

## **Bird Tales Annual Report**

**GN AGM March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016**

2015 was our first complete year of the Bird Tales program. As you know, we started in one location only, Masterpiece River Ridge. We initially did 2 programs a month but due to time constraints for Paul and myself and lack of volunteers it was reduced to one program a month.

This program proved very successful, both with the staff and the residents. We presented various topics through the year generously supported by the Interpretive Center and our resident bird experts, Milt and Phil. We wish to offer a big thank you to those who have volunteered this year and to the very supportive Masterpiece staff who actively contributed to the program.

Our objective was to have the program taken over by the Recreational manager who has done this very well. We continue to give support when asked.

The bird feeders, both in the courtyard and especially on the windows, have been very successful drawing birds and entertaining the residents.

Our next program will be instituted at the Meadow Ridge facility. This has a glassed-in sun room in the cottage area. We are hoping to expand the program to include in the sun room a botanical component, a water feature, indoor birds and possible nature murals. To date we have met with the Care manager and Recreational manager and they are enthusiastically supportive. We have already installed various types of bird feeders at 6 exploratory locations at the facility.

SO, what we need are volunteers interested in gardening and botany for this aspect of the program, and as always VOLUNTEERS for the regular Bird Tales program.

It appears the program is going to be an ongoing success, limited only by lack of volunteers. As a matter of interest there has already been an inquiry to start the program at a third facility.

Respectfully submitted

Dee Armstrong and Paul Thibault