

# PHOENIX THUNDERBIRD CLUB

## Arizona Chapter #66

\* MARCH / APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER \*



### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT**

A few changes have come in with the new year! At the request of Caron, Board officer positions for 2019 have made some changes: Ellen E. Miller is now President and Caron Personke is Sr.Vice-President. Caron will be interim Secretary/Treasurer until Edna Keller is available to resume her duties. Ellen is now Membership chair. Helen Trobough notified the Board that she will continue for only a short time as the Hug-A-Bear chair. Caron is Hug-A-Bear co-chair and Scholarship co-chair. You know you'd be a great asset to the Board! Phoenix Thunderbird Club needs you – Come on down!

Please keep our Secretary/Treasurer **Edna Keller** in your thoughts and prayers during her recovery, and send her cheerful greetings! 1408 N. 37<sup>th</sup> Ave. Phoenix 85009

*Ellen E. Miller and Caron Personke*

### **VETERANS NEWS** Carole Spiess (602) 242-1026

Some information from the quarterly meeting I attended at the VA hospital:

The new **VRC** (veteran resource center) has opened. They help veterans work through the system and help get them registered as well as any problems they encounter. The first week they have already assisted over **500 veterans**.

Two speakers from Recreation Therapy told how they help veterans in the Community Living Center (CLC). They are elderly and hospice veterans. They have many events planned, sports venues have donated many free passes, they have horse therapy, as well as dogs and cats come in to see them. There is also another program called "No Veteran dies alone" and they have volunteers sit with them. If you are interested, you can call to inquire.

Just a last minute note to let you know that we donated a total of **415 rolls** of wrapping paper plus all of the other items you included. **Thank you so much Pioneers and others. You are the greatest.**

### LUNCHEON WINNERS:

**JANUARY :** Cash drawings (Each winner received \$25.00):  
Laura Roybal -and- Linda Morris

\$5.00 drawings (Each winner received \$5.00):  
Laura Warren -and- Patty DeBusk

Free lunch: Linda Morris

**FEBRUARY :** Cash drawings (Each winner received \$25.):  
Dorothy McShee -and- Lois Burr

\$5.00 drawings (Each winner received \$5.00):  
Ruth Buck -and- Mary Schinn

Free lunch: Jerry Spiess

### ***PIONEERS HELP ARROYO SCHOOL ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAM***

**Last year Arroyo Elementary School**, 4535 W. Cholla St., Phoenix, started an Anti-Bullying program in the upper grades. The program was so successful that this year it is mandatory for the entire school and is being reviewed for usage in the entire Washington School District.

Teachers at Arroyo have created a Character Counts Committee which is responsible for the program that instills a positive school climate and creates a “culture of kindness” while making a safe environment for students’ education. The six basic values (also known as “Pillars of Character”) are supported in every classroom: Trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. It has been documented that using this program has dramatically decreased student violence and bullying.

The students showing good character have been rewarded with pizza lunches, prize bags, and schoolwide recognition. Arroyo Elementary School requested that **Phoenix Thunderbird Club** join in by donating four bicycles, with safety helmets and bicycle locks to be awarded. They want to create some excitement within the student body by providing a quarterly drawing for a bike for students that show exceptionally good character. Phoenix Thunderbird Club is stepping up to provide those prizes. We have provided support to Arroyo School in the past with donations of computers, bulletin boards, school supplies, teacher awards and prizes for student achievements.

## PHOENIX THUNDERBIRD CLUB TEE BOX SPONSOR

**In the continuing support of veterans and education** at all levels, the Phoenix Thunderbird Club name was on the First Tee Box at the fifth annual S.E.E.4Vets Golf Tournament held at the Wigwam Resort, November 16, 2018.

S.E.E.4Vets (Support Education and Employment for Vets) is a local 501(c)(3) which focuses on tutor-structured math and English classes in community colleges for veterans transitioning from military to civilian life. As these classes are not GI Bill eligible, S.E.E.4Vets provides scholarships to attend these classes.

To put it mildly, military personnel serving in the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts were not concentrating on college-level math and English skills! S.E.E.4Vets partners with community colleges throughout the state to assist veterans in getting their college sea legs. The \$100 Tee Box Sponsorship contributed to funding these educational opportunities for veterans.

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### **PIONEER WEBSITE – easy access to Pioneer information**

<http://aztelecompioneers.org>



**Make a direct donation!** Monetary donations may be made directly to Phoenix Thunderbird Club by making out a check to Phoenix Thunderbird Club, and, while Edna Keller is unavailable, mailing it Attn: Caron Personke, Interim Secretary/Treasurer, P. O. Box 8078, Surprise, AZ 85374

Be sure to note your donation is specifically for Phoenix Thunderbird Club coffers. Keep in mind, your donations are tax-deductible within the legal parameters and a tax-deduction form will be provided to you if requested.



How many opticians does it take to change a lightbulb?  
Is it one or two? One... or two? One... or two?

