

In Attendance: President – Jan Swenson

Sheryl Wold	Mavis Hjulberg	Kathy Hanson	Vollie Sanders
Betty Sanders	Paula Trapp	John Stanoch	LuAnn Chambliss
Al Barthel	Carol Barthel	Joe Swenson	Sally Bolster
Gloria Berger	Dave Massman	Jack Wilson	Pat Jeukens
Mary Ann Neuman	Sue Reiling		

Jan called the meeting to order at 9:10 A.M. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and observing a moment of silence in memory of those we have lost since our last meeting.

**Guest speakers from the TelecomPioneers, Pioneer Accounting Center, and Wells Fargo were introduced.**

Nancy Jo Houk, Vice President of Development, with the TelecomPioneer Association Team, passed a handout that outlined the background of the TelecomPioneers becoming a public charity. She made the distinction between what we were required to do as a 501 C10 up to 2002 and what we are currently required to do as a 501 C3. She highlighted the benefit to our contributors and sponsors of now being able to take a tax deduction. Nancy also made a point of explaining that many changes have occurred in the regulation of public charities in the wake of 9/11 and other mishandling of charities that brings us to the need to merge our financial practices into one. By making this change, we are able to meet the auditing requirements for our 501 C3 status.

Nancy brought our focus to the partnerships we have established; with US Bank, who replaces MBNA in offering our Pioneer credit card; with Pioneers Banking Center, who provides a private label brand of banking services provided by Affinity Financial Corporation and Sky Bank for individual personal banking and commercial chapter banking; with Liberty Mutual, whose products include home, auto and other insurance policies; and with Wells Fargo Home Mortgage/Pioneers Home Financing Program, who offer purchase and refinance loans, home equity loans and lines of credit, reverse mortgages along with financing for second homes and investment properties.

Nancy introduced us to **Kristine Connett from Wells Fargo**. Kristine is an Account Manager for Wells Fargo Home Mortgage here in Minneapolis.

Kristine commented on the shared values of Wells Fargo and the Pioneers by highlighting our similar commitment to our communities, being responsible corporate citizens, volunteerism and integrity. The points of interest also included many solutions for the purchase and refinance of a home to reverse mortgage for seniors with many options in between. Wells Fargo offers competitive rates and fees, convenient locations for closings and convenient payment options. Kristine also talked about the “Sharing Advantage Program”. How this works is when Pioneers who purchase or refinance a home through the Pioneers Home Financing Program they can direct Wells Fargo Home Mortgage to contribute \$300 in their name, to a non-profit organization, public school, faith-based organization or 501(c) (3) qualified charity of their choice. Kristine emphasized that although the Pioneers can be chosen by our members to receive this contribution, we are unable to advertise or steer our members to make the contribution to the Pioneers.

Kristine gave us information on how we can further benefit from our partnership with Wells Fargo. She gave us who to contact at the Wells Fargo Foundation to apply for funding.

Carolyn Roby  
Wells Fargo Foundation Minnesota  
6<sup>th</sup> & Marquette – N9305-192  
Minneapolis, MN 55479

You can call the Wells Fargo Foundation with questions at: 612/667-7860.

The Wells Fargo Housing Foundation was established as a partnership with local and national nonprofit housing organizations that have the ability to create opportunities for homeownership to low to moderate income families. To submit a proposal for these funds we should work with:

Avni Pandya, Community Support Representative  
Wells Fargo Housing Foundation, MAC N9305-192  
90 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55479

You can call with questions to: 612/667-5131

We would need to download and print the “Guidelines for Giving Proposal Checklist found on [www.wellsfargo.com](http://www.wellsfargo.com) and submit our proposals in duplicate accompanied by the proposal checklist.

The Pioneer Home Financing Program, exclusively for TelecomPioneer members, family and friends can be accessed online at: [www.telecompioneers.org/members/pioneerhomefinancingprogram.asp](http://www.telecompioneers.org/members/pioneerhomefinancingprogram.asp) or call toll-free 1-866-262-1505

Kristine also shared a handout about educating kids, teens, young adults and adults in how to be a better money manager. This program is a free public service and is a financial literacy program that contains no commercial content.

