

FALL TELE-ALL 2016 ARTICLES (Volume 11, Issue 38 – Fall Issue)



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT

My Fellow Pioneers,

I hope this message finds you healthy and warm as winter and the Holiday season approaches. All of our volunteer elves have been busy fulfilling their project commitments before the end of the year and I am very happy to say that we had a very successful year serving the needs of our local communities. Please take the time to read about our efforts for fund raising and volunteering our time and energy.

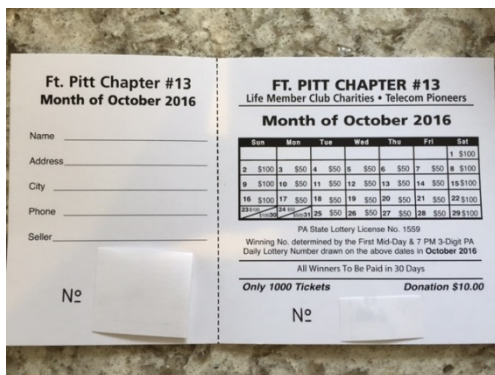
All of us here at Fort Pitt Chapter wish you a lovely Thanksgiving and a joyous Holiday season. Celebrate this season with love and let there be Peace on Earth!

Gerry McLaughlin
Chapter President
November 2016

Pioneers – Our Mission 2016

Pioneers is a network of volunteers who effect immediate, tangible change in local communities.

Quarterly Chapter Lottery Calendar



Each year in January, April, July and October, Fort Pitt conducts our major fund raising event in the form of a lottery calendar. This is our best fund raiser for the Chapter, but it requires much effort to sell 1,000 chances, four times a year. In this issue, as you have seen in past issues, you will see the list of the winners of the quarterly lottery with prizes ranging between \$50 and \$500. We fell a little behind on the April, July and October fund raisers

because not all of the tickets were sold.

You can help by purchasing a ticket for \$10.00. Please call Gerry McLaughlin at 412-823-7777 to purchase a ticket. They make great holiday gifts too!

All winners are paid within 30 days of the drawing date.

APRIL 2016 WINNERS

NOON LOTTERY DRAWING

1	No Winner	
2	Clara Ann Getz	100.00
3	Mary Medved	100.00
4	Laura Fellon Zasodni	50.00
5	Carole Sedlak	100.00
6	Roberta Valentich	50.00
7	Marion Samber	50.00
8	No Winner	
9	No Winner	
10	Dottle & Fred Sattler	100.00
11	John P. Kupchella	50.00
12	Barb Samber	50.00
13	Joyce Stephenson	50.00
14	No Winner	
15	Barb Lovis	50.00
16	Donna Wren	100.00
17	William Scranton	100.00
18	Marci McNulty	50.00
19	Melanie Chader	50.00
20	Nancy Stonis	50.00
21	Aaron Floor	100.00
22	Wendy Gmitter	50.00
23	Jack Kennel	100.00
24	Arlene Santello	100.00
25	Blbiana Corbert	50.00
26	Jennifer Ward	50.00
27	Bibiana Corbett	50.00
28	Sylvia Arendas	50.00
29	No Winner	
30	Karen Burdis	100.00

EVENING LOTTERY WINNERS

1	Christopher Magda	500.00
2	Debbie Davidson	100.00
3	Manuel Evans	100.00
4	No Winner	
5	Mary Dietrich	100.00
6	Carol Bileck	50.00
7	Herbert Brown	50.00
8	Eileen McKinnon	50.00
9	Rebecca Farabaugh	100.00
10	No Winner	
11	Maggie Little	50.00
12	Liz Belliconish	50.00
13	Jim Grabigel	50.00
14	Ruth Rubino	50.00
15	Joy Fike	50.00
16	Herbert Brown	100.00
17	Joseph Hudak	100.00
18	Anthony Ciallella	50.00
19	William Scranton	50.00
20	Neil Yates	50.00
21	Mary Palfy	100.00
22	Linda Ruble	50.00
23	Marie Branzel	100.00
24	Teresa Slampak	100.00
25	Lynn Mischen	50.00
26	Louise Katalinic	50.00
27	Gloria Kanick	50.00
28	Jack DeMarco	50.00
29	Jean Bosley	50.00
30	Mike Carrarini	100.00

No winner — Ticket not sold

JULY 2016 WINNERS

NOON LOTTERY DRAWING

1	Marion A. Samber	50.00
2	Marcella McNulty	100.00
3	Mary Ann Sadler	100.00
4	Betty Walls	500.00
5	No Winner	
6	Bill Lear	50.00
7	Joann Davis	50.00
8	Pat Lint	50.00
9	A. Rymarowicz	100.00
10	Stephanie Mazzanti	100.00
11	E. Milbert	50.00
12	Rebecca J. Farabaugh	50.00
13	Kay Dryer	50.00
14	No Winner	
15	No Winner	
16	Neil Yates	100.00
17	Dave DeCarlo	100.00
18	Rick Roos	50.00
19	Janet Kelly	50.00
20	Sandy Fields	50.00
21	Marge Juart	50.00
22	Mary Ann Ballant	50.00
23	Marta Metzger	100.00
24	Nariko Knudtson	100.00
25	Teddy Davis	50.00
26	Jedy Jeffries	50.00
27	Barbara Ribar	50.00
28	Rose M. Murray	50.00
29	Diane Rodger	50.00
30	Chelsea Valenti	100.00
31	Sue Groff	100.00

