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# The Old Lineman

Fall 2007

*Capturing the spirit of a new Pioneer*



## President's Message

*By Louise LeBlanc, President Moncton Council*

Hello Everyone! It is hard for me to express in words how impressed I am with all the Pioneer work that is being done in our area. I feel very privileged to be representing the Moncton Council of the Aliant Pioneer Volunteers as your President.

This has been another busy year for our council due to the many activities we are involved in. We are certainly living the motto *Aliant Pioneer Volunteers People Helping People*.

This year we were involved in over 40 different activities, many that have a lot of impact in our community such as the Hug a Bears, the Life Line Monitoring, the Computer for Schools, Operation Christmas Child, Christmas Boxes for the needy, Christmas Daddies, and Je M'aime Books.

We just recently donated a total of \$6,000 to our local school districts: \$2,000 for the School District 2 Best Sellers Campaign; \$2,000 to School District 1, which will be used towards the purchase of library books for l'école Abbée Landry in Memramcook; and \$2,000 to School District 11 which will

be used to purchase library books in the Ste. Marie and St. Paul schools.

We are now embarking in a new project "Power up to Read" which will help with reading comprehension for children in grades 5 and 6.

Volunteering isn't just good for the community... it's good for you! Recent research has found that people who volunteer just two hours per week have better physical health and are less depressed. All the more reason to want to be an Aliant Pioneer Volunteer!



*In one of her first "official" acts as President, Louise LeBlanc, President of Moncton Council, congratulates Linda Leger on winning \$5,000 in the Pioneer Lottery.*

## “Renovating the Spirit” Moncton Hospital Donation

On April 19, Louise LeBlanc, President of Moncton Council of the Aliant Pioneer Volunteers, presented a cheque for \$1,000 to the Moncton Hospital’s “Renovating the Spirit” campaign.

This campaign will raise funds for renovations and equipment as part of its redevelopment plan for a new Oncology Centre.



*Photo: Louise LeBlanc and David Holt, Chair of the "Renovating the Spirit Campaign" for Moncton Hospital.*

## Annual Backpacks for Kids Program

Earlier this fall, the Aliant Pioneer Volunteers, Moncton Council, delivered 125 backpacks to local School Districts in their area. The Backpack for Kids program is an annual Aliant event which aims to make back-to-school easier for kids in need.

This fall over 2,200 backpacks filled with over \$95,000 worth of school supplies were delivered to School Districts in Atlantic Canada. While the backpacks were provided by Aliant, the school supplies were provided by Aliant Pioneer Volunteers whose members consist of both Aliant employees and retirees.

“We surpassed last year's donation total by over 400 backpacks,” said Robyn Tingley, Vice President Communications and Public Affairs, Aliant. “The generosity of our employees speaks to the dedication they have to their communities.

We are especially proud that Aliant is able to help kids in the Atlantic Provinces have a great start to the school year.”

Around Atlantic Canada, Aliant employees “adopted” backpacks which they filled with their own donation of school supplies. Employees adopted backpacks as individuals, with co-workers and as part of departmental teams.



*Shown (l-r): Louise LeBlanc, President of Moncton Council, and Gerald Richard, Director, School District 11.*



## Helping the Multiple Sclerosis Annual Carnation Campaign

**Shown: Peter Buck and some of his Aliant co-workers** who have been delivering carnations sold through annual MS Carnation Campaign, for many years.

At tip of the hat these fine folks! This year they were hard at it again as the annual MS Carnation Campaign celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.





## Donations to Ecole Carrefour l'Acadie and Hillsborough Elementary School

Earlier this year the Moncton Council presented \$2,000 worth of library books to both Ecole Carrefour l'Acadie in Dieppe and Hillsborough Elementary School. This donation is part of the Pioneer's School Library Project in which a total of \$6,000 was donated to three schools, one in each of School District's 1, 2 and 11.