In closing, Kristine wanted to stress that anyone wishing to contact Wells Fargo and participate in the opportunities this partnership offers, should begin the process with a call to the 800 # or visit the website. Once this is done, our members will be protected from cross selling of products, such as credit cards.

Nancy Jo introduced **Sherrie Fuller from the Pioneer Accounting Center** in Dallas, who spoke about specific requirements for the handling of vouchers and checks. She detailed the need for each council and the chapter to write letters authorizing the addition of 2 new signers onto each account so that bills can be paid by the Pioneer Accounting Center. Sherrie was able to answer questions raised by the various leaders and their treasurers. She was able to further explain that our options would be to find a centrally located bank here in Minnesota for everyone to combine their accounts into or to turn everything over to the Pioneer Accounting Center now. By doing this, we are eliminating fees involved with transferring funds and electronic check and it also allows us to earn dividends on our balances. After Sherrie was able to satisfy everyone's questions, there was a **MOTION** by Dave Massman to move all accounts to the Pioneer Accounting Center. Seconded by Vollie Sanders. **Motion approved.**

Everyone was given the opportunity to apply for the new US Bank Pioneer Credit Card. When all the applications were received, Nancy Jo drew MaryAnn Neuman's name to win a \$50 gift card. Gloria Berger's name was drawn for a Wells Fargo bank. Each person that applied also received a TelecomPioneer T shirt.

Sherrie met with each of the council treasurers and presidents and the chapter treasurer to collect checkbooks, bank statements and additional information required for the transfer of responsibility to the PAC.

#### **John Stanoch – Qwest Management Liaison**

John brought us the news that Qwest was pursuing the rights to provide the official voice and data needs for the upcoming Republican Convention. He said Qwest will be working with the Pioneers to provide volunteers for informational kiosks at the convention, airport, hotels, etc. There is some discussion about using the St. Paul Pioneer Museum as a space for meetings and he will be looking for someone to represent the Pioneers in the renovations to the space and updating of the displays.

John thanked everyone for their continued involvement with the Pioneers with a special thanks to Mary Ann for her kind words to Dick Notebart on his behalf. He talked about the Beep Easter Egg hunt and the success even though it was so cold and suggested that if we should have the opportunity to do this event in the future, we might plan for an alternative indoor site as our weather can be unpredictable so early in the spring.

It was discussed last month that Gary would contact John about having some support from Qwest in the form of shirts for the riders in the MS Tram. Carol Barthel said she would work directly with John on the issue for the future as it may be too late for this year.

There was some discussion about the opening of a Qwest merchandise store and that there would be an opportunity for the Pioneers to have a presence in the store.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

A **MOTION** was made by Vollie Sanders and seconded by Gloria Berger to accept the minutes from our 1<sup>st</sup> quarter meeting in March as written. **Motion approved.**

#### **Treasurer's report**

A **MOTION** was made by Mary Ann Neuman and seconded by Vollie Sanders to accept the treasurer's reports. **Motion approved.**

Committee Reports were submitted in writing to be included in the minutes. Jan asked if anyone had anything they felt was important to highlight. Sheryl Wold took the opportunity to remind everyone that any submission for awards should be done as soon as possible to allow time to gather all the requirements to meet the October deadline. Pat Jeukens wanted to highlight the fact that the Metro Council raised \$405 toward the costs of the Beep Easter Egg hunt and was able to give \$276.50 to the Chapter after expenses. Jan mentioned that due to the response from an email request she had made concerning the Qwest banners, she purchased both. Carol Barthel said we should look at the Pioneer website to see the distribution of donations to the MS Tram riders.

#### **Committee Reports**

**Awards** - If any of the Councils have completed a project that they would like to submit for an award I would like that information now instead of waiting until September. The award process takes quite a bit of time and if you get the information to me now it will give me sufficient time to fill out all the paperwork. I will be out of town most of September so **PLEASE** get any award material in to me quickly. This could be any project that took place after October 1, 2006.

Please see me if you have any questions or need a copy of the Awards Program.

