

# Stalk talk



The Cornhusker Chapter  
Fifth Anniversary  
1978 - 1983

OMAHA  
WORKS  
**25**  
YEARS  
1958-1983  
LOOKING AHEAD



Telephone  
of America  
Pioneers

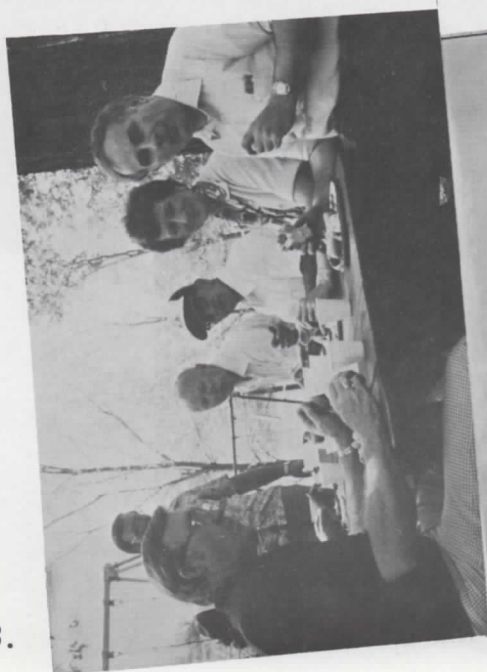
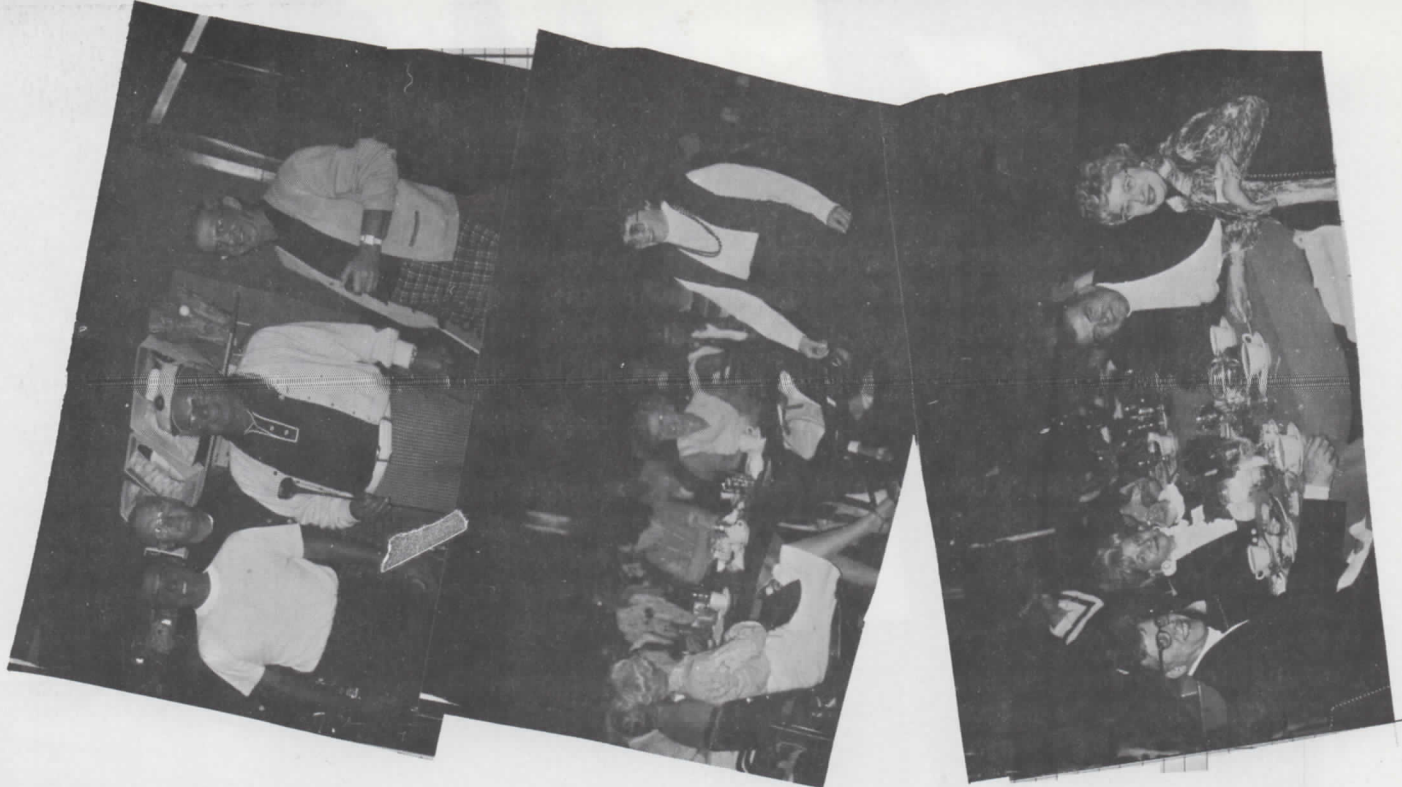
## POSTLOGUE

Looking back over the five years of the Cornhusker Chapter's existence--and beyond--the record is clear. Great progress has been made.

Just look at the statistics. When the Chapter was formed we had a total membership of 1872 persons with a level of 88.52% membership of those eligible. Currently, our membership is 2556 members and 95.29% of those eligible.

