

# Warren S. Johnson Society of Retirees, Inc.

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

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

## NEWSLETTER

VOL. 12, NO. 4 / Winter 2005

### **NEXT QUARTERLY LUNCHEON** **Thursday, January 19, 2006**

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 Ham
- Chicken Kiev

Program: Medicare Part "D"  
Speakers: Ginger Rogers

Has your head been spinning regarding the new Medicare "D" drug plan options available? Well, Ginger Rogers has promised to give us the complete rundown and answer any questions we have.

Ginger was our speaker in July and gave us information about the newest Medicare coverage for preventative services. At that time she said she would come back and give us the information on Medicare part "D".

Get your questions ready and join us for the luncheon on Thursday January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Reservations are required with menu selection and payment by January 11, 2006.

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

### **Ronald McDonald House**

*Report by Annie Elwell*



Jeanne Gruber

Volunteer – Ronald McDonald House

Jeanne Gruber is a long-time volunteer at Ronald McDonald House. The House was opened 21 years ago. There are 25 guest rooms in the main house and 8 apartments in the long term care wing. It is a non-profit entity that serves families with seriously ill children. Families must have a referral from a hospital in order to stay at the House. If guest families are able to make a donation, the suggested amount is \$10 per evening.

There are over 400 volunteers and staff that attend to the needs of guest families. Some of the volunteer opportunities include office work, light housekeeping, and van driving. A one-year commitment is requested for a minimum of one three-hour shift, every other week.

Anyone interested in information on becoming a House volunteer or other volunteer opportunities can call 414-475-5333. It is a very happy and fulfilling place to spend time. There is much more information available on the website:  
<http://www.rmhcmilwaukee.com>.



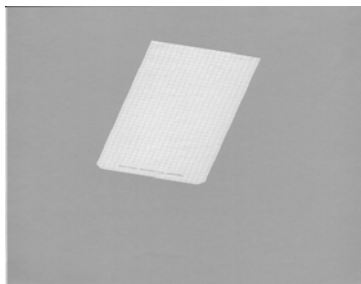
## The President's Page

*Messages from Tom Parris*

Like my photo with the moose in Bennington, Vermont this Fall? We met a former plant supervisor a few minutes before this photo. He is a volunteer that runs the elevator at the Revolutionary War Battle Monument. We told some old stories and had a great visit. The battery plant that I visited in the early eighties was removed along with a few feet of soil about eight years ago. If you cannot visit in person, try a tour at: <http://www.bennington.com/attractions/>

Medicare Part D Prescription Coverage: My first "benefit" of the new Government program **increased** my out of pocket cost by about \$3,000 per year. Our insurance carrier dropped prescription coverage for me when I became eligible for Part D. My young energetic wife, Ronni, spent about 40 hours investigating Part D costs (going online to determine which drugs were covered at which co-payment level, costs of the "doughnut hole", and calculating total annual out of pocket costs). It is a daunting inexact task. The Government web site was of no assistance until it was revised in December. Now you know why many of us fought against Government intervention.

Another contest! Do you recognize the little gem in the attached photo? It's the 2 5/8" by 5 1/8" replaceable note pad. The pad's white sheets have one-tenth inch grid marks in a light blue color. My original pad came with a blue cover with Johnson Service Company printed in gold. As a faithful, nerdy Engineer, I carried one in my shirt pocket tucked behind my plastic pocket protector. Do you have an interesting story to tell or interesting use for this little gem? Send your story to [wsjsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:wsjsociety@yahoo.com) or via regular mail to 4935 Steeple Drive, Greendale WI 53129. I will judge the best submittal using my personal whim and undefined rules. I will award a cash prize of \$10 (deftly plucked from my own tightly closed wallet) to the winner



## 2006 Biennial Reunion Date Change

Re-mark your calendars! We have changed the 2006 Biennial Reunion dates to Friday and Saturday September 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. This change was made due to restaurant availability dates

# “Tell Me MORE”

my funniest JCI memory.....

## Ron Williams - International Division

Back in the early seventies I had been sent to South Africa to begin negotiations on a new joint venture. A week later I waited at the Johannesburg Airport for Bill Rootham's arrival. The last passengers had long ago exited from his flight when a very gloomy Bill finally appeared. The South African immigration authorities had given him a bad time over a visa, or lack of visa, or his Canadian passport. Memory no longer serves me as to the details but suffice it to say Bill was most unhappy.

