

Lippincott Was Pioneer

Samuel Lippincott served as Executive Director of the Beaver County Rehabilitation Center for 17 years. He speaks fondly of his days with BCRC, but his warmest memories are of the agency's early years as the Lintz Sheltered Workshop. He says, "We were pioneers, and we proved it could be done. We proved that people with disabilities could be productive workers in society."

In 1962, as Assistant Workshop Supervisor of the Lintz Workshop, Lippincott drove truck, looked for work, created fixtures and supervised clients. He says, "We pretty much did everything that needed to be done and more."



Lippincott's greatest challenge was public perception. He says, "In 1962, people were unsure of the capabilities of people with mental retardation. Most people doubted their abilities, and this made it difficult for us to get work." He recalled "hitting a stone wall" with one employer, who was reluctant to assign a contract to the workshop. According to Lippincott, "The turning point was when he toured the workshop. He was amazed at the type and quality of work that we were doing. Before that tour, he doubted our ability. After the tour, he began giving us work."

Lippincott pioneered many work concepts. He says, "I'm proudest of the fact that we were willing to try any job, and we usually found a way to make it work." During his time, Lippincott started a used clothing and shoe store, and a janitorial enclave. He also designed and built decorations for a Kiwanis Club dance. Lippincott's imagination was boundless, and his enthusiasm contagious.



He became Executive Director of the Beaver County Rehabilitation Center in 1973. In 1980, BCRC moved to its present location at 1517 Sixth Ave., New Brighton. After years of renting buildings, BCRC finally had a home of its own. According to Lippincott, "Owning our own building gave us a sense of stability. This is something that we needed."



Sam Lippincott gave the Beaver County Rehabilitation Center a sense of stability. However, his greatest legacy is helping to create a place where people can be accepted as productive members of the community. Samuel Lippincott fought to gain respect and acceptance for people with disabilities. Hundreds of people with disabilities have been employed in the community through the efforts of the Lintz Workshop and the Beaver County Rehabilitation Center. This would not have been possible without pioneers like Samuel Lippincott.

Safety Lights

By Cindy Kirkpatrick



The Safety Committee has played a major role in BCRC's safety program. Initially, the Safety Committee was comprised of two individuals who were responsible for meeting state safety regulations and handling any safety concerns. In 1991, under the direction of Paulette Miller, a formal committee consisting of six members was formed. Presently, the committee is comprised of 13 members with representatives from all five buildings. Throughout the year, the committee provides safety leadership, in-service training and a week of safety awareness.

Regular inspections are one way that BCRC carries out the lessons and the spirit of Safety Week. On a monthly basis, fire drills/tests, tornado drills, and inspections of the five buildings are conducted. Yearly, BCRC is inspected by the New Brighton Fire Department, Guard Worker's Compensation Insurance Company and the Pennsylvania State Licensing Board.

Over the years the safety committee has worked together with the clients and staff of BCRC to compile an exemplary safety record.

40th Anniversary Special Edition

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Employees of the Month Speak Out

by Cheryl Beightley, Karen Buccelli, Lavinia Craft, Mary Jane Hudak, Joe Johnston, Sharon Nesbit

It was a happy day for BCRC when David Bracken stepped into our Production Center. As Joan Bell, his Job Coach, recalls, "When David arrived he brought a much needed burst of energy." David walks with a noticeable spring in his step, a smile on his face, and a sincere eagerness to help in any way he can. No matter what the job, contract, sweeping or shoveling snow, David can be counted on to say "I'd be glad to help you." Even with this past winter's deluge of snow his enthusiasm never wavered. Although David has only recently returned to our workshop, he has been associated with BCRC since 1992. When told about his award, David said, "It makes me feel good and proud of myself." David is a great asset and we are proud to name him May's Employee of the Month.

Andy Stack, June's Employee of the Month, is a confident young man who has been with BCRC since October 2002. His Job Coach, Linda Glabb, describes Andy as a quiet person who has really blossomed. She says, "Andy is a hard worker who stays

(continued) Employees page 2

focused on his tasks. His increase in production has been amazing." His Program Specialist, Katie Grable, agrees. She says, "Andy has a very positive attitude towards work. He is very motivated by money and takes pride in earning it." Since June, Andy has been included in a group that works at the Medical Center several times a week. His Job Coach, Crystal Atkins, describes him as a very neat worker who follows directions well and is excited to learn about new jobs. Andy has also increased his communication skills and seems to always have good things to say. Andy hopes to continue to work at BCRC but is open to any new opportunities.

