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**Back row – left to right:** Charlotte Castle, Bill Barnes, Kristi Clodfelder, Linda Kehias, Lynn Collins, Joe Fearday, Captain Holman and Heather Holman.

**Front row – left to right:** Lordine Webb, Alice Christenberry, Jennie Cisna, Sister Brenda Fritz, Dee Braden and Jack Evans with Ibsen.

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### **Consolidated Communications Pioneer group donates to local charities**

MATTOON – Consolidated Communications' Iverson A. Lumpkin Chapter of the Independent Telecommunications Pioneers of America donated some \$2,500 to local community organizations and charities in December.

Pioneer Club President Charlotte Castle said one of the club's main goals is to give something back to the community.

“The Pioneer Club holds many fundraisers throughout the year so we can donate to these local charities and help them serve those in need,” said Castle. “We are proud to make these donations each year, and proud of our employees for supporting the Pioneer Club.”

The club invited representatives from the organizations to a reception at the company where they received their donations. Donations were presented to:

- Guiding Eyes for the Blind
- Mattoon Public Library (in memory of Gail Lumpkin)
- Mattoon Community Food Center
- Mattoon Rotary, for the I Like Me program
- Salvation Army, Adopt A Family
- Catholic Charities Food Pantry
- Coles County Council on Aging
- Coles County Humane Association
- Consolidated Communications Spirit Team for the CCI Children’s Christmas Party
- Camp Care-A-Lot
- Shelbyville Food Pantry/CEFS
- Charleston Area Churches Food Pantry
- Kemmerer Village
- Pana Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
- Taylorville Food Pantry
- Litchfield Food Pantry
- Nokomis Food Pantry
- Readers’ Bridge NFP

The Mattoon-based chapter of the Pioneer Club is part of the national Telecommunications Pioneers organization. Membership is open to employees and retirees of Consolidated Communications. The club also awards scholarships to the children and grandchildren of Pioneer Club members each year, and since 1990, has presented more than \$76,000 in scholarships.