/2007

All staff positions are part-time.

Carolyn Letourneau - *Executive Director*
info@bvo.ca 599-2577 ext 21
[on maternity leave from Aug 2006 until Aug 2007]

Norine Baron - *Interim Executive Director*
info@bvo.ca 599-2577 ext 21

Deborah Perks - *Administrative Assistant*
admin@bvo.ca 599-2577 ext 26

Fran Bouwman - *Coordinator,*
Blue Mountains Homework Club
Sessions for Success, Youth Music and Youth Coalition
bmhc@bvo.ca or youthmusic@bvo.ca
599-2577 ext 26

Sarah Hills - *Assistant, Blue Mountains Homework Club*

Jennifer Gordon - *Supervisor, Kids Club*
kidsclub@bvo.ca 599-2033;
Supervisor, Crayon Box Nursery School
crayonbox@bvo.ca 599-2577 ext 25
Hip and Cool Start School

Sherrie Lee - *Facilitator, Ontario Early Years;*
oeyc@bvo.ca 599-2577 ext 25;
Assistant, Crayon Box Nursery School and Kids Club;
Coordinator Good Food Box

Sharon Baker - *Kids Club*

Deborah Wilson - *Kids Club*

Carole McGee - *Facilitator, Ontario Early Years*
[Carole left us in August 2006]

Michelle Pratt - *Hip and Cool Start School*

Amy Mayer - *Hip and Cool Start School*

A Few Words

We'd like to say a few words about the people in our community who come through our doors needing assistance, for the people who donate to BVO, for our community partners, for our volunteers, for the children attending our programs, for our staff and for all friends of BVO.

You're special – in all the world there is nobody like you. Since the beginning of time, there has never been another person like you. Nobody has your smile. Nobody has your eyes, your nose, your hair, your hands, your voice, your heart!

You're special – no one can be found who has your handwriting. No one anywhere has your taste for food, music or art. No one sees things just as you do. In all time there is no one who laughs like you, no one who cries like you and whatever it might be that makes you laugh or cry will never provoke identical laughter or tears from anyone else – ever!

You're special – no one reacts to any situation just as you would react.

You are the only one – in all of creation who has your abilities. Someone will be better at one of the things you are good at, but no one in the universe can reach the quality of your combination of talents, ideas, abilities and feelings.

You are a symphony – Like a room full of musical instruments, some may excel alone, but no single person can match the symphony of sound when all instruments play together.

You are special and you are rare – in all rarity there is great value. Because you are rare and have great value, you need not try to imitate others. Accept and love yourself – celebrate your differences!

You are special – AND it's time to realize this is no accident! You have a destiny that is yours alone. You have specific goals and contributions to make that no one else can accomplish in the way you will.

Embrace the fact that you are special and applaud the "special-ness" of all those around you!