Submitted by: Sheryl Wold

**Calendar fundraiser** – The permit numbers for the 2008 Caring and Sharing Calendars have been received from the Minnesota State Gambling Control Board. Revisions to the calendar have been made and will be forwarded to Johnson Printing this month. There will be 1800 calendars printed with and anticipated delivery date of September 1, 2007. Distribution will be made at the September 21<sup>st</sup> Chapter meeting.

The next drawing will be August 17, 2007 4:00 P.M. at 6540 Shingle Creek Parkway, Brooklyn Center, MN.

Submitted by: Mavis Hjulberg

**Camporee** - During this quarter we took possession of the remaining “Telephone Trivia” games, with the assistance of Pat Jeukens, which we will use as handouts at the International Rally in August 2007.

We had our Spring Campout at the South Isle Family Campground in Isle, Minnesota May 18, 19 and 20. There were 39 members and guests attending and 8 of those stayed at local motels.

We continue to work our plans and preparations for the 2007 International Rally the Minnesota chapter is hosting.

Our Camper group is also planning a celebration at the conclusion of the Rally to commemorate our 30 year anniversary.

Submitted by: Kathy Hanson, Wagonmaster

**2007 International Rally** - As of today we have 208 campers pre-registered and 76 who have submitted their final registration and paid the associated fees. Vollie Sanders has volunteers to be the volunteer coordinator for the set up and 1<sup>st</sup> 3 days of the rally. Members of the 10,000 Lakes Family Campers will be in Forest City on Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup> to start setup. The report also included a list of volunteer opportunities for the rally.

Submitted by: Dave Hemmer

**Community Service** - The councils and clubs continue to do their community service projects. Betty and I still feel that these are best planned and implemented by the councils and clubs. We have not been very active this quarter as we have been out of the state and country. As before, we hope to support the presidents and councils with any road blocks or issues they may have.

Submitted by: Vollie and Betty Sanders

**Cookbooks** – The move of books from St. Paul will happen later. The Republican Convention will occupy Qwest space so when setting up for that all our books will be moved over. I mail cookbooks pretty much every week and had just sent 3 boxes to Moorehead.

**Scholarships** – There were 12 entries but 2 not complete. This years winners were: Nathan Tysk of Inver Grove Heights; Atinuke Akindumila of Brooklyn Center; Cassandra Gonzales of Blaine; and Jaimie Barnes of Corcoran.

Submitted by: Paula Trapp

**E-Z Help Qwest** Pioneers 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter Chapter project report EZ Help 911 Cell Phones for Seniors project

Gave total 140 911 cell phones to Anoka County in May

Gave total 55 cell phones to White Bear Lake

Gave 40 cell phones to the City of Bloomington in May

Nice write up in the Pioneer regional newsletter

Have 2 groups in the Minneapolis area that have shown interest and 1 group in St Paul, but I am waiting until I've recovered from surgery to pursue these groups

Thank you, Gary Greb EZ Help Chapter Chairperson

**Life Members** – Since our last meeting, Sally attended the Spring Fling in St. Cloud on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Also, Mavis and Sally regularly attend the Metro Council meetings and the Metro Life Member Club meetings.

Submitted by: Sally Bolster and Mavis Hjulberg

**Membership** – no activity – no report

**MS Tram** - MS Bike Tours report – June 15, 2007 “Qwest for the Cure”

MS TRAM July 22 – 27

This year the TRAM will start in Walker, MN and travel to Park Rapids. 2 nights will be spent in Park Rapids. The Tour will then head to Wadena, Fergus Falls, and ends in Alexandria. This should be a really nice area and I am looking forward to camping and following the TRAM.

Minnesota Chapter and The 10,000 Lakes Family Campers will again manage the operation of Rest Stop #3 on each day of the TRAM. So far I have 8 couples and 3 singles signed up to work all week. There are another 3 couples and one single who will work 2 days.

