Community Service Committee
September 22, 2008

**Big Brothers Big Sisters**
Erin Aiello (Treasurer) aielle@rpi.edu
- Had Welcome Back Picnic Saturday
- Semester of Events Planned
- Meet every other Saturday
- 10/4 Apple Picking Gold Farms ($9 if you’re interested)

**Circle K**
Jackie (President) fablej@rpi.edu
- 9/23 Animal Orientation for Menands
- 9/27 Ronald MacDonald House
- 9/28 Sunday Animal Shelter to Sort Cans
- Went to Joseph’s House, Vanderheyden, AMC for Arts & Crafts with Kids
- 10/4 Divisional Meeting with area Circle K (SUNY, Sage, HVCC’s new chapter, Siena?)

**Habitat for Humanity**
Tom (subbing for Kyle)
- Building two houses on 9th Street
- Raised the 2nd Story, Sheeting, Flooring
- This weekend general public build raising trusses and sheeting to close both houses
- Two club weekends (ASCE and another club)
- No build 10/18 due to Family Weekend
- Weekends after 10/18 are open for club participation
- 120+ new volunteers from Activities Fair!
- Sunnyside is across the street and might be able to use help raking to utilize extra volunteers
- Tossing around the idea of “Habitat Helpers” volunteering
- Transportation Problems?
  - Considering RPI Shuttle or CDTA (unaffordable)
  - May draft a disclaimer and/or subscribe to AAA
- **Preferred Procedure for Working/Connecting with Rensselaer County Habitat through RPI:**
  - To sign up for a build, go to [http://habitat.union.rpi.edu](http://habitat.union.rpi.edu) or email habitat@union.rpi.edu
  - 15-20 volunteers maximum on a big day for both houses
- **ALBANY Habitat:** www.capitaldistricthabitat.org

**APO**
Brandon, Service Vice President andreb3@rpi.edu
- Fall Rush
  - Completed!
• 10 New Pledges
• 27 Active Members
• Events completed
  • Habitat
  • Birdhouses
  • Community Service Fair
  • Apple Picking
• Events coming up
  • Wed Community Gardens (planting, weeding
  • Saturday Diabetes walk
  • Next Wed Gorge Cleanup
  • Following Sat Race for the Cure, drivers picking up donations on 1st, 2nd, 3rd
    (can’t help sat)
  • VolunSun 10/5 Regional Distribution Center Food Bank 1-3 (meet @ APO
    Office 12:30)
  • 10/11-12 Overnight Trip
    • Raking/Cleanup
  • Joseph’s House (Contact Paul Delio)
  • 10/18 Troy Community Gardens Garlic Planting
  • 10/25 Habitat Build with National Organization of Minority Architecture
    Students
  • Approach Cleanup is a possible project

Relay For Life
Samantha Mellema melles@rpi.edu
• Community Service Fair on the 18th
  • Recruited
• First Committee meeting will be held 9/23 at 7pm, Union 3511
• Will recruit for additional committee members and volunteers throughout the
  semester

Community Service Fair
reported by Cynthia Smith
• SUCCESS!! More people than in the past 6 years or so
• Good mix of organizations

Community Service Days
reported by Cynthia Smith
• 11/1/08 Park Cleanup--Raking (Oakwood Cemetary, Frear Park, Prospect Park)
• 11/8/08 8-3 McNeil Room: Project Linus Quilt Project
• 12/7/08 Broadway & 4th: Victorian Stroll (Children’s Corner)
  • Habitat will make Gingerbread Houses
  • Coloring
  • Making Ornaments
• Selling Joseph’s House Wreathes at our location and at St. Paul’s Church & City Hall
• Posting signs in the morning
• handing out programs
• Volunteers needed (contact Cynthia Smith smithc@rpi.edu)

Fall Fest
reported by Cynthia Smith
• 10/18/08
• Volunteers needed 10/17 10am-7pm & 10/18 @ Check-In Tent area (Between Academy and CBIS)
  • contact Rebecca Feig ASAP!
  • Groups involved so far: Pi delta Psi, Habitat for Humanity, Tutor Time

Tutor Time
reported by Cynthia Smith
• Volunteers needed (contact Cynthia Smith, smithc@rpi.edu)
  • people who love working with kids, reading, math, etc…
  • tutor regularly (not necessarily every week or all day each Saturday)

Other Business:
• Community Service Volunteer Hour Reports
  • DOSO Website ➔ Service and Leadership ➔ Community Service
  • Report Hours volunteered/measureables each week with specific description
  • Include “Planning” hours (meetings/coordination)
  • Check back to be sure it was “Interpreted” correctly
  • Kudos to Habitat and APO for submitting projects recently!
• New York Campus Compact
  • All College Presidents in NYS
  • Devoted to Service and Service Learning
  • http://www.nycc.cornell.edu/
    • Student Voice—They are looking for a student blogger/moderator
  • Awards are applicable to RPI, and the committee can participate in the process and nominate campus groups/individuals.
  • Opportunities for student participation
• Poll Reporting!
  • Four or more precincts
  • Arrive at 7:30, Record Votes listed, return to Academy, Send them to news services
  • Volunteers contact Cynthia Smith (smithc@rpi.edu)