



CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT

My Fellow Pioneers,

I hope all of you enjoyed your Holidays and are looking forward to saying "goodbye" to the cold and snow and "hello" to spring! Despite this weather, Fort Pitt has been very busy over the past few months with projects with the Veterans, the food banks, educational projects, domestic violence projects and homeless projects just to name a few.

I am very happy to say Fort Pitt Chapter has decided to remain as a Chapter for now. After gathering all of the facts between merging the two Chapters and getting all of our questions answered for the Board members, a motion was made and we voted to maintain Fort Pitt as a Chapter.

Thanks to all who continue to participate in all of our collections for pop tabs, card fronts, cancelled stamps, socks, used eyeglasses, old cell phones and toiletries. All of these collections help to back our projects and add to our volunteer hours.

We have many projects lined up for 2015 – take a look inside at all of the volunteer opportunities that are available and contact the coordinator if you have the time to help or send in a small donation to Marlene at the Pioneer Office and let her know that this is how you would like to help to support a specific project.

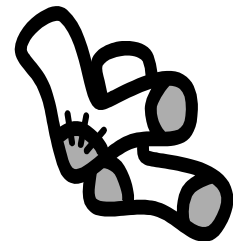
In closing, I would like to encourage all of you to sustain our organization. Come out and join us in our volunteer activities. There are many to choose from and we welcome all the help you can offer. There is no better way of helping yourself, than by helping others!

Remember: No matter how long the winter, spring is sure to follow! ~ Proverb

Gerry McLaughlin, President



SOCK DRIVE



ANNUAL HOSPITALIZED VETERANS

Sharing & Caring BOAT RIDE (September 8 thru 11, 2015)

We need white crew socks for our Veterans boat ride. Please collect them at your parties, outings, luncheons and shopping sprees. Lynne Price is coordinating the collection and she can be contacted at 412- 795-3767 to coordinate a pick up or drop off. Thanks for your participation!

Deadline for the Sock Drive is August 22, 2015

THANK YOU

Kudos:

THANK YOU

- From Laurie at Center for Victims: Thank you for your support in this year's Golf Outing!! Center for Victims is the most comprehensive, inclusive provider of services, advocacy and education for victims of all crimes.
- From Support Our Troops – Troopons (coupon project): Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our military troops and their families.
- From Bob at Sharing & Caring: We, the members of Sharing & Caring want to thank you for your generosity in the preparation of the gift bags, storage and distribution for the Veterans Boat Ride. You make this project so much easier and it is greatly appreciate by all!
- From Juliana at Pittsburgh Mercy Operation Safety Net: Thank you so much for your significant donation of breakfast bags, hats, scarves, toiletry kits and board games to the clients of Operation Safety Net. Donations are a fundamental part of our program and are essential to our work serving Pittsburgh's homeless population. We could not do it without you.
- From Joann at Sojourner House: On behalf of Sojourner House, I would like to sincerely thank you for your donation of pajamas for all of our residents and children. Your generosity means the world to families taking their first steps to ward healing and independence.
- From Sister Judith at Little Sisters of the Poor: Your generous donation is an answer to prayers for many of our elderly Residents. Your generosity will allow us to help turn difficult times into blessings for many less fortunate elderly with in the Pittsburgh community.
- From Laurie at Center for Victims: I wish to express heartfelt gratitude for your donation of toiletries, cleaning supplies and blankets. We are very grateful to have committed community partners like Pioneers!
- From Sister Liguori at Jubilee Kitchen: We are most grateful for your continued support of our ministries and for your recent generous donation of boxes of comfort kits. Our guests are always so happy when they get their own personal kit.
- From Mac McMahon at Community Human Services: We thank you for the hygiene kits that you and the Pioneers were kind enough to create and donate for our efforts to assist the homeless living on the street of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County.
- From three patients at the Intercommunity Cancer Center: Greta writes "I was happy to be a recipient of your lovely Valentines gift bags—I was surprised and delighted and it just made my day. Thank you for your kindness." From Alice "I was delighted with the Valentines bag—your thoughtfulness was very much appreciated." From Joann "What a nice surprise to get the bag! You are so kind to have thought about us (I am Chemo #4 and radiation #5 so it was a bright s spot in my day!) Many thanks for your kindness."

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



As you probably know, postage rates increased in 2014 at the Post Office! That means it costs more to send out the Tele-All to you. Now we can offer you a copy of the Tele-All at your email address instead of the paper copy in the U.S. Mail!

