

QWEST PIONEERS EXECUTIVE BOARD 1ST QUARTER MEETING
MARCH 11, 2011 at 2800 WAYZATA BLVD, MPLS, MN

PRESENT: Pat Jeukens Kathy Hanson Barb Hemmer Dave Hemmer
Betty Lee JoAnn Cooper Chet Nettestad Lee Poirier
Mary Malakowsky Jim Malakowsky Carol Barthel Al Barthel
Jan Swenson Mary Ann Neuman

President Call to Order and group Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence for absent and departed members

Minutes of previous meeting corrected as to date and location and accepted into record by motion of D. Hemmer, 2nd by Poirier

Treasurer report presented Dec 2010 balance presently at \$56,184.17. There remain items from 2010 still in passage to final figures. Pioneer Accounting Center (PAC) is in turmoil due to program changes and employee turnover. Report accepted into record by D. Hemmer motion, 2nd by J. Swenson

Treasurer Comments: Each Chapter, Council and Club was responsible for turning in a 2011 budget by 02-28-2011 on a revised 2011 form. Those forms did not become available so now the due date to turn in a 2011 budget is 03-30-2011. Treasurer Al Barthel circulated a list of unknown deposits to see who they might belong to. Al reminded group when deposits are made at local banks, an accompanying deposit voucher must be sent to the PAC so "unknown" deposits do not happen.

Al shared the PAC is attempting to work out codes for *MN Caring & Sharing Calendars* so a portion of the proceeds may be counted as charitable. This issue is unresolved.

OLD BUSINESS

COOKBOOKS- Sale Special remains at 4 cookbooks for \$30.00 and \$7.00 for a red or blue cookbook. For limited periods or an event "special", councils and clubs can lower cookbook prices.

ANTIQUe TELEPHONE TRUCK- D. Hemmer stated the repair shop says the truck is close to being ready for delivery, possibly by April 1. St. Augusta garage space is still available to store the truck. A buyer is being solicited for a price somewhere between \$5000-\$6000.

ON TIME REPORTS FROM COUNCILS/CLUBS- All councils and clubs except Western Plains have turned in a quarterly report at the time of this meeting

SCHOLARSHIP SUBMISSION FORM- Form has been revised – it is available on web page
A search is on for a chairperson for the scholarship Chapter Project

STATE PIN DESIGN- A new design was turned in at last meeting, where it went is unknown. Pat Jeukens will check into this, perhaps Cindy Barnes Pharr has it.

AWARDS-Cheryl Wold will write up awards. We will be looking at writing award submissions for MACV Bags and The fundraiser "Spirit of Service" motorcycle ride sponsored by Arrowhead council.

100 YEAR PROJECTS – MACV Care Bags, a Dodd grant has been secured to fund more personal care bags for homeless veterans. So far, 400 bags have been distributed in MN. National Pioneers recommends a food based project for all chapters to participate in. L. Poirier reported on delivering Soldier Celebration bags to veteran's housing project in Mankato. Volunteers are needed for serving Brunch at Ronald McDonald House on 09-18-2011. Century Link company has expressed an interest in being involved in any "feeding events" Pioneers may be planning.

A Grand Opening of Vets Housing project in Duluth is planned for April 1, 2011

NEW BUSINESS

BUDGET COMMITTEE mtg on **03-21-2011 at 6:30 pm**. Members volunteering are: J. Cooper, K. Hanson, A. Barthel, J. Swenson. President Pat Jeukens will lead meeting.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS- Mary Malakowsky, incoming 2011 Hiawathaland Club President, Betty Lee incoming 2011 Arrowhead Council President. Everyone was introduced. Announcement of the resignation of Metro Council President, LuAnn Chambliss

VOLUNTEER WEEK- April 10-16 If there are any event taking place, take photos and submit with write-up to Cindy Barnes Pharr

HEALTHY FOOD DRIVE- Period of 9-11 to 09-24 Plan an event locally

BEEPING EGG HUNT- Will be on May 5, 2011 4:00 pm gathering time at MN State Academy for the Blind in Faribault, MN – Cookout food followed by the beeping egg hunt by students and others. Lots of volunteers are welcome to assist egg seekers and cheer and hug. Contact Kathy Hanson if interested or need details, kathyhanson@bevcomm.net or 952-752-4226

Motion by Poirier to support this event with up to \$200.00 if needed, 2nd by J. Swenson, motion passed

MS TRAM RIDE TEAM-K. Hanson, ride team Co-Captain made a donation request of \$200.00 per team rider, and it looks like there could be 8 riders, as they ride under the Qwest banner to raise funds to eliminate the disease. Donation request tabled until next meeting.

SPIRIT OF SERVICE RIDE – this Arrowhead council project is held in Duluth to raise funds for MACV. Fundraising will be around raffle for a motorcycle or equivalent amount (\$10,000), shirt sales, and gambling permit fees. B. Lee requests \$750.00 to fund cost. Donation request tabled until next meeting.

LABELS – D. Hemmer showed newly designed labels for Hug-a-Bears, Bags of all kinds, blankets, etc. The design does not have the Qwest name/logo on it any longer. If you need a few contact Dave Hemmer

HONORED MEMBER BUD SMITH- A Pioneer from Melrose, has personally made thousands of Hug-a-Bears. He is one of featured Pioneers in the Centennial Book now on sale. A celebration to honor him will take place when the book is received. Watch the web pages for more details as to date, time, and location.

WELCOME HOME VETS – This 2nd annual event will be held March 19 in St. Cloud at the St.Cloud Civic Center. Notify Bob Lewis is you will attend, support is always welcome. Bob's contact: 320-203-0352

CENTENNIAL BOOK PURCHASE - Motion by Poirier for Chapter 18 to purchase a book as history and could share with each council & club. Nettetstad 2nd motion passed

CARING & SHARING CALENDAR- D. Hemmer noted this scholarship fundraiser is up for renewal and would like to see a motion, if one is made, to note that should insufficient funds be raised, the number of scholarship be reduced and maintain the \$5.00 dispersal amount.

Motion made by D. Hemmer to continue calendar chapter project to award a minimum of 2 scholarships and more if fundraising is successful and guarantee \$5.00 from each sale be returned to selling entity as previously apportioned. 2nd by J. Swenson motion passed.

C. Barthel noted some miscalculations on Calendar report, J. Swenson will correct
A calendar co-chair is being searched for due to death of previous co-chair.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AWARDS-Sheryl Wold will continue for present – would like to be replaced. This year award winners may select a Triangle trophy or \$300.00 for the project written up.

PARTICIPATION HOURS-C. Barthel will add category of “Centennial Projects”. There are now 42 active projects. No project will be added until someone actually reports hours to it. If you want your name associated with your volunteer hours include your name with hours. So far in 2011, 4,973 volunteers are reported. No hours yet from Western Plains Council

CARING & SHARING CALENDARS-Has been discussed and reported on

COMMUNITY SERVICE- Position has been vacant. We all take on this role now. Motion by Poirier to eliminate as a committee, D. Hemmer 2nd Motion passed

COOKBOOKS- Has been covered earlier in meeting

SCHOLARSHIP- J. Swenson volunteered to Chair committee and accept submissions. Judges so far are: V. Sanders, C. Barthel, A. Barthel. 2 non-Pioneers are needed to fill judge positions.

EZ HELP 911 – Report in minutes attachment

FAMILY CAMPERS: No Report

LIFE MEMBER REP-P. Jeukens visited Central Council event

MANAGEMENT LIAISON- None in attendance. M. Neuman shared what she knew after a visit by J. Stanoch at Life Member meeting. April 1 looks like the merger date. Andy Schriener will remain in company with involvement in regulatory issues arena. Century Link has a wish to maintain relationships with community service outreach activities (Pioneers?).

MEMBERSHIP- Report in minutes attachment

MS TRAM – Telephone Pioneer Family Campers will staff “Famous Rest Stop # 3” all 5 days of the TRAM which begins 07-24-2011 in Rochester, travels through Owatonna, Austin, Lanesboro, Winona and ends in Rochester. Wednesday will be Old Mexico day at Rest Stop #3. TPFC members are selling buttons to augment funds raised by riders for MS Society. All Volunteers are welcome to help at the Rest Stop any day and for as many hours as you can.

Contact Dave Hemmer to volunteer: dhemmer1@mpioneers.com

READERS FOR LIFE/PATR – Chapter has been asked to partner with MELSA on book distribution at libraries. MN Twins will donate mascot visits to book events. Funding for book purchase comes from Qwest Foundation. Books are needed for readers up to 3rd grade. Remaining books will be made available to councils, clubs and a club M. Neuman is connected to focusing on literacy.

WEB MASTER – Web hosting has been changed and will realize \$130 savings this year and probably more in 2012. Activity is down a bit – the most visits to the MN Pioneer web page are attributed to looking at calendar winner lists. Dave Hemmer stresses that we can drive more visits to our own site by continually updating content.