Through our fund raising efforts, over \$20,000 has been raised to support our Community Service and General Chapter activities. This has allowed a greatly expanded program, and the future should allow even greater endeavors.

As, in the beginning, we stated the word Pioneer conjures up images of days gone by. But the spirit of Pioneering as embodied in the people of the Cornhusker Chapter is focused on the future. A future which will bring greater service to the Community, a strengthening of our friendships and a bond to the principles of a great industry and a great organization, the Telephone Pioneers of America.





## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

All work and no play make John a dull boy as the old saying goes. The people of the Cornhusker Chapter are no exception to this old saw. We do have our fun and in as many different ways as can be imagined.

From dances to car rallye's--from men's smokers to ladies style shows--from a day at the dog races to the Firehouse Dinner Theater. Golf outings and just plain get togethers at our Life Member luncheons. All designed to promote fellowship and enjoyment. An best of all at real bargain rates, for virtually all of our social functions are subsidized through the dues paid by our membership.

Here are some of the highlights of the Chapter's social activities over the past years.



## FUND RAISING

Without funds, the Chapter could not participate to the extent it has in its Community Service projects.

Prior to 1980 the Chapter did very little in the way of fund raising, depending largely on Company contributions and members' dues for support of Community Service.

The Association Headquarters had been advocating for some time that Chapters should become more self-sufficient and less dependent on the Company's financial support which is considerable.

This idea loomed very large in the minds of the officers of the Cornhusker Chapter, for this was a completely new area for all of those in charge.

What form should fund raising take? What restrictions will be imposed? What would be the attitude of our company's management? How will the membership react? Will they support fund raising? Worries abounded, but not to fear. We had two very important allies in Chuck Meetsma, then General Manager, and Jim Bosworth, Manager and Pioneer Liaison Officer for the Chapter. With their encouragement, a study was made and the recommendation to open a Pioneer Store.

As the plans developed, there evolved the idea of an Employees' Activity Mall. Here would be centered employee service functions such as the Credit Union, Insurance Counselors, the Weoma Club, Pioneer Offices and Meeting Rooms and the Pioneer Store.

Bill Wunderlich of our local Factory Engineering organization designed the facility. The project was assigned to our in-house craftsmen to do the construction. It was the largest project of this kind they had ever tackled and what a superb job they did! April of 1981 marked the grand opening of the Mall and it has admirably served its purpose ever since.

The Mall has become a beehive of activity and there is something going on in the Mall every minute of the day!

The Pioneer Store was a huge success even before it was located in the Mall. A temporary location was provided during construction of the Mall in the old Safety Shoe Store. Here the store opened in October of 1981 just in time for the Thanksgiving and Christmas rush.

Trying to get our feet on the ground in this new endeavor and satisfy our customer demands became a task that almost overwhelmed the amateur merchandisers! But we pulled through and this activity has provided the funds to greatly enlarge our Community Service projects.

Thanks to the employees of the Omaha Works, we can truly state the store is a success.





Bill Ellinghouse escorts columnist Ann Landers.



Arnie Paul (left), Jack MacAllister and Larry Stoney, Pioneer Partner of NWB  
Vice president, personnel, Janice D.





Riding in a vintage Ford, TPA officials and their Pioneer Partners open the 1982 GA. Left to right: Lucy Easlick, Jack MacAllister, Marilyn MacAllister and Dave Easlick.



Singer Vic Damone entertains during the Monday night banquet.

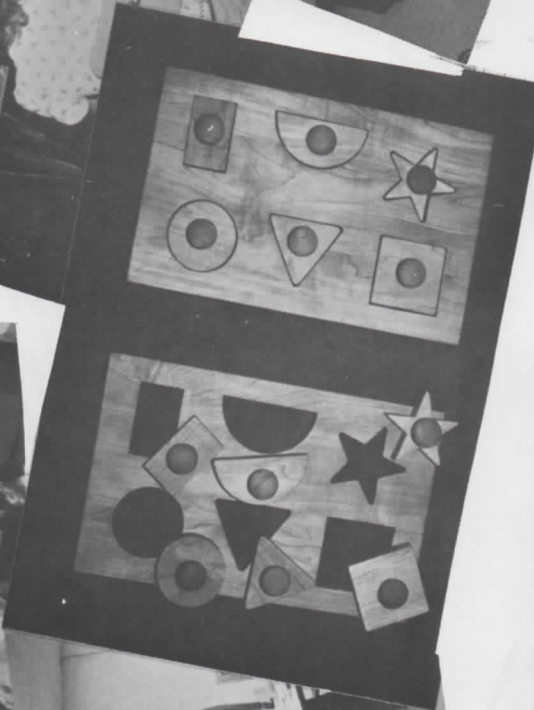
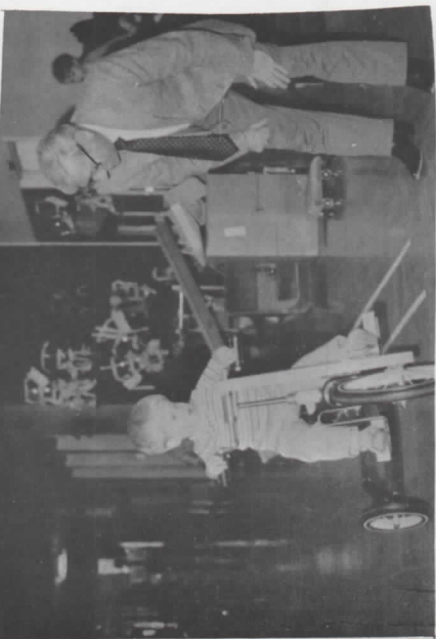
A black and white photograph of a group of people, possibly a band, posing together. A person with long, curly hair is in the foreground, looking down. Other people are visible in the background, some wearing hats and coats. The image is grainy and has a high-contrast, almost abstract quality.

