EVENING LOTTERY WINNERS

1	John Cochenour	50.00
2	Ms. Joanne m. Delaney	100.00
3	Rebecca J. Farabaugh	100.00
4	Scott Buzzard	500.00
5	Rebecca J. Farabaugh	50.00
6	Deb Check	50.00
7	Teri Martenille	50.00
8	Brian McIlrath	50.00
9	Jan Hansen	100.00
10	Charles Hotsinpillar	100.00
11	Jeanne Rowe	50.00
12	Joanne Pelletier	50.00
13	Maria Komara	50.00
14	No winner	
15	Ruth Rubino	50.00
16	Barb Lovis	100.00
17	Madison Pedley	100.00
18	Mary Ann Byerly	50.00
19	Suzie Goodwin	50.00
20	Rose Patella	50.00
21	Marcella McNulty	50.00
22	Barb Kelly	50.00
23	William Scranton	100.00
24	Mary Ann Sadler	100.00
25	Rebecca J. Farabaugh	50.00
26	Valeria De Carlo	50.00
27	No Winner	
28	No Winner	
29	Robert Valentich	50.00
30	Diane Rodger	100.00
31	Janet Jacqui Ilard	100.00

No winner — Ticket not sold

In Memoriam

Shirley Barrick	Pittsburgh	Robert Lewis	Pittsburgh
Gerald J. Bialek	Pittsburgh	Eugene B. Maddex	Pittsburgh
Nancy F. Bright	Pittsburgh	Ruth H. Mahoney	Uniontown
Madeline B. Brosey	Munhall	Evelyn H. Mansour	Greensburg
Richard B. Brush	Allison Park	Robert J Mazurek	Florida
Florence G. Burgun	Jeannette	Anna M Murtha	Uniontown
Barbara A. Cassidy	Monroeville	Jane M. McGinty	McKeesport
Donald J Davis	Sharpsville	Robert R. McNaughton	Greensburg
Anthony Dtillo	No Huntington	Bessie E. North	DuBois
Philip Dodge	Pittsburgh	Mary S. Oblock	McDonald
John F. Geyer	Pittsburgh	Rose D. Pelini	New Castle
Eugene F. Hacker	No Huntington	Rita W. Reiland	Butler
Ronald L. Hall	Tionesta	Alexandra G. Romanelli	Pittsburgh
William D. Harr	Irwin	James E. Saxon	McKeesport
Robert D. Jackson	Roulette	Lois F. Simon	Pittsburgh
Marjorie V. John	Pittsburgh	Helen L. Waugaman	Greensburg
Anna C. Koch	Pittsburgh	C. S. Waskowicz	McKeesport
John F Lauritzen	Pittsburgh	Louise C. Winterhalter	Bridgeville
Angeline Lencer	Pittsburgh	Elizabeth K. Yantos	Greensburg
		Helen K. Zadrowski	Pittsburgh

Financial Update – Mid-year, 2016

Many thanks to those of you who took the time to read and respond to the article that was in the Spring issue of the Tele-All regarding our financial position at the start of the year. As a reminder, we are no longer supported by a grant from Verizon to carry on our volunteer activities and out of about 4,026 Fort Pitt Chapter members, only 198 are active employees paying dues (\$20 a year) of which we receive a portion.

From the request in the article, there were 15 donations received for a total of \$1,505 which has helped to support the many projects our Clubs' have planned and also fund the printing and mailing of the Tele-All. However, \$600 of the above donation was received from a benefactor in Ireland, Mr. Michael Larkin, who I wrote about in the Spring Tele-All. His ancestor, Thomas Larkin, worked for Bell of Pennsylvania in the early 1900's and Michael has become very interested in supporting our Chapter in memory of his late Great-Uncle. There are still months to go and projects undone at this time and we continue to ask for your backing.

Please consider sending in a small donation. If each of our retired 3,828 members even sent in \$10 to support our projects and the printing and distribution of the newsletter, we would bank \$38,000. That is an awesome amount of support, spreading out the income in a moderate way. It's hard to manage though with only about ***half of a percent*** of our retired members support. If you believe in our projects and enjoy reading about them in the Tele-All, please help with a donation. 100% of your donation made directly to Fort Pitt Chapter is spent on ***local*** projects!

Our ultimate goal is to demonstrate our commitment to community service opportunities for children, adults, seniors and veterans in areas of education, health and human services, and life enrichment projects. You have been reading about these projects in the Tele-All for years as the Clubs faithfully perform them. Please help us to continue to help these organizations!

Thank you very much!

Gerry McLaughlin, President

Donation \$_____

Mail to:

Check Payable to: *TP-Fort Pitt Chapter*

Pioneer Office-Fort Pitt Chapter

Do you need a receipt?_____

15 E. Montgomery Ave, 1st Floor

Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Support for our Retired and Hospitalized Armed Services Men and Women



Our retired service members are provided assistance through Southwestern Veterans Center which is a residential care facility for over 200 patients. The men and women there are treated with an occasional bingo where we sponsor the prizes, and provide refreshments for the residents. We also support their monthly birthday celebrations with a giant sheet cake that serves about 80 of the residents. Our special Holiday bingo will be held on Tuesday, December 8 at 2:00 PM.

