PIONEER SURVEY
Communication Sub-Committee Formed

The NASW Pioneer Steering Committee approved the creation of a Pioneer Communication Sub-Committee on September 13, 2012. Sub-Committee members named included Bob Connolly, Chairperson, Grace Lebow, Cindy Jones, Bob Mays, and Jim Zabora. The survey was approved by the Steering Committee and sent out to 267 pioneers with 65 returns from the first mailing, 17 from the second mailing and 4 returns. Although the 31% response rate was lower than expected, it was decided that the favorable responses and 31 comments provided sufficient information to create a Pioneer Newsletter.

Key findings are listed in the box on this page and point to the need to receive information for the newsletter on awards, pioneer activities, ways pioneers are making a difference and sharing of information. Although 40% requested the SW Pioneer Newsletter be sent by e-mail only, we have e-mails on only 73 of 267 Pioneers.

Finally, there was an interest in Pioneers connecting with other Pioneers and Pioneers linking with Schools of Social Work. The Pioneer Steering Committee will consider ways to address this important interest.

CAN YOU HELP CREATE THE NEW SOCIAL WORK PIONEER NEWSLETTER?

1. **Send us your e-mail if you did not complete the survey and want to receive the newsletter or updates by e-mail or to inform us that you do not want to receive the Pioneer Newsletter.**

2. **Provide information for the Social Work Pioneer Newsletter to inform NASW when you or Pioneer colleagues receive Awards; are making a difference nationally or internationally, demonstrating creative retirement activities or second careers, ways impacting on social work practice or policies; highlight fun/creative activities.**

**CONTACT:**

naswfoundation@naswdc.org

OR

Bob Connolly 410-465-7654

---

**KEY PIONEER SURVEY FINDINGS**

- **31% Response rate.**
  - 82 surveys/267 Living Pioneers
- **82% (67) Want a Pioneer newsletter with the following content**
  - Brief bios on recently approved Pioneers (100% Interest)
  - Features about Pioneers (88% Interest)
  - Ways Pioneers making a difference nationally and internationally (84% Interest)
  - Information about Awards received (76% Interest)
  - Annual Luncheon Speaker Summaries (64% Interest)
PIONEER JACK AND ETHEL HANSAN INTERVIEWED ON NPR

On August 5, 2013, Pioneer Steering Committee member Jack Hansan and his wife Ethel were interviewed regarding Jack’s leaving his Ohio home to attend the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, where the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., delivered his iconic “I Have A Dream Speech” on Aug. 28, 1963. The interview was very moving and can be listened to at http://www.npr.org/2013/08/05/207913707/to-join-63-march-on-washington-like-climbing-a-mountain. Approximately 250,000 people descended on the Nation’s capital from all over the country for the mass demonstration. Jack had been active in civil rights and he wanted to be in that number, however large or small the gathering. He was one of 500 Cincinnati area residents who took a special train to D.C., leaving Cincinnati at 5 p.m. “We rode two nights on a train, one up and one back. There was no club car, but it was fun,” he laughs. The group spent the night talking and schmoozing. “We were all dressed politely, like we were going to an office — shirts and ties.” He wanted to share his moment in history with Ethel and his 4 young sons and sent a postcard to them. Both he and Ethel were brought to tears with the power of that moment and the risks and uncertainty involved. They both were courageous and I was proud to hear another social worker was there. I later learned that Pioneer Steering Committee co-chairperson Betsy Vourlekis attended the March and I am sure many other social workers and Pioneers attended as well.

Jack spent most of his early career years working in social welfare in Ohio. He has developed an amazing Social Welfare History project website at www.socialwelfarehistory.org and you can see information on the March under the tab EVENTS or the sub-tab CIVIL RIGHTS under the tab ERAS.

Bob Connolly

PIONEER STEERING COMMITTEE
Pioneer Steering Committee Updates and Information

• The Pioneer Steering Committee is co-led lead by Betsy Vourlekis and Jesse Harris. Sub-Committee chairpersons include Joan Weiss for Nominations, Bernice Harper for the Annual Luncheon and Bob Connolly for Communications.

• Angelo McClain, the NASW Executive Director attended the 6/27/13 Pioneer Steering Committee. He wants to work closely with and capitalize on Social Work Pioneers. His initial NASW goal is to move the organization away from fragmentation into a feeling of “we” and a synergy across all NASW parts and components including national staff, state Chapters, Pioneers, etc.

• Cheryl Bradley, Publisher and Susan Acquisitions Editor of NASW Press presented on 9/12/13 because of their belief that NASW Pioneers would be a great source of quality content and fresh book ideas. Pioneers can contact cbradley@naswdc.org or shills@naswdc.org to discuss potential book ideas either as the primary author or editor of compendium of papers by multiple authors.
2012 NEW PIONEER BIOGRAPHIES

Velma Banks MSW, New York, NY - Pioneer Achievement: Through African-centered cultural competency, and a spirituality approach, Pioneer Banks developed many novel opportunities which generated self-esteem in the Black community and advanced the memory, legacy and philosophy of Dean, Whitney M. Young, School of Social Work, Atlanta University. She is the founder of the World Community of Social Workers, which promotes human rights and social justice.

