



# 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. 18, NO. 2 / Summer 2011

### NEXT QUARTERLY LUNCHEON THURSDAY, July 21, 2011

#### April 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: \$12.00

#### Menu Selection

- Swedish Meatballs over rice
- Chef's Salad

Please let us know of any dietary restrictions when making your reservation.

**Program:** Milwaukee in 1900  
Madams, Marxists and Mad Men

The history of Milwaukee when it was known as the most corrupt city in the United States.

**Speaker:** Prof. Stephen K. Hauser  
History Professor at Marquette

Professor Hauser has been teaching history courses at Marquette, MATC and UWM for over 30 years

He is a fifth generation Milwaukee resident. His great-great-grandfather owned one of the first blacksmith shops. His mother's family ran Bloedel's Jewelry for over 100 years.

Be sure to send your reservation and Menu Selection by Wednesday July 13<sup>th</sup> to

Sharlene Wardinski  
3656 S 82<sup>nd</sup> St  
Milwaukee WI 53220  
Phone 414-543-6414

Glen Ponczak joined Johnson Controls in 1988, and has served in a number of communication roles at the corporate level as well as with the company's Building Efficiency Business.

In 2010 Johnson Controls was selected as the "Best IR Company" in the auto sector by both buy-side and sell-side analysts in Institutional Investor Magazine's annual survey.

In the same issue Glen was personally selected as the "Best IR Professional" in the auto sector by both the buy-side and sell-side.

What is the difference between a buy-side and sell-side?

Sell-siders don't buy and sell stock. Their research reports influence the perception and valuation of a company and set public earnings expectations.

Buy-side firms are the actual buyers of the stock.



# The President's Page



Who Do You Think You Are? is an NBC TV show in which a celebrity's family roots are traced (with great help) with some surprising discovery about an ancestor. Some people would have no interest in doing that for fear of what they might turn up. But for many of us, it has been an exciting hobby, especially in retirement when we can spend more time on it.

Karen and I have been working on our family trees sporadically for about 15 years. It has produced many interesting stories. Well, just like family pictures, they are interesting to us and some (not all) family members, but probably not to anyone else.

Unfortunately, it seems that family trees and family history are generally more important to older rather than to younger people. When I began working on my family tree, I had no living parents or grandparents from whom to get information. While the resources are available to construct our family trees, family stories are often lost if not written down.

It is very helpful to use software to record the information. We use Family Tree Maker. Not only does it provide an orderly method for recording the data, it can be used to produce numerous types of reports. For example, the kinship report alphabetically lists every relative and shows how you are related to each one.

The obvious place to begin is to get information from family members. My mother had clipped and saved obituaries from which I was able to glean information. Census data, the Social Security Death Index, cemetery records, passenger ship lists, immigration and naturalization records, church records and family trees produced by others are some examples of sources available on the internet. We have also used the Newberry Library in Chicago, the Wisconsin State Historical Society in Madison, the Family History Library in Hales Corners, WI as well as historical/genealogical societies that are local to the areas where relatives were born, married or died.

As you work back on your ancestor tree, each time you discover a female grandparent, you have a new surname to investigate. (I now know of **25** grandparent surnames.) Then for each grandparent, a descendant tree can be produced, all of which will be your relatives. For me, this resulted in the picture on this page of Karen and me with relatives found in Bingen, Germany. We are holding the flag of Ostfriesland, which is the part of Germany from which my great grandfather John Froehling immigrated to the US in 1872.

While the ancestral part of the tree is interesting to research, for me the most exciting part has been finding living relatives which I did not previously know. We have had the opportunity to meet a number of them. The research work has also prompted us to get reacquainted with many relatives we already knew but had little or no contact with for many years.

If you are not already into learning your family history, perhaps this column will spark some interest. Regardless of your interest in your own family history, you will for sure be interested in the history of our founder, Warren S. Johnson. That will be the topic at a forthcoming quarterly luncheon meeting. Look for more to come!

# FIELD REPORTS

## DOUG DECKER, South Carolina

### Dreams take wing

By Roger Greene - Coastal Observer

Kelli Blankenship liked the sense of acceleration before takeoff. Her brother Jim favored the bird's-eye view that only an airplane can provide.

