

# Warren S. Johnson Society of Retirees, Inc.

An independent organization of retired employees of Johnson Controls, Inc.

[www.johnsoncontrols.com/retirees](http://www.johnsoncontrols.com/retirees)

## NEWSLETTER

VOL. 14, NO. 3 / Fall 2007

### July program

*Report by Sharlene Wardinski*

### NEXT QUARTERLY LUNCHEON THURSDAY, October 18, 2007

Alioto's  
3041 N. Mayfair Road  
(Highway 100 & Burleigh)

11:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Cash Bar - Lunch - Meeting  
Cost: \$11.00

#### Menu Selection

- Grilled Chicken Breast Salad
- Braised Tenderloin Tips w/Noodles

Program: Lighthouses near Milwaukee  
Speaker: John Enright

Our own Vice President of Membership has an avocation in lighthouses, after a half dozen summers as a cruising sailor. John is a Tour Guide at the Port Washington Light Station atop St. Mary's Hill.

He's on the Board of Directors of the Northpoint Lighthouse Friends, the group that is restoring the Lighthouse and Keepers Quarters in Milwaukee's Lake Park at the top of the bluff, east of Lake Drive and North Ave. This historic landmark is about to open for visitors for the first time this fall.

John might also tell us about the hardships endured by a light keeper and his/her family in past days. He may wax a bit into stories of Great Lakes shipwrecks—adventurous tales that never had happy endings. There's a chance he will pepper the whole presentation with a little "salty" language just to keep the folks awake and alert. This is a program you don't want to miss.

Send **reservations with menu selection** and payment by Wednesday **October 10<sup>th</sup>** to:

Sharlene Wardinski  
3656 So. 82<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Milwaukee WI 53220  
Phone: 414-543-6414



Above: Conga Line Below: Sonny & Cher



Lunch started off great meeting our friends, former co-workers and being entertained by accordion music while we were eating. The best was yet to come.

The group of retired ladies and men going under the name of Broadway Wannabee's had everyone tapping their toes or singing to the music.

Some of the songs we enjoyed were, *I Got You Babe*, *Singing In the Rain*, *Sisters*. Or do you remember *Be My Little Baby Bumblebee*. How about the Andrew Sisters? All oldies but goodies.

For the final number the group came out in colorful costumes and formed a Conga line going part way thru the room.

Time goes by too fast when you are having fun!

# The President's Page

*Messages from Tom Parris*



A bridge across the Mississippi River falls down. Why would a bridge fall down when it stood for decades and had regular inspections? We don't yet have an analysis; but I wager that the fall will be traced to recent human failings and cover-ups. A mine tunnel collapses. Initial rumors indicate ignored safety citations. Pat Tillman is killed in Afghanistan. Eventually his cause of death is changed to "friendly fire".

You've seen those same failings in managers and politicians "forever". Some managers and military officers are first and foremost "politicians". We see those managers wherever we go. Strangely, their performance is ignored or tolerated by superiors that are solely motivated by personal career goals rather than the good of the citizenry or organization. The next time that you are in the voting booth remember most real life politicians make proposals and promises to us for their own personal career gains not in our best interest.

In contrast, I had some great managers and coworkers in my earliest days at JCI; but we did lack from some basic R and D equipment. An early project of mine was to find an alternative humidity sensor in lieu of human hair and biwood sensors. I had improvised a stainless steel box with various salt solutions in trays in an attempt to create stable humidity levels. It was "chewing gum bailing wire" solution that was a nightmare to utilize. Thru the efforts of George Sperl and others, we eventually got real workable environmental cabinets.

In that 1958 time frame, there was a Nike missile site at the Lake Michigan shoreline less than a half-mile from our R and D lab on the seventh floor of the American Appraisal Building. Every time the radar at that site rotated to aim at our lab, I got a blip on our X-Y recorder. Thanks to Carleton Smith, I got a "chewing gum and bailing wire" noise filter attached to the input of the X-Y recorder. Come to think of it, maybe that is why I'm so goofy today. That radar was also zapping me!



# FIELD REPORTS

## Ban Capron - Dallas

One thing I've enjoyed since retiring almost 20 years ago is travel. Recently I've become sort of a photography nut and for the past 3 years have been sending an e-mail picture to almost 200 friends who are in what I call the Wallpaper/Background of the Week Club. These friends use the pictures for travel ideas, wallpaper, creating screen savers, simply viewing and deleting, etc. It has been amazing how the list has grown. If anyone receiving this newsletter wants to be added to the picture list send an e-mail to [bancapron@hotmail.com](mailto:bancapron@hotmail.com). The current pictures being sent are from Cambodia. This is Angkor Wat, built in the 12<sup>th</sup> century:



The two places I want to go back to the most are China's Li River and Cappadocia in Turkey. If you have an interest in visiting Angkor Wat or Machu Picchu, contact me for helpful ideas. Hopefully I've given you some travel ideas.



## Marvin Lawhorn – Roanoke

A group of us from the Roanoke office got together for lunch. Some are retired, some not working for JCI anymore, and some still working. There is a total of 308 years of service among us. We plan to do this again in the fall. It was great to get together. I retired in January of 1993 and a lot of these guys I had not seen since then!