Also, Sharing & Caring sponsors a bingo at Southwestern Center monthly on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 2:00 PM. Please come along to help serve if you are free, you will have a wonderful time interacting with the men and women there and come away with a smile on your face!

Flooding in West Virginia ~ July 2016

You couldn't miss the news about our neighbors in West Virginia when the floods hit Roane County, Kanawa County and Greenbrier County in July. Lives were lost and many homes and businesses were destroyed by the floods. At the national level, \$500 was donated to the Red Cross in West Virginia by New Vision Pioneers and many local Chapters also provided monetary assistance through the local West Virginia Red Cross and United Way organizations. I am happy to report that Fort Pitt Chapter Board voted to provide \$200 worth of cleaning supplies to the United Way of Greenbrier County and also a \$75 donation to the Greenbrier County Humane Society to help with pets that were displaced as a result of the flooding. *Thank You* to our Chapter Board for approving these funds!



Homeless Project has moved....

In September, we lost our storage space at the Verizon garage in Monroeville. Linda Schirano answered our prayers by offering us storage and packing space in the basement of her home. Her generosity has allowed us to continue packing the toiletry kits, breakfast bags and military projects that we have been doing for many years. We are all grateful to Linda for allowing us to invade her home and privacy!

Gateway Christmas Luncheon



Tuesday, December 6, 2016

NOON

SOUTH HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

4305 Brownsville Road & Route 51

Whitehall, Pittsburgh, PA 15236

MENU:

Chicken Mozzarella

Cod English Style

Roasted Pork Loin



ENTERTAINMENT!

Deadline: Monday, November 28, 2016

Cost: \$25.00 per person

Payable to: **TP - Fort Pitt Chapter**
c/o Dorothy Szykowny
15 E. Montgomery Avenue, 1st Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Any questions call: 412-237-3208



Gateway Christmas Luncheon

Fill in your Name & luncheon choice and send with your check to the above address

Name

Luncheon Choice (\$25.00 each)

Your Name: _____ Phone #: () _____

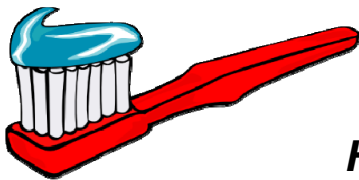
Amount Enclosed: \$ _____



***kidsHELP*at the Animal Rescue League**



We are now donating pet food the Animal Rescue League every other month. The kids helped this summer by delivering the food and visiting with the pets. These food donations allow pets, who may be abandoned at the shelter, to stay in their homes with their owners. We also received a donation from one of our active employees to be used as a direct contribution to the Animal Rescue League shelter – thank you Linda!



Homeless Shelter Report



Every month we prepare and distribute about 100 toiletry kits to the three homeless agencies in Pittsburgh: Operation Save A Life, Operation Safety Net & Jubilee Kitchen. For the winter months, we are looking forward to preparing 500 breakfast bags and purchasing coffee products to provide to the shelter in addition to the scarves and gloves knitted by Nancy Stonis. Many thanks to the volunteers who faithfully help pack these kits and also the friends and family dedicated to collecting the toiletries for donation. This program would not exist without your help!



30,978 that's

**how many VOLUNTEER HOURS we have
accumulated up through September, 2016! WOW!!**



Sharing & Caring Report

The Annual S&C Golf Outing was held on July 11 at Edgewood County Club. Pioneer Partner Charlotte Lopes, Don McIlrath and I helped out. Chapter made a \$100 donation toward a tee sign with the New Vision Pioneer logo. Chapter also donated \$100 in Dicks Sporting Goods gift cards to be used for auction items at the event. All proceeds from the outing go towards expenses for the Annual Boat Ride.



Bag Packing was held on September 1st at Thad Stevens Fire Hall. With the help of 42 "amazing" volunteers, we packed 400 gift bags for the veterans boat ride. Thanks to everyone who helped setting up and pitching in to make it another success.

The Annual Boat Ride was held September 6th through the 9th at Station Square Boat dock on the Gateway Clipper fleet. Fort Pitt Chapter was able to sponsor 4 Veterans through the Adopt-A-Vet program. Lynne Price, Don McIlrath, Frank Lopes are among those who helped on the boat ride and a BIG "thanks" to the 21 Life Member Pioneers and Pioneer Partners who helped to pass out the gift bags afterwards as the Veterans boarded their buses. The Veterans truly appreciate it!!

Sock drive this year was unbelievable. Due to the efforts of Pioneers and Mike Romanelli and his motorcycle group from Latrobe sponsored by Z&M Cycle Sales, Latrobe Hogs we collected a whopping 6,050 pairs. Eight pairs were put in each of the gift bags. The remainder will be given throughout the year to the various veterans hospitals for bingos, Christmas Projects, etc. Again, it's impossible to say how much the Sharing & Caring group and the veterans who benefit from their efforts appreciate all that the Pioneers do for them. This is our 33rd year partnering with Sharing & Caring in an effort to support hospitalized veterans and their families. We should all be very proud!

