

FISH BIMONTHLY NEWS

November - December, 2014

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Board of Directors wishes you and your families a happy Thanksgiving and a very merry Christmas. Thanks to each of you for your service to those in need in our community. A special thank you to the following volunteers who have resigned: Ward Wheatall for over 20 years of service as a transportation scheduler and driver; Susan Iobst for four years of service; Sherry Roberson and Eileen Reilly, both with a little over one year of service.

During 2014 we have worked to reduce our organization's risk through policies, training and insurance. Policies addressing confidentiality and harassment were attached to our revised Orientation Guide. We had an excellent training session with Weekly Coordinators and Lead Volunteers. The Board approved applying for Director and Officer Insurance. Early in 2015 we will implement a client data base that uses only the last four digits of social security numbers.

Welcome to our newest Board Member, Ray Scharfenberger. Ray fills the position created by Bud Voorhess's resignation. Ray has agreed to look for additional grant support for FISH.

Please use the "What Does FISH Need" handout on the shelf near the pantry door. The last time I volunteered in the pantry and used that list, a caller responded that a volunteer told her not to bring those items because we buy them. We buy them because they are the primary items distributed to clients. In the last two years we have experienced an 18 and 20 percent growth respectively in meals provided, and expenses have exceeded income. Every item donated is one we do not have to purchase.

Thank you for what you do for FISH and our community.

Don Butts,
President

PHONE NUMBERS

FISH Building/Food Pantry 220-9379
FISH Transportation Requests 208-0444
Clothes Closet: Billie Johnston 229-5622

Weekly Coord. 1-7: Tricia Landen
564-1320 triciageat@earthlink.net

Weekly Coord 8-14: Pat Kerr
229-0991 lionpatk@cox.net

Weekly Coord 15-21: Linda LaFleur
564-4532 lafleur1@cox.net

Weekly Coord 22-31, Internal Communication:
Lee Kueser 220-8714 fkueser@cox.net

Large Food Donations: Geré Brown
645-2878 ohtobepainting@gmail.com

Volunteers: Martha Buell:
345-2646 mtonka@cox.net

Transportation: Sue Voigt
(804) 966-8487 svoigt1@cox.net

Memorials Secretary: Lou Lombardo
220-5443 loulom@verizon.net

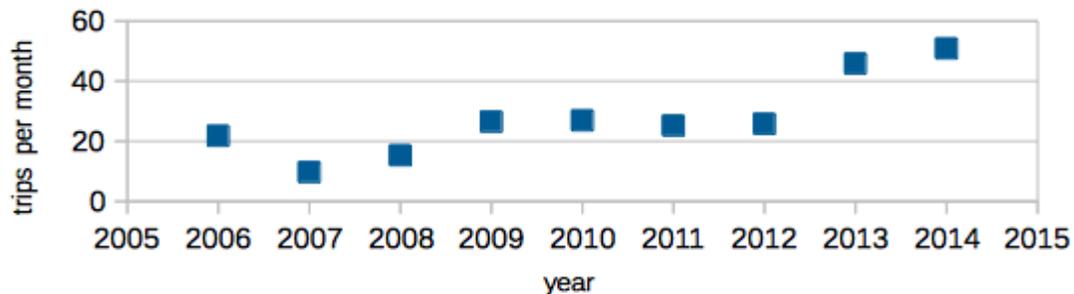
Newsletter Editor: David Reed
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TRANSPORTATION REPORT

Grateful thanks to Ward Wheatall, who has retired as a FISH volunteer after over 15 years as a transportation scheduler and driver.

FISH volunteers provide rides to medical appointments for folks without other means of transport. Faith in Action provides rides for their clients and the Peninsula Agency on Aging Rides

program serves people age 60 and older. Over the past two years the number of one-way rides provided by FISH has almost doubled from an average of 25.2 to 45.8 in 2013 to 50.8 in the first 9 months of 2014. The number of one-way rides provided in recent months: June – 82, July – 44, August – 48, and September – 37.



During the last 2 months, 20 different drivers have taken people to medical appointments in the area including 3 round-trips to Richmond. Ride request messages are left on the FISH Transportation telephone line and volunteer transportation schedulers check the messages and telephone to find available drivers.

