

2013 4TH QUARTER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 12-13-2013

Table of contents.

Minutes of meetings	Pages 1 & 2
Arrowhead Council Telephone Pioneers	Page 3
Harley Forsythe Life Members	Page 4
Central Council	Page 4
Metro Council and Life Member Club	Page 5
MS TRAM	Page 6
Web Master report	Page 6
Norma Stevens Scholarship Fund	Page 7
Participation Hours	Page 7

2013 4TH QUARTER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 12-13-2013

CHAPTER 18 TELEPHONE PIONEERS

Present: Jan Swenson, Mary Ann Neuman, Dave Hemmer, Barb Hemmer, Kathy Hanson, Al Barthel, JoAnn Cooper, Carol Barthel, Pat Jeukens, Mary Ann Neuman, Jan Swenson

Pledge of allegiance

Minutes from previous meeting were reviewed and approved. Jeukens motioned, Neuman seconded

Treasurer Report reviewed: Al Barthel states \$43,676.89 is our balance. Dues transfer from region comes two times a year. Al wants to discuss how to divide the most recent dues transfer. At a question from Mary Ann N., the wash of funds in and out for the CenturyLink Women's "Backpack" project was explained. Motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Hemmer, Jeukens seconded and motion passed.

Agenda items were addressed in a roundtable informal manner:

Treasurer for 2014: Mary Ann Neuman asked Kathy Asmus to contact JoAnn Cooper if interested but JoAnn did not hear from her. JoAnn may try to reach out to Kathy Asmus again. Another possible treasurer candidate may be Rachel Vacura. JoAnn Cooper will make contact with both women.

Combining Lakes council with Arrowhead: Hemmer states he has asked Lakes for meetings to assist or counsel them to full participation to no avail. If Lakes is combined they would be well-served to have the leadership and access still to donate funds in the Lakes area. JoAnn has shared the opportunity to merge idea with Chet Nettetstad. He feels they want to stay separate. This executive board knows that if they do not merge, all councils and the chapter will be negatively affected because Lakes will not submit to the Region's required training as requested previously and does not send in quarterly reports and annual budgets as required of all councils. When there is not 100% compliance with training and reporting procedures all funds are not dispersed by the Region to a chapter. The decision needs to be made today. Current Lakes members will be integrated as members of the Arrowhead council but can request to change affiliation to another council if they want to. Mary Ann says we should get buy-in from Lakes and Arrowhead presidents but other board members see that no action by Lakes to previous requests for compliance indicates an unwillingness or inability to be a complete partner and we need to take action now.

Mary Ann Neuman moved that Lakes council will be notified that effective 12-13-2013 Lakes council of the MN Telephone Pioneers be closed and all members transferred to Arrowhead council and the reason being their inability to fulfill the requirements of a partner council in the Chapter 18. Jeukens seconded. Motion passed. **A statement to Chet Nettetstad and Marlys Wisch, president of the Arrowhead council that barring any opposition, Lakes council will be closed and membership moved to the Arrowhead council effective Dec. 13, 2013.** Hemmer stated if members want to be in Central that can be arranged. Al Barthel says transfer of Lakes funds to Arrowhead should take place immediately, then Arrowhead council can pay the donations proposed by Lakes council in an email.

Region Updates: Janie Milby has tried to answer questions presented by us to her about PAC accounting processes and requirements and is frustrated that PAC has been slow to give answers. May people have questions about which "units" count in the guidelines for payments made to. D. Hemmer passed around a possible letter to be sent to Pioneer leadership stating the dissatisfaction in the ranks about the fees and lack of sponsorship. We will be venting in this letter.

Norma Stevens Scholarship Fund: Hanson read an overview of progress thus far on annuitizing the fund. C. Barthel states we should increase grant amounts so funds do not get left unspent if this chapter ends. Perhaps we should re-think establishing the annuity process. If this done, Al B. says we would put it in its own unit.

Jeukens moved we stop the Jackson process, Swenson seconded. During discussions- Mary Ann feels just leave the funds in PAC. Motion passed. **JoAnn Cooper will inform Rachel V. of the decision.**

Discussion about dispersal of funds in Norma Stevens scholarship . D. Hemmer moves: assuming the Jackson financial process is ended \$5000 per scholarship be awarded and Neuman seconded. Motion passed. Same judging standards will be in effect. **Notification on line will be on line in Jan.** And responses in by May . There will be 5 scholarships awarded in 2013 and eligible winners need to be MN residents and graduating seniors going on to post secondary education.

