



CHAPTER 72 PITTSBURGH PA.

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TIME TO GO FISHING



Fishing season has returned, and the present and past presidents of Chapter 72 in the Steel City intend to build on their past successes in service to the youth of the Pittsburgh area.

In Pittsburgh, the places to go for sporting events are Acrisure Stadium, PNC Park, and the PPG Paints Arena. However, on a pleasant Saturday last May, Lake Carnegie, located in Highland Park, was the center of attraction for the future fishermen and women of the city—young people between the ages of 5 to 15.

"Let's Go Fishing" was an event to provide urban youth with an alternative to playing basketball, football, or participating in gang activities, the stereotypes of inner-city youth. The event was sponsored by the Eastminster Church, and the Pittsburgh Presbytery in cooperation with Citi Parks.

TREA'S Chapter 72 members were key participants in this event. Past President Harry Blackwell provided excellent information to 80 youngsters (along with inquiring adults), on the basics of fishing. Harry's instruction included how to cast a rod, the different kinds of fish in Pennsylvania waters, and what bait to use. Most importantly, he taught them fishing safety and good outdoor manners.

Blackwell was assisted by current chapter president William Chandler. The TREA members received many accolades from the sponsors and parents of the youngsters. Following the instruction, the participating youths applied the lessons at the campsite's lake. The young campers displayed joy and excitement as they were successfully catching fish. The session concluded with both the former and present Chapter 72 Presidents dining with the campers and camp staff.

The words of Jesus state: "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men". Chapter 72's instruction successfully communicated this Biblical message to the future generation.

The training was repeated in June, when the two presidents conducted fishing training for the youth in Transfer, Pennsylvania, the location of Mercer County's Youth Conservation Camp. At this venue, twenty-two campers listened attentively as Past-President Blackwell presented instruction on fishing safety, reel casting, different types of bait, and fish identification.



