

Omaha Pioneers



Nov. 2008
Volume 2 Issue 4

Pioneer Press

PIONEERING OUR NEXT CENTURY OF SERVICE

Pioneers have accomplished great things in our first 97 years. As our Centennial approaches in 2011, valuable feedback from Regular Members, Life Members, and prospective members gives us reason to look ahead with excitement as we refresh and revitalize our image and undertake a renewed approach to the important work we

do in our communities.

As we look to the next 10, 20, and yes, the next 100 years, we must ask ourselves: "What will future generations seek in a volunteer organization?" Results of recent membership surveys have already provided some answers.

While remaining steadfast to our mission of making our communities better places to live and work, our volunteers look to the future and see a need for projects and timelines that facilitate family involvement. They envision a pace of

life that facilitates family involvement, life even more demanding than today's and see opportunities in one-day projects that will enable them to make a difference more quickly and easily.

Providing families with the opportunity to volunteer together is a great way to reinforce our ranks, engage the next generation of Pioneers, and ensure our organization is vibrant and well prepared for a demanding future. The Pioneers' next century of community service hold unlimited possibilities!

Letter from the Vice President

Dear New Outlook Pioneer,

Since many of you have heard about a possible name and/or logo change, I thought this would be a good time and place to address the issue. The TelecomPioneers Board of Directors is considering making these changes to energize and refresh the public image of our organization as we prepare to celebrate our 100th anniversary in 2011.

We all recognize the need to engage new members and families to continue to grow and maintain the level of work that we provide to our communities. While the organization will remain TelecomPioneers,

we are considering changes to the individual Group names. For example, we would be known as: New Outlook Pioneers ... a Volunteer Network.

The potential logo change will be a vibrant, eye-catching, and exciting image to represent your unlimited energy and far-reaching impact.

As you begin to see these images in varied uses, I ask you to remain open minded, and consider how this may be a positive step for our future.

Yours in Pioneering,
**Dan Katze, Vice President,
New Outlook Pioneers**

COMING SOON:

Your 2009 Pioneer Card



Your 2009 Pioneer Card will be mailed between November 2008 and January 2009. Be sure to carry it with pride!



The Presidents Message

What a fantastic response to our September luncheon, over 168 came out

for such a good day of fun and friendship with a few extra surprises thrown in for good measure.

Thanks to Bob Kemp and his coordinator (Kathy Byrnes of Prevent Blindness Nebraska). It has brought much gladness that the Pioneers here in Omaha can support this group with the equipment we purchased for their use to screen children's eyesight.

A special appearance was made by Dan Katze (Region Vice President) from our Denver Pioneer headquarters. Dan shared his enthusiasm for the Pioneers, and what their possible future marketing plans and logo change will most likely be in store for the Pioneers in 2009.

As usual, we had our "old photos" table, and this will continue until we run out of the old photographs. There will be

some more "old photos" from past Pioneer events held at the plant for you to search through again.

I wish to thank Doug Thoms and Gordy Viner for volunteering to chair the last luncheon. This gave a much needed rest to Judy Coffey. I know Doug really enjoyed sharing Gordy's idea of the coffee cups with the new "Pioneer" logo. Judy will be in charge of the December luncheon. Look for the flyer here in the newsletter.

There might be a few cups left over if you wish to donate to procure the last ones we have, if needed, see me (Steve Miller) about them.

We have the election results for the new board, and all that were nominated on the ballot were re-elected. We do have one change, in that Doug Thoms has decided to retire from his position as Life member representative; however we have found a former member of the Heartland Pioneers, Marcy Dergan, who will fill Doug's position for 2009. Gordy has also resigned as web-master and editor of the newsletter.

We are now looking for someone to fill the position of Communications chair.

The board will meet in the next month or two to decide the directions for 2009. As always, your input is welcome to any board member for ideas and enhancements to our volunteer organization.

