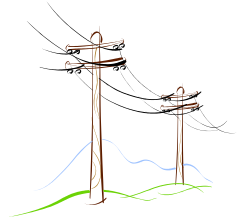


The Virginia Partyline



Old Dominion Chapter Pioneers
Richmond, VA (800) 423-3422

2011 3rd Quarter Issue

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VIRGINIA PIONEERS BOSTON-BOUND

November 2nd will find twelve Virginia Pioneers and five guests joining approximately 100,000 others in Boston for the Telephone Pioneer Centennial Celebration. During the historic event, the past will be recalled as delegates address the needs of the future and all will celebrate the rewards and fellowships that came by volunteering to make a difference throughout North America.

We are pleased to share that Old Dominion Chapter's "Operation Homefront Bedtime Stories" is one of many projects considered for national recognition. The winners will be announced during one of the Friday meetings. Later that evening we will applaud Jim Glass as he is inducted into the Pioneer Hall of Fame for 2011. Meetings, service projects and fellowship opportunities will continue throughout the weekend, closing with the centennial banquet on Saturday night.

Words cannot express the pride your board feels for the support and services you've provided to our communities during the past year. Our chapter is **very** much alive — active employees, life members and friends have joined together to address the needs of others. On behalf of the thousands that have been touched ...we thank you!

2011 HALL OF FAME WINNER

Jim Glass has always been a key person with the Talking Books Program and is now the National Coordinator for Talking Books. Jim also started "Special Games for Special People" when he was Chapter President, and continued helping with the program after the name was changed to "Sports Jamboree". Jim is a very sincere and hard working person with a passion to help people in need. Every Thursday, Jim opens up his home to any Pioneer that wants to help repair Talking Books. When Jim is not traveling with the Pioneers camping club, you can find him working on projects from collecting and reporting council hours to delivering dictionaries and books to schools and after school programs. Jim is also very active in the local Pioneer Roanoke council with the Valentines for Veterans. Jim is a true example of a Pioneer.



BLUE RIDGE NEWS

The council collected school supplies for the Tools for Schools Project at Industrial Drive between June 20th and July 22nd, and delivered them to the "Leaves for Learning Project in Culpeper.

Another Crabfeast was enjoyed by all on September 10th and plans are being made to paint maps at two Culpeper schools and distribute Scholastic books and dictionaries to area schools.

Apple butter will be made the first weekend in October — we will need lots of help with apples and kettle stirring. Call Robbin at (540) 270-1765 for more information.

November plans include a Thanksgiving dinner at the Senior Center in Manassas — lots of serving help will be needed.. For times and dates, contact Marie Robinson at (703) 368-5563.

On December 3rd, we will have a Christmas breakfast in Culpeper at The Best Western. Please call Robbin if you plan to attend.

The Blue Ridge Council meets twice each month. The 1st Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. at Fauquier Springs Country Club in Warrenton. The 3rd Thursday of each month we meet in Manassas at 6:00 p.m. at the Great American Buffet in the Manaport Shopping Center. We'll be looking for you!

—Robbin Willis, President
rowil54@verizon.net

MESSAGE FROM JIM SCHMIT

I am pleased to announce that the Board of Directors has asked Carey Wirtzfeld to serve as the President and CEO of the Pioneers, effective June 17, 2011.

Carey has served in this role in an interim capacity since October of 2010. She comes to the Pioneers from Qwest Communications, where she served as Director of Corporate Social Responsibility and the Qwest Foundation. Carey has worked with the Pioneers since 1998, serving as Group Vice President for US WEST and Qwest from 1998 to 2004, and as a Pioneer Advisory Board member from 2009 to 2011.

—Jim Schmidt
Chairman of the Board

LYNCHBURG NEWS

Ongoing projects have included food donations to The Salvation Army, hosting monthly bingo games for Carrington House residents, the collection of used eyeglasses and hearing aids for recycling by the Lions, collecting can tabs for Roanoke's Ronald McDonald House, toiletries and cell phones for Lynchburg and Bedford violence centers, and the collection and delivery of used clothes to the annual RAM event in Norton, Virginia. Chapter projects included the purchase and planting of four crepe myrtle trees for Earth Day and the donation of 466 school supplies to Body Camp Elementary School for the Tools for Schools Project. Financial council support included the first Lynchburg Mended Hearts Golf Tournament, sharing the cost with Roanoke Council to repair a wheelchair swing at Camp Jaycees, and the purchase of 39 winter coats for students attending Body Camp Elementary School.

Thanks are extended to the area's Ruritan Clubs for helping purchase and deliver an estimated 2,500 dictionaries and thesauruses this year. A second big "Thank You" is to Verizon and the Chapter for the \$1,000 grant donated to The Jubilee Center to fund programs for at-risk inner-city children and families and another \$350 toward our \$500 pledge to The Children's Miracle Network for the new pediatric ward at Lynchburg General Hospital.

Four new members joined our council during the past year, and the passing of James Adams, Earl Almond, Mildred (Mickey) Hayes, James Hughes, Jr., Walter Kelley, Jr., Marie Lane, Mattie Meador, and Hortense Mitchell reminded us that Pioneer fellowship opportunities generate many happy memories. We are blessed.

—Beverly O'Brien, President
bo929@verizon.net



Lynchburg Earth Day Crepe Myrtle tree plantings
(l to r) Elaine Calloway, Parks Department employee,
Beverly O'Brien, Trish O'Brien, and Ray Mueller

PENINSULA NEWS

During our first quarter, we had two excellent speakers. Delegate Glenn Oder covered changes made at the General Assembly this year and Laura Barnes, Area Manager of Eastern Virginia External Affairs, covered items of interest in the company. All appreciated the information shared.

At our April meeting, 14 of our past presidents were recognized. Also during the month, we partnered with the City of Hampton for clean-up and Earth Day. Thanks to Dorothy Croslin for handling this project.

Our annual picnic was held on May 16 with over 50 Pioneers participating. Fellowship, good food and bingo was enjoyed by all. Hats off to Ed Lyon and Penn Snapp, and a big thanks to Clarice Troutman for all her work making our picnic a huge success!

We will deliver over 1,500 dictionaries to all 17 elementary schools in York and Gloucester counties during September and October and help the Hampton Fiber Solution Center with Tools for Schools. Once again, we plan to support Operation Homefront by stuffing backpacks for military children.

We continue to volunteer at schools, Meals on Wheels, Salvation Army, hospitals, convalescent centers, and the Virginia Living Museum. Food collections continue for local food banks, eye glasses/cases are accepted for the Lions, and magazines, Campbell soup labels and Farm Fresh tapes are received for ongoing school projects.

A domestic violence project is planned for October; Thanksgiving baskets will be prepared for shut-ins during November, and Salvation Army bells will ring on December 3rd. Three fundraisers are planned for this fall: a jewelry sale, a bakeless bake sale, and the Human Race.

Congratulations are extended to Bob and Dot Tolbert for their 65th wedding anniversary recently celebrated. Both have served our council in many capacities and remain active members. Thanks also to the council officers and fellow Pioneers for their continued support

Planned meetings are as follows:

- Oct. 17—Installation of officers
- Nov 21—Fun hour of Bingo
- Dec. 10—Christmas breakfast at 8:30 am

—Jim Bradsher, President
2deluxe@verizon.net

RICHMOND NEWS

Richmond Council is closing in on our “100 Projects for the 100th anniversary” and may even complete a few extra projects by the end of September. Madeline’s House received a pickup load of paper towels and other essentials for this vital domestic violence shelter in late May. June saw a donation of sunscreen and bug spray to Comfort Zone Camp. Of course, the Dictionary project is going strong and our partnership with many Ruritan clubs added several new schools in North Carolina this past school year. We continue our JA bowling fundraiser in partnership with Connects Federal Credit Union each March and collect for the Salvation Army Shoe Fund. January and February saw many paper goods and toiletries donated to Freedom House, while the YWCA’s domestic violence shelters received toiletries for “Showers for Shelters.” We participated in Verizon’s “Tools for School’s” campaign and delivered nearly 1,000 items to local schools. Spike and Virginia Dressler continue our magazine collection and distribution to hospitals and nursing homes, while our intrepid volunteers at the Library for the Visually Handicapped make sure the Talking Book machines are kept in good repair and the books themselves are received, sorted and shelved. These volunteer hours save the Library of Congress millions of dollars each year in maintenance costs.

