

Warren S. Johnson Society Newsletter
WSJSociety.com
Vol. 25, No. 1 / First Quarter 2018

Summer 2018 Luncheon

Thursday, July 19, 2018

Alioto's - 3041 N Mayfair Road

Cost \$17.00 – NOTE PRICE CHANGE

11:00 Gather–11:45 Lunch–1:00 Program

Menu Selections

- Ground Round, Mushroom Gravy, Mixed Vegetables
- Baked One-Half Chicken, Cranberry Sauce (Entrees served with salad and choice of dressing, Italian bread, coffee, tea or milk)
- Greek Grilled Chicken Salad (Salad served with soup or fruit cup, Italian bread, coffee, tea or milk)
- Dessert – Chocolate Ice Cream Sundae

Program

Florentine Opera Company

<http://www.florentineopera.org/>

Speaker: John Stumpff, Education & Community Engagement Manager

Topic: John will provide an overview of the upcoming season, as well as information on Colectivo at the Lake and the Opera Insights and Talk Opera program offered at various community venues throughout the year. We may also be treated to an Aria or two performed by Florentine Artists.



The Florentine Opera Company is Wisconsin's oldest fully professional performing arts organization and the sixth-oldest opera company in the United States.

Please: Make checks payable to: **WSJ Society**

- Mail to: **WSJ Society**
P.O. Box 1425
Grafton, WI 53024

in time to arrive by July 10th.

Also, let us know of any dietary restrictions when making your reservation, or call Janice Peters, Co-VP Program at 414.412.0200

Spring Luncheon 2018 – April 19, 2018

Winslow Homer, England ... and good friends

Spring in Milwaukee, a mixed bag this Spring, our members gathered for lunch and checking out how everyone managed the Winter. We made it! Our first-time attendee at the luncheon was Tom Szymanski, a friend I first met in the Milwaukee Branch. It was good to see Tom again. The branch was a great experience.

After catching up with everyone over lunch, our speaker, Laura Lange, Docent, Milwaukee Art Museum took us on a virtual tour of the then current special exhibit "Coming Away: Winslow Homer & England."

It's always interesting to me to hear the back story in a work of art. On my visits to museums and galleries, I do enjoy looking at good art, at least what I consider good art. That's OK, but maybe a bit too superficial, like reading a book review, you get some of the idea, but it's really limited.

Well Laura took us through Homer's visit to the English coast 1881 – 1882, his paintings of that period and after. After experiencing the English seacoast in 'the small fishing village of Cullercoats on the northeastern coast of England' his art changed, he even moved from New York to Prout's Neck on the coast of Maine. The power of the sea, the struggle between humanity and nature became a common theme for his art.

There are events like that in life, aren't there? Some, like Homer's trip to England, have us reach beyond ourselves to create something new; to create a step change of personal growth. That may be a good challenge in life, to keep looking for those events, maybe even making them happen to continue our personal growth and our contribution to others, like Homer's celebrated artworks.

Knowing the back story opens us up to those kinds of ideas. That's much better than being satisfied with reading the review isn't it?

Jude Anders
Editor WSJSociety.com

(photos on page 7)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Gene Strehlow

A Smartphone – Finally

With considerable hesitance I finally purchased my first Smartphone. I've lived with a dumb cell phone for many years, but maybe it's time. I'm sure I'm well behind the younger generations, but I wonder if my fellow retirees are as addicted to them as our kids and grandkids are? You may think that a guy whose department (Field Engineering, Technical Support Group, System Integrity) lived with the phone on our ear, would be a bit quicker to jump on the Smartphone technology. Back then, the phone was our primary tool for providing support for our field offices and coordinating with the various Headquarters departments. The Internet eventually came into being, but before it existed, the phone was the tool of choice. I suspect that is the tool I, and others in our group, communicated with many of you now readings this. Back in the day, the accounting department would tell me I had the biggest phone bill in the Company. Maybe they were just trying to get the costs down. They also griped about how many plane tickets we bought. The phone was more cost effective than air fare. But we did plenty of both.