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. So drop me an email with your email address and we will convert your next Tele-All to a soft copy in your email. We promise not to share your email address with anyone else! You can also view this issue of the Tele-All on line at:

www.newvision-fortpittpioneers.org

Every little bit helps - thanks for your part!!

Gerry McLaughlin

info@newvision-fortpittpioneers.org

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

At the Group level and as an attempt to help all of our 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 to 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 families have an opportunity to purchase this remarkable product and at the same time support Pioneers projects.

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

1. Go to the 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. They handle 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!



Over 1,000 women a year come to POWER for help in overcoming addictions to alcohol and other drugs. POWER offers residential, outpatient, and mentoring services to help women maintain sobriety while they rebuild their lives. Their services are geared specifically to the issues faced by women. Some of their clients come from generations of poverty while some were raised in comfortable, middle class families. Some have professional positions while others are homeless. Most have experienced some form of trauma, often domestic violence, but some come from loving and supportive families with little or no experience with addiction. In short, two out of three families, from all walks of life, are directly impacted by addiction, a chronic, sometimes fatal disease. The good news is that treatment can work and treatment that is gender-specific works best. Mary Palfy presented them with a check for \$400 in November to help their cause. Mary said, "It has been a few years since I have been there personally and was very pleased to see that they offer residential, outpatient and mentoring services to help women maintain sobriety while they rebuild their lives. It is nice to know our money is working for more people." Pictured is Karen Clark, Mary Palfy & Emily Stimmel.

Your 2015 Fort Pitt Chapter #13 Board Members:

<i>President</i>	Gerry McLaughlin	<i>Past President</i>	Marilyn Stevens
<i>Secretary</i>	Mary Palfy	<i>Treasurer</i>	Marlene Yurochko
<i>MAL-1 year</i>	Donna Gallagher	<i>MAL-2 year</i>	Bonnie Adams
	Lynne Price		Don McIlrath
<i>Sr Representative</i>	Art Fedele		

Club Presidents:

<i>Allegheny</i>	Esther Dietrick	<i>Evergreen</i>	VACANT
<i>Frontier</i>	Kim Easton	<i>Gateway</i>	Marlene Yurochko
<i>Bradford</i>	Carol Felmlee	<i>DuBois</i>	Claire "Perk" Bernardo
<i>Warren</i>	Casey Jones	<i>Meadville</i>	Yvonne Klick
<i>National Trail</i>	Pat O'Brien	<i>Stephen Foster</i>	Mary Palfy

We are still seeking someone to step into the role as a representative for the Evergreen Club. There are many significant projects in that area that require a coordinator. If you have any questions or would be willing to step up to this responsibility, please contact me at 412-823-7777.

Thank You!
Gerry McLaughlin, President



FUNDRAISER WINNERS

JANUARY 2015



NOON LOTTERY DRAWING

1	Mary Lou Cook	\$ 500.00
2	Janet Tolci	50.00
3	Adam Felmlee	100.00
4	Liz Yantos	100.00
5	Matt Bonk	50.00
6	John Janeda	50.00
7	Bob Valentich	50.00
8	Diane Schettler	50.00
9	Marcella McNulty	50.00
10	Laura Keesler	100.00
11	Janet Linn	100.00
12	Marian Nixon	50.00
13	David Holsing	50.00
14	Mary Fullerton	50.00
15	Karen Burkovich	50.00
16	Brent Valentich	50.00
17	Denny Howary	100.00
18	Kay Dryer	100.00
19	Peg Kiral	100.00
20	Bob Wisniewski	50.00
21	Pat Fitzgerald	50.00
22	Janet Sullivan	50.00
23	Judy Biedzinski	50.00
24	Michael Valenti	100.00
25	Janet Sullivan	100.00
26	Helen Waugaman	50.00
27	Marie Branzel	50.00
28	Mary Jane Nicklow	50.00
29	Chris Ulmer	50.00
30	Joseph Adams	50.00
31	Sandy French	100.00

EVENING LOTTERY DRAWING

1	Barry Holsing	\$500.00
2	Helen Waugaman	50.00
3	Toots Palko	100.00
4	Pauline Childs	100.00
5	Esther Horneman	50.00
6	Ms. Margaret J. George	50.00
7	George Karg	50.00
8	Darrin Kosanovic	50.00
9	Al Schirano	50.00
10	Barbara Ribar	100.00
11	Tom Long	100.00
12	Fr. Don Breier	50.00
13	Denny Howarth	50.00
14	Josephine Valenti	50.00
15	Edward Wojciechowski	50.00
16	Anna Marie Solomond	50.00
17	Deana Rape	100.00
18	Maxine Kelley	100.00
19	Nancy Richter	100.00
20	Ruth Pluto	50.00
21	Mrs. Geraldine Demeo	50.00
22	Ms. Margaret George	50.00
23	Judy Chader	50.00
24	Kathy Little	100.00
25	Connie Powell	100.00
26	Maxine Page	50.00
27	Betsy Sue Kopacko	50.00
28	Sharla Ann Hinds	50.00
29	Carrie Wood	50.00
30	Terry Kuberski	50.00
31	Joyce Seaman	100.00



