

DMACC

Pioneers Connection

FALL 2019



25th
ANNIVERSARY

1984

TO

2019

DMACC Pioneers Planning Council Officers: Martha Pestotnik - Member at Large, Pauline Skarda - Vice President, Millie Kerr - Secretary, Dona Danaher - Member at Large, Irv Steinberg - Member at Large, Leonard Bengston - President, and Curt Smith - Member at Large.



FROM OUR PRESIDENT

in this newsletter. Your participation, involvement, and gracious donations are outward signs of your continued and ongoing support of DMACC, the students, and the Pioneers. It is sincerely appreciated!

I hope that each of you has had an opportunity to meet and to talk with the members of your Leadership Council. What an amazing group of leaders! It has truly been a privilege to work with each of them this year. Their dedication, hard work, and great ideas, are what keeps the Pioneers such an integral part of the College. Sincere thanks to Ruth Wagner who served as our Secretary since 2015. We have two new members on the Leadership Council—Barbara Schmidt, Secretary, and Bonnie McBee, Hospitality Chair.

While we have so much to be happy about, it was also a year filled with sadness and loss. We lost several long-time members who were instrumental in the early development of the college. Our appreciation for the groundwork they laid and the leadership they provided will remain in our memories. In particular was the very sudden loss of Carroll Bennett, who was currently serving as Past President. He had a way of inspiring everyone around him to do their very best, always with a kind, listening ear and an unselfish desire to help us reach our potential and more.

My hope is that you will continue participating. If you haven't come to a monthly meeting or volunteered for a special event, I hope you will consider doing so this next year. Reconnecting with fellow retirees can enrich your life beyond what you might expect. Join us soon for the fun, the friendship, and the service to others!

Dear Pioneers,
Happy 25th Anniversary Pioneers!! Pioneers is a great organization because of all the retirees from this amazing institution. Attendance was great at the Kick-Off on September 3 to celebrate a memorable and fun 25 years. Four previous Presidents were in attendance and many individuals that were instrumental in our formation joined us. Don and Millie Kerr got the award for coming the farthest, all the way from Rogers, Arkansas!

Thanks to all of you, we made excellent progress on the goals set for this year. Please see the summary of outcomes later

515.491.4495
SAGIBBONS@DMACC.EDU



YOUR 2019-2020 LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Front Row:
Dee Johnson,
Marian Tonhouse,
Row 2:
Bonnie McBee,
Craig McEnany,
Sue Gibbons,
Patty Holmes
Back Row:
Judy Vogel,
Barb Schmidt,
Dana Zeiser,
Lois Kiester

FROM OUR VICE PRESIDENT

In the last five years, I have had the pleasure of working with one of the best mentors in Carroll Bennett.

Carroll asked me, while I was still working for DMACC in the Continuing Education department, if I could help him with a project. He needed the early historical data to current of the Continuing Education department for a history project that he was working on. I said sure. I had no idea that I was about to embark on a life long journey as a DMACC Pioneer.

I retired in December of 2015 and the following summer Carroll asked me if I would run for the position of Hospitality Chair with the DMACC Pioneers. I said sure. This is how I got my start in this great organization. It has truly been a wonderful experience.

He later asked me to develop a record keeping process that would track attendance and special events, one we could look back on and use for research. We now have 3 years of data that we can use for direction and goal setting.

Next on his list was to develop a volunteer program. He wanted one that would stimulate involvement, create visibility, and members would have fun participating. I am happy to say that we now have a volunteer program. I developed a plan that includes Signature Events, tracking capabilities and achievement awards. It was formally introduced at the September 2018 Kick-Off.



Carroll and Sue Gibbons encouraged me this spring to run for Vice President. I ran and was elected at our July 2019 meeting.

As Vice President, 2019-2020 will be a year of learning. I will spend this year shadowing and working with the President, Liaison, and the Leadership Council members ensuring that the transition to President is smooth and seamless.

I will support the organization in any capacity needed and substitute for the President if there is a need. I am looking forward to the exciting years to come.

Dana



FROM OUR SECRETARY

I taught in the speech department on the Ankeny campus for 25 years. During that time I volunteered on the Art in the Halls, Earth Week, Sustainability Task Force, and DMACC Lake Trail committees. I also served a term as treasurer of the Iowa Communication Association. Since retiring in 2017 I have been a regular volunteer reconditioning bikes at the Des Moines Bicycle Collective. I continue to ride my horse, play in a "heavy metal band" (bell choir) and am one of the leaders of the Wild Women Biking Club. My husband, Mark and I have been touring by bicycle and in the past six years have biked in 8 different countries. We have a son in Washington, DC and a married daughter plus two wonderful grandsons in Davenport.