Carol and Al Barthel proposed at the December Chapter meeting for donation from the Chapter of \$1,000. Barthel's visited Arrowhead council and requested donations toward Arrowhead Pioneer and Qwest for the Cure team rider Russ Urevig. Barthel's plan to attend each Council's meeting to solicit pledges. If the Council has a team rider their pledge would go to their rider. Other wise the pledge can be designated to a rider or divided up between all the team riders. Barthel's did attend Lakes Council and they pledged \$300.00. The Pioneer Store pledged \$1000.00 towards the TRAM and Al divided that up with all the riders and sent it in last week. Since then we have another rider. So far we have \$2,423.00. On June 20 Al and Carol are going to the Western Plains meeting in Willmar. I sent a letter to Chuck Hecht ahead of time about pledging for the TRAM. Carol has solicited the Little Falls legion and VFW and we heard back from the VFW and they pledged \$25.00.

The jerseys didn't fly. Maybe needed more time? Al did write something up for Gary Greb for the state connection and he offered to write something up for Peter Redwine who said he would work on funding for the jerseys. Not sure if he took what Al wrote from the state connection but when I asked he said we didn't get the funding. Will try again for next year. It would have been 6 jerseys at \$55.00 a jersey.

Submitted by Dave Hemmer, and Carol & Al Barthel MS-Bike Tour Co-Chairpersons

**Participation** - PARTICIPATON JUNE 15,2007

Hours for January are 2,981

Hours for February are 2,332

Hours for March are 2,806

Hours for April are 5,792

So from Jan thru April the hours are 13,911

Still am not receiving any hours from Western Plains. There next meeting will be June 20, 2007 in Willmar so will mention how important it is to turn in there hours.

There was a Veterans Turkey Hunt at Camp Ripley and there were Pioneers that helped out with that and so I received those hours from Denny Houg.

Submitted by: Carol Barthel

**Power up to Read** – no activity – no report

**Project Connect** – no activity – no report

**Web Master** –Overall web site hits are showing nice improvement. [www.mnpioneers.com](http://www.mnpioneers.com) had 2,655 hits this quarter.

Qwest Pioneers Web Address [www.qwestpioneers.com](http://www.qwestpioneers.com) Minnesota had 11512 hits. We are still at #8 in most requested page summary for the region.

Calendar Winners stole the show again this quarter -- However its nice to see that every Council & Club shows nice increases in hits for the second quarter in a row.

I think we can get a boost in web site use if we all promote its use at our various meetings and projects, and keep the web site in everyone's mind by including the web address in all our emails and correspondence.

I also think we need to give our members reason to visit the web site and the way to do that is to keep lots of local and current information posted on the web.

Submitted by: Dave Hemmer

### **Council and Club Reports**

**Arrowhead** –Not a lot has been happening with the Arrowhead Council other than the fundraising for the MS TRAM & planning for it. We had a fundraising lunch; the Council gave our rider Russ Ureving \$300. We had Root Beer Floats which raised \$104 and Bakeless Bake Sale that raised \$113. Gloria Berger made the double bed quilt & baby quilt that we are selling raffle tickets for the MS TRAM but it hasn't been going too well. We are planning another Root Beer Float day but are finding ourselves competing with the Relay For Life for the American Cancer Society which is in July.

Sheila & Brian Liubakka are selling candy bars & will have a luncheon fundraiser for the Relay for Life at the College of St Scholastica on July 13th. They are encouraging others to form teams also.

We tried to get in at a water station for Grandma's Marathon but the people running it were not getting back to me so I kept calling them & was finally told they had enough volunteers & didn't need us. We get credit for trying.

Olga Stanley gave Chris Jensen Health & Rehab Center another 25 wheelchair pockets (like purses that hang on the arm or the wheelchairs.

Jodi Hakamaki had a luncheon fundraiser for the Duluth Boys & Girls Club raising about \$300.

John Warren who is a life member has been fixing some of our sewing machines. We also got a next to new sewing machine donated from one of the Life Members.

One of our Council members Jerry Metcalf is retiring in July but will attend Life Member meetings.

