



Fort Pitt Chapter

Pittsburgh, PA

Fall Tele-All 2017

Volume II, Issue 40

Tele-All *Fall Issue*

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Pioneers:

Time marches on as we enter the fourth quarter of 2017 and prepare for the end of year activities to complete the projects we have committed to for the year that are designed to make life better and brighter for folks less fortunate than we are. A review of the pages within will convince you of our Mission and Vision, of projects we have completed and plan to complete, and what it takes to perform them.

It is also a good time of year when expressions of appreciation are appropriate. The work of your faithful Board of Director members, Community Service committees, and Pioneer Office support staff whose efforts result in thousands of volunteer hours of activities throughout the year, is to be recognized and applauded. Their willingness to donate their time and talent to keep Fort Pitt Chapter alive and well cannot be underestimated.

To all of you active, Life Members and partners, without whose generous support we could not continue, we Thank You and send along our best wishes for a healthy, happy Holiday season and a very Happy New Year.

Gerry McLaughlin

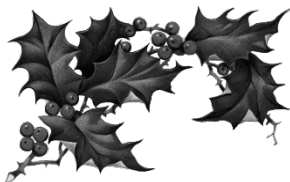
Chapter President, October 2017

Our Mission 2017

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

Our Vision 2017

To be recognized as a world-class leader in volunteerism. To continue to be respected and valued by our members, our strategic partners, the global community and our industry. To continue to be committed to the diversity and personal growth of our members, the success of our strategic partners and to continue to improve the quality of life in our communities.



Gateway Christmas Luncheon
Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at NOON
South Hills Country Club

Call Pioneer Office by November 20 if interested
412-237-3206



Sharing & Caring Report



The Annual Sharing & Caring Golf Outing was held on July 10 at Edgewood County Club. It was a wet, but successful day. Two lovely gift baskets created by Donna Gallagher were used as auction items and much appreciated. Chapter made a \$100 donation toward a tee sign with the New Vision Pioneer logo. All proceeds from the outing go towards expenses for the Annual Boat Ride.



Bag Packing was held on August 31st at Thad Stevens Fire Hall. With the help of 52 “amazing” volunteers, we packed 500 gift bags for the veterans boat ride. Thanks to everyone who helped setting up and pitching in to make it another success.



Pictured are our coordinators from Fort Pitt, Lynne Price and Sharing & Caring, Bob Abbott.

The Annual Sharing & Caring Boat Ride was held September 5th through the 8th 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, and Gerry McLaughlin are among those who helped on the boat ride and a BIG “thanks” to the Life Member Pioneers and Pioneer Partners who helped to pass out the gift bags afterwards as the Veterans boarded their buses. 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 and the Veterans truly appreciate it!!

Prom Season

We missed presenting this project to you in the Spring issue and didn't want this news to go by without sharing it with our members. Earlier this year, Bonnie Adams, Sharon Burton, Charlene Sanders and Velma Harris partnered with the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) to provide prom dresses for young girls in need of a dress. The dresses were provided to young girls in foster homes, in shelters, and had parents in the armed forces, or were just in need of a dress. No one was denied clothing. We helped the girls pick out a designer gown along with shoes, jewelry, etc., for her special occasion. It was a wonderful experience. We promised to help again when school starts by helping to shop for back to school items. We spent about 6 hours each. The look on their young faces was priceless...see for yourself:



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

Pioneers proudly announced their FREE New Vision Group APP. It is 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!

We are now on Facebook and can be found at:

www.facebook.com/FTPITTPIONEERS





Easter Dinners

Another project we didn't want to miss telling you about are the food items that were presented to the food bank maintained by St. Maria Goretti Parish in Bloomfield for the makings of a festive Easter meal to 27 families in the Garfield neighborhood area of Pittsburgh. The start of each meal was a traditional ham along with other accompaniments personally delivered by Donna and Phil Gallagher. The letter we received acknowledging the donation said "it is because organizations like New Vision Pioneers have their eye on the needs of the community that the hungry are fed and good of many other kinds is accomplished."



shutterstock · 65664193

Quilts of Valor

Fund Raiser

Quilts of Valor will be hosting a fund raiser at the VFW in Lawrenceville in October and Fort Pitt Chapter will support them by donating a handmade gift basket prepared by Donna Gallagher. You may remember that Don McIlrath was a recipient of one of the Quilts of Valor a few years ago. If you are free on Saturday October 21, come by the VFW in Lawrenceville for their fundraiser. *The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.*

20th Annual Clothing Drive at St. Bernadette Church in Monroeville



For the twentieth year, the Ladies of Charity at St. Bernadette's Church in Monroeville partnered with Fort Pitt Chapter on September 30th to sponsor a clothing drive for three homeless agencies in Pittsburgh: Jubilee Kitchen, Community Human Services, & Operation Safety Net and also Appalachian Ministries. Warm clothing, bedding, and a ton of socks were donated especially for the traveling medical van. We also provided a donation to the Ladies of Charity for their food bank which provides needy families with food.

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



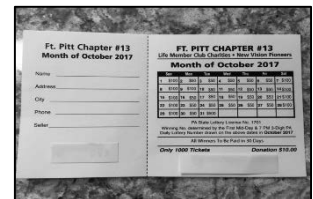
Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake



Earlier this year, we provided sponsorship for the Lawrence County annual fund raiser for Big Brothers Big Sisters. The event was a great success raising over \$21,000 to help pair children from single parent homes with caring mentors.

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 previous lottery with prizes ranging between \$50 and \$500.



