



P.O. Box 270175  
1516 Prospect  
Kansas City, MO 64127-0175

# Important Upcoming Dates

## March 8, 2008

Saturday ..... 9:00 A.M. .... Work Day

## April 8, 2008

Tuesday ..... 7:00 P.M. .... Quarterly Board Meeting

## April 12, 2008

Saturday ..... 9:00 A.M. .... Work Day

## May 10, 2008

Saturday ..... 9:00 A.M. .... Work Day

## June 14, 2008

Saturday ..... 9:00 A.M. .... Work Day

## July 12, 2008

Saturday ..... 9:00 A.M. .... Work Day

**A non-profit organization may elect to apply for the federal tax exemption status under 26 USC § 501(c)(3).**

An organization receiving a "501(c)(3) status" gains certain privileges and obligations. A 501(c)(3) organization is exempt from paying federal income taxes (but still may be required to file annual income information). Additionally, all persons and organizations that make contributions (money or property) to a 501(c)(3) organization will be able to claim deductions for their donations to the organization on their individual federal income tax (amount of deduction to the extent allowable under federal statute, 26 USC § 170(c)(2))

**When making your United Way contribution,**

please be aware that you may designate Uplift as the recipient of your gift through the donor choice program. This program is another way you can help us to help others.



# Newsletter

## Mission Statement

*"We, who acknowledge God's providence and fidelity to His people, especially those in poverty, do dedicate our efforts toward the support of those who are homeless. Our goal is to deliver to the homeless those basic human needs, care and compassion that is not usually received from other organizations."*

## Contents

Mission Statement .....	1
From the President.....	1
Board of Directors .....	2
2007 Statistics .....	2
Summer Needs .....	3
Volunteer Opportunities.....	3
Important Upcoming Dates.....	4
Tax Information, United Way Contr.....	4

THANK YOU ★ THANK YOU ★ THANK YOU

## Special thanks to

**DST Systems, Inc.  
333 W. 11th St.  
Kansas City, MO 64105**

THANK YOU ★ THANK YOU ★ THANK YOU

## Next Quarterly Board Meeting

**TUESDAY  
APRIL 8, 2008  
7:00 P.M.**

**at UPLIFT, 1516 Prospect  
Kansas City, MO**

PRINTING BY:

# PRINT TIME

## From the President

Frank Fiorini, President, Uplift Organization, Inc.

Hello to friends and sponsors of Uplift.

Our recent board meeting consisted of the following discussion and actions:

After approval of the previous meeting minutes, the Treasurer's report was presented. For the calendar year 2007 income was \$3,344.00 greater than 2006, but expenses were \$8,785.00 greater in 2007. Contributing factors were maintenance and fuel for trucks and purchasing of supplies.

Review of 2007 operations and the two nights of non-service. These were due to the chemical fire in the Northeast and the ice storm in December. There was also, a review of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years meals served was done.

Officer reports were presented as well as a report of the Route Leaders luncheon meeting in December.

A committee was formed to search for used trucks. The intent is to secure two used step-vans either donated or purchased

(if the price is right). We are accepting donations for this project.

Election of Board members was held (see listing on page 2 of this newsletter).

Joseph Kordalski was re-elected as Vice President, Terry Connealy was re-elected as Treasurer. Jo Bustamante was re-elected as Volunteer Coordinator, and Vivian Denison was re-elected as Outreach Support Coordinator. Sandy Otto will complete the term previously held by Sheila Braeshers as Recording Secretary. Sheila has been a devoted officer in collecting our statistics and quarterly presentation and has served in this position for 9 years. She is taking a hiatus due to health reasons.

During the past quarter, the following conducted canned good drives:

St. Pius X High School in Kansas City, St. Andrews Christian Church in Olathe, Holy Spirit Catholic School in Overland Park, and St. Ann's in Prairie Village. Thank you to students and staff.

## From the Editor

by Jennie Wheeling

What happens to the homeless after the holidays when people are paying off high credit card bills and don't have that extra buck to give? It's still freezing outside when the holiday season is over!

There are ways to help the homeless. Volunteering is a way everyone can help and it doesn't cost any money. It may mean taking blankets and food to the homeless on the streets, meal preparation, cleaning, or sorting donated goods.

Many schools in the greater Kansas City area have canned food drives throughout the year. If your school doesn't, talk to your school administrators about it and offer to help get it going.