Many individuals and organizations prefer to use your mobile phone as a primary contact for you. That includes the assumption that you always have your phone with you, its ON, the battery is charged, you have a network signal, and you are able and willing to respond. After my 4+ decades of being tied to the phone, I'm not sure I'm willing to reconnect that chain. My old dumb phone was only ON when I needed to make a call, or expected that someone may need me sooner than I was planning to be back at home (where my answering machine is).

This new phone has more computing power than any desktop computer I ever had, and probably more than the later laptops as well. I think the sound quality and other telephone features are secondary in priority to the phone designers, compared to all the other features. Then again maybe it's my tired ears. Texting will also be something to learn. That was more work than it was worth on my old flip phone where each key represented three letters. Old fashioned calling was more effective. However, I think we have reversed the trend that everyone always wanted a bigger monitor. I don't think this Smartphone will push aside my laptop screen with a real keyboard. (on which I typed this) Do I really need all of this communicating power available at all times and in all places?

I don't think it is the technology that concerns me. I can figure that out. It is whether or not I am willing to fully commit to this current world of instant and continuous availability – and live up to everyone's expectations about your availability. That sounds more like the ball and chain I retired from.

SO - - Do I -or- Don't I – keep this thing ON more regularly?

Gene

What's New @ WSJSociety.com?

Remember Monitoring the Field? That's the newsletter Field engineering created and published from 1957 through January 1991. It was 12 issues a year of the front line story of Johnson Controls Systems and Services Division, SSD with several name changes along the way even back then.

Well, thanks to President Gene Strehlow and his trusty scanner, we have some of those issues right here on WSJSociety.com. They are placed on the Johnson Controls Timeline in order of their original publication date. Here's what we have so far:

- 1971 – 6 issues
- 1972 – 12 issues
- 1981 – 12 issues
- 1990 – 12 issues
- 1991 – January issue, the farewell.

You can find them directly on WSJSociety.com by entering the word "Monitor" in the search box on the top of every page on the site.

We hope you enjoy them. When I've read through issues, I come away with themes that are important today – a team of people working together, serving customers, solving problems, and enjoying the journey together. There are stories here that offer lessons for today's entrepreneurs as well as executives who have major challenges attracting and keeping talented people in an environment of intense global competition for talent. And, of course, I enjoy remembering the people I knew and the things we did together.

Enjoy the journey,

Jude Anders
Editor, WSJSociety.com



Images taken from the January 1991 issue of Monitoring the Field

BIENNIAL REUNION

The date is
Saturday, September 29, 2018

The team is working on several ideas to replace the usual evening dinner dance.

At present we are working to schedule JCI-centered presentation in the morning, either at Corporate or BE Headquarters, followed by afternoon/early-evening activities. We are reviewing theater + dinner or theater + lunch options. Your suggestions are welcome! Please send your ideas to President Gene Strehlow [g.strehlow@sbcglobal.net.]

JCI Retiree Reunion – Southern Style!

By Judy Decker

On a spring day in 2017, George and Kathy Doig with Doug and Judy Decker met for lunch in Hilton Head, South Carolina. We reminisced about the JCI days and enjoyed visiting for the first time in several years. That day, an idea hatched!!! We thought it would be fun to gather a few friends living in the southeast for a reunion. We called Jim and Bettie Keyes who live in Charleston SC, and they agreed to help us coordinate a party! Since Charleston is called the “Best City in the World” by many travel magazines, we decided that would be our venue. We selected April 8-11 2018 as the date. As we contacted former JCI retirees living in the south, the response was positive and soon our event sold out with fourteen couples. We stayed at the iconic hotel Belmond Charleston Place that is located just steps from the city market.

The reunion began on Sunday afternoon with a carriage ