



KOS Newsletter

OCTOBER 2025



Volunteer Spotlight



Catherine Laycraft is one of our newer volunteers but she is not new to volunteering or the Millarville area.

She was raised in Millarville and in fact lived in the Laycraft General Store, now known as Millarville General Store, as a child when her dad and grandparents owned the store. She now lives in Diamond Valley as a recent retiree from the Calgary Stampede. Retirement life includes Catherine's hobbies of quilting, crating, gardening, reading, watching cooking shows and spending time with family when she isn't busy working as a rodeo secretary. This role of taking entry fees, handling judging paperwork and managing prize payouts takes Catherine through the 3 western provinces and to 11 rodeos each summer. And she still has time to spend with the KOS. She started volunteering at work bees in early 2025 and quickly jumped into organizing and running workbees. She is excited to work in the Shoppe in November for the first time.

Catherine is no stranger to volunteering - she started at the racetrack at age 7. She was the first junior fair director in Vegetables at age 10. She went on to be head director for the Fancywork section and Fair Chairman. Her continued contributions to MRAS were recognized with the award of life membership. She is also a lifetime volunteer with several other organizations - Millarville Horticultural Club (charter member), Country Lane Quilt Guild (charter member), Canadian Professional Rodeo Historical Association and 4H.

Fall is Catherine's favourite time of year and she is happy to enjoy it at home as a respite from travelling with the rodeos. And Mrs Claus is very happy to have her talents available when the KOS can benefit from them. Catherine is excited to be a part of the Kids Only Shoppe group because of its' benefit to the community. And as she says "it's a great bunch of gals".

Who We Are & What We Do!

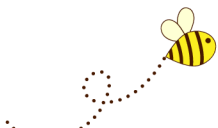
The Kids Only Shoppe, is a place where children ages 5 to 12 can shop for friends and family each November during the Millarville Christmas Market. Products sold in the Shoppe are mostly handmade by an enthusiastic group of local crafters and a large portion of profits are donated to local youth-focused community programs in the Millarville, Diamond Valley, Longview, and Okotoks areas. The Shoppe has grown into a welcoming and supportive community of it's own for our crafters and volunteers.



KIDS ONLY SHOPPE CALENDAR

October

Monday, October 6th - Mug Stuffing
9 am - 1 pm @ MRAS Hall



Drop-Off for donations at the MRAS Hall by October 10th please



Tuesday - Wednesday, October 14, 15th
Sorting & Pricing Day @ Bonnie's Barn
bring a lunch

October 22nd
Second Mug Stuffing Work Bee - 9 AM @ MRAS Hall



October 28th - Final sort day at Bonnie's Barn

November

Moving & Set-up Days - November 4, 5 and 12
<https://volunteersignup.org/YLPKC>



Sale Days

November 8 and 9 - <https://volunteersignup.org/PTXT7>
November 15 and 16 - <https://volunteersignup.org/R4Y4EK>

Take Down & Pack Away Days - November 17 and 18

VOLUNTEER HOURS



Barb and Suzanne are tracking hours each volunteer spends in committee meetings, work bees, creating at home and volunteering during the Christmas market. MRAS grants depend on volunteer counts and hours so it is important to estimate the time spent working on KOS products at home.



Reminder - *please* estimate your hours and turn them into Suzanne or Barb by email, text or paper note. KOS is included in Better Impact and any volunteer is welcome to enter their own hours there as well.



KOS PLANNING COMMITTEE

KOS Planning Committee Meeting Minutes Monday - September 29th

There were several volunteers who showed off their creations - so wonderful ladies!

HELP - HELP - HELP
we are desperately short of coffee mugs this year and
we need everyone to collect some and drop them off at
the MRAS office please!!
we are short several hundred!

Please no mugs with logo's

The sorting & pricing of items at the barn was a very busy and productive day - thank you to those who worked so hard!



The 'Stuffing' and Frames workbee was also a busy day thanks to many helping hands!



INSPIRATIONAL IDEAS

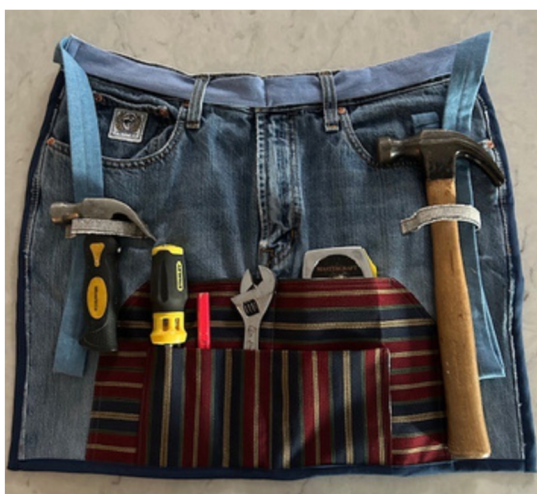


DEADLINE: OCTOBER 10th - please drop off all of your finished products at the MRAS OFFICE

KOS CRAFTER'S



Painting by
Pam



Aprons by Donna



Volunteer Spotlight

Tell Us about Yourself

Some ideas of what you could share

where do you live?
are you married - have children, grandchildren?
what is your favorite hobby(ies)?
do you have a job? If so, what do you do?
what is your favorite TV program?
what is your favorite food/drink?
what/who inspired you to join the KOS?
how long have you volunteered with KOS?
what kind of sports do you like?
what kinds of music do you listen to?
your favorite movie?
when is your birthday?
your favorite color?
your favorite holiday destination
your favorite season of the year?
anything else you would like to share!
please include a JPEG photo of yourself

if you are willing to be interviewed please let us know!
kos@mras-track.com

Thanks for participating!

Newsletter Deadlines are the 15th of each month

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Bonnie Schultz, Editor