*Above from Ecole Carrefour (l-r): Helene Mazerolle, School Librarian, Principal Dominique Belanger, Louise LeBlanc, President of Moncton Council of the Aliant Pioneer Volunteers, and Clarence Vautour, President of Chapter 51 of the Aliant Pioneer Volunteers.*

*Below, from Hillsborough school (l-r): First row: Julianna Nickerson, Matthew MacBeth, Montesa Wilson, and Brendan Pugh. 2nd row: John Marcoux, Emma Llewellyn, Andrew White, Zachary MacBeth, Rebecca Tingley, and Dawson Steeves. 3rd row: Principal David Daley, Moncton Council President, Louise LeBlanc, and Librarian Anne Boutillier.*



**Aliant Volunteers**

## How Do Aliant Pioneer Volunteers Make a Difference? Consider this...

*\* The following is an excerpt from Robyn Tingley, Vice President, Communications and Public Affairs at Aliant, from an address made to senior Executives about the impact of Aliant Pioneers in Atlantic Canada:*

- In Atlantic Canada, the Aliant Pioneer volunteers are 8,600 members strong, made up of current and retired employees volunteering in nearly every community.

- The Aliant Pioneers are the largest corporate volunteer organization in Atlantic Canada.

- Last year they volunteered 200,000 hours in local communities. They sew heart pillows emblazoned with the Aliant Pioneer logo to help cardiac patients after surgery; they make teddy bears for police and fire forces to give to children in times of crisis; they clean up day cares and schools after natural disasters like Hurricane Juan; they stuff and distribute backpacks full of school supplies; they give scholarships to local students and the list goes on!

- In 2006, the Aliant Pioneer Volunteers won the outstanding fundraising group of the year by the association of fundraising professionals of the Maritime provinces. In 2005, they won the CIBC Spirit of Leadership Award.

# Walk for Kids Help Phone

On Sunday, May 6 thousands of walkers from 10 communities across Atlantic Canada raised \$200,000 for Kids Help Phone in the Aliant Walk for Kids Help Phone.

"Events like the Aliant Walk for Kids Help Phone make it possible for us to provide the professional counselors needed to meet the ongoing demand for

our telephone services and to respond to the sharp increases in kids requesting web-based counselling support," said Tom McAllister, President and CEO, Kids Help Phone.

Kids Help Phone is Canada's only toll-free, 24-hour, bilingual and anonymous phone and web counselling, referral and information ser-

vice for children and youth. Every day, professional counsellors provide immediate, caring support to young people in urban and rural communities across the country.

"The Aliant Walk for Kids Help Phone is one of our most important corporate fundraising events," said Heather Tulk, Senior Vice President Marketing, Aliant.

"Last year on over 200,000 occasions, Kids Help Phone was contacted by children and youth from Atlantic Canada. This level of demand underscores the need for Kids Help Phone and why Aliant is proud to support them. That pride is rooted in the commitment of our employees, retirees and Aliant Pioneer Volunteers, hundreds of whom come out every year to support this great event."



*Shown left (l-r): Carolyn Vincent, Krista Lemieux, Christie Vincent and Judy Proud.*

*Below, front: Volunteers Louise Ongo and Sandra King. Back row: Michelle Desmoreau, Louise LeBlanc, Sophie Blaquiere, Erinn Richardson and Corry Lynn Stokes*

**Last year on over 200,000 occasions, Kids Help Phone was contacted by children and youth from Atlantic Canada.**





## Moncton Kiwanis Lifestyle & Home Show

Earlier this year, Aliant participated in the second annual Family Show, held as part of the Kiwanis Lifestyle show, at Moncton Coliseum. Karen Buckley, Kristy Buck, Pauline Leger and Mario Marcantonio played key roles in Aliant's participation while several others volunteered their time to erect, decorate and work the booth.



*Above (l-r): Volunteers Valerie Higgins, Anita Searle and Grant Losier. Right: Grant Losier chats with visitors.*



### Pioneer Discovers the "Rewards" of Volunteering...

Michael Pettigrew smiles for the camera as he gets his \$100 cheque for simply signing up to be an Aliant Pioneer.

As an incentive, Chapter 51 held a draw among new volunteers who signed up between Jan. 1 and Oct. 1, 2007. Micheal's name was drawn.