PAC DEADLINES: JoAnn gave everyone a copy of required deadlines for items due in PAC. We have to have met our 65/35 % by December 31, 2013. PAC reports for fourth quarter 2013 will not arrive until Feb 2014. By Jan 10, 2014 all inventories need to be in to the PAC. Cookbooks should be in that inventory. Budgets are due Feb. 28, 2014 . Check charges will be assessed March 31, 2014. A concern of those present is, how we will know what to budget in 2014 if an unknown amount is going OUT of our budget after the budget is forecast. We don't know if PAC is deducting assessments out of chapter or the unit. C. Barthel called Inez to see if she knows this detail. Inez was not in.

JoAnn floated the idea if we could request 1 PAC check for calendar winnings and give out winnings in the form of a cash-type gift card in order to reduce assessed fees for each check written. D.Hemmer moved to authorize Jan Swenson to purchase calendar winnings as cash card in the event PAC does not waive the \$7.50 check charge for each calendar checks. P. Jeukens seconded. Discussion. This is for 2014 and is there a safe place to store cash cards such as the skyway sales safe. Can anyone open the mailed winner's envelope and use the card, is the security impaired?

CHAPTER MEETING FREQUENCY: Should we change frequency? Hemmer feels we do not meet often enough for important changes to be made. Reason? Less people are attending and if we had fewer mtgs would more people attend. Should we have monthly conf calls. Neuman supports fewer face to face if more conf calls took place. Decided to stay as in for 1st quarter 2014.

2014 meetings will be: March 21, 2014 and June 13,2014 2014 Sept 05,2014 and Dec 5, 2014

Kathy read the Lakes council 4th Qtr report. C. Barthel reports thus far this year 22,449 volunteer hours have been reported .

D. Hemmer moved Jan seconded and motion passed. Membership dues are to be split 4 ways, Chapter, Arrowhead, Central, Metro = 25% each. **Jan S. will pull membership numbers for next meeting and we will decide if this split is appropriate.**

Should a council/club president attend at least one meeting per year. It is hard to get presidents as it is and if not wanting to attend it is an obstacle not needed to keep their in office. We will not require, only encourage their attendance.

K. Hanson shared the Harley Forsythe Life Member club report made by Bob Lewis.

COOKBOOKS: Clarify who get sale credit for books sold on the web. Dave thought if the buyer was in a certain council area, that council got the sale proceeds. Jan thinks the chapter gets the proceeds. **Proceeds for any cookbooks sold over the Pioneer webpage will go to the chapter we all agreed.**

Given our balance of \$43 thousand some, should we be dispersing some charitable donations in order to meet the 65% goal. There was discussion about who to donate to. We decided \$200.00 to VFW post 9625, \$300.00 to Caring & Sharing Hands, \$300.00 to MACV. D.Hemmer made the motion to make the donations, motioned seconded and passed. **Mary Ann Neuman will prepare these donation vouchers.**

Al Barthel, JoAnn Cooper, Kathy Hanson and unknown new treasurer will form an ad hoc budget committee to prepare a 2014 chapter budget as required by the Region.

Meeting adjourned.

ATTACHED REPORTS FOLLOW:

Arrowhead Council Telephone Pioneers

Duluth, Minnesota

Summary of meetings and projects September, 2013 thru November, 2013

Monthly Pioneer Luncheons:

Sept. 18, 2013 20 attended

Oct. 16, 2013 no lunch- Chef ill

Nov. 20, 2013 25 attended

Monthly Arrowhead Council Meetings:

Sept. 25, 2013 5 attended

Oct. 23, 2013 4 attended

Nov. 27, 2013 No meeting, Thanksgiving

Donations:

Hug-A-Bears to St Luke's and Life Care Center

Oct.	20	24
------	----	----

Nov.	20	24
------	----	----

Head wraps: Sept., 12 head wraps delivered to St Mary's-Essentia

Oct., 18 head wraps delivered to St Mary's-Essentia

We donated 50 bags, in September, to the St Lukes Breast Cancer Center, to be used to carry all the information patients get about breast cancer and how to fight it.

Sept-Nov. We delivered about 150 children's books to our Big Red Bookshelf. Books being collected every day, United Way of Duluth approves all before they go to the Bookshelf.

Cell phones still being collected, sent off in October

Submitted by Marlys Wisch, President, Arrowhead Council Telephone Pioneers, Duluth, Minnesota

HARLEY FORSYTHE LIFE MEMBER CLUB

Central Council ---Taking over the world, one council at a time.