Barb

*T*hese are the annual Pioneers Activities and Initiatives.

SUPPORT ACTIVITIES TO DMACC IN 2018-2019

- Continued support for Pamela's Pantry with food and cash donations, now in TWO locations.
- Read, ranked and reviewed scholarship applications for the DMACC Foundation Scholarship Program.
- Provided volunteers for numerous DMACC activities to increase Pioneers visibility.
- Generated over \$12,500 to support the Pioneer Scholarship fund, allowing us to receive a \$10,000 matching gift from DMACC.
- Generated \$4,450 to sustain the Pioneer Endowment.
- Co-Hosted the annual DMACC Holiday Party with the DMACC Board of Directors.
- Renewed volunteer assistance during Welcome Week activities, January, 2019.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES IN 2018-2019

- Launched the Volunteer Recruitment and Recognition Program increasing the number of volunteers over 100%.
- Monthly meeting attendance increased by 11%, our goal was 10%.
- Our scholarship and endowment contributions increased by almost 3%, our goal was

10%. We will continue to work on increasing both of these funds in the year ahead.

- The Pioneers awarded \$26,000 in scholarships for the fall and spring semesters.
- 15 new articles added to the online Pioneers History Project. (www.dmacc/Pioneers)
- Dedicated one meeting to identifying DMACC employees in photos collected for the library's archive project.
- Partnered with the Sweden International Week Committee providing volunteers to sell t-shirts at various campus events. Proceeds of \$1,600 went to the Pioneers Scholarship Fund.

GOALS FOR 2019-2020

- Increase attendance at monthly meetings by 10%.
- Increase the number of Pioneers participating in volunteer opportunities by 20%.
- Increase the number of member contributors by 3%.
- Renew partnership with the International Week Committee.

FROM OUR TREASURER

Thank you to each of you as we continue to provide needed scholarships to DMACC students. DMACC has been generous to match up to \$10,000 of our fundraising drive again this year. The need for financial support continues to grow every year. Here are the two options for your consideration.

1: PIONEERS ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Donations to this Pioneer account are used for DMACC student scholarships each year. If Pioneers contributions equal or exceed \$10,000, the College will match up to \$10,000.

2: PIONEERS ENDOWMENT

Donations to this account are invested by DMACC and only the interest/dividends/gains earned are used for student scholarships. The principal may not be used for scholarships. Over the past five years we have earned an average of six percent on the principal to be used for scholarships.

WAYS TO DONATE INCLUDE: Complete the form sent in the letter earlier and return it in the postage paid envelope. To donate you can submit on-line at:

WWW.DMACC.EDU/FOUNDATION Make sure you indicate which option and in the "Leave a comment" section indicate it is for the Pioneers Scholarship Fund or Endowment. Or mail your check to:

**DMACC FOUNDATION
BUILDING 22
2006 S ANKENY BLVD
ANKENY, IA 50023**

Note: Be sure to let them know your donation is for the Pioneer Scholarship Fund or Endowment.

**PATTY
HOLMES**



FINANCIAL REPORT - JUNE 30, 2019

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| BEGINNING BALANCE | \$34,275.13 |
| PIONEERS' CONTRIBUTION | \$12,619.00 |
| DMACC MATCH | \$10,000.00 |
| DISTRIBUTION FOR SCHOLARSHIP | (\$26,000.00) |

ENDOWMENT

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| BEGINNING BALANCE | \$110,127.13 |
| PIONEERS' CONTRIBUTION | \$ 4,450.00 |
| INTEREST/DIVIDENDS/GAINS | \$ 6,299.43 |

**WE NEED YOUR
DONATIONS TO REACH
OUR 2019 GOAL
TO ASSIST OUR
STUDENTS**

Thanks for your support

Patty

FINANCIAL REPORT



FROM OUR HOSPITALITY DIRECTOR

I'm Bonnie McBee and I'm happy to be joining the Leadership Council in the Hospitality area. I worked at DMACC from 1980 to 2005 in Continuing Education. My duties included working with the court-ordered classes, such as Drinking Drivers and Driver Improvement. They were the only students who didn't want to be there, so it was quite interesting! Many changes happened during that time, but I enjoyed all 25 of my years. My husband, Loy, and I travel a lot in our RV and spend our winters in Texas. After finally taking a trip to Alaska, we have now been to all 50 states. We both have large families, so we enjoy a lot of family time. We have a married daughter and son in Ankeny and 4 wonderful grandkids ages 9 to 22 who keep us busy. I'll be taking the reservations for our Pioneers lunches. So if there is anything I can help you with, please let me know. I'm looking forward to many more years of this great Pioneers organization.