About 470 people stopped by the booth to learn more about Aliant Pioneers and to fill in a ballot to win a computer. The computer was provided by Garnet Horsman and the Computers for Schools program.

Throughout the event, the team did a great job of promoting the Lifeline, the Computer for Schools, the book "I Like Me", the heart pillows, the Hug a Bears program and the liquid level indicators that we make and provide to the CNIB.

## Volunteer Breakfast Attended

As part of National Volunteer Week, Moncton Council Executive Committee members of the Aliant Pioneer Volunteers attended a breakfast sponsored by the Volunteer Centre of Southeast New Brunswick. Attendees include (l-r): Clarence Vautour, President of NB Chapter 51, and Council members Monique Desormeau, Treasurer; Pauline Leger, Director; Louise LeBlanc, President and Pioneer Partner Huguette Vautour.



## Project Makes Leap From Hug-a-Bears to Breast Cancer Pillows

New Brunswick Chapter 51 of the Aliant Pioneer Volunteers, Moncton Council, recently launched a project at the Dr. Georges L-Dumont Regional Hospital (GLDRH) to make Breast Cancer pillows.

By placing the heart shaped pillows under the arm, it will help to ease the discomfort of patients who have had breast surgery. The pillows will be made through the Aliant Pioneer's existing Hug-A-Bear program.

Nurses at the hospital are very excited about the program. Currently there is nothing specifically used to provide comfort the new pillows will provide.

Statistics suggest there are approximately 500 new diagnosis of Breast Cancer each year in New Brunswick with the majority of patients being treated at hospitals in Moncton, Fredericton and Saint John. Chapter 51, Aliant Pioneer Volunteers, will be spreading the Breast Cancer

pillows program to hospitals throughout the province.

The Aliant Pioneer Volunteers of Newfoundland and Labrador Chapter 105 have been active for several years making Breast Cancer pillows for use throughout the Province.

With both New Brunswick Chapter 51 and Nova Scotia/PEI Chapter 49 recently introducing the program, the "pillows of comfort" will be provided throughout the Atlantic Provinces by the Aliant Pioneer Volunteers"



*Shown (l-r): Paul Rossignol, Oncology Program Administrative Director, GLDRH; Margot O'Brien, Breast Cancer Navigator, GLDRH; Pauline Shea, Co-Coordinator, Aliant Pioneer Volunteers (APV) Hug-A-Bear Program; Linda Varner, Breast Cancer Navigator, GLDRH; Huggette Vautour, APV Partner and pillow sewer; Clarence Vautour, APV N.B. Chapter 51 President; and Louise LeBlanc, President, APV Moncton Council.*



### Monthly Potluck for October becomes birthday celebration

During the Moncton Council's monthly potluck in October for Pioneers, a few special Pioneer birthdays were acknowledged. Best wishes and birthday cake were shared to celebrate the birthdays of (l-r): Hubie Barr, Jim DeWolfe and Dorothy Whitehead.

Others with special birthdays who were unable to attend include: Murray Mckiel, Norma Reimnitz, Ronald Babcock, George Ellison, Willis B Whittle, William Sinclair, Gerald J Poirier, Reg MacDonald, Edgar Whitney, Anne Donovan, James (Jim) Nevers and George McArdle.



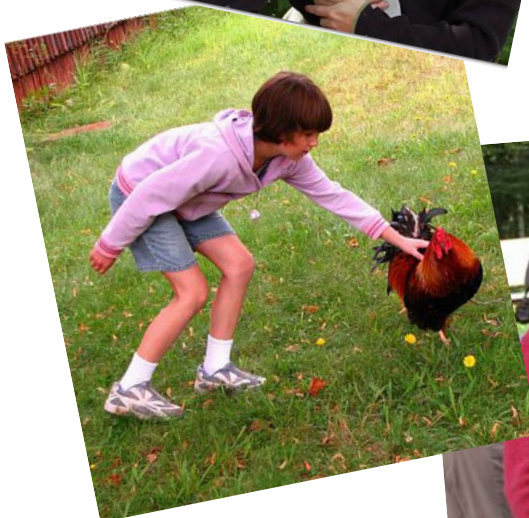
## Fall Corn Boil Fun



Another great time was had by Pioneers and their families at the annual corn boil Sept. 9 at Sunset Valley Ranch. There were games and face painting and of course lots of corn.