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**\*\*\* Welcome New Mexico to Chapter 66! \*\*\***

After some time away, New Mexico has rejoined Chapter 66! Information is being gathered regarding the number of members and their activities. Welcome back NM!

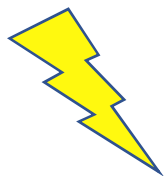


## "TAB COLLECTING NEWS"

**Dorothy McShee** has noted it has become increasingly more difficult for her to find any location that will accept separate aluminum pop-tabs for recycling. Therefore, Dorothy will no longer collect separate pop-tabs to raise money for Ronald McDonald House Charities. However, working with Acacia School, **Tom Nelson** has learned that the students collect aluminum cans and tabs and donate them to Ronald McDonald House. The project is part of their "character building" education. So by giving the students the pop-tabs, they'll do the legwork and Pioneers are able to contribute to the students' project and to RMHC! Continue to save pop-tabs and bring them to **Tom** at the luncheons! (No cans please – just pop-tabs)

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**----- THANKS PIONEERS ! -----** January 2019 - Through efforts of **Dorothy McShee's** fundraising, generous donations, and funds contributed by our club, Phoenix Thunderbird Club presented a **\$500** donation check to Ronald McDonald House Charities in Phoenix.



**REMEMBER** DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS  
FOR PIONEERS SCHOLARSHIPS IS FRIDAY,  
**MARCH 15, 2019 6:00 P.M.**

Questions? Contact Caron Personke or Tom Nelson

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## **YOUR RECIPES ARE NEEDED !**



Arizona Chapter 66 is putting together a "Chapter 66 Recipe Book" featuring favorite recipes of Pioneers and Partners, friends and family. The book will be offered in the near future for fundraising.

Bring your recipes for any of your favorite dishes to the luncheons and give them to any Board member, or, if you prefer, US Mail them or email them.

Phoenix Thunderbird Club P.O.Box 8078 Surprise AZ 85374  
eem4tbird@outlook.com

***Changes as of January 10, 2019***

President/Newsletter:	Ellen E. Miller	(623) 546-9223	<b>eem4tbird@outlook.com</b>
Membership:	Ellen E. Miller	(623) 546-9223	<b>eem4tbird@outlook.com</b>
Sr. Vice-President:		Caron Personke	<b>cp4tbird@gmail.com</b>
Interim Secretary/Treasurer:		Caron Personke	<b>cp4tbird@gmail.com</b>
Hug-A-Bears / Scholarships		Caron Personke	<b>cp4tbird@gmail.com</b>
Past-President:	Helen Trobough	(602) 938-3660	<b>Helen24@Q.com</b>
Fellowship/cupcakes:	Audrey Gregory	(602) 548-1521	[Get well, sympathy cards]

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Pioneer National Headquarters (Greenwood Village, CO)    1-800-872-5995

Retirement / Benefits: **1-800-729-7526**

- Address changes must be made in writing – **Send to:**

Retiree Service Center

PO Box 24989

Jacksonville, FL 32241

Include information: Full Name, First 5 digits of your SSN, Old address/Telephone number, New address/telephone number, Signature.

***"CARON'S CHALLENGE"*** Newsletters will feature "Caron's Challenge"

The challenge this Newsletter is sending as many birthday cards as we can to a WWII Veteran, Recil Troxel, of Oklahoma! *Saw this on the Phoenix TV News:* Mr. Troxel is turning 93 soon. Troxel is currently undergoing treatment for cancer and his daughter says she knows an influx of birthday cards would bring him great joy. "He loves any kind of mail," said his daughter Liz Anderson. "He sits here in this chair looking out the window every day. When the mail is here, he's like, 'the mail is here; we better go get the mail.'" But it's not often that Troxel finds any mail for him. If you would like to send a card and be part of the birthday surprise, here's the address:

Recil Troxel    2684 North Highway 81    Marlow, OK 73055

## CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU !!



\*\*\* Total 2018 Phoenix Thunderbird Club Volunteers hours: **15,399** \*\*\*

Pioneers: 12,885

Partners: 1454

Friends of Pioneering: 1060

**Volunteering 100 – 250 Hours:** Joe Hersey, Edna Keller, Lottie Novak, Grace Templeton, Pam Nelson – Partner, Lynda Matakovich (Friend of Pioneering - Prescott)

**Volunteering 250 – 500 Hours:** Patty DeBusk, Tom Nelson, Audrey Gregory, Ellen E. Miller, Mary Mahar (Prescott & Prescott Valley), Nancy Thomas (Friend of Pioneering – Prescott)

**Volunteering 500 – 750 Hours:** Dorothy McShee, Velma Moore, Joseph O'Hagan, Caron Personke, Marlene Beasley (Prescott)

**Volunteering 750 – 1000 Hours:** Ruth Buck, Diane Greenough (Dewey), Mary Jo Hulse (Prescott Valley)

**Volunteering 1000 + Hours:** Carole Spiess, Wanda Cothran – Partner, Don and Chris Bergen (Lake Havasu City)

Be sure to report your volunteer hours by contacting Tom Nelson  
**Telephone:** (602) 418-1620 **email:** [aznative1893@outlook.com](mailto:aznative1893@outlook.com)



Cookie Jar Silent Auction \* May 22

## MAY LUNCHEON at Beatitudes

*This is an outstanding fund raiser for Phoenix Thunderbird Club !*

**BE THERE OR BE SQUARE !**

## IN MEMORIAM

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We send prayers for strength and comfort to the loved ones of those who have passed away.