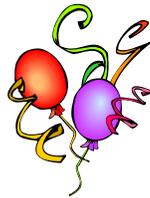
Tremendous, excellent worker, friendly and wonderful attitude are some of the words used to describe Chris Zalucky, BCRC's July Employee of the Month. Chris had the reputation for being able to do any job given to him. For the last year, Chris has worked five days a week at our Records Management facility. Here his Job Coach, Sue Leiper, describes Chris proudly as a "jack-of-all-trades." Once again Chris does many different jobs: indexing, prepping, shredding, janitorial, loading and unloading. When you first meet Chris, the first thing you notice is his beautiful smile that never seems to fade. It is this friendly attitude that has helped Chris make many friends here at BCRC. Chris said he was very surprised to become Employee of the Month, but his coworkers at BCRC were not at all surprised.

Celebrating 40 Years

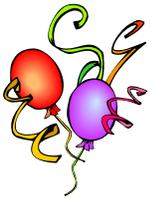
BCRC is looking forward to the celebration of its 40th anniversary and everyone is invited. The dates and times are October 16 from 2-6 pm and October 17 from 9 am to 2 pm. The celebration will feature tours of the production centers and displays of BCRC's many programs. Bring your friends and families and enjoy the festivities and refreshments.

A History of Work Remembered

by Pam DePace



BCRC has had hundreds of contracts with companies over the years, but what were the most memorable? BCRC workers were asked that question recently in preparation for BCRC's 40th Anniversary celebration.



Two contracts seemed to stand out for BCRC workers. One of the favorites was a project for a tool manufacturer. This was a long term contract that utilized workers both in the BCRC Production Center, and at a community enclave. BCRC clients made and packaged parts for both pliers and hammers. At BCRC we added springs and grease to the inner workings of the pliers, and put tags on hammer handles. On site, BCRC was involved in production and various forms of packaging.

The other contract considered most memorable by BCRC workers was refurbishing headsets for a major airline. The headsets were untangled, sanitized, re-wrapped and bagged. In its busiest time, this contract utilized up to 40 clients per day.



BCRC clients enjoyed reminiscing about many other contracts that they considered memorable. These contracts involved a variety of companies in the area.

Headsets weren't the only airline related contract in our history. A mid-sized plastics company utilized our workers to assemble parts for DC9's and DC10's. These parts included window shades, bungees, and latch tray handles. The window shade assembly was quite complex. Tubing was cut to an exact length, tube ends were cleaned and notched, a spring with an end was pre-assembled, shade stock was cut to size, a clip was attached to the shade stock with rivets and the shade was attached to a tube. The assembly was then cleaned and packaged.



Other contracts involved a newspaper, a glass company, an oil company, and a rivet manufacturer. BCRC's first large enclave was with a local newspaper. The enclave employed up to 30 clients daily. BCRC staff transported workers to a "shed," where they stuffed newspaper inserts. In addition to collating, BCRC clients refurbished glassware for a regional company. Various types of glassware were soaked in a solution, and irregular decals were removed with a soft pad. The glassware was then washed, dried, boxed and returned. Years ago, BCRC weighed and packaged rivets. BCRC clients also did work for an oil company. Clients took old cans of oil, and dumped them into a recycling container.

BCRC workers have performed hundreds of different jobs over the last 40 years. They have shown their ability to contribute to the community, and they have been exposed to a wide array of work experiences. The staff of BCRC plans to make the next forty years even more exciting and varied for the workers of BCRC.

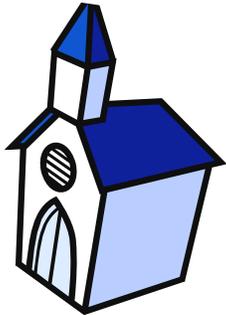
First Director Recalls Early Days

by Frank Shialabba

Some people are “larger than life.” Chuck Peters is such a guy. He has a flamboyant laugh and personality, and he tackles the world with the gusto of someone who loves living. Chuck’s “larger than life” approach breathed life into BCRC as he served as its first Executive Director in 1962.