The Life Members of the Harley Forsythe Life Member Club continue to follow the time proven Tradition of Pioneering; --Fellowship, Loyalty, Service, and (during Advent) Reverence.

The old timers, as we are sometimes called, prepare for Christmas, thinking about the wondrous truth of what happened at Bethlehem. This feast helps us think about what His birth means for us now and in the future. (We think about that when we're not thinking of ways to make our President Dave look good)

They are still talking about us in Princeton. On September 10th twenty one good looking Pioneers and Partners joined together at the Frontier Steak House in Princeton. The bar tab alone made their monetary objective for the month. Excitement abounds and Al Barthel had us rolling in the aisle with his shtick. (Hopefully they will let come back next year) On October 8th we enjoyed our annual fall luncheon at the historic Palmer House in Sauk Centre. Twenty eight Pioneers, Partners, and free loaders attended. President Dave was hung over and unable to attend so we spent five minutes lamenting his absence and two hours bad mouthing the President. Our November 12th meeting was held at Perkins in St Cloud. Our breakfast meeting at Perkins is always well attended with 22 attendees. We even sold Cook Books to the wait staff.

The high light of the social season is Tuesday, December 10, at the Whitney Senior Center in St Cloud. We have a Christmas Party starting at 2 PM and ending when they dim the lights. This year, President Dave has out done himself. He has an outstanding string ensemble engaged for our listening pleasure. Everyone is invited, especially our engaging Chapter Officers.

He never really left us. He is still "Emmanuel"--God with us.

Bob Lewis, Life Member President

CENTRAL COUNCIL REPORT FOR Dec 13th, 2013

Meals on Wheels	2	hours
Nursing Home	87	hours
Red Cross	54	hours
Chore Club	177	hours
Elderly	57	hours
Cell phone project	5	hours
Knitting Caps	88	hours
Northern Pines	18	hours
Options	20	hours
Talking Book repair	84	hours and 27 units sent in
VA Hospital & Cemetery	48	hours
Web Page	2	hours
Wellness Bags	87	hours and 105 bags made
Wheelchair ramps	51	hours.
Computer Assistance	4	hours
Pioneer Admin	67	hours
MS TRAM	387	hours
Scholarships	5	hours

Central Council held a meeting on Dec 3rd. We approved donations of about \$2,550 to various charities throughout Central Council including areas formerly in the old Western Planes and Hiawathaland areas.. Our next Council meeting will be scheduled as needed.

We built a wheel chair ramp and repaired a muddy driveway at a rural residence near St. Cloud. A great turn out of volunteers and good weather made the project go well.

The Life member club held luncheons at Sauk Centre and a Breakfast at St Cloud. They both were very well attended. Our annual Christmas party was held Tuesday Dec. 10th at the Whitney Senior Center. We had a String Ensemble entertain us and everyone had a good time.

Our next Life member gathering will be a breakfast at Perkins downtown on Jan 14th.

Submitted by Dave Hemmer – President Central Council

Metro Council and Life Member Club – Chapter Report

December 2013

The Metro Life Member club began their fall activities on October 23rd with their luncheon business meeting. Twenty-eight members attended. Our Community Collection for the fall meeting was for NEAR Food Shelf. Attendees were asked to bring something starting with the letter P=for Pioneer. They brought 162 pounds of food and home products – ranging from peas, pears and pickles to paper towels. In addition to the merchandise donated, we collected \$50.00 in cash donations. Motions were made at the October meeting for donations to: Lutheran Social Services, PRISM, and Union Gospel Mission.

The Life Members held their fall casino trip fund raiser on November 6th. Fifty-seven people rode the bus to Turtle Lake – and some even came home with more money than they came with! Gross profit on these trips is the \$5.00 per person reservation cost – less the cost of cookie treats for the morning ride.

The Metro Council met on November 20th primarily to discuss the PAC restrictions and changes for 2014. We discussed how the inflexible constraints imposed by the PAC will impact and possibly shut down long standing Council projects: Skyway sales (aka: Pioneer Store), MERSC membership for employees, and the Candy and Nut sale. Motions were made to donate \$250 to each of the following organizations – to insure that the 65% goal is reached: Healing Haiti, Aid for Kids, White Bear Lake Food Shelf, Meals on Wheels, Hinote's Heroes, Toys for Tots, School District 281-Story Theater, Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, Pancreatic Cancer Research, Eye-Link, Neighbors Food Shelf, Susan G. Komen, People Serving People. In addition \$800 was transferred to the Metro Life Members so they can make more donations at their December 17th Holiday Luncheon Meeting (as of today 43 reservations have come in for that event.)