ARTHUR B. GOETZE  
COUNCIL  
COMMUNITY SERVICE  
PROJECTS



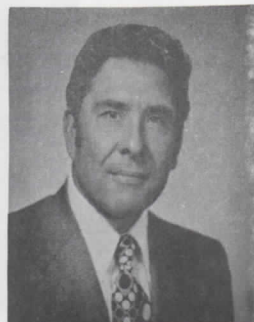




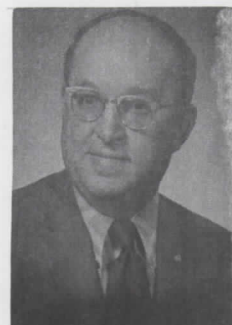
G. F. ALFONS  
1974-75



P. G. DARWIN  
1975-76



J. J. SCHWETZ  
1976-77

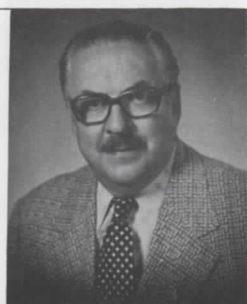


E. A. GEMBICA  
1977-78

Cornhusker Chapter



E. J. WIGG, Jr.  
1978-79



R. L. OLSON  
1979-80



A. J. CIULLO  
1980-81



R. E. DENTON  
1981-82



D. L. HANRAHAN  
1982-83

PRESIDENTS  
Pioneer Club



A. L. ANDERSON  
1957-58



AARON COX  
1958-59

ARTHUR B. GOETZE - COUNCIL OFFICERS



J. J. KAUFMAN  
1959-60



F. J. PAYNE  
1960-61



L. O. PETTERSEN  
1961-62



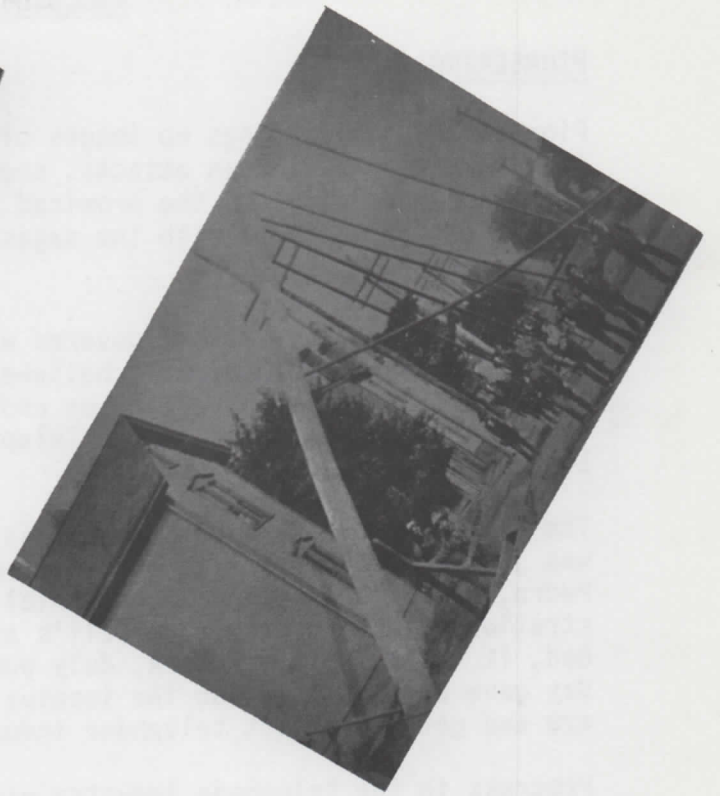
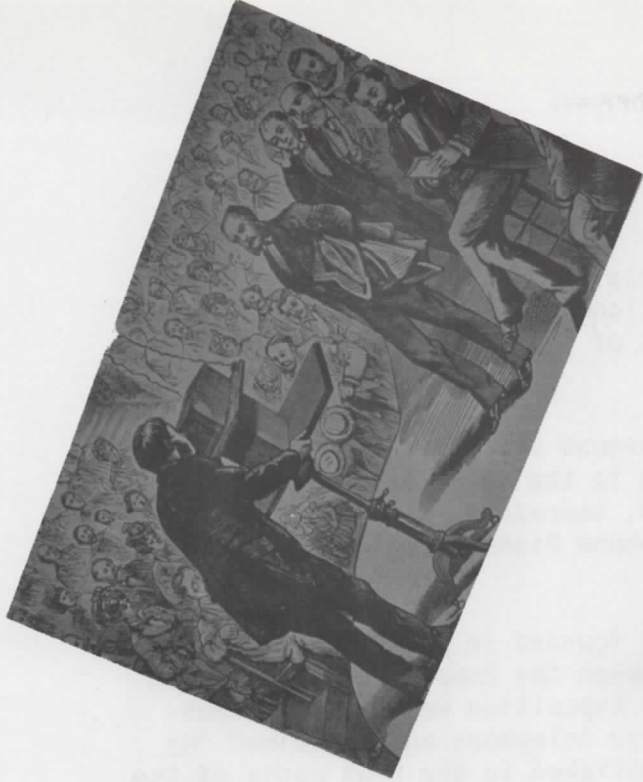
F. A. BRAUN  
1962-63