You can help by purchasing a ticket for \$10.00. The January 2018 lottery will be our next ticket. We can also put your name on our mailing list to automatically receive your ticket(s) from Marlene & Dorothy at the Pioneer Office. Please call Gerry McLaughlin at 412-823-7777 to purchase a ticket or to be put on the mailing list.

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

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.

IN MEMORIAM

Richard L. Berg	<i>Whitney</i>	Patricia A. Kascak	<i>Munhall</i>
Margaret F. Booth	<i>Virginia</i>	Julia Klingelsmith	<i>Monroeville</i>
D. B. Brenneman	<i>New Wilmington</i>	Mary Rose Kowalski	<i>Pittsburgh</i>
F. Laird Byerly	<i>Indiana</i>	Diane Kruckvich	<i>White</i>
Dorothy T. Cowen	<i>Florida</i>	Donald P. Kulick	<i>New Kensington</i>
Robert F. Craig	<i>Pittsburgh</i>	William J. Landis	<i>Ebensburg</i>
Eugene J. Csukas	<i>North Versailles</i>	Catherine F. Mack	<i>Canonsburg</i>
Robert T. Davis III	<i>Ligonier</i>	Stephen J. Matisz	<i>Jones Mills</i>
Alfred W. Duerig	<i>Pittsburgh</i>	Charles H. McConnell	<i>Butler</i>
Roberta Y. Farmer	<i>Pittsburgh</i>	David L. Meyers	<i>Elizabeth</i>
Ralph A. Farneth	<i>Murrysville</i>	Rose Marie Miller	<i>Allison Park</i>
Carl Ford, Jr.	<i>Texas</i>	Bernadette M. Peltz	<i>Creighton</i>
Irene Gaines	<i>Saegertown</i>	John D. Peters	<i>Jeannette</i>
Robert M. Good	<i>North Versailles</i>	Joan B. Reese	<i>Mt. Pleasant</i>
John F. Griffin	<i>Pittsburgh</i>	Donald G. Rihn	<i>Shaler</i>
Helen Guerra	<i>Pittsburgh</i>	Karen E. Samuels	<i>North Huntingdon</i>
Donald B. Herbst	<i>Gibsonia</i>	Marceline V. Simpson	<i>Florida</i>
Robert S. Hester	<i>Pittsburgh</i>	Glenn F. Smith	<i>Marienville</i>
Dennis Himes	<i>Big Run</i>	Raymond E. Smith	<i>Warren</i>
Olga Horbiak	<i>Glenshaw</i>	John A. Snyder	<i>Trafford</i>
Polly Ingram	<i>New Castle</i>	Naidene S. Szymansky	<i>Scottsdale</i>
Leanore A. Jurkovec	<i>Pittsburgh</i>	Jean. E. Umbarger	<i>West Newton</i>
		Marty L. Woods	<i>Pittsburgh</i>

Chapter Past Presidents In Memoriam

We were saddened to lose two of our Fort Pitt Chapters Past Presidents, **Polly Ingram** and **Bob Hester**.

Sometimes news travels slowly, as we just recently became aware of Paulette "Polly" Ingram's passing in March 2015. Since we are no longer affiliated with Verizon, we have no way of knowing of a member's death unless the Pioneer office is notified. Polly retired after 41 years with Verizon in New Castle. In addition to serving as President of our Chapter between 1993-1994, she was also a past president of the New Castle chapter of the Business and Professional Women of Pennsylvania and a past president of the former St. Francis Hospital Auxiliary and a board member of the New Castle Bellco Federal Credit Union.

In June, 2017, we lost our Past President, Bob Hester. Bob was Fort Pitt's Chapter President through 1991-1992. During his 40 years with Verizon he served as both Chapter President and Council President. He was a longtime member of Rosedale United Methodist Church and a member of Plum #799 Masonic Lodge where he was a 32nd Degree Mason and a Syria Shriner and also chairman of the Board of Allegheny County Conservation District. Bob also proudly served our County during the Korean War in the Army.

We strive to keep our membership list up to date, so if you become aware of another Pioneers passing, please notify the office with a copy of the obituary. Thank You.

Lower Allegheny Valley Meals on Wheels



Our Allegheny Club President, Esther Dietrick recently presented a check to the Meals on Wheels program in the Springdale/Cheswick area to help sustain their program. Pictured is Esther and Joanne Anderson in the MOW kitchen.

Lap Robes for Arden Court

In July, Donna and Phil Gallagher visited and donated 20 lap robes to the patients at Arden Court. This facility offers dedicated Alzheimer's and dementia care in a safe and secure environment. It is a comfortable community with home-like setting, socializing area, dining and entertainment. Shirley C. & Donna W. & June V. are always busy preparing and donating the lap robes and we are very grateful for their efforts!



Relief for Hurricane Harvey

Fort Pitt's volunteer focus is geared to helping agencies in our geographical areas of Pennsylvania, but sometimes we find it necessary to open our hearts to victims of natural disasters. As I write this article, the news of the disaster caused by Hurricane Harvey is a daily reminder of the devastation in Texas and Louisiana. Our Board Members recognized the needs of the agencies helping these folks recover and decided to help by making a \$100 donation to each of the following three agencies:

- * Brother's Brother
- * Salvation Army
- * Samaritan's Purse

At the Group level, a donation of 100 elementary and 75 Junior High school backpacks, packed with materials suitable for those age groups, were purchased for donation to the Houston Food Bank.



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



We are now donating dog and cat food to the Animal Rescue League every other month. The kids helped this past year 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. Shown is Julia Conway donating her time.

NEW



HOPE



Changing lives...

one sock at a time.



