

FISH

The President's Message:

Visit
the FISH Website

<http://williamsburgfish.weebly.com/services.html>

Friends of FISH,

Thank you for all you do for FISH and thanks to those who preceded us for establishing the excellent reputation FISH enjoys

The Pantry Report:

During the month of August there were 334 requests for 799 recipients for a total of 11,985 meals. Persons fed was down 16% from August 2014

In September there were 355 requests for 865 recipients for a total of 12,975 meals. Persons fed was down 22% from September 2014.



Forty year history: As you know, FISH is 40 years old this year. If you have not already done so, please see the early history of FISH at <http://williamsburgfish.weebly.com/services.html> click on 40 Years and Counting.

Virginia Peninsula Foodbank Shoppers: We would like to add another FISH shopper for the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank. Each shopper makes only one trip per month to the Foodbank. Shopping at the foodbank reduces our expenses. We pay an annual administrative fee of \$125 and \$0.19 per pound for the food we get. Please contact Tom Phalen at 757-253-1090 to volunteer.

Food Storeroom/Office: Please see the new shelving units and layout in the food storeroom/office. Thanks to Jim Miller for the plans, an anonymous volunteer and her husband for the funds and "The Geezers" from King of Glory Lutheran Church for constructing and installing the shelving units and office shelves.

Elections: FISH has a 12 member Board of Directors. Directors are elected by the volunteers and serve for three years. Terms are staggered so that each year four Director's term expires. Ballots are sent out in December and counted at the annual meeting in January. The Board of Directors elects their President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. This also occurs at the annual meeting in January.

FISH is blessed with dedicated volunteers and generous donors. Together we will meet the challenges facing us and continue to provide food, clothing and housewares to those in need in our community.

-Don Butts, President, FISH Board of Directors

A special FISH thank you goes out to the Geezers from the King of Glory Lutheran Church for constructing and installing new shelving units in the FISH Food Storeroom/Office. Pictured left to right are: Bo Wingate (Head Geezer), Tony Price, Ron LaFleur, Don Butts (FISH Volunteer), Dale Walter, Herman Forsten, and not pictured, Charlie Erickson.



Important Phone Numbers:

FISH Building: 757-220-9379

**Volunteers – Martha Buell:
757-345-2646**

**Weather Related Closings:
757-220-4249**

Board Activities:

Treasurer's Report

- August expenses exceeded income by over \$5,000. For September, expenses continue to exceed income. Historically income increases in the last quarter of the year.

Old Business

September:

An update was provided on installation of new shelving in the food storeroom/office. It was reported that we have seven of the eight volunteers needed as shoppers at the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank. Work on documenting the 40-year history is complete and a letter will be sent to FISH supporters identifying the web site containing that documentation.



Old Business

October:

The nominating committee had a nominee to fill the vacant Board position, but action was delayed because the Board did not have a quorum. An article in WY Daily was discussed and a Virginia Gazette article should be published soon. The WY Daily article erroneously reported we had purchased the space we utilize. A correction will be requested because we have donors who donate money to help pay our rent. It was also reported FISH will be featured in the Ford's Colony newsletter. The office renovations should be completed by mid-October. It was suggested that if file cabinets are moved from the pantry into the office, two drawer lateral file cabinets be used and placed under the office shelves. No decision has been made to renovate the pantry just the food storeroom/office.

New Business

September:

The need to update the Policies and Procedures and Volunteer Orientation Manual was identified. We need to assign responsibility for maintaining specific documents, and outline those responsibilities in the Policies and Procedures. We also need to develop an orientation for new board members.

October:

It was proposed we have a fixed schedule at the beginning of the year so volunteers know when FISH will be closed for holidays. Two representatives will talk with United Way and CSRN to find out if they have a schedule for holiday closings. One Director commented that when the building is open FISH should be open. A Nominating Committee was appointed for 2016 Directors and Officers.

New Volunteers

Welcome FISH'S newest volunteers!

Jill Holroyd, Roban Graham, Cynthia Howell, Carolyn Ringler, Chuck Dallachie,
Jack Trotter, Holly Parks Trotter, Carolyn O'Connor

The Closet Report:



In August, 787 outfits were provided to 161 adults and 114 children. Housewares were provided to 48 in August. In August the total number of requests was down 20% from August, 2014.

In September 629 outfits were provided to 127 adults and 103 children. Housewares were provided to 53 in September. The total number of requests in September was down 22% from September 2014.

The FISH Closet is in need of boys' clothing sizes 4, 6, 8, and 10 and girl's clothing sizes 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Other Business

October:

Two Directors represented FISH at the Williamsburg Health Foundation Awards Ceremony. The President spoke to the Williamsburg Unitarian Universalist Church on Sunday.

It was reported that the General Manager of Fort Magruder is going to donate 20% of their Thanksgiving buffet profits to FISH. He has guaranteed a minimum of \$1,250.00. On November 21st, Ironbound Gym is having a Field Day in New Town and wants representatives from FISH there from 10:00 to 2:00. Admission is food for FISH. Windsor Meade is having a food collection on November 18 and they are hoping to top last year's donation of 2,000 pounds. Virginia Gazette is planning to highlight FISH in one of the Civic Advertisements.



Donations

FISH is thankful for any donation made. The following are items that FISH recommends for donations:

- Spaghetti
- Canned Meat, Chicken and Tuna
- Cereals
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Boxed Macaroni and Cheese
- Saltine Crackers
- Applesauce and Canned Fruits
- Powdered Milk
- Beans (Great Northern and Baked)
- Rice
- Peanut Butter
- Grape Jelly
- Canned Soups
- Canned Vegetables



FISH Holiday Closings:

Veterans Day, November 11th

The afternoon of November 25th

Thanksgiving Day, November 26th

November 27th

Christmas Eve, December 24th

Christmas Day, December 25th

The afternoon of New Year's Eve, December 31st