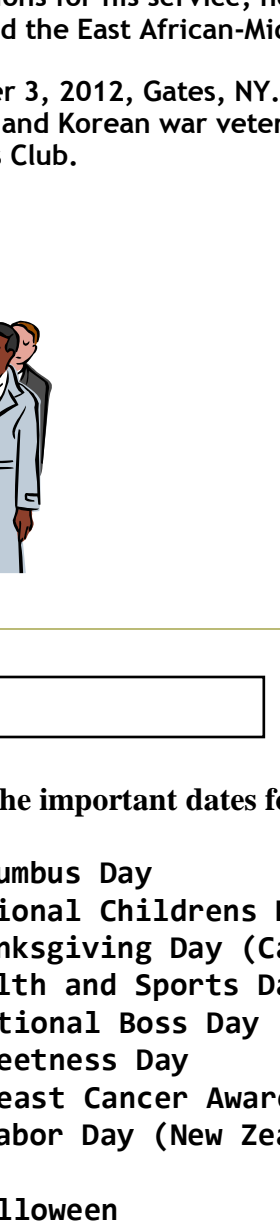


The Pioneer's Club Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 10
 October 2012

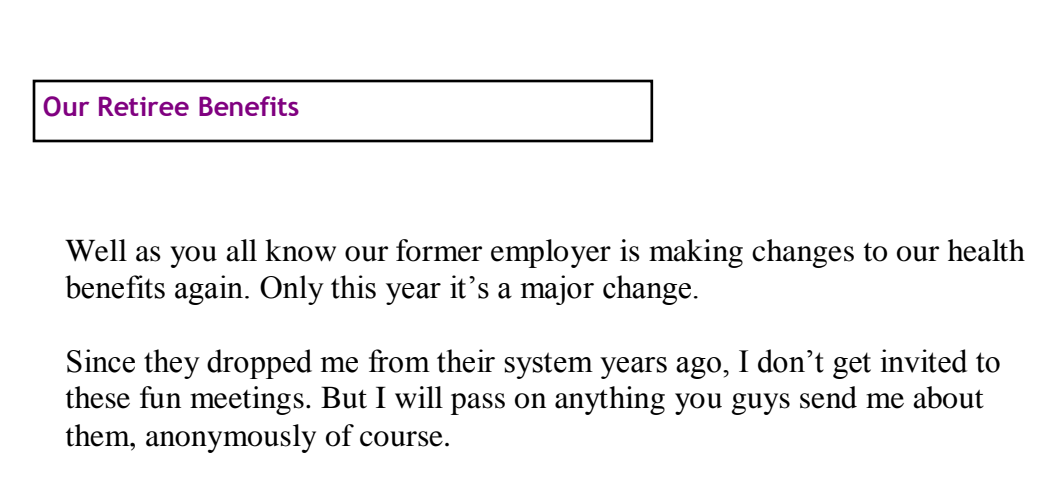
Obituary Correction

I sent out an Obit for Edward Shields earlier this week. It was in error.
 I received this email from Dave Shields.
My father, Edward L. Shields, worked in the RG&E Electric Maps and Records Department. He passed away during Thanksgiving week in 2006 at the age of 82. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army during WWII.
 To everyone who received this notice please accept my apologies for this error.



