

## celebrating our centennial

On November 2, 2011, Pioneers celebrated our 100 year anniversary in Boston, Massachusetts, along with over 1,100 members, family and friends who attended our Annual Meeting and Centennial Celebration. Some of the highlights from Boston include:

### Annual Meeting

This year's Annual Meeting was full of camaraderie and fun. We began on Thursday afternoon with training sessions which included everything from social media to finance to grassroots fundraising. Complete training information can be found online at: <http://pioneersvolunteer.org/centennial/celebrate/training/default.aspx>.

Thursday evening was the official opening of the expo and history exhibit and attendees were greeted by special guests that included Ben Franklin, John Hancock and Paul Revere.



Friday morning began with a spirited opening business session, complete with roll call and a great speech from the Boston Mayor, Tom Menino. Pioneers representing the 21 community grant projects also took the stage to talk about each project and share how they impacted their communities.



*Fred Hampton dressed as "Smarty the Bear" talks about the New Mexico Pioneers grant project.*

The afternoon continued with the awards ceremony where we recognized Pioneers units that make an extraordinary impact throughout the year. We also recognized individual Pioneers who go above and beyond to spark change in their communities. View the awards keepsake booklet at: <http://pioneersvolunteer.org/shared/content/centennial/highlightdocuments/2011awardsbooklet.pdf>

### Centennial Celebration

Our celebration continued into Saturday as we began the day with a "Looking Back" video program that captured the spirit of our Pioneers history and how it has intertwined with the telecommunications industry.

Next, it was time for our community service project, which was an extension of the Dish It Up project held in September. Pioneers filled bags with nutritious, easy-to-prepare food for the Greater Boston Food Bank to deliver to 7,500 at-risk children so they would have food on the weekends.



The afternoon was a time to reflect on our future and the changing roles of volunteers at the "Volunteering in the 21st Century" symposium. During the symposium, we were presented with the Daily Point of Light Award, which honors individuals and groups who are creating meaningful change in communities across America. Our sponsor groups were also recognized with a painting reflecting 100 years of Pioneering for their commitment to and support of our mission.

The evening activities began with a reception, followed by our Centennial Celebration Gala that included dinner, keynote speaker Karen James and a special cake cutting ceremony. The evening also included the presentation of the Centennial Lifetime Achievement Awards. One individual from each Pioneers group was recognized for their extraordinary deeds throughout their time as a Pioneer.



*Fred Hampton, AT&T, Chapter 141 • Sheila O'Donoghue, Canada, Chapter 100 • Rawley Jackson, CenturyLink, Chapter 117 • Sarah DePaolo, Verizon, Chapter 7 • William Reifsteck, Frontier, Chapter 37 • Phyllis Pearson, SaskTel, Chapter 59 • Mary Lefebvre, FairPoint, Chapter 33 • Fred Jones, Telcordia, Chapter 99*

*Not pictured:*

*Jack Badcock, BellAliant, Chapter 105 • Jack Wilson, New Outlook, Chapter 132*

## dish it up

On September 11, 2011, Pioneers across North America kicked-off *Dish It Up: Feeding Families Healthy Food*, a massive volunteer initiative with the goal of feeding a healthy meal to one million people who struggle to put food on the table.

Numerous volunteer efforts that focused on addressing hunger were undertaken in states and provinces across the US and Canada. From September 11th-25th, Pioneers collected healthy, nutritious, non-perishable food donations, as well as transported food to food banks, filled backpacks with healthy snacks or easy to prepare "weekend" food for children and served food at local shelters or soup kitchens.

With the support of partners such as Liberty Mutual and Feeding America, as well as local retailers, Pioneers raised more than \$800,000 worth of meals and provided 1.3 million hours of volunteer hours to communities.

Thank you to everyone who participated to make this project a great success!



## benefits of pioneering

As a Pioneer, you work hard to improve the lives of those in your community and the world. You are quick to respond when there is a call for help and always spread a message of hope and optimism. To recognize that what you do makes a difference, there are several programs that have been created especially for our members. For the most up-to-date information, be sure to visit the Member Benefits Center online at: [www.pioneersvolunteer.org/membercenter/membertoolsandresources/memberbenefitscenter/default.aspx](http://www.pioneersvolunteer.org/membercenter/membertoolsandresources/memberbenefitscenter/default.aspx)

## 2012 pioneers card

The Pioneers card recognizes members for their commitment to volunteering as a Pioneer. As a way to protect the environment and keep costs down, the 2012 Pioneers Card is available online to download and print at: <http://www.pioneersvolunteer.org/membercenter/membertoolsandresources/pioneerscard/default.aspx>



## community grants program

As a way to commemorate our Centennial year, Pioneers launched the *Volunteer Community Grants Program* in January 2011 which provided over \$675,000 in grant funds to make a difference in 19 communities across North America.

A brief overview of each project can be found online at: [http://www.pioneersvolunteer.org/shared/content/centennial/highlightdocuments/FinalGrants\\_\\_Overview.pdf](http://www.pioneersvolunteer.org/shared/content/centennial/highlightdocuments/FinalGrants__Overview.pdf)

## centennial history book

To celebrate our century-long journey, the Pioneers created a special, commemorative edition publication that documents our long and proud legacy and provides a nostalgic look back at our journey. Through beautiful photos and words, readers will see the evolution and commitment to our mission of making a difference as volunteers, and how we continue to respond to the changing needs of our local communities.

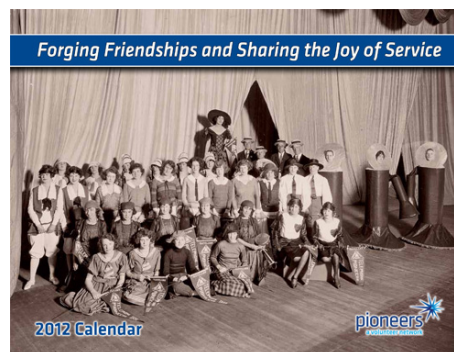
Many of our members shared their own personal experiences as a Pioneer in the book, as well as their photographs. The history book also comes with contact information (from Pioneers who provided their info) in an accompanying CD-ROM.

The book is available for purchase for \$120, which includes tax and shipping.

Download the order form for the Centennial History book at: [http://www.pioneersvolunteer.org/shared/content/centennial/Pioneers History Book Order Form.docx](http://www.pioneersvolunteer.org/shared/content/centennial/Pioneers_History_Book_Order_Form.docx)

## 2012 pioneers calendar

Images throughout the 2012 limited edition Pioneers Calendar illustrate the fun and fellowship we experience as Pioneers — creating and nurturing friendships that can last a lifetime. As we reflect on all the projects and events that will bring us together in solidarity time and again, we celebrate the connectivity that is the heart of Pioneering.



The calendar is available for purchase for \$10, which includes tax and shipping.

Download the order form for the 2012 calendar at: [http://www.pioneersvolunteer.org/shared/content/centennial/pioneers calendar order form.docx](http://www.pioneersvolunteer.org/shared/content/centennial/pioneers_calendar_order_form.docx)

## contact us

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To change a mailing address, notify us of a deceased member, or if you have a question about Pioneers member benefits, please email the Pioneers Resource Center at [info@pioneersvolunteer.org](mailto:info@pioneersvolunteer.org)