Bonnie

*H*ere are some ways you can assist the Hospitality Director.

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED:

- Call in or e-mail your reservations before or by the deadline which is usually the Monday before each meeting by no later than 4 p.m.
- Remember to turn off or mute any sound other than your voice when calling. While checking messages, it can be difficult to understand if there is other background noise. Always leave your telephone number, if we have questions.
- Bring back your name tag if you forget to leave it with us after the meeting.

Thank You!

DUTIES OF THE PIONEER HOSPITALITY DIRECTOR

Responsible for hosting the pioneer meetings including:

- arranging for food, decorations, and room set-up.
- input and checking of telephone messages on the Pioneer phone line.
- creating a list of meeting reservations and checking in attendees.
- making sure there is a donation basket for meeting attendees and working with Pioneer Treasurer to deposit money after meetings.

MEETING INFORMATION:

Members will be informed by e-mail or a printed flier of the upcoming meeting topic and location. Reservations by e-mail at pioneers@dmacc.edu or by phone at 515 964-6868 by 4:00 p.m. on the Monday before the meeting date unless otherwise announced. Should DMACC Ankeny campus be closed the meeting will be canceled. Closures will be announced through wide spread media. Cancellations will be posted on the Pioneer phone line or by e-mail.

FROM OUR HISTORIAN

DMACC PIONEERS!

Please join your colleagues by adding your recollections to the DMACC Pioneers History Project. Use the address below, and submit the form on line. It is easy to complete, and your memories will add a meaningful dimension to the history of the college! I would also like to encourage you to learn about the history of our own organization. The web link is below. Thank you for participating!



Pioneers History Chair



SUBMIT

DMACC

Pioneers

TODAY

DMACC • HISTORY ARCHIVE

<https://www.dmacc.edu/pioneers/history/Pages/firsttenform.aspx>
<https://www.dmacc.edu/pioneers/history/Documents/HistoryofDMACCPioneers.pdf>

NEED YOUR HELP! Do you know the story behind the DMACC Mobile Training Center? If so, please share your memories with Judy Vogel so the history of this project can be preserved in the Pioneers History Project. 515-965-8911 or javogel@dmacc.edu. Thank you!



PIONEERS HISTORIAN - JUDY VOGEL

FROM LEONARD BENGSTON

As the Pioneers are celebrating their 25th anniversary, it seems appropriate to select LEONARD BENGSTON, DMACC Pioneers' first president, as the highlighted Recollection for this newsletter.

*Submitted by: Leonard Bengtson,
Montague, MI*



1. When did you begin work at DMACC?

August 1966

2. When did you retire or leave DMACC?

June 1991

3. In the early years, what was your work position and major responsibilities?

My initial employment with the new Area XI had a somewhat unusual twist. Mr. Lowery, the Superintendent, had just assumed duties as the college's first superintendent in August 1966. There was a strong interest by the Area XI Board of Directors and by Mr. Lowery in getting a few career programs up and running as soon as possible. That meant a number of key positions had to be filled quickly. Someone had given my name to Mr. Lowery as a possible candidate to fill the initial Student Personnel Services position. Unfortunately, I had only recently signed and returned my contact to teach next year again at Ames High School, and classes were just a few days away from starting. I felt the Ames School Board would be justified in holding me to my contract.

4. What events or happenings do you remember most about your first years at DMACC?

Mr. Lowery said if I was really interested in the new student services position, he would approach the Ames Board of Directors to see if mutually satisfactory concessions by both boards could be found to release my obligation to the Ames Board. Also, this position had two certification requirements: counseling and vocational, which limited the number of qualified applicants. Both boards wanted to see the situation resolved quickly.

I would work half-time at the College and half time at Ames High until a satisfactory replacement could be employed. At that time, I would become full-time at the College.

The decision by the two boards gave me an early opportunity to be part of the decisions that would become the basis for college operations, both at Area XI and in the total state community college movement, where I worked nearly 25 years before I retired.

5. What major changes did you observe during your time at DMACC?

The state-mandated title for the position I assumed was something like, Director of Ancillary Services, but the term "ancillary" had little meaning for most people, so it was soon changed to Director of Student Personnel Services, and then just Student Services. The level of the position in the organizational structure might range from director to dean to vice president.

We wanted to get acquainted with all the high schools and their counselors and set out to build a close relationship as quickly as possible with seniors and their parents and teachers, since this would make up a good proportion of our recruiting pool for the next year.

While we were already working on the outreach effort, which included 68 high schools, we were also structuring a student record system, admissions system and process, and a financial aid system.

