

# Warren S. Johnson Society of Retirees, Inc.

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

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

## NEWSLETTER

VOL. 14, NO. 1 / Spring 2007

### NEXT QUARTERLY LUNCHEON THURSDAY, April 19, 2007

**January program**  
*Report by Sharlene Wardinski*

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

- Stuffed pork chop
- Chicken Parmesan

Program: A Trip through Africa  
Speakers: Al & Ruth Clayton

Al is a JCI retiree. He started in 1970 as an application engineer at the Midwest Regional Office in Lincolnwood IL. In 1976 the office moved to Milwaukee and Al stayed with them until 1988. He then transferred to the Advanced Marketing team.

When Metasys was released, Al transferred to the JCI Institute where he taught the Metasys product to the field personnel. In 1994 Al returned to the field as a Project Manager and Service Manager in the Milwaukee branch office. Al retired in August 2004.

After retirement Al and his wife Ruth traveled through Africa for 23 days. They have volunteered to share their trip and pictures with all of us.

Send reservations with menu selection and payment by Wednesday April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007 to:

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



When Bruce Nemovitz, a Certified Senior Advisor and Senior Real Estate Specialist, agreed to speak at our luncheon he assured me this would be a pleasant presentation. Well he was right!

For someone who is an industry leader and an expert at helping clients transition from family home to senior apartments and communities, Bruce had a great sense of humor. He told stories of his experiences through the years relating to the blend of local history.

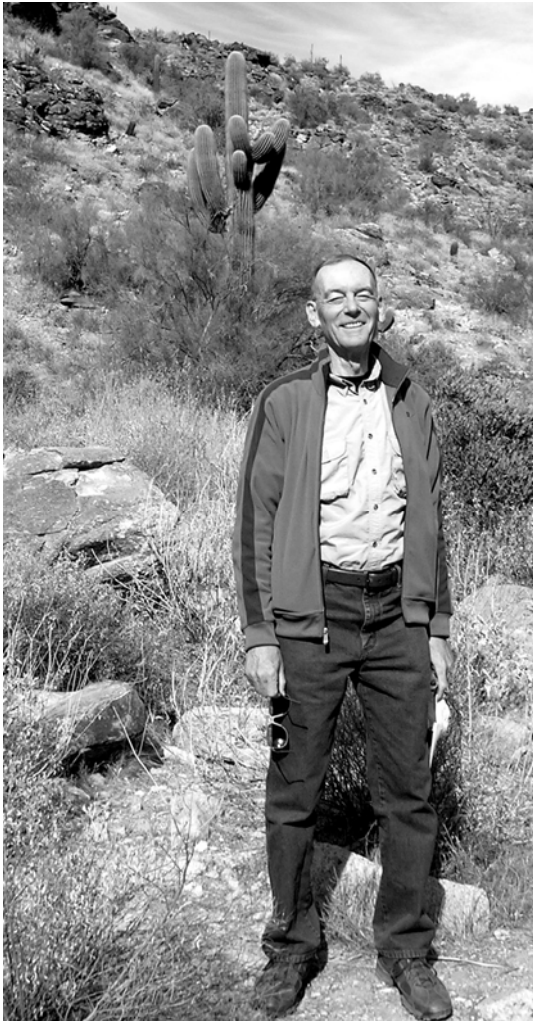
Our audience also related some of their experiences.

If you are contemplating a change from home to apartment or senior communities you can contact Bruce at 262-242-6177 or visit his website at [www.BrucesTeam.com](http://www.BrucesTeam.com)



# The President's Page

*Messages from Tom Parris*



I worked for the Department of Defense for nearly 16 years. This has given me first hand experience with the workings of large bureaucracies. In many ways, large corporations have some of the same issues. At DOD, half of the employees were deeply concerned with the mission, the soldier and the taxpayer. The other half was more concerned with expanding the bureaucracy, broadening its scope and control in order to create additional higher grade positions for their own eventual promotions. The Government is just as frustrating today.

**WARNING:** I'll eventually go on my annual Medicare Part D rant!

I have a Government equivalent to a 401K plan. In my private 401K IRA started with JCI resources, I am able to make withdrawals in any manner that I choose with a simple phone call. With my Government equivalent, I must make out a three-page form, have it notarized, mail or fax it, and wait weeks for execution. I only get three choices: take a monthly distribution; buy a lifetime annuity, or withdraw/rollover the entire amount. Inflexibility is a constant with the Government.

