

Warren S. Johnson Society of Retirees, Inc.

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

www.johnsoncontrols.com/retirees

NEWSLETTER

VOL. 19, NO. 2 / Spring 2012

March program

Report by John Enright

NEXT QUARTERLY LUNCHEON THURSDAY, July 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

- Deep fried breaded shrimp
- Breaded pork tenderloin, gravy and vegetables

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

Program: JCI Stories

Everyone has stories about people or happenings during their days at JCI. Your story might be funny, appreciative or just remembrance of a colleague. Following the brief election meeting, we'll have an opportunity to share stories. It could even be "show and tell" if one has some relic to show. If you have a story and your boss won't give you time off to come and tell it, write it and we'll get someone to read it.

Be sure to send your reservation and menu selection by Wednesday, July 11, 2012 to:

Sharlene Wardinski
3656 South 82nd Street
Milwaukee WI 53220
Phone 414-543-6414

Checks should be made payable to:
W.S. JOHNSON SOCIETY OF RETIREES

The speaker at our March luncheon was accordionist Beverly White Persa



Oldies but goodies filled the air as Beverly White Persa brought songs out of the past—including the 1940's—and played requests as well. Beverly had played at the Bavarian Inn for ten years before the restaurant closed. Beverly sat down on a stool to make great music with her 52 pound accordion on her lap.

Interestingly, the young audience of retirees seemed to remember the words from songs of the 1940's more than any other decade. Everyone's ethnic past was represented—Germans, Polish, Irish, Italian, even English! She finished with "God Bless America" to stir everyone's patriotism.



The President's Page

Most of us have attended, or at least been invited to, our 50th year high school reunion. And for some perhaps there has even been a 50th year college reunion. Mine is this summer. Choosing whether or not to attend differs from person to person. Some of the reasons people offer for not attending are: too heavy, too skinny, not enough hair left, not enough money, too far to travel, too shy, no one liked me, and there are many more you could add. But for many of us, it has been a pleasant experience and often a group gets together and decides to do it again within a few years.

Some families have regular family reunions. My mother's side did when I was a young, but for some reason it ceased and has never been restarted. In my small home town newspaper, each summer there are accounts of families which have reunions every year. I think one factor that has made family reunions less frequent is the geographic separation that occurs. Years ago most people married someone from the same or nearby community and remained in the area. Now many go off to college or work further from home, perhaps meet and marry someone from a distant place, and live where their work takes them. Families become scattered across the country, even the globe. Another factor is all the activities we become involved in. It's difficult to get people together, even within the immediate family.

In a previous column, I wrote about family history work that Karen and I have been doing. One of the most interesting aspects of this has been locating living relatives of whom I had previously been unaware. We

were invited to a family reunion in the small town of Hanska, MN, population 402, where we met many Froehling relatives. We shared the family tree we had been working on. Many were surprised at the number of people in the family that they had never heard of and also helped us make additions and corrections.

Saturday, September 29 is the date to mark on your calendars for the Warren S Johnson Society of Retirees biennial reunion. It is an opportunity to reconnect with your friends from work and take in the events that are being planned. For me, this year is the 10th anniversary of my retirement and the 25th anniversary of my 25th anniversary year. At the loyalty dinner on October 23, 1987, those of us celebrating our 25th year were presented with the traditional gold watches. (Mine still runs!) There is a picture of the group in this issue. Some of you probably have similar pictures from loyalty dinners you attended. Please send them to Erica for inclusion in future newsletters.

As I was researching this, I also saw a note in my Daytimer for 6/12/87. It said Dick and Elaine Laakaniemi drove with Karen and me to attend the retirement dinner for Norm Janisse at the Bavarian Inn. So Norm is now retired 25 years. Congratulations Norm! It's always great to see you and Carolyn at the quarterly luncheons.

Again, plan to attend the biennial reunion on September 29 and invite your retiree friends to also attend. Let's make it a big event!

Welcome to
First Time Attendee to the
quarterly luncheon held
March 2012



Robert Franecki & Howie Holland



Johnson Controls' Roell named chairman of United Way board

Steve Roell, chairman and chief executive of Johnson Controls Inc., has been elected chairman of the United Way of Greater Milwaukee board of directors.

"Our 2012 board of directors is committed to improving lives by driving strategic impact through our focus areas of education, income and health," Mary Lou Young, president and chief executive of United Way, said in a statement. "They will continue to ensure that the money raised by United Way is invested wisely in programs that work and provide results that change our community for the better."

2012 Biennial Reunion

Tentative agenda

Saturday
September 29, 2012

Morning & early afternoon

- Continental breakfast
- JCI speakers
- Lunch
- Guest speaker

Evening

- Dinner at the Italian Community Center
- Entertainment: Wilson Knights Big Band



A detailed program and registration form will be mailed in August.



FIELD REPORTS

Paul Froehling – Milwaukee

Here is a picture of the 1987 25-year Loyalty Awards recipients.



Can you find Mr. Froehling??

FIELD REPORTS

Barbara Helgesen – Milwaukee

I celebrated my birthday with 40 some Wisconsin Snobirds at the Sheepshead players Community Center in Gulf Shores, Alabama.

Rita Spangler has been going down to Gulf Shores for some 31 years and her daughters. Rita plays the "Stick" to music and performed for us at the Orange Beach Community Center. The Stick has a shoe at the end of it and she pounds it up and down to the music.