Lynne Price, Sharing & Caring Representative

Yearly "Shower For The Shelter" at Center For Victims - McKeesport



In August, we supported the Center For Victims golf outing/fundraiser auction for their domestic violence shelter in McKeesport, with a donation of Dick's gift cards to purchase a gift basket of golf essentials. And on September 12 we held a Shower for the Shelter, as we have for the past eight years, providing the residents with new towels, sheets, blankets, socks, pajamas, winter scarves, toiletries, activity books, and cleaning supplies.

Pictured is Sherry Bongyor, Center for Victims Representative & Gerry McLaughlin, Fort Pitt Chapter

38th Annual International Sports Jamboree – North Bend State Park – July, 2016



For more than a quarter century, youths from across North America have come to West Virginia's North Bend State Park in the summer to enjoy what many of us take for granted. Racing, shooting hoops, dancing and singing with fellow campers, squirting each other with water guns, tossing a ball or a Frisbee. At the International Sports Jamboree for the physically challenged, a yearly event sponsored by the New Vision West Virginia Pioneers as well as AT&T Pioneers, young adults, teens and pre-teens who are visually impaired or physically impaired can participate in recreational events designed for them. The 2016 Jamboree was July 14th, 15th and 16th and was a really big success with over 30 participants this year.

Basketball hoops "beep" so they can toss free throws into nets they cannot see. Wheelchairs fly down 40-yard slalom courses. Participants form teams for special contests like our pilot race in which a visually impaired contestant pushes a partner in a wheelchair with ever so careful directions.

Fort Pitt Chapter was proud to be a sponsor of this wonderful yearly event making a donation in support of travel, accommodations and meals for participants.

Be sure to visit our website for current news:

www.newvision-fortpittpioneers.org

HELP WITH WEBSITE

HELP...WE HAVE LOST OUR WEBMASTER AND HAVE BEEN STRUGGLING TO KEEP OUR WEBSITE UP TO DATE. IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE LET ME KNOW AT:

INFO@NEWVISION-FORTPITTPIONEERS.ORG

19th Annual Clothing Drive at St. Bernadette Church in Monroeville



Once again the Ladies of Charity at St. Bernadette's Church in Monroeville partnered with Fort Pitt Chapter to sponsor a clothing drive for 3 homeless agencies in Pittsburgh: Jubilee Kitchen, Operation Save A Life, & Operation Safety Net and also Appalachian Ministries. We also provided a donation to the Ladies of Charity for their food bank which provides needy families with food.



Have a 'smart phone'....well then here is an APP for you!

Pioneers are proud to announce their FREE New Vision Group APP. It is now available for download to your Android or Apple smartphones. Simply go to the APP store on your phone and search for New Vision Pioneers. Download and open the APP to have easy access to Fort Pitt Chapter #13 Pioneer stories, offers and other important information. Check it out!

Tell us what you would like to see in the Tele-All! We welcome any suggestions for consideration by our Board.

info@newvision-fortpittpioneers.org



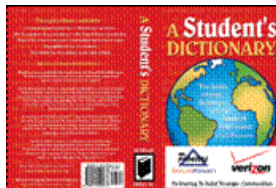
Campbell's Labels for EDUCATION



PROJECT IS ENDING!!

One of our dedicated Pioneers recently reported that the Campbell's Labels for Education project with Campbell's products was ending. Upon confirmation with their website, we will no longer be collecting the Campbell's soup labels or any products with the Campbell's Labels for Education logo.

Many thanks to those of you who faithfully collected the labels for years and years!



Dictionary Report: So far this year we have only distributed about 9 dozen dictionaries and thesauruses. Our goal is to hand out about 50 dozen of these books! With only a few months left in the year, if you are aware of a class of third graders who can use a dictionary or fourth grade class that can use a thesaurus, please contact Nancy Riley at 412-884-4711. If we still have room left in the budget, we can get those books ordered for your school! Thanks for putting the word out!



For the past four years we have been doing a project with Hillcrest PreSchool for their educational needs for the 3 and 4 year old students they serve. The teachers there are very creative with their teaching methods and this year they requested early childhood learning materials, play activities and tons of construction paper, spending only \$200. The director and teachers there are very appreciative. Last year we purchased some musical instruments and drying racks for their art work.

*Help us to save money on the Tele-
All distribution.....*



Thanks to those of you who responded to our ad in the past issues asking to stop your paper copy and receive the Tele-All in your email. We were able to decrease the printed copy by about 100 issues this time so we thank you for getting the ball rolling on this money saving effort! We are still looking for more to convert from paper to soft copy, so if you provide your email address to the address below, it will cut down on the printing expense and the mailing expense of our newsletter. Every little bit helps – thanks for your part! You can also view this issue and past issues of the Tele-All on line at: **www.newvision-fortpittpioneers.org**

info@newvision-fortpittpioneers.org



Toiletry Collections

As you travel, please collect the sample size soap, shampoo, lotion and any complimentary items provided by the hotels. These items are used to pack hygiene kits for the homeless folks and sent to Operation Save-A-Life, Operation Safety Net and Jubilee Kitchen in Pittsburgh. As you will see from another article in this newsletter, we are no longer packing at the Verizon Garage in Monroeville.

