

# 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. 4 Winter 2011

### NEXT QUARTERLY LUNCHEON THURSDAY, January 19, 2012

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

- Baked stuffed pork chop
- Baked cod

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

#### **Program: First Impressions: The Life and Times of Eleanor Roosevelt**

As the Second World War ended, America experienced the loss of its stalwart leader, President Franklin Roosevelt. After thirteen years as First Lady, Eleanor Roosevelt hoped to retire and perhaps write her memoirs. Today we will hear about some of her tragedies and triumphs.

#### **Speaker: Jessica Michna**

Originally from Pennsylvania, Jessica developed a love of American history at an early age, visiting the many Revolutionary and Civil War sites in the area. Her love of both history and the theater was encouraged by an older brother. She was offered a scholarship to the Goodman School of Theater in Chicago. After raising a family of four daughters she earned a degree in Psychology from the UW and worked in healthcare, research, and as a teaching assistant. Finally Jessica was able to return to her great loves: history and theater. The result is "First Impressions".

Be sure to send your reservation and menu selection by Wednesday January 11<sup>th</sup> to  
Sharlene Wardinski  
3656 S 82<sup>nd</sup> St  
Milwaukee WI. 53220  
Phone 414-543-6414

#### October program

*Report by Sharlene Wardinski*

Mr. Earl Strandt has been doing presentations over five years for AARP. This includes latest known scams but also voluntary tax preparations. AARP is a great resource for Help Lines and Resource numbers. They can recommend which agency will be best suited for you.

For Investment and Financial Fraud you can contact the Wisconsin Dept. of Financial Institutions (800) 472-4325 or contact the Better Business Bureau at (800)273-1002.

If your wallet is stolen, contact the local police dept. and file a report; keep a copy. Contact your local DMV if your license was in your wallet.

If your social security card was in your wallet, contact Social Security Admin. at (800)772-1213 and the Federal Trade Commission: (877)438-4338

Next call the three credit bureaus. Place a "Fraud Alert" on your account. .

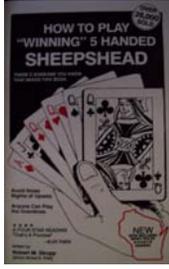
Equifax	(800) 525-6285
Experian	(800) 397-3742
Transunion	(800) 680-7289

Monitor your credit card bills. For free Annual Credit Report: (877) 322-8228

Fraudsters take advantage during the holiday season and during natural disasters. Be mindful of information you give out over the phone.



# The President's Page



What did you do during lunch hour (45 minutes) at JCI? Leave the building for lunch at a restaurant? Go for a walk or run? Read a book? Take a nap? Chat with co-workers? Keep working?

I was one of the brown-baggers who played sheepshead for most of my nearly 40 years at JCI. When I joined the company in 1962, I had never played the game. R&D was on the 7<sup>th</sup> floor of the American Appraisal building and there were two sheepshead games that took place each lunch period: the penny game in the library on the northeast corner of the floor and the nickel game in the drafting area on the southeast corner of the floor.

When not playing cribbage with Miles Bachand, Frank Esser, George Kossel, Carolyn Rehfeldt, Judy Wisniewski or Wayne Kochheiser, I usually watched the penny game. The regular players in that game as I remember were Ed Ehlke (favorite expression “sacrebleu”), Tom Lechner, Paul Sorenson, Ed Majeski and Lou Atkinson. After watching the game for many months, I occasionally sat in as a player when another body was needed.

The nickel game already had a long history at the time I arrived. The regulars then were Rollie Dehmlow, Mike Kutz, Dick Fitzgerald, Bob Peterson and Jim Thompson. Regular kibitzers were Art Hansen and Phil MacAvaney. Art's favorite expression was “You play like a sausage.” Phil seldom said anything. He just ate his canned grasshoppers or beetles and sometimes sat in the game when a player was needed.

The players in the penny game started playing while they were eating their lunches, while the players in the nickel game always ate first and then began playing. (I don't know why.)

The protocol for the nickel game had long been established. Each month, players drew for position at the table. That determined the players' positions for the entire month. Each day of the week the deal began at a particular position. In R&D, a bell sounded the beginning of lunch break, a warning that 3 minutes were left, and then another at the end of lunch break. When the final bell rang, if the first card of the fourth trick had not hit the table, the hand did not count and everyone threw in their cards. It made for interesting strategies. Whenever someone got no-tricked, he was dubbed “Mr. President” until the next time someone was no-tricked. Mike Kutz had the ritual of spinning in his chair to change his luck.

The big winner each day contributed a nickel to the “kitty” which was kept by Bob Peterson. After a considerable amount was accumulated in it, a sheepshead party for those who had played in the game would be held. In my recollection, Dick Fitzgerald was the only one who had hosted the party, although it might have been at our house once.

I became a regular in the game when one day Jim Thompson in disgust threw in his cards for good after a run of bad luck. After Bob mysteriously disappeared, Mike became treasurer and introduced monthly financial and statistical reports. Later I succeeded Mike and continued the monthly reports.