Solmate Socks knows the importance of socks. They not only provide warmth and protection for our precious feet, but also a cozy sense of comfort. Despite their importance, socks are among the most needed items at homeless shelters across the US, but the least donated.

Because of this, Solmate has been donating socks for the past 16 years to various charity groups across the US, including family services organizations, refugee centers and homeless shelters. These donation recipients have shown immense gratitude over the years, and they have reinforced how important it is for our company to continually find ways to give back and help those who are less fortunate.

In August, Fort Pitt Chapter received 45 dozen of socks to distribute to the organizations we serve in Western Pennsylvania. 25 dozen were youth size and 20 dozen were adult size. Upon receipt of the donation we realized that the socks were not matched but it was an easy task since they were very similar in color. We enlisted the help of a gentleman who is housebound but is always willing to help....he quickly matched up the youth socks. Our adult sized socks were handed off to Bonnie Adams for her "junior Pioneers" to match up. Many volunteers hours were added to our list because of their efforts and many, many men, women and children will benefit from this donation.

Thank you Solmate Socks for your donation to Fort Pitt Pioneers!

Field Trip to Washington, DC



Six graders from Pivik Elementary School in Plum recently took a two day field trip to Washington, DC to see the sights and learn about our government. Because the students had already done fund raising to pay for their trip, we helped the group by providing a snack bag of a juice box, rice crispie square, chips and fruit snacks. After they returned home, we were surprised to receive 61 thank you notes from the students who were the recipients of the snack bags and found their comments to be precious...here are a few:

- ✓ from Ava: thank you so much for putting together those snack bags! They were full of lots of goodies! Very scrumptious!
- ✓ from Jacob: thank you for the treat bag. It was good and we all thank you. You saved us from starvation.
- ✓ from Emily: thank you for the treat bag. It was very thoughtful of you. I was so hungry so I ate it all.
- ✓ from Payton: thank you very much for the snack bag. The treats inside were delicious. It was great to have after a long while of walking.
- ✓ from Dylan: thanks for thinking about us and giving us those snacks. I loved eating the food and drink that you took time out of your day to individually pack.



BOX TOP\$ for Education



Help us help the schools by cutting UPC's from the products mentioned below! They are only requiring that you cut the "official coupon" for Box Top\$ from any of the products below:

Baking & Bakeware:

- Annie's® Baking Mixes
- Fiber One™ Mixes
- Reynolds® Products

Cereal:

- Annie's®
- Batman™ Chocolate Strawberry
- Basic 4™
- Cascadian Farm™
- Cascadian Farm™ Farm Stand Harvest Granola
- Cheerios™
- Chex™
- Cinnamon Toast Crunch™
- Cocoa Puffs™
- Cookie Crisp™
- Fiber One™
- French Toast Crunch™
- Girl Scouts Thin Mint® Cereal
- Girl Scouts Caramel Crunch® Cereal
- Golden Grahams™
- Kix™
- Lucky Charms™
- Nature Valley™ Oat Cereals
- Nature Valley™ Protein Crunchy Granola
- Oatmeal Crisp™
- Raisin Nut Bran
- Reese's Puffs®
- Star Wars cereal (© & ™ 2015 Lucasfilm Ltd.)
- Superman™ Caramel Crunch
- Tiny Toast™
- Total™
- Trix™
- Wheaties™

Household Cleaning:

- Finish® Dishwashing Detergent
- Lysol® Bathroom Cleaners
- Lysol® Disinfectant Spray & Wipes

Food Storage:

- Ziploc® Products

Tableware:

- Hefty® Products
- Kleenex® Dinner Napkins (50 ct.)

Meals & Sides:

- Annie's® Products
- Betty Crocker™ Products
- Green Giant™ Products
- Hamburger Helper™ select flavors
- Old El Paso™ Products
- Progresso™ Soup
- Progresso™ Broths

Refrigerated & Dairy:

- Annie's® Products
- Go-Gurt® Multipacks
- Land O'Lakes® Products
- Yoplait® Original and Yoplait® Light Fridge Packs

School & Office Supplies:

- Boise POLARIS® Premium Paper
- Boise® FIREWORX® Premium Colored Paper

Paper Products:

- Select Kleenex® Tissue bundles
- Scott® Bath Tissue
- Scott® Paper Towels

Frozen:

- Annie's® Frozen Snacks
- Green Giant™ Vegetables
- Totino's™ Party Pizza®

Produce:

- Green Giant™ Fresh Herbs
- Green Giant™ Fresh Vegetables

Snacks & Juices:

- Annie's® Products
- Betty Crocker™ Fruit Flavored Snacks
- Bugles™
- Cascadian Farm™ Granola Bars
- Chex Mix™
- Fiber One™ Bars, Brownies, Cookies
- LARABAR™ (multipacks)
- Mott's® Products
- Nature Valley™ Products

Waste Bags:

- Hefty® Products

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

Gerry McLaughlin

216 Ohio St

Monroeville, Pa. 15146

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

For the second year in a row, we have supported the Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy/Mason Langford Memorial Golf Outing. This foundation was founded 2 years ago after the sudden death of this little boy. This year they raised \$1820,000 in Mason's memory and they are dedicated to providing information, education, advocacy, programs and support services for people living with epilepsy and their families, friends, and colleagues. Donna Gallagher prepared a beautiful gift basket with a Father's Day Backyard Barbeque theme for one of their auction items at the Golf Outing.