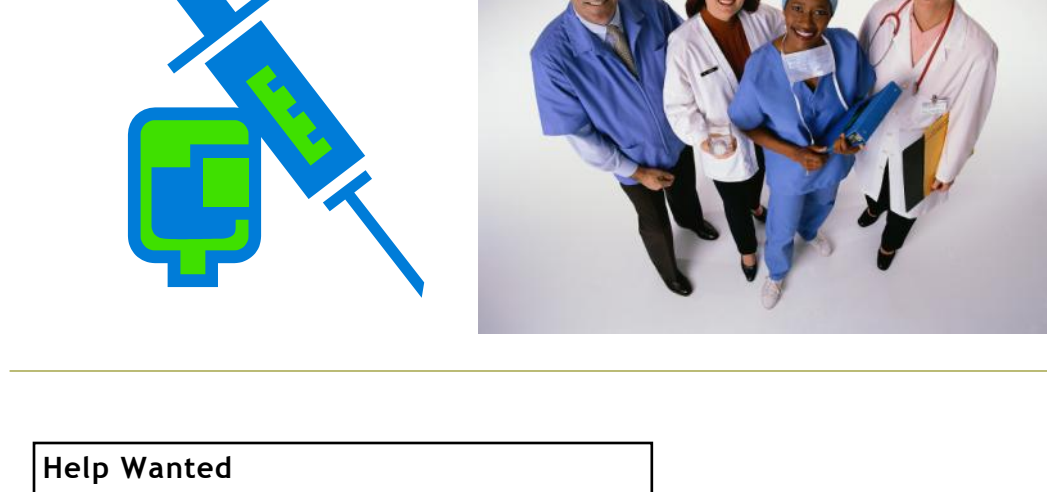
Obituary Page

We lost three individuals that I am aware of since the last newsletter.
 They will be missed by who knew them.
Henry A. Stoddart - September 11, 2011, Greece, NY at age 96. Henry was a proud Captain Pilot of the Army Air Corps. Henry enjoyed playing golf and spending time with his family.
James V. Whitcomb - September 13, 2012, Henrietta, NY . James worked in Sub-stations. James served his country during WWII in the Army Air Corp and among his commendations for his service, he received the Air Medal with six oak leaf clusters and the East African-Middle Eastern Service Medal
John J. Hinds - October 3, 2012, Gates, NY. John worked in Credit and Collection. He was a WWII and Korean war veteran. He was also a member of the RG&E Armed Forces Club.



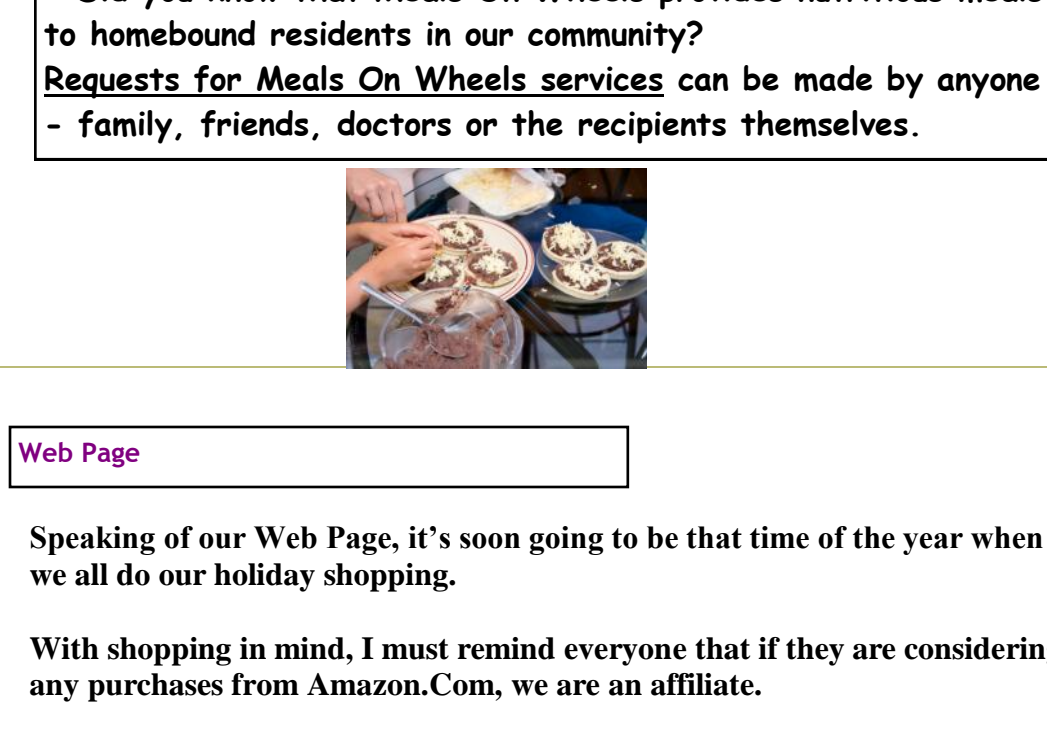
October Events

Here are the important dates for October
October 8- Columbus Day
 National Childrens Day
 Thanksgiving Day (Canada)
 Health and Sports Day (Japan)
October 16- National Sports Day
October 20- Sweetness Day
October 22- Breast Cancer Awareness Day
 Labor Day (New Zealand)
October 31- Halloween