Left to right:

John Hamilton, Tony Reynolds, Marvin Lawhorn, Donnie Lawson, Danny Wimmer, Doug Spencer, Penny Pendleton, Jimmy Kinger, Tim Brady, Harless Bain, Ralph Nolley, Doug Walker and Tom Schaaff [not pictured]



## Another Different Type of Finger Painting -- Look closely!



# FIELD REPORTS

## John Donovan - Milwaukee

Jean and John Donovan recently returned from a nineteen day trip to Japan – ten days of cruising, six days of ground touring and three tough days in the air. The bottom line: A great trip. Here's a Top Ten List of reactions:

1. Nice People: We found the Japanese to be very polite, friendly, and fastidious.
2. Tight Quarters: Japan has 127 million people versus 300 million in the US, but Japan is the size of California. 70% of Japan is mountainous and sparsely populated, and 14% is used for agriculture. Thus, 127 million are squeezed into an area equal to 16% of California!
3. Tight Quarters 2: A starter apartment in Tokyo might be 150 square feet (10 x 15) and a half million dollar Tokyo home contains about 500 square feet, the size of a two-car garage.
4. Shrines, Temples and Castles: A lot of Japanese history is summarized through these well-preserved Shinto shrines, Buddhist temples and Shogun castles.
5. Pass the Soy Sauce: Given enough soy sauce, one can eat almost any Japanese entrée.
6. Beauty: The fabled Japanese gardens are lovely – trees, shrubs, rocks and water, but few flowers. Why? Flowers wither and die, but rocks and trees are forever.
7. Clean, Clean, Clean: There is NO litter, even in the huge city of Tokyo, no dirt, no weeds growing in cracks in the pavement. Bus and cab drivers spend their waiting time spot cleaning their vehicles and don white gloves when they take the wheel.
8. A Hope for Peace: Visits to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the cities on which atomic bombs were dropped, provided a sense of hope! The Hiroshima Peace Park and Peace Museum were positive and forward looking, suggesting the world has to find a better way.
9. Religion: The dominant religions are Shintoism and Buddhism. Neither holds regular services. Rather, one visits a Shinto shrine or a Buddhist temple at certain transitions in life to ask for a blessing. It is said that one is born Shinto, married Christian and dies Buddhist.
10. Jet Lag: Traversing ten time zones in thirteen and a half hours is H \_\_ \_ L, and it doesn't get any easier with age.

Our 1,000+ pictures have yet to find their way into the albums, but they will!



## Murphy – Lesser known laws

- *Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.*
- *He who laughs last, thinks slowest.*
- *The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.*
- *The shin bone is a device for finding furniture in a dark room.*
- *A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.*

First Time Attendees to the quarterly Luncheon held July 19, 2007



Don Odegard, Tim Nawrocik, Milt Klingsporn



Gene Strehlow



Can you help us locate these Retirees??

Newsletters have been returned by the post office for the following retirees. If you know their whereabouts, please let us know:

Robert Hamood - Goshen, IN  
Gaida Goelz - Milwaukee, WI

Thanks for any help you can give us. Reply to:  
John Enright  
Vice-President, Membership  
[enrights@sbcglobal.net](mailto:enrights@sbcglobal.net)



More Finger Painting



Deadline for information to be submitted to editor for the next newsletter:  
November 13, 2007

MARK YOUR 2008 CALENDAR

MILWAUKEE LUNCHEONS:

Thursday, January 17, 2008  
Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup>  
Biennial Reunion: September 19 & 20



Groaners

Consciousness:  
That annoying time between naps



I used to have a handle on life,  
but it broke.



The gene pool  
could use a little chlorine.



Ever stop to think,  
and forget to start again?

**Warren S. Johnson  
Society of Retirees, Inc.**

This Society is dedicated to providing meaningful services to the retirees of Johnson Controls, Inc. including current information about retirement benefits and the opportunity to meet socially with other members of the Society. This Newsletter is published quarterly to contribute to those goals. Your input is welcomed and encouraged.

**OFFICERS:**

Tom Parris, President  
John Enright, VP-Membership  
Sharlene Wardinski, VP-Program  
Bonnie Lenz, Treasurer  
Ron Kuta, Secretary  
Open Position, VP-Communication

**DIRECTORS:**

Neil DeVries                      Kasim Sinnamohideen  
John Donovan                    Carol Lomonaco  
John Meyer                        Paul Froehling  
Erica Wolfe, ExOfficio

***For membership information & dues payment,  
please contact:***

Bonnie Lenz, Treasurer  
8240 E. Wind Lake Rd.  
Wind Lake, WI 53185  
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imlenz@wi.rr.com

***For street address changes, email address  
changes, and items to be included in the  
newsletter, please contact:***

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5207 S. Robinwood Lane  
Hales Corners, WI 53130  
414/425-8407  
E-mail: ericawolfe@yahoo.com

**To contact Johnson Controls, Inc:  
1-800-333-2222**

**After the recorded answer or anytime during it:**

Dial extension 2325 for  
**Benefits** information or assistance.