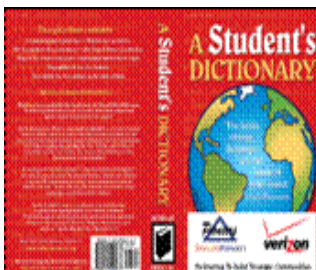


2017 Fort Pitt Chapter #13 Board Members:

President	Gerry McLaughlin	Past President	Marilyn Stevens
Secretary	Mary Palfy	Treasurer	Marlene Yurochko
MAL-1 year	Donna Gallagher	MAL-2 years	Bonnie Adams
	Lynne Price		Don McIlrath
Sr Representative	Phil Gallagher		

Club Presidents:

Allegheny	Esther Dietrick	Evergreen	Vacant
Frontier	Kim Easton	Gateway	Marlene Yurochko
Bradford	Carol Felmlee	DuBois	Nancy Williams
Warren	Casey Jones	Meadville	Yvonne Klick
National Trail	Pat O'Brien	Stephen Foster	Mary Palfy



Dictionary Report: Our goal is to distribute about 40 dozen of these books! As of the beginning of this school year, we have delivered 32 dozen so we are more than half-way there. If you know of a third grade class that is need of 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!

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 raiser and we would like to collect them from those of you who choose not to use those cards. Because of your generosity this past year, we were able to include 9 new greeting cards in the Veterans gift tote for the Sharing & Caring Boat Ride this year! Since we have now exhausted our supply, we will start to collect again for the 2018 event. Your donation of unused greeting cards and their envelopes are appreciated! You can send to:

Gerry McLaughlin

216 Ohio Street

Monroeville, PA 15146

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



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.

Also, Sharing & Caring sponsors a bingo at Southwestern Veterans Center monthly on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 2:00 PM. The remaining bingos for 2017 are October 24 & November 21. 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!



Homeless Shelter Report



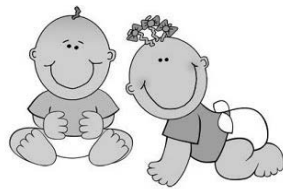
We continue to pack the toiletry kits for Operation Safety Net, Jubilee Kitchen and Community Human Services and have recently added Family Links who provides programs to youth ages 16-21 who are homeless or aging-out of the foster care system. In November, we will be packing the 400 breakfast bags for distribution by OSN at the overnight shelter on Smithfield Street in Pittsburgh. The overnight shelter houses men at one shelter and women and women with children at another location providing them with a hot meal and keeping them warm and dry overnight.

A donation was made to the Light of Life Rescue Mission on the Northside to help with their programs.

Nancy Stonis continues to knit hat & glove sets that we distribute to the agencies. This is the 17th year that Nancy has been providing these cozy handmade items for the homeless. Over 3,200 homeless folks have benefited from her handiwork. We all appreciate her time and efforts to help those less fortunate.



For the past five years we have been doing a project with Hillcrest PreSchool for their educational needs for the 3 and 4 year old students they serve. This year the teachers were in need of new tables and chairs for the students to work at. Fort Pitt was able to make a donation towards the purchase of the work tables. The director and teachers there were very appreciative.



Cribs for Kids

Since 1998, Cribs for Kids® National Infant Safe Sleep Initiative has been making an impact on reducing the rate of infant sleep-related deaths due to accidental suffocation, asphyxia, or undetermined causes in unsafe sleeping environments. The mission of Cribs for Kids® is to prevent these deaths by educating parents and caregivers on the importance of practicing safe sleep for their babies and by providing Graco® Pack 'n Play® portable cribs to families who, otherwise, cannot afford a safe place for their babies to sleep. All education is based on the AAP Guidelines for Infant Sleep Safety.

To help this Pittsburgh based organization, Fort Pitt recently donated the funds to provide three Safe Sleep Survival Kits, which includes a portable crib, a sheet with a safe sleep message on it, a Halo SleepSack, safe sleep educational materials, and a pacifier.



Military Connections

Our local newspaper had an appeal for military care package items and we were glad to respond. In August, another of Donna and Phil Gallagher's projects was with Military Connections request for food items. They delivered tuna packs, fruit cups, pudding, snack packs, Frito's, nuts, gum, Lance crackers and chef Boyardee variety packs. We have already received a gracious thank you letter from the group thanking us for selecting the Troops' favorite food items. They said the care packages are a great way for us to show support and let the troops know they are not forgotten.

Financial Update – 2017 Mid-Year

Many thanks to those of you who took the time to read and respond to the articles that were in our past issues of the Tele-All regarding our finances. You already know by now that we are no longer supported by a grant from Verizon to continue volunteer activities. Out of about 3,900 Fort Pitt members, only 173 are active employees paying dues (\$20 a year) of which we receive a portion. Also, as employees retire, and there are no more dues collected, even less is received. In 2016, we lost the dues of 49 employees, and so far in 2017, we have lost 17 active members along with their dues. And we are not permitted to solicit new members who are active employees.

From the request in our Spring issue, we have received only 30 donations for a total of \$1,270. At this time last year, we had received \$1,505 in donations. Less than 1% of our members are making a donation. Please remember, we are a self-sufficient charitable organization and we are always looking for new projects to benefit our local neighbors. We can only continue to do these community service projects with your help.

We need your help so that we can continue on with the projects that you read about in our newsletters. You can see the scope of the projects we perform and hopefully appreciate all of the good work that we carry on for the good of our local communities and to carry on the reputation of “Pioneers - Answering the call of those in need.”

One way we can reduce expenses is to eliminate one issue of the Tele-All newsletter each year. The newsletter expenses have increased this year along with postage. Because this is our only means of communication with our members, this would be a last resort. You can help us now by making a donation in support of our projects, and the Tele-All printing and distribution. Even \$10 goes a long way when many donations are received!