COUNCIL AND CLUB REPORTS FOLLOW THESE MINUTES IF THEY WERE SUBMITTED

NEXT MEETING - JUNE 10, 2011 IN ST. CLOUD AT WHITNEY SENIOR CENTER AT 9:00 AM
MEETING ADJOURNED 2:00 PM

ATTACHMENTS

Central Council report: March 11, 2011

Since the last Chapter meeting we contributed hours to our community as follows:

EZ Help Cell Phones	66 hours
Chemo Caps	65 hours
Talking book repair	65 hours
Wellness bags	57 hours
Veteran's bags	20 hours

Our members Volunteered with the Chore Club, Food Shelf, Red Cross, Nursing Home, Life Lines, Hospital & others.

EZ Help 911 Cell Phones: We collected about 95 cell phones and distributed about 30 to area seniors.

We distributed 77 hand knitted caps to the Salvation Army and Catholic Charities.

The Talking Books crew at Little Falls sent back 26 repaired players in January and February.

We assembled and distributed 22 Birthday in a Bags and they were well received at food shelves in Little Falls, St Cloud, and Clearwater

Barb Hemmer sewed up 140 Veterans bags for the Chapter project.

Our last Life Member breakfast meeting was at Perkins, downtown on March 8th

On March 19th Central Council will provide volunteers to hand out snacks & water at a community event to honor veterans at the St Cloud Civic Center.

On April 12th we will hold our annual Little Falls Luncheon at Little falls.

Following the luncheon we will prepare and serve a meal at the House of Hope in St. Cloud.

Our Council looks forward to hosting a Chapter meeting in St Cloud again this June.

Our next Council meeting will be scheduled when needed.

Report respectfully submitted by:

Dave Hemmer - Central Council President

Metro Life Member Club

1st Quarter Report to MN Chapter

March 3, 2011

The 2011 Metro Life Member year kicked off with a Valentine's Lunch on February 16, 2011 attended by thirty-six retirees and guests. John Stanoch and Andy Schriener both attended. John shared with us new activities at Qwest, the latest information about the merger and his decision to join the ranks of happy retirees in June. He did pledge to try as best he can to insure firm connection between the Pioneers and the new management team at Century Link, specifically Duane Ring who will be the Midwest President. Andy said that he would continue to be involved with our activities after John leaves.

Although we did not hold a full business meeting at the Valentine's lunch we did vote to make the following donations:

\$200	Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly
\$200	St. Stephen's Shelter
\$200	Store to Door

Flyers have been sent for our spring meetings on March 23 and May 19th. Our community service collections will be paper and leaning supplies for NEAR Food Shelf and Tee's for Tot to Teens – summer Tee shirts for the kids at St. Joseph's Home for Children. The spring casino trip is scheduled for May 4th.

The Hug a Bear groups continue to meet every month and donate about 100 bears a month to Hennepin County Medical Center ambulance service and North Memorial ambulance service (both metro and outstate sites).

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Neuman, President

Qwest Pioneers - Metro Life Member Club

Metro -

Metro Council

Donations:

\$300 donation to Death to Life (grief counseling)

Birthday in a Bag continues to be a very successful project and are being delivered throughout the metro area.

Store Sales in December with holiday items and candy and nuts

MERSC – Nothing available at this time other than on the web.

MEMBERSHIP

1 new Metro Council Regular Member, 1 new Metro Life Member

By: LuAnn Chambliss

PALS REPORT

So far this year I have inputted 42 projects for Minnesota. I have added names as they come in, so they can get credit for the hours that they put in for the projects. It is a little extra work but once they are in, it is much easier and next year I will be able to just clone the projects. They changed passwords on us so we had to start from scratch this year. From Jan 1 to March 4 we have 4,973. They have a different internet provider and the program seems to work a little faster. So far so good.

Submitted by

Carol Barthel

EZ HELP 911

Cell phone recycling room has been relocated.

White Bear Lake has received 10 cell phones from the project

Continue to get in many phones to recycle

By: Gary Greb

Report from Harley Forsythe Life Member Club

Fourth Quarter – 2010

The Harley Forsythe Life Member Club continues in the Pioneer tradition of Loyalty, Community Service, and Fellowship.

December 14th was our annual Christmas Party. Which is one of the highlights of our social season. 36 Pioneers and Partners attended this gala and were entertained by members of the Tech High School Orchestra. We also use this venue to contribute financial assistance to the Whitney Foundation and the Salvation Army. This year—rather than Toys for Tots,— members brought items for Service Men/Women to support the Chapter project.

Our January meeting was breakfast at Perkins in St Cloud. 20 brave souls fought through a very snowy morning to attend.

The February meeting is traditionally our Valentine Party. 23 Pioneers and Partners attended. In addition to the Valentine meeting and party we celebrated The wedding anniversary of Barb and Dave Hemmer. (There was a moment of silence for Barb). We also filled and delivered 22 "Birthday in a Bag" to our local Food Shelf.