Serving as president for this past year has been fun and a challenge. I've been blessed in every group I got involved with to serve as president. I hope I left some positive results or ideas for the next president and the board to consider for 2009.

And please take notice at the next Life Member Luncheon the volunteers who are searching for more volunteers, be it Hug A Bears, Maps (Electronic and Painted), Project Connect, Hooks and Needles, and our special groups for the fall, winter of Adopt a Family, Bell Ringers, etc. We need your support to keep our name in the community eye.



Bell Ringers Needed

The Heartland Council Pioneers are ringing bells at only one store this year. If you can help out, it would be appreciated very much by all. Bell ringing will be done on Saturdays December 6, 13 and 20th from 8:00am to 8:00pm at:

Where: Sam's Club
13131 "L" Street

Times: 10 am to Noon
12 to 2 pm
2 to 4 pm
4 to 6 pm
6 to 8 pm

All shifts are for two hours, but we can make special arrangements when necessary. **The contacts to call are:**
Dick Maxwell 572-8474 Bill Peters 345-1812

Christmas Pioneer Luncheon



WESTSIDE COMMUNITY
CONFERENCE CENTER
3534 SOUTH 108TH ST.
OMAHA, NE 68144

Tues. December 16, 2008

DOORS OPEN 10:30 A.M.
PROGRAM 11:00 A.M.
LUNCH 11:30 A.M.

MENU

SWISS STEAK

Salad and Dinner Roll
Oven Baked Potatoes
Corn Casserole
Special Holiday Dessert
Coffee/Tea

or

Baked Halibut

(In an onion, sour cream &
bread crumb crust)
Salad and Dinner Roll
Rice
Corn Casserole
Special Holiday Dessert
Coffee/Tea

SEND CHECKS TO:

HEARTLAND PIONEERS

% JUDY COFFEY
P.O. 541233
OMAHA, NE 68154

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO HEARTLAND PIONEERS

Deadline for reservations is December 9, 2008

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PLEASE RESERVE _____ SEATS AT THE CHRISTMAS LIFE MEMBER LUNCHEON
STEAK _____ @ \$12.50 EACH HALIBUT _____ @ \$12.50 EACH
NAME _____ TELEPHONE NO. _____
GUEST(S) _____

SORRY, NO PAYMENT WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE DOOR

LIFE MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE - JUDY COFFEY 496-7734

**REMEMBER. \$5 FOR THE 2009 PIONEER NEWSLETTER IS DUE IN
DECEMBER. PLEASE INCLUDE WITH YOUR LUNCH RESERVATION.**

**Heartland Council
Postage Fee**

The Heartland Council no longer receives any financial assistance from a sponsoring company and has been unable to collect dues through payroll deduction since pre-2000.

The Council is also absorbing mailing and printing costs as well. The Pioneer board has elected to request a \$5/year fee to cover the associated costs with the newsletter and flyers, if you wish to have them mailed to you. This fee will be collected every December beginning in 2007.

If you want to continue receiving a newsletter please send a check payable to the Heartland Council before Dec. 15, 2008. Our address is:

Heartland Council
PO Box 541233
Omaha, NE 68154

or you may bring it to the Winter luncheon on Dec. 16th.

If you choose not to have a newsletter sent to you, all Pioneer events and news are available on the Heartland Council web site at www.heartlandpioneers.com. Or, the newsletter can be e-mailed to you if you provide us with your e-mail address.

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I want to receive the Pioneer newsletter in the mail. Enclosed is a check payable to the Heartland Pioneers for \$5. Send newsletter to the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State & Zip: _____

I want to receive the Pioneer newsletter by e-mail. My e-mail address is: Email Address: _____

Name: _____

Project Connect Update

Heartland Council prides itself on having one of the largest Project Connect communities within all of TelecomPioneers. With the intent of growing even larger Ray Fugger and Jerry and Betty Golmanavich set up a table at the Nebraska Association of Teachers of Science Conference at Camp Calvin Crest from October 8-10.

