

# 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. 15, NO. 1 / Spring 2008

### NEXT QUARTERLY LUNCHEON THURSDAY, April 17, 2008

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

- Baked 1/2 chicken
- Tomato stuffed w/ seafood salad

Program: Songs and Fun  
Speaker: George Huhnke

At our last luncheon we had a preview of George's talent. Of course he didn't play guitar and it was a very short song. Just enough to ask for more.

Well, he has agreed to play his guitar and sing for his supper -- or dinner as the case may be. George has belonged to the Milwaukee Choristers and the Milwaukee Symphony chorus for many years

George also had the honor of singing in front of 55,000 people. That's right. He sang the National Anthem at Miller Park.

So get your reservations in early. This should be a fun afternoon

Send reservations with menu selection and payment by Wednesday April 9, 2008 to

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

#### January program

*Report by Sharlene Wardinski*

Due to unforeseen circumstances Mr. David Doyle our scheduled speaker could not attend our January luncheon.

What can we do? Paul Froehling saved the day by suggesting we ask the retirees to give some anecdotes about their good times at Johnson Controls. Thanks go to John Donovan, George Jacobi, Dick Lakaaneimi, Paul Froehling, and George Huhnke for saving the day.



Dick Laakaniemi



George Huhnke



George Jacobi



John Donovan

#### Transportation Assistance

If you are unable to attend a quarterly luncheon because you need assistance getting to Alioto's, please call Carol Lomonaco at 414-524-4704. She will help you arrange a ride to and from the restaurant (if you live in the Milwaukee area).

# The President's Page

*Random Musings of the Prez*



The biennial elections will again be held at our July 17th luncheon. Our Board of Directors will discuss a slate of candidates at our March 11<sup>th</sup> and June 10<sup>th</sup> board meetings. If you would like to nominate a member for a position, please contact me at [WSJsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:WSJsociety@yahoo.com) or contact any of the present officers or board members.

Have you noticed that we are about to cede the world's future technical leadership to China? They graduated 670,000 engineers last year while we only graduated 67,000.

Our Congress lacks courage; but has eventually done the right thing. They have been making stealth changes to our Social Security payments. About a decade ago, they invented "core inflation". Last year we had 4% inflation; but you received only a 2.3% payment increase (which was rounded downward of course). The unfortunate retired military and bureaucrats were less fortunate. They only got a 2.0% increase. Social Security will not go defunct. We will

just continue to see little publicized smaller increases or no increases.

Speaking of our Government.... Is there anything wrong with letting the healthcare uninsured from buying into one of the many existing plans for Government workers (like Mail Handlers Insurance) rather than creating a socialized medicine system?

Have you ever felt guilty about turning down a panhandler's request? One solution is to explain that you don't give cash but that you are willing to buy them a meal at a nearby fast food restaurant. Very few will take you up on the offer because most want cash to buy alcohol or drugs. When they ask for bus fare, offer to wait until the bus arrives and pay the fare. In the few cases where you buy a meal or pay a bus fare, you will get a genuine "thank you" and you will feel really good. Occasionally, you will get a confession that their story is a lie and they are truly sorry. You might give someone a subtle nudge to change.

# FIELD REPORTS

## Ron Williams

Wife Pat and I had the pleasure of a recent visit to India and Dubai. We enjoyed monotonously sunny, low seventies temperatures and blue skies every day for three weeks. Both India and Dubai are visual feasts and a photographer's paradise.

Our tour took us by air from New Delhi to Udaipur site of the world famous hotel in Lake Pichola. Udaipur's market was a spectacle and the Udaipur area is rich in historic treasures and a must see for any visitor to India.

From Udaipur we flew to Jaipur with its massive forts, magnificent palaces, temples and lush gardens and then moved on to the Oberoi's tent complex near the Ranthambore tiger preserve.

Our first game drive produced no tigers although everyone else in the hotel seemed to have seen at least three. We opted for a private village visit the following day and enjoyed an up-close view of the real India while garnering some more great photos.

The road between Ranthambore and the Agra road junction at Bharatpur is so bad a two hour train ride was called for. Our driver preceded us by a day with our heavy bags and met us at Bharatpur to finish the trip to Agra. Words cannot describe the beauty of the Taj Mahal and much credit must go to the durability of the non-porous Indian marble used in its construction. Nevertheless after hundreds of years, pollution was beginning to take its toll and stringent antipollution efforts are being made to preserve this irreplaceable patrimony. More than 350 years old the Taj Mahal is remarkable for its perfect proportions and minute details executed with astonishing skill over a period of some twenty-two years.

From Agra it was back to Delhi by road and then a next day three hour flight to Dubai. Dubai is a fantasy land created almost overnight in a desert. The architecture is remarkable and the quantity mind-boggling. It must be the largest single construction site in the world and it is estimated as much as 25% of the world's cranes are currently in use there. One of the most spectacular projects is the Burj Dubai which when completed will be the tallest building in the world. Construction currently has passed the 160<sup>th</sup> floor. Our hotel was attached to both the huge and upscale Mall of the Emirates and the largest indoor ski facility in the world. No wonder they need all those York chillers.



Village visits create such excitement



The Taj Mahal



Dubai architecture



**Rocky Mountain Chapter Reports**

*By Bob Pagliasotti*

Here is a long overdue up date on the Rocky Mountain Chapter!

Our group is doing very well. We continue to meet for lunch every other month and generally get around twenty people at our meetings. They are very informal; we move around the area to different restaurants to enjoy a variety of food and to try to make it a little more convenient for people who live in different areas of the city.

On February 20<sup>th</sup>, we held our 70<sup>th</sup> meeting which means we have been getting together for eleven and one half years -- doesn't seem possible!

