



Fish Newsletter

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Fish, Inc., Dunellen Area

Serving our neighbors since 1970

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Two Long-time Volunteers to be honored at Fish Annual Meeting

Founding member, Muriel “Merkie” Chamberlin and former chairman of the Food Program, Robert “Bob” Mitchell, will be honored during this year’s annual meeting of Fish, Inc., Dunellen Area.

Merkie, a member of the congregation of the Middlesex Presbyterian Church, was one of eight founders who signed the original Certificate of Incorporation 43 years ago on June 19, 1970. Merkie’s first office was that of Vice-Chairman. Over the years, she has also served as Telephone Chairperson, and as an officer since then, and finally as Recording Secretary since 1993. She retired from that position in 2012. We thank Merkie for her long service to Fish and to our clients. We wish her the best of health and happiness in her retirement.

Bob Mitchell is a member of The First Presbyterian Church of Dunellen. He has been a long-time volunteer in the food room and became chairperson of the Food Program many years ago. Bob can be seen helping out in the food room most days. While he has stepped down from his post as Food Program Chair, Bob remains a vital part of the Food Room’s operations. We appreciate Bob’s dedicated service to Fish and to our clients.



What Do We Need?

Fish, Inc. is in need of volunteers. There is always a need for Telephone Volunteers. Please consider volunteering for one day per month, or for one or more days per week. Even if you can help out only a few days during the holiday season, take a moment to call the Fish Hotline, 732-356-0081, and ask how you can help. A volunteer will return your call. For more information about Fish, please visit our website at www.fishdunellenarea.org.

Annual Meeting of Fish, Inc., Dunellen Area to be held May 13, 2013

All Are Welcome!

The forty-third Annual Meeting of Fish, Inc., Dunellen Area will be held on Monday, May 13, 7:30 pm, at The First Presbyterian Church, 218 Dunellen Ave., Dunellen, New Jersey.

The officers and program chairpersons will report on the activities of the past year and will outline their plans for 2013. The following officers will be elected for two-year terms: President, Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and Trustee.

This is an open meeting for all volunteers, donors, and anyone interested in serving the less fortunate members of their communities. Light refreshments will be served.

Fish, Inc., Dunellen Area is an all volunteer, non-profit organization which helps needy people in Dunellen, Middlesex Borough, Piscataway, South Plainfield, Highland Park, and Edison. Major programs include: Food, Clothing, Blankets and Bedding, Holiday meals, and Christmas gifts. Volunteers are always welcome. Come to the meeting to learn more about the Fish programs, and see how you could make a difference in the lives of your less fortunate neighbors.



Coming Up ---

May 13, 2013 – Annual Meeting of Fish, Inc., Dunellen Area. at The First Presbyterian Church, 218 Dunellen Avenue, Dunellen New Jersey

May 18, 2013 – (every third Saturday of the month): All-day Food collection at Acme Super Market in Middlesex borough. This event is sponsored by First Baptist Church of New Market to benefit the Fish Food Program.



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

There are so many groups and individuals in our communities who have conducted activities to benefit Fish over the years. Here we wish to recognize some of them. This column will be a regular feature in upcoming issues of the Newsletter. Thank you to the following:

Piscataway Rotary Club -- an ongoing supporter of Fish, both financially and with food and school supplies. Rotarian David Szymanski has encouraged the Rotary to support Fish in many ways. Dave periodically transports pallets of clothing to and from the Clothing Room and our storage space in Bound Brook, using the Fish van.

Continental Airlines -- for 400 new blankets donated to the Clothing Program and Hospitality.

Bishop Ahr High School in Edison – for their annual clothing collection of new winter coats and blankets, plus 100 turkeys to Fish for Thanksgiving. The school has been a faithful supporter of Fish for at least 15 years. Sister Cynthia is the driving force that keeps this support going.

St. Joseph’s Roman Catholic Church, 34 Yorktown Road in Hillsborough – Over the years, Michelle Laffoon and Cynthia Norfleet have organized the Hillsborough Lacrosse team and the Confirmation Class of St. Joseph’s in collecting huge amounts of clothes and winter coats for Fish.

St. Luke’s Evangelical Lutheran Church in Dunellen -- “Souper Bowl of Caring” event on Super Bowl Sunday, proceeds went to Fish. St. Luke’s has been a loyal supporter of Fish for many years, including a food collection once a month.

Shop Rite Super Markets – “Partners in Caring Program” awarded a grant of more than \$2,600 for the year 2013 for food and supplies.

Middlesex High School Music Department – More than \$400 was raised with a benefit concert for Fish.

Our thanks to the following churches: for their ongoing support of Fish, Inc. -- Christ United Methodist, Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Mount Virgin, and St. Frances Cabrini Church.

Thank you also to Walmart for supporting Fish for many years.

And finally, thank you to the children of Faber Elementary School in Dunellen.

SWISH FOR FISH

FBLA of Piscataway High Hosts Charity Fair and Basketball Game

Each year the Piscataway High School chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) picks a charity to support. This year they chose Fish.

The group collected canned goods and other non-perishable food throughout the school year for Fish.

Their fourth annual Mission: Life Community Fair was held on April 12 in the Anthony Gym in Piscataway High School. This family fair included games and door prizes; a Flag presentation by the Piscataway ROTC; The Star Spangled Banner sung by the Piscataway High School Chamber Choir; as well as half-time dance performances by DFO and FCVK, rappers Dutchboy and Liam Rooney; and DJ Richie Hernandez.

The feature event was the basketball game between Piscataway school district teachers and Piscataway High School’s All-Star athletes. The game was very competitive, and the score was tied at the end of the fourth quarter. The students won the game in a three-minute overtime.

The FBLA raised more than \$6000 to be donated to Fish.

Fish thanks the volunteers of the Piscataway High School chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America and their advisor, Ms. Nancy Ostrowski for all their hard work throughout the year. Fish also thanks the Piscataway Rotary Club for recommending Fish to be the beneficiary of this year’s FBLA activities.



The Last Word

For assistance, or to contribute or volunteer, call the Fish hotline: **732-356-0081**. For more information about Fish, Inc., please visit our website: www.fishdunellenarea.org.

Judy Cox, editor

Fish, Inc., Dunellen Area qualifies as a nonprofit corporation and is exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. All contributions are tax deductible. We follow IRS requirements for receipts.