FUNDRAISER WINNERS

October 2014



NOON LOTTERY DRAWING

1	Janet Linn	\$ 50.00
2	Mark Senko	50.00
3	Nancy Long	50.00
4	William Scranton	100.00
5	Karen Hummel	100.00
6	B. Martinelli	50.00
7	Jim Ridley	50.00
8	Allen Jones	50.00
9	Mary Ann Mitko	50.00
10	Janet Linn	50.00
11	Mike Shaffer	100.00
12	William Stimmell	100.00
13	Rebecca Farabaugh	150.00
14	D'Rae Gales	50.00
15	Marjorie Hole	50.00
16	Bill Lear	50.00
17	Kathryn Mott	50.00
18	Nick Lanzano	100.00
19	Gary Ward	100.00
20	Mike Emich	50.00
21	Garland Ward	50.00
22	Jack Sellers	50.00
23	Wendy Senko	50.00
24	Laura Fellion	50.00
25	Shirley Mahoney	100.00
26	Sara Schosser	100.00
27	Cel Scott	50.00
28	Charlene Phillips	50.00
29	Betty Bigley	50.00
30	Tom Pirlozzi	50.00
31	Caroline Kosala	500.00

EVENING LOTTERY DRAWING

1	Anthony Ciallella, Jr.	\$ 50.00
2	Debbie Davidson	50.00
3	Barbara Samber	50.00
4	Nick Lanzano	100.00
5	Susan Snock	100.00
6	Helen Cook	50.00
7	Renee Unglo	50.00
8	Patti Maxwell	50.00
9	Miriam Clymer	50.00
10	Amanda Halfhill	50.00
11	Larry P Fox	100.00
12	Scott Meyer	100.00
13	Donna Gallagher	150.00
14	Pat Cisar	50.00
15	V. J. Krzeminski	50.00
16	Kevin Love	50.00
17	Marlon Samber	50.00
18	Larry P Fox	100.00
19	Amanda Halfhill	100.00
20	Ann Grippo	50.00
21	Anthony Morgan	50.00
22	Jeff & Fanchon Nutt	50.00
23	Miarosa Ciallella	50.00
24	Kaylee Bernardo	50.00
25	Marjorie Hole	100.00
26	Esther Horneman	100.00
27	Pete Perpetua	50.00
28	Anthony Morgan	50.00
29	Dot Omelite	50.00
30	George Senko	50.00
31	Ruth Carter	500.00

Here is another way you can HELP.... Fund your Tele-All!

You’ve probably noticed that we are only distributing the Tele-All twice a year. One of the major reasons that we cut back was due to the cost of preparing, printing, labeling, and the postage rates. Last year we introduced the opportunity to stop receiving a paper copy of the Tele-All and having it delivered to you electronically and we had about 30 members who opted for the e-mail copy. There is an article in this newsletter with instructions on how to do this.

But if you still like reading the paper version, we would like to suggest a \$5.00 donation. Last year, our expense for the preparation and mailing was over \$6,000 and if every member sent in \$5 to help support the newsletter, we would incredibly have enough to prepare the Tele-All for the next two years at two copies per year! That is a small price to pay for the benefit of receiving news about our projects, discount purchase opportunities, social news and fellowship activities.

Please consider a small check (\$5 or more) for the support of your newsletter! Just send to Marlene at the Pioneer Office and mark as “Tele-All”.

Thank You very much!

Financial Update – 2015

Many thanks to those of you who took the time to read and respond to the article that was in the Spring 2014 issue of the Tele-All regarding our financial position at the start of the year. Just to recap, we are no longer supported by a grant from Verizon to carry on our volunteer activities and out of about 3,900 Fort Pitt members, only 247 are active employees paying dues (\$20 a year) of which we receive a portion.

From the request in the article, there were 39 donations received last year for a total of \$1,995 which has gone a long way in supporting the many projects our Clubs’ have planned. The donations ranged from \$10 all the way up to \$200! In all, about 1% of our members made a donation. There are still months to go and many projects in the planning stage at this time and we continue to ask for your support in any way you can help.