With the move of R&D to 507 and the change in players over the years, much of the protocol disappeared. Many others, including many of you reading this, became participants in the game. Sorry I could not mention everyone. I enjoyed the game very much and particularly the camaraderie with all the players. Unfortunately I have not had the opportunity to play another hand of sheepshead since the day before I retired in March, 2002.

# FIELD REPORTS

## "GOIN' SOUTH AT WINTERTIME"

By Barb Helgesen

In the winter months many of us get 'cabin fever'. So, thank goodness for computers and the Internet we can do something. Through some research, the name of Gulf Shores, Alabama came up with condos for rent during the winter months by owners.

Needless to say, a card to owner, a down payment and a decision to go South was perfect. We packed up the van, put in the golf clubs and packed the bird's food/cage and took off.

The trip was a pretty long one, so we broke up the distance a bit by stopping at Tunica, MS. The Hotel/Casino of Harrah's welcomed us and the bird too. We stayed a day and half (casinos were checked out too). Then we continued to Gulf Shores.

The place we chose was Emerald Greens, the condo and nine holes golf course with a cart that surrounds the condos were part of the package. We unpack and then went out to explore Gulf Shores, Orange Beach and the restaurants. We had been here before, but since the 'Oil Spill' we had to check out the area again. It was okay and worth the trip.

We had been members of the Wisconsin Snobirds Club before, so we went to the club meeting that was located at the Orange Beach, Chanel Road. We saw old friends and made new ones. The Sheepshead club was still in existence on Fridays and other events were announced and available to sign up for too. There were speakers available like Bart Starr, a personal talk about Father Flannigan's Home for Boys, Seeing Eye Dogs, a talk about the future of the new Zoo, etc. at the meetings.

There were bus tours that went to Biloxi, Mobile for casinos, tours of homes, the Cirque D' Soleil (Flying acrobats) and the Bellingrath Gardens. We also went to Pensacola to see the Tim Conway show and the Dog Track. We golfed on a golf course in the area too and afterwards went to McGuire's Irish Pub for a meal. What a place! Dollar bills hanging from the ceiling, great food and a fun place. I believe we have gone to more restaurants in the areas than the residents who have been there for a number of years. It was an adventure in good food and fun.

There were festivals, Mardi Gras parades in close areas, an Art Show in Fairhope, a Barbeque Taster's event where I got to sign my name as a cancer survivor on a Pink Fire Truck. There was also the Casino in Altoona (Wind Creek, 75 miles away) that was good. Most golf courses available with coupons with special prices for Snobirds.

The planned trip back to Wisconsin was a different way. We stopped at French Lick, Ind. We enjoyed driving over to the Donald Ross and Pete Dye's golf courses. Wow! Maybe sometime.... Oh yes, there was also the West Baden Spring Resort, the Carlsbad of America, that just took your breath away. It was like going back into the Past when you looked around the grounds. We then entered the large building w/gothic statues around the inside room, a large fireplace and facilities available for residents. We had breakfast and enjoyed everything. If you have never been here you really it would be worthwhile to see. They will celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Also on this trip as the one before, I wrote a travel log and a daily journal of all the events which will be part of my talk at the Villa St Francis, an Independent & Assisted Living resident this October. As I am a volunteer and help with some activities, I will show a DVD, give a talk and give out Mardi Gras beads that I brought back from Gulf Shores for the residents.



# FIELD REPORTS - CONTINUED

## Neil DeVries - Milwaukee

We would like to remind you that the Johnson Controls Foundation matches the personal gifts of employees, retirees and members of the Board of Directors of Johnson Controls, Inc. and the Advisory Board of the Johnson Controls Foundation on a one-for-one basis at a minimum of \$50 and a maximum of \$5,000 per individual, per organization, per year, to the following categories of non-profit organizations: Culture and the Arts; Education.

If you need JCI matching forms, they are available on the retirees section of the website. Go to:

[www.johnsoncontrols.com](http://www.johnsoncontrols.com) and click on "About Us". On the left side of the site, click on "Our People", and then click on "Our Retirees", and finally "Company Resources"

## Jim Gissing

Jim Gissing's wife, Esther, sent a note:

*Jim enjoys the JCI newsletter although there are not too many names that are familiar.*

*He has very limited vision now and enjoys listening to audio books and following sports. He especially enjoys Kentucky basketball on the radio or TV and GO PACKERS!!!*

*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all.*

*Esther & Jim Gissing*

## John Enright – Membership Cmte.

Photos from the recent Board Meeting  
[captions by Enright]



President Paul Froehling smiles in order to appear that he is neutral or even somewhat agreeable to the motion on the table---that he really doesn't like. Paul is a fine President.