In the first years, we had only a small professional staff and a few secretarial, clerical assistants. When a call went out from one area, everyone dropped his/her priorities until the crisis was past. Everyone was a part of the team! We were a closely knit group about having a part in developing a student-oriented institution—we all felt strongly about this. Probably some of those building years were actually the best of our lives as we now look back.

6. Who do you remember the most from DMACC and why?

Paul Lowery, Carroll Bennett, Irv Steinberg, Don Zuck, and Gene Boldt.

Lynn Albrecht, Don Kerr, Curt Vandivier, and Chris Schuers

Chuck Baugous, Don Severson, Larry Clauson, Mike Perry, Ken Clark, Evelyn Anderson Wright, Arlen Twedt, Mardelle Abram, Dale Wagner, and Jim Frazee

Bonnie Lewis, Faune Husted, Velma Stanley, Millie Morris Kerr, and Mary Ann Thielmann

Ole Modtland

I first met Ole when he was the shop manager at the Ford Motor Company in Ames. While I was waiting for some service on my car, I watched how he communicated with his mechanics and how free they felt to come to him with questions. I was impressed with the friendly atmosphere in the shop, and Ole seemed to be a kingpin in the situation. Later when I assumed responsibility for the Cooperative Education Program in the trade and industrial fields, I knew I wanted to have Ole as the supervisor for the trainees who were assigned to the Ford Motor Company. Both Ole and his supervisor were pleased when the training plan was worked out, so was I.

A few months later, I received a phone call from a third grade teacher. She said her students were very interested in cars and also in the new automotive training program, established in a remodeled skating rink, with up-to-date technical equipment. She asked if we could provide a tour for her students. My first thought was, "How can we help third graders relate meaningfully to a post high school automotive program?" I decided to

run it by Ole and get his ideas. He said, "Let me think about it, but I'll do it."

On the day of the tour, I went over to shop to find out how it was going. I found all the students were paying attention to questions that Ole had them think about and discuss together. They were involved! It was apparent that they were just not listening to someone tell them facts! I'll never forget how Ole reached those third graders. A man who probably never took an education course, but he knew how to TEACH!

7. Please share any other special memories you have about the early years at DMACC.

Dress Code Issues in the Early Days, How Things Have Changed

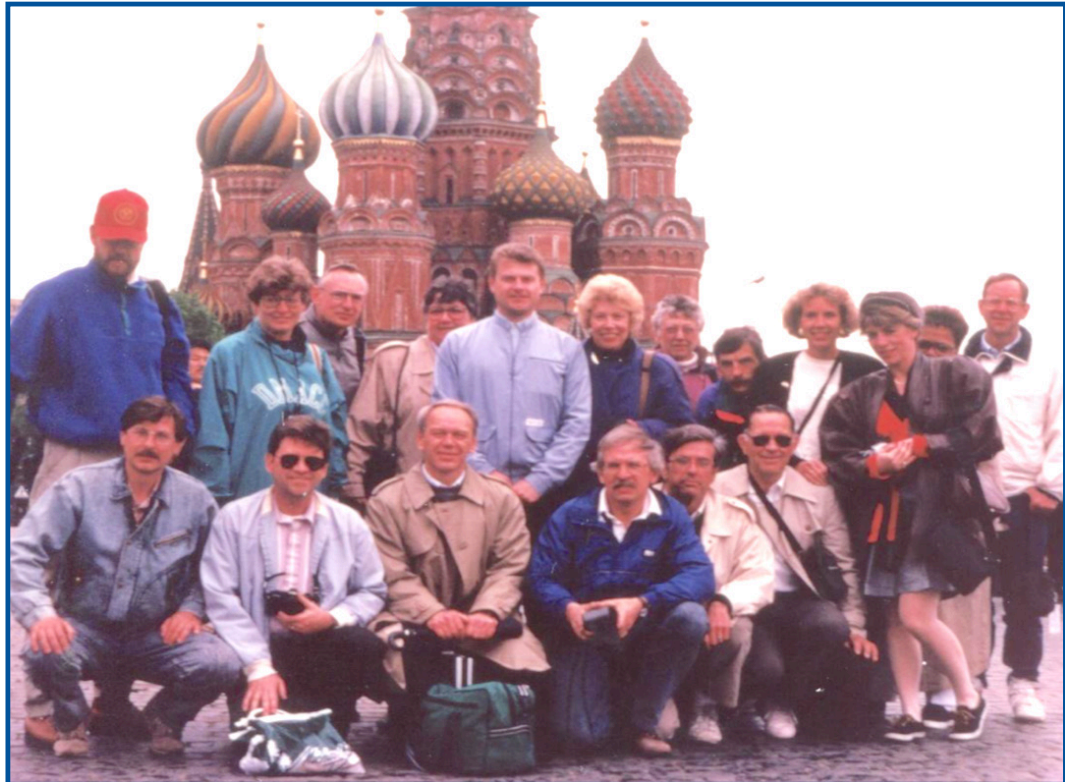
The original faculty manual specified that female instructors were expected to wear dresses, not slacks, when teaching. When cold winter arrived, several women faculty objected to not being able to wear slacks or pant-suits.