The monthly lunches are the third Thursday each month from September through June. Barbara Doult handles reservations and can be reached at (804) 276-0953. The lunches are now held at the Holiday Inn Crossroads on Staples Mill Road, with social hour from 10-11 a.m., meeting at 11 a.m., then speaker or bingo (which everyone enjoys) until lunch at Noon.

Remember, you don’t have to be a Pioneer to participate in our lunches or projects. Please contact me at (804) 745-0162 or Frances Fowler (804) 730-3660 for further information.

—Jan Belote, President
flysis44@verizon.net

Did You Know...that the chapter collected and donated over 30 boxes of used books to the “Books Behind Bars” program serving incarcerated men and women in Virginia prisons ?

[facebook](#)

You can never have too many friends. Please “befriend” us to keep up with the happenings of the Verizon Old Dominion Chapter Pioneers.

ROANOKE NEWS

During January, food items were donated to The Samaritan Inn to feed homeless families.

In February, Pioneers held our annual valentine's party for veterans at the VA hospital. This year, breakfast foods were brought in and valentines made by Westend and Stewartsville Elementary schools were distributed.

Members volunteered during June for the Salem Cancer Relay for Life; Lois Tarter coordinated a repainting of the U.S. map at Westend Elementary; and a picnic and short meeting was enjoyed at Salem's Longwood Park. Health items received at the picnic were later made into 26 health kits by Jim and Beverly Glass and donated to our local Red Cross.

During a two-week period in July, Pioneers supported the Verizon Tools for Schools campaign by donating school supplies.

Our council continues to donate dictionaries to third grade students in Roanoke and Botetourt Counties. Thanks are given to Jim Glass and Ed Wright for delivering them! We sponsored a child at the West Virginia International Sports Jamboree, and joined with the Lynchburg Council to donate funds to Camp Jaycees for the repair of a wheelchair swing (home of earlier Virginia Sports Jamboree events).

We are very pleased that the 2011 Chapter Hall of Fame winner is our very own Jim Glass! Jim is a past chapter and council president, and remains active in numerous Pioneer projects. Those able to help with the repair and maintenance of Talking Books are welcomed into Jim's home every Thursday.

Roanoke council is alive and busy! Anyone wishing information about our activities and scheduled meetings is encouraged to call me at (540) 366-3951.

—Kathleen Clyburn
 Kathleenclyburn@yahoo.com



60 retired Verizon operators met for their 22nd reunion on June 23rd at the Roanoker Restaurant for lunch. Linda Dudley and Kathleen Clyburn gave an overview of Pioneering, encouraging participation in planned activities. Stories were shared and a lot of laughter rang through the room. Thanks to Margaret Murphy for planning the fun-filled reunion!

PIONEERS TELL AMY'S STORY

Pioneer councils throughout the nation are telling Amy's story of domestic abuse by the presentation of a film funded by Verizon in support of the Verizon Foundation's main domestic violence focus.

Presentations are being coordinated all through Virginia with churches, schools and non-profit organizations. Spokespersons from local domestic violence centers often are present to discuss the affect domestic abuse has on the victim and family and to point out signs that might be overlooked until a crisis develops. Support groups, emergency shelters and programs such as this are just a few ways we and others can provide support within our communities.

Those interested in sharing Amy's Story or seeking more domestic violence support information are encouraged to call the Pioneer toll-free number at (800) 423-3422 or e-mailing Linda Dudley, Pioneer Office Manager at lwd547@verizon.net.



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