Patricia Wood Davis PhD, Bay Saint Louis, MS – Pioneer Achievement: Highly respected academic, Dr. Davis spent a lifetime through policy, and social work advocating to eradicate injustice and inequality, for positive change in the human conditions in the workplace, especially women. As a graduate student, “Dr. Pat” wrote and produced a play focusing on the oppression of women, later presented in Ann Arbor Michigan and in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Robyn Golden MA, LCSW, ACSW, DCSW, Chicago, IL – Pioneer Achievement: Specialized in Gerontology, Robyn Golden was Past Chair, American society of the Aging, Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America, and Aging and Health Policy Advisor on issues of aging, for Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, 2003-2004. She served 18 years, as the Director of Clinical Services for the Chicago Council for Jewish Elderly, and currently is the Director of Older Adult Programs at Chicago’s Rush University Medical Center.

Harry J. Macy EdD, MSW, Bradenton, FL - Pioneer Achievement: Professor Emeritus, Ball State University, and Chair of SW Department for 27 years. He was a leader in social work education, promoting curriculum development and accreditation standards, Dr. Macy was an officer and founding member of the Baccalaureate Program Directors (BPD) greatly influencing the development and quality of BSW education. He was selected in Indiana as regional Social Worker of the Year.

Sherry M. Parrish MSW, ACSW, Ellicott City, MD - Pioneer Achievement: Ms. Parrish is an aging expert both a local and regional leader in all aspects of long term care and a national media leader in retirement adjustment and health issues. She has reached millions of viewers through her work on Retirement Living Television (RLTV). She is the host of the show “What’s Next?” and encourages the show’s guests to make the most of their retirement years and addressing fears and challenges about the transition from work to retirement. Since 1994, Ms. Parrish has been a field instructor at the University of Maryland, School of Social Work.

Golnar Simpson PhD, ACSW, McLean, VA - Pioneer Achievement: Dr. Simpson established the Fauquier Family Guidance Center in Warrenton, VA- the county’s first public mental health facility. Dr. Simpson was inducted into the National Academies of Practice as a “Distinguished Practitioner” in 1995, served as the Chair of Social Work Academy of Practice and President of the Greater Washington Society for Clinical Social Work and the Clinical Social Work Association. She has been on the faculty of VCU School of Social Work. Dr. Simpson has a particular interest in the integration of neuroscience research information into social work theory and practice and lectures widely on this and other clinical social work topics at the local and national levels.

Frank Webb, Jr., LISW-S, ACSW, Dayton, OH - Pioneer Achievement: His exemplary innovation and dedication via practice, teaching, program development, administration and advocacy have immensely contributed to the evolution and enrichment of the profession of social work within the Department of Veterans Affairs. Presently, he
serves as the Supervisory Social Worker/Discharge Planning Coordinator and Expediter at the Dayton VA Medical Center. He received the Air Force Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, and the Air Force Longevity Service Award, bringing great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

Stanley Weinstein PhD, ACSW, Pikesville, MD

Pioneer Achievement: Dr. Weinstein has been a versatile leader in child welfare research and treatment. He is a goal oriented administrator in his current position as President and CEO of the Woodbourne Center in Baltimore. His career has focused on clinical practice, administration, teaching and advocacy. He has taught at the UMD School of Social Work and the UMD School of Medicine, Frostburg State College and Coppin University. He was Director of Social Work Services for the Maryland Mental Hygiene Administration and directed a SIDS Counseling Center, an eating disorder program and a group home for adults with serious mental illness. Dr. Weinstein has received many awards and is or has been a member of numerous commissions and boards including chairing the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners and the University of Maryland School of Social Work Board of Advisors.

REQUEST FOR PIONEER NOMINATIONS

Please spread the word that Nominations Sub-Committee seeks nominations of new pioneers from Pioneers, colleagues and NASW Chapters. The Pioneer Nominations Subcommittee consists of Joan Weiss, Chairperson, Jesse Harris, Paul Ephross, Barbara Glaser and Stanley Weinstein. Updated Pioneer guidelines follow:

Pioneer Nomination Criteria
- Sustained record of achievement over a period of at least twenty-five years.
- Significant/unique pioneering contributions to social work, social welfare, human services.
- Contributions have made a difference to “the betterment of human condition,” and include innovative or ground-breaking features.

Application Requirements
- Nominator describes contributions In narrative form, limited to two to four pages, following guidelines at http://www.naswfoundation.org/pioneer_guidelines.asp
- One personal letter of support from an individual familiar with the work and accomplishments of the nominee.
- Must be or have been a member of NASW if pioneering contribution(s) were after 1955 or can be nominated as historic Pioneers if social work/social welfare contributions were made before the NASW was founded in 1955
- Supply a photograph (formal or informal) of the nominee if possible.
- Completed nomination and support letter must be received by November 1, 2013 or May 1, 2014 to be awarded at the 2014 Pioneer Annual Meeting.