"I want to be involved in aeronautics and one day have my own company," Jim, 13, said. "The program is a great experience." "I wanted to study electrical engineering," said Kelli, 16. "But once I started flying, I changed my mind. I really love being in the air."

The Young Eagles program started in 1993 with a goal of taking a million students worldwide on their first flight before 2003, the 100th anniversary of the Wright brothers' initial flight. The program, which is sponsored by the Experimental Aircraft Association, met its goal and proved so popular among young people that it has continued operations.

Chuck Yeager and Harrison Ford have been among the national chairmen for the Young Eagles, but the students at the airport were more taken with Dan Drost and Doug Decker, the two pilots who were present on Wednesday.

Drost received his pilot's license in 1964 and is a retired flight test engineer. He has run the Young Eagles program in Georgetown County for the last five years. Decker is a retired executive from Johnson Controls, who learned to fly, to better cover his expansive sales territory in Utah.

"I'll always remember the first time I soloed," Decker told the students as they gathered in one of the airport's lounges. "We went out on the runway. Then my instructor got out and said, 'You're going by yourself. Go around the pattern and land.' I was nervous, but I did it. After I finished, it was like, 'Wow, I just flew that thing.'"

Drost believes that same sense of wonder is what drives interest in the Young Eagles program.

"We want to get kids out from behind their computers and show them there is a whole world out there," Drost said. "We've had a lot of students who have taken their first flight with us and have gone on to be involved in the aeronautics industry. We want to see more of that."

Drost flew a two-seat vintage British Chipmunk during Wednesday's demonstration while Decker piloted a five-seat Beechcraft Bonanza.

While the Blankenships had flown with Drost before, it was their first time in Decker's plane. "Flying in the [Bonanza] is a different experience," Jim said. "It's a very different feel, and there is a lot more space."

Due to its history though, the Chipmunk remained the most popular with students. "It's a classic," Kelli said. "When you first sit down, you feel kind of squashed. But once you get used to it, you are OK. And I love going down the runway to take off. You can feel the acceleration, and when you take off, it feels like you are part of the plane."

Wednesday's flight patterns took students over parts of Murrells Inlet, Litchfield, Pawleys Island and Georgetown.

"You have a view no one else does," Jim Blankenship said. "It's beautiful."

"Everything looks so small," Kelli Blankenship said. "I really like going over Georgetown. When you're on the ground, it seems so disorganized the way the traffic is coming and going. But when you are in the air and looking down, it seems so organized and planned out."



## FIELD REPORTS CONTINUED

### Lou Davit - Milwaukee

Some of the old Johnson tennis players might like to know that four of their old teammates are still playing Wednesday evenings during the summer. Dick Stevens, Pete Murray, and Lou Davit are all retired and Chuck Augustin is still an active JCI employee keeping our pension going. They still play at Wick Field courts on Vliet Street, the "home" courts for the JCI Club since the middle 70s and the JCI Teams that played there from 1979 to 1991. In the early days they stopped at the Field House after matches, today the cool down spot is at O'Brien's Pub, across the street from the courts. (Wednesday night is \$4.00 giant taco night.) Johnson Controls had a championship history, beating out teams with high caliber players in the Milwaukee Industrial League, receiving trophies and awards at the end-of-season banquet at Allen Bradley.



Pictured is the 1982 Team with Steve Thompson and Lou Davit holding the League Major Division team trophy and with their individual trophies, from left to right: V. Vairavan, Larry Gannon, Mike Kafka, Ned Shattuck, Ron Caffrey, Jack Vierheilig, John Lacey and Joe Dorr.

## Lou Davit - Milwaukee [cont'd]

Other members of JCI Teams through the years were: Bill Bailey, Tom Barley, Bob Borchert, Brian Bould, Milt Bradley, Doug Decker, Dennis Francis, Rick Graichen, Rick Grenzer, Paul Gundrum, John Kennedy, Doug Knutzen, Warren Lederman, Dan Ludwig, Ron Matelski, Mike McLean, Keith Paroubek, Tom Parris, Roger Resek, Frank Scheer, Jeff Schmitt, Bob Schroeder, Fred Schutte, Tom Wanvig and Dick Wilson.