At the Council meeting I was asked why Linda Custard & Patty Young are not on the Arrowhead Council roster as they retired and are now back working but they are definitely in the Arrowhead Council

Submitted by: Gloria Berger

**CENTRAL COUNCIL AND HARLEY FORSYTHE** - We had a breakfast in March at Perkins. Had about 20 people. On April 10 we had a luncheon in Little Falls and there were 50 in attendance. On April 26 we had our spring party. There were 70 in attendance and I would like to thank all of those from the Metro area who came. Some of us from Central Council helped out at the MS Camp in Annandale. We played bingo, black jack, rolled dice, wheel of color and pull tabs. It was a wonderful evening. We have also been busy with the MSTRAM. Our cell phone project is still going but about 80% of the phones we take in are not usable because they are analog and won't work for 911. We have taken in 51 phones and given out 136. Right now we are very low. We are also working on our 2007 and 2008 calendar of events. Our next event will be Tuesday Aug 14. It will be a picnic at Riverside Park in St Cloud. It is a catered event.

For the months of April and May we had 2,158 hours

For the months of March, April and May we have given out 313 bears and 99 wellness bags.

Submitted by Carol Barthel

### **Hiawathaland** - Hiawathaland Council Meeting March 28th, 2007

Hiawathaland Council now has a vice president; Janet Lozon has accepted this position. Operation Nice boxes are being mailed to our soldier on a monthly basis by Diane Rueb and Pat Sable. The annual picnic will be held on August 11<sup>th</sup> at the Medford Park. Donations were made to the Medford Park for reconstruction of the building destroyed in an arson fire and to the Le Seuer Girl Scouts for their trip to Washington DC. Kathy Hanson suggested that instead of the Tools for Schools donations we have been making, we instead donate books. It was decided that we contact the schools to see if they would prefer cash donations instead of books. The results will be discussed at the next meeting.

Submitted by: Jack Wilson President, Hiawathaland Council

**Lakes** – The Council met twice since the March Executive Board meeting. They approved a \$300 donation to be spread between all the Qwest for the Cure Team Members and have set up for the annual Fall or Holiday parties in Bemidji, Brainerd, Fergus Falls, Thief River Falls, Detroit Lakes & Wadena.

Submitted by: Lois Thelen and Gert Obowa

**Metro** - The Metro council was very busy helping with the Beep Easter Egg hunts. We sold Carrots bags of candy for a dollar a bag. We sold \$405.00 worth after the all expenses was able to donate \$276.50 to the Chapter to be used in the Hunt. Had many volunteers working at the egg hunt, NKF events, Wing Ding event, Courage Center, plus many others helped by volunteering time to many

projects around the Metro area. We are still delivering and filling Birthday in the Bag to area food shelves. Always on the look out for good buys to make our dollars go further on the projects. We are looking for anyone who is willing to run for office of President and Vice-President. We have our meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. Looks like the Minneapolis Pioneer Store is closing do to lost space. Anoka office is busy raising money for the food shelf by having a raffle of homemade items. In St Paul we are looking to do a Root Beer Float sale in July for money to be used for Birthday in the Bag. Paula was able to go to the Scholastic Book sale and get books for her read to me kits and also books for Birthday in the Bag.

Submitted by: Pat Jeukens

**Metro Life Member Club** - The Metro Life Members held 3 regular business luncheon meetings since our last chapter meeting – March, April and May. At our meetings we collected Easter basket goodies, personal care products and food items for distribution to the shelters and food shelves. Donations totaling \$2,550 were made to: Lake Wapagasset, \$300; NEAR Food shelf, \$300; STEP Food shelf, \$150; Anoka Food shelf, \$100; Breast Cancer 3 day walk, \$200; MS Walk, \$200; MS Tram, \$300; PRISM Food shelf, \$200; Big City Mountaineers, \$200; Paws 4 Ability, \$100; WWII Veterans Memorial, \$500

Life members volunteered at MS Camp Courage, NKF golf tournament, Harriet Tubman Wing Ding, Children’s Home Society, ARC of Minnesota in addition to our scheduled Hug a Bear and Pioneer Store Activities. Our now famous “Cookie Ladies” were also busy making over 300 cookies for Operation Share and soliciting donations from Treasure Island (144 decks of playing cards) and toiletries from their friends at the Lennox Senior Center. The Metro Life Member Club held another successful Casino Trio to Turtle Lake on May 2<sup>nd</sup> with three buses of Pioneers, family and friends participating in our fund raiser. The final fun activity of the season will be a day at the Old Log Theater on June 20<sup>th</sup>. 48 Pioneers, friends and family will be taking in the play “Leaving Iowa” and 38 will be having lunch.

