



March 2015



We hope your 2015 is off to a great start! Your friends at ITNBluegrass (l-r): Ron, Sharon, Barbara, Laura, Brenda and Walt

## **Letter from the Executive Director**

February sure did a number on our numbers! (And early March isn't looking so good either.) Due to the snow and bitter cold, our ride count was off about 200 rides for the week of February 23rd. We had been averaging about 850 rides per month, but you can't control Mother Nature, and it's best that both riders and drivers alike stay home and stay safe!

Starting with this issue, ITNBluegrass will produce a shorter monthly newsletter rather than a quarterly one in order to present information while it is still fresh. My hope is to email most of the newsletters--if you received a paper copy, please read below!

You should have received a flyer recently about the third annual i know expo on Sunday, April 12 (kind of a resource fair for caregivers and those wanting to grow older as happily and healthily as possible), and we hope you'll be able to make this free event. Please visit www.iknowexpo.org for more information. ITNBluegrass is also looking forward to

some other great things in 2015! Turn the page to read about them.

Finally, on page 3, you'll see a long list of people who made gifts to ITNBluegrass from November 2014 through the end of February. Next month's list will be shorter (unless we get really lucky!) as it will only include people who donated in March. If there is a spelling error or your name isn't on there but should be, the fault is mine. Please do let me know so I can make it right. We are very grateful for your support and couldn't do what we do without it. Laura

## Help Us Save Some Green by Going Green!

If you are receiving a paper copy of this newsletter, it means that we don't have your email address or the one we have no longer works. If you wouldn't mind receiving future newsletters electronically, email laura.dake@itnbluegrass.org with your address and we'll make the change. If you don't want to receive a newsletter from us in any form (though we really hope that's not the case!), please let Laura know this, too. Mailings aren't terribly expensive for us, but every little bit helps! Send Laura your email address by April 6, and be entered to win a \$25 gift card of your choice!

#### In this issue....

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\*Giving Opportunities

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# **February Facts**

Total Members by February 28: 485 (not all are riders)

Total Rides in February: **626** 

Total Rides to Date: (Sept. 1, 2008–Feb. 28, 2015) 42,028

## **Bulletin Board**

Welcome to our newest volunteer drivers: Susan Holmes, Bill McKinney and Carol Paisley.

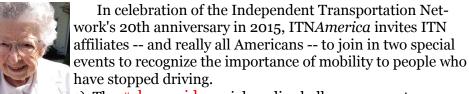
**Board changes:** We welcome Amber Lakin and Bill McKinney as our newest board members.

Visit us on

Facebook!

# WISH LIST

- 1. FOREVER POSTAGE STAMPS
- 2. COPY PAPER (20-24 LB)
- 3. #10 WINDOW ENVELOPES (WINDOW IN LOWER LEFT)
- 4. WHITE CARD STOCK
- 5. SMALL GIFT CARDS OR GIFTS FOR DRIVER APPRECI-ATION DRAWINGS
- 6. CAR TRADES/DONATIONS
- 7. VOLUNTEER DRIVERS!



- 1) The #sharearide social media challenge supports ITNAmerica's mission to make 2015 "the year to give an older person a ride" and will be ongoing throughout 2015. Here is your invitation whether you are part of an ITN or not:
- a. **Give a ride** to an older person or to a person with visual impairment (or go to www.storybooktour.org to donate \$20 to ITN so someone else can!).
- b. **Post a "selfie" and a story** about your ride to ITN*America's* Facebook page, Twitter, Instagram, or Pinterest using the

hashtag #sharearide OR send your selfie (you can also get someone else to take the picture of you and the rider) and story to laura.dake@itnbluegrass.org, and she'll post it for you. The story should explain why mobility matters to the rider. Be sure to get the rider's permission to post the picture / story on social media!

- c. Challenge your friends and family members to give a ride or donate.
- 2) The ITN*America* Storybook Tour is a 60-day national road trip of "story stops," in which ITN Founder Katherine Freund will gather and share stories about how transportation needs, met and unmet, have made a difference in older people's abilities to live a full life, whether or not they drive. Katherine will likely stop in the Bluegrass in July -- no date yet, but stay tuned.

In the meantime, if you have a "mobility story" to tell, please contact Laura as soon as possible. She will be collecting these and you may have an opportunity to tell your story to Katherine!



# Three Easy Ways to Support ITNBluegrass!

Support ITNBluegrass just by shopping! As a nonprofit, we rely on local community support for approximately half of our funding. Your help is appreciated!

#### **Kroger Community Rewards**

Just swipe your Plus Card when you shop at Kroger! Kroger provides financial support to area nonprofits based on the amount of money spent at Kroger by members enrolled in Community Rewards. To register your Kroger Plus Card:



- 1. Visit www.kroger.com/communityrewards.
- 2. Sign up or sign in to register your Plus Card.
- 3. Enroll in Community Rewards and select "ITNBluegrass" from the list.
- 4. Confirm your enrollment.

**Amazon Smile** Simply start out at **smile.amazon.com** when shopping on Amazon (same screen, same prices), choose ITN*Bluegrass* as your nonprofit and we will receive 0.05% of what you spend. And it costs you nothing!

**Become a Volunteer Driver!** Volunteer drive on your schedule -- it's flexible and very rewarding! Earn mileage credit as you drive and save it for your future transportation needs or donate to someone else who needs rides now. Contact Laura at 859-351-0460 or laura.dake@itnbluegrass.org to ask questions or to schedule a two-hour training.

# A grateful thank-you to all who donated to ITNBluegrass during our 2014 Year-end Appeal and through February 2015!

<u>\$50</u>0+

Perry & Kristen Bentley

Al Crabb

Joe & Chandra Jarboe

Roger Parry Bill & Erin Rouse

\$250-\$499

Cvndi Allen John & Joan Davis Talitha Freeman William McKinney

Ian Meinert

Kathleen Richardson

\$100-\$249

Rachel Barber Ioan H. Becker Chet & Kim Blackey

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Anne Bolton Gene Bunnell Gail Carpenter

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Emma Tibbs

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\$50-\$99

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Rhonda Turley Edith Uhl

\$1-\$49

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Vivian Bitensky Michelle Brady Nancy Budd-Garvan Victoria Calabrese

Cynthia Cannon-Ferguson Dwight & Ina Carpenter

Sarah Castilano

Iane Craig Joyce DeAeth Oscar & Jane Dillon

Thirza Ellis Katherine Freund

Lois Gaines Teresa Gevedor Melanie Goan Iean Goldschmidt Elizabeth Graham

Edward & Barbara Hopper

Ronald & Shirley Hughes

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Carol Komara

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Cara Richards & Rosa Salas

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Judy Wortman

A Very Special Acknowledgement to our 2014-15 Foundation and Business Supporters: The Copia Foundation; the Lexington Lions Club; Regeneron Pharmaceuticals (for free eye care rides); the Rouse Family Foundation; and Second Presbyterian Church; and the W.R. and JoAnn K. Griffin Fund.



**1206 N Limestone Street** Lexington, KY 40505

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