Another way to help is by making monetary donations through various programs your employer has set up. Some businesses have established employer gift match programs. Others encourage employees to donate to their charity of choice through United Way.

Give Uplift a call at (816) 241-0060 and we will be happy to provide you with the information you need to get started!

Time Warner Cable has graciously recorded Uplift in action and linked to it on their web site. The location to view this short presentation is <http://www.kcondemand.com/Community.aspx> Click on Uplift to watch the video

**Uplift now has a presence on the internet! Our URL, or site address, is <http://www.uplift.org> and our e-mail address is [uplift@planetkc.com](mailto:uplift@planetkc.com)**

## Uplift Organization, Inc.

### Board of Directors

Ron Aerts  
Susan Beurman  
Bruce Beurman  
Jeff Blackmon  
Candi Fogleman  
Harold Foster  
Greg Lebold, Chairman  
Carol Myers  
Larry Otto  
Jennifer Schmidt  
Jim Schmidt  
Kathy Smith

### Officers

Frank Fiorini, President  
Joe Kordalski Vice President  
Sandy Otto, Recording Secretary  
Jennie Wheeling, Corresponding Secretary  
Terry Connealy, Treasurer  
Vivian Dennison, Outreach Support  
Jo Bustamante, Volunteer Coordinator

## Uplift Organization, Inc.

### Year-end Stats 2007

Number of Volunteers.....2,390  
Number of Volunteer Hours.....8,212  
Number of Camps Visited.....3,320  
Number of Homeless Served.....13,361

### DISTRIBUTED ITEMS

Blankets & Sleeping Bags.....1,513  
Clothing.....12,277  
Beverages.....65,602  
Food.....20,063  
Misc. Items (Hygiene, Meds. etc.)...17,430

**Published by**  
**Uplift Organization, Inc.**  
**for its members and friends.**

*News and changes of address  
should be sent to the editor:*

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Kansas City, MO 64138  
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# A Little Lesson In Gratitude

Ashley Moreland

Thanksgiving is over. Christmas is near. New Years will be here soon and the holidays will be over. Our stomachs will be filled and our presents will be put away-time to retire our attitudes of thankfulness until next November.

At least that seems to be the attitude of Americans. Perhaps we should take a lesson from the "have not's." It's humbling.

Over Thanksgiving break I went to church with my mom and sister. Naturally, with it being Thanksgiving, the sermon was on gratitude. The pastor told a story about a Christian leader who was visiting a Latin American country.

As the man was walking down the street, he saw a homeless boy and decided to take him into a coffee shop and get him something to eat. He ordered the boy a roll and a coffee for himself. He figured that after the boy got his roll he would run off, so after the man got his coffee, he sat down at a table and began to read a newspaper. However, to his surprise, the boy came up to him and said "thanks" before leaving the coffee shop.

Last weekend I went to Lighthouse Missions in Terre Haute, Ind. with my church to serve lunch to the homeless. I'm sure how I felt after that experience was exactly the same as how

the man visiting Latin America felt.

Nearly every time I took a tray to one of the people, they looked up at me and said "thank you" with great sincerity. Some people even came up to me as they were leaving to tell me how much it meant to them to have people like me volunteering our Saturday mornings to help them.

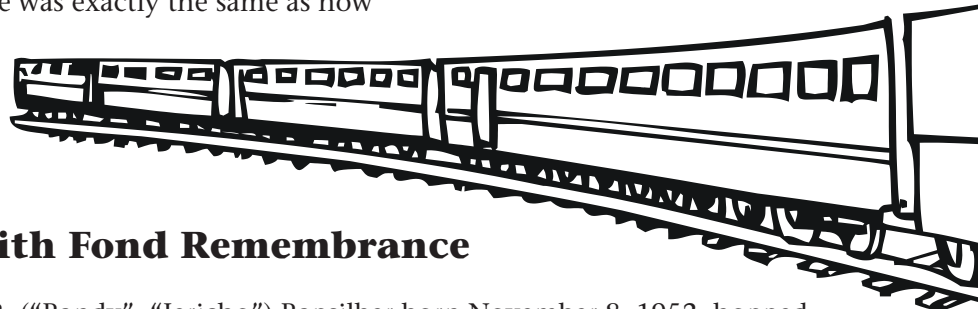
I left the homeless shelter with a warm heart, feeling very good about what I had done that day, yet I also left feeling very humbled. I have my own apartment. I have running water and electricity. I have a laptop and cable. I have food to eat. I have outfit after outfit to choose from each morning. I have to admit, too often I take these things for granted; I forget that I'm lucky to have what I do.

I don't say "thank you" enough, and you probably don't either. The next time someone does something nice for you, think of the boy and his roll and say "thanks." The next time you walk into your warm home this cold winter, think of the homeless man receiving a tray of food with a smile on his face and be thankful.

This is the season where we remember to be thankful, but our gratitude should show every day of the year.

## With Fond Remembrance

A. R. ("Randy", "Jericho") Rapsilber born November 8, 1952, hopped his last train from Kansas City, "Bound for Glory" December 21, 2007. He will be missed by all who knew him.



# briefly me

I know too much about...  
Trivial stuff

My parents always told me...  
I can't answer that

My childhood ambition...  
To be in a band

My favorite memory...  
The birth of my daughter

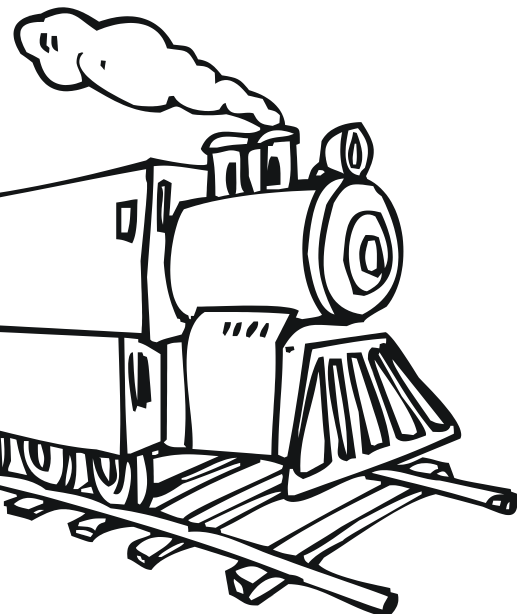
Why I write...  
Release and escape

What I am reading/watching/  
listening to...  
The computer

My first job...  
Lawn service

My best moment...  
Hasn't happened yet

My inspiration...  
My daughter



## Volunteer Opportunities

### OUTREACH

- Visit the homeless  
Monday and Wednesday 6:00 PM  
Saturday 5:00 PM  
2-1/2 to 3-1/2 hours  
Call Jo Bustamante at 816-524-0024

### PREPARE MEALS

- Recipes and instruction provided
- Prepare and deliver meals for 60 people to Uplift
- Call Margo Yerik at 816-246-8801 (Home) or 816-516-1304 (Cell)

### OUTREACH SUPPORT

- Transporting homeless to doctor appointments
- Visiting homeless in hospitals and detox centers
- Visiting and supporting people that have moved to permanent housing
- Call Vivian Dennison 816-520-2005 (Cell)

### SORTING DONATIONS

#### CLEANING DISTRIBUTION CENTER

- Every second Saturday 9:00-11:00 AM
- Excellent service project for elementary and high school students
- Appointments not necessary

## Monetary Donations are always welcomed:

Uplift Organization, Inc.  
P.O. Box 270175  
Kansas City, Missouri  
64127-0175

## Hours of drop-off donations at 1516 Prospect Kansas City, MO:

Monday ..... 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday.... 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday ..... 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.

## Winter Needs

- Socks\*\*\*URGENT NEED
- Men's Regular Underwear
- Flannel Long-Sleeved Shirts
- Plastic Tarps
- Blankets
- Shampoo
- Playing Cards
- Sleeping Bags
- Stocking Caps
- Warm Gloves
- Canned Fruit
- Spam
- Razors
- Deodorant
- Matches
- 5 Gallon Plastic Jugs for water
- Large Lemonade Mix
- Warm Coats & Jackets
- Toilet paper
- Tennis Shoes & Boots

Every second Saturday of the month is our work day. Donations may be dropped off between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Those interested in meal preparation please contact Margo Bustamante at (816) 246-8801 or (816) 516-1304. Our cooks are asked to prepare meals for approximately 60 homeless. Occasionally there are donated supplies at the Uplift facility such as meat and other items that can be used for meal preparation.

**Any Questions, contact Uplift at (816) 241-0060**