



Thank you for such a lovely event... all you lovely Volunteers... It was fun and wonderful! Thank you again for all you do! This picture reminds me of a few things. How when the geese fly, there is someone in the lead for a while, when he or she tire, they fall back and another replaces. They call to each other as they fly, some believe for encouragement. It's all part of cooperative teamwork, the kind I see here at Brave Heart Volunteers amongst the volunteers and staff. A few weeks ago, slightly still asleep, somewhere in the middle of the night during one of our crazy storms, I heard flocks, and I do mean flocks, of geese. We are really not in a "fly zone" here in Sitka... we get accidental flights... This was one of them. Because I am a birder at times, I could tell by their call they were not Canada Geese... couldn't tell quite what they were ... but when I saw Marj (our resident birder in residence) she knew immediately that they were White fronted Geese... But there they were in the thick of a huge storm, calling to each other in the middle of the night as they flew south. A huge flock would pass, it would be quiet, and then another flock would pass. It continued this way for awhile. I marveled at their sounds, their tenacity and their steadfastness to follow their inner knowing. They may have been blown off course, but they still knew they were heading in the correct direction for a warmer clime. A week ago, again as I lay in bed, different honks were again heard, yet during another storm. This time as I looked out my window, I saw a flock of white geese?/swans flying low in the night sky... how amazing... What I thought I wouldn't be able to see, was quietly revealed. And due to these storms, this week we have received several other huge flocks of geese... this time high

flying, and creating lovely line drawings in the sky. Hope you can see and hear some of these marvels.

This is a Busy Week!

1. Alaska Day.. Hope you can stop by .. maybe even assist with greeting and meeting... will have some politicians stopping by! Sheri Mayo may be back in time for making the "Chowda".... But right now it looks like myself, Susan Padilla and a friend of hers will be with me cooking away.
2. Caregiver Education and Support Service... Dr. Elliot Bruhl will present this Wednesday's Caregivers Education and Support Service Meeting at noon in the Pioneer's Home Manager's house. The topic will be Medical Advocacy and Contingency Plans. Lunch will be provided and everyone is welcome.
3. The Board of Directors will be meeting this week on Thursday, the 21st...
4. I am looking for a volunteer or two. One who might have a dog, and be interested in spending some day time hours with one of our care receivers. And another to spend some visiting time... it could be flexible. Please let me know if you can assist us a bit more. Thanks!

That's it for now... Have a great week...

The Wild Geese

Horseback on Sunday morning,
harvest over, we taste persimmon
and wild grape, sharp sweet
of summer's end. In time's maze
over the fall fields, we name names
that went west from here, names
that rest on graves. We open
a persimmon seed to find the tree
that stands in promise,
pale, in the seed's marrow.
Geese appear high over us,
pass, and the sky closes. Abandon,
as in love or sleep, holds
them to their way, clear,
in the ancient faith: what we need
is here. And we pray, not
for new earth or heaven, but to be
quiet in heart, and in eye
clear. What we need is here.

~ Wendell Berry ~

(Collected Poems 1957-1982)