If you would like to continue to read about our projects and receive the Tele-All, please consider making a donation today.

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. Please help us to continue to help these organizations!

Thank You Very Much!
Gerry McLaughlin, President

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Project Donation \$ _____
Tele-All Donation \$ _____
Check Payable to: TP-Fort Pitt Chapter
Do you need a receipt? _____

Mail to:
Pioneer Office-Fort Pitt Chapter
15 E. Montgomery Avenue, 1st Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15212



kidsHELP in Training



For a full week in June, Bonnie Adams, her granddaughter Eve, and five of her girlfriends, met to practice their life skills including the spirit of volunteering. They started their days at 7:30 AM and ended at 5:00 PM and learned to prepare their breakfast, from shopping to cooking. Also prepared lunch, including cooking and cleaning. Each day they discussed volunteering and made containers to collect monies for children in need of toys for Christmas. The girls came up with the name collecting "Change for a Change" for a better Christmas for children in need. They will collect money and in November we will get together again and count their money along with some matching funds from family members. They also enjoyed crafts, planning flowers, cleaning, exercising and how they can help out at home.

Their first official Pioneer volunteer effort was helping to sort the new greeting cards for the Veterans for the Sharing & Caring boat ride during Labor Day Week. The girls sorted through over 1,100 new greeting cards, to provide a pack of three assorted cards for 375 veterans! They also shopped for back to school items at Target for a donation to the National Council of Jewish Women. In addition, they are matching up the socks from the contribution we received from Solmate; 25 dozen pairs for a total of 300 pairs of socks! WAY TO GO GIRLS!!

HELP WITH WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

HELP...we have lost our Webmaster and have been struggling to keep our website up to date.

FACEBOOK has also been added for Fort Pitt and we are looking for someone who can do the updates.

If you can help, please let me know at:

info@newvision-fortpittpioneers.org



Penn Hills Service Association

Don recently delivered a donation to Ed Hoover at the Penn Hills Service Association to help with their food bank. For the last three years we have been able to help with their supplies.

CLUB PRESIDENT & COMMITTEE PROJECTS

Allegheny Club, Esther Dietrick: Little Sisters of the Poor, bingos at Kane Hospital, Springdale/Cheswick Food Bank

Frontier Club, Kim Scranton: Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowl-A-Thon in New Castle, Tri-County Cleanways and The Conservation District in Lawrence County, coordinator for yearly Kennywood Ticket donation and lottery license

Gateway Club, Marlene Yurochko: Light of Life Mission on the Northside, the Western Pennsylvania Humane Society, Freedom Guide Dogs, Fund Raising Coordinator and Pioneer Office Staff

Bradford Club, Carol Felmlee: McKean County SPCA, McKean County Food Bank, Christian Church Food Bank and Smethport Food Bank

DuBois Club, Nancy Williams: DuBois Food Bank and DuBois Salvation Army, Church support services, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and chemo caps

Meadville Club, Yvonne Klick: Community Shelter Services, Erie City Mission, Greenhouse Women's Shelter, Crawford County Humane Society, Project Troops (postage), Vietnam Vets Post 52, Salvation Army, St. James Shelter for Men, school supplies for Cleveland/Perry Elementary School, and the Pittsburgh Inn Military Care package project

National Trail Club, Pat O'Brien: First Christian Church of which he is a Member and volunteer, Calvary Methodist Church, Canonsburg Meals on Wheels, Christian Outreach Soup Kitchen and Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh

Stephen Foster Club, Mary Palfy: Birthday Bags for Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, Project Star holiday project, Blessings in a Backpack, Power Women's Shelter, Plum Food Bank, Animal Rescue League and Southwestern Veterans Center

Warren Club, Casey Jones: Monthly bingos at Warren State Hospital

Member At Large, Lynne Price: Sock drive for the Sharing & Caring Boat Ride, The Annual Western Pennsylvania Golf Outing and Boat Ride for Sharing & Caring, Free Store in Braddock, Eagle Scout project and the yearly auction for the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf

Member At Large, Bonnie Adams: Summer camp for volunteer coaching, kidsHELP card sorting for Sharing & Caring Veterans, "Change for a Change" fund raiser for Christmas project, school supplies for NCJW, Walk for Multiple Sclerosis, Highmark Walk for a Healthy community, 8th Annual Brandon Kuster Memorial Walk, sock match-up for Solmate sock donation, Christmas project for toys and PJ's for various agencies and women's shelters

Member At Large & Senior Representatives, Donna & Phil Gallagher: Preparation of 3 gift baskets for various fundraisers, Shepherds Heart food and clothing donations, Bloomfield/Garfield Food Bank, St Maria Goretti Food Bank, Arden Court, Military Connections, and Jeremiah's Place emergency shelter for children

Member At Large, Don McIlrath: Sharing & Caring golf Outing and Boat ride and monthly bingo at Southwestern Veterans Center, Penn Hills Service Association, Quilts of Valor Fund Raiser

All Clubs go outside of their budgeted projects to help with shut-ins, donate their time at Church, nursing homes and schools, collect pop-tab, toiletries, glasses, cell phones, greeting cards, socks, Box Tops, supplies for the animal shelters and cut grocery store coupons for the Troopons project!