Recently one of our drivers shared the good news that a regular client has healed completely after many visits for a serious wound; this was made

possible by the faithful FISH drivers willing to take her. God's grace is shown in many ways!

Currently there are only 4 transportation schedulers and 24 drivers. We desperately need 2 more volunteers willing to take a week about 10 times a year to schedule rides, as well as some additional willing drivers. Otherwise, FISH will not be able to continue this basic service cited in our bylaws.

PANTRY AND CLOTHES CLOSET

At the October Board meeting, Billie Johnston reported the fire marshal was in to inspect the premises. We passed the inspection. His directives are that doors into the waiting room from outside, and doors into the clothing room **must be kept shut** throughout the day. Volunteers should check on this from time to time. On another matter, donations put on the benches and

orders kept out in the waiting room are being taken by clients; probably thinking they are free items. **All volunteers take note please...**all completed orders should be kept inside the pantry until the client is ready to leave the premises. All donations coming in, need to be placed inside the pantry, storage room, or clothing room. Do not leave them in the waiting room.

Food and Clothing distribution, August and September 2014
(presented as aug/sep)

Food Requests: 424/459 Total Fed: 954/1113 % over '13: 14%/26%
 # of Meals: 14,310/16,695
 Total Clothed: 317/272 % over '13: 17%/13% Adults: 179/152 Children: 138/120
 # of Outfits: 941/779 Housewares: 50/63
 New HH: 39/50 % of '13: - 22%/47% Total Requests: 448/485
 % over '13: 8%/22%

The average daily workload was 21/23. A total of 448 requests came to the pantry in August, 485 in September, a continuing increase over the last three months. The number of requests in September was second only to January, 2013 which was 528 requests.

SUBSTITUTE LIST

QUICK RESPONSE TEAM VOLUNTEER MEMBERS

Mary Campbell 253-9457	Patsy Magus 229-6318
Ruth Harris 220-2566	Cathey Sadowski 221-7016, 645-6405 Cell
Linda LaFleur 564-4532	

SUBSTITUTES

Julie Adie 652-5688 M, Th, F	Patsy Magus 229-6318 No Thurs
Roger Allen 229-2271	Gail McNamara 259-2495
Mark Anderson 565-5088 Mon, Fri only	Darleyne Moore 564-4565 T,Th, F
Mary Anderson 564-0303 2nd Wed only	Michael Moskalski 778-0590 Th & Fri
Mary Ann Brown 565-4414 No F	Dudley Orr 229-6567 No M
Karen Annoni 565-7272 No T or W	Janet Pederson 229-8555
Beverly Ashnault 229-0559 T, W, Th only	Barbara Ricketts 345-0953
Linda Baker 258-3748 No T	Susan Ripple 221-6652
Nancy Berryman 804-966-8306 T, Th, Fri	Evelyn Romero 369-6065
Mary Beth Gaeta 345-3263 T, W only	Ellen Rosen 220-3951
Gene Bruss 220-9359	Susan Ross 564-7709
Mary Campbell 876-9523	Gary Ruhland 532-4406 T, Th, F
Miriam Collins 206-1076 M, W, Fr only	Martha Rush 220-1279 1/2 day
John Ellis 345-0228	Cathey Sadowski 221-7016
Karen Groombridge 732832-1419	Bluann Saladier 602-0369 F only
Nancy Heflin 258-9360	Cela Schmidt 229-1186
Susie Henry 220-1021	Jean Smith 220-9648 M or Fri 1/2 days
John Hilkert 345-6977	Debbi Trainor 645-4361
Fredericka Holt 278-2155	Dotty Trusz 250-3192 Tu, Fri only
Mary Jane Yeager 220-4626	Debbie VanDoren 645-3340 T,W,Th only
Cathy Keane 258-1912	Sue Voigt 804-966-8487
Linda LaFleur 564-4532 M,T,Th only	Doris Williams 220-0364 No W or F
Barbara Landa 259-2079 1/2 day M, T, W	Frank Yoerg 564-3675
Ike Lukenbaugh 876-2899 MTW all day,T/Th PM	