After due consideration by the College Administrative Council, it was decided that pantsuits with matching tops and bottoms would be permitted in cold weather, but just slacks with non-matching tops were deemed not appropriate. I seem to remember that this issue just quietly faded away after that first winter.

Male students could also be the subject of discrimination if they applied for acceptance in a career program with long hair and an unkempt appearance. I was advised by Mr. Lowery that potential employers and advisory committee members would look down on our program if such students were enrolled. It was suggested that these students should clean up their appearance or they would probably not be accepted for admission. It was certainly questionable but I don't remember any applicant pressing the appearance issue.



DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND STAVROPOL STATE PEDIGOGICAL INSTITUTE - RED SQUARE - MOSCOW - 1992



Front Row: Evgeni Popomarev, Gary Stasko, Slava Strugov, John Liepa, Frank Trumpy, Joe Harper, Ewa Pratt (standing) Back Row: Mark Pogge, Vivian Brandmeyer, Carroll Bennett, Anne Schulte, Alexi Erokhin, Ann Schodde, Peg Cutlip, Joe Robbins, Kim Linduska, Peggy Gaines, Burgess Shriver

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The rather extensive documentation and history of the DMACC/SSPI Exchange would not have progressed to the current level without the foresight and leadership of Carroll Bennett. Carroll initiated the meetings of our Steering Committee and provided the direction and motivation to write down and preserve these materials. He was the primary author and our editor-in-chief. We would like to further acknowledge Carroll's grandson, Andrew Bennett, for perusing Carroll's personal computer to find the dozens of DMACC/SSPI files and scans that were present. Andrew found everything we needed to reach closure on the project. *When word of Carroll's death reached Stavropol, Russia, this is what our very good friend Boris Zhogin wrote back: "I'd like to share with you one episode associated with dear Carroll that I feel and see very vividly.*

It was at a reception offered by the Stavropol business community to a DMACC group in May 1992. The party took place at a mansion in downtown Stavropol. It started in a strained ceremonial way with welcome speeches that contained correct words lacking sincerity and human emotions, begetting an apprehension that it would be just one more formal, stiff event. In a while -I guess after some 20-30 minutes since the reception started -we all heard sounds of piano in one of many rooms of the mansion playing popular American songs and melodies. It was Carroll who slipped away from the public to create an atmosphere when "hearts speak to hearts direct," requiring no interpreters or words. Quite a large group of people encircled the pianist and started to offer Carroll the songs they knew and were willing to sing. It was a crucial moment at a party; after which, it turned into a very warm and friendly get-together, with Carroll spending most of the party at a piano preserving the atmosphere. I also remember Ann Schodde kicking off her shoes and dancing barefoot in a fiery gypsy style. Carroll was a person who sensed what was needed and came forward to offer it in a humble, unpretentious way. A real leader and a born gentleman! Rest in peace!" Boris

The entire article is at: <https://www.dmacc.edu/pioneers/history/Documents/Stavropol.pdf>

FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR



Membership continues to welcome and communicate with potential Pioneers each semester in the following ways:

- Preparing packets about the Pioneers to be shared at informational meetings for early retirees.
- Participating in exit informational meetings for early retirees conducted by DMACC Human Resources. Current members provide key information about our great group of retirees and organization as well as extending a personal invitation to join the Pioneers. The Membership area has also enjoyed assisting DMACC Student Activities by participating in Welcome Week this past spring 2019 semester. Volunteers from the Pioneers greeted new and returning students with welcoming smiles as well as various helpful resources that were provided by the Student Activities area. Our participation has now grown to our Pioneers helping out for spring as well as fall semesters. Also, Welcome Week has now become one of the "Signature" volunteer opportunities for the Pioneers!!

Personal Note....

Being a part of the Membership area is very fulfilling; however, I would also like to share some reasons why this unique organization of retirees is so very valuable to me:

- Monthly luncheons are filled with friendly people, great food, and informative speakers or activities on important and timely subjects. These get-togethers provide an opportunity to renew friendships with former co-workers and to make new friends. It's been a treat to meet people I didn't get to know while working at DMACC.

