

Circle K @ CMU

A newsletter for service-minded students at Carnegie Mellon University

December 2002

Animal Rescue League

What do you do when you go to college and you find yourself missing your dog or cat at home? Visit the animal shelter! Animal Rescue League is one of the local animal shelters where volunteers can walk dogs or cuddle cats six days a week. The dogs can be taken to a nearby park which makes it for a pleasant walk. Cat cuddling is a great de-stresser for the college student! Our members have gone several times either individually or as a group especially since the place is only a few minutes away by bus.

Food Bank

The semester would not be complete without a visit to one of our favorite places, the Pittsburgh Food Bank, this time in September. On this trip, we sorted and boxed Nabisco products. Despite trying to maintain some variety in the boxes, we ended up boxing mostly a mountain of Nilla Wafers and Cheese Nips. Our members also got the grand tour of the warehouse facility.

Global Links

Today, many medical supplies from the US are ending up in landfills while still unused or usable. These supplies are still medically safe, but have been thrown out by the hospitals for various other reasons. Global Links is an organization that recovers medical supplies from the area's many hospitals and ships them to various countries in Central and South America. At our most recent trip, our members helped sort syringes and bagged gauze for sterilization.

Pittsburgh Ballet Theater

Our members got a real treat when volunteering at the Benedum Theater with the Pittsburgh Ballet in October. We helped out at the gift shop before and after the ballet and during intermissions. But during the "breaks", we got to see the ballet itself: Indigo in Motion. The ballet featured a unique combination of dance, voice, and jazz and was a delight to see. Proceeds from the sale of gift items benefited the Pittsburgh Ballet School.

Boys and Girls Club

As one of the new weekday projects, we started volunteering in October at the local Boys and Girls Club in Shadyside. Our project leader, Kristen, goes every week, taking any interested members. We help the kids with their homework and play games with them. They definitely remind us of our childhood years ☺

Circle K Fundraisers

In October, we held one of our most innovative fund-raisers: each year before Halloween, the campus community can buy a Boo-gram and send a message to someone on campus for just one dollar. These messages are delivered with candy on Halloween (some were delivered by Lorraine, our club president, in a chicken suit this year!). The fundraiser was very successful, raising \$77 for Special Olympics.

(Story continues on reverse)

A district fundraiser, the Rose Sale, was held early this October. We pre-sold roses from Buffalo, NY early in the month, and delivered them on October 17th. Proceeds from this sale benefited many different organizations, including the Kiwanis Foundation, and Special Olympics.

District Level News

The PA Circle K district board has a new District Editor, Angela Drake, to replace Julia Lathia who stepped down earlier this year for personal reasons. We wish Angela good luck in her office for the rest of her term! The District Editor's main duty is to publish the Krier, the District's newsletter.

One of our own members, Theresa Sobczak is actively involved with the K-Family relations committee. K-Family's goal is to enhance relationships between Kiwanis, Circle K, Key Club, Builder's Club, K-Kids, and Aktion Club. We are very happy to have our club represented at the district level!

The District Board has drawn up some goals for all Pennsylvania Circle K clubs for this year. They are:

1. Strive to achieve an average of at least 35-hours of service per member.
2. Participate in at least two projects relating to the District Service Project and two projects relating to the Service Initiative as a club.
3. Increase membership in each club by at least 10 percent over the previous year.
4. Have 135 Kiwanis Family members in attendance at InterPACK and 30 clubs present at District Convention.
5. Participate in at least one district Kiwanis Family Day; at least seven clubs shall hold a Key to College Program as a club.

This year's District Service Project is "Making abilities out of Disabilities" and the Service Initiative is "Open a book, show them the world." While we are on track to meet these goals, we still need your help and support at our remaining events for the academic year.

Mark Your Calendars!

Circle K is scheduled to be at places in the next few weeks:

- 12/5 – General body meeting and social with pizza, UC McKenna 8:30pm.
- 12/4-12/6 – Final Exam tabling.
- 12/7 – Pittsburgh Ballet Theater – The NEW Nutcracker.
- 1/24 – Food Bank in conjunction with Student Life's Saturday Service Mornings.

Come to our weekly general body meetings or e-mail us to find out more about these projects and to sign up.

Circle K @ CMU is published by the Circle K Club of Carnegie Mellon University.

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