

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Bucket Brigade develops into months-long event

"The really important things we do in life we do for others." – **BUCKET BRIGADE MOTTO**

The 22nd annual Pride/Telegraph Bucket Brigade has been completed with the last home of the year painted on October 21.

The event has grown from a one-day session to groups painting from May through October, as it fits their schedule.

We are always looking for homes to paint, so if you or someone you know needs his/her home refurbished call the Pride office at (618) 467-2375. Please leave a number so we can call you.

The homes to be painted are basically one story, owner-occupied and the owner should be unable to care for the home. In the 22 years the Bucket Brigade has been in existence, 1143 homes have been painted from Jerseyville to South Roxana and every community in between.

The Bucket Brigade has proven again that this area has the greatest volunteers of any community. We are grateful to the hundreds who come out each year to paint and for continuing to spread a lot of TLC along with paint. It truly is a time when "neighbors helping neighbors" come to life, just as in the days of old when bucket brigades were formed as a chain to help neighbors save their homes. Our volunteers come from varied walks of life, as you can see from their pictures.

We could not continue the Bucket Brigade without the help of Sherwin Williams Paint Store and their staff. They donate the first 300 gallons of paint, inspect and measure each home to determine the amount needed and speak with the owners so they can choose their own colors.

A special thank you goes out to all those who make this event possible each year:

- Each team member who gave up his/her time to be part of a painting team
- The Bucket Brigade committee members who inspect each nominated house and act as leaders for specific groups on the actual day of painting
- The Telegraph for continued support, coverage and co-sponsorship
- Lewis and Clark Ham Radio Operators for making the day run efficiently
- Ameren for covering the electrical and service entrances to each home
- Castelli's Moonlight at 255 for donating fried chicken to feed the volunteers.

The continued financial support of the following groups who make it possible to purchase the remaining paint and repair materials:

- The Alton Foundation
- Alton Woman's Home Foundation
- State Farm Insurance
- Alton Community Service League

Most importantly, a very special thanks to all returning groups, plus the new groups that stepped forward this year to give their time and concern for those who had need of a helping hand. Our motto each year remains the same: "The really important things we do in life we do for other."

DALE NEUDECKER
Chairman
2009 Bucket Brigade
A committee of Pride Inc.