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Mildred Mailick passed away April 3, 2013 at the age of 85. She had a long and distinguished career as a Professor of Social Work at the Hunter College School of Social Work. She also was a member of the faculty of the Mount Sinai Hospital Department of Social Work and the New York Academy of Medicine. She published more than twenty five articles, presented thirty papers at conferences, edited two books, and contributed six chapters and reviews to books focusing mostly on clinical issues in health care. She was the Associate Editor of Social Work in Health Care (1989-1999) and served on the editorial board.

Dr. Louise Proehl Shoemaker passed away March 19, 2013. She had an illustrative career as a group worker, educator, and Dean of the School of Social Work, University of Pennsylvania. She was also active and concerned about international matters and while Dean of the School of Social Work, University of Pennsylvania, she worked to attract more African American students and faculty and during her tenure the school boasted the University’s highest percentage of African American faculty members. She was a charter member of NASW.
Dr. Helen Rehr passed away on February 13, 2013. She spent 50 years with the Social Work Department at Mt. Sinai Medical Center. Her work touched the lives of many thousands of the sick and frail. The programs she developed and administered provided superb services for a large number of clients. Her research demonstrated the effectiveness of her programs and thus enabled readers of many of her published articles to implement these programs around the country. She was Co-Chair New York City Pioneer Chapter and her will provided $10,000.00 to the New York City Pioneer Chapter through the NASW Foundation.

Dr. Aaron Beckerman, 88, died on November 26, 2012. Dr. Beckerman was a World War II Veteran, social work professor, social activist and poet. In collaboration with Dr. Charles Auerbach, he developed the system of single subject practitioner research and was invited to present internationally as well as nationally in the United States. Dr. Beckerman’s interest in social group work led to the authorship of a number of papers and active involvement with other social workers in that field.

Dr. James R. Dumpson was New York City’s commissioner of welfare in the 1960s and fiercely defended relief payments as both necessary and moral. He died in November 5, 2012 at a hospice in Manhattan at the age of 103. He had served in various posts under five New York City mayors, was a vice president of the New York Community Trust, one of the nation’s largest, oldest and most respected philanthropic organizations and a leader in the community foundation movement. The trust distributes about $60 million each year to projects primarily in the New York City area.

Dr. Alma Young passed away on October 28, 2012. She was an esteemed leader in the social work community and will be remembered for her dedication to the highest standards of professional practice and the clients she served. She was on the staff of Mount Sinai Hospital Medical Center, Department of Social Work from 1960-1998. Dr. Young wrote extensively on service development, accountability, unmarried mothers, adolescents, maternal and child health, chronic illness, minorities and prevention and health education. She received many awards including Social Worker of the Year for Outstanding Achievement and Exemplary Service to the Profession Awards.

Dr. Florence Vigilante passed away September 12, 2012. She served on the faculty of the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College. Dr. Vigilante served on the school’s faculty from 1967 to 2008, serving in multiple capacities as Director of Admissions, as Chair of the Clinical Practice sequence, and as Director of the Hunter College Employee Assistance Program (EAP). She was nationally known for her ground-breaking work in social work in employment settings, and her commitment to educating students for direct practice work. She also was editor of the Journal of Teaching in Social Work, a journal that continues to be associated with the Silberman School of Social Work.

Jane Bierdeman-Fike, 89, of Fulton, MO passed away Tuesday, March 13, 2012. She was a role model for social workers across Missouri. She was honest, sensitive and caring, and on top of all of that, she knew her practice and stayed current with practice trends. Jane was a rare practitioner who believed in writing up and presenting her practice experiences and interventions. She published several articles and also received several grants. She worked as a social worker in the area of mental health for fifty years. In 2005 she received NASW’s Lifetime Achievement Award. Her will provided $100,000.00 to the NASW Foundation.


L.E.G.A.C.Y. PROJECT

The L.E.G.A.C.Y. (Linking Empowerment, Growth, Advocacy, And Caring for 50 Years) Project was created in 2001 to preserve NASW’s historical record. The goal of the L.E.G.A.C.Y. Project is to enable NASW to identify and preserve the photographs, books, papers, and other documents that will tell the NASW story for many decades to come. Currently, L.E.G.A.C.Y. funds are being used to update and complete Pioneer biographies that capture the historical legacy of Social Work Pioneers. Additional information on the L.E.G.A.C.Y. fund and how to donate can be found at http://www.naswfoundation.org/legacy.asp.

Pioneer Program and Luncheon—October 26, 2013, 10:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m.
Woman’s National Democratic Club
1526 New Hampshire Ave, Washington, D.C.

RSVP: Elizabeth Cox. NASW Foundation - Phone: 202.336.8298 / E-mail: ecox@naswdc.org
REMINDER:

9TH ANNUAL PIONEER PROGRAM LUNCHEON

Pioneers Attending 2012 Luncheon

PLEASE send us updates, news, suggestions, e-mail address (if you didn’t send it with the Pioneer survey) and comment on the First Pioneer Newsletter to naswfoundation@naswdc.org or call Bob Connolly 410.465.7654.

NASW Foundation
750 First Street NE, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20002