



# 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. 4 / Winter 2007

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

**October 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

- Ranch style Swiss steak
- Broiled cod

Program: Past, Present, and Future of Aging  
Speaker: David A. Doyle

David Doyle of Brookfield is a former Milwaukee Radio Talk Show Host for 13 ½ years. He won a first place National Award for his monthly column "In Person with David Doyle" in 50 Plus News Magazine of Southeastern Wisconsin. The North American Publishers Association sponsored the competition. 42 member's newspapers submitted 253 entries in 29 categories.

Doyle, who began the column in February of this year, won in the category of "Senior Issues". Judges' comments:  
*"Thoughtful insights into the human condition mark this entry. Poignant observations make for interesting reading."*



Send reservations with menu selection and payment by Wednesday January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008 to

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

#### 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).



When John Enright did his presentation regarding Lighthouses he didn't have to pepper his presentation with salty language to keep everyone awake. His enthusiasm and knowledge kept everyone alert.

John alerted us to the fact the Lighthouse and Keepers Quarters in Milwaukee's Lake Park was being renovated and will be ready for visitors this fall.

There was a very nice article and pictures in the Journal/Sentinal if anyone missed it, so you have a chance to visit any time.

The pictures that John showed made you want to go and visit some of the lighthouses and actually see how people lived. It was not an easy life for the light keeper or the family. There were thousands of unpaid workers, and the ones who were paid made \$600.00 dollars a year.

But guess what ladies..... when the men were gone the wives took over. Sound familiar?



# The President's Page

*Messages from Tom Parris*



Engineers are different..... just ask my wife. When I retired, I assumed most of the house cleaning duties since my young wife continued to teach. Having been taught to be efficient and reduce labor, I purchased a lot of the latest cleaning tools (specialized vacuum cleaners, Swiffer long handle dusters, Scum Buster, Mr. Clean sponge erasers, micro cloth glass cleaners, etc.).

I was cleaning the bathtubs/showers with my Black & Decker rechargeable Scum Buster. It still was my most hated job. One day I purchased a long handled Clorox Bath Wand with triangular soap filled disposable pads. Cleaning the tub/shower now takes less than five minutes. I take a shower with my Bath Wand, a plastic cup, and a squeegee. I scrub the tub/shower with the Bath Wand, fill the plastic cup a few times and splash down the walls, then use the squeegee. Nice and fast, no mess, no fuss but weird!

Here it comes..... Politicians do not look at the world like engineers. They talk about reducing health care costs and present all kinds of payment shifting, price control, and Government intervention proposals that have absolutely no relationship to cost reduction. Their proposals would add tens of thousands of bureaucrats to the industry and they have the lunacy to call that cost reduction. Politicians seem to prefer Ponzi Schemes like having young people's taxes subsidize the health care and retirement of us old guys.

JCI's Jim Greb was a really good manager. One of his favorite Value Engineering / Cost Reduction tools was the Pareto chart. Individual task costs are measured and listed in descending order. In almost all cases, 20% of the tasks account for 80% of the total cost. You beat on

those 20% until significant changes are made. None of the politician's proposals cite individual task or procedure costs. You and I have never seen a detailed list of costs (only billings). Most Doctors have never seen the real costs of individual tasks. That's sad.

We are told that liability insurance is a big factor. I made some simplistic calculations that lead me to believe that liability insurance costs the Doctor about \$50 for each 15-minute office visit. We are told that Doctors prescribe numerous unneeded tests and visits to specialists in order to avoid liability claims. Some of us make a decision to avoid discussing a minor symptom because we don't want to take another unneeded and costly test. Most of us take the tests because "insurance pays the bill". Antiquated medical record keeping has ballooned because of the legal need to keep perfect audit trails. Costs have also escalated because exotic treatments and procedures are now available to keep us alive. Time was when we had a bad knee, we were told to take two aspirin and live with it. Now we have the offending knee replaced. Once the Government gets total control over health care, new advancements will cease and care will be allocated. In socialized Great Britain, you currently wait 18 weeks to see a specialist to diagnose your knee; then wait another two years to get it replaced. I played tennis this fall with a player who brought his father to the US from Great Britain five years ago because he could not get a cancer treatment. They deemed him "terminal". He paid for treatment in the US and is doing great. Will you accept a no treatment / terminal diagnosis from a US Government health care system?

At our September 11<sup>th</sup>, Larry Petricek was elected to fill the board position vacated by June Doboy. Welcome aboard Larry. The July 17, 2008 Luncheon will be our annual meeting and election of officers. The President's position could use some new ideas and energy so I ask that you consider volunteering to become a candidate for my position or one of our other positions. Give it a thought and give me a call (623) 433-8936.