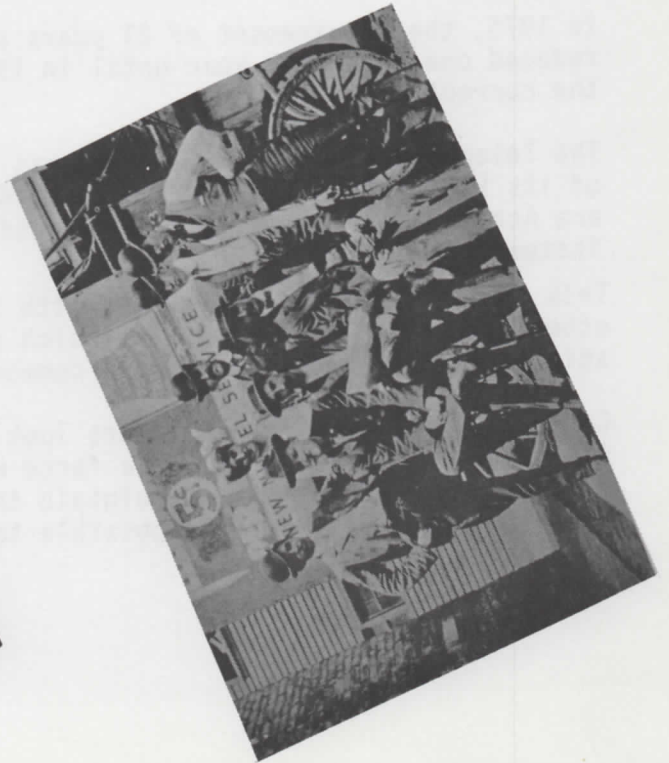
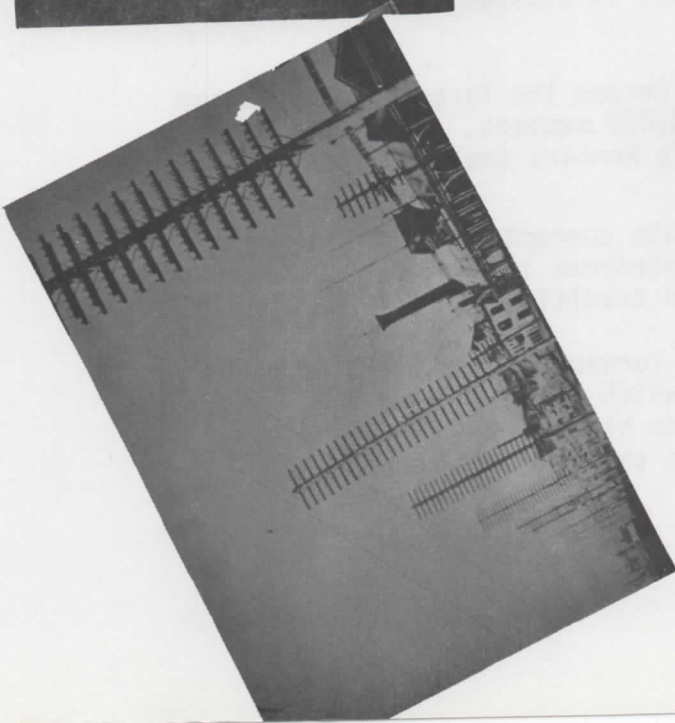
E. R. CAMPBELL  
1963-64



R. B. BURTON  
1964-65



Telephone  
Pioneers  
of America











## PROLOGUE

### PIONEERING

Pioneering! This brings up images of the covered wagons crossing the great plains--indian attacks, crossing of the deserts and the attendant hardships--to the promised lands of California and Oregon! All of us are familiar with the sagas of those hearty souls who made the great trek West.

Telephone Pioneering is not covered wagons circled to protect against the indians--but the spirit I believe is the same; an endeavor to make a better life for those around us and, therefore, for ourselves. The spirit which is embodied in the Telephone Pioneer Emblem of "Service-Loyalty-Fellowship."

The Telephone Pioneers of America was founded in Boston in 1911. It was just 35 years prior to this time when the Emperor of Brazil, Dom Pedro, at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition was given a demonstration of Alexander Graham Bell's new telephone and exclaimed "My God, it talks." This remark, duly published in the news media of the day gave Bell's invention the impetus it needed to catch the public's eye and get the infant telephone industry off the ground.

Progress in the telephone industry was very rapid after this, and as the people who started the industry began to retire, a need was felt to continue the fellowship they had experienced while active employees. Thus, the idea of an organization to perpetuate those relationships came about and the Telephone Pioneers of America was formed.

The only requirement for membership was 21 years in the telephone industry. As the organization grew, it became evident that more than fellowship was desired to make the Pioneers a meaningful organization.

The "Service" portion of the motto began to have more force and the emphasis on Community Service became a reality. This continues to this day with volunteers providing a multitude of services to their communities both here in the United States and Canada.

In 1975, the requirement of 21 years of service in the industry was reduced one year each year until in 1977 it reached 18 years of service, the current criteria.

The Telephone Pioneers of America has become the largest organization of its kind in the world with over 574,000 members. Of these, 325,000 are Active Members and 250,000 are Life Members (retirees) in the United States and Canada.

