

# 2023 Newsletter

## Legacy West | pioneers

a volunteer network

Hello Legacy West Pioneers!

This is our second group newsletter, a place to see what has, and what is, happening in your chapters, towns, areas. Below you will find a page for every chapter, and many will contain links to view more information. If you want to get involved and find activities in your area, contact the chapter president or visit the web sites and Facebook links.

Marian Wilcox and Patti Pace have been busy serving our group on board meetings and various committees of the Telecompioneers Board of Directors. It has been a busy year, with many changes. Recently our Executive Director, Laura Whitlock, moved to a new position with another company. Laura took the organization through some significant changes, and we have come out stronger for her efforts. We thank her for her dedication and service to our organization. Laura recently joined the Colorado Chapter of Legacy West Pioneers and plans to volunteer with them in several of their projects.

The Board is working to streamline and increase efficiencies in our organization. We are working on the financial software, the realignment of staff, and documenting methods and processes. As the number of staff has decreased, we realized it was extremely important to have written instructions for the many moving parts of Pioneers. In future months you may see new ideas, presentations, and events to inspire us all. We plan to keep you up to date with a more frequent newsletter.

If you keep the link to the Legacy West Pioneer [website](#) handy, it can be an up to date reference for your local Pioneer units.

Thanks and happy volunteering!

Patti Pace, Vice Chair and Marian Wilcox,  
Your Legacy West Directors

The following 14 states have been condensed into six chapters.

Chapter 8—Colorado/Nebraska

Chapter 18—Minnesota/South Dakota/Iowa

Chapter 30—Washington/Oregon/Idaho/Montana

Chapter 66—Arizona/New Mexico

Chapter 67—Utah/Wyoming

Chapter 118—North Dakota



### Legacy West Director

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Visit the  
Legacy  
West  
Webpage  
[HERE](#)



you can now order flowers and support Pioneers with our new fundraising partner [FloristOne!](#)

# Chapter 8

## Colorado/Nebraska

NEBRASKA

COLORADO

### Colorado/Nebraska Chapter is made up of six clubs and councils

#### Legacy West Pioneers ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

Location: Colorado Center For The Blind,  
2233 W Shepperd Ave. in Littleton, CO.

Easter Eggs with electronic sound devices were hidden in an area of the Center lawn to be discovered by visually impaired children under the age of 18. Easter Eggs were also hidden for the sighted siblings. Additional activities include face painting, picture taking, games specially designed for the visually impaired children, and a free lunch for the participants and their families. Each child under 18 years old will receive an Easter basket filled with candy and toys.



The beepball group has been busy trying to find essential parts and balls so that we can continue making the beepball and bases. Due to the pandemic some of our vendors went out of business or are having a hard time filling orders. At this time we are purchasing balls from the National BeepBall Association, so that we can meet our commitment of 200 balls for the Beepball World Series this year, held in Oklahoma, the last week of July.

Our volunteers have been very busy, John Cruz and the beepball volunteers were awarded the Channel 7 News 7Everyday Hero Award in November and we participated in a pod cast for Eyes on Success which can be listened to by clicking [here](#).

We are also partnering with the Weiland Center in Lakewood, to make handles for hand held instruments for the students with disability issues.

#### Auraria Council Supports Project C.U.R.E

On May 26, 2022, the Auraria Team volunteered at Project C.U.R.E. sorting medical equipment and supplies. This activity is done in a large warehouse and can be very labor intensive, involving searching product names/types, reaching, walking, and lifting. The team showed up and showed out, exhibiting extreme energy while working! They successfully cleared all of the items allocated during their shift and prepped the area for the next shift. Well done team! A big thank-you to Sandy, Janet, Deb and MiChelle for this effort!!



#### Chapter President

J Kelly

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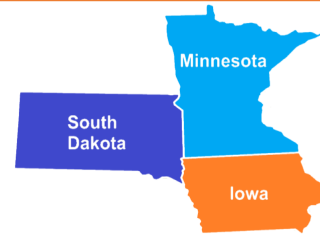
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Click below for the chapter webpage

[www.legacywestpioneers.org/chapters/coloradonebraska-chapter/](http://www.legacywestpioneers.org/chapters/coloradonebraska-chapter/)

# Chapter 18

Minnesota/ S. Dakota/ Iowa



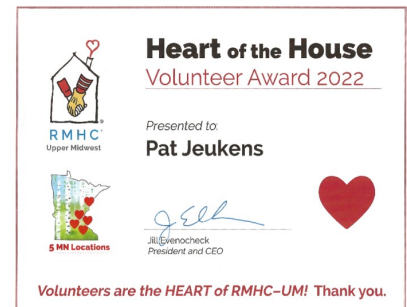
## The Minnesota/Iowa/South Dakota Chapter is divided into four clubs

With our Grant money in 2022 we served 5 meals at Ronald McDonald House in the Twin Cities with our famous homemade waffles, eggs, sausage, fresh fruit, juice, milk, and coffee. They are always so happy and thankful to have a group serve meals. In December 5 of us gathered and made over 1,400 Christmas Cookies. This project always makes us feel good.



## Heart of the House Volunteer Award 2022

Congratulations to Minnesota/Iowa/South Dakota Pioneer's on receiving the "Heart of the House Volunteer Award 2022" from Ronald MacDonal House! Well done!



In 2022 for our 111<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pioneer's we decided to make veterans living in the 7 VA homes in the three states feel loved. We sent snacks and about 210 cards to the veterans. For addresses of the VA homes look on our website [mnpioneers.org](http://mnpioneers.org) under Volunteer Now we address the cards to "A Veteran" c/o the volunteer person who then hands them out to veterans.

**OUR GOAL IS TO PUT A SMILE ON THE VETERANS LIVING IN VETERAN'S HOMES AND MAKE THEM FEEL REMEMBERED, SPECIAL AND APPRECIATED FOR THEIR SERVICE AND SACRIFICES.**

**This year we plan on honoring our veterans in veterans homes with ice cream treats and root beer floats with our grant money as well as sending birthday wishes.**

**Chapter President**

Pat Jeukens

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Click below for the chapter webpage

[mnpioneers.org](http://mnpioneers.org)

# Chapter 30

## Washington/ Oregon / Idaho/ Montanna



**Washington/Oregon/Idaho/Montana Chapter is made up of 10 clubs and councils.**

Greetings from the WA/OR/ID/MT Chapter! For this issue of the newsletter, we'd like to highlight two great on-going projects that always need volunteers. Maybe one of them will "speak" to you and you'll want to join in or start a similar project in your area.

Are you a knitter or crocheter? If so, the first project may be for you. It is called **"Love in Every Stitch"**, and it is run by the Lilac City Combined Club in Spokane, WA. Don't worry if you don't live in Spokane! This is a project you can do from home. Throughout the year, volunteers knit and crochet warm winter hats for children of all ages. During the holidays, the warm hats are donated to shelters and schools in the Spokane area. A large portion of the hats go to the local TV station that runs a warm coat drive. In recent years, they've been branching out and donating to shelters in surrounding cities. What if you don't knit or crochet, but would still like to help? Yarn donations are always very welcome! If this project interests you, contact Marian Wilcox (contact info below).



The second project takes place once a year in Vancouver, WA. It is called the **"Special Kids Rodeo"**. The Columbia Combined Club partners with Special Olympics to put on a "Rodeo" for some very special needs kids aged 6 to 12. It takes place in the arena at the Clark County Fairgrounds during the Clark County Fair in August. Each child is partnered with a volunteer cowboy/cowgirl to compete in five events: Goat Ribbon Relay, Wheelbarrow Racing, Stick Horse Relay, Wooden Steer Roping, and Barrell Racing on a real horse. They even get to ride in the opening parade led by the Rodeo Queen and her court. Each child receives a cowboy hat, a bandana, and a souvenir pin. Trophies, certificates, and prizes are handed out during the final awards presentation. IF you live in the Vancouver/Portland area and would like to help with this fun project, contact Marian Wilcox (contact info below).



Please follow us on Facebook.

Facebook: WA/OR/ID/MT Chapter: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Chapter30>

Facebook Green River Combined Club: <https://www.facebook.com/greenriverpioneers>

Facebooks Seattle Council: <https://www.facebook.com/seattlecouncilpioneers>

**Chapter President**

Marian Wilcox

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Click below for the chapter webpage

[www.legacywestpioneers.org/chapters/washington-chapter/](http://www.legacywestpioneers.org/chapters/washington-chapter/)

# Chapter 66

## Arizona/ New Mexico



### The Arizona/New Mexico Chapter is divided into three clubs.

Welcome to Chapter 66. We are comprised of 3 clubs including the Phoenix Thunderbird Combined Club (PTCC), So Arizona Combined Club (SACC) and the New Mexico Combined Club (NMCC), along with our members at large throughout AZ and NM. We are pleased to announce Chapter 66 has been awarded the following 2023 Pioneers Don MacKenzie Charitable Foundation Fund Grants. Congratulations to everyone and thank you for all your hard work and dedication to our communities.

#### New Mexico Combined Club

- Children's Homes Christmas Party

#### Phoenix Thunderbird Combined Club

- Acacia Elementary School - Back to School Project
- Acacia Elementary School - Read to Ride Project
- Cross Christian Academy
- Hug-A-Bears
- Recreation Therapy Program VA Campus

#### Southern AZ Combined Club

- Arizona School Deaf Blind Beeping Egg Hunt
- Emerge Luggage & Personal Hygiene Project
- Hug-A-Bears
- Readers For Life
- School Supply Drive
- Stocking Project

#### Chapter 66

- Hope's Women's Center

Click pictures to read more



SACC Hug-A-Bears  
A Gift That Lasts Forever

NMCC Annual Children's  
Christmas Party



PTCC Acacia Elementary

Please feel free to check-out our [Newsletter](#) to see how Chapter 66 have used past grants in our communities.

