



First meeting of the Pioneers in 1911 in Boston.

Seal Marks Approach of Centennial

You may have noticed the gold seal that appears in this issue of the *PioneersPress*. This seal marks the start of our countdown towards celebrating the Pioneers' 100th Anniversary in 2011. Throughout the year to come, you'll see this seal accompany our new spark logo in all of the communication we share with you about ways you can get involved in this once-in-a-lifetime anniversary and equally important, how you can ensure the legacy of Pioneering you have helped build continues for centuries to come. It will also appear on commemorative items for you to earn and purchase. This seal reflects the core values held dear by Pioneers past and present - fellowship, loyalty and service. These are the values that have fueled our members' commitment to volunteering countless hours since our founding, positively impacting our local communities and the lives of so many in need. When you see this seal, take pride in knowing that as a member you have made a real difference and in doing so have made the Pioneers the great organization it is.



930 15th Street, Suite 1200 • Denver, CO 80202

Become the **SPARK** of Change!
membership matters

'Answer the Call' Campaign Launches in Early Spring

Pioneers will be invited to volunteer for our annual *'Answer the Call' Campaign* this February. The campaign focus is to expand financial support for Pioneering beyond our membership to the people in the communities we serve.

Pioneers will be telephoned and asked to reach out to their friends and neighbors to make a donation in support of Pioneers. A special *Answer the Call Campaign Kit* will be sent to each Pioneer that volunteers for this great opportunity to educate others about how Pioneers address real community needs.

Gifts made to the campaign are tax deductible and every donor will be sent a 2010 Pioneers Calendar with a letter of thanks. Also, donations collected this year will count toward special Pioneers Centennial commemorative rewards. See the enclosed insert for more details. Pioneers Headquarters will partner with Infocision, a leading provider of nonprofit fundraising telemarketing solutions on this campaign. If you are not phoned and wish to receive a kit, contact Christina Hemphill at 303-571-9260 or chemphill@pioneersvolunteer.org

PioneersPress

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE PIONEERS

A VOLUNTEER NETWORK



Winter 2010 Vol. 4, Issue 1

Pioneers Prepare to Honor 100th Anniversary

In 2011, we will celebrate the **100th anniversary of Pioneers**. Your dedication helped us reach this exciting milestone! As Pioneers, we take an active role in making our hometowns better places to live and work. As our Centennial anniversary approaches, join us in honoring Pioneering by participating in the **Centennial Rewards & Recognition Program**.

While the greatest reward of this program is guaranteeing the legacy of Pioneering continues for generations to come, there are also commemorative rewards in thanks for your commitment to the future of Pioneers.

Centennial Supporter Rewards Program

Consider joining a Centennial Circle of supporters and your cumulative giving will result in special commemorative rewards like Centennial inspired attire, anniversary mementos and the opportunity to attend the Centennial Gala in Boston. Your commitment from the Bronze Circle to the Chairman's Centennial Circle can be made cumulatively over the next two years. Centennial Circle supporter levels begin at \$240 - that's just \$10 a month!

Centennial Volunteer Recognition Program

Equally important as having the financial resources required to respond when Pioneers are needed, are Pioneers actively carrying out our mission. Receive special recognition when you volunteer. By entering the hours you volunteer as a Pioneer into Volunteer Now! at <https://pals.pioneersvolunteer.org/VM/index.aspx>, you'll receive Centennial commemorative items and special recognition in Pioneers' publications like the *PioneersPress* and our *Pioneers Projects & Programs Periodical*.

See the insert in this issue of *PioneersPress* for more details on how you can participate!

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letter from the chairman

Dear Fellow Pioneer,

I am thrilled to be joining the Pioneers as your new Chairman as this great organization prepares to celebrate its Centennial.

As Qwest's Idaho State President and a proud Pioneer myself, I have always valued the work of my local Qwest Pioneers. I recognize the genuine fellowship they share, the service they provide to our neighbors in need, and the good will they foster as community ambassadors for my company. I began my career in the telecommunications industry more than 25 years ago as a regulatory affairs manager for Mountain Bell in Boise. I have since held a variety of public policy, marketing, regulatory and legislative positions. The opportunity to lend my leadership and guidance to the Pioneers at an international level during this pivotal time in our history is truly an honor.

In this year leading up to the 100-year celebration of our founding, we will begin to recognize and celebrate our achievements while energizing for the future. Many local Pioneers units will be participating in a series of signature Pioneers' volunteer programs that will be rolled out across the organization in 2011. The projects follow a model that ensures we'll meet specific community needs while engaging current Pioneers, recruiting new members and generating visibility for the Pioneers.

How can you participate as a Pioneer? By continuing to do what you do best - volunteer! Report your hours at VolunteerNow!, our online volunteer management system, so we can measure our impact. Recruit a friend to experience the rewards of volunteering. Help spread the "buzz" about this great milestone by talking to co-workers, friends and family about it. Watch for interactive opportunities to share your stories and photos of Pioneering. Finally, support Pioneering by making Pioneers your charity of choice for financial contributions. In doing these things, you can earn exclusive Centennial commemorative items through our *Pioneers Centennial Rewards & Recognition Program*. And most importantly, you'll ensure the Pioneers' legacy continues for another 100 years.

I look forward to serving this great organization and celebrating our approaching Centennial with you!