Our 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. By donating directly to the Chapter, I can assure you that EVERY dollar donated is spent on our local projects! Please help us to continue to help these organizations!

Thank you!

Gerry McLaughlin, President

Donation \$ _____

Mail to:

Check Payable to: TP-Fort Pitt Chapter

Pioneer Office-Fort Pitt Chapter

15 E. Montgomery Ave, 1st Floor

Do you need a receipt? _____

Pittsburgh, PA 15212



Annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Western Pennsylvania School for the Blind

This year, Pioneers hosted the 36 Year Anniversary of the Easter Egg Hunt at the Western Pennsylvania School for the Blind in Oakland. It was held a little early this year, on March 30, due to the early Easter Sunday date. As always, it was a big success with over 100 children attending. We had about 25 volunteers assisting the children and filling their Easter baskets along with our own Easter Bunny, the Pitt Panther, and the Pirate parrot from the Pittsburgh Pirate baseball team helping too. There were therapy dogs available to greet the children as they entered the gymnasium to search for the beeping Easter eggs. This is always such a fun stimulation for the students!

The event was well organized with the volunteers and teachers helping the children to go in search of the beeping eggs. Once located, the children were able to trade in their “found” eggs for Easter baskets filled with treats, stuffed animals and toys especially selected by our coordinator, Sis Arendas. Sis sends along her ‘Thanks’ to all of the volunteers and staff who were on hand to help. Everyone is welcome to volunteer for the yearly event!



PJ's for Patients ~ Bonnie Adams 'signature' project!

WE DID IT!! We collected over 100 pairs of pajamas and delivered them in December to The Sojourner House to be distributed to women and children in shelters. Thank you again everyone that contributed, God bless you. Sojourner House wrote a beautiful thank you letter that stated: "Your generosity means the world to families taking their first steps toward healing and independence."

Eve-Marie Kilgore (Bonnie Adams' "Junior" Pioneer Partner!)

kidsHELP.....at the Animal Rescue League



Visits to the Animal Rescue League by Aidan & Julia Conway and Austin Kocsis have been sporadic over the winter months because of the weather. Hopefully by the time the Tele-All is published, we will be back on schedule with our bi-monthly visits to deliver pet food to the dogs and cats there. The Pioneer donations allow pets, who may be abandoned at the shelter, to stay in their homes with their owners.

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 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.

You 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!



BOX TOP\$ and Campbell's Labels for EDUCATION



The Campbell's only requirement that you cut the "Labels for Education" UPC from the label. The UPC's are on most Campbell's products including soups, Goldfish crackers, Market Day, Swanson products, and lids from V8, V8 Splash, and Prego. These are used to purchase "special needs" equipment at various schools. You can send the UPC's & Box Top\$ in the **US Mail to:**

Gerry McLaughlin
216 Ohio St
Monroeville, Pa. 15146

or

Gerry McLaughlin
ATTN: Pioneers
508 Old Frankstown Rd
Monroeville, PA 15146

MANY THANKS TO THOSE OF YOU ALREADY SENDING THE UPC'S & BOX TOP\$!

**---
??CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR REMOVAL FROM THE Tele-All MAILING LIST??**

_____ **Change of Address**

_____ **Remove from Mailing List**

Print Name: _____

Address: _____

Send to:

**Pioneer Office
15 E. Montgomery Ave, 1st Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15212**

Be sure to visit our new website for current news:

www.newvision-fortpittpioneers.org

Stephen Foster Club Holiday Projects

In November, Mary Palfy of Stephen Foster Club presented Barry Rudel of the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank with a check for \$500.00. As always they were very happy with the donation and with our continued support of them for the last 11 years.



Our donation to Blessings in the Backpack was greatly appreciated!

Once again, the Wilkesburg Lunch Bunch came through for our Christmas families for Project Star. We collected a whopping \$435.00 dollars in addition to the Fort Pitt Chapter support. Barb Cassidy and Mary Ann Rittenour, did the actual shopping for clothing, housewares and toys for 2 families, a Mom with 2 children, and a family of 3 children. Mary was also able to purchase Walmart and Giant Eagle gift cards with the money. After a check with my sister, Liz, who started us on our great Christmas family project, we have been doing this since 1977.

DuBois Club Reports

DuBois Club President Claire “Perk” Bernardo & Vice President Nancy Williams showing off a blanket that was made by Perk’s granddaughter, Stephanie. The cozy Steeler blanket was donated to Donna Gallagher for her Blessing Bags project.