APRIL 2017 WINNERS – Chapter Lottery Calendar

AFTERNOON DRAWING

EVENING DRAWING

1	Mary Ann Byerly	500.00	1	Mary Kay Mullin	500.00
2	Chris Morris	100.00	2	Mary Ann Sadler	100.00
3	Irene Gerwig	50.00	3	Robin Weunski	50.00
4	Rich Wisniewski	50.00	4	Fr. Charles Baptiste	50.00
5	Anna Marie Solomond	50.00	5	Andy Motto	50.00
6	Robert Schreiber	50.00	6	Adam Felmlee	50.00
7	Dolores I. Strube	50.00	7	Peg Kiral	50.00
8	Eleanor Matthews	100.00	8	Freeda Walls	100.00
9	Pat Damer	100.00	9	Janet Wiegand	100.00
10	Cynthia Mols	50.00	10	Bill Wagner	50.00
11	Diane Kolczynski	50.00	11	Robert Lowe	50.00
12	Andrew Dukay	50.00	12	Gloria Secchi	50.00
13	Denny Howarth	50.00	13	Dave Richards	50.00
14	Anne Patrick	50.00	14	Lynne Price	50.00
15	Fred Kosanovic	100.00	15	Tina Tait	100.00
16	Judy Biedzinski	150.00	16	Barb Yarkosky	150.00
17	Jim Connors	50.00	17	Bonnie Lough	50.00
18	Marie Branzel	50.00	18	Ted Krzemienski	50.00
19	Dianne Madden	50.00	19	Bill Wagner	50.00
20	Mary Kawalkin	50.00	20	Dave Richards	50.00
21	Jim Lembo	50.00	21	Elaine Ribar	50.00
22	Sylvia Zibrat	100.00	22	Pat Damer	100.00
23	Sandy Streb	100.00	23	Bonnie Adams	100.00
24	Carol Felmlee	50.00	24	V. J. Krzemienski	50.00
25	Edward Ribar	50.00	25	Cathy Chiplis	50.00
26	Tina Reynolds	50.00	26	Denny Howarth	50.00
27	A. Pilarski	50.00	27	Bonnie Adams	50.00
28	Mathew Skelley	100.00	28	Pamela Howarth	100.00
29	Shirley Stake	100.00	29	Jeanne Lockerman	100.00
30	John Donnack	100.00	30	Mary Palfy	100.00

JULY 2017 WINNERS – Chapter Lottery Calendar

AFTERNOON DRAWING

EVENING DRAWING

1	Larry Cyphert	100.00	1	Barb Yarkosky	100.00
2	Marcia Lerch	100.00	2	Natalie Nikolic	100.00
3	William Scranton	50.00	3	Herbert Brown	50.00
4	Jack Kennel	500.00	4	Toni Krzemienski	500.00
5	Dave Hughes	50.00	5	Charlene Phellips	50.00
6	Adam Felmlee	50.00	6	Mary Ann Kostrubanic	50.00
7	Joyce Dye	50.00	7	John Burnsworth	50.00
8	Shirley Hall	100.00	8	No Winner	
9	Robert Schreiber	100.00	9	Mose Thomas	100.00
10	Joyce Stephenson	50.00	10	Arlene Vitril	50.00
11	Carol Felmlee	50.00	11	Pat Damer	50.00
12	Bibiana Corbett	50.00	12	Christina Simpson	50.00
13	Terry Yaworski	50.00	13	Joan Koman	50.00
14	Gary Wiegand	50.00	14	Kathy Tylka	50.00
15	Loretta Petriga	100.00	15	Beverly Kellner	100.00
16	Marlene Docherty	100.00	16	Chewy Little	100.00
17	Lisa McCann	50.00	17	Cynthia Newman	50.00
18	Nancy Markovich	50.00	18	Gloria O'Hara	50.00
19	Nancy Jones	50.00	19	Mark Garrity	50.00
20	Mariam Clymer	50.00	20	Pat Karwoski	50.00
21	Donna Langley	50.00	21	Laura Fellion Zasaoni	50.00
22	Richard Laslow	100.00	22	William Clayton	100.00
23	Donna & Dan Gall	100.00	23	J. Biedzinski	100.00
24	Dollie Murphy	50.00	24	Jack Butera	50.00
25	Kathy Tylka	50.00	25	Robert Schreiber	50.00
26	Denna Butler	50.00	26	Rose Comunale	50.00
27	Ella Wodowski	50.00	27	Barb Manning	50.00
28	Scott Buzzard	50.00	28	Cathy Chiplis	50.00
29	J. Biedzinski	100.00	29	Ted Krzemienski	100.00
30	David Wolfe	100.00	30	Connie Powell	100.00
31	Denna Butler	50.00	31	Marie Branzel	50.00

39th Annual International Sports Jamboree – North Bend State Park – July, 2017



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 theme this year was "Christmas in July". The Jamboree was July 14th, 15th and 16th and was a really big success with 35 participants this year.

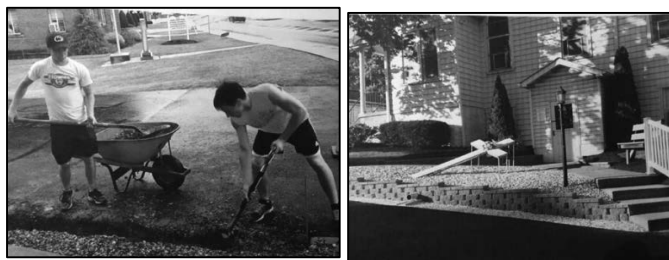
Basketball hoops "beep" so they can toss free throws into nets they cannot see. Wheelchairs fly down 40-yard slalom courses. Participants form teams for special contests like a pilot race in which a visually impaired contestant pushes a partner in a wheelchair with ever so careful directions.

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

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Chris Colligan, a Boy Scout from Harrison City, with some funding from Chapter, completed his Eagle Scout Project in August. Chris' project consisted of replacing three old railroad ties with two stone walls at the First United Church of Christ in his area. He and his helpers replaced ties, put new stone around the cross, as well as adding mulch and white gravel around the main area of the Church.

