

# JOIN US AND WELCOME SPRING!

# **Dear Friends:**

With the advent of Spring, the Methow Valley Citizens' Council is hard at work on your behalf. We want to bring you up to date on a couple of the key issues before us.

We'd also like to let you know why this is an especially good time for you to join MVCC if you have not already done so. As you may know, our board and officers are chosen by MVCC members in an election to be held within the next couple of months. Anyone who has joined the Methow Valley Citizens' Council between January 2013 and March 31, 2014 will be eligible to vote in our upcoming board member election.

We are offering those of you who have not yet done so the opportunity to vote in this election and support the work of the Citizens' Council.

#### **SEPA EXEMPTIONS UPDATE:**

On February 7, MVCC sued Okanogan County, contending that the Commissioners erred in adopting higher thresholds county-wide for SEPA review of development projects. In our view, the County's action could result in substantial developments occurring in the Methow Valley without public notice or environmental review. The County filed an Answer to our complaint on March 7. Our attorney is proceeding to obtain relevant information from the county and we are considering the next steps.

# **ATV UPDATE:**

On March 4, Okanogan County repealed two ordinances passed in July 2013 opening hundreds of miles of county roads to use by all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). This action resulted from a lawsuit filed by MVCC and Conservation Northwest. The county is likely to propose a new ordinance opening county roads to ATV use in the near future. MVCC will stay watchful and will keep you posted so you can comment on any new proposal.

Stay tuned and be ready to make your voice heard!

# JOIN US!

Please return your membership form and dues, postmarked by March 31<sup>st</sup> and JOIN MVCC. You will receive notice soon with more election details.

To those who have recently contributed time or treasure to MVCC's advocacy for the Methow Valley, THANK YOU!!!

#### **BE A "VICKY VOLUNTEER"!**

Lend a hand in honor of the legacy of our founder, Vicky Welch.

Contact Lorah at the MVCC office for details about a variety of volunteer opportunities, including:

# **BRIGHTEN OUR WALLS**

...and inspire our work by displaying your Methow-related photographs and art in the MVCC office for a month or a season.

# **ATTEND A MEETING**

...of the County Commissioners, and see what they are up to. Bring a friend, go to lunch at the Breadline and call it Eco-Tourism. You are guaranteed to learn something that will deepen your commitment to protecting the Methow, and you don't have to stand and speak: just watch and share what you learn.