- Volunteer opportunities are diverse and rewarding. "Signature" volunteer events, such as the Junior and Senior Knowledge Bowls, 5K Packet Stuffing and Pick-up, as well as Fall and Spring Semester Welcome Weeks give us a chance to help students, staff, and DMACC overall. There's something special about helping others and feeling a sense of belonging and being needed.
- Continuing valuable and lasting connections to people and events bring an additional sense of purpose and joy to this great exploration called retirement! My own personal connections to DMACC have grown over the years. I have been a DMACC graduate, an adjunct, and a full-time DMACC English faculty who enjoyed the privilege of retiring from DMACC. But, the "icing on the cake" is being a member of the Pioneers!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marian".

Marian Tonhouse
Membership Chair



BE A DMACC PIONEERS VOLUNTEER

Volunteering is the easiest way to make a difference, get better acquainted, receive awards and have fun! Join your fellow Pioneers and volunteer at our next Signature event.

SIGNATURE EVENTS

- DMACC 5K RUN/WALK 9/26 & 9/27/2019
- HIGH SCHOOL KNOWLEDGE BOWL 10/24/2019
- JUNIOR HIGH KNOWLEDGE BOWL 4/16/2020
- WELCOME WEEKS SPRING TERM / FALL TERM

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM BENEFITS:

- Bronze Level – 2 to 7 volunteer hours a year receives a Certificate
- Silver Level – 8 to 15 volunteer hours a year receives a Certificate and Lunch @ the ICI Bistro
- Gold Level – 16 or more volunteer hours a year receives a Certificate, ICI Bistro Lunch and a DMACC Pioneers Medallion



MARIAN TONHOUSE

CONTACT

Marian Tonhouse
mltonhouse@msn.com
or 515 314-7317

OR

Lois Kiester
lmkiester50@gmail.com
or 515 276-6834



LOIS KIESTER



Judy Vogel, Dana Zeiser and others prepare the over 600 tee shirts for sale at one of our scholarship fund raisers.



Ruth Wagner and Judy Vogel are working at the tee shirt table to sell the tee shirts. A Labor Of Love! Thanks!

Mike Perry, Verlyn Norling, Judy Vogel, Dana Zeiser and Bonnie McBee welcome students to DMACC at our Pioneer Welcome Back event this Fall semester.



Vel Hans, Bonnie McBee and Dennis Kellogg Greet incoming students..

THEY MADE A DIFFERENCE - VOLUNTEERS AT WORK

THEY MADE A DIFFERENCE - PIONEERS ARE RECOGNIZED



Front: Tom & Lyla Maynard, Barb Schmidt, Mary Jo Bennett, Sharon Miles. 2nd Row: Mike Perry, Warren Pitcher, Larry Clauson, Lois Kiester, Buzz Hoffman, Judy Vogel, Sue Gibbons, Dana Zeiser, Verlyn Noring.



Above are the Bronze, Silver and Gold level volunteers who were recognized at the 25th Celebration for their outstanding contribution to the Pioneers for 2018-2019.



Volunteer Medallion recipients with President Rob Denson. Lois Kiester, Dana Zeister and Sue Gibbons.

CONGRATULATIONS!





Outstanding Pioneer 2019

WARREN PITCHER was named Outstanding Pioneer of 2019 after many years of dedicated service to the organization.

Warren graduated from Drake University with a degree in business. He held jobs with a variety of companies including at the CETA office on Bell Avenue (funded by the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act), National Pork Producers, Merrill Lynch and then opening his own convenience store called the Convenience Corner located on Harding Road (now MLK) and Euclid.

In November, 1993, he started at DMACC as the Instructor of Convenience Store Management. Remember the original intent of Building 21? In August, 1996, his job title changed to Instructor, Business Administration.

Verlyn Noring—in his words:

“There was a moment in Warren’s career at DMACC we will never forget. In fact it took place during the job interview. Warren had just interviewed with our Dean and since I was the department chair, the last phase of the interview was with me to make sure that I felt he would be a good fit for our Business Administration department. Well, I actually thought I knew who he was as I had read his resume and knew he had lived in Nevada which was close to my home town. Also, I thought I knew some of his family members including an uncle of his who was known around my hometown as a nice man but a rather “crude” acting individual. Everyone called his uncle, “Bun”. Dean Tom Nelson called me into his office and introduced me to the candidate for a job opening in my department. We shook hands and went through the interview formalities. Warren really wanted the job and was so excited as the interview had gone extremely well with Tom.

It was then that I asked him, “Are you related to Bun in Nevada?” You would have thought I had just hit him...the look on his face was worth a thousand words! It was one of the few times that I ever saw him speechless! He sputtered a while and then said “Do you know my Uncle Bun?” He really thought the job was a lost cause! However, he proved to be one of the greatest assets our department had ever hired and I can assure you that he had none of the personality characteristics of his Uncle Bun!”.