These kits are crucial - the agencies we serve continue to ask for them all year round and we typically prepare and distribute 100 kits a month. Other items that are always needed to complete the kits are washcloths, sample size toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, combs and quart size zip lock bags.

You can mail the toiletries in the U.S. Mail to me: Gerry McLaughlin, 216 Ohio Street, Monroeville, PA 15146, or if you are local, please call me and we can coordinate a pick up. My number is 412-823-7777.

Thank you all very much!

Cancelled Stamp Collections

We are once again able to save cancelled stamps on behalf of the American Philatelic Society.



They require the stamp to be cut away from the envelope with a 1/4 inch of paper left around the edge of the stamp (see the sample to the left). APS will also accept all sorts of philatelic collectible material, such as First Day Covers, albums and boxes of stamps in glassine envelopes.

The American Philatelic Society (www.stamps.org) is the largest, non-profit organization for stamp collectors in the world and is right here in Pennsylvania. They serve collectors, educators, postal historians and the general public by providing a wide variety of programs and services.

Stop pitching those envelopes and start clipping the stamps to save for this very useful organization. All of your donations will be counted towards volunteer hours for Fort Pitt Chapter.

Your clipped donations can be mailed to:

Linda Schirano

411 Center Road

Monroeville, PA 15146

Thank you for your donations and helping with our volunteer hours!

?? CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR REMOVE FROM Tele-All MAILING LIST??

_____ Change of Address

_____ Remove from Mailing List

Print Name: _____

Send to:

Address: _____

Pioneer Office

15 E. Montgomery Ave, 1st Flr

Pittsburgh, PA 15212

CLUB PRESIDENT REPORTS

Allegheny Club: Projects include the Little Sisters of the Poor and the bingo's at Kane Hospital, collecting pop tabs and toiletries for the homeless projects and helping shut-ins with shopping and doctor appointments.

Frontier Club: Projects include Bowl A Thon at Big Brothers/Big Sisters in New Castle, Tri-County Cleanways and The Conservation District in Lawrence County.

Gateway Club: Projects include Light of Life Mission and Western Pennsylvania Humane Society. Also coordinating the Gateway Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, December 6 at South Hills Country Club.

Bradford Club: Projects include McKean County SPCA and McKean County Food Bank.

DuBois Club: Projects include volunteering at the DuBois Ministries Food Bank. Recently served 130 people and made a donation from Chapter. Pictured is Lois Knaresboro, Bob Boland, Nancy Williams presenting donation to Kermit Tuning the Food Pantry Treasurer, Lucy Taylor, Kathy Ortiz, Mary Jane Holmes and Dave Small.

Lois, Kathy and Mary Jane are spouses of deceased Pioneers and have continued to volunteer in their honor.



In April, a \$500 check was delivered to Major Jerry Stinson of the Salvation Army of DuBois.

Pictured is Nancy Williams presenting donation to Major Jerry Stinson of the Salvation Army of DuBois.

Meadville Club: Projects include Erie City Mission, Humane Society, Salvation Army, Support Our Troops, Troopon Coupons, Card Fronts, Stamps, Pop Tabs, Box Tops for Education, & Soup Label collections. In addition, we help the Community Shelter Services, Greenhouse Women's Shelter, the Humane Society, St. James Shelter for Men, and Grover Cleveland Perry School with school supplies. Meadville also sent in a donation to the United Way of Greenbrier County for the flood victims.

\$1,000 from the Telecom Pioneer Charitable was approved to be used towards buying items for the Pittsburgh Inn in Erie for the Support Our Troops project. Pictured is Robin Weunski at the Pittsburgh Inn and care packages that are being sent overseas. She started the Support Our Troops Project about 9 years ago when her son served in Afghanistan. They continue to send to the troops even though he is home now. Robin sent a beautiful Certificate of Appreciation for the items we donated.



National Trail Club: Projects include various collections of toiletries, stamps, & cards. His projects this year include the First Christian Church, Uniontown Service League, East End Community Center, and Children's Hospital. Pat is also volunteering feeding meals at their Church, Christian Outreach, Duncan Miller and City Mission. Tom Jackson has done volunteer work church maintenance, and a youth group in Canonsburg Canon-McMillan High School. Their latest project a building ramps for handicapped residents and general clean-up of homes for the elderly.

Stephen Foster Club:



Projects for Stephen Foster Club includes Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank. Mary reports that they recently delivered 10 birthday bags to the food bank.

Pictured is Mary Palfy, the representative from the food Bank & Pat Szypher.

Additional projects are Blessings in a Backpack, Project Star, Power Women's Shelter, kidsHELP at the Animal Rescue League, preparation of the toiletry kits for the homeless agencies, and monthly birthday cakes at Southwestern Veterans Center.

Warren Club: Projects for Warren include hosting the monthly bingo's at Warren State Hospital. Casey made a personal donation to the United Way of Greenbrier County after the floods in West Virginia.

