

# SAMARITAN'S CHRONICLE



SAMARITAN'S  
CARRIAGE



## Board Members

Bill Botts – President  
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 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.

## 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*



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 Brasser  
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 Kiekoover  
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

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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.



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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*