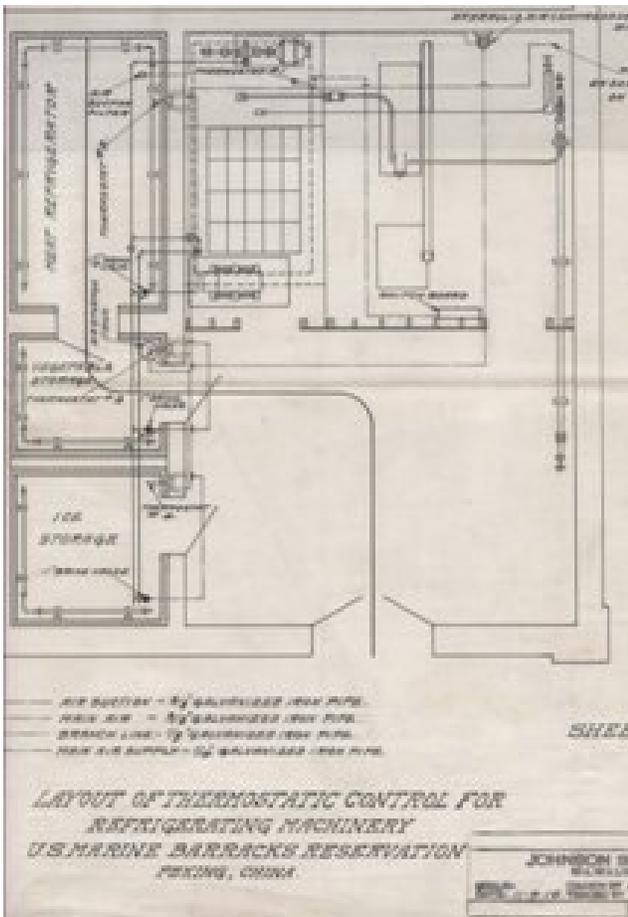
Larry Petricek, copes with a high technology 110 Volt outlet at JCI corporate in order to propose some musicians for the September 2012 Biannual Reunion. Secretary Ron Kuta is processing his decision as to whether this "stuff" is worthy of being put into the minutes.



**Front row:** John Enright, Kasim Sinnamohideen, Brian Bould, Paul Froehling  
**Standing:** Larry Petricek, Neil DeVries, Bonnie Lenz, Ron Kuta, John Meyer.

## Temperature control installation in China, November 9, 1916

The Qing Dynasty had fallen only five years earlier. The Republic of China was in its infancy. And Johnson Controls was there! A drawing (shown below) dated **November 9, 1916**, for "thermostatic control" for refrigerating machinery at the U. S. Marine barracks in Peking (now Beijing) provides evidence of the first known Johnson Service Co. (as Johnson Controls was then known) temperature control installation in China. Several thermostats controlled the temperature of refrigerators designated for ice, meat and vegetable storage.



## First Time Attendee to the quarterly Luncheon held October 2011



Linda Adrian



## October Luncheon Speaker Mr. Earl Strandt



**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.

**OFFICERS:**

Paul Froehling, President  
John Enright, VP-Membership  
Sharlene Wardinski, VP-Program  
Bonnie Lenz, Treasurer  
Ron Kuta, Secretary

**DIRECTORS:**

Neil DeVries                      Kasim Sinnamohideen  
Carol Lomonaco                John Meyer  
Paul Froehling                 Larry Petricek  
Brian Bould  
Erica Wolfe, ExOfficio

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## In Remembrance

**George Warner** passed away October 17<sup>th</sup> at the age of 98. Formerly a manager in the manufacturing area at Johnson Controls.

**Mike Kutz** passed away October 15<sup>th</sup> at the age of 89. He worked as an engineer in Milwaukee for over 30 years. Mike rarely missed our quarterly retiree luncheons.

**Tom Huebner** lost his courageous battle to cancer on November 15<sup>th</sup> at the age of 66. He is survived by his wife Ordella and children Jolene and Jason and their families.

## Reminder

### Annual Membership Dues

At the request of the Membership Committee, the Executive Committee summarized the facts as to when annual dues are payable.

The membership year begins on January 1. Dues are payable on December 31<sup>st</sup> of the previous year and are in arrears after Jan 31<sup>st</sup>. This is merely to state when dues payments are expected. There is no threat of dropping any member from the membership roster on January 31<sup>st</sup>.

We have compassion for members that have various financial situations which may prevent making payment within the specific timeframe.

This applies only to members who pay dues annually, not to Life Members or Associate Members (surviving spouses of life members).





## From the archives...

Johnson Controls purchased time for two company commercials to air during Super Bowl XX, which took place on **January 26, 1986**. The ads ran during the first and second quarters of the game. One ad featured the company's lighting and control system for the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans where the game was played. Johnson Controls' hot air balloon "Performance 1" played a prominent role in both commercials. The company, which advertised on television for the first time during the 1984 Summer Olympics, would go on to run the ads during Super Bowl XXI in 1987. While the commercials were aimed at potential customers for the company's building control systems and services, they also served to heighten the public's recognition of a company that had traditionally kept a relatively low public profile. Pre- and post-event surveys showed that Super Bowl XX advertising boosted awareness of the company name by 17%. Of those surveyed, awareness of the company name rose from 46% prior to the 1984 Summer Olympics commercials to 63% following Super Bowl XX. By the way, Super Bowl XX was won by the Chicago Bears, 46-10, over the New England Patriots.



Johnson Controls' hot air balloon "Performance 1" was featured in TV commercials that ran during Super Bowl XX in January 1986.

## 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