Once again those attending enjoyed the country ambiance created by the old buildings and various pieces of old farm equipment found in the fields and in the buildings.

Photos show: Clockwise from the top left: 1) Clarence Vautour with grandson Nicholas, 2) Jessie Kempt, Louise LeBlanc, Angela Roy and Hugette Vautour. 3) Danika Thibodeau. 4) Gabriel Arsenault. 5) Karen Cormier, Lawrence MacDonald and Dot Kelly. 6) Abbey Adair, daughter of Kim and Jennifer 7) Danika and Damien Thibodeau with parents Tina and Chris, and 8) Bill Buchanan mowing the lawn.





## Two women are posing for a photo at night. They are wearing elaborate, colorful feathered masks and beaded necklaces. The woman on the left is holding a large green apple. The woman on the right is also holding a large green apple. They are holding a white sign in front of them. The sign has the Pioneer's logo, which is a blue triangle with the word 'Pioneer's' in a script font. Below the logo, it says 'Aliant Volunteers' in a serif font. At the bottom of the sign, it says 'People. Helping People.' and provides the website 'www.aliantpioneers.com' and the phone number '1-800-565-1436'. The background is dark, suggesting an outdoor setting at night.

Photo above: Masked bowlers. Below (l-r): Dawn McCabe, Jennifer Dunfield, Sandra King, Monique Desormeau and Tara Dempsey.



A woman with short brown hair, wearing a light pink short-sleeved dress and purple shoes, stands in a window display. The background is dark blue with a large, stylized green monster face on the left. To the right, there is a full moon, a black silhouette of a witch on a broom, and a black silhouette of a haunted house with yellow lights. A small orange pumpkin is visible in the bottom right corner.

## Recognize Anyone?

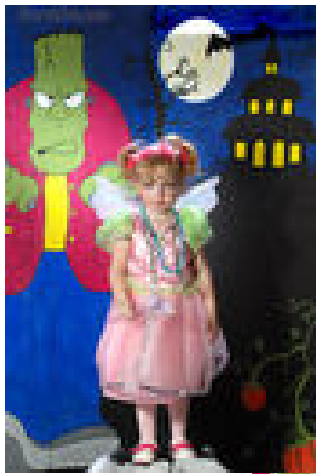
Thanks to the volunteers who organized and participated in the Halloween Party:

Regular members Karen Buckley, Michelle Mouland, Jody Godbout and Kristy Buck, as well as Linda Buck, partner to Peter Buck Regular member.





# Halloween 2007



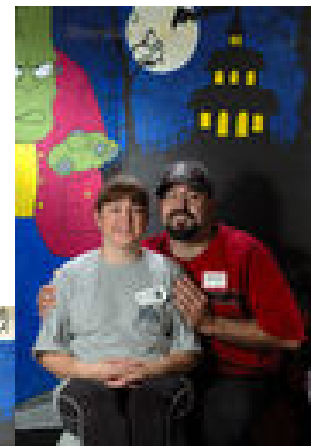
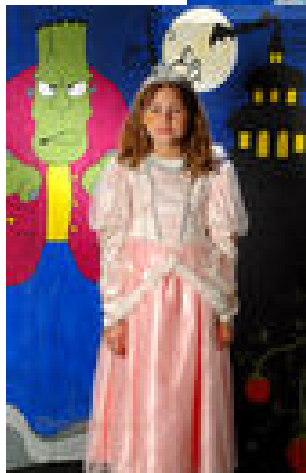
BOO!