In addition, Jerry and Betty traveled to Des Moines to recruit more subscribers at the Iowa Science Teachers Society Conference on October 23rd in Des Moines. I believe by any measure these trips would be considered as successful.



Betty at Des Moines

In Nebraska we added 20 more subscribers to Project Connect and Des Moines we have 19 with a few more possible. Right now our local contest is underway, ending the first part of December.

We will be giving away several Fly Fusions! Project Connect is a series of seven computer games played on the internet that teach telecommunications. For additional information, please visit www.heartlandpioneers.com or www.telecompioneers.org and follow the Project link.

Hooks n Needles



Elaine Hobbs

Elaine Hobbs, chairlady, reports that the group has had another very successful year. They held a garage sale this past summer and have had three drawings this past year at the LML's to raise money to buy the yarn that they use. Elaine reports that shortly after Thanksgiving they will gather all the knitted hats, gloves, scarves, lap robes and blankets that they have made this past year to be delivered to the needy of our community. Elaine and the committee want to wish you all "Happy Holidays" again this year. She also says join the pioneers and join the knitting group.

How to begin Pioneering MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT:

Name: _____

Company: - _____

Company Address: _____

City: _____

State/Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Country: _____

Chapter (if known): _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____

State/Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Country: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____

Family Membership Information

Name of Spouse/Partner: _____

Name(s) and Birthdate(s) of children:

**ANNUAL DUES: \$15 for an Individual
\$25 for Families**

Project Connect Fall 08



Mrs. Lee Brogie & Nicole Craft

Jerry writes that below you can find the write-up by Lee Brogie, a teacher from Wayne Nebraska Middle School regarding Nicole Craft, who won the local contest in the International TelecomPioneer Project Connect Contest (photo attached). Monday we will find out if she has advanced even further in the International Contest.

The Wayne Middle School Science Club is pleased to announce that 5th grade student Nicole Craft will be representing the state of Nebraska in the Project Connect 2008 October Madness Tournament. Nicole participated in 4 Project Connect games and earned the most points for the state. Beginning in November, Nicole will be playing against students from other states in a nationwide competition.

This tournament is being hosted by the Wayne Middle School Science Club, the Heartland Council of Telecompioneers (Omaha, Nebraska) and the National Org. of Telecompioneers. They are an organization consisting of current and retired telecommunications employees. One aspect of their volunteer efforts was creating a series of computer games (Project Connect) that are designed to teach students about Telecommunications technology.

Blood Drive

We still continue to have our quarterly Bloodmobile at CSMI. The blood drive headed by Dick and Cathy Maxwell invite you to come on by and donate any time. They are still held on scheduled Fridays in the auditorium.

All retirees that would like to donate are encouraged to contact Connie Carlson at 691-4954 or at CCarlson@csmfg.com to set up an appointment. Please try and set one up before coming in if at all possible. The entrance is now what was the ETOP entrance on the East side of the cafeteria.

At the last blood drive at the plant on Friday the 3rd of October there were 52 donors: 34 CSMI-Comscope, 14 Netshops and 4 retirees. 45 pints were collected towards the goal of 50.

NEXT YEARS' blood drives will be Friday mornings on January 30, May 8, August 7 and one more during the fourth quarter. Steve or security at the new front lobby will let you pass to the blood drive.

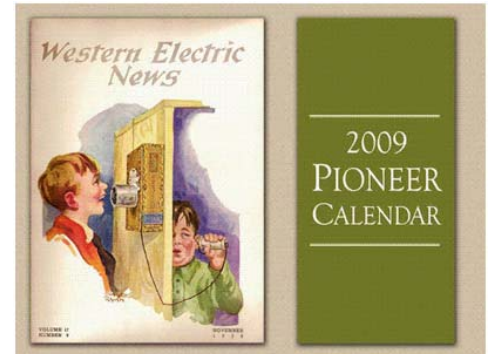
Cathy and Dick Maxwell



Editor's message:

After some 25 plus years of doing volunteer work with the pioneers and holding various chair positions, treasurer and president in the 1997 – 1998 pioneer year the time has come for me to retire. With that this will be my last newsletter. I have enjoyed all the pioneer friends I have made over the years. Gordy

Western Electric Calendar



ORDER YOUR 2009 PIONEER CALENDAR TODAY

At just \$10 (including shipping and handling) and with the holiday season just around the corner, the Pioneer Calendar makes a great gift for family and friends so why not purchase more than one!