This year I changed my Part D plan because all of my six prescriptions became non-preferred and very expensive. All plans ceased covering them when I reached the "doughnut hole". Since I was going to pay for them out of my own pocket, the lowest premium plan was the lowest total annual cost to me. After consulting with me, my doctors changed some of the prescriptions to slightly less effective generics. They had no idea of the cost of any of the drugs. This is a harbinger for our inevitable universal health care system. We eventually will be like Canada and England. We will have to go offshore to obtain timely quality health care. Generic, not quite the best, drugs will become the norm and our innovation will cease.



# FIELD REPORTS

## **Doug Waire – Baltimore**

I look forward to reading the Retirees communication. I retired the end of September, 2006. 45 years in the Controls Division Baltimore Office. Started as a draftsman in 1961, retired as Systems Branch Manager.

## **Jon Korta [son of Larry Korta-Milwaukee]**

Larry and Joyce Korta's son, Jon, moved to a remote area of Alaska several years ago. He is now an Iditarod "musher". Read on from his website: [www.borealskennel.com](http://www.borealskennel.com)

Borealis Kennel is located in Galena, Alaska. Galena is in Alaska's Interior, located on the Yukon River, roughly midway (300 miles as the raven flies) between Fairbanks and Nome. If you were to pull out a map you might notice that to get to Galena, as it is for a much of the state, there are no roads to take you there. The "real" Alaska, surrounded by nothing but wilderness. In many ways, we find our remote location to be a real blessing, but there can be some drawbacks as well.

Our location is a blessing in that we're smack dab in the midst of some pretty wild country with some fantastic training trails that can take us for miles and miles in any direction. We're right on the Iditarod Trail and we can take our pick - head downriver towards Kaltag and over the portage to the coast, or upriver towards Ruby and up the old mining trail to the rugged mountains of the Interior. There certainly is no shortage of places to train.

The main drawback to our remote location off of the road system, is the expense it takes to get things out here. For much of the year, freighting it in by airplane is the only practical way to go, adding as much as 30% - 50% to the cost of things. Barges do run on

the Yukon for about 3-4 months during the summer, but it's all airlines after that, and things like milk, eggs, and fresh produce demand a premium price. And dog food, of course, which we buy by the ton a couple of times a year.

Living in rural Alaska does not come without some sacrifices, but for us it's worth it and we truly enjoy living where we do. Every day is an adventure in the making, and for that we are forever grateful.



John's glad to be out of the big town of Anchorage and on his way to Nome. He says " As a rookie in this years Iditarod, I just want to make this a learning run. Where my team and I can see how the trails are and kind of get into a routine."

John is bib number 24 this year.



# FIELD REPORTS

## From Doug & Judy Decker

We celebrated our first Christmas since 1997 in our OWN home! We've had a surprising year

We left our boat in Corfu Greece for a couple of months last year, returned to the States and rented an apartment in South Carolina while Judy got two knee replacements. The surgery was easy and she recovered within a few weeks. New metal knees are great and look just like the old ones only they don't hurt when you walk. We were back on the boat in Corfu by early April.

While in the States, we began looking around for the "perfect" home base in the USA. We have been homeless for over nine years, and both of us were ready to move back to land, at least on a part time basis! Surprisingly, we decided to live in South Carolina where some southerners say stuff like "mash the button" and "you ain't no pork chop yet". Once we got past the language thing, we found a delightful gated community on the Waccamaw River (which is the Intra Coastal Waterway) and fell in love with a home on Pawleys Island. We are five minutes from the Atlantic Ocean. Most of our friends are transplanted Yankees. Besides loving the beach climate and small town feeling of Pawleys, we are close to Judy's mother who lives in Georgetown. We moved into our home in late August. Nothing is more fun to us than sitting in our screened-in porch, drinking coffee, reading the newspaper and watching the birds. Geez. After all our travels, the simple things make us happiest! We have discovered that a home is incredibly convenient. We love the refrigerator-freezer and ice maker. We don't have much accumulated stuff, so our beautiful house is real tidy. Oh yeah. We do have storm shutters

for hurricane season which we do NOT look forward to.

After buying our home and doing some power furniture shopping in North Carolina, we returned to the Med. We sailed through the Greek Islands last spring and summer and now are based in Marmaris Turkey. We've been in the Mediterranean since fall of 2003. Obviously the experiences, culture and history has been very enriching. We have continued to keep up our website [www.deckersailing.com](http://www.deckersailing.com) with the travel logs of our escapades. We have airline tickets to return to Turkey in April and will sail and explore the southern coast until late summer.