Remember that September 19 and 20 of 2008 are the dates for our biennial reunion.

Also remember that we have an Email address for you to ask us questions or make suggestions.

**[It is WSJsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:WSJsociety@yahoo.com)**

# FIELD REPORTS

## An Update from Doug & Judy Decker

We are getting more involved with our community here on Pawleys Island, SC and have started playing golf, so we have gradually become land lubbers!

Instead of returning to Marmaris Turkey, we had our sailboat, *Limerence*, shipped back to the USA. It's been quite an adventure to live on *Limerence* since April 1998 and travel through many countries. Our favorites? Every place has something unique to offer, but it's hard to beat the San Blas Islands in Panama for beautiful water and exotic culture. The Kuna Indians are very fascinating people. We spent three months anchoring among the islands and enjoying true "island" life without the things we take for granted - like laundries and grocery stores.

Once we got to Europe, the highlights were spending seven months in Barcelona and even more time in Rome. We eventually passed through the Messina Straits past Sicily, around the "boot" of Italy and north through the Adriatic. We eventually sailed through the Greek Islands to Bodrum Turkey. The countries we saw were so rich in culture and history. It's hard to imagine a more beautiful place than St. Jean Cap Ferrat in France or the Island of Capri across from Naples Italy. The final conclusion after Greece and Turkey was exploring the city of Istanbul on the way back to the States.

We are settled in our home, about 90 minutes north of Charleston. Please consider stopping to visit as you travel along the east coast by car or boat! Have a great holiday season and stay in touch!! Best wishes,

Judy and Doug Decker  
23 Gleneagle Lane  
Pawleys Island, SC 29585  
Phone: 843 235 0491  
Cell: 843 318 2847

## Jerry Bell Reports

I will be retiring from JCI at the end of March 2008. This is the time frame I've been planning on for a couple of years. I will complete 44 years with JCI March 9, 2008. JCI has been very good to me and my family for a very long time. This mutually beneficial relationship has allowed me to truly live the American Dream.

I plan to continue to work in a variety of community service activities, but with more time flexibility and more time for travel (the non-business type!).

- \* I'll continue activity in the longest tenured service club in Lubbock; The Rotary Club of Lubbock
- \* I've served on the City of Lubbock Planning and Zoning Commission for a few years and I will be Chairman starting in 2008. I'll continue to serve on other boards and commissions with the city if requested/appointed.
- \* I'll increase my activity on the Texas Tech University College of Education Dean's Council.
- \* I'll expand my fund raising activity on the Garrison Society committee. Garrison is a nursing home with a teaching affiliation to the Texas Tech med school and has an Alzheimer's Unit.
- \* I will do some more Junior Achievement classroom teaching in Lubbock ISD.
- \* I will volunteer for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate). They are in great need of volunteer advocates, especially males. This program provides people to represent abused and neglected children in the court system. If you have a local chapter please consider this as one way to give back in your community. For more details on CASA see.... <http://www.lubbockcasa.org/>
- \* I'll be more politically active in local elections.
- \* I'll continue to run and work out as long as my body allows. I plan to run 10 miles on my 100<sup>th</sup> birthday!

# FIELD REPORTS

## **Blast from the Past**

***Monitoring the Field, October 1969***

### **WHO'S WHO ON FACTORY ROW**

John A. Enright is Manager of Fluidic Sales and, as such, is responsible for the marketing of our Impact Modulator fluidic control devices for industrial applications

The basic function of this department is to sell fluidic products nationally, and to contact potential users for control of machine tools, materials handling equipment, packaging equipment, processes, and office machines.

John asks one request of the field: "Problems sometimes arise when customers contact the local Johnson office for information on fluidic products. Please refer them to the Fluidic Products Department at the factory in Milwaukee, bearing in mind that this potential customer probably is totally unfamiliar with our company and the many aspects of our business."

A brief look at John's record will illustrate his aptitude for fluidics. He graduated from Marquette University in Milwaukee with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and then went on to graduate school at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, where he



**John A. Enright  
Manager, Fluidic Sales**

earned a masters degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is currently working on his M.B.A. at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee.

John started with Johnson in 1958 as a co-op trainee. After completing school and serving as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army, he rejoined Johnson in 1965. He is married and has three children. His hobbies are home improvements, tennis, and swimming. He is a member of A.S.M.E. and the Physics Club of Milwaukee.

