

## Shoes for the Shoeless

Lion Al O'Neill from Glasgow, Delaware, oversees an outreach program that collects used (but still usable) shoes, clothing, furniture, etc. for distribution in five Appalachian locations in Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia. The Delmar Bootery in Stuyvesant Plaza in Albany has been the local collection point for this "Shoes for the Shoeless" campaign.

On New Year's Day, we found out that Lion Al would be driving a trailer up two days later for his annual pick-up of shoes, and that he could use some help loading them. The Zone Chair sent out an urgent e-mail: would anyone be willing to spend a few hours on the Saturday of a holiday weekend to help out? Of course - they're Lions!

DG Dick and PDG Mary Jane Ralston came all the way from Gloversville. Lion Larry Krug, Lion Ruth Sano and her husband Bob came from Albany. Lions Bob Tougher and Rick Rudofsky came from Bethlehem. Lion Mike O'Brien came from Troy.

Here's what Lion Al had to say afterwards: "I got home safely, but later than anticipated. The turnpike traffic was heavy. (Aside: it's about 270 miles from Albany, NY, to Glasgow, DE.) All together there were close to 7000 pair of shoes. I am very appreciative of all of your help. It usually takes several hours to load the trailer. With your help it only took an hour. ... It was nice to meet other Lions. Thank you, Lion Al O'Neill"

Pictures of Al's trailer and the eager workers:



