

Warren S. Johnson Society Newsletter WSJSociety.com Vol. 21, No. 4 / Winter 2014

# Winter Luncheon

Thursday, January 15, 2015 Alioto's 3041 N Mayfair Road Cost \$16.00 11:00 Gather-11:45 Lunch-1:00 Program

#### **Menu Selections**

- > Tenderloin Tips on a bed of noodles
- Pasta Primavera garden vegetables and fettuccine in a rich cream sauce
- > Lemon Caper Chicken with angel hair pasta
  - Spumoni for dessert

#### **Program**

For many years, Johnson Controls has been recognized as a global leader in **corporate sustainability**. The company continues to be listed on prestigious sustainability indices and has won numerous awards for its environmental and social responsibility efforts. More importantly, our sustainability activities have helped increase revenue, reduce costs, increase productivity while reducing our environmental footprint and enhancing our relationships with key stakeholders.

#### Clay Nesler, Vice President of Corporate Sustainability,

will provide an overview of Johnson Controls sustainability strategies, activities and results. He will also provide some personal reflections on his participation in a number of global sustainability initiatives, including the World Economic Forum, the Clinton Global Initiative, the United Nations and the World Resources Institute.

#### Please:

Make checks payable to: WSJ Society [please note price is now \$16]

> Mail to: WSJ Society P.O. Box 1425 Grafton, WI 53024 in time to arrive by January 5<sup>th</sup>

Also, let us know of any dietary restrictions when making your reservation, or call Jude, VP Program at 414.351.1229.

# Society News WSJ Society Reunion September 27, 2014

It was a beautiful Fall day in Milwaukee, sunny and warm. This was the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the WSJ Society, time to celebrate and review.

*Meet-up at HQ* was hosted at Corporate Headquarters. We gathered over breakfast, caught a quick tour of the campus and settled in to meet CEO Alex Molinaroli. Alex took us through the vision for Johnson Controls' future and strategies in place to get there. There's a lot happening!

After his presentation, Alex opened the floor to questions. What a great exchange it was! From global business to retirement issues, Alex took the time to make sure we understood the logic and facts. All appreciated the time and energy Alex gave us on this Saturday morning.

At 25-years, it's time to review. Emily Callaghan led us in a brainstorm to consider just what the WSJ Society might become in the next 25 years. Emily gave us a great start. We'll continue that here in the Newsletter and at WSJSociety.com.

"Ambassadors of Lifelong Engagement" was next. Thanks to our volunteer ambassadors we all shared our experiences. This was a 'wisdom of the crowd' kind of thing, 'no one of us knows more than all of us.' It was great!

We closed the day with a few drinks, dinner, dancing, and lots of conversation. We can do this again, see you at Reunion 2016!

> Submitted by Jude Anders, VP Communications



#### President's Message Gene Strehlow

#### 25 Years Young

To most of this audience, 25 years doesn't look like a very long time. That is how long this Warren S. Johnson Society of Retirees has been in existence, and is doing quite well. The original Articles of Incorporation were written by Ken Voss in 1989 and had four initial directors: Norm Janisse, Bill Cain, Charlie Scruggs and Bill Keefe. Even I, as a more recent retiree, can recall that point in time and all of those individuals. They set us up quite well for the first 25 years and we are now looking into what we want to be when we grow up, and move into the next 25. That was one of the themes for our recent reunion in September as I'm sure you will see elsewhere in this newsletter. We collected very good input from the attendees and the board of directors will be looking into which items should be pursued, and how much can be done in a quality manner by this group of volunteers.

I'd like to thank Paul Froehling for his four years as president of this society and all the work he and the board has put into getting and keeping us in the strong position I believe we find ourselves at this time. I'm not sure I thank him quite as much for recruiting me to the board just in time to find out he planned to move on. Stay tuned for my enthusiasm level after I get the "box-o-stuff" he has promised to turn over.

To those that may not know me, I started as an engineer in Field Engineering (Controls Group) in 1971 which later combined into the Technical Support Group (TSG). After 26 years there, I moved into the Training Dept. for the remaining 16 years of my career at Johnson Controls. Those positions allowed me to have one foot in the Controls HQ and the other in the Field Offices (to whom we actually reported).

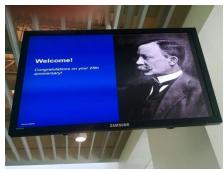
So I recognize quite a few of the names on our membership roster. When running TSG I was told by Accounting that we had the biggest phone bill in the company. That goes back to pre-internet days. I believe it would serve our group well to get some level of that Milwaukee – Field Office communications channel open and active again. Certainly not to the active employee level, but even a fraction thereof would be good. Today's website would probably be the communications channel of choice since I don't expect many of you want to be tied to a phone any more that I do. (Been there – done that).