NEW Greeting Cards Project

When we pack the duffel bags for the Sharing & Caring Boat Ride, one of the items that we include for the veterans are a couple of 'all-occasion' greeting cards for their personal use. Many organizations are now sending new greeting cards in the mail as a solicitation for their fund raisers and we would like to collect them from those of you who choose not to use those cards. We typically run out of the cards pretty quickly because around 500 or so bags are packed, so any donation of unused greeting cards and their envelopes are appreciated! You can send to (or call me at 412-823-7777 to meet you):

Gerry McLaughlin

216 Ohio Street

Monroeville, PA 15146

...and we will be sure to include them in the Sharing & Caring duffel bags! *Thank You!*

MEMBER AT LARGE REPORTS

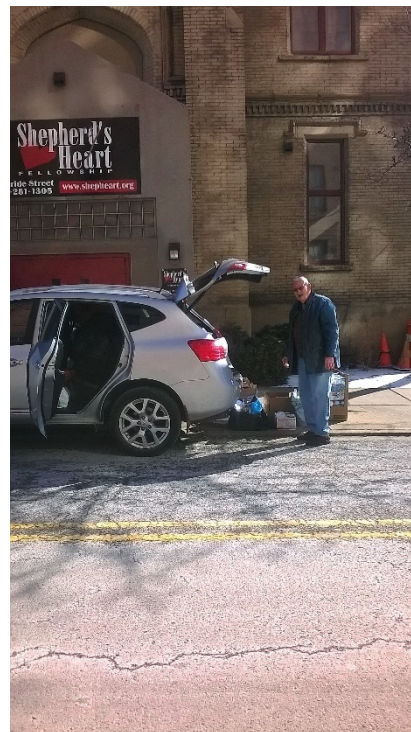
Donna Gallagher reports that they have delivered one large heavy duty easel to Jeremiah's Place for their Learning Center and Art projects. We are also donating some healthy snacks for the children's lunches. Clothing already donated and books. I am starting to put together more Blessing Bags for the Homeless for fall delivery for Veterans Place and Bethlehem Shelter. Always need lip balm & deodorant. Please keep your donations coming. **Thank you.**



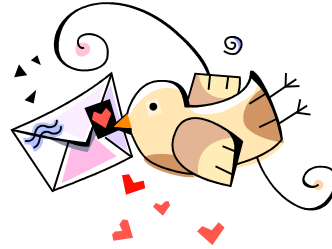
SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Phil Gallagher, our Senior Representative reports that he made a new contact with Shepherds Heart a Veteran's Home at 13 Pride Street in Pittsburgh. There are 15 beds that take in vets for 3 months at a time, helping with laundry, meals and job search assistance.

We recently donated coffee, tea, Styrofoam cups, sugar, powdered cream, and hot chocolate. Also 25 hats & gloves, 115 pairs of socks and an assortment of men's and lady's coats. We also collected 50 men's and women's coats for veterans or homeless. Collecting coats now for Shepherds Heart.



USED Greeting Cards



Don't you just hate to throw away those beautiful cards that you receive for your birthday and holidays? Well, we have found an outlet for used greeting cards! St. Jude's Ranch for Children is able to recycle your used greeting cards into new cards. Their 'recycled' cards are sold to support their programs and services for abused, abandoned, neglected and homeless children, young adults and families.

The program is beneficial to everyone - customers receive fun, "green" holiday or other occasion cards they can feel good sending to their friends and loved ones, and the children at St. Jude's Ranch receive payment for their work and learn about basic job skills and the importance of recycling.

NOTE: They currently have an increased need for both Birthday and Thank You cards

Just a few rules:

- *All types of greeting cards, including Christmas cards are accepted*
- *They cannot accept cards from Hallmark, American Greeting or Disney*
- *Cards 5" x 7" or smaller are preferred*
- *Only the card front can be used (please check to be sure the backside of the front of the card is clear of any writing, etc)*

Send the card fronts to: Linda Schirano
411 Center Road
Monroeville, PA15146

Thanks for your participation and helping with our
volunteer hours!

\$\$ FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FORT PITT CHAPTER \$\$

At the Group level, and as an attempt to help all of the Chapters raise money for their organizations, New Vision Pioneers Resource Development Team has researched and recommended the following two Companies for purchase of their products. Every purchase you make generates a 'royalty' that is directly returned to our Chapter (the ordering codes are unique for each Chapter). These promotions are typically seasonal and great products and values. Thanks for looking and give them a try!



RADA Manufacturing Company is located in Waverly, Iowa and has been manufacturing cutlery since 1948 and has earned the reputation of being remarkable.

Their products are 100% American Made, and are used in millions of homes every day. Now Pioneers, their friends and family have an opportunity to purchase this remarkable product and at the same time support Pioneer projects.

Please take a moment to look at the on-line catalog and make a purchase which is Made in the USA and has a Lifetime Guarantee. On-line ordering instructions:

1. Go to this website: www.helpourfundraiser.com
2. Enter the following: Internet Ordering Number: 504282/Password: pioneer(small letters)
3. Click on BROWSE and browse the Catalog
4. Place your order

FLOWER PETAL

The New Vision Pioneers Fort Pitt Chapter #13 have partnered with flowerpetal.com to provide you a state-of-the-art shopping experience and unparalleled service for purchasing flowers and gifts online.

