

PHOENIX THUNDERBIRD CLUB

Arizona Chapter #66

* JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER *



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT

More changes have come about for Pioneers, pursuant to decisions by National Headquarters. The original name of Telephone Pioneers of America was changed to Telecom Pioneers and we included any and all members of the telecommunications industry. Now we are open to anyone (family and friends and neighbors and acquaintances) joining, and we are now known as "**Pioneers a volunteer network**". Also, if taking a position on the Club Board spooks you, it is no longer called a Board! The new name is "**Executive Committee of Phoenix Thunderbird Club**". So *please* help out by becoming a member of the **Executive Committee of Phoenix Thunderbird Club**, of **Pioneers a volunteer network**!

Ellen E. Miller and Caron Personke



THANK YOU!

Thanks to **Barbara Hernandez** and **Laura Warren** for volunteering to take over the Luncheon Reservations tasks! We thank **Lottie Novak** for her many years of service and welcome Barbara and Laura as they become co-chairs of the Luncheon Reservations duties.



TABS AND CANS FOR RMHC

Please remember to bring **aluminum cans** to Dorothy McShee and **pop tabs** to Caron Personke. Dorothy takes the cans to a recycling center and gets cash for the weight of the cans. Caron takes the pop tabs to Acacia School. As part of their Community Involvement Training, the students then take the pop tabs to Ronald McDonald House for their recycling program. *Both* collections allow Pioneers to donate to Ronald McDonald House Charities.



Watch for ***new*** Scholarship Rules and Application Form for Pioneers scholarships in March/April

Newsletter. Heads up - DEADLINE to submit is **MARCH 15, 2020 6:00 P.M.** Questions? Contact Ellen E. Miller or Caron Personke

PHOENIX THUNDERBIRD CLUB - OFFICERS / COMMITTEE CHAIRS January 2020

President/Newsletter:	Ellen E. Miller	(623) 546-9223	eem4tbird@outlook.com
Membership/Scholarship:	Ellen E. Miller	(623) 546-9223	eem4tbird@outlook.com
Sr. Vice-President/ Secretary/Treasurer:	Caron Personke		cp4tbird@gmail.com
Hug-A-Bears	Caron Personke		cp4tbird@gmail.com
Fellowship: [Get well, sympathy cards]	Audrey Gregory	(602) 548-1521	- - - -
Veterans Hospital:	Carole Spiess	(602) 242-1026	onmywayout.76@Q.com
Volunteer Hours	Tom Nelson	(602) 418-1620	aznative1893@outlook.com
Education	Tom Nelson	(602) 418-1620	aznative1893@outlook.com
Luncheon Reservations:	Barbara Hernandez	(623) 326-0281	bar-jas@msn.com
Luncheon Reservations:	Laura Warren	(602) 574-0437	lmwaz@msn.com
Luncheon Locations:	Patty DeBusk	(602) 943-7773	padebusk@Q.com
Fund raising:	Cindy Krey	(602)672-1932	gjcjin1956@gmail.com
St. Mary's Food Bank:	Pearl Biedrzycki	(480) 705-0490	- - - -
Treasures for Teachers	Dorothy McShee	(602) 276-7076	Mapatt02@ymail.com
Ronald McDonald House:	Dorothy McShee	(602) 276-7076	Mapatt02@ymail.com

- - - - - THANKS PIONEERS ! - - - - - Two million Arizonans each year are faced with the lack of consistent access to adequate food. In Arizona, nearly 30% of our neighbors are considered working poor, living on wages that barely cover housing and other basic necessities. One in 5 Arizonans faces food insecurity. (*Stats per St. Mary's Food Bank*) On December 10, 2019, thanks to members' generous donations, and fund raising dollars contributed by our club, Phoenix Thunderbird Club was able to present a **\$1000** donation check to Susan Mack, representative of St. Mary's Food Bank. Ms. Mack sends warm thanks to our Pioneers, "Thanks so much to Pioneers, who, over many years, have contributed so much to St. Mary's Food Bank."



WARM GREETINGS SENT BY PIONEERS

The November 20th luncheon diners did a wonderful job with a Group Project of writing holiday greetings in cards to be sent to deployed troops. Many thanks to the 27 writers who shared some personal stories, words of thanks, and cheerful holiday greetings! The stack of cards was then sent to Operation Gratitude, a charity which sends Care Packages to deployed service members in all branches of the armed forces, in all world posts. No doubt, Pioneers brought a smile and a warmed heart to troops far from their families at the holiday season.