## **Dennis Miller [Research Dept.] retires from JCI**



Kasim Sinnamohideen speaking at Dennis Miller's retirement party, October 2007



Carol Lomonoco and Dennis Miller at the get together held at Joey Buono's in Milwaukee

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



New member Frank Kuczkowski

Other first timers:

Dennis Ulicny, Janice Peters, Barb Ostrowski  
*[Photos hopefully in the next issue!]*



### 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:

## February 12, 2008

### MARK YOUR 2008 CALENDAR

#### MILWAUKEE LUNCHEONS:

January 17<sup>th</sup>

April 17<sup>th</sup>

July 17<sup>th</sup>

Biennial Reunion: September 19 & 20



## Groaners

Consciousness:

That annoying time between naps.

Ever stop to think,  
and forget to start again?

Wrinkled was not one of the things I  
wanted to be when I grew up

Ham and eggs  
A day's work for a chicken,  
a lifetime commitment for a pig

Nothing is foolproof to a sufficiently  
talented fool.

**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
Larry Petricek	Erica Wolfe, ExOfficio

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

Bonnie Lenz, Treasurer  
8240 E. Wind Lake Rd.  
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(262) 895-2065  
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Following is a new column for the Retirees Newsletter entitled "JCI Memories".

Thank you to John Donovan for the brainchild and first submission. Reach back into your memory and send me some of your favorite JCI Memories! Mail to the above address or email to [ericawolfe@yahoo.com](mailto:ericawolfe@yahoo.com)



## *JCI Memories*

*Submitted by John Donovan  
Part I*

I joined Johnson in 1963. At the time, I equated engineering with inventing, and privately, I wondered about my ability to *invent*. Somewhere along the line, I learned about the Creative Problem Solving Institute at the State University of New York at Buffalo. In 1964, I asked to attend the one week CPSI course. While there, it was suggested that we, the attendees, test the receptivity of our organizations to new ideas by suggesting some off-the-wall ideas.

Johnson had the perfect test vehicle - double blind suggestion system. That meant that two different secretaries separately coded all the suggestions so that the person having to respond to the suggestion did not know who was making the suggestion. At the time, there was a little patch of dirt between the entrance to the "well" executive parking lot and the American Appraisal building driveway on Jackson Street. There was a little tree planted in that patch of soil which was not doing well. There was also a spigot on the northeast corner of the JCI building. So I put in a suggestion saying, "It's a nice little tree [kind of Charlie Brownish], why doesn't somebody water it?"

Some time later, I received the response to my suggestion which said, in essence, the soil in which that tree is planted is so polluted with oil and the like and the air is so fouled with exhaust fumes that nothing can grow there. I replied, again behind a cloud of anonymity, "Then why are the dandelions growing around the tree doing so well? Why doesn't someone water the little tree?" A few days later, as I walked in from the employee parking lot (which, as I recall, was in a different ZIP code), I noticed maintenance worker Tom Machin watering the tree. I smiled quietly and went on in silence.

The tree got a couple more waterings over the course of a few days. Then one Monday morning, as I was coming in to work, I noticed that over the weekend, a car had jumped the curb and sheared off the tree. In a short while, the small plot of dirt was replaced with concrete, and I was left to wonder whether Tom had sheared off the tree, or whether it was Les Neuens of the Personnel Department whose job it was to respond to all the off the wall suggestions.



# From the archives...

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin

On December 4, 1894, the Johnson Electric Service Company (Johnson Controls' original name) contracted with the city of Milwaukee to provide a heating regulation system for the new City Hall. The contract, at \$4,972, was one of the company's largest up until that time. The origins of the new City Hall took form in the late 1880s. After a fire destroyed the former City Hall, the Milwaukee Common Council authorized the sale of \$1.25 million in bonds to finance the land acquisition and construction of the Flemish Renaissance style building. The original cost of the building was \$945,311 – plus an additional \$71,624 for fixtures and furniture. City Hall, at 393 feet, was the third tallest building in the United States upon its completion in 1895, and remained the tallest in Milwaukee until 1973. In 1896, the Johnson Electric Service Company also received a contract for the clock in the building's clock tower. Designed by company founder Warren Johnson, the clock was controlled by a master clock located on the building's third floor. The master clock sent out pneumatic impulses through lead piping to the tower clock's mechanism which, in turn, moved the hands on the four fifteen-foot clock faces and actuated a mechanism which struck the City Hall bell. The original pneumatic system was replaced by an electric one in 1922. City Hall was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 2005 and is currently undergoing a major restoration.

Milwaukee City Hall is depicted on this circa 1910 Johnson Service Company promotional postcard:



## 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