This organization has flourished with its concepts of service to others, loyalty to the industry which nurtures it, and the fellowship of kindred souls bound by a common tradition.

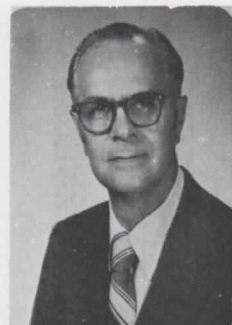
Currently, the Telephone Pioneers look forward during these troubled times for the Bell System, as a force which will continue the friendships long formed and maintain the high values of an industry devoted to the best service possible to the greatest numbers of people.



D. L. HANSEN  
1965-66



M. C. KWATER  
1966-67



J. C. RUSTHOVEN  
1967-68



A. C. EULER  
1968-69



R. J. KELLY  
1969-70



W. C. DODGE  
1970-71



R. BRANECKI  
1971-72



A. F. FANCKBONER  
1972-73



J. P. JACOBSON  
1973-74



**STALK TALK**  
**CORNHUSKER CHAPTER**  
**Telephone Pioneers**  
**of**  
**America**

**5th Anniversary Issue**  
**1978-1983**

**OMAHA WORKS**  
**Western Electric Co., Inc.**  
**25th Anniversary**  
**1958-1983**

**Editor-Bob Pierson**

**Co-Editors Jerry Alfons**  
**Dick Branecki**  
**Erv Tvrdik**

**Lay Out Peggy Walters**

**Typist Ruth-Ann Foster**

## THE CORNHUSKER CHAPTER!

No story about the Cornhusker Chapter is complete without mentioning the Goetze Council, for that is where it all started.

Currently, the Omaha Works is celebrating the 25th anniversary of the physical plant. For it was on the Labor Day weekend of 1958 we moved into our brand new buildings. However, a handful of the early "settlers" of the Omaha Works, who temporarily resided in the old Pilot Plant operations in downtown Omaha, formed the first Pioneer Club in 1957 affiliated with the Yost Chapter of Northwestern Bell.

The first Club President was A. L. "Andy" Anderson who came to Omaha from the Hawthorne Works.

As their numbers grew, it was decided to become a full-fledged Council under the Yost Chapter which took place in 1959. The Council took the name of Arthur B. Goetze, the late President of Western Electric Co. The first President of the A. B. Goetze Council was J. J. "Jack" Kaufman who presided 1959-1960. In the 1962-63 Pioneer year, another milestone was reached when the membership in the Council went over 100 for the first time. Those were busy years for the group and the formation of the Community Service Workshop was implemented. This Workshop, which continues to this day, has become reknown throughout Pioneer Circles as one of the outstanding Community Service Projects in Pioneering. It has also become well known in the Omaha Community as an invaluable resource for special educational and therapy materials for the many schools and institutions devoted to special education.

By May 1978, the Goetze Council of the Yost Chapter had grown to 1872 Active and Life Members. The numbers indicated it was time to strike out on our own, and an application for Chapter status was made to the Association Headquarters. In June 1978, this was granted and the Cornhusker Chapter was born.

Ed Wigg was elected as the new Chapter's President and at a memorable ceremony on June 6, 1978, the Chapter's Charter was presented by R. K. (Bob) Timothy, President, Telephone Pioneers of America (President, Mountain States Telephone Co.).

Armon ("Rip") Fick, Executive Vice President of Western Electric and General Manager, Warren Corgan, each gave remarks appropriate to the occasion. The new Chapter's banner was presented to our Chapter by our "Mother" organization, The Yost Chapter.

Other notables attending this gala affair were Art Foster, Vice President of the Cable and Wire Division, Wyllys Rheingrover, General Manager Personnel, and Curtis Campbell, Department Chief, Pioneer Affairs, Headquarters.

Jerry Laughlin, Region 3 Vice President, Telephone Pioneers of America, presided at the formal induction of the new Chapter's Officers. The Cornhusker Chapter was launched!

In the subsequent pages are depicted the highlights of these past memorable years with emphasis on the 5 years of the Cornhusker Chapter.



Officers Elect - Cornhusker Chapter 1983



G. A. GODIOS  
President



J. A. WOODS  
Senior Vice President



E. V. ARNONE  
Vice President

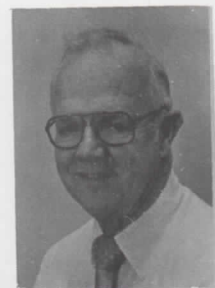
Administrators



G. F. ALFONS  
June 1978 Dec, 1980



R. E. PIERSON  
January 1980 Feb, 1983



T. R. OLSON  
Present

Staff Assistant



CHARLOTTE PFEFFER  
Present

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Every organization has, or at least ought to have, a reason for being. Many are organized for fun and games, but the human spirit being what it is, this usually proves to pall after a while.

This fact was felt very early in the history of the Cornhusker Chapter because way back in the early sixties the spirit of service took a strong hold on the organization and its people. The Community Service Workshop was a result of this feeling and has been charging ahead every year since then.

A small, but very dedicated group of women (and occasionally a man) have produced an unbelievable array of teaching aids, special devices and items as varied and unique as sand bags for supporting physically handicapped children to "Busy Boards" to assist hand-eye coordination. The list is far too great to relate here, but a few of the items are illustrated to give the reader an idea of how extensive the work has become.