Submitted by: Mary Ann Neuman, President

**Western Plains** – In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, we held a Council meeting in Windom on April 25, with 11 members in attendance.

We made the following motions:

\$350.00 to Chippewa County Historical Society

\$200.00 to the Boy Scouts

\$150.00 to the Jackson “Library Day with the Twins

Ralph reported that 43 Pioneers and partners attended the Spring Fling on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Oct.4<sup>th</sup> is the date selected for the Fall Fling Tea.

Calendar Sales – Ralph questioned the number of calendar sales reported by the Chapter for Western Plains Council. He believes the number should be 225 instead of 219 and will double check his numbers and report back.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 20th 11:45 in Willmar. Jerry will let us know the location of the meeting.

Submitted by: Jodie Crowell, Council Secretary

### Old Business

**Readers for Life** – Minnesota was chosen as one of the 4 states (including Colorado, Arizona and Oregon, where the program originated) to receive funds from the Qwest Foundation. We will be partnering with the Minnesota Vikings whose focus this year is on literacy. Jan is planning to ask Donna (our Power up and Read Chair) to chair this project. Mary Ann asked what the difference was in the 2 programs. Jan explained that the Power up to Read program focuses on comprehension and vocabulary and the students ability to understand what they learned and the Readers for Life is designed to help at schools that have been identified by low test scores.

**New Pioneer Credit Card** – Explanations were given earlier in the meeting concerning the need for a change to US Bank and everyone was given the opportunity to submit applications that allowed their names to be entered in the aforementioned drawing.

### New Business

**World Series Nations Beep Ball** – Jan mentioned that it was unfortunate that the team from Taiwan was not able to secure funding to attend the tournament to defend their title. A detailed list of volunteer needs was submitted to everyone in their information packets prior to today’s meeting. Jan highlighted the need for volunteers for the exhibition game prior to the Twin’s game on Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers will be needed to assist on the field as well as assisting at the Qwest Jeep and at tables on the concourses to take “adopt a beep ball” donations. It was discussed that many of the teams coming barely have the funds to come for this event. This doesn’t allow for them to have a nice team meal at a restaurant other than fast food. Since we don’t know yet whether there will be a team from Minnesota, a **MOTION** was made by Betty Sanders and seconded by Pat Jeukens to set aside \$300 for a team meal. If no Minnesota team is put together, it will be at Jan’s discretion to offer the funds to another team. **Motion approved.**

Qwest will have a tent at the fields that will need volunteers to set up and take down each day and staff tables displaying various Pioneer projects. Jan will be sending out more detailed information on volunteering at the Twins game and anyone interested in volunteering for the World Series should contact her.

**Earned Interest on Chapter/Council Accounts** - Vollie Sanders **MOTIONED** and Pat Jeukens seconded to table the discussion on how to distribute interest earned by our accounts at the PAC. **Motion approved.**

### **Miscellaneous**

Mavis asked whether the letter we received in our packets with our tax status included exemption from State tax. The answer was: yes.

Jan stated that the known Chapter projects include the following: Calendar fund raiser; hug a bears; MS Tram; Beep Ball; International Camporee. New projects include: Phonic phones and white boards.

Leadership training for 2008 will be in October (24<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup>) Incoming council and chapter presidents will be going.

Paula reported on the distribution of 2006 dues and 1<sup>st</sup> quarter MBNA dividends. Paula also mentioned that she had located tabs and was able to submit and receive a new title for the Pioneer truck.

Gloria Berger made a **MOTION** and Carol Barthel seconded, to use up to \$500 for shirts for MS Tram riders and volunteers. **Motion approved**

Kathy Hanson mentioned that volunteers for the International camporee can purchase t-shirts for \$15. Orders must be received in advance.

Our next chapter executive board meeting is September 21, 2007

Mary Ann Neuman made a motion to adjourn

Submitted by: Sue Reiling, Chapter Secretary