Dial extension 2296  
for the **Foundation Office**.

*In Remembrance*

**Rosemary Martini**, beloved wife of Frank, passed away on July 28<sup>th</sup>. Also survived by two daughters and their families, including six grandchildren.



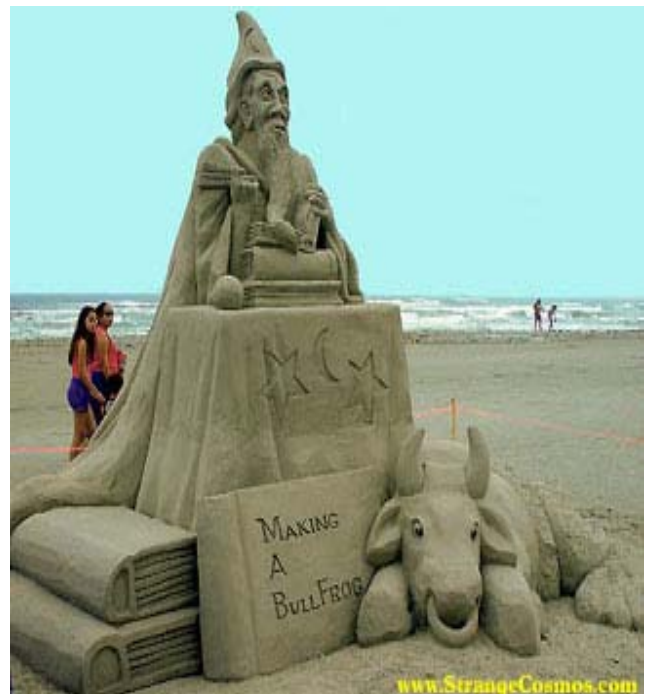
JCI Retirees Website Address:

[www.johnsoncontrols.com/retirees](http://www.johnsoncontrols.com/retirees)

If you have the site saved in "favorites",  
be sure to update it!!



Sand Castle Contest in New Zealand:



## From the Archives...

### MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin... July 2, 1925

*Globe-Union inherits "Steel King" but ultimately fails to make par*

The predecessor company to today's Johnson Controls Power Solutions group, Globe-Union, manufactured a number of diverse products in its early days, including ice skates, roller skates, ice cream freezers, spark plugs, and, of course, batteries. They also manufactured golf clubs, after acquiring the Great Lakes Golf Corporation in 1931. A few years before Globe-Union's acquisition, the Great Lakes Golf Corporation applied for (and later received) a trademark to use the name "Steel King" for a line of clubs. The Milwaukee company also sold club and ball models named for (and endorsed by) some of the golfing greats of the time including Tommy Armour, Harry Cooper and Bobby Cruickshank. In addition, Great Lakes Golf offered a variety of golf accessories from tees and cleats to gloves and grip wax. Globe-Union remained in the golf equipment business until 1934, when poor sales caused by the Great Depression forced the dissolution of Great Lakes Golf.



### MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin... July 15, 1958

*Johnson Service controls keep Caribbean cruisers comfy*

The July 15, 1958 issue of the Maritime Reporter featured a cover photo of the new Santa Rosa ocean liner embarking on its maiden voyage. The liner was part of the "Grace Line" fleet, a cruise line which sailed from U.S. ports to South America and the Caribbean between 1913 and 1970. The Santa Rosa represented several maritime firsts: it was the first liner to replace a ship of the same name, and it was the first newly constructed American-flag passenger ship to be built for the Inter-American market since the 1930s. In addition, the ship offered more square footage per passenger than any ship afloat at that time. The \$25,000,000 liner had a total passenger capacity of 300, with first class accommodations in each stateroom. It was also completely air-conditioned, with a pneumatic control system provided by the Johnson Service Company. In fact, as the article noted: "Individual control in each Stateroom enables occupants to 'dial their own weather.'" Today, a refurbished Santa Rosa still sails the Mediterranean as The Emerald for Thomson Cruises.

## TIME?



.....YES, and time to  
renew your membership!

Keep in touch with your life long work associates via the Newsletter. **Annual Association membership dues are \$5.** You may choose to pay several years in advance or pay a **lifetime membership of \$50**, as 223 members have chosen to do. New members (only) paying after September 1st will be credited for both the current and next year. Send dues money to Bonnie Lenz. Not sure you've paid your dues? Check the **first line of this issue's mailing label**. In addition to your name, it **identifies** the division from which you retired (B=Battery; C=Controls; X=Corporate) and **the last year for which you paid dues** (2001, 2002, Life).

## STILL

## WORKING?



## MEMBERSHIP ENTITLEMENT COMES WITH 20 YEARS

If you are retired from Johnson Controls, or still working there with 20 years of employment, you are eligible for membership in the JC Retirement Society.

Send your \$5.00 annual membership fee to:

Bonnie Lenz, Treasurer  
8240 E. Wind Lake Rd.  
Wind Lake, WI 53185