October Birthdays

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	Birthday
Bohn	Roger	W	14-Oct-49
Browne	Ron	I	02-Oct-51
Ehrhart II	John		12-Oct-46
Kiedrowski	Nelson	A	13-Oct-45
Klein	Jack		16-Oct-45
Nichols Havasi	Mary		28-Oct-52
Plantz	Thomas		07-Oct-52
Sperduto	Rich		05-Oct-49
Sullivan	John	J.	29-Oct-55
VAUDO	CARMELLA	C.	14-Oct-34
Zapf	Bernie		04-Oct-48



Our Retiree Benefits

Well as you all know our former employer is making changes to our health benefits again. Only this year it's a major change.
 Since they dropped me from their system years ago, I don't get invited to these fun meetings. But I will pass on anything you guys send me about them, anonymously of course.
 The only this I like each and everyone of you to remember. These changes are probably not being made out of the goodness of the Company's heart. More than likely they are being made to save the Company money.

*On 9/10/2012 12:05 PM, donald wrote:
 I left the Health care meeting at 11:45 A.M. Monday. It was a very confusing experience. AON HEWITT NAVAGATOR, who made the initial presentation, lasting 11/2 hours was done with and without the microphones, so hearing was a problem. In essence, they have to be contacted and your health care selection set up between Oct. 15-Dec. 31, or you lose support from Iberdrola permanently, and it will differ depending on when you retired or if you are still working. All communications have to be done by phone or computer, since they are located in Illinois, without a Rochester office. You must work through them, only they are located in Illinois, without a Rochester office. You must work through them, only they are located in Illinois, without a Rochester office. You must work through them, only they are located in Illinois, without a Rochester office. It was a mess! Don P.S. There were about 200 attending, mostly RG&E, but some NYSEG and Constellation, plus a few Kodak people, all with different HMOs and hundreds of questions. Don*

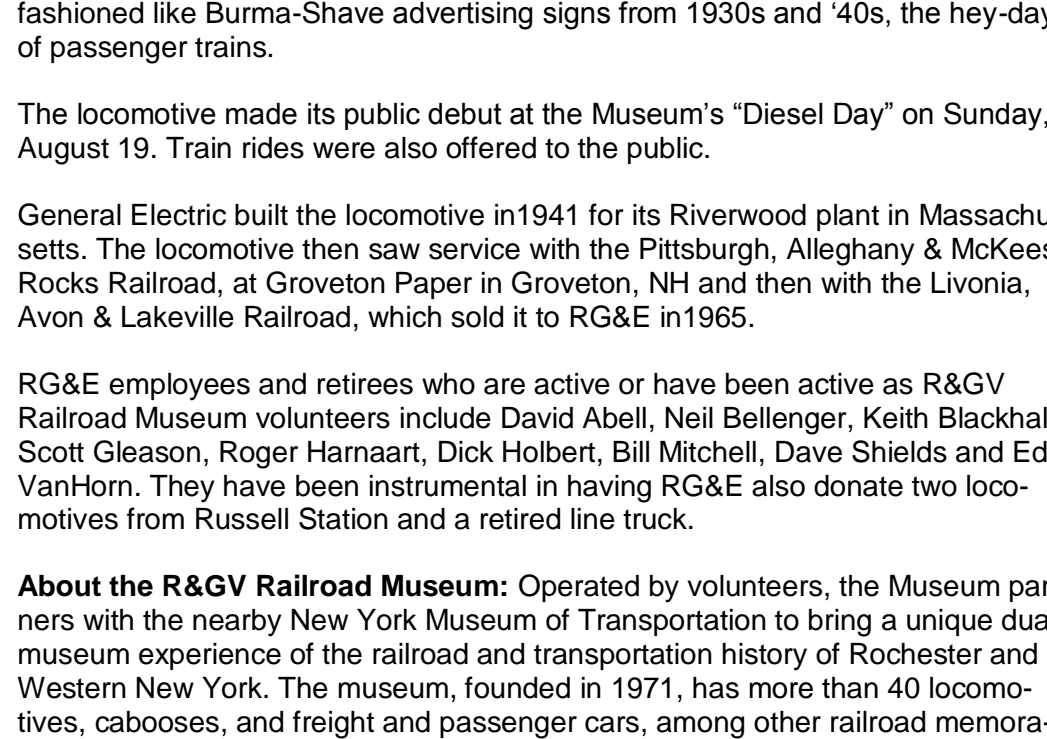
Don,
Thanks for your concern regarding the RG&E health meetings held today. Our meeting notice said nothing about a morning meeting just that we were invited to attend a scheduled meeting at 1 pm today, which we did attend. We found the info interesting and there were several good questions from the full house in attendance.