Looking ahead to the 2011 meetings--- March, Breakfast at downtown Perkins in St Cloud, -- and April, Luncheon in Little Falls.

All Pioneers are invited to our meetings, especially Chapter Officers.

Between eating and drinking the Life Members of the Harley Forsythe Life Member Club will continue to serve their community in the name of Pioneering with steadfast diligence.

Respectfully submitted

Bob Lewis

President, Harley Forsythe Life Member Club

LAKES COUNCIL 1ST QTR REPORT

Lakes council helped out during the Holiday season with donations to Fergus Falls Salvation Army, Some Place Safe Parenting Time Center, Fergus Falls Food Shelf, Pelican Rapids United Way, Pelican Rapids Senior Nutrition Center, Pelican Rapids Food Shelf, Pelican Rapids Shop With a Cop, Becker County Food Pantry, Lakes Crisis Resource Center, Detroit Lakes Senior Nutrition Center. It was a busy and fun time for everyone.

By: Chet Nettetstad, Co-President

ARROWHEAD COUNCIL 1ST QTR REPORT

Arrowhead Council has 4 new Members!

A fundraising raffle was held to raise money to support the February ALS snowmobile ride that member Tom Bernier (along with Kathy & Paul Bernier) participated in. Our raffle raised \$590! The Berniers raised a total of \$5,000 for ALS!

There were a total of 1,108 calendars sold; Arrowhead sold 45 of them. (We had hoped to sell 100.)

Hug-a- bears continue to be made and delivered to St. Luke's Hospital. 17 chemo caps were also made and delivered to St. Luke's Hospital as they expressed a need for them. Mercy Hospital in Moose Lake recently accepted 20 bears and requested to receive additional bears as they are needed. They expressed an interest in chemo caps as well. 20 bears were delivered to the Red Cross. (A thank you has been received from the Red Cross already.)

Plans are being made to support March food shelf drives through Second Harvest. A motion was made and seconded to donate \$600 to Second Harvest Northern Lakes Food Bank in Duluth and \$100 to Second Harvest North Central Food Bank in Grand Rapids.

The "Spirit of Service" ride will be July 16, 2011. A motorcycle will be raffled off to raise money. Harley Davidson is partnering with us by providing advertising & consultation for flyers, posters, raffle tickets, and shirts. The permit request has been signed by the City of Carlton and mailed to the Gambling Board for approval.

There were 20 Pioneers, Partners, and guests at the January 19, 2011 Life Member Luncheon. Fran Rosiek-Olson's birthday was celebrated during the luncheon.

In February there were 27 Pioneers, Partners, and guest in attendance. We welcomed Art Wright, Chet Bianco, Karen Lucas (new to Pioneer Life Member Luncheons), and Jeanne Tingwald (new to this area). The guest speaker was Charlie Feters, Wholesale Manager in Duluth who gave us an update on the company merger. Food was good and plentiful. Charlie was well received.

We hope to have Pete Lee, past MN Chapter President as our Life Member Meeting guest speaker in March.

By: Betty Lee, President

HIAWATHALAND QWEST PIONEERS – 1st QUARTER 2011 REPORT

The executive board met in February to set out a schedule of 2011 meetings.

A decision was made to hold the annual Pioneer Picnic on August 13, at DART Park in Owatonna. Our usual location was flood damaged and unusable.

We arranged a date of May 5, 2011 for a Beeping Egg Hunt at the MN State Academy for the Blind in Faribault.

A date of November 11, 2011 was set for annual Membership Luncheon Meeting and Bazaar at the Owatonna Eagles club.

The board decided to hold a bake less bake sale again in the 4th quarter with funds to go to southeastern area food shelves.

By: Mary Malakowsky, President

Web Site Report**3/11/2011 1ST Qtr**

Page Hits

Site total	1849
Chapter Minutes	33
Meetings	26
Councils & Clubs	47
Exec. Board	89
Projects	58
Arrowhead Council	24
Central Council	23
Lakes Council	12
Hawathaland Council	8
Mpls. Life Members	29
Metro Council	12
Western Plains	10
Current News	639
Products for Sale	18
Family Campers	44
Links	34
Calendar Winners	1381
Web Master	8
Just Pictures	178
Qwest Benefits	18
Go Green	35

Overall web site hits are down fr last qtr

Calendar Winners getting most hits this qtr

Councils & Clubs continue to be very low

Have moved web site from space provided
by FW Hosting to IMOTION HostingThe move resulted in \$130 yearly savings
To the ChapterSo far new hosting service is working well
It allows more room to post pictures

Submitted by: Dave Hemmer, Webmaster

NO REPORT FROM WESTERN PLAINS COUNCIL**Minutes updated 03-13-2011 Kathy Hanson, Secretary**