Also, since most of our activities are here in Milwaukee, and there are a lot of Power Solutions (Battery, Globe Union) and Corporate folks in the area - Why don't you call a friend or two and meet at our quarterly luncheons? Use this gathering to fulfill those "we've got to do this more often" parting words we often say, but don't get around to. With a little persistence we should be able to get a table or two full of that contingent on a more regular basis so you'll know some familiar faces when you get there.

That's enough for my initial message. We'll see where this road takes us.

Gene Strehlow

# **The Gallery**



Welcome!



JCI Headquarters Bldg.



Saturday Evening Banquet band



Judy & Neil Devries, Luanne Podeszwa, John Meyer



Valerie & George Huhnke





Past Pres. Paul Froehling New Pres. Gene Strehlow

More pictures can be viewed on our website: http://wsjsociety.com/

# **People We Know**

#### George Jacobi

Civic Music honored George and Angela Jacobi with their *Distinguished Citizen-Patron of the Arts* award at their Annual Awards Banquet on October 22nd.

As one of Milwaukee's oldest arts organizations, Civic Music has been active in developing the musical life of the community since 1918. The Jacobis were one of three distinguished citizens honored for their years of dedication, generous contributions and achievements which have enriched musical life in the community.

#### **SECD** Reunion

The Annual Dallas reunion of the former Systems and Engineering and Construction Division (SECD) of JCI was held on Saturday, October 18 at the Spring Creek Barbeque in Addison Texas. Twenty Six (26) former employees gathered (2 not pictured) met to renew acquaintances and share experiences of the "Good Old Days" Former Operations Manager David Pierce (not pictured) joined for a short time as he was not in good health. He was pleased to meet once again with former Dallas and Los Angeles SECD team member Terry Prater who was in the area to visit his son and family. The reunion has become an annual event. Barbara Oros has been the organizer for many years and while she is not pictured this year, did attend the early part of the get together.



#### History of SECD – A Look at The Past

SECD was a significant contributor to the JCI efforts from the 60's to the early 90's with work in industrial markets. Nuclear Power, Water/ Waste water, Power Generation, Food Processing, Pharmaceutical as well as other major industries provided the basis for work in four Regional offices around the country.

It was reported in industry that SECD had one of the finest and most talented group of Project Management Professionals in all of industry. SECD, with several hundred employees, provided engineering, design, applications programming and huge construction capabilities with some projects exceeding over 1000 craft personnel. This diverse enterprise was initially headed by Bernie Martin who passed away at the age of 42 in the early years of the group. SECD's leadership continued and thrived with JCI professionals such as Joe Lewis and Denny Euers and later, Dave Bigler with JYC.

In the 70's, when Miller Brewing was expanding its manufacturing for its "Lite" Beer SECD was the sole provider of control systems for all their new and existing breweries across the USA. The group became leaders in Nuclear Power construction and later in the development of security systems for the nuclear plant sites. It was multitalented and ventured into areas where "no man had entered before". When DFW Airport opened in 1972, it was SECD that designed, programmed and installed the first "real time" computer system for the DFW People Mover System which circled the entire 17,000 acre airport. And a few years later, they contracted to manage, run and maintain the People mover system under the Houston Intercontinental Airport.

Contrasting these projects the group designed and installed the control system for the famous Central Arizona Project Aqueduct system which spanned over 336 miles. This massive project was highlighted by the SECD group's ability to design a system that had not previously been matched in the country. SECD continued to expand its industry coverage by implementing many projects in the power industry, pharmaceutical industries as well as waste and water treatment facilities in large cities across the country. And the group was also a leader in technology. As mentioned above, the emergence of "real time" computers was new to industry and SECD became a leader in their development. Teams of talented technologists were resident in the offices which gave SECD a completive edge in many industries. And on the small end of technology, it was SECD who contracted for the first fax machine for the company in 1972; secured the first radio communications licenses used on construction sites that same year and lead the company in its search and selection of the first CAD systems. SECD was also a leader not only in industry but within JCI. Its management techniques and project tracking methods which were copied both externally and internally. The investment by JCI in training its professionals was returned many times over as industrial projects became more complex and litigious. SECD was integrated into the Johnson -Yokogawa joint venture in 1990 and expanded its technology role utilizing the Yokogawa digital control system platforms.

Over the years, each office developed its own entrepreneur style which channeled the Operations Managers. In some eyes, the SECD teams were wild, ambitious and fearless while at the same time recognizing them as astute, hard minded (but fair) business men ( and women)! With impressive management skills and talents the people in SECD were all professional who cherished the opportunity to carry out their work in a manner consistent with the personal skills.