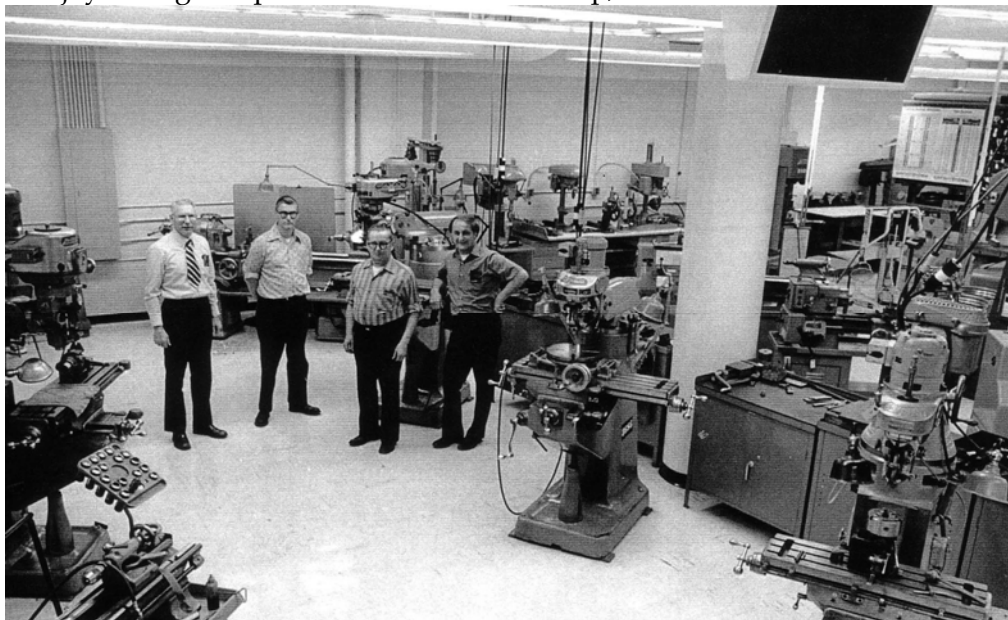
Now, during the week previous to Bill's arrival I had been happily ensconced at a five star hotel. Knowing, however, the Rootham reputation for parsimony I determined it would be wiser to book us both into a good, but more modest hotel in a livelier part of city. Upon checking in I accompanied Bill with a hotel factotum to his room which looked good and being on a high floor, presented a fine view of Johannesburg. Still miffed from his airport experience, he opened the door to check the bathroom and now really became disgruntled. The bathtub was teeming with the largest mutant cockroaches either one of us had ever seen! “Holy Mackerel!” he said or something to that effect, and slammed the bathroom door.

The hotel retainer, as shocked as we were, immediately called the desk for a new bug free room while apologizing profusely and saying an exterminator was regrettably at work in the hotel. He continued his courageous effort at small talk hoping to fill the time gap until the new room assignment came through. Then, in the worst attempt I have ever witnessed to mollify and make light conversation with an incensed guest, he said, “Mr. Rootham sir, you might find it interesting that some seven years ago a guest committed suicide by leaping from this very room.”

“Oh yeah!” replied the always irascible Bill, “What makes you think the roaches didn't throw him out?”

## George Sperl - Milwaukee

Thought you'd enjoy seeing this photo from the model shop, circa 1977



George Sperl, Bob Karl, Art Hansen, Steve Budiak

# FIELD REPORTS

## Don Wuorinen – Baltimore Branch

I saw this truck at a rest stop on the autobahn a couple of weeks ago. Cristel and I were vacationing in Germany, visiting her family.



## Groaners

--- If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?

--- If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, then doesn't it follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, tree surgeons debarked, and dry cleaners depressed?

--- What hair color do they put on the driver's licenses of bald men?

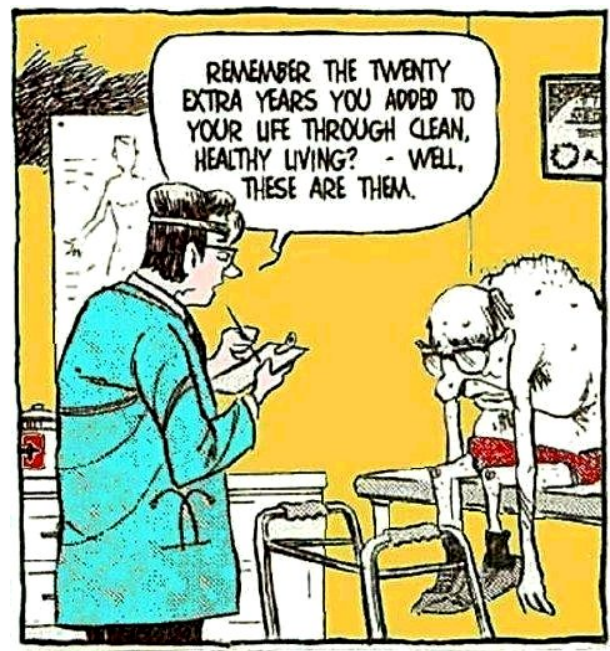
## The Missing Photo from Last Quarter!

This is the photo from the trip to Branson, MO that was reported last quarter. Sorry for the delay!!