Rita and her daughters wrote this little ditty and sing it to the tune of "Oh Susanna"

*Oh, I come from cold Wisconsin
with a cheesehead for a hat,
And I'm off to Alabama
where the sun and fun is at.
It snowed all night the day I left,
the drifts were getting high,
so I packed my bags and headed south
right down through Illini.*

*Oh Wisconsin, you're too cold for me,
so I'm off to Alabama with my potluck
recipe.*



Gary Oman - Milwaukee

Astro imaging

The digital camera and personal computer have made it possible for practically anyone with a telescope to capture images of nebulas and galaxies hundreds of millions of miles away, from their back yard observatory. However it takes a bit more than just connecting your camera to your computer and telescope and pushing the shutter button. But they allow capturing images of objects that are impossible to see with the naked eye and hopefully helps keep ones brain healthy.

Although you can see some galaxies and nebulas (and yes, planets and the moon) through your telescope with your naked eye, the eye has shortcomings. You can also see colors with the naked eye but the colors are more of a tint than a vivid color. Eyes don't see dim objects or dim colors very well, not to mention very small dim objects. The digital camera sees dim objects very well and it also sees colors very well. You also get to keep a copy of what the camera sees!

After you mount your camera on your telescope and connect your personal computer you probably will take a number of exposures that you will use the computer to combine into a final image. The distance over which the object is in focus is really rather small and the computer is a big help in getting that distance correct. Clever people have written free software that will do that for you

Of course the end result is an image that is nothing like what you can see with your eye looking through a telescope. It contains much more detail and much better color but it's not like a picture your regular camera would take, which is pretty much what you see with your eye.

***Editor's note: thank you, Gary!
We'd love to see some of your pictures!***

**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
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Bonnie Lenz, Treasurer
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In Remembrance

Marcia Bobek passed away April 22, 2012. She is the wife of John C. Bobek [Corporate-Milwaukee].

Bob Singers passed away on March 13th. Survived by his wife Janet, two children and their families.

NEWSLETTERS RETURNED

There have been several newsletters returned with undeliverable addresses... Please let us know if you know the whereabouts of:

Gregory Grubba
Lloyd Miller
John P. O'Connor
Don Ed Self
Roger A. Smith



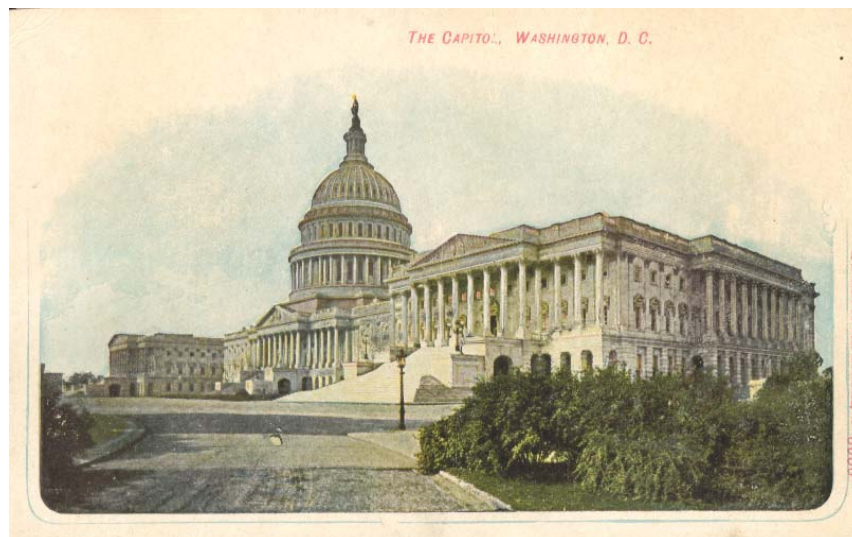


From the archives...

JSC installs temperature regulation system in U. S. Capitol, June 15, 1905...

An entry from the Johnson Service Company's (Johnson Controls former name) Philadelphia branch contract book dated **June 15, 1905** lists an installation in both the Senate and House wings of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D. C. The contract was in the amount of \$2895 and was billed to the United States Government and Elliott Woods, who had been appointed Architect of the Capitol by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1902. By this point in time, the Capitol was more or less as it is today, with mostly modernization and restoration work done thereafter. Prior to that time, however, the Capitol had a long and tumultuous construction history. In 1790, Congress passed the "Residence Act," whose purpose was to create a permanent site and buildings for the U. S. Government. French engineer Pierre Charles L'Enfant was selected to plan the new city including the Capitol. However, L'Enfant was dismissed from the project in 1792 when he refused to create any architectural drawings for

the building. After an ensuing public competition failed to produce a satisfactory plan, a design submitted by Dr. William Thornton was formally approved by President Washington on July 25, 1793. The cornerstone for the Capitol was laid by President Washington in the building's southeast corner in September of that year. The building's construction was plagued with problems, but Congress was able to move into the partially-built edifice in late 1800. During the War of 1812, the Capitol was almost completely destroyed when it was set ablaze by British troops. By 1829, however, the Capitol had been rebuilt. The iconic cast-iron dome was added in 1866 and extensions to the wings of the building were completed in 1868, which gave the building the appearance (more or less) we are familiar with today. In addition to its active use by Congress, the Capitol is a museum of American art and history. Each year, it is visited by an estimated 3-5 million people from around the world.



The U. S. Capitol as depicted on a Johnson Service Company promotional postcard from the early 1900s.

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