To date 1404 volunteer hours have been reported to Carol from the Metro Life Members – with more to be reported (like mine!) before year end.

Upcoming events: Dec 17 – Life Member Holiday Luncheon Meeting (Community Collection – Christmas presents for the kids of St. Joseph's Home for Children), Dec 18 – Metro Council Meeting, Jan 16, Metro Life Member Fun Event – Plymouth Playhouse for "Church Basement Ladies – The Last Supper", Feb 19th Valentine Luncheon Meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Ann Neuman, President Metro Council & Life Member Club

Lakes Council Quarterly Report for 4th Quarter 2013

Kathy; Here's the report from the Lakes Council it seems everyone is so busy that we should go back to work! We are selling the calendars so we had to order more! And that's GOOD! And working on a Holiday Get together as to keeping everything going in the Northland. We are helping with the Food shelf on a weekly basis, The Senior Citizens meals on wheels. A welcome place for new citizens, and the Salvation Army. And seems the list goes on and on

Chapter report Dec 13, 2013 – MS Bike Tours MS TRAM Rest Stop #3

Planning is underway for the 2014 MS TRAM. The location of next year's TRAM has not yet been announced. However the members of our RS#3 team are excited to learn that we will be awarded a "Sylvie's" award this February at the annual MS Society Awards banquet. Of the literally thousands of volunteers at the society only a handful of groups are awarded this honor.

We the volunteers of Rest Stop #3 want to thank the Minnesota Pioneers for helping make this project a success. Rest assured our contribution to the MS Society, and the thousands of people suffering with MS, appreciate our help very much.. Thank you for your support again this year.

Submitted by: Dave Hemmer, Rest Stop #3 Chairman

2013 4TH Qtr MS TRAM " Wheel Deals" ride team Report

There will be 6 registered riders in 2014.

Team captain Maureen Lyons is looking into arranging a volunteer breakfast at the Culvers restaurant in Owatonna.

We hope to surpass the amount raised last year which was about \$12,000.00

Submitted by: Kathy Hanson

Web Site Report

12/13/13

Site total	1267
Chapter Minutes	38
Councils & Clubs	22
Exec. Board	48
Projects	45
Arrowhead Council	21
Central Council	18
Lakes Council	7
Hawathaland Council	10
Mpls. Life Members	27
Metro Council	24
Western Plains	8
Current News	569
Products for Sale	67
Family Campers	41
Links	44
Calendar Winners	517
Web Master	15
Just Pictures	96
CenturyLink Benefits	31
Go Green	15

Over all site visits are still down. Calendar Winners and News are doing well. The Picture Page and Chapter minutes are getting a few visits. Metro life and Metro are leading the pack for Council visits this quarter

Dave Hemmer - Web Master

Minnesota Chapter 18
Scholarships Account 2018150-11310
Norma Stevens Scholarship Fund
Quarterly Report December 6th, 2013

The balance of this fund is unchanged from the original gift amount from Norma Stevens, \$65,715.07. The application process to invest in an annuity with Jackson Financial is near completion. The forms were submitted to Jackson in October. Still required are the PAC paperwork and the funds. As of Dec 6th, Charlene Hill with PAC was waiting on a paper copy of board resolution to submit to Jackson Financial. This is required by the PAC, to have Charlene Hill authorized on the annuity. Charlene is primary authority over the Jackson annuity, and board approval was required. This is different than what was known a few months ago. We were told she just needed to be authorized signer, in addition to myself. As Charlene's personal data (SS# and DOB) was required, and the Pioneer Tax ID, this is understandable. JoAnn and I also needed to submit the same personal data to be authorized on the account. I have been led to believe the transfer the funds will follow. This whole process has taken months. One reason being delayed communication between the PAC, Jackson and I. Charlene then worked with Stacy, at Jackson, on moving the process forward. The information required for the annuity is detailed, and some of it I did not have access. Even though the funds are for MN Chapter 18, all reporting for Pioneers is done under the same Tax ID.

Once the annuity is established, I will be communicating with Stacy to confirm the payout process we had specified when we agreed to invest with Jackson Financial.

Thank you,

Rachel Vacura

PALS Report 4th Qtr 2013

Here is my report for PALS

Since our meeting in Sept we have 5,234 hours.

Since Jan 1 till Dec 8 we have 22,449

Carol Barthel