

Age of discovery

Women's group aspires to be 'mini-Oprahs' upon turning 50

by Frank Morris
staff writer

Fun and philanthropy after 50? You bet, one Goodyear woman says. Last year, Kathy Turner, along with her friend and colleague, Christie Robbins of Washington, formed a new group providing women, age 50-plus, with an outlet and opportunity to "be involved in their communities, acclaim their beauty, be healthy and active, as well as socialize with other rejoicing, ageless women," Turner, 51, said.

The new group, Coyote Fifty, is "about embracing life, womanhood, maturity and involvement in charity work," she said.

Turner and Robbins, who are both flight attendants for Horizon Air, were inspired by talk show queen, Oprah Winfrey, they said.

"She's so powerful and she can do so much, and individually, if we, as women, can just do what we can, then we can make a difference, too," Turner said. "Coyote Fifty's service ideals allow us to be mini-Oprahs, each of us giving to our full potential."

The group of women meets once a month, and asks that attendees bring donations to benefit a needy organization.

Since forming in 2006, Coyote Fifty has registered and obtained a trademark, formed a limited liability company, designed and launched a Web site and blog, organized an inaugural "Cabo Blast" in Mexico, held two "Meet and Greet" gatherings, attended two Phoenix Coyotes hockey games, taken part in the "Rock 'n' Roll Arizona Marathon and Half-marathon," participated in the Susan G. Komen Phoenix Race for the Cure, run a

school supplies drive and is now exploring the possibilities of helping Habitat for Humanity build a home entirely by women, Turner said.

"We strive to take care of ourselves, we are very active, and there were no women's organizations that we were aware of that adopted the ideals and philosophy that we believed in: Party for a cause," Robbins said. "We're a rather hip organization."

No need to 'sit and knit'

Just because a woman turns 50 doesn't mean she must resign herself to "sit and knit," the 51-year-old Robbins said.

In fact, age 50 marks the perfect moment to begin celebrating life and participating in good causes, the Coyotes Fifty founders said.

"Now, it's our time: We've raised our families, and really, this is the most beautiful time of our lives," Robbins said. "Fifty is the new 30."

As both she and Turner were approaching the mid-century mark, "we realized we were women not opposed to turning 50 — the alternative is undesirable," Robbins said. "When my mother and her friends turned 50, they weren't out there doing the things we're doing. They just weren't thinking that we need to keep moving and being active."

Coyote Fifty already has more than 100 active members, about half of whom are in the Southwest Valley; the other near Longview, Wash.

"We hope for it to be nationwide one day," Turner said, adding she's already had women from other parts of the country express interest in forming a Coyote



Submitted photo

MEMBERS OF COYOTE FIFTY get in the pirate spirit at the group's inaugural Cabo Blast in Mexico. The club, for women 50 and older, was co-founded by Goodyear resident Kathy Turner.

Fifty group in their necks of the woods.

"A lot of women are empty nesters now. We're looking for something to do," she said.

Good times, great feelings

Coyote Fifty is currently gearing up for its 2008 trip to Cabo San Lucas that will benefit Liga M.A.C., a registered Mexican charitable organization composed of Mexican, American and Canadian members who organize fundraising events to assist members of the San Jose del Cabo community.

Women of all ages and backgrounds are invited to participate in the group, Turner said, but added that women younger than 50 "will be in training."

The next Coyote Fifty "Meet and Greet" will start at 4 p.m. Nov. 15 at the Yard

House restaurant in Westgate City Center, near Loop 101 and Glendale Avenue in Glendale.

Attendees are asked to bring new toys small enough to fit into a backpack, and less than \$5 each, to benefit Eve's Place, a domestic violence shelter in the Southwest Valley.

Afterward, the group will attend a Phoenix Coyotes hockey game.

"This is just the beginning," Robbins said. "We felt it was important to share our enthusiasm and our beliefs with other women. We're feeling good about ourselves because we are taking good care of ourselves, we're active in the communities and we're doing good stuff out there."

To get involved in the group, or to learn more about Coyote Fifty, visit www.coyotefifty.com.

Featuring World Renowned Equine Extremist **Josmie Turvey**

Dancing Horses

Shows are November 9th & 10th - 7:30pm

at the **ARIZONA HORSE FESTIVAL**

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED ONLINE AT WWW.ARIZONAHORSEFESTIVAL.COM OR BY CALLING (785)494-2820.

Empty Acres Equine Resort Buckeye, AZ

Be a part of the excitement, thrills, comedy, and family fun as you enjoy stunning performances and witness the spectacular things horses can do!

With Wake-
IN CONCERT
SAT. NIGHT-NOV. 10TH

www.arizonahorsefestival.com

Presented by Avondale Toyota

Brought to you by Equi-Venture Entertainment, Inc.

RP Skate Co.
"The Best In the West"

Bring in this ad and receive a **FREE STICKER** with purchase of a skateboard

Bring in this ad and receive **10% off any merchandise** one per customer

Skateboards, Longboards, trucks, wheels, hardware, Skate Shoes, etc...
All your skateboarding needs

RP Skate Co.
Desert Sky Mall
7611 W. Thomas Rd.
623-846-2004

SUNDANCE Dental Group

Brian Buehler DDS & Associates

(602) 903-6646

946 S. Watson Rd, Ste. 101, Buckeye
(Off of I-10 and Watson in the Sundance Towne Center, next to the Walmart Supercenter)

www.SundanceDentalGroup.com

We Accept Most Insurance Plans

Our **GRAND OPENING**
Celebration Offer!

\$39 Exam, Digital X-Rays, & Cleaning*

Ask About Our **Extended Hours**

*Over \$100 in savings, in absence of perio, disease, new patients only