**MITCHELL WARREN WOODS, JR** 08-17-27/12-18-18

".. moved from Savannah, Georgia to Tempe, Arizona in 1953 where Mitchell was newly employed by Mountain Telephone and Telegraph Company in Phoenix. In June 1968, Mitchell was transferred to the Denver, CO headquarters of the phone company." "He enjoyed serving ... as a former President of Mountain Bell Pioneers."

**MARGIE B. MITCHELL** 06-04-09 (Notice of death recently received)

**EVERETT S. HAYES** 01-2017 (Notice of death recently received)

**LUCIO ("Lou") ("Lucho") H. SAUCEDA** 12-31-51/07-14-17 (Notice of death recently received)

"He retired from Qwest Communications after 35 years as a dedicated Manager." He is survived by his wife of 30 years, who retired after 21 years of service with USWest, Patricia (Trish) A. Saucedo.

**JOHN C. NELSON** 2016 (Notice of death recently received)

**NORMA DEAN BEHRMANN** 04-27-33/01-11-19

"Norma was a supervisor of operators for Mountain Bell and a public relations director of activities for AT&T."

**BILL PIKE** Obituary published 02-03-19

"Upon return from Korean War, he worked at Mountain Bell overseeing the installation of Fiber Optics. Bill retired 35 years later as a third level Engineer."

**RUTHANN "Ruthie" LUNDERING** 10-27-32/02-13-19

"In 1973, Ruthie was promoted to service foreman – the first female in Mountain Bell to hold that title. She retired as an Assistant Manager when Mountain Bell became USWest in 1984."

**PAUL GEORGE MILLER** 02-17-23/02-17-19 "Received his Mechanical Engineering degree from Purdue and in 1946 began his successful career at Western Electric in Indianapolis.

Paul moved to Western Electric's locations in Baltimore, Newark, Buffalo, and finally Phoenix in 1972, where he was named manager of production at the largest communications cable facility in the world. He was instrumental in the company's transition to AT&T in the 1980s and successfully expanded manufacturing capacity throughout his tenure until his retirement in 1986."

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## KNIT AND PURL

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Pioneer Friend **Monika Pollack** likes to share her knitting skills. She knits house slippers and hand warmers which she gives to Pioneer Life Member **Louise Ray** to be donated to a charity project. Monika also knits various size baby caps which are donated by Pioneers to babies born to veterans. Thanks for supporting Pioneers!

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\*\*\*\* **LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS** \*\*\*\*

**LUNCHEON:** WEDNESDAY, **APRIL 17, 2019**

\*Social hour 11:00 AM \*Lunch 12:00 Noon

**LOCATION:** **GEORGE YANG'S** 6048 N 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Phoenix (previously Golden Phoenix)  
Veggie spring rolls and five different entree platters plus rice (Family style) Pot of hot tea provided.

**DEADLINE to make reservations FRIDAY, April 12, 2019**

MEMBER / LIFE MEMBER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PARTNER / GUEST NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_ Each reservation is \$15.00

*Please make checks payable to:* Phoenix Thunderbird Club

Mail to: Lottie Novak, 19043 N. 33<sup>rd</sup> Way, Phoenix, AZ 85050 or call (602) 569-9470

Cancellations must be made no later than **48 hours prior to the luncheon** to be eligible for a refund.

***Please send reservations check for APRIL luncheon at the beginning of APRIL.***



\*\*\*\* **LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS** \*\*\*\*

**LUNCHEON:** WEDNESDAY, **MARCH 20, 2019**

\*Social hour 11:00 AM \*Lunch 12:00 Noon

**LOCATION:** **MIMI'S CAFÉ** 21001 N. Tatum Blvd. #88, Phoenix (Desert Ridge Mall)  
We will have some nice lunch menu choices.

**DEADLINE to make reservations FRIDAY, March 15, 2019**

MEMBER / LIFE MEMBER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PARTNER / GUEST NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_ Each reservation is \$15.00

*Please make checks payable to:* Phoenix Thunderbird Club

Mail to: Lottie Novak, 19043 N. 33<sup>rd</sup> Way, Phoenix, AZ 85050 or call (602) 569-9470

Cancellations must be made no later than **48 hours prior to the luncheon** to be eligible for a refund.

***Please send reservations check for MARCH luncheon at the beginning of MARCH.***