All these players were in the League Major Division, but for a while, Johnson also had a team in the Minor, Ace and a Women's Division.

Lots of good memories, lots of laughs, and it's still happening.



The picture of the four old guys celebrating at O'Brien's on a Wednesday last summer is Chuck Augustin, Pete Murray, Dick Stevens and Lou Davit.



## **BARBARA HELGESEN - Milwaukee**

**RECIPES OF THE FAMOUS - Celebrity Chef Chat Jeannine Colla**

Just in case you missed the May 4, 2011 CUE section of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, our own Jeannine Colla was pictured and written up very nicely. We, Joan Damato, Don and Ester Kazmierczak, Alice Voight and Barb Helgesen, went to hear Jeannine speak at the Next Chapter Bookshop in Mequon at 7 pm. It was delightful and it was very interesting on how she went about getting the recipes. Afterwards she signed her book called *Dents De Lion*, Teeth of the Lion, A collection of Recipes from Distinguished Individuals. So as you can see, retirement isn't just a time to sit around and twiddle your thumbs.

Jeannine did a lot of research (no pun) and mailings to individuals such as W.R Hearst, Jr., Jose' Ferrer, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Jerry Lewis, Joan Crawford, just to name a few. I must explain that this book took quite some time to compile and it was a long-term work project because of her fascination of cooking. As you will find by looking through the book some of the personalities are no longer with us. Jeannine can get you a copy by calling her at home (262-387-0487) or copies are available at the Next Chapter Bookstore, in Mequon, WI



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

This Society is dedicated to providing meaningful services to the retirees of Johnson Controls, Inc. 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.

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***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:***

Erica Wolfe  
Newsletter Editor  
5207 Robinwood Lane  
Hales Corners, WI 53130  
414/425-8407  
E-mail: [ericawolfe@yahoo.com](mailto:ericawolfe@yahoo.com)



*In Remembrance*

**Jim Schutta** passed away April 5, 2011 after a long battle with cancer. Survived by his loving wife Mary Jane, who resides in North Carolina.



**PUNS FOR EDUCATED MINDS**

1. The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
2. A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.
3. No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
4. A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
5. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
6. Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused Novocain during a root canal? His goal: transcendental medication.
7. A backward poet writes inverse.
8. Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.
9. A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.
10. There was the person who sent ten puns to friends, with the hope that at least one of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did.



## From the archives...

A Johnson Controls press release from **May 5, 1987** announced the company's part in the \$160 million renovation of Ellis Island into a National Park Service museum dedicated to immigration. Touted at the time as the "world's largest historic renovation project," the restoration of the Ellis Island buildings included a \$1.6 million company installation featuring a JC/85 Facilities Management System. The system monitored and controlled HVAC, lighting, fire, security, and energy use for Ellis Island's Main Building and powerhouse facility. "The immigrants did not have the benefits of this technology," said Steven Gologorsky, Ellis Island project manager for Johnson Controls. "The sophisticated climate controls should keep the [future] visitors in the comfort zone no matter what season it is." Ellis Island served as the point of entry into the United States for some 17 million immigrants between 1892 and 1954. After the immigration station closed, the buildings fell into disrepair and were all but abandoned. Attempts at redeveloping the site were unsuccessful until its landmark status was established. On October 15, 1965, Ellis Island was proclaimed a part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument and it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places the following year. The Island was opened to the public on a limited basis between 1976 and 1984, when the restoration project was begun. The

Main Building was reopened to the public on September 10, 1990 as the Ellis Island Immigration Museum. Today, the Museum receives almost 2 million visitors annually.



**PHOTO CAPTION:** The second Ellis Island Immigration Station (shown here in 1905) was opened in 1900 after the first Immigration Station was destroyed by fire. The Johnson Electric Service Company (as Johnson Controls was known then) installed \$1,750 worth of temperature regulation equipment in the Second Immigration Station in 1899.

## 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 over 500 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).

## 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

