

## President's Letter – March 2009

### Pam's Postings

March is noted for a number of things:

- Daylight Savings Time (March 8)
- Girl Scout Cookie Time! (in OMA anyway)
- March Madness (my husband added this)
- St. Patrick's Day (March 17): An Irish holiday often associated with the color **green**, shamrocks, and good **LUCK**.
- Winds: Botanists say that trees need the powerful March winds to flex their trunks and main branches, so the sap is drawn up to nourish the budding leaves. Perhaps we need the gales of life in the same way, though we dislike enduring them. --Jane Truax
- Women's History Month

It's also a reminder that I have to put my Valentine's Day decorations away; and, of course, that it comes in like a lion and out like a lamb. As I write this, it is running true to form and showing its lion-like qualities with a fresh five inches of snowfall and temperatures well below freezing. Unlike Mary, I'm looking for that lamb to show up.

### Priorities

There are no due dates in March.

**LUCKY** you—that's two months in a row!

### Past President Passes

Libby Doyle Woodfill passed away February 3, a victim of cancer. Libby was our third National President serving from 1953-55, and was also the Founder of the DEN Chapter in 1947. She was a former member of the CHI Chapter, and left us as a long-time member of the MAL Chapter. Libby was also the JJC Distinguished Service Award recipient in 1961. She served as the Registered Agent following Jackie Jos Ceaser and was Tax Chairman until 1980. She rarely missed a convention. Vicy Morris Young (MAL) arranged for the Clipped

Wings<sup>®</sup> Creed to be read at Libby's funeral.

Libby is survived by her nephew: Dean Bogner, 954 Western Rd, Henry, IL 61537, who has been her closest caretaker for several years. Memorials to Special Olympics (through Clipped Wings<sup>®</sup>) are suggested. I'm sure Libby had blue skies and smooth landings on her final flight into the gates of Heaven; she will surely be missed.

### Philanthropy Project

The Special Olympics World Winter Games in Boise ID are now history. Special thanks to the National Philanthropy Project Chairman, Marta Morgan Rash (MAL) and her committee members Rosalie Betschart (PDX) and Diana Ferber Baker (ORD).

Our involvement in Special Olympics is unique since members travel at their own expense to volunteer at sports venues and to host a reception for parents of athletes.

At the Boise Games there were volunteer opportunities for Clipped Wings<sup>®</sup> members at figure skating, speed skating, floor hockey, and Healthy Athlete venues. The Reception that we hosted was a wonderful experience for the hundreds who attended. Of course, we always know how to have a good time at whatever we do. Also, I loved meeting some of the MAL Chapter Parent Grant recipients who attended. Our blue bib aprons with Clipped Wings<sup>®</sup> written across the top in yellow were great. You soon will be able to view photos on the Clipped Wings<sup>®</sup> website highlighting some of our activities throughout the week.

As you recall, United Airlines donated business class airfare tickets that were given in a drawing to two **LUCKY** parents who attended the reception. Those appreciative parents are Tim and Sharon Daly from the Seattle area.

Kudos to the Baltimore (BWI) Chapter for the most per capita members volunteering (36%

of their members)! A big thank you to **ALL** the Clipped Wings® members who volunteered:

Roni Romero Adams MAL  
Diane Moonie Alder DEN  
Diana Ferber Baker ORD  
Diane Hiegel Bazler MAR  
Jane Mees Beckman STL  
Pamela Pease Berding OAK  
Barbara Boll Bertacini RNO  
Ron Bertacini (RNO)  
Phyllis Gold Bernstein MAL  
Rosalie Betschart PDX  
Chloe Anne Cox Brown MAL  
Carol Heft Chmielewski MKE  
Doris Crain Coleman BWI  
Kathryn Coleman RDW  
Lavon Parker Cook DTW  
Mary K. Doherty Dana OCC  
Sue Schnieder Dannert PHX  
Sylvia Hornaday Davis ORD  
Suzanne Warren Fagen STL  
Sandie Wiegel Finerty ORD  
Gwen McLeod Foley PDX  
Pat Jandt Graham SJC  
Blanche Harris DCA  
Christel Hasenbring Ilg CHI  
Cheryl Mullins Jensen SMF  
Ron "Swede" Jensen (SMF)  
Cassie Lovett DCA  
Aurelia Spence Luton DCA  
Arlene MacAdam SMF  
Elaine Haley McGann DEN  
Mary Ann Niehus McGarry LAX  
Barbara Lamb McIntire ATL  
Cindy Andrus Merritt (OCC)  
Judy Peterson Meyer DEN  
Lynn Stumpf Muety BWI  
Alma Montali Oros MAL  
Anita Gora Paster TWC  
Patricia Schroeder Peterson MAL  
Gail Andrus Preston OCC  
Marta Morgan Rash MAL  
Sheryl Yanken Schubert DEN  
Barbara Allenby Sinnott OAK  
Darryll Stroud (SMF)  
Dorothy Taylor Stroud SMF  
Candi Guyre Symes OAK  
Sherry Olive Tambling BWI  
Lorraine Cariani Urban MAR  
Barbara Fisk Vincent SEA  
Gail Shannon Walker MAL  
Linda Wright Wardle SEA  
Gayle Adamson Wasilewski DCA  
Barbara Andrus White (OCC)  
Linda Kringler Williams RNO  
Dale Williams (RNO)  
Karen Niles Williams BWI  
Jill Brauman Young BWI  
Joey Lehman Zarr DEN  
Pam Troutman Ziebarth OMA  
Ray "Z" Ziebarth (OMA)  
Crickette Sillin Ziols ORD  
Note: Names with chapters in parentheses indicate a family member volunteer.