We were left with the opinion that we will have to do a good amount of homework so we can make the best decision for the coverage we want, both here and in Florida. We really do not need any more homework, on any subject, but I guess if we are going to make sensible decisions on important issues we will do just that as long as we can.

Went to MVP today and we were told that AON Hewitt will be offering MVP to its old people, talked to the women who said that she was working fast and furiously to get it in place, so to wait until we get the stuff from AON. There are 1100 RG&E retirees enrolled in MVP. so I guess they want to keep us and there probably were a lot of complaints. It made us happy

So far this is all the news I have to point out. The warning is the time period, 10/15 to 12/31. **If you don't comply they'll drop you and you'll never be able to rejoin.**

The good news is that you may have MVP as one of your choices.



Help Wanted

This is another appeal for your help only this time it's from **Meals on Wheels**

I received a request from :
Julie Malley
 Manager, Volunteer Services and Logistics
 Meals on Wheels

To put out a plea for help for volunteers. As you all know this is a service that helps our friends and neighbors when they become infirm and cannot provide for themselves either temporarily or on a more permanent basis.

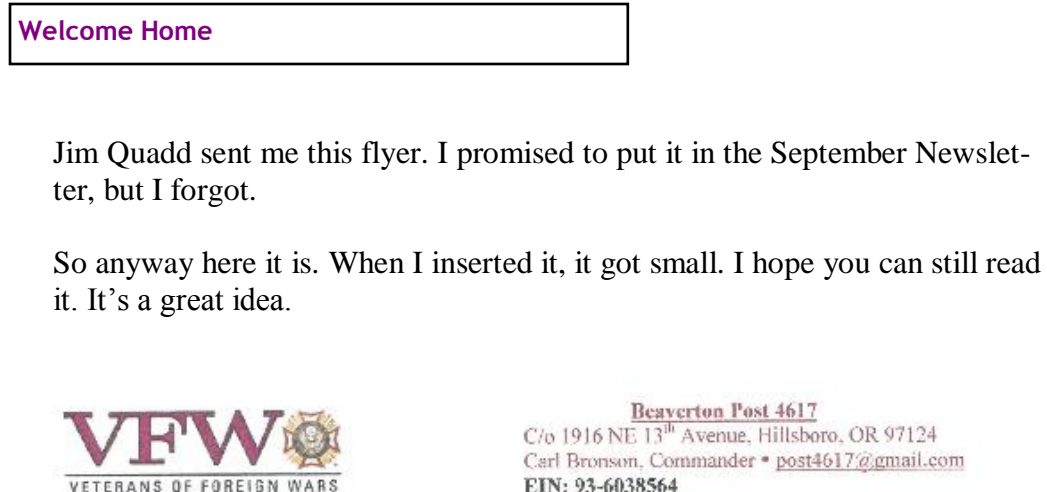
She sent me this poster.

Become a volunteer and help us deliver meals.

Only takes an hour to deliver
Routes go out mid-day
Easy to follow route directions
Meal pick-up sites in your neighborhood
Volunteer weekly, monthly or seasonally

Give it a try!
Call us at 787-8326 for more information or visit us @www.vnsnet.com

****Did you know that Meals On Wheels provides nutritious meals to homebound residents in our community?
 Requests for Meals On Wheels services can be made by anyone - family, friends, doctors or the recipients themselves.**



