MOVIE NIGHT

"Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory"

June 3rd, 2017

The first "Mabury Ranch Movie Night" was a big hit. The Mabury Ranch Social Committee members spent months planning, building, testing and when the big day came, all that hard work paid off!

"Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" was chosen as our first movie and along with it, the social committee decided to make it more than just a movie. The snack bar was the "Wonkatania" and the delicious treats that were sold at the "Wonkatania" made for a frenzied buying spree in a desperate search for the five Wonka Golden Tickets hidden inside five Wonka

Bars. There were small Wonka Top Hats filled with miniature Wonka Bars, Wonka Pixie Stix, Red Vines, popcorn, and of course Fizzie Lifting Drink!

Within minutes we sold out of Wonka Bars and Hats, but good ole "Ladder" Joe

Digrado kept the popcorn popping, Chris Friedrich, Jane Schonfeld, Rose Digrado, Faye Hagner, kept the "Fizzie Lifting Drink a pourin' and the candy counter moving!

Then to keep the ever-growing crowd entertained before the darkness fell, good ole Nick Lall stepped up to the plate with a home run idea, and started a Wonka Trivia contest complete with candy bracelet prizes.

Behind the scenes, Susie Kimball went to work on designing and printing all of the flyers and designing and paying to have the signs made. The K/M Team at Seven Gables Real Estate sponsored the Wonka Bars and the Fizzie Lifting Drink!

Without the help and expertise of Morris Sammons, we wouldn't have had the power to run anything that night, and Rod Parker took the time to hand deliver the flyers to every single home in Mabury... That tires me out just thinking about doing it!

The creative ideas flowing from the Social Committee team made for a lot of FUN work and we enjoyed every minute of it! With hot glue burned fingers, broken finger nails, plenty of cuts and scrapes, they pushed through and always kept laughing. Some even had to go and get their nails redone twice, and boy was Nick not happy he had to do that!

The building materials the Social Committee used to make the Wonkatania Snack Bar was Kerdi Board donated by Dave Kimball and The Coffee Grove in Villa Park donated money to help pay for the event as well... A HUGE thank you to all of our sponsors!

With the Wonka Bars flying off the counter, we saw our first Wonka Golden Ticket Winner! Little Riley in her PJ's came up to the Wonkatania and said all she wanted was to win a Golden Ticket...   It wasn't long after that little Riley came running back to the Wonkatania, Golden Ticket in hand and big pretty smile on her face. She picked which Golden Egg (filled with all kinds of goodies thanks to Chris, Faye and Jane) she wanted and I'm pretty sure that special egg is placed on her shelf in her bedroom and she won't be forgetting that night any time soon! What a great thrill for the entire Social Committee to see the excitement on her face and the faces of our other four winners!

Then, the movie started, and the "theater" only had two sounds emanating from it... The movie itself and the frogs in the creek. You

could not ask for a better setting. By the end of the movie, we had tired little ones being carried

home by happy bigger ones and nobody left with anything less than a big smile.

I want to personally thank the Social Committee members, Nick, Susie, Chris, Jane, Joe, Rose and Faye for the extraordinary effort and talents they all brought in putting this event together. Every single one of them is an asset beyond words, and of course, they are a fun bunch of goofballs to create with!

Lastly, and most importantly, the entire Mabury Ranch Social Committee would like to thank all of the Mabury Ranch attendees, you really made it fun for us!

Your Mabury Ranch Social Committee is already hard at work creating the next amazing Movie Night Event, so stay tuned!

Pat