Yours in Pioneering,

Jim Schmit
Chairman, Pioneers

pioneers leadership insight

Dear Verizon Pioneer,

2010 - what kind of year is it going to be? If you are a Verizon, Frontier, FairPoint or Telcordia Pioneer, it will be a great year! With strong chapter leadership in place, we will once again impact hundreds of thousands of adults and children through tutoring, volunteering at food pantries, sending care packages to the troops, assisting families impacted by domestic violence, supporting military families with babysitting and barbecues, making hug-a-bears & smart bears, donating dictionaries to third graders & libraries and books to students, helping maintain parks, lakes and sea coasts, building ramps for wheelchairs, sprucing up camps, knitting preemie caps, scarves and lap robes, introducing students to Power Up To Read and Project Connect, visiting veterans in hospitals, spreading the word about Thinkfinity to school children, parents and teachers and so much more.

During 2010, we will work together to smoothly transition some of our members from the Verizon Pioneers to the Frontier Pioneers. 2010 begins the planning for our Centennial starting with training for our leadership at our international annual meeting in Atlanta in February. In the year ahead, we will work towards preparing Pioneering for our next 100 years. We will accomplish this by updating our web sites and our methods of communicating with our members in an effort to embrace the new technologies for interacting with our members. We will continue our efforts to recruit new members by evolving our projects and programs to what our new members are asking for; episodic, weekend and family based.

Yours in Pioneering,



Steve Kohn, Vice President
Verizon/Frontier/FairPoint/Telcordia

calendar

February 2 Job Shadow Day
February 26 & 27 Pioneers' Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA
February 28 Pioneers Scholarship Application Deadline
April 18-24 Volunteer Week
April 25 18th Annual Hershey Park Day - \$23/person (children under 2 free);
Picnic lunch available - \$16/adult; \$11/child 3-8. For tickets, call 410-281-7534

For upcoming chapter events please visit www.verizonpioneers.org or go to the international website at www.pioneersvolunteer.org and visit VolunteerNow! to find out about all the exciting Pioneering projects and activities going on in your local area and across the United States and Canada.



fundraising update

Sustaining the Spirit of Service

The *Spirit of Service* painting of lineman, Angus MacDonald, braving a snowstorm to ensure telephone service, embodies the dedication of employees in our industry and of Pioneers. This enduring spirit - the commitment to ensure that the Pioneers' nearly century-long legacy continues for the next 100 years - inspires a special program that helps financially support our valuable work.

The *Spirit of Service Sustainer Program* offers Pioneers, friends and family an opportunity to support their local Pioneers with recurring monthly or quarterly gifts. Recurring payments can be made by electronic funds transfer (EFT) from a savings or checking account, or by using a credit card. As a *Spirit of Service* donor, you will truly 'sustain' your Pioneers by providing regular, reliable funds to support their programs in your area.

Beginning this year, gifts through this vital program will count toward special Pioneers Centennial commemorative rewards! See insert in this *PioneersPress* issue for details.

To become a Spirit of Service Sustainer, visit www.pioneersvolunteer.org/donations/ or call 1-800-976-1914.

Gourmet Guys Night

Pioneers of the W.J. Denver Chapter participated and supported New Hope's 20th Annual Gourmet Guys night. New Hope is one of the Chapters Domestic Violence prevention partners. Pioneer Jim Crosbie graciously volunteered to be a Gourmet Guy along with 54 other local community leaders and men who show their support for New Hope's mission by donating their time and culinary talents to this well attended event. Jim made his famous 3 Bean Bonanza and there wasn't a drop left at the end of the night.

President Deb Foley, along with board members Diane Rodger and her partner Walter, Betty Viens and her partner Stan, Jim's wife Jeanne, and her friend Carol, attended the event. A sampling of more than 25 different dishes was provided along with desserts and coffee. Everyone at the table raved about the food.

The Chapter donated a Gift Basket for the raffle table where the Verizon Pioneers were identified as the donor as well as we were mentioned in the program. More than 250 supporters attended this sold out event at the local ELKS lodge for a night of culinary delights, raffles and drawings to support the ever-increasing demand for New Hope's services.

A Trip To The Zoo

The Domestic Violence Awareness group from the Thomas Sherwin Chapter took 47 women and children to the Franklin Park Zoo in Dorchester, Mass. This was the chapter's 6th annual day trip. The day started with all the group members meeting at the front of the zoo with grills, coolers, ice and all the food necessary for a good old fashioned cook-out. Members played games with the children to give the mothers some time to relax. A Dunkin' Donuts franchise owner provided participants with coffee, juice, donuts and muffins. The children loved the early morning treats.

During the zoo visit, each family was teamed up with a volunteer to help the mothers. A couple of the men volunteers went to the rear of the zoo to set up the cook-out. They placed tablecloths on the tables, iced down the drinks, and took all the toys and games out of the packages. The families spent two hours at the zoo in the morning, ate lunch and played games, then returned to the zoo for the remainder of the day.

The shelters that attended this year were The Elizabeth Stone House and Dove. These two shelters have attended other outings that the chapter has hosted.

Want to receive Pioneers' information, news & Centennial updates by email?
Register your email address today at www.pioneersvolunteer.org

contact us

Verizon Pioneers

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Please detach and return in the envelope provided

Gift Reply