Web Page

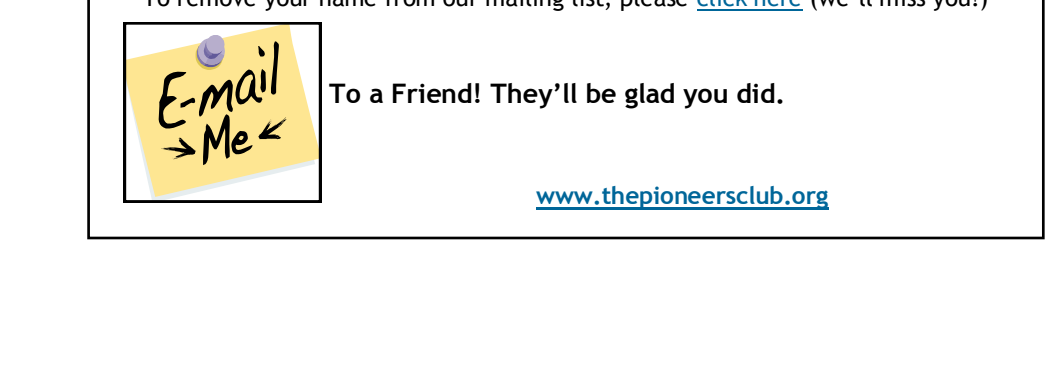
Speaking of our Web Page, it's soon going to be that time of the year when we all do our holiday shopping.

With shopping in mind, I must remind everyone that if they are considering any purchases from Amazon.Com, we are an affiliate.

What that means is that if you use the link on our web site to go to the Amazon.com web site and make a purchase. The club gets a small stipend from them.

Every little bit helps to maintain our club. So remember us.
 Here's a quick link: [Amazon Page](#)

I'm thinking of adding other links to our site. Are there any you might like?



Pictures!!!!

The Rochester and Genesee Valley Railroad Museum restored the General Electric 1941 locomotive that used to operate at Beebee Station. Attached is an article I wrote for the NYSEG/RG&E intranet. I thought the Pioneers might enjoy reading the article. The only difference between the articles is I added a paragraph with the names of retirees who volunteer at the R&GVRRM. Retiree Dave Shields reviewed the article for accuracy.

Pioneers Club Newsletter
 R&GVRRM – Beebee Station Locomotive
 September 4, 2012

All Aboard! The Beebee Station Locomotive Is Back on the Tracks!
Industry, NY – Wool! Wool! The 1941 General Electric locomotive that used to move coal cars around RG&E's long-closed Beebee Station generating plant has returned to the rails after a 21-year retirement.

Its current owner, the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum unveiled the refurbished 45-ton locomotive at its annual volunteers' picnic on August 18. In September 1991, RG&E donated the GE 1941 to the museum, which is dedicated to preserving the American railroad experience.

The sparking locomotive prompted a standing ovation from volunteers and guests as it glided down the tracks to the Museum's refurbished 1909 railroad depot in Industry, a village in the Town of Rush, south of Rochester. Cameras and cell phones recorded the event as the locomotive's new paint gleamed in the bright sunlight and its engine purred.

The locomotive underwent extensive work, including the complete rebuild of one of the locomotives' two diesel engines, extensive sheet metal work, all new cab glass, and all new "Brewster Green" paint and lettering, including the classic RG&E "Torch in Hand" ("Always at Your Service") logo, which was re-created by hand. In the cab is a tool box that is also emblazoned with the RG&E lettering.

The big test was the train's inaugural ride. Hauling a small passenger car, the locomotive eased along on a track that took it through woods and fields to the nearby New York Museum of Transportation. Along the way was a set of signs fashioned like Burma-Shave advertising signs from 1930s and '40s, the hey-day of passenger trains.

The locomotive made its public debut at the Museum's "Diesel Day" on Sunday, August 19. Train rides were also offered to the public.

General Electric built the locomotive in 1941 for its Riverwood plant in Massachusetts. The locomotive then saw service with the Pittsburgh, Allegheny & McKees Rocks Railroad, at Groveton Paper in Groveton, NH and then with the Livonia, Avon & Lakeville Railroad, which sold it to RG&E in 1965.

RG&E employees and retirees who are active or have been active as R&GV Railroad Museum volunteers include David Abell, Neil Bellenger, Keith Blackhall, Scott Gleason, Roger Harnaart, Dick Holbert, Bill Mitchell, Dave Shields and Ed VanHorn. They have been instrumental in having RG&E also donate two locomotives from Russell Station and a retired line truck.

