

Volunteer Spotlight



Yvonne Appell prayed the kind of prayer God loves to answer. Since returning to Neptune Beach in 2006, she had asked God to show her a meaningful way to “give back.” She and her husband Mike had spent 19 years in Okinawa, Japan, where he worked for the Marine Corps as a civilian; she taught at the base military school. “It was culture shock coming back,” Yvonne says.

Two years ago at Beach UMC’s *Missions Sunday*, she heard a presentation about Hart Felt. “The testimonies touched my heart, and I knew instantly it was the answer to my prayer.”

*Yvonne & Mike Appell
Malcolm Luckin, Jane Hart*

Mike and Yvonne help client Malcolm Luckin with a variety of needs. “We spend a lot of time together,” Yvonne says. “We’ve really become friends.” She takes him to the library, church and medical appointments. “I really believe the Lord brought us together. He has helped me in my spiritual life.” It was Malcolm who convinced them to eventually join Beach UMC. Yvonne got one of Malcolm’s artworks donated to Sulzbacher Center. She is also an active member of our prayer team.

Daughter Carrie is also a Hart Felt volunteer, providing respite for a man who is Catholic, whose wife is not. Carrie stays with her while he attends Mass.

Hart Felt is so important to Yvonne, she tells others about us every time she has an opportunity. Hart Felt is blessed to have this family as part of our family.



Client Spotlight

She was a teenager in Germany during World War II – not a place or time anyone would choose, and this new Hart Felt client has a harrowing story of survival.

We will refer to her as “G”, for “grace”, because she knows that God’s grace helped her through those days. G was born into a wealthy family and had a nanny during her happy childhood. The war blew it all away. “I fell from heaven into hell,” she says. She remembers the cold and hunger. Once she was so hungry she ate spinach leaves right out of the yard.

The war separated her from her parents, and she never saw her father again. G lived in an apartment with her sister and baby niece where it was sometimes so cold, they scraped ice off the walls. “... we were living in an ice palace,” G says. She went to local farms to buy food, anything they had, but would often come home with very little. She had money, but the banks were closed and farmers didn’t want money. They were more interested in bartering for useful items like linens. Once when she went shopping for provisions, she was caught in an air raid. Although the store-owner warned her to stay inside his shop, she knew her sister and baby niece were home alone. She raced through the bombs and debris only to find her building’s door locked. She endured the remainder of that air raid hiding in the doorway.

The situation after the war was scarcely better, as the “liberating” Russians were dangerous and even stole her family’s possessions from storage. When she stormed into the Russian commander’s headquarters to demand her things back, she found “The secretary was wearing my mother’s blouse.” The commander denied everything and threatened her if she ever came back.

She lived in Berlin during the airlift, having found work with a dentist and earning money knitting sweaters out of reclaimed parachute silk. It was so cold, she had to wear gloves with the fingers cut out. She also witnessed the building of the Berlin Wall. Her sister was caught in the former East Germany and was unable even to send flowers to their mother’s funeral.

G met her American husband in Berlin. She moved to the U.S. in November 1949. Now a widow, she has been active in volunteerism until the decline in her health. She has never lost the spunk that helped her survive those war years. A charming person with a permanent twinkle in her eye, G feels that the great lesson her life has taught her is: “If you can’t laugh, you can’t survive.”

Save the date!

Welcome New Volunteers:

Elveta Drayton
Alice Johnson
Tom Rodgers
Peggy Geiss
Shirley Barton
Janette Baysore
Terry Pack
Norman Pack
Karen Farmer
Delia McClain
Debra Carruthers
Brian Carruthers
Alan Newton

Happy 5th Anniversary:

Peggie Helms
Rose Miller

Thank you for caring!

Monday, October 5th -- 6:00-7:00pm -- "Grief and Healing" -- Continuing Education for Hart Felt volunteers will be conducted by Community Hospice at their facility at 4266 Sunbeam Road. Contact Kaye Lawson at kayeatlan@aol.com or 241-3609 to RSVP for this event.



Free Gasoline Program

An organization called Free Gas USA, Inc., is offering fuel cards to individuals who are age 18+, who own an automobile that is licensed and insured, and who have low income. A letter of support from a referring agency must accompany the individual's application form. The referral agency must be a church, Salvation Army, or a State Welfare organization -- Hart Felt is not a referring agency. If you would like a Free Gas USA application form, contact Jane Hart at 538-0306.

CARFIT

By 2030, one in five U.S. drivers will be age 65+. Except for teenagers, Seniors have the highest crash death rate per mile. Now a new safety program has been developed to offer older adults the opportunity to check how their personal cars "fit" them. On Saturday, September 26th, from 9:00-Noon, at ElderSource located at 4160 Woodcock Drive, trained professionals will lead older drivers through a 12-point checklist with their vehicle to make recommendations for making their cars "fit" better and enhance their safety. An occupational therapist will be on hand to provide information on how to maintain and strengthen driving health. This is sponsored by ElderSource, AAA and Aging Resource Center and NE FL Area Health Education Center.

Poinsettia Fundraising Sale



Hart Felt Ministries volunteers will be taking orders for poinsettias beginning early October for distribution December 5th. For more information, contact Kaye Lawson at kayeatlan@aol.com or 241-3609.

William Trotter Donates Painting and Prints



The matching gift challenge fundraising event featuring signed and numbered prints by William Trotter is coming soon.



Statistics for the Last 12 Months:

Volunteers: 163 ♥ Clients: 322 ♥ Donated Hours: 8,730
5,350 Individual Acts of Love ♥ Value to Community: \$166,900

Our mission is to provide, at no charge, through a network of community volunteers, non-medical support services and companionship to the frail elderly who require assistance in living independently.

Board of Directors: Dr. Paul Larson (Chairman), JoAnn Brooks (Vice-Chair), Bill Womble (Treasurer), Cecil White, Jr. (Secretary), Ray Worthery, Phyllis Luther, Bette McEvoy (Fundraising Chair), Loree Reed
Jane Hart (ExOfficio-President) Hart-Felt@comcast.net ♥ 904-538-0306 ♥ HartFelt.org