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

New Chapter 66 COOKBOOKS are available! Sixty-three pages of recipes submitted by fellow Chapter 66 Pioneers. These are not "for sale" but are being offered at a suggested donation amount of only **\$10.** (or more!) The cookbooks have been created by the Chapter but ***all donations stay with Phoenix Thunderbird Club.*** Use for gift giving or keep for yourself – or do both! **Challenge:** How much in donations can we bring in in exchange for an exciting new cookbook ?! *Let's do this!*

CHANGE IN START TIME

OF

LUNCHEONS' SOCIAL TIME

Starting in January 2020,

Luncheon Social Time will start at **11:30 AM**

Time change is necessary to allow time for set up.

Most of our venues do not open their doors to us before 11:00 AM. Social time will start at **11:30 AM** to allow one-half-hour for set up by our Pioneer crew of our "Reservations Table" and "Cash Drawing tickets" and "Name Tags", etc.

PLEASE ARRIVE AT 11:30 AM * THANKS!!

VETERANS NEWS by Carole Spiess (602) 242-1026

At our last meeting, the Associate Director caught us up on things happening at the hospital. At the current time, Phoenix has over 96,000 veterans registered at this VA hospital. By the end 2019 they expected another 40,000 veterans. This hospital rating has increased to one of the top ratings and is among the top 15 in the nation.

Thanks to fund raising and member donations, on December 10, on behalf of Phoenix Thunderbird Club, volunteer Carole Spiess presented a check to Michael Achey, Chief of Volunteer Services, for **\$2500**. The donation is specifically for the “9911 Fund” at the Phoenix VA hospital. The VA has a lengthy list of programs where donations may be designated – *i.e.* from Homeless Vets (9946 Fund) to Recreational Therapy (9957 Fund). The “9911 Fund” is considered a General Purpose Fund to be used to assist veterans in critical situations. As Carole has volunteered with Volunteer Services for over 27 years, she knows the “9911 Fund” money is not handed out lightly, so we know our funds will go directly to help a vet in serious need. *(See photo on website <https://aztelecompioneers.org>)*

December 2, 3, and 4 was the Veterans’ Gift Shop at the VA Hospital, in partnership with American Legion Auxiliary. Thanks to Pioneers money and material donations, we provided 103 rolls of wrapping paper plus countless packets of folded wrapping paper, 26 bags of bows, and rolls and rolls of Scotch tape. At least 255 veterans were able to select gifts, free of charge, for their family members (over 490) and themselves. Had Pioneers not been so generous with their donations, the wrapping items would have had to have been purchased which would have meant less money for purchasing the gifts.

Please remember we still collect books, magazines, new birthday cards (used cards go to Dorothy McShee), white socks, tee shirts (all sizes). Call with any questions. Carole Spiess 602 -242-1026

(Have we ever mentioned Carole has received a prestigious Presidential Award for her many years of volunteer service?)

LUNCHEON WINNERS:

NOVEMBER 2019 : Cash drawings (Each winner received \$25.):

Ruth Buck -and- Laura Warren

\$5.00 drawings (Each winner received \$5.00):

Carole Spiess -and- Marcie Richison

Free lunch: Jeanie Stoffel

DECEMBER 2019 : Cash drawings (Each winner received \$30.):

Pat Dwyer -and- Dorothy McShee

\$5.00 drawings (Each winner received \$5.00):

Marcie Richison -and- Mary Helen Burgess

Free lunch: Audrey Gregory



- Winner of the Collector's Jim Beam decanter drawing
December 11, 2019: **LAURA WARREN**
Congratulations Laura!

Price change for luncheon tickets

Two luncheon options were presented at the November 20th luncheon to either (1) raise price of luncheon tickets to \$20. or (2) limit our venues to only those that were under the current ticket price of \$15. By show of hands, the vote was to raise the price of luncheon tickets to \$20. The new ticket price goes into effect with the January 2020 luncheon.

**2020 ! 2020 IS A LEAP YEAR. FEBRUARY WILL HAVE 29 DAYS –
WHAT WILL YOU DO ON YOUR EXTRA DAY ?**

IN MEMORIAM

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

JAKE F. BAKER 10-02-41 / 01-20-19

"Around 1965, he moved from an independent telephone company in Idaho to the Phoenix area where he went to work for Mountain Bell. His career went from the old open wire – cord board and crank telephone systems up to fiber-optics. In Phoenix he worked his way from outside plant, cable splicer, residential I&R, to end in commercial sales.

BARBARA ALICE WISE SILVA (10-22-19 age 91) "Barbara worked with AT&T for 30 years."

THOMAS JOSEPH BALLEEN, JR. (08-29-39 / 11-98-19)

"He received his Masters degree from the University of Arizona and was hired by Mountain Bell. While employed by the phone company he earned a Masters Degree in Business from Pace University. Tom worked as a Manager for the phone company until taking early retirement in 1991."