In addition to the Workshop, purchases made possible by our fund raising have helped many institutions and individuals here in the Greater Omaha Area.



**The Westside Community Schools**

DISTRICT 66 ADMINISTRATION OFFICE 909 SOUTH 76TH OMAHA, NE. 68114 402/391-0646

November 3, 1982

Lee Tweedy-Chairperson  
Community Services  
Cornhusker Chapter  
Telephone Pioneers  
Western Electric Company  
P.O. Box 14000  
West Omaha Station  
Omaha, NE 68114

Dear Lee,

I want to thank the Telephone Pioneers of America for the donation of the "beeper" soft-ball to Westside Community Schools. I plan to try the ball with several delayed pre-school children in the district to assist in developing some auditorily directed search and find skills to facilitate their gross and fine skills.

I also have another young man in third grade who has some visual deficits, delaying his abilities to learn his favorite sports, soccer and soft-ball. He is practicing on a soccer team, but has not been able to accomplish any skill in soft-ball, which only leads to frustration for him. I'm sure the "beeper" soft-ball will be of use for building up some self-confidence for him. So many uses, as such an adaptive device can have, can make a positive and lasting impact on "special" students' lives.

Thanks very much--I'll put the ball to good use.

Sincerely,

*Myrna Pittaway OTR*

Myrna C. Pittaway O.T.R.  
Occupational Therapy

C: Bob Pierson



G. Dan Patterson, National Director

**Infant Hearing Assessment Foundation**  
2625 Park Avenue  
Concord, California 94520 (415) 827-0933  
Nonprofit Found

January 17, 1983

Donald L. Hanrahan, President  
Cornhusker Chapter T.P.A.  
Western Electric Company, Inc.  
P.O. Box 37000  
Omaha, NE 68137

Dear Mr. Hanrahan:

Just a short note to say how much we appreciate the contributions of your Chapter and members to Infant Hearing. We think of our Omaha friends as true believers and generous supporters. For all of you we are most thankful.

It is our hope that sooner or later you'll be able to offer the Foundation's infant auditory screening service to the newborn of your community. We stand ready to respond at the first opportunity. Perhaps the recent publication of the 1982 Statement of the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing will prompt a local hospital to rethink their previous decision.

Meanwhile, we thank you again for the financial assistance. Be assured that every dollar goes to support new programs.

Best wishes for another outstanding year of pioneering.

Sincerely,

*G. Dan Patterson*  
G. Dan Patterson  
National Director



RECEIVED  
10101  
CHILDREN  
1584-1584  
10101

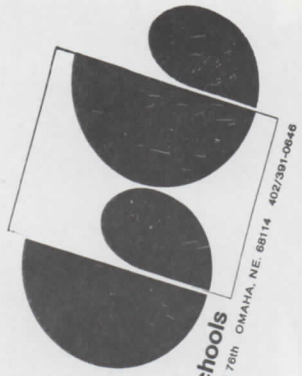
Oakland Public Schools

December 3, 1982

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Lee:  
Thank you for your time and all the  
efforts in special thanks to Lee, Guy, Bob and all of our "Children with Special Needs". The  
Children will surely benefit from your efforts. Best wishes to each and everyone. The  
Preschool Handicapped Program

Dear Promoters:  
A special thanks to Lee, Guy, Bob and all of our "Children with Special Needs". The  
Children will surely benefit from your efforts. Best wishes to each and everyone. The  
Preschool Handicapped Program

Sincerely,  
Gladys Rantz, R.N.  
Preschool Handicapped Program



The Westside Community Schools  
DISTRICT 66 ADMINISTRATION OFFICE 909 SOUTH 76th OMAHA, NE 68114 402/391-0646  
November 3, 1982

Lee Tweedy-Chairperson  
Community Services  
Cornhusker Chapter  
Telephone Pioneers  
Western Electric  
P.O. Box 14000  
West Omaha Station  
Omaha, NE 68114

Dear Lee,

Thank you so much for the donation of the large buttoned telephone to Westside Community Schools. I have personally used it with one six year old cerebral palsied boy and he asks about it all the time now. This young man's spontaneous speech increased two fold because he is so highly motivated. I am hoping to be able to acquire a Tele-Trainer from North-western Bell so he can even hear himself talk and learn a functional use of the phone.

I have only scratched the surface of the use of the phone, I realize, as so many children, both retarded and multiply handicapped will be able to benefit from its design. Hopefully, I will soon be sharing it with several classrooms. Maybe the parents will see the phone as a good Christmas present--who knows!?

Thank you again for your kind consideration.  
Sincerely,  
Myrna Pittaway  
Myrna Pittaway O.T.R.  
Occupational Therapist  
C: Bob Pierson

GM:mr

I'm sending you  
 this little note  
 to thank you and to say  
 how nice it was  
 to be thought of  
 in a very special way  
 Redmary  
 Mrs. Judy School  
 Bank School



Dear Pioneer group  
 We hope you know  
 how much  
 your thoughtfulness  
 is appreciated!  
 She residents appreciated  
 the books very much.  
 Dec 16, 1980  
 near Mrs Christensen  
 Spent you very much for arranging  
 for Santa to come here and visit our  
 residents. They enjoyed the visit and  
 the ornaments were lovely and made  
 for the beautiful time. Everyone loved  
 them! They are so colorful, loved  
 them very much.  
 Sister Mary  
 Sister Mary  
 Sister Mary