About the R&GV Railroad Museum: Operated by volunteers, the Museum partners with the nearby New York Museum of Transportation to bring a unique dual-museum experience of the railroad and transportation history of Rochester and Western New York. The museum, founded in 1971, has more than 40 locomotives, cabooses, and freight and passenger cars, among other railroad memorabilia. There is also a three-track yard to display restored railroad stock. The museum/depot is located at 6393 East River Rd., Rush, NY. It is opened from mid May to the end of October on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The New York Museum of Transportation is open year round on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.rgvrrm.org and www.nytmuseum.org.

Sad Pictures!!!!

To those of us who worked there, these pictures of the RGS sign being removed from 89 East Ave are sad. I guess that the expense of the removal is reflected in our health care benefits..... Or maybe it was just to satisfy someone's ego.

Maybe these were just removed to make room for the "For Sale" signs.

Speaking of for sale, I received this email from a friend at Energentix

Tom,
It is my regret that I have to tell you that Energetix was sold 8/22/12 to Direct Energy, that on that day I ceased being an Iberdrola employee and that at some point in the near future I may be laid off. It means after 32 years I cannot retire from the company or receive medical payments (such as it is). That said, I still consider myself an ex-RGE employee because neither Energy East nor Iberdrola had a clue how to treat good employees or people. This is evident based on how they seem to treat retirees.

Thought you should know.
And I thought all of you should know.—Tom

Welcome Home

Jim Quadd sent me this flyer. I promised to put it in the September Newsletter, but I forgot.

So anyway here it is. When I inserted it, it got small. I hope you can still read it. It's a great idea.

Welcome Home Coin Project
 Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans
 Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day Celebration, March 30, 2012

Dear Friend(s),
 "WELCOME HOME", two words not heard by most Viet Nam vets when they returned home. Now, nearly 40 years later, we have an opportunity to say those words to our returning Iraq and Afghanistan veterans and to celebrate. Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day on March 30, 2012.

The words are great to hear, but it is time we gave our veterans a unique gift, a "Welcome Home Coin", that symbolizes America's appreciation for their Service and Sacrifice. It is more than a piece of metal; it is a token of our warmth, affection and gratitude that tangibly demonstrates the words, "Welcome Home".

In order to create three unique Welcome Home veteran coins, Wholesale-Challenge Coins, in Ocala, FL, was contracted to assist us with the creation of these special coins. Each coin would cost \$3.44 with a minimum purchase of 500 coins (refer to Wholesale-Challenge Coins Quote page for more detailed information).

US BANK provided \$1720 to purchase the first 500 coins to distribute to the members of the 1st Assault Helicopter Battalion -149th Aviation Regiment (Task Force Long Knife) California Army National Guard, based in Los Alamitos, CA. Upon their return they would be greeted with a handshake and the words, "WELCOME HOME, thank you for your service and sacrifice" and be presented with a Welcome Home Coin.

There are over 27,180 Oeseonians who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. The next part of this project requires funding to purchase coins for these brave veterans including those in Walter Reed Army Hospital and Oregon veterans homes. This project also needs your support for the 138,000 Oeseonians who served in Vietnam. It is finally their time to celebrate, on March 30, 2012, Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day. They too deserve a Welcome Home Coin.

Please help us provide coins for these brave men and women veterans, by donating, as much as you can, toward the purchase of these Welcome Home Coins.

In conclusion, it is hoped that you, your friends and associates might help with this unique project. Please invite your US/State Representative and Senator, community and organizations to join us in welcoming home our brave veterans. Together, let us begin a new tradition.

Please send your donation(s) to our US BANK.
 Make check(s) payable to: Welcome Home Coin Project, acct #: 153661683783

Sincerely,
Francis E. Betz

Mr. Francis E. Betz, Chairman, Welcome Home Project
 Tel/Mobile: 503.526.1726 • francis.betz@gmail.com

Pat Hayes, Sr. Vice-Commander • Jim Stone, Jr. Vice-Commander • Bob Parrack, Quartermaster • Charlotte Keel, Adjutant
 Francis E. Betz, Welcome Home Committee, Chairman

Remember: Pass this Newsletter on, so everyone can see it!
And if you're not on our mailing list, click here to join

Questions, or Comments, or Articles?
 Just Email me at Tom@ThePioneersClub.org

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#) (we'll miss you!)

To a Friend! They'll be glad you did.
www.thepioneersclub.org