While SECD and the JYC joint venture no longer exist, the legacy of SECD remains. The memories of those who "boomed" around the country from project to project; those who "lived" in the offices and on sites for 60, 70 and 80 hours a week; those who racked up thousands of air miles live on. Its impact on the industries it served and the people who made it all happen will forever live in the history of JCI.

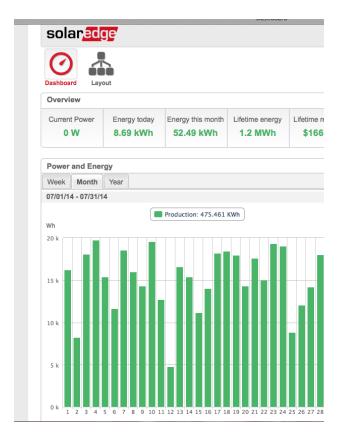
Submitted by Frank Mahnich

#### Making Clean Energy in Milwaukee Submitted by Lou Davit

The idea started last November with a trip to Europe. I was convinced when we hit Freiburg. Lou, Jackie and Chris Davit visited relatives and friends in France, Germany, Austria and Switzerland. But Freiburg, Germany, the "Green City", fueled my desire to do something with alternative energy when we got home. In February I received a mailing from the Sierra Club with some enticing deals (incentives) on installing solar.

I talked to a sales rep from H&H Solar Energy in Madison and we made a deal to install 14 panels on our south-facing garage roof. H&H has installed quite a few systems in Milwaukee, including a large array at the main branch of the Urban Ecology Center. A team of two guys installed the panels and did all the electrical in three days in May. The panels have been making more electricity than we use... our WeEnergies bills in June and July for electricity were credits. A neat part of the system is the inverter connection to the modem in our house and then to our computer so we have a continuous display of our electricity production, and can even monitor the production of individual panels.

My JCI tennis buddies; Dick Stevens, Pete Murray and Chuck Augustin were at our house for tennis and a cookout, and they were quite impressed with the system. Go for it! Go green! And if you go with H&H, tell them I sent you.





### About the WSJ Society

The WSJ Society is a social group of people who share career experiences at Johnson Controls, Inc. The Society brings its members together to enjoy and help each other; and, contribute to community. Activities of the society are described at the website: www.WSJSociety.com. This Newsletter is published quarterly to contribute to those goals. Member stories and ideas are welcomed and encouraged.

#### **OFFICERS**:

Gene Strehlow	Pre
Jude Anders	VP-
Greg Pascucci	VP
Jude Anders	VP-
Brian Bould	Tre
Ron Kuta	Sec

President VP-Communications VP –Membership VP-Program [acting] Treasurer Secretary

#### DIRECTORS:

John Meyer Jani Jim Pasterczyk Card Bonnie Lenz Erica Wolfe, Ex-Officio

Janice Peters Carol Lomonaco

For membership information and dues payment, please contact Brian Bould, Treasurer Email: <u>bbould@att.net</u>

Checks should be made payable to **WSJ Society**, and mailed to:

WSJ Society P. O. Box 1425 Grafton, WI 53024

For street or email address changes, and items submitted for publication in the Newsletter, please contact our Newsletter Editor:

Mail: Erica Wolfe Newsletter Editor 5207 Robinwood Lane Hales Corners, WI 53130

Email: <u>ericawolfe@yahoo.com</u> Phone: 414.573.0527 November 2014

Here are a few new items you might enjoy:

- Reunion 2014 photos, thanks to Ron Kuta, there are over 130 of them! See them at Connect/Photo Gallery.
- 2. The Learn/Resources page is growing. Visit Company Resources for a link to "Discounts Available to Johnson Controls Retirees." Thanks to Employee Services, we have a list of employee discount programs that are also available to retirees. Batteries, vehicles, computers, retail, services, travel and entertainment discounts are included. Please note though that your login is required to access the discount page. A company ID and/or PIN is associated with these programs and that requires a login.
- Your thoughts on the future direction for the WSJ Society are requested. This is a continuation of the discussion at the reunion. You can comment via email to <u>Help@WSJSociety.com</u>, or directly in the **Group/Open Forum**. Or, if you would like, contact me directly.

Also, be aware that many features at WSJSociety.com do not require a login. In particular, visit **The Hub** for a one-stop link to **News**, **Photo Gallery**, **Upcoming Events** and others pages of interest.

> Submitted by: Jude Anders VP Communications (414.351.1229) (jra4128@qmail.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 **life time membership of \$50** as over 500 members have chosen to do. New members (only) paying after September 1<sup>st</sup> will be credited for both the current and next year. Send dues money to Brian Bould. 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** (2005, 2006, 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 Johnson Controls Retirement Society.

Send your membership fee to our treasurer, Brian Bould. The address is listed inside this newsletter.