Our membership has grown to 25 people representing a total of some seven hundred plus years of service at Johnson Controls.

Last April, we were blessed to have two very special guests at our luncheon meeting, Bob Lindsey traveled all the way from Wisconsin to be with us and Charlie Butcher who resides in Steamboat Springs , CO but was with his daughter in Oregon at the time came all the way back to Colorado to be with us.

A good time was had by all. You can imagine having Bob & Charlie together -- many, many stories, tales, a few secrets and probably a few lies were swapped.

Our Christmas Luncheon was held on December 19<sup>th</sup>, at The Gala Gardens Restaurant, We were fortunate in that Bill & Dar Braak had not yet left for Southern California, where they now spend their winters; they drove up from Colorado Springs to be with us.

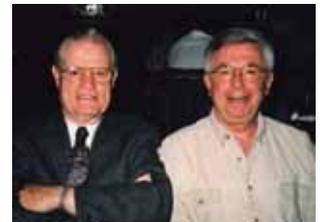
Roy and Sandy Mucilli, who we do not get to see very often, were also able to be with us.

We do so much enjoy getting together with our lifelong friends and hope that we are able to continue to do so in the future.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the reunion this fall!



Audrey & Jim Williamson



Lee McKie & Tom Pike



Charlie Butcher, Bob Pagliasotti, Bob Lindsey



Bob, Dot Counts & Catherine Bruno



Don Morgan & Dar Meyer

First Time Attendees to the quarterly Luncheon held January 17, 2008



Nan Roddy and Bill Bould



INFORMATION FOR OUR RETIREES  
DATABASE

Please provide us with the following information about your tenure with JCI :

Your name:

Spouse's name:

Start date: [calendar year]

Retirement/Departure date: [calendar year]

Please send info to John Enright either by email: [enrights@sbcglobal.net](mailto:enrights@sbcglobal.net) or regular mail:

2360 Caribou Lane  
Grafton, WI 53024

Thank you for your help!!



Retirees Organization linked on corporate website:

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

Click on "About us"

Click on "Retirees"

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

May 13, 2008

**MARK YOUR 2008 CALENDAR**

**MILWAUKEE LUNCHEONS:**

April 17<sup>th</sup>

July 17<sup>th</sup>

**Biennial Reunion: September 19 & 20**

From John Enright - Milwaukee

I was delighted to be able to buy a life-time Senior Pass from the US Fish and Wildlife Service when we visited a Castillo de San Marcos, last month in St Augustine Florida. Any US citizen can obtain a lifetime pass for a one-time fee of \$10.00. That entitles that person to take in a car full of visitors to a tremendous number of US sites. It also allows discounts on camping sites etc. More information can be obtained from the U.S. Geological Survey website:

<http://store.usgs.gov/pass/senior.html>



**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	Larry Petricek

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

Bonnie Lenz, Treasurer  
8240 E. Wind Lake Rd.  
Wind Lake, WI 53185  
(262) 895-2065  
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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414/425-8407  
E-mail: [ericawolfe@yahoo.com](mailto:ericawolfe@yahoo.com)

## In Remembrance

**Patricia Sperl**, beloved wife of George, passed away December 25<sup>th</sup>. She and George were married for 56 years and have 6 children.

**Jess Draper** passed away on November 21<sup>st</sup> after a battle with cancer. He started work in 1953 at the Globe-Union battery plant in Reidsville, NC and transferred to Atlanta in 1966. He is survived by his wife Mary, three children and several grandchildren.

**Bill Wenzell** passed away on August 16, 2007. He was a Service Sales Engineer in the Appleton branch and retired in 1996. He is survived by his wife Gwen.

**Barbara Pozorski**, beloved wife of John, passed away on February 4, 2008. In addition to John, she is survived by their 4 children and their families.

## Reunion Update

Information will be sent in April regarding the upcoming reunion!

Mark your calendars...  
Plan to attend...  
September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>!!

We look forward to seeing everyone!!





# From the archives...

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin

On **February 13, 1965**, *The Milwaukee Sentinel* newspaper reported that the Johnson Service Company (Johnson Controls' former name) was hosting an engineer and an architect from South Africa, who wanted to look at new designs for controls equipment for their work on a planned cultural center in their home city of Pretoria. The engineer, Johann Potha, and the architect, Hans Potha, were part of the planning team for the center, which was to include an opera house, a theater, and office buildings. According to Johann, the Transvaal provincial government sent them to the United States for two weeks "to see what's the general picture for office buildings and cultural centers, and what's happening in manufacturing research." Johann continued, "Since we're only in the initial planning for our cultural center, we don't want to be committed to some outdated thing when construction starts five or ten years from now."



Pretoria

An article in the trade journal *Food and Drug Packaging* (dated **December 22, 1966**) discussed the transition from glass to plastic bottles for packaging milk. In 1962, three dairies in the United States began test marketing plastic milk bottles. By 1966, given favorable consumer response, nearly 700 dairies nationwide had switched from glass to plastic milk bottles.



Circa 1966

Shatterproof, lightweight, and leak proof – plastic bottles had several advantages over the traditional glass bottles. During the mid-1960s, plastic milk bottles evolved from mere duplicates of glass bottles to a wide range of sizes with tight-fitting caps and more comfortable handles. Various sizes of plastic milk bottles were being experimented with, including a six-quart unit that resembled a small beer keg. The article mentioned that the Uniloy Division of Hoover Ball and Bearing Company (which was acquired by Johnson Controls in 1985 and renamed the Plastics Machinery Division) manufactured more than 70% of the blow molding (a manufacturing technique used to make plastic bottles) systems in use by the dairy industry at that time. Johnson Controls sold the Uniloy/Plastics Machinery Division in September 1998 to Cincinnati Milacron, Inc. for approximately \$210 million.

## 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