Country Manor  
 Nursing Home

The "Let's All Sing Together"  
 books will be the means of  
 helping us do just that at  
 Buist Tower Highline.  
 Elderly who still have a  
 voice that can carry a tune  
 need more opportunities to sing  
 We appreciate the telephone  
 Pioneer's generosity. Unless we sing  
 often, we forget the words.  
 So thank you, thank you  
 for the books donated to our  
 town. Very sincerely, Residents  
 by Dr. V. Menden

12/14/81  
 Bob Pearson, I've been wanting to  
 send a thank you note for the  
 songbooks picked up and delivered  
 to me by Neil Becken. I'm not sure  
 to whom to address this. Please  
 pass on to proper person.  
 As I told you, I've long wanted  
 to get in touch with the telephone  
 Pioneer to learn more about what you  
 are doing.  
 As a member of the Omaha Area  
 Pioneers I need to know all I can  
 about aids available to elderly.  
 Sometime after the first of  
 the year perhaps we can arrange  
 a visit. Thank you so much.  
 Dr. V. Menden

Thank You

The Pioneer maplin holders that  
 you made for our 50th. Something  
 celebration was to do  
 so kind of you enjoy.  
 We could have you. Residents of Millard  
 The Good Center

Dear Mr. Wenton,  
 We want to thank the  
 Pioneer at western Electric  
 for giving our son, Andrew,  
 the hand-powered tricycle.  
 it and is really enjoying  
 riding it since he made progress  
 He can now use the program  
 to get warm so he received  
 hide it outside for the weather.  
 As parents to a handicapped  
 child, we appreciate the  
 interest the Pioneer have  
 in the handicapped.  
 I understand there is a  
 group of women who meet  
 on projects a week and  
 like to meet the workshop  
 sometime this spring to  
 be possible.  
 Thank you,  
 Mrs. & Mrs. Bob Blair  
 & Andy



Dear Mrs. Tweedy,

Please tell everyone thank you

for the nice things you and

for us we use them every day

We love you. Love

Sarah

Phyllis

Arlene

Betsy

memo

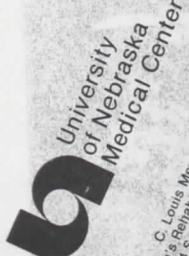
anna

Dear friends,  
Thank you very much for  
all the nice things  
you have made for us  
and for our friends.  
You have helped us  
in many ways.

With  
Special Thanks

Debbie  
Catherine  
Eddie  
Brenda  
Jim  
Rick

Dear friends,  
Thank you very much for  
all the nice things  
you have made for us  
and for our friends.  
You have helped us  
in many ways.



C. Louis Meyer  
Children's Rehabilitation Institute  
444 South 44th Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68131

Mr. Guy Gadios  
Cornhusker Chapter  
Telephone Pioneers of America  
120th & I Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68114

January 10, 1983

Dear Mr. Gadios,

I would just like to sincerely thank you and your organization for the donation of the adaptive hand driven tricycle to the Meyer Children's Rehabilitation Institute Physical Therapy Department. It is very important for a department such as MCR's to have a variety of equipment for use during a clinical evaluation. The opportunity to "try before you buy" can be both an economic and a clinical advantage. We enjoyed the opportunity to meet and talk with you and hope that we can continue working together. If there is some way we can be of assistance to you in the future, please feel free to contact us. Thank you again for thinking of the Meyer Children's Rehabilitation Institute and the children that will subsequently benefit from your gift.

Sincerely,

Jim Medaner, R.P.T., M.S.  
Director Physical Therapy Department

cc: Dr. Wiltee, Interim Director MCR  
Lee Tweedy, Cornhusker Chapter  
Don Hanrahan, President Local  
Jack A. McCallister, President Northwestern Bell

University of Nebraska—Lincoln

University of Nebraska at Omaha

University of Nebraska at Omaha



January 29

Deaf  
 books  
 for  
 Mrs. Tweedy  
 want to  
 thank  
 you  
 for  
 brought  
 them  
 over.  
 I like  
 much.  
 A  
 love.

Yr  
 ever

On the other side of the paper, there is a picture of a bear. The bear is standing on its hind legs and holding a sign that says "Thank you". The bear is also holding a small object in its paws. The picture is drawn in a simple, cartoonish style.

I think you are the one who brought them over. I like much. A love.

Dear Mrs. Tweedy,  
 I think you are the one who brought them over. I like much. A love.



May all the joy  
 and beauty of that Holy night  
 be with you at Christmas

Sincerely,  
 Mrs. Jones  
 Mrs. Jones  
 Mrs. Jones

Thank You

## MEETINGS AND ASSEMBLIES

Every month the Chapter has a meeting where the month past is reviewed by each of the major committee chairpersons, plans are formulated for the coming months, and the general business of the Chapter is conducted.

Annually, the Chapter has an Assembly where the new officers for the coming year are formally inducted and the outgoing President reviews the progress the Chapter has made under his leadership. The newly elected President then outlines his plans and goals for the upcoming year.

This Chapter Assembly is attended by the principal chairpersons who served under the outgoing officers. In addition to these Chapter functions, annual assemblies are held by our Region (Region 3) and the National Assembly where all of the 99 Chapters in the United States and Canada send delegates.

