



FISH NEWSLETTER

Fish, Inc., Dunellen Area
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GERRY HALTEMAN HONORED BY ROTARIANS

At the June meeting of the Dunellen-Green Brook Rotary Club Gerry Halteman, Clothing Chairperson for Fish, Inc. was honored with the Rotary's Paul Harris Award. Mike Ryan introduced Gerry and told the history of the clothing program, which Gerry started in her basement in 1970. Currently, this very busy program is housed in the Fish building on New Market Road in Piscataway. Speaking to the Rotarians, Gerry said that the most rewarding part of this effort is the response of a client who has very little. Fish gives them hope. However, Fish can only do it with help from donors and volunteers in our community. Gerry thanked the Rotary Club for its generous support of Fish. She is grateful to God for His blessings to do what Fish does.

The hardest jobs at Fish are held by our committee chairpersons; especially those who run our food and clothing programs. These hard working volunteers need some time off now and then. They need help from people who are available on weekday mornings. If you feel can help them serve others, please call the Fish Hotline at 732-356-0081. Ask to speak to Bob, our food chairperson; or Gerry, our clothing chairperson, to talk about volunteering. The phone volunteer will have them call you back.

Remember to thank God for all he has given to you and to invite him into your home this holiday season.

Phil Cox, president

*Dear Lord,
Thank you for this gift of food
You've placed upon our table ---
And help us all to do Your work
In any way we're able.*

FROM THE PRESIDENT

At this time of the year, many people realize how fortunate they are. The celebration of Thanksgiving and Christmas reminds us of the many gifts we have received. It is a season when we feel the desire to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

We at Fish see this help in the form of clothing, food, Christmas gift and monetary donations. Also, people wishing to give something of themselves willingly donate their time helping us to help others. I want to thank everyone who works to make our various holiday programs successful.

There are some volunteers who go beyond helping during the busy holiday season. These people give of themselves throughout the year so Fish can help those in need whenever they come to us. For these good people we are especially grateful.

FISH STEERING COMMITTEE RECOGNIZES KARL MUELLER

At the September meeting of the Fish Steering Committee, Phil Cox presented a plaque to Karl Mueller to recognize his years of service to Fish. Many years ago Karl began helping with the Holiday food programs. He has been responsible for keeping the Fish truck in good working order, taking care of maintenance and inspections. With the truck, Karl, sometimes accompanied by his wife Amy, would pick up large donations for the Clothing Program from other communities. Trips to Our Lady of the Mount in Warren; a consignment shop in Flemington; or church rummage sales; occurred almost every week. He helped wherever he was needed. Karl also served on the Steering Committee.

Karl and his wife Amy have retired to their home in Pennsylvania. We wish them many happy years there.

J&J VOLUNTEERS SPEND A DAY AT FISH

Joyce Wollner, Rob Reha, and Joanna Torzewski spent a day volunteering at the Fish building on September 19, as part of the Johnson & Johnson Healthcare Systems' Volunteers Program. Joanna and Joyce worked together organizing a very large number of donated coats on the second floor, while Rob helped in the Food Room and carried food bags out to the clients' cars. All of them did a super job, and really seemed to enjoy a day at Fish.

Joanna returned with another team later in the fall to spend all day with the Fish Hospitality program, painting two of their offices. The offices really look great.

J&J Healthcare has sixteen teams of volunteers who come from different departments of the company. They donate their time to make a difference in the local community. They have volunteered at food banks, senior centers, a day care center, counseling programs, and other types of service organizations. Joanna learned about Fish Hospitality and Fish, Inc. from her church. The company plans to continue this community service event next year. We at Fish appreciate their time and their efforts helping us help others.

SEASONAL NEEDS

Clothing. Donations of clean, warm, winter clothing may be brought to the Clothing Room, 456 New Market Rd., Piscataway, Monday to Friday before 5:00 PM. (Mon. - Wed., 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. if you wish to have a receipt.) Sheets, blankets, and towels are always needed.

Food. Now that Thanksgiving donations have been made, we still need to remember our clients' needs for the Christmas season and beyond. People in need are hungry year round, not just during the holidays. Non-perishable food donations may be brought to a church that participates in the Fish Food Program, or to the Food Room, 456 New Market Road, Piscataway, Mon., Wed. and Fri., 9:00 a.m. till Noon.

Volunteers. Help is needed for the Christmas toy and Holiday food programs. Please prayerfully consider volunteering some of your time to Fish as we continue to help others. We have been successful in keeping our programs going for more than three decades. To continue, we will need new volunteers to step in where others have left. The third Thursday morning of every month the Food Room folks need help loading food on the truck for delivery to senior

citizens. For details on how you can help, feel free to call the Fish Hotline at 732-356-0081, to discuss volunteering with one of the program chairpersons.

Judy Cox, editor