Warren joined the Pioneers in 2004 and began as treasurer in 2007 taking over for John Wright. He served as treasurer for over 10 years. With his outstanding leadership we met the \$100,000 threshold for the Endowment Fund in 2016. Thanks to him we now include information on the Endowment and Scholarship Funds on every pledge card. Judy Vogel’s strongest memory of him was his passion for the endowment and his favorite phrase—“the gift that keeps on giving.”

In retirement his activities include driving and transporting blood for LifeServe, golfing, church involvement, volunteering for the Pioneers and spending time with his 4 grandchildren ages 4, 5, 6 and 8. His passion is definitely for travel—visiting the Holy Land, Africa, Russia, Poland, Scandinavia, Estonia, the Baltic and many ocean and river cruises. My sincere thanks to this Pioneer for making time to serve on the Leadership Council and to give so much back.

*C*ongratulations on this award, Warren, and Thank You for your many contributions to Pioneers!



FROM OUR PROGRAM DIRECTOR

We have planned a year of programs that should have wide appeal as to subject matter, informational education, and just plain fun.

PROGRAMS 2019-2020

OCTOBER 10: "Scam Slam" – Al Perales, State Investigator, Iowa Attorney General's Office

NOVEMBER 14: Veteran's Program with DMACC Service members Recognition – Don Enright, DMACC Veteran's Affairs

DECEMBER 9: DMACC Holiday Party – 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., ICI Building 7

January 2020 - no scheduled activity

FEBRUARY 13: Valentine's Lunch, Bistro

MARCH 12: "Where we are and what we need!" , DMACC History Review

APRIL 9: "Update your Health - Intelligent Aging" – Dr. Andrew Nish, Medical Director of John Stoddard Cancer Center

MAY 14: "Social Event" – Winestyles 4-6 p.m. – The District of Ankeny

JUNE 11: "Lustron Houses in Iowa" – Steve Stimmel, Retired Architect

JULY 9: "Barn Quilts and their connection to the Underground Railroad in the 19th Century" – Danny Steiber, Waverly, Iowa

AUGUST 13: "Pets & More" – DeeDee Schumacher, Professor DMACC Veterinary Tech

MEETING INFORMATION:

Members will be informed by e-mail or a printed flier of the upcoming meeting topic and location. Reservations by e-mail at pioneers@dmacc.edu, danazeiser@msn.com by phone at 515 964-6868 by 4:00 p.m. on the Monday before the meeting date unless otherwise announced. Should DMACC Ankeny campus be closed the meeting will be canceled. Closures will be announced through wide spread media. Cancellations will be posted on the Pioneer phone line or by e-mail.

OUR MEETINGS ARE MOSTLY IN THE FFA ENRICHMENT CENTER





PRESIDENTS OF DMACC PIONEERS

1993-96 Leonard Bengtson
1996-98 Curt Smith
1998-2000 Pauline Skarda
2000-2002 Al Wychoff
2002-2004 Jim Dowis
2004-2006 Dale Wagner
2006-08 Sharon Eckstrom
2008-10 Mike Perry
2010-12 Dee Johnson
2012-2014 Lyla Maynard
2014-2016 Shirley Muehlenthaler
2016-2018 Carroll Bennett
2018-2020 Sue Gibbons

The following pages are dedicated to events that have now passed but continue in our minds as we look back at what made the Pioneer family so special to those who contributed to DMACC.

MEMORIES FROM YEARS PAST - THE FIRST COUNCIL

**1984****TO****2019**

DMACC Pioneers Planning Council Officers: Martha Pestotnik - Member at Large, Pauline Skarda - Vice President, Millie Kerr - Secretary, Dona Danaher - Member at Large, Irv Steinberg - Member at Large, Leonard Bengston - President, and Curt Smith - Member at Large.

Note: This article was in the Ankeny Press Citizen in 1984.

DMACC Pioneers Keep Helping

By Angie Nothdorf Staff Writer

When people retire, often they don't want to forget the place where they worked.

They want to maintain contact with co-workers and to continue to support the business. Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) recently started a program for retired staff members who served the college for 10 or more years. The DMACC Pioneers is a group of about 50 people who want to continue service to the school.

Leonard Bengtson, President of the DMACC Pioneers, said although there are about 50 in the group, only about 35 live close enough to make the monthly meetings. Recently, the group adopted a constitution and voted in officers.

Bengtson said DMACC President Joe Borgen thought of the idea a couple years ago. The group studied various colleges in the United States, but didn't find a program they wanted. So, they had to create their own.

"The group is really committed to the concept," said Bengtson. "They want to keep up with both developments at the college and to be of service to the college."