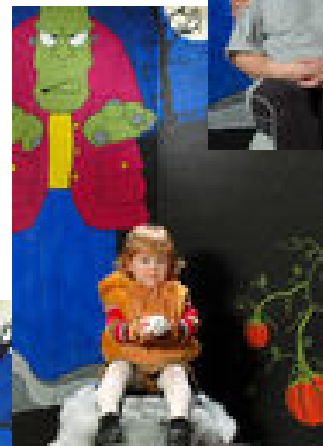
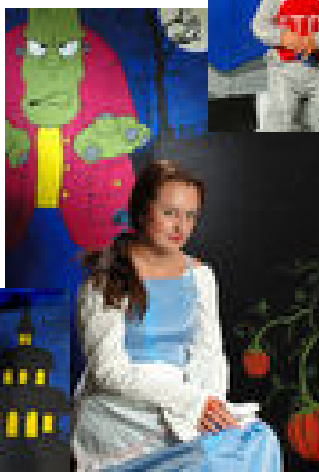
Ghosts!



Fun!



Fairies!



Trick or treat!



# Awards Highlight the 67th Annual Pioneer Reunion, Fun Weekend & AGM

Chapter 51's Aliant Pioneer Volunteers met in Moncton for the 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Pioneer Reunion and Fun Weekend in May.

The weekend kicked off Friday evening with musical entertainment by Roland Leblanc and La Famille Arseneault. A fun time was had by all, and a few spirited attendees were spotted visiting the Hospitality Suite until the wee hours of the morning.

Saturday morning, the Alma Street Offices hosted a Hug A Bear ses-

...the new  
Award of  
"Council Excellence"  
was created  
in recognition  
of a project  
completed by  
each Council...

sion. From all reports, the socializing and camaraderie while doing something for the community was a fulfilling experience.

Saturday evening's meal was followed by a speech from Robyn Tingley, the VP of Communica-

## AGM Awards of Council Excellence The Award Recipients and Projects recognized are:

Recipient	Project
<b>Louise LeBlanc</b> (Moncton)	Memorial Cup
<b>Chantal MacDonald</b> (Fredericton)	Needy Family Project/Devon Middle School
<b>Faye Milbury</b> (Upper Saint John River Valley)	Safe Grad
<b>Bill Hawco</b> (Saint John/Loyalist)	Heart Pillow
<b>Lois Oldfield</b> (Miramichi)	Adult Learning
<b>Dee Dee Stever</b> (Chaleur)	Helpline
<b>Denis Dugas</b> (APEN)	Maison de Jeunes

Other individual recognition awards presented included:

- ❖ Life Member of the Year – Chapter 51: **Sue Fortune**, Chaleur Council (Absent, accepted by Dee Dee Stever)
- ❖ Regular Member of the Year – Chapter 51: **Angela Roy**, Moncton Council
- ❖ Partner of the Year – Chapter 51: **Normand Leger**, Moncton Council (Husband of Regular Member **Pauline Leger**)



*Above: Faye Milbury accepts an award for the Safe Grad project.*

*Below: Chantal MacDonald accepts an award recognizing the Needy Family Project.*





tion and Public Affairs for Bell Aliant, about the continued importance of Pioneer volunteering.

The evening's award presentations took on a new format. It was decided that since all Councils are not equal in size, it would be unfair to recognize one Council and not another. Because of this, the new award of "Council Excellence" was created in recognition of a project completed by each Council.



Each Council was awarded a certificate and a \$1000 to put towards the project of their choice.



Photo left shows (l-r): Clarence Vautour and award recipient Angela Roy, regular member of the year for Chapter 51. Photo above: Guy Gallant presents Dee Dee Stever with an award recognizing the Helpline project. Photo below, left: Clarence Vautour and Normand Leger, Partner of the Year. Bottom Photo, Kyle and Cameron Sears at the Hug-A-Bear session.



The AGM followed, then, the dancing began and went into the night!

Sunday morning several members stayed in Moncton to take part in the Aliant Walk for Kids Help Phone at Centennial Park.

The weekend was a huge success and all are anxiously anticipating the next Reunion and Fun weekend, scheduled for Bathurst next year.



## REMINDER:

### Change of address, contact information

Pioneer members who have moved or changed surnames during the year should notify the Pioneer office. We do not get address changes that are directed to Human Resources.

You can report any changes on the **Member address change form** located at: [www.aliantpioneers.com](http://www.aliantpioneers.com). Click the membership tab to access the form.

If you're not sure what information we have, please fill out the form. We'll match it with our records and make any appropriate changes.

## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

### Christmas Daddies

Dec 2, 07

Aliant provides office space in Moncton as well as telephone service for taking pledges.  
For more: Eric Gallant 386-7218

### Christmas Breakfast Lions Club, Mark Ave., Moncton

Dec 5, 07\*

Aliant sponsored event which is managed by the Pioneers.  
For more: Clarence Vautour 383-4811

### Life Members' Tea Lunchroom on Alma St. 2-4 p.m.

Dec 8, 07

Food and refreshments are provided along with a great Christmas Carol Sing-a-long.  
For more: Bill or Janet Buchanan 859-1105

### Christmas Potluck Supper Alma Street

Dec 12, 07 6:30

Great food and Yankee Swap  
For more: Clarence or Hugette Vautour 383-4811

### Christmas Boxes for Needy Families

Dec 21, 07

Life members obtain the names of the families, gather non-perishable food items, purchase additional food items and pack the boxes. Employees assist in providing non-perishable food items, hold fundraisers in order to purchase gifts for the children, wrap the gifts and assist in delivery of boxes and gifts. Ongoing from October to December.  
For more: Harrison Tait 386-1011

### Active Life Member Telephone Committee

Ongoing

For more: Jim Flynn 384-8484

### Audio Loop Project

Ongoing

For more: Eric Gallant 386-7218

### Computers for Schools (CFS) Mapleton Rd CFS Room

Thursdays 6-9

A workshop is held every Thursday: Computers, received from the various government agencies, are cleaned up and prepared for distribution to schools.  
For more: Garnet Horsman, 859-1791; Bob Horsman, 852-8888; or Ken Kanner, 384-3907; CFS Room – 872-5509.

### Fellowship Representatives

Ongoing

For more: Joe Bourgeois 853-6307

### Hug-A-Bear Workshops

Ongoing

Hug-A-Bear Workshops are held when needed  
For more: Lynnette Illsey, 855-0718; or Pauline Shea, 382-9514

### Life Line Monitoring

Ongoing

Pioneers monitor the 700+ Lifelines at Moncton Hospital to ensure they are working properly. Each person with a Lifeline is called once per month.  
For more: Joan MacKnight 383-1511

### Newsletter "The Old Linesman" Published

4X/year

All Pioneer members are encouraged to submit articles and pictures to the newsletter.  
To submit: Carla Bourque - 853-8555 or carla1@nb.sympatico.ca

### Pot-luck Suppers Alma St.

Monthly

Second Wednesday of each month at Alma St. beginning at 6:30 p.m.  
For more: Hugette & Clarence Vautour 383-4811

### School Libraries Donation

Annually

For more: Louise LeBlanc Council President 856-5685

***Not an Aliant Pioneer?***  
***You can join by filling out***  
***a membership form at:***

[http://www.aliantpioneers.com/  
membership/  
membership\\_application.shtml](http://www.aliantpioneers.com/membership/membership_application.shtml)

Or

**by contacting any member of  
the Executive Committee listed  
on page 1 of this newsletter**

*Aliant Pioneer members  
have 58 cents deducted from each  
pay and this money is channeled  
directly into our projects and pro-  
grams. Pioneer membership is not  
automatic. As long as you are a  
full or part-time employee of  
Aliant, X-Wave or Innovatia –  
you're eligible to join.*

## Report Volunteer Hours!



Report your volunteer  
hours on a regular ba-  
sis: at least monthly.

Regular reporting helps  
the Council record how

many volunteer hours Moncton  
Council members provide each  
month. *Report hours to Pauline  
Leger at 1-888-261-6588 Ext. 3390  
or [Pauline.Leger@aliant.ca](mailto:Pauline.Leger@aliant.ca).*

## Report Illnesses, Deaths to the Fellowship Committee

In case of illness, hospitalization or  
death of a member, member partner  
or immediate family member of a  
member, please contact:

### Life Members

Joe Bourgeois, 383-8095

### Regular Members

Alma Street: Louise LeBlanc, 856-  
5685

Mapleton Road: Janice LeBlanc,  
872-5536

Edinburgh Drive: Monique Des-  
moreau, 853-6307