A lot of time and effort was put into this, but as you can see from the picture of the before and after the project was completed, it was well worth it and greatly appreciated by the Church. Good Job Chris!!



Southwestern Veterans Center Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

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



Back To School Projects



In August, we had a couple of 'back to school projects' to provide basic school supplies to local schools. Bonnie Adams' grand-daughter Eve and friends shopped at Target for \$100 worth of school supplies in conjunction with the NCJW (National Council of Jewish Women) and Gerry McLaughlin shopped for school supplies for the kindergarten class at 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!



Shepherd's Heart Veterans Home



In June, Donna and Phil Gallagher purchased and delivered the following items to Shepherds Heart, shelter for Veterans: foam coffee cups, sugar, tea-bags, coffee filters, coffee creamer, and coffee along with a box of assorted full size toiletries (deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste and a case of Dove soap) along with a check for \$100 for them to purchase needed supplies. We also purchase winter coats at thrift shops to deliver to Shepherd's Heart for the folks who come in to pick up warm winter outerwear. Pictured is Cheryl Pickering with Phil Gallagher.

?? 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

Kudo's

- from Laurie & Kim at the Vietnam Vets Post 52 in Meadville: Thank you so much for your continued support. Special thanks to Lynne Crick for all the hard work of buying the items for the care packages. Your donation has made it possible for soldiers to receive packages, cards and letters.
- from Peggy at the Epilepsy Foundation: Your support of the 2nd Annual Mason Langford Memorial Golf Outing was very instrumental in the success of the event with a tremendous accomplishment raising over \$18,000.
- from Paulette at Lower Allegheny Valley Meals on Wheels: Thank you for your very generous monetary donation to our organization. We have been preparing and delivering meals to shut-ins for over 45 years now and we greatly appreciate your support and kindness.
- from B. Bracken at Military Connections: Thank you for donating supplies to our Care Package Program. You did a wonderful job of selecting the Troops' favorites and your donation means a lot to the troops
- from Dan at the Humane Animal Rescue: Thank you for your in-kind donation of dog and cat food and treats. We truly appreciate your generosity and for thinking of the animals: It is only due to the support of friends like you that we are able to continue to offer these programs, which we believe are vital to our community.
- from Bob at Sharing & Caring: Thank you very much for your generous and much appreciated donation. We will combine it with other revenues enabling all of our volunteer staff to commit their energies toward making another special day possible for some true patriots who have earned their special "holiday". Your generosity and support guarantee continuation of our boat rides for hospitalized veterans, an entertainment venue not seen anywhere else in the country.
- from Allisyn at Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Lawrence County: Thank you so very much for your sponsorship for our organization. The event was a great success this year, raising over \$21,000 that stays right here in Lawrence County to pair children from single parent homes with caring mentors.
- from Manchester Academic Charter School: On behalf of MACS, we would like to express our appreciation for your generous donation. Our students will be able to utilize the dictionaries, thanks to your support.
- from Danielle at Center For Victims: Thank you for your generous in-kind donations of pajamas and toys for transitional housing residents. You have truly made a difference in your community and individual lives.
- from Sister Ligouri at Jubilee Kitchen: We appreciate your continued support of our ministries and your recent generous donation of 3 cases of comfort kits. Our guests appreciate your concern as they especially need these during the summer months.
- from Erie City Mission: We have been blessed with incredible generosity from the Erie community to keep our City and our Mission strong. Because you gave, we were able to serve nutritious meals through our free public meal program. Because you gave, we helped families with free food and households with free clothing. Because you gave, we provided emergency shelter bed-nights through our Samaritan Care Shelter.
- from Alice at Hillcrest Pre-School: We are very grateful to you and the Pioneers. What a blessing you have been!!!!
- from Mrs. Hefflin at Spring Hill Elementary School: Thank you and the sponsors for the consideration and donation of the student dictionaries. The students in both reading and writing classes were extremely excited and thankful for the dictionaries and began perusing through them and using them during writing class.
-
- from Carolyn at St. Maria Goretti Parish: We are grateful to New Vision Pioneers for the hams and other accompaniments your organization provided toward our Easter meals to 27 families. A substantial donation that Donna and Phil Gallagher personally delivered to our location, making the donation even more helpful.
- from Charla at Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank: Thank you for your gift to Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. Your support allows us to provide food assistance to the families, children, and seniors in our region who need it most. Your generosity means our neighbors in need can worry less about putting food on the table and look forward to taking actions to stabilize their lives.
- from Christine at McKean County SPCA: We want you to know how grateful we are for the wonderful donation you made to our organization. The donation will go into the Shelter's spay and neuter program and will benefit several of our feline and canine residents. We thank you for caring about our agency.
- from Chris at Southwestern Veterans Center: Please extend a thank you to your Board. The Bingo parties and the monthly Birthday Cake is appreciated beyond words. Our Veterans look forward to the cake each month and it has become one of their favorite activities.

- from Sister Judith at Little Sisters of the Poor: Your generous donation reminds us daily of the sacrifices our benefactors make in order to support the mission of the Little Sisters of the Poor and bring peace to the lives of our Residents.
- from Craig at Life Of Life Rescue Mission: Your gift renews the most vulnerable citizens of Pittsburgh who come through our shelter, supplying so much more than healthy food and a warm bed. They offer a new chance at life through transitional housing, employment training and educational opportunities.
- from Rev. Mike at Shepherd's Heart Fellowship: On behalf of the congregation and staff of Shepherd's Heart Fellowship, I would like to sincerely thank you for your donations of food, blankets, blessing bags, coats, coffee products, cocoa, tea bags and beverage supplies. Our homeless veterans will be greatly blessed by these generous donations.
- from Robbin, teacher at Center Elementary School: Thank you so much for the wonderful school supplies your Chapter purchased for my first grade class room! That was very generous of your organization and they will all be put to good use!
- from Donna, President of West Virginia Chapter: Thank you so much for supporting the North Bend Sports Jamboree. We will be sending you a photograph of the contestant that your Chapter sponsored.