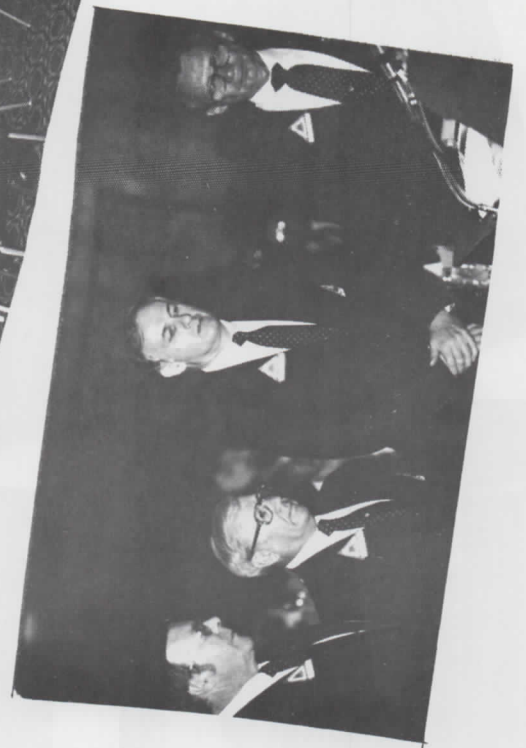
This Assembly is the high point of the Pioneer Year where the business of the parent organization takes place, and where workshops and training sessions are held for all the various levels of officers.

The apex of this Assembly is reached at the final night banquet, when all of the Chief Executive Officers and their partners of the Bell Affiliated Companies and the Canadian Telephone Companies enter the banquet room in the Grand March.

Both "Oh Canada" and "The Star Spangled Banner" are played and sung, and emotions reach a peak! The principal speaker is the Chairman of A.T.&T. Co., and there is no doubt in anyone's mind that these top executives believe and support the Telephone Pioneers.

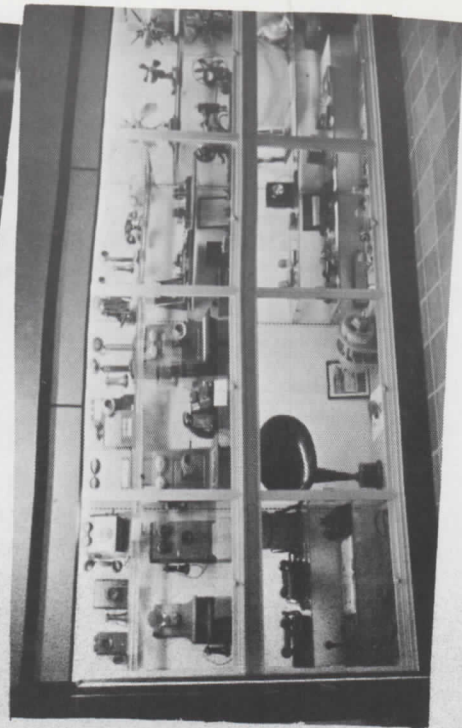
In addition to the Assemblies each year, Western Electric conducts a three-day workshop at the Corporate Education Center for all the newly elected officers. This is strictly training for the officers and administratives of all Western Electric Chapters and Councils.







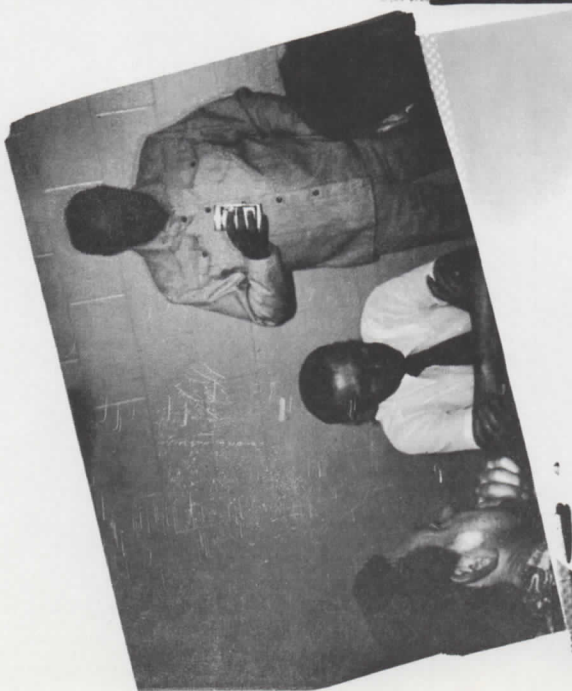
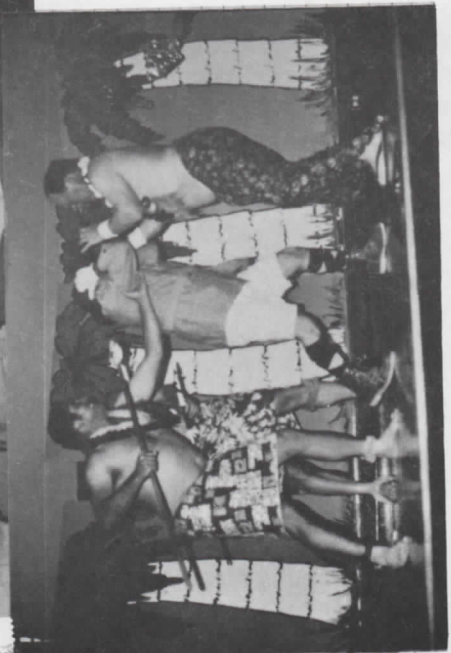
















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at the  
Omaha  
Works