

SAMARITAN'S CHRONICLE



**SAMARITAN'S
CARRIAGE**



Executive Director's Note

This March newsletter is dedicated to you. Last December I shared about the unbelievable year Samaritan's Carriage experienced. The many places we visited, including all the JOY of eating together and learning from each other were overwhelming. Thank you for blessing Samaritan's Carriage.

We enter 2023 excited to continue our mission of bringing JOY to members of our community who live with limited mobility. Consider with me the roots of our mission based in Luke 10:25-37. This familiar story causes me to reflect and consider, who am I in this story and what does it teach me? Jesus tells us to follow the Samaritan's example; love everyone, no matter their religion or race or ability, give generously without reward or obligation, and love freely knowing all people are God's children. Now wonder with me, what happened to the injured man? Was he disabled after his attack? Did he and the Samaritan man become friends? Had they bonded over this shared experience?

Samaritan's Carriage guests have a variety of limitations, like each one of us. Together we invest in relationships; bonding, sharing stories, creating memories that result in a shared history. One of our volunteers recently told me she had a conversation with a gentleman guest last year. **He told her he had not been out of the home in four years. What an over whelming joy for the two of them to be able to share in his experience of seeing God's creation anew after four years indoors.** We see the twinkle in the eyes of our guests when we take them out of their homes and show them the butterflies, the summer flowers, and the waves of Lake Michigan. God is in every moment of our adventures.

I pray you too are blessed to be part of an organization whose mission is to bring JOY! Are you looking for a place to volunteer, or an opportunity to bring joy and experience joy yourself? Please give me a call, 616-633-9548.

Article written by Sara Buchholz

Board Members

- Bill Botts – President
- Abbie Holt
- Barry Meerman – Secretary
- Ruth Schoon
- Doug Sieplinga – Treasurer
- Mary VanWingerden
- Sara Buchholz – Executive Director
- 616-633-9548
- sarabuchholz50@gmail.com
- 2431 Paris Ave SE
- Grand Rapids MI 49507

Our Mission

As an expression of God's love, Samaritan's Carriage tailors experiences and personal encounters that affirm, bless, and bring joy into the lives of persons having limited mobility.



Photo in memory of Ethel Steenwyk, the center volunteer, who passed away December 1, 2022. She was full of energy and will be greatly missed.

Thank You!

YOU are the reason Samaritan's Carriage is able to enjoy a morning full of adventures, filled with new experiences and then leisurely share stories over a delicious lunch.



Donna Adams
Henry & Marlys Admiraal
Applebees
Daniel & Joanne Bajema
Henry & Ruth Baron
Bill & Anita Beem
Liz Oppewal & Bear Berends
Bishop Hills Elder Care
Len & Carrie Blauwkamp
William & LaVerne Blickley
Warren & Joanne Boer
Rod & Lois Boerman
Barbara Bol
Janet Borgdorff
Bill & Catherine Botts
James & Judith Botts
Marlene & Joe Brannon
James & Marysue Brassler
Jerry & Kathy Brecker
Raymond & Geraldine Breen
Stephen & Rhonda Brink
Lois Brink
John Brown
Sara & Don Buchholz
Christopher & Melanie
Buchholz
City BBQ
Marlene Cook
Marlene & Richard Corey
Jon & Wanda Cowan
Don & Anne Crans
Mike & Deb Damstra
Roberta Deaton
Mary DeBoer
Pamela DeBruyn
Jessie DeGroot
Dan & Patty Dekker
Henry & Ina DeMoor
Lee & Jean DeVries
Phil & Gayle DeVries

Herman DeVries
Janet DeWeese
Robert & MaryLou DeYoung
Morrie & Mary Dieleman
Nettie Dykhous
John & Bev Dykstra
John & Elaine Ekdome
Donald Ekdome
Charles & Charlene Ezinga
First CRC in Grand Rapids
Jill Frazee-Eitman
Ken & Betty Frieswyk
Arthur & Barb Gerrits
Audrey Gezon
Cheryl Gibbs
Sid & Marie Greidanus
Nelson & Nancy Greidanus
Elizabeth Greidanus
Rick & Ellen Hamilton
Rest Haven Homes
Pat Hazenberg
Sharon & Sharol Hiemstra
David & Linda Hoeksema
Joanne & Thomas Holman
Abbie & Bill Holt
Robert & Betty Hough
William & Linda Huizinga
Judy & Jerry Huizinga
Diane & Dave Husted
Wilma & Marv Ilbrink
David & Lois Jacobs
Herbert & Barbara Jager
Mike & Pat Jennings
Dan & Berne Jonker
Harvey Kiekover
John & Donna Klein
Donald & Bonnie Klop
Dave & Marla Koetje
Jay & Evelyn Koets
Andy & Barb Koning

Lois Konyndyk
Diane Koster
Stephen & Janet Kremers
Bob & Cheryl LaFleur
Charles Langeland
Pete & Jan Lanser
David & Jane Lautenbach
Kenneth & Ruth Lobbes
Diane Lobbestael
Stan & Pauline Luben
Barb & Dan Makowski
Michael & Joyce Markaity
Barry & Judi Meerman
Larry & Ruth Meringa
Marianne & Don Morell
Doris Nies
Cornelia Olson
Charles & Mary Oostindie
Don & Marcia Osterink
Ralph & Nancy Overzet
Kathleen Pasma
Ann Peters
Rob & Lucinda Poel
Ruth Posthumus & Marlin Feyen
Marlowe Pranger
Donald & Marilyn Prince
Suzanne & Dennis Reenders
Scott & Julie Reenders
Barry & Sandi Ruiter
Joel & Kathy Ruiter
Gary Ruiter
Annette Schans
Ruth Schoon
Sheldon Meadows Living Center
Doug & Donna Sieplinga
Dwight & Dawn Sneden
Nancy Spiering
Edward & Sharon Start

Dave & Jan Stek
Jim & Esther Stoel
Bill & Sue Sweetman
Don & Mary Swierenga
Jack & Jan Sytsma
Pat & Jim Talen
Larry & Marianne Tanis
Alida Terpstra
Ken Terpstra
John & Drenda Thoen
Barb & Steve Timmermans
Nick & Nancy Tuit
Ruth & Duke VanDenBerg
Ralph & Marilyn VanderKlok
Dan & Beth VanderPloeg
Dorothy VanderTil
Kay & Mike VanderWeele
Scott & Sue VanDyken
Mark VanEizenga
Nelson & Carol VanElderens
Marcia VanEss
Lewis & Norma VanKuiken
Tom & Mary VanWingerden
Jim & Mary VanWingerden
Nancy VanWoerkom
Arthur Veltman
Craig & Sarah VerHulst
Eric VerHulst
Judith Verhulst Estate
Marilyn Waanders
Sarah & Joseph Wagner
Nancy Westra
Ruth Wierenga
Henry & Thressa Witte
Johannes & Lynda Witte
Herm & Laurie Witte
Phyllis Witte
Robert & Annette Yff

In Memoriam

Robert Shaver

Robert and Annette Yff

Judith VerHulst

Judith VerHulst Estate



Join us in

- Rejoicing in the healing Gary Ruiter has experienced
- Praying for strength and comfort for Pat Jennings and others who experience health issues
- Praying for joy filled, safe adventures for guests and volunteers
- Discovering new locations to visit – share an idea
- Looking for a few more volunteers
- Discerning the future needs of Samaritan's Carriage



Samaritan's Carriage activities in February and March

Samaritan's Carriage has an incredible group of volunteers. When we finished up our outings last December, I suggested to the teams that it might be a really nice gesture to visit our friends over the winter.

We had a delightful morning joining the RAILSIDE residents in making snowflakes. Some ladies arrived in the activity room looking for fun. The creating began when Abbie Holt, Life Enrichment Coordinator, and her team along with three of Den and Shirley Weber's daughters and a granddaughter provided a pile of folded paper and scissors. One of the residents commented that every paper snowflake was different just like the ones God creates.

In speaking with other Life Enrichment Coordinators, they are so anxious for Samaritan's Carriage to begin again. They know the need for their residents to get out and be inspired by life outside of their home. **It is our JOY to provide the adventures.**

Samaritan's Carriage is hosting a fundraiser on
 Wednesday, April 19 at
Applebees
 in Grandville,
 4488 Potomac Ave from
 4:00-9:00 pm.

<https://www.groupraise.com/events/244565>



GROUPRAISE.COM

Samaritan's Carriage's GroupRaise Meal at Applebee's

Commit to Eat in support of Samaritan's Carriage at Applebee's on Apr 19

Why We're Raising

Our mobility challenged friends are looking forward to another year of adventures. Will you come and help us make this happen? Calling all volunteers, former volunteers friends, and donors of Samaritan's Carriage. Come join the fun of renewing friendships and greeting your fellow volunteers over a delicious dinner at Applebees on Wednesday, April 19 from 4:00-9:00. Sara Buchholz, Executive Director

How it Works

You can participate in this fundraiser by:

- Dine in
- Take out
- Pick up

Please visit Applebee's and they will take your order from their storefront for take-out. When purchasing your meal, mention your group's name to receive 20% of your meal's price donated back to Samaritan's Carriage.



**SAMARITAN'S
CARRIAGE**
2431 Paris Ave SE
Grand Rapids MI 49507

PRSR. STD.
US POSTAGE
PAID
GRAND RAPIDS, MI
PERMIT NO. 657



A Samaritan's Carriage team recently joined a group of ladies from Sheldon Meadows. We renewed friendships, making gnomes together. We had fun connecting and laughing at our creations. Lots of hands were needed to put together these darling little creatures.



I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Phil. 1: 3-6