#### Chapter President

Barbara Palmer

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Click below for the chapter  
webpage  
<https://www.aztelecompioneers.org>

# Chapter 67

## Utah/ Wyoming



**The Utah/Wyoming Chapter is made up of six clubs and councils**

### 2022 Fred Weise Memorial Golf Tournament

The golfers came out in March and had a great time at the 2022 Fred Weise Memorial Golf Tournament benefiting Junior Achievement. The sun and blue sky even showed up for the event. Thank-you to all the golfers and the volunteers who made this event possible. FORE!



### Pioneer Store Proprietors Honored

Recently, Teresa Lobato, UT/WY Chapter president met with our Pioneer representative at one of the CenturyLink buildings where they do a little fundraising for Pioneers on their own time. These were and are still very dedicated Pioneers members and so are the people that share in the sweet treats they provide.

Brandon (our rep.), Craig, and Steve, keep this little store stocked, and take care of the money they raise. It's all done on the "HONOR System". We are looking at getting some Pioneer colorful items so we can help publicize the store and make it look livelier.

Teresa presented the proprietors with a Legacy West Pioneer pen and a Certificate of Appreciation for all they do to help the Pioneer effort. They truly have the Spirit of Pioneering and community service. Thank-you everyone! We couldn't keep going without you!



### Hug-A-Bears Project Going Strong in Utah/Wyoming!

Pioneers in Utah/Wyoming have been very busy making lots of wonderful bears. They are **Hug-A-Bears**, and they bring much needed comfort to children in stressful situations. The bears are sewn with love and then donated to Ronald McDonald House, Primary Children's Hospital, Shriners Hospital, Fire and Police Departments, and Highway Patrol Stations. When hospital workers, police officers, and fire fighters encounter a child in a stressful situation, they can offer a little comfort in the form of a soft, warm Hug-A-Bear.



### Chapter President

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Click below for the chapter webpage

[www.legacywestpioneers.org/chapters/utahwyoming-chapter/](http://www.legacywestpioneers.org/chapters/utahwyoming-chapter/)

Chapter 118

North Dakota

NORTH  
DAKOTA

### North Dakota Chapter is made up of three clubs

Legacy West Telephone Pioneer member John Bartholomay was honored by Bonanzaville Pioneer Village in West Fargo, North Dakota, at their annual Volunteer Appreciation dinner on November 16, 2022. Bonanzaville is the home to the Telephone Museum, which is John's home-away-from-home. John not only keeps the phone system running for the Village, but also puts in many hours updating the exhibits in the Telephone Museum, hosting tours of the museum - teaching children how to dial a REAL phone - and enlisting volunteers to help with the tours and to be 'elves', answering phone calls to Santa's hot line from children when they attend Christmas on the Prairie at Bonanzaville. The children (AND the elves!) may be naughty or nice, but John DEFINITELY tops the nice list, and a more deserving person of the Volunteer of the Year award would be hard to find! The Fargo Pioneer group could not be more proud of him and thank him for his hours and hours of dedicated service to the museum and to our Pioneer group.



An outing is being organized for June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to attend a local theatre production of "The Hello Girls", a musical based on the role telephone operators played during World War I. The theatre group was very excited to hear that former telephone company employees will be attending their production and even reduced the ticket prices for us.

#### Chapter President

Karen (Samm) Dregseth

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Click below for the  
chapter webpage

[www.legacywestpioneers.org/  
chapters/north-dakota-chapter/](http://www.legacywestpioneers.org/chapters/north-dakota-chapter/)



*This past year has been a busy one for Pioneers-getting back into the routines of our in person volunteering, learning the best way to Zoom for meetings, figuring out how to help our community partners, even if we talk by phone, then order via internet to meet their needs. Some groups have been able to resume monthly or occasional luncheons and coffees. Whatever you have been doing, keep up the good work! You can be proud that Pioneers has evolved with the times and continues to evolve into a vital organization for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.*

*Some upcoming changes are a new chapter is being merged into Legacy West. We want to welcome the New Outlook West Chapter 161 to our group! We are looking forward to getting to know them and helping them promote their projects. They have activities in Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri as well as throughout the other western states (west of the Mississippi). Since our history involves the mountain west, we anticipate a lot of shared impact.*

*Hopefully if you ordered the story book about Pioneers, you have received the final piece- the physical book itself. Due to paper shortages and other supply chain issues, it did not get out until April this year. You have our apologies for the delays; they were not under our control but were frustrating for all.*

*Upcoming events will be a Pioneers Sweepstakes. Watch your email for information regarding that. It should launch in July, with exciting prizes. Leaders will also be able to print out hard copies to share at luncheons and other fellowship gatherings.*

*Another new Affinity partner is a Pioneers Visa card, with cash back points that also benefits Pioneers. What a great way to accomplish a project, using the card that shows our brand and benefits our mission.*

*We hope this newsletter can become a more frequent issue, and that it is a source of ideas, connections, sharing of Pioneers.*

*In fellowship,*

*Patti Pace and Marian Wilcox, Legacy West Directors*

### USEFUL LINKS

[Latest News](#)

[PioneersVolunteer.org](http://PioneersVolunteer.org)

[Affinity Partners Discounts](#)

[Become a Pioneer Member](#)

[Chapter Information](#)

### HELP SUPPORT OUR GROUP



[Legacy West Fundraising](#)

[Contact Us](#)