Our four sons are all doing fine and we have two new grandsons. That makes four grandchildren total. The Allen's say they are done having babies, and the Decker boys say "don't count on us". We've enjoyed seeing everyone in the past few months and cuddling the little ones.

We are thrilled to be back in the States and are re-adjusting to the USA culture! We still have the travel bug and there are many places left to see. Our motto is "go far, slow down and stay long". However we wouldn't live permanently anywhere but America. It's a boring old saying, but everyone in the world seems to love and feel most comfortable in their homeland.

Our email address is [deckerdoug@hotmail.com](mailto:deckerdoug@hotmail.com)  
Our new home address is  
23 Gleneagle Lane, Pawleys Island, SC 29585  
phone is 843-235-0491.

First Time Attendees to the quarterly Luncheon held January 18, 2007



Roger & Cathi Ruchti, Jim Pasterczyk



Dan Krajna & Chuck Miles Rita Archiquette



## It's winter In Wisconsin

And the gentle breezes blow,  
70 miles per hour at 52° below!  
Oh, how I love Wisconsin  
When the snow's up to your butt.  
You take a breath of winter air  
Your nose freezes shut.  
Yes, the weather here is  
wonderful,  
I guess I'll hang around.  
I could never leave Wisconsin,  
'Cause I'm frozen to the ground

Deadline for information to be  
submitted to editor for the next  
newsletter:

May 15<sup>th</sup>

MARK YOUR 2007 CALENDAR

**MILWAUKEE LUNCHEONS:**

April 19<sup>th</sup>

July 19<sup>th</sup>

October 18<sup>th</sup>



## Groaners



Light Beer

**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  
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Open Position, VP-Communication

**DIRECTORS:**

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

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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*

**Andrew J. Schlidt, Jr.** passed away on February 17<sup>th</sup>. He is survived by his loving wife Tess, four children and their families. After a 41 year career with the company, he retired in 2004 as a Controls Group Vice President. His tenure encompassed national and global responsibilities including positions as Vice President Managing Director of the Johnson Controls business in the United Kingdom and also Chairman and CEO of Yokogawa Johnson Controls in Japan.

**Emily Slowik** passed away on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. She had worked in the printing department and also the mail room.

**Tom Patterson** passed away recently. Prior to retirement, he was Plant Manager and Warehouse Manager in Toronto.

**Chris Graham** passed away in January. He was part of the accounting team for the Canadian headquarters.



From a sand sculpture contest New Zealand



## News from the wire.....

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin...March 2007

### **Insurer, Johnson Controls honored**

Milwaukee's **Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co.** and **Johnson Controls Inc.** were named "America's Most Admired Companies" in their industries in the 2007 rankings compiled by Fortune magazine. Northwestern Mutual has been ranked No. 1 by the magazine in the life and health insurance category for 24 consecutive years. Johnson Controls was rated most admired in the motor vehicle parts industry. The "America's Most Admired" list, which appears in the March 19 edition of Fortune, is an annual report card on corporate reputations as graded by business executives and analysts in each industry. Companies are graded on such things as quality of management and products, financial soundness and social responsibility.

### **Johnson Controls signs with software company**

**Johnson Controls Inc.** signed a joint sales and marketing agreement with **PanGo Networks Inc.** PanGo designs computer systems that enable hospitals to keep tabs on the location of critical equipment. Johnson Controls said the agreement will expand the capabilities of its Milwaukee-based building efficiency business as an integrator of wireless technology systems for buildings.

### **Johnson Controls hires ex-Ford hybrid expert**

**Johnson Controls Inc.**, the largest producer of automotive battery systems, hired former **Ford Motor Co.** hybrid-electric vehicle expert Mary Ann Wright to lead its hybrid battery operation. Wright will serve as chief executive officer of Glendale-based Johnson Control's Saft Advanced Power Solutions division, the company said. Wright was vice president of engineering for bankrupt supplier Collins & Aikman Corp. since February 2006. Wright, who was the chief engineer on the Ford Escape hybrid, takes over one of the fastest-growing segments of Johnson Controls. One of her group's goals will be to develop a safe lithium-ion battery to be used to power a hybrid gasoline-electric vehicle.

## 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