## Principals Pondering Policies

**LUCKILY**, all the National Officers were able to attend the Boise Special Olympics, and we met for about six hours discussing many items of business. We also had a great time together. Unfortunately, National Secretary Christel Hasenbring Ilg (CHI) received a call as she was leaving that she had a death in the family. Christel, being the sole survivor, had to leave for Germany and plan a funeral for her cousin and "take care of things." She is still there. Our hearts go out to her. When she returns, she will be preparing the minutes, and I will include a summary of those with my next president's letter.

## Powwow Planning

Convention Chair, Mary K. Doherty Dana (OCC) and Vice-Chair Gail Shannon Walker (MAL) conducted a convention-planning meeting in Boise for the chairs (or their representatives) of the various events and activities. The winner of the convention theme contest was Carolyn Younger Plumley (LAX) who submitted the theme, "Grand Ole Convention." They are looking for members to come up with a logo. Got some creative ideas? Think along the lines of Nashville, like musical notes, stars, cowboy hat or boot, wings, etc. Try your **LUCK** and submit a logo to Mary K.

There are still opportunities for chapters to volunteer to help with the convention. The activities still needing sponsorship are: boutique, photography (chapter photos), convention program printing, plus needed individual volunteers. Contact Mary K. if you want to help.

## Population Parameters

National Vice President Barbara Fisk Vincent (SEA) is thrilled with all the membership inquiries from the website and as a result of brochures Fundraising Chairman, Cheryl Mullins Jensen (SMF) sent with each scarf sale. Address Chairman, Barb Eichel Dittig (OAK), reports that membership is currently at 1253, which includes 50 first-time

members. The ending membership for 2007-08 was 1385, so we still need 132 members just to meet last year's total. On April 1, those **LUCKY** first-time members (those who have never belonged to any Clipped Wings® chapter previously) can join for one-half national dues, local dues, and philanthropy assessment!

## Purposeful Participation

I finalized the Name Change Research Ad Hoc Committee in February, which was mentioned in my previous letters. The directive motion, which delegates passed at convention, was: The National President is to appoint a committee of three to investigate a name change then report its findings at the 2010 convention. The members of this committee are:

Gail Andrus Preston (OCC), Chair

Cathy Stoeber Kurinsky (CHI)

Vicki Mar (SEA)

You will be receiving more information about this committee's activities at a later date.

## From Past to Present

The United Airlines Historical Foundation invited Clipped Wings® to become a part of its Alliance, and we have accepted! We had been the only United Airlines' group who had not "come aboard." We will now become a part of their website, have a position on their Board; and, in turn, we will continue to promote the Foundation and include UAHF in our activities. We are looking forward to this Alliance.

## Publishing Possibilities

Are you interested in a fast and easy way to share chapter news, photos, and even chapter newsletters with other Clipped Wings® members online? Free (**LUCKY** for us!) web blogs can be created with a service provider such as Blogger. <https://www.blogger.com/>

Blogger has pre-designed templates, which can easily be customized. Once created, the blog can then be linked to the Clipped Wings® website. OAK and RDW Chapters have started the ball rolling for creating such blogs. You can view their Chapter blogs by clicking on those

links located on the Clipped Wings® website homepage. [www.clippedwings.com/](http://www.clippedwings.com/)

If your chapter would like to do this, Pamela Pease Berding (OAK) will be glad to answer any questions you may have concerning the blogs. Try it; you'll like it!

## Please Pencil Me In

With any **LUCK**, I will be able to visit all chapters during my term as president. A chapter visit need not be anything special—just an opportunity for me to meet with chapter members in an informal setting is more than enough. I travel on passes where possible, so I do not need much advance notice to travel to your chapter. Just let me know when you would like me to visit, and I'll do my best to be there! Thanks so much.

## Pendulum Pulses

Countdown to:

**Lincoln** Special Olympics Natl. Summer Games  
July 18-23, 2010 **505 Days**

**Nashville** Clipped Wings® Convention  
September 22-26, 2010 **571 Days**

## Postscript

That great American philosopher, Dolly Parton, wrote a song in 1975 entitled, *Hey Lucky Lady*. That is how I feel when I experience our Special Olympics volunteer opportunities, when I preside over the Executive Committee meeting, and when I visit with the fantastic Clipped Wings® members across the country. I am, indeed, a very **LUCKY** lady.

To blue skies and smooth landings,

*Pam*

Pam Troutman Ziebarth (OMA)  
2008-2010 National President  
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**An Old Irish Blessing:**  
May you always have...Walls for the winds; A  
roof for the rain; Tea beside the fire; Laughter to

cheer you; Those you love near you; And all  
your heart might desire.