Chuck volunteered for the Beaver ARC in 1960 to “pay back” the organization for a scholarship they had given him to do graduate work in special education. John Staff, the ARC Executive Director, asked Peters to serve on a search committee for an Executive Director for the new Lintz Workshop. His wife Georgina told him, “Don’t serve on the committee, apply for the job.” Peters was hired, and thus began the Lintz Workshop and Peters’ long and illustrious career in mental retardation services.

When Peters began his association with the Lintz Workshop, it was affiliated with the Beaver ARC. According to Peters, the first workshop was in Beaver Falls at the bottom of Stephen’s Hill Road. The Beaver ARC had raised money to purchase the church through raffles and cake and rummage sales. According to Peters, “The United Way, did it all.” Peters much going for it. It was light place to work.” However, the because the ceiling was too low. accommodate the emerging area of the church was devoted to a metal baptismal tub. Peters and Sam Lippincott used hammer and chisel to remove the tub.



As subcontracts were scarce, the individuals made craft items such as a poodle made of clear dry cleaning plastic on a coat hanger frame. Bread boards and potholders were other popular items made by BCRC’s first clients. One of the workshop’s first contracts was for the American Can Company near New Castle. The work consisted of closing a lid that was fastened to a nozzle by a little strap. It provided some of the first real money made by the workshop clients.

The first real funding for the program was provided by the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation. The Bureau began referring individuals with mental retardation who were being “squeezed out of the public schools at the age of sixteen.” This necessitated a move to the 5,000 square foot Majestic Theatre in Rochester.

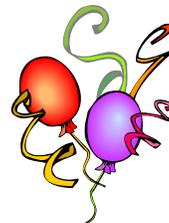


According to Peters, “We needed a lot of work to serve our growing population. Samuel Lippincott was the innovative genius who found work for the individuals and made adaptive devices to enable them to do it.” Peters credits Lippincott with “pioneering the mobile work force concept. He had a crew that traveled to do janitorial work, unloading trucks, and KP for the Air National Guard.” While Lippincott created work opportunities, Peters continued to look for funding to expand the new program. Peters left in July of 1964 to work as coordinator of the original Mental Health Mental Retardation study which resulted in the MH/MR Act of 1966. Peters went on to serve as Administrator of the Allegheny County MH/MR program.

BCRC’s first Executive Director was a flamboyant man who dreamed of a bright future for persons with mental retardation. Forty years later, BCRC’s clients are living that dream.



Happy 40th Anniversary



BCRC is Great From A-Z

by Cheryl Beightley

Awesome
Boosts self esteem
Candy Bouquet
Dedicated staff
Educational
Fair
Good friends
Helpful staff
Interesting
Job coaches
Kind
Loving
Mailings
Nice coworkers
Outstanding
Patient
Quite supportive
Resourceful
Safe
Terrific
Unfailing support
Very easy to talk to
Wise
X-tra special
You're never alone
Zero complaints

Competitive Edge
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Robert Kadilak, Dale Laughner,
Ray Palket, John Rackley,
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THE BEST OF SHOP TALK

by Paula Cordes

DO YOU REMEMBER?

- Doing the “Macarena” at the client picnic, the carnival games and palm reader?
- The dedication of “Salmon’s Court” at the Production Center with good food, friends and dignitaries?
- The wonderful time meeting and dancing with friends and all the special holiday parties at Rec Night and the different places it’s been held?
- The trip on the Gateway Clipper and the bus trip up and back to Pittsburgh?
- Trying to guess the names behind the staff baby pictures that were hung in the hallway?
- Career Club and all the wonderful guest speakers?
- Our fantastic annual Christmas parties with friends, the dancing, bingo, gifts and good food?
- The staff plays and how much fun it was to watch our supervisors and staff perform for us?
- Steeler Day and the shirts and other black & gold clothes we wore?
- Wearing Black & Gold for Pirate Day and the times the Pirate Parrott visited us at our annual picnic in Monaca?
- How the New Brighton Volunteer Fire Department taught us to use a fire extinguisher and the great fire safety tips they gave us?
- The games and prizes we got during Safety Day and touring the ambulance?
- All the special trainings we’ve had throughout the years?
- The softball games with Frank Shialabba announcing and the hit you had? Do you still have the hat that the Monaca Recreation Committee gave you?
- But most of all, do you remember all the friendships that we’ve enjoyed throughout the 40 years at BCRC?