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



Thanks to those of you who responded to our previous ads in the Tele-All asking to stop your paper issue and receive the Tele-All in your email. There were about 30 members who responded and 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. We promise not to share your email address with anyone else! You can also view this issue and the Spring issue of the Tele-All on line at:

www.newvision-fortpittpioneers.org

Every little bit helps - thanks for your part!!

info@newvision-fortpittpioneers.org

Blessings in a Backpack

Feeding The Future Of America®



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 11 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, at Kelly School in Wilkinsburg on any Thursday, please contact Linda Lafferty at 412-327-9742.

Thank You!

Cancelled Stamp Collections

We continue to save cancelled stamps on behalf of the American Philatelic Society.



PLEASE NOTE that 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. No need to mail priority mail since we collect and fill boxes before we forward to the agency.

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!

Discounts available to Pioneer Members

Pioneer members have many benefits available to them! Maybe you have received an email or a flyer in the mail telling you of the benefits to our members, but here is a reminder of the Companies that offer discounts that our Headquarters have negotiated for us:



For additional information about the benefits the Companies listed above offer to Pioneers,

please visit the Member Benefits Center at www.pioneersvolunteer.org

\$\$ 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!



Internet Fund Raising

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 has 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!



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, Family Links and Jubilee Kitchen in Pittsburgh. We are no longer packing at the Verizon Garage in Monroeville and have moved the operation to Linda Schirano's home 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

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
Cancelled Stamps	Linda Schirano	412-373-0974
Homeless Projects/Box Top\$	Gerry McLaughlin	412-823-7777
PJ's & Toys for Patients	Bonnie Adams	412-731-1641
Western PA School for the Deaf /Pop Tabs /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
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

USED Greeting Cards Project has ENDED




We have recently learned that the St. Jude's Ranch for Children has terminated their program for recycling greeting card fronts. You may remember that we collected the card fronts so the students there could create a note card using parts of the card fronts.

Quite a few cards fronts are on hand, so we are attempting to develop a project for using the pretty illustrations on the cards for gift tags.

Until we decide what to do, please don't send any more card fronts to Olinda Schirano. Hopefully in the Spring issue we will have more information for you and perhaps an opportunity to help with our Fundraising by purchasing gift tags. Stay tuned!

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

20,883  ***that's***

how many VOLUNTEER HOURS we have accumulated up through June, 2017! That's 1,819 more hours than last year at this time.... WOW!!

Do you volunteer on a regular basis? Recycle cans or plastic, help maintain gardens, work at a school, hospital, daycare, senior home, etc. If so, we want to hear from you. Please let us know what you do in your volunteer time. We keep track of those hours and the number of people Pioneers touch on a quarterly/annual basis. Just drop me a note and I'll be sure to include your volunteer time!

Gerry McLaughlin

216 Ohio Street

Monroeville, PA 15146

Answering The Call Grant



Fort Pitt Chapter was the recipient of the Answering The Call Grant from Telecom Pioneers. The Grant theme was Jammie Time and/or Sock It To Me. Yvonne Klick from Meadville Club and Lynne Price our Member At Large volunteered to locate an organization that assisted children and would be in need of these items. It was also decided to include a book to go along with their PJ's to encourage the children to spend some time to read. Yvonne purchased 25 pairs of PJ's and 145 pairs of socks for Community Shelter Services in Erie for children ranging in age from 2 months old to 15 years old. The books she shared with the children were provided by a donation from Hooked On Books. Lynne purchased for the Braddock Free Store and provided them with 28 pairs of PJ's, 36 pairs of socks, 50 children's books and 85 pairs of children's underwear. The Braddock Free Store is a Redux products store found by Gisele Fetterman, wife of the Mayor of Braddock. They receive surplus and donated goods and redistribute to all neighbors in the area. Since our donation was made at the beginning of the school year, the founder of the Free Store in Braddock asked Lynne if we could provide backpacks and notebooks for the children, which she did along with basic school supplies. In all, 275 children were impacted with our donations. We did go slightly over budget on the Grant but were able to subsidize due to your donations received this year. Great use of these Grant Funds!

TELECOM PIONEERS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



Fort Pitt Chapter was the recipient of another Grant this year from the Telecom Pioneers Charitable Foundation. The theme for this Grant was aimed at our military. The Grant was split between Lynne Crick, Yvonne Klick and Gerry McLaughlin for military care package projects. Yvonne and Lynne purchased the needed products for groups who pack ongoing care packages through The Pittsburgh Inn & Vietnam Vets Post 52 Welcome Home Association in Meadville, PA. Gerry received a donation of 90 boxes of Girl Scout cookies from the Troop in Monroeville and along with the cookies packaged 28 care packages. 2 boxes for each soldier; one food box and one toiletry box. In addition to the Grant, Chapter matched some of the funds used for this project.

New Vision Pioneers
15 E. Montgomery Avenue, Floor 1
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Phone: 412-237-3206
Voice Mail: 412-237-3208
FAX: 412-231-2369

Email: ftpitt.pioneers@verizon.net

www.newvision-fortpittpioneers.org

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