

TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2010

On every second Saturday in May since 1993, U.S. Postal Service Letter Carriers in Wichita and across the nation have conducted their own mini-food drives by picking up bags of donated food that had been placed beside mailboxes on their routes by generous-minded postal patrons. This year, when all the bags from all the routes from all the years since it all began are tabulated, the collective results are certain to be close enough to celebrate in advance the 18 days in May when a billion pounds of food for HungerCare was raised all over America.

Here at home, we can especially celebrate the contributions of more than 1.6 million pounds to that grand total through the "Stamp Out Hunger" drives held by the National Association of Letter Carriers Air Capitol branch 201. In all the NALC drives since their beginning, your Food Bank has been and continues to be a strong advocate and active supporter.

Their passion and dedication for helping those most in need reinforces our appreciation for all those who support our work day after day, year after year with strong and effective food drives. Our present and future ability to serve as a reliable resource for the hundreds of hunger-relief agencies who depend on us for food supplies is strongly supported by the help we receive from food drives of all sizes and descriptions. Without their generous contributions, we could not serve as fully and comprehensively as our mission calls on us to do.

We are profoundly grateful for the flow of food drive contributions from them all. You can further express our appreciation by encouraging your neighbors and fellow workers and friends to participate in the NALCO Food Drives on Saturday, May 8.

Thanks for your cooperation.

-Brian Walker, President/CEO

BRINGING HOME THE BACON - Loomis Armored Truck personnel David Stack and Christi Wohler deposit food (but no bacon) at the Food Bank as KFB's Brian Walker and Kevin Enz stand by to receive it. The novel delivery

brought us the items garnered from Loomis employee entries into their company's first annual Biggest Winner contest.

The contest devised by Wichita area Loomis Manager Tom Smith qualified employees to compete for a blind prize by bringing in food items. Each item represented a chance at the prize (a 32-inch HD television set). The numbered chances (as many as the contestant wished to bring) were drawn to determine the prizewinner.



Brian Walker (far left) and Kevin Enz (far right) of the Food Bank accept food donations from Loomis representatives David Stack and Christi Wohler.

The purpose of the contest was to help those in the community who had lost their jobs while Loomis and its employees continued to do well. The annual Biggest Winner contest was so successful that current plans are to hold the "second annual" next year, which means that everyone involved is truly the biggest winner.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE: Doug Patry, U.S. Postal Service, Ret.,

When our friend and volunteer Doug shows up for work at the Food Bank, he brings along a deep passion for helping others, as well as a bundle of skills and learned experiences that allow him to tackle anything he is asked to do. He regularly works on Tuesdays and Thursdays, most often on tasks related to our Food

4 Kids Backpack program. And when he is here he makes the most of the time spent. Hard work is no stranger to Doug. He grew up on a Marion County farm doing really tough jobs like baling hay. During summer breaks from Kansas State University/Emporia, he labored on highway work crews.

After graduating with a degree in Business Administration in 1971, he started a career in banking. He later left his bank job to begin a new career in the U.S. Postal Service. His first assignment was as a letter carrier in



El Dorado. After his first few years carrying the mail he became Postal Service Administrator. During his almost 40 years of service, he was postmaster in Whitewater and Halstead. He ended his last duty as a postmaster in Wellington.

He now counts his work at the KFB as a central focus in his life. Hat's off to this good and faithful volunteer!



AGENCY SPOTLIGHT: *COMMUNITY FOOD BANK OF BARTON COUNTY* - One of the exciting parts of my job is to recruit and work with hunger-relief organizations as they become members of the Kansas Food Bank. Most recently we have added the Community Food Bank of Barton County to our food bank family. This volunteer-based ministry of the churches in Great Bend serves 175 local area families each month. The pantry offers client choice to those in need.

One of the benefits they receive as a KFB client is access to the Rescued Food Program available through their local Dillons and Walmart stores. During their first week with us, they received almost 300 pounds of meat from their Dillons store, a great addition to the food boxes they distribute to families seeking emergency food help.

It's one more way the Kansas Food Bank works across the state to ensure that no Kansan should go hungry.

-Debi Kreutzman, Agency Relations