Purchase your 2009 Pioneer Calendar for only \$10 today! Don't miss your opportunity to own and enjoy this calendar that celebrates the legacy of the telecommunications industry while supporting Pioneers making a difference!

The 2009 limited edition Pioneer Calendar features full-color images of telecommunications' magazine covers from the archives, and is brimming with Pioneering information and photos of Pioneers in action. CALL: 1-877-619-5276 or VISIT www.telecompioneers.org/calendar TO ORDER TODAY! Payment options include Visa, MasterCard and AMEX.

**TelecomPioneers
Heartland Council
P.O.Box 541233
Omaha,NE 68154**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #736
Omaha, NE

Heartland Pioneers

In Memoriam of those in the
second quarter 2008

**Kathleen M. Schutte
Donna R. (Matras) Nielsen
Egon Viola
Patricia Bowden Kratina
Richard D. Edgman
Ansel F. Andersen
Waldo Nels Holm
Gaeton A. Godios
Patricia A.(Sudyka)Pinhero
Barbara Jean Lewis Petty
Wanda Beth Beebee
Bernard Borg
Irene C. Spain
Eugene H. Valenta
Hamilton Max Strong
Richard Christensen**

The full obituaries are
listed on our website at
www.heartlandpioneers.com

Last Frame



Reaching Out

Within the Heartland Council there are many interconnections. To a great extent these are the links that lead to accomplishing the tasks at hand. For the most part it works great!

Have you ever thought to ask a friend or family member to join the Heartland Council? Membership is still open through 2009. There are very few rules except if the "new member" is retired, after two years of paying dues, one becomes a Life Member and doesn't have to pay anymore. I believe it is STILL a privilege to explain to people that "I am a Pioneer" and I often find people, even from our brothers and sisters in the Qwest group, that have fallen out of the mainstream of activity. There are many areas of activity and it's realistic that maybe you can find a project to help our community and have fun with your family at the same time. What could be better than that?

Perhaps our best selling tool is our website showing a complete list of what's happening in the Heartland Council. It also shows the camaraderie of folks at our luncheons- and you'll find photos of your fellow Pioneers in action. As the better weather season sort of winds down, the colder weather identifies the needs that show up annually - and never seem to go away.

lonely people may not have the "warm fuzzies" for the Holiday season because of misfortunes in their lives. In these trying times we must think about digging deeper to help. If there's no financial means to enact the small miracles that make people smile, perhaps it's an opportunity to spend some time "out there" and reach out to your neighbors that need help.

I realize that times are tough even for many whose careers within the old Bell System have led to rich lives. Somehow we still find people who are struggling through no fault of their own. Here are some options:

1. Find a kettle - or ring a bell
2. Donate some foodstuffs - or deliver a turkey dinner

3. Adopt a family financially - or answer phones or carry papers at the Salvation Army

These needs are temporarily met, and then the world goes back to its normal operation. Your committee Chairmen meet once per month to share their successes and identify more needs. If you're looking to do some good works now is a good time. We can tell you about the opportunities. If you want to join the fun, feel free. If you would like to include your family, they are always welcome. If they would like to join the Heartland Council there is a link to our membership application on our website, www.heartlandpioneers.com- or you can contact our President. Why not consider giving a membership as a gift this year- or just making a donation to us? It might just be that your gift may turn into some Hug-a-Bears or hats, scarves or mittens to keep someone warm this winter!