How does it work? flowerpetal.com is a Las Vegas-based e-commerce provider servicing the flower and gift industry, that handles order processing, fulfillment and customer service, all backed by their 100% Satisfaction Guarantee. Flowers are reasonably priced, available for any occasion and are filled by local florists!



In addition to their website, you can also order by calling toll free:

1-800-444-0531 (24 hours a day/7 days a week) or by FAX at 1-800-530-6059

Many of our members have used Flower Petal for ordering flowers and have been very pleased. Give them a try for your next flower delivery!



For a second year, New Vision Pioneers chapters are partnering with

Family Tradition Wreaths

We were so pleased with the quality and customer service in 2015, we decided to continue with this fundraiser.

Your purchase will provide the necessary funding for our Chapters to begin the 2017 year, sustaining our existing projects and possibly taking on new ones as well.

Family Tradition Wreaths is now accepting orders for wreaths, door sprays, and other assorted balsam fir products. Shipment will be in mid-November. Why should you order early? FTW is a small family owned business, so ordering early gives them an idea of what they will need to stock for supplies for the year. This allows them to not have to buy too much supplies and helps keep their overhead as low as possible, which is very important for small businesses such as theirs.

Use this website for ordering as it will direct any profit to our Chapter:

www.familytraditionwreaths.com/?AffId=18

At checkout, just indicate that you are supporting the Fund Raiser for Fort Pitt Chapter and use code 191113-Ft Pitt.

New Vision Pioneers Thanks You for your continued support of the work we are doing in our communities.

Best wishes for a wonderful Holiday Season



Kudos:

- from Jack Wagner, Sharing & Caring coordinator: A 'special' thanks for all of your help. The Dick's Sporting Goods gift cards will be a great gift in our raffle at the Sharing & Caring Golf Outing, and thanks also for sponsoring a tee sign.
- from Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, Memorial Committee: Your gift in memory of Claire "Perk" Bernardo is gratefully accepted.
- From Jim Bernardo and Family: Thank you for your generous donation to Mt. Zion Methodist Church in memory of Perk. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.
- from Robin Weunski at The Pittsburgh Inn in Erie: To all of you, thank you from the bottom of my heart for the generous donations for our military hero's. I could not do what I do without the help of awesome people like all of you. "Until they come home".
- from Krista Stachelek, Children's Hospital Foundation: Thank you for making a difference in the life of a child! Gifts like yours enable Children's to continue to provide world-class care without financial boundaries; expanding the research frontier, delivering comprehensive, family-centered care, and transforming the lives of children. Because you give, Children's is here for every child.
- from the Animal Rescue League: Thank you for the donation from one of your members and also your ongoing support of delivery of pet food for the shelter. Your gift to the Animal Rescue League will help to ensure that many homeless animals receive the medical care they need, as well as a chance to be adopted into a caring home.
- from Major Susan Stinson, Corps Officer, Salvation Army of DuBois: We would like to express our sincere appreciation for your donation to our agency. Your donation is appreciated more than words could express. It is because of people like you who care enough to share that we can continue the tradition of caring and minister to those who need us the most.
- from Kermit Tuning at DuBois Area Ministerial Food Pantry: We gratefully acknowledge receiving your recent generous financial donation. Thank you for coming alongside us to help meet essential needs of the less fortunate in the community we share.
- from Sister Liguori at Jubilee Kitchen: The warm days of summer provide some folks with leisure time, but here at Jubilee, there a no "days off". Our staff and faithful volunteers depend upon our generous benefactors to provide support for our continuing ministries to those in need. We are most grateful for your continued support of our ministries and for your recent generous donation of four boxes of comfort kits. Our guests are always so happy to receive these.

- from City Mission, Washington, PA: Thank you for providing a safe place for hungry and homeless people to receive help.
 - from Rev. Andrew Spore from Calvary United Methodist Church: On behalf of all of the members of our Church, I thank you for your generous gift. It will strengthen our ability to serve the people in our neighborhood and beyond. Please be assured we will do our best to be good stewards of the funds you have entrusted to us. Grace and Peace.
 - from Robbin, teacher at Center Elementary School: Thank you so much for the many school supplies your Chapter purchased for my first grade class room! The students and I really appreciate your generosity – thanks again!
 - from your friends at Jeremiah's Place, Childrens Crisis Center: Thank you so much for your kind and generous donation of the art easel. Your donation will allow us to provide the best care for the young children who come to Jeremiah's Place, the area's only crisis nursery providing 24/7 care when families are in crisis.
 - from Leah Green of Haven House, DuBois, PA: Thank you for your recent donation to Haven House Shelter. It is with the help of generous groups such as yours that Haven House is able to offer temporary housing to the homeless as well as helping them connect with the employment and social services that can assist them in making a new start.
 - from The Lawrence County Conservation District Board of Directors: Thank you for your recent donation in support of our ongoing restoration work in McKee Run Watershed. Our goal is to encourage property owners living within the watershed to become environment stewards of their land.
 - from Support Our Troops, Troopons project: You are making a difference in the lives of our military troops and their families! Thank you for being a member of the Troopons Team and for all of your patriotic clipping!
 - from West Virginia Chapter #42: Thank you for your support of our 38th Annual International Sports Jamboree. Your donation helped with the transportation, housing and meals for our participants.
 - from Chris at Southwestern Veterans Center: We really appreciate the time and effort Pioneers puts into entertaining the Veterans at the bingo's that you sponsor and also the generosity of the monthly birthday cake for the residents at our facility.
-



