

Experiencing the 'Benefit' of Giving

Joe Correll learned the most important lessons of his life in an unlikely place. Men in coats and ties, just off duty from their jobs as supervisors in the steel mills, came every Wednesday night to the Trinity Boys Club in Bethlehem. There they taught the boys how to manage their organization and show respect for others, and the value of showing kindness and support to those in need.

Joe went on to lead a life that exemplified the values he had seen played out by those early role models at the Boys Club. In short order he married, became a successful businessman and developed strong, enduring friendships. Remembering how important volunteers were to his own growth and development, he volunteered for organizations and for individuals who needed his help.

In 2001, Joe and his wife, Marjorie, who has since passed away, felt they could also begin providing significant financial support to charities. They set about identifying a handful of organizations that really mattered to them. Due to Marjorie's life-long relationship with the United Church of Christ, and to the care afforded one of her relatives, it was Phoebe's good fortune to be one

The Trinity Boys Club in 1938. Joe is seated in the front row, fourth from the left.



Above: Marjorie and Joseph Correll. "I feel so strongly that the gifts I make today come from both of us," says Joe. "I credit Marjorie with our success."

of those organizations.

Joe and Marjorie set up the Correll Fund to meet quality of life needs of residents at Phoebe Home.

"Giving away some of our money isn't going to make a difference in how I live," says Joe, "but it could make a lot of difference to someone else."

Marjorie and Joe together made their gifts out of a sense of the abundance of what they had been given. Joe wishes Marjorie were here with him now to witness the benefit that comes to others from their gifts, and to share "the benefit" he receives from giving.

"The enjoyment of knowing you helped somebody is so important. It is good to have this 'benefit' while you are here to enjoy it."

Joe visited with us recently at Phoebe Home, so he could have the opportunity to meet Heinz Inselmann. Challenged with the long-term effects of Multiple Sclerosis and already wheelchair bound, Heinz came to live at Phoebe two years ago. In May of this year, Deb Lorah, Director of Physical Therapy, tapped the Correll Fund



Heinz Inselmann (right) shows Joe Correll artwork he has created while a resident at Phoebe Home. The electric wheelchair purchased through the Correll Fund allows him to move independently



throughout the building to an art studio and other activities he enjoys.



to outfit him with a new electric wheelchair.

As we arrived at Heinz's room, he had just returned from a luncheon with the Housekeeping Department. He lit up as he told us he was a special guest of one of the staff.

"I always have to look for [Heinz] around the building, because he is here, there and everywhere!" said Deb. "He came to us with a power chair that needed repair. This new chair helps his mobility and offers comfortable seating. He is able to be very independent."

Heinz chimed in. "If I didn't have a wheelchair, I might as well just sit in one place all day. It makes it possible for me to meet all the people in the building. It is the most wonderful thing!"

Joe summed up his philosophy this way: "It is my job to be of help." ■