Bev Waller, Ron Waller, Sandy Lindsey, Gail Zukowski, Bob Lindsey, Carolyn Bigler, Dave Bigler, Bob Pagliasotti and Tom Zukowski

## Cartoon from Ron Williams



# FIELD REPORTS

## King Schultz – International Division

Enjoyed your last newsletter very much, particularly the Seymour Johnson bit. Thought readers might like to know a bit more....

After I retired and moved to Southern California I followed up a Seymour invitation to visit. He invited me to bring my granddaughter for a visit on the day the RR club would be there. There were miles of narrow gauge track, plus a roundhouse, a marshalling yard, and a turntable. Much of this was dual track, such that trains could be traveling in opposite directions and distanced apart by a dispatcher. The switches in the marshalling yard were powered by D-251 piston operators. On this particular day, the RR club arrived with their rolling stock in the back of trucks and vans. A special hydraulic lift was used to lower the trains down from the trucks to the tracks. Usually there were numerous trains operating simultaneously. There was one narrow gauge diesel locomotive painted PINK. When I asked about this, it was explained that it belonged to Ginny Johnson (Seymour's wife) and that he was very sensitive about the color and not to talk to him about it!

Separately, Seymour had procured a full set of drawings of a Baldwin Steam Locomotive. He scaled them down and over 20 years built each piece of the locomotive you see here. This was much wider gauge such that two people could sit side by side in his cars, as opposed to tandem seating in the smaller trains. The picture of Seymour and me was him explaining many details to me.

He made wood forms, used them to cast parts in steel so he could machine each part to exact spec. Sadly, Seymour passed away about two years later.



Seymour's Baldwin Steam Locomotive



Seymour & King at the cab of the locomotive



King (with camera) & granddaughter Tiffany

First Time Attendees to the quarterly Luncheon held October 20, 2005



Ed Tsui, Diane Stargardt, Tony Spraitz, Jeanette Johnson



**New Scrabble**  
Rearrange the letters:

Dormitory =	Dirty Room
George Bush =	He Bugs Gore
Slot Machine =	Cash Lost in me
Mother in law =	Woman Hitler
Snooze Alarms =	Alas no more Zs
Eleven Plus Two =	Twelve Plus One

Someone has  
way too much time on their hands!



## "Tell Me More"

Start the New Year out with a laugh!! Send me your **favorite JCI memory** - funny or not! Your friends would love to hear about it!! [ericawolfe@yahoo.com](mailto:ericawolfe@yahoo.com) or 5207 S Robinwood Ln Hales Corners, WI 53130

## MARK YOUR 2006 CALENDAR

### MILWAUKEE LUNCHEONS:

January 19<sup>th</sup>

April 20<sup>th</sup>

July 20<sup>th</sup>

### Biennial Reunion

September 29 and 30, 2006

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

# February 14<sup>th</sup>



### Retirement - fact or fiction?

What do retirees find hardest about their new status?

A: Paying for photocopies.

What most amazes new retirees?

A: They're so busy now, they don't know how they ever had time for work.

Why don't retiree's mind being called "senior citizen."

A: The term comes with a 10% discount.

What's the best way to describe retirement?

A: The coffee break that never ends.

**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:**

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John Enright, VP-Marketing  
Sharlene Wardinski, VP-Program  
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Open Position, VP-Communication

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Neil DeVries	Kasim Sinnamohideen
John Donovan	Ken Voss
Paul Froehling	Erica Wolfe, ExOfficio

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

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imlenz@milwpc.com

***For street address changes, email address  
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newsletter, please contact:***

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414/425-8407  
E-mail: ericawolfe@yahoo.com

**To contact Johnson Controls, Inc:  
1-800-333-2222**

**After the recorded answer or anytime during it:**

Dial extension 2325 for  
**Benefits** information or assistance.

Dial extension 2296  
for the **Foundation Office**.



*In Remembrance*

**Evelyn Bonne** passed away on October 1<sup>st</sup>. She worked in the factory office, Dept. 33 and 34 and was an avid bowler. She and Sharlene bowled together for 15 years. She is survived by her husband, 2 sons and their families.

**Norbert Stanecki** passed away on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. He was with the company for 36 years and was a committee man for Union Local #66. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth, a daughter and her family.

**Joseph Zehel** passed away on October 17<sup>th</sup>. He is survived by his children and their families.

**Patricia Bendix**, beloved wife of Gene, passed away on November 6<sup>th</sup>. In addition to Gene, she is survived daughters Mary Jo Bendix and Judy (Jerry) Roeder, grandson Erich and many family members.

**Retiree Website**

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

Your feedback on the website is welcome and appreciated. Please let us know what you think....

Send a message to:

[wsjsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:wsjsociety@yahoo.com)



## 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

Whether you are yet working at Johnson Controls or are working elsewhere, if you have 20 years employment with JC, 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