Blessing Bags



I'd like to say 'thank you' for all of the donations of full size toiletry products for the preparation of the Blessing Bags. These bags include full size shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, mouthwash, combs, packs of Kleenex, razors, scarves, socks and winter gloves. We provide them to veterans at Veterans Place, elderly shut-in's through Churches and Light of Life Mission as needed. Please keep the donations coming and if it is easier to send in a check as a donation, I will be glad to do the shopping for you at the dollar store to supplement what we need. Just mark your donation "Blessing Bags" and thank you again!

Donna Gallagher, Member At Large

Volunteer Opportunities

We have many ongoing projects that we need your help with! Please review the following list and if you would like to get involved with any of these projects, just call the coordinator for the project. Thanks for any help you can provide!

Animal Welfare	Marilyn Stevens	412-243-8454
Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowl-A-Thon	Kim Easton	724-535-3500
Blessing Bags & Jeremiah's Place	Donna Gallagher	412-441-1842
Card Fronts & Cancelled Stamps	Linda Schirano	412-373-0974
Homeless Projects/Campbell's' UPC's/Box Top\$ / NEW Greeting Cards	Gerry McLaughlin	412-823-7777
PJ's for Patients	Bonnie Adams	412-731-1641
Western PA School for the Deaf /Pop Tabs / Project Linus /Sharing & Caring	Lynne Price	412-795-3767
POWER & Blessings in a Backpack	Mary Palfy	412-833-5453
Sharing & Caring / Penn Hills Service Association	Don McIlrath	412-793-1603
Sharing & Caring	Frank Lopes	724-339-2111
Shepherds Heart Fellowship	Phil Gallagher	412-441-1842
Talking Books	Jack Goerl	412-366-1641
Western PA School for the Blind	Sis Arendas	724-864-1932



BOX TOP\$ for Education



Help us help the schools by cutting Box Top\$ for Education and coupons from eligible products! These are used as cash back to purchase supplies at various schools.

You can send the Box Top\$ in the **US Mail** to:

Gerry McLaughlin

216 Ohio St

Monroeville, Pa. 15146

THANK YOU TO THOSE OF YOU ALREADY SENDING THE BOX TOP\$!

Penn-Trafford Library Project



There was a project that we started last year with Penn Trafford Middle School Library Media Center to provide some of the funds for a TV monitor in the Library used to broadcast presentation and current news events particularly with the Life Skills students. We finished up the project this year and received a thank you letter from Mrs. Katie Datz, the MA Special Education Teacher there at the school.

Southwestern Veterans Center Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

In April, Southwestern Veterans Center honored their volunteers with a dinner and entertainment. Attending was Gerry McLaughlin, Gerry DeMeo, Don & Ro McIlrath, Mary Jane Kleinhample and Katie Turkley.



LAP ROBES & AFGHANS



We have a new Pioneer friend in Donna Wahl from Pitcairn who has been knitting lap robes and afghans for the patients at Southwestern Veterans Center and has also prepared about a dozen for the Yolanda Barco Oncology Institute in Meadville.

Back To School Projects

In September, Meadville Club and Stephen Foster Club shopped for school supplies to help the teachers and students at Grover Cleveland Elementary School, Mt. Calvary Outreach Project and Center Elementary School. Most schools are not providing even the most basic supplies and the burden falls on the teachers and the parents. Pioneers were glad to step up and help with educational tools for these students!





BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK

Since 2005, Stephen Foster Club has been directly involved with the Blessings in a Backpack operation in the Wilkinsburg School District. Blessings in a Backpack is a national program that started with two schools and now serves more than 76,000 students in 44 states. It provides food for elementary school children who qualify for the federal free or reduced-cost meal program to take home for food for 38 weekends during the school year. We are proud to be affiliated with this project for over 10 years.

All of the food is purchased with donations and costs about \$2.10 per child per week. Each week at 1:00 PM on Thursdays, the Founder, Linda Lafferty and volunteers, pick up the week's order from Sam's Club and then they head to Kelly Elementary School to pack 550 bags. They are usually done by 3:00 PM. The bags are filled with a package of macaroni and cheese, crackers, an individual size box of cereal, two juice boxes, a crisped rice treat, a cup of pudding or fruit, a package of microwave popcorn and fruit snacks.

Blessings need help with their packing operation! If you can help, please come to Kelly School in Wilkinsburg on the following dates at about 1:00 PM:

November 3

November 9

November 17

December 1

December 8

December 15

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Lafferty at 412-327-9742.

Thank You!

New Vision Pioneers

15 E. Montgomery Avenue, Floor 1

Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Phone: 412-237-3206

Leave messages on: 412-237-3208

Fax: 412-231-2369

E-mail: FTPITT.PIONEERS@VERIZON.NET

Website: www.newvision-fortpittpioneers.org

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