LORETTA ANN SMITH (01-05-57 / 11-07-19)

"Immediately after High School she worked as a seamstress then as a Switchboard/Telephone Operator for MA Bell, AT&T, and US West until the mid-1990s."

RACHEL MARJORIE "Marge" CASTNER (07-23-34 / 11-13-19)

"Marjorie 'Marge' worked for Mountain Bell, AT&T and Century Link for 35 years as a line assigner and enjoyed 35 years of retirement."

PATRICIA ANN LOUISE (KENNEDY) BUCK (11-14-19 age 82) "After working at Mountain Bell and Kaiser Aerospace, Pat went to the City of Phoenix Police Department."

NAIDA LOUISE ANGLIN (12/20/32 / 12-05-19)

"Naida was employed as a long-distance operator for AT&T in Phoenix, AZ."

THE GIFT TABLE IS FOLDING

In an effort to streamline fundraising, the Executive Committee (f/k/a Board) has voted to discontinue the Blue Ticket drawings for the Gift Table items and focus on the Cash Drawing [Red tickets]. This change will come about in 2020 when the current supply of gifts is exhausted. Therefore, no item donations are being accepted. Thanks to Cindy Krey and all Pioneers who have made the Gift Table Drawing a success over the past years!

A "Free Lunch" will still be drawn. There will be no \$5. Drawings.

"Wherever you turn, you can find someone who needs you."
Albert Schweitzer.

BEAR MAKERS ARE BUSY BEES



Hug-A-Bears recently completed: 140 by Phoenix Thunderbird Club, 90 by Prescott. **Hug-A-Bears** recently delivered: 80 bears to Maricopa County Hospital, 60 to Honor Health (John C Lincoln) and 90 by Prescott group.

The Hug-A-Bears groups are busy! Join in the activities! Much of the building of bears process can even be done in your own home. Contact Caron Personke for information.

*Barbara and Laura
volunteer as Luncheon Reservations Co-chairs*

Mail your Reservations Form and check to :

Barbara Hernandez
6101 W. Desert Cove Ave.
Glendale, AZ 85304

If you have to make reservations by telephone or have questions:

Call Laura Warren (602) 574-0437 or Barbara Hernandez (623) 326-0281

* The deadline for reservations remains the Friday before the luncheon.

Chapter 66 "Face-to-Face" Each year in January , Chapter 66 Executive Committee holds a Face-to-Face meeting in Casa Grande, AZ, which is half way between Phoenix and Tucson. In 2020, in addition to the business meeting, the Committee will put together "Help Bags" for the nearby Hope Women's Center. Each bag will contain some necessities for the women and children – toothbrush and toothpaste, shampoo, soap, etc. Phoenix Thunderbird Club donated **\$100**, money made available through fund raising efforts. *Thanks Pioneers!*

**** LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS ****

LUNCHEON: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2020

***Social time 11:30 AM** *Lunch 12:00 Noon Please note 11:30 AM Social Time start time

LOCATION: **GARCIA'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT** 3301 W. Peoria Ave. Phx

MENU: Selection of general Mexican food i.e. tostada, enchilada, taco

DEADLINE to make reservations FRIDAY, February 14, 2020

MEMBER / LIFE MEMBER NAME: _____

PARTNER / GUEST NAME(S): _____

TOTAL NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS: _____ Each reservation is **\$20.00**

*Please make checks payable to: **Phoenix Thunderbird Club***

Mail Reservation form and Check to: Barbara Hernandez 6101 W. Desert Cove Ave.
Glendale, AZ 85304 **Telephone Reservations** may be made by calling: Laura Warren
(602) 574-0437 or Barbara Hernandez (623) 326-0281

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

Please send reservations check for FEBRUARY luncheon at the beginning of FEBRUARY.



**** LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS ****

LUNCHEON: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2020

***Social time 11:30 AM** *Lunch 12:00 Noon Please note 11:30 AM Social Time start time

LOCATION: **THE MANDARIN SUPER BUFFET** 1501 W. Bethany Home Rd. Phx

MENU: Buffet with lots of options from which to choose

DEADLINE to make reservations FRIDAY, January 10, 2020

MEMBER / LIFE MEMBER NAME: _____

PARTNER / GUEST NAME(S): _____

TOTAL NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS: _____ Each reservation is **\$20.00**

*Please make checks payable to: **Phoenix Thunderbird Club***

Mail Reservation form and Check to: Barbara Hernandez 6101 W. Desert Cove Ave.
Glendale, AZ 85304 **Telephone Reservations** may be made by calling: Laura Warren
(602) 574-0437 or Barbara Hernandez (623) 326-0281

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

Please send reservations check for JANUARY luncheon at the beginning of JANUARY.