Since the idea was planted, the group has been holding meetings to discuss what the goals of the group would be. Bengtson said the Pioneers have grown into a group with four main goals. First, they want to help the longtime staff members who have left the college

to keep in touch with what is going on at the school.

Second, the group wants to provide service to the college in the form of volunteering. So far, Bengtson said the Pioneers have given presentations, assisted with the screening of scholarship applications, and begun work on a scholarship fund for students.

Third, the DMACC Pioneers want to continue the communication and social contacts between the people affiliated with the college. Finally, they want to provide their members with information about topics that are important to retired people, such as healthcare and retirement benefits.

The Pioneers' first meeting is set for September 8. Bengtson said the planning council will hold a short meeting, and then the whole group will get together and hear presentations about various subjects. Most of the meetings will deal with what is happening at DMACC. Since the group is just getting started, Bengtson said it's too early to comment about any plans yet, but service is one of their main goals.

"The college has been good to us over the years," he said. "We want to continue to be of help."



DMACC *Pioneers*
1994 - 2019 25



CAN YOU IDENTIFY THESE EARLY PIONEERS ?

Note: This was designed for the DMACC History project and the photos were from the first and only yearbook called "Trade Winds". One of my first students, Lant Elrod (Ankeny) designed the cover. You can find this page and the answers on our Pioneer History pages.

Happy Veterans Day to our dmacc Veterans



DUANE ANDERSON



DEAN BAER



CHUCK BAUGOUS



LARRY CLAUSEN



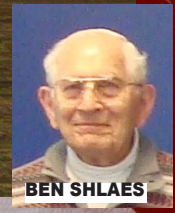
JIM FRAZEE



HARLAN GIESE



DENNIS HANSEN



BEN SHLAES

Duane Anderson
Dean Baer
Chuck Baugous
Larry Birdsall
Ken Clark
Larry Clauson
Jim Dowis
Don Enright
Jim Frazee
Harlan Giese
Dave Hembry

Dan Hilgers
Lee Johnson
Dennis Kellogg
Ralph Keul
Loy McBee
Tom Maynard
Mark Schmidt
Ben Shlaes
Al Wyckoff
Mike Zeiser

Note: Our salute to our Pioneer Veterans began in 2009 when we had all of them come to the front of the room to share their personal memories about their time serving our country. There were laughs and tears shed by the veterans. This is from 2018 and we have lost 3 just this past year!

OUR WONDERFUL VETERANS

MEMORIES FROM YEARS PAST - HOLIDAY PARTY



HO HO HO

Holiday Party



Note: The Holiday Party is one of our highest attended event of the year. We serve the entire DMACC staff & faculty and have holiday treats prepared by the Pioneers and lovely holiday music and over 300 have attended this party over the years. The DMACC Board is there to greet guests. We look forward to this annual fun filled day.



MEMORIES FROM YEARS PAST - HOLIDAY PARTY

MEMORIES FROM YEARS PAST - GARAGE SALE

GARAGE SALE



Note: The Garage Sale was our biggest fund raiser of the year. We held it in the building 13 Automotive Lab during semester break when the students were not there. We filled the space with generous items donated from DMACC surplus and from the many Pioneers.





Note: Harlan Giese championed the Pioneer Trucking program where he gathered his friends and used his truck to go to people's places of residence to load furniture and other large items to take to the Garage Sale. One of the things left at the sale was a partial plate. No Kidding! Never was claimed!.

MEMORIES FROM YEARS PAST - GARAGE SALE

MEMORIES FROM YEARS PAST - HELPING STUDENTS

ASK ME



Note: The Idea to assist students during their first week of classes was created by Judy Houser and championed by John Arbuckle in an event called "Ask Me". We staffed the most high traffic buildings and answered student questions. That event is now called "Welcome Back" Other ways we help students are to gift food baskets to needy families over the holiday season. We used to actually purchase many food items and pack them for delivery to all campuses. This project is ongoing with food and gas cards. We also help needy students through our Pamela's Pantry with donations from our members of non perishable snack items.





MEMORIES FROM YEARS PAST - WE ARE THE PIONEERS

In Memory of



*Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard, but
always near, so loved, so
missed, so very dear.*

Note: We make every attempt to honor those Pioneers who have passed during the time since the last Pioneers Connection and sincerely apologize for anyone who we may have missed.

*Publication Lovingly designed by
Dee Johnson, Communications Director*

**CHUCK BAUGOUS
NICK BELIZZI
CARROLL BENNETT
NANCY DICKSON
HARLAN GIESE
LEE JOHNSON
JERRY KIESTER
TERRI PHARES
LARRY SAVILLE**

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN DMACC FRIENDS