DuBois Club has already hosted a luncheon to discuss their 2015 projects. All lottery tickets have been sold having one winner in January. Club members are working at the Food Pantry and plans are being made for a golf tournament to benefit the Alzheimer’s Association. During the Lenten season members will prepare food for different activities at the Church. And to raise money for their local baseball teams, breakfasts are being planned.



Homeless Shelter Report

Every month we prepare and distribute 150 toiletry kits to the three homeless agencies in Pittsburgh: Operation Save A Life, Operation Safety Net & Jubilee Kitchen. We are down to only preparing about 50 kits a month for each of the organizations due to the lack of intra-company mail and declining donations. When the Severe Weather Emergency Shelter opened in December, we were able to provide 300 breakfast bags and coffee products to the shelter in addition to scarves and gloves knitted by Nancy Stonis. Many thanks to the volunteers who faithfully help pack these kits at the Verizon garage in Monroeville and also the friends and family dedicated to collecting the toiletries for donation. This program would not exist without your help!

SINCE THERE WILL NOT BE ANY SUMMER ISSUE, USE THIS FOR YOUR NUT ORDER

GATEWAY LIFE MEMBER CLUB PIONEER KOEZE NUT SALE

Orders will be here for Thanksgiving. There will only be one order so they MUST be in by Wednesday, November 4, 2015.

ITEMS	PRICE	#	TOTAL
Large 30oz decanter jar mixed nuts	\$30.00		
Large 30oz. Decanter jar mixed nuts With Macadamias	\$31.00		
Large 30oz. Decanter jar Cashews	\$31.00		
Medium 20oz. Decanter mixed nuts	\$22.00		
Medium 20oz. Decanter jar mixed nuts With Macadamias	\$24.00		
Medium 20oz. Decanter jar Cashews	\$24.00		
14oz. Gift Tin mixed nuts	\$16.50		
14oz. Gift Tin mixed nuts with Macadamias	\$17.00		
14oz. Gift Tin Cashews	\$17.00		
Pecan Puddles 8oz. Box/milk	\$15.00		
Cream-nut Peanut Butter Clusters 8oz box	\$15.00		

TOTAL ORDER

Orders must be picked up since there is no intra-company mail.

Make checks payable to: TP-Fort Pitt Chapter

Return check and flyers to:

Nancy Riley
Pioneer Office
15 E Montgomery St 1st Fl.
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

NAME

CO. ADDRESS

Valentine's Day Project - 7th Annual "Hugs From Nan"
at the Inter Community Cancer Center in Monroeville



Gerry DeMeo and Lauren Klein at
InterCommunity Cancer Center



Contents of Gift Bag

Once again, we participated in a Valentine's Day Project at the Inter Community Cancer Center in Monroeville by honoring 50 patients undergoing radiation treatment with an over-stuffed gift bag. This year we partnered with Allegheny Valley Bank, and REMAX Select Realty to sponsor the bags. Gerry McLaughlin's daughter Lauren Klein, organized the event, shopped for the products and prepared the beautiful bags in honor of her Grandmother, Gerry DeMeo, who won her battle with breast cancer almost eight years ago.

Eat N' Park provided a discount to purchase heart shaped cookies for the bag, and Costco and Sam's Club provided us with \$25 gift cards to use for the items in the bags. The bag included Valentine merchandise of socks, mugs, note pads, ornaments, bath gel, valentine magnet, pens, lip balm, mints, stuffed animal, protein bars, and a heart shaped box of chocolates. The patients were very grateful for the extra attention they received during their doctor visits on Valentine's Day!

DICTIONARY PROJECT AT CENTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Third grade students at Center Elementary School in Plum Borough, PA were very excited to receive dictionaries from the New Vision Pioneers. The students are looking through the dictionaries in the attached pictures and are enjoying all the sections. These very generous gifts from New Vision Pioneers, are not only great student dictionaries but great sources of general information. The students can look up information about our country's Presidents from George Washington to Barack Obama. They can also read about the planets in our solar system, learn the Braille alphabet, and learn important facts about countries all over the world, just to name a few. Thank you again for such a great resource. Our students will take their dictionaries home and use them for many years to come.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Rosenzweig, Mrs. Fenk and all of the students in Third Grade at Center Elementary School.



Our Price: \$23.00

∞ ∞

Kennywood

ALL DAY RIDE

(tickets are \$42.00 at the gate!)

Any questions, call: 412-237-3206 or 412-237-3208

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

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 / TriCounty Cleanways	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\$	Gerry McLaughlin	412-823-7777
Dictionary Project	Nancy Riley	412-884-4711
PJ's for Patients	Bonnie Adams	412-731-1641
Pop Tops / Highway Cleanup	Art Fedeles	412-793-6483
Picnic Committee / Sharing & Caring / WPSD / Project Linus	Lynne Price	412-795-3767
POWER / Blessings in a Backpack	Mary Palfy	412-833-5453
Sharing & Caring	Frank Lopes	724-339-2111
Talking Books	Jack Goerl	412-366-1641
Western PA School for the Blind	Sis Arendas	724-864-1932

There are many things that we do every day without giving it a second thought. Did you know that simply by helping a shut-in can add to our volunteer hours? All those UPC's & Box Top\$ for education are included when you mail them in. Collections of old cell phones and donated eye glasses are also counted. Any military projects or educational projects are all added into our volunteer hours. If you are not providing your volunteer time at this time, please consider sending in your time to me in March, June, September and December and I will have it entered for you! All of our volunteer time that we post matters as some consideration is given to our membership and volunteer time for grants.

info@newvision-fortpittpioneers.org

Value of Volunteering: \$25.00 an hour
Fort Pitt volunteered 37,596 hours last year which translates to \$ 939,900

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 loved ones, and the children at St. Jude's Ranch will receive payment for their work and learn basic job skills and the importance of recycling.

NOTE: They currently have 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 preferred.
- Only the card front can be used (please check to make sure the backside of the front of the card is clear of any writing, etc.)

Send card front to: Linda Schirano
411 Center Road
Monroeville, PA 15146

Thanks for your participation and helping with our volunteer hours!

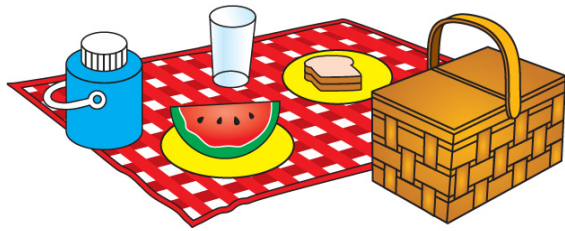


Helping the Homeless

Her fingers were flying this past winter to get hats and gloves on the less fortunate men and women on the streets and shelters in Pittsburgh! Nancy Stonis retired from Verizon in 2007 but that didn't stop her from continuing her efforts started in 2001 when she offered her first sets of hand made knitted hats to Pioneers to be used at the shelter. Nancy knew of our efforts to prepare the toiletry kits from the Monroeville Accounting Office and thought the hats went along nicely with the bags we were delivering to Operation Save A Life and Jubilee Kitchen. And she was right! The shelters were so appreciative of her handiwork **and** the foundation donations that she also made possible for 6 years. Since 2001, Nancy has prepared many, many hats and mitten sets for the shelters and for 2015 she had 100 more sets to offer. We calculate she has knitted almost 3,000 items for the shelters! We are truly amazed at her beautiful and functional handiwork and the men and women at the shelters are most appreciative of the warmth these hats and mittens provide! If anyone out there would like to help with this project, information can be provided.

Thank You Nancy for all of your hard work and dedication to this project!!

FORT PITT CHAPTER #13



PICNIC

Wildwood Lodge Post 92 VFW Lower Burrell, PA
1601 Wildlife Lodge Road

GAMES & PRIZES

GREAT FOOD & DRINKS

FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

\$13.00 Per Person

Festivities begin at 11:00 AM

❖ **NO PHONE RESERVATIONS** ❖ **DO NOT SEND CHECKS TO THE PIONEER OFFICE** ❖ ❖ **DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS is July 1** ❖

Make Checks Payable to: **TP – Fort Pitt Chapter** and mail to:

**Lynne Price
169 St. Rose Drive
Verona, PA 15147**

Name(s): _____
Phone #: _____

Enclosed Check for # _____ people @ \$13.00 each = \$ _____

Please bring a can of food or any non-perishable food item
WE ARE ALSO COLLECTING WHITE CREW SOCKS FOR THE
VET'S FOR THE SHARING & CARING BOAT RIDE

Also, used eye glasses, pop tabs, Campbell's UPC's, toiletries, dog & cat food and coupons for dog & cat food items, old towels & blankets for the animal shelter

This is a wonderful picnic that has been going on for many years! In 2014 we had to cancel the picnic because we didn't get enough reservations. Mark your calendars and send in your reservation now for a really fun day! Hope to see you there!!

For added fun, bring along a grab bag gift for "Now you have it..." SEE YOU THERE!

2014 Dodd's Fund Project



Butch Usher is pictured with Gerry McLaughlin, and accepted the donations on behalf of the agency

On Sunday, December 21, two members of the Fort Pitt Chapter visited the Jubilee Soup Kitchen in the City of Pittsburgh to present them with their requested items for the clients they serve.

Since 1979, Jubilee Kitchen has fed impoverished, downtrodden Pittsburghers in the spirit of Christian values. Every day since, they have provided a hot meal to those in need, 365 days a year. In addition, they maintain a food pantry, child care center, and job placement support services.

Fort Pitt Chapter has been working with Jubilee for 20 years providing 50 hand packed hygiene kits every month and hosting a clothing drive for 17 years in partnership with St. Bernadette Church parishioners.

Due to the inclement weather, they were in need of blankets, socks, hats, scarves, gloves, and thermal underwear. The Dodd's Fund and our matching funds enabled us to purchase those items for 195 individuals and prepare 100 hygiene kits for their guests visiting the soup kitchen.

Holiday Fellowship



On Tuesday, December 2, members and friends of Fort Pitt's Gateway Club gathered for a beautiful holiday luncheon at South Hills Country Club in Whitehall. The morning greeted us with our first snow fall of the season to create a stunning snowy backdrop of the rolling hills of the Country Club and a very delicious lunch was had by all. Our next holiday lunch is December 1 so look for a flyer in your next issue. We would love to have you join in the festivities and fellowship!



In Memoriam

Fred E. Baird	McKees Rocks	Robert R. Moore Jr.	Aliquippa
Sarah E. Bakota	Farmington	Betty L. Nicholls	Greensburg
Warren A Barnett, Jr.	Pittsburgh	E. S. Pastorius	Pittsburgh
Robert B. Burt	Freedom	Rita P. Riggle	Elizabeth
Laura T. Cusano	McKees Rocks	Donald H. Rollin	Elizabeth
Audrey C. Dengler	Pittsburgh	O. Richard Salisbury	West Alexandria
Clair E. Eckels	New Kensington	Charlotte S. Schriner	McKees Rocks
Gerald F. French	Pittsburgh	Mary Schwartz	Pittsburgh
Virginia M Hill.	Honey Brook	William J Simpson	McKeesport
V.M. Holtgraver	Pittsburgh	Gladys M Sproat	Pittsburgh
Robert H. Huchel	Coraopolis	Regis F. Terrick	Pittsburgh
Marie A. Hudak	Greensburg	Agnes B. Thomas	Irwin
Daryl D. Jalosky	Irwin	Ruth C. Thunberg	Reynoldsville
Martha V. Keredes	Pittsburgh	Michael Vresh	Zelienople
Margaret H. Kovach	McKees Rocks	Edris C. Walliser	Pittsburgh
Rita F. Lewis	Illinois	Rita Walsh	Pittsburgh
Chas H. Martin	Pittsburgh	Daniel H. Watkins	Verona

BLESSING BAGS

I am grateful to each one of you who donated money, socks and toiletries to be included in our Blessing Bags. They are provided to homeless veterans, low income seniors, and men residents of the St Joseph House of Hospitality. Total Blessing Bags made so far **(152)**

It is nice to know that we bring a smile to the faces of those less fortunate than we. This is an ongoing project so we can always use personal items including calendars, full size and pocket size. (closer to end of year).

We assembled (50) bags for the Veterans Place on Washington Blvd which were delivered in time to be distributed at their Christmas party. We also provided baby wipes and an assortment of childrens' books to Jerimiah's Place, along with educational toys which were sent during the Christmas Holiday.

Please keep your donations coming.
Thank you.

Donna M. Gallagher
Member at Large

PIONEER DAY @ **HERSHEY** PARK



DATE: SUNDAY, April 26, 2015

TIME: 10:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.

PRICE: \$31.00 (\$30.15 + \$.85 Tax) per person *

*** Children 2 & under free**
(Regular Admission Price is \$58.95)

Park is closed to the public.

NO REFUNDS or RAIN DATE.

Free parking will be provided * Concessions will be open

Water Park Rides will not open until Memorial Day

LUNCH: All you can eat picnic lunch served 12:00 noon thru 3:00 p.m. **Price \$18.02 per person.**

Lunch includes: Flame-broiled all-beef hamburger, hot dog, potato chips, pasta salad, fruit salad, lettuce, tomato, cheese, ice cream, novelties, sodas & lemonade.

***Lunch tickets will not be sold after April 16th**

Questions.... call the Pioneer Office (410) 393-6649 or Paul Redline on 410-382-8643

Discounted Hotels: **Holiday Inn Express:** (717) 534-2272, Friday, April 24th - \$139.00, Saturday, April 25th - \$99.00, **Best Western Inn Hershey:** (717) 533-5665, Friday, April 24th, Saturday, April 25th, Sunday, April 26th & Monday, April 27th - \$95.00, **Days Inn Hershey:** (717) 534-2162 Saturday, April 25th - \$125.00, Sunday, April 26th - \$85.00, **Holiday Inn:** (717) 939-7841, Friday, April 24th, Saturday, April 25th & Sunday, April 26th - \$95.00 (All hotel reservations should be made by March 23rd)

How to order tickets:

CREDIT CARD –use this link and promo code <http://tinyurl.com/2015NEWVISION>

Promo Code: 29814 or **GO TO OUR WEBSITE:** www.newvision-marylandpioneers.org

We have made this the easiest and best way to order tickets. After ordering, you can also print your tickets. No more standing in line to pick up tickets at the park.

MAIL ORDERS - MONEY ORDERS OR CERTIFIED CHECKS ONLY - Made payable to:

MD CHAPTER PIONEERS. MAIL TO: Paul Redline 9531 Hallhurst Rd, Nottingham, MD. 21236

Mail orders must be postmarked no later than April 11, 2015.

INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE; NO COMPANY MAIL; If ordering more than 10 tickets, use 6.5" x 9.5" envelope with appropriate postage. (No Stamp-No Return) NO PERSONAL CHECKS

Name _____ Telephone # _____

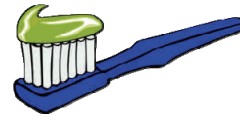
Address _____ Zip _____

Email _____

ADMISSION **LUNCH**
of Tickets _____ x \$31.00 | # of Lunch _____ x \$18.02



Toiletry Collections



As you travel, please collect the sample size soap, shampoo, lotion and any complimentary items provided by the hotels. The Verizon Garage in Monroeville has generously provided space for our packing operation. 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 every month.

These kits are crucial - the agencies we serve continue to ask for them all year round and we typically prepare and distribute 150 kits a month. Other items that are always needed to complete the kits are washcloths, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, combs and quart size zip lock bags.

Many thanks to those of you who faithfully provide these toiletries!!

You can mail the toiletries in the U.S. Mail to the office: Pioneers, ATTN: Gerry McLaughlin, 508 Old Frankstown Rd, 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 very much!



Sock It To Me! Happy Feet and Minds Project



Fort Pitt Chapter, along with all other New Vision Pioneer Chapters, will be participating in a summer project called: "Sock It To Me! Happy Feet and Minds". To succeed in school and life, children and young adults need ongoing opportunities to learn and practice essential skills. This is especially true during the summer months. When the school doors close, many children struggle to access educational opportunities, as well as basic needs.

The goal of this project is to provide the educational tools and resources to help disadvantaged children feel that they are on an equal par with others more fortunate and give them a "step up" in the learning and esteem category. Kim Easton, President of Frontier Club and Yvonne Klick, President of Meadville Club, will be discretely partnering with schools and agencies to determine eligibility for 83 children in their area and provide them with summer footwear, socks and summer reading material. The goal of the New Vision Group is to provide over 1,000 pairs of sneakers, 1,000 pairs of socks and 1,000 summer reading books over 18 Chapters and 13 states.



WPSD AUCTION

The Annual Auction and Gala for the Western Pa School for the Deaf was held on October 24th at the Edgewood Country Club. Twenty pioneers, spouses and guests attended this year. As usual, it was a very festive event. Delicious food, a large crowd and wonderful auction items to bid on. Some of our group were lucky recipients of prizes. All proceeds from the auction benefit a new state of the art residence facility for students located on the WPSD Campus. Pioneers have had a long-standing relationship with the school and over the years, through our generosity, we have helped to make a huge difference in many young lives.

CHAPTER PICNIC



At the request of our Chapter President I will again attempt to have another Chapter Picnic in July. I know we have had to cancel in the past due to lack of participation, so if you want this event to continue I'm urging you to try to attend and bring a friend or two. The details are on the flyer in this issue of the Tele-All.

SHARING & CARING

A flyer for the Sock Drive for Veterans is also in this issue. Arrangements can be made to pick up socks if need be. The Bag Packing will be held on Thursday, August 28th. Mark your calendars. I will be contact volunteers as the date gets closer. Our annual Veterans Boat Ride will be held September 1st thru September 4th. As always, Thank You for all of the support you have given us over the years to provide this recognition for our veterans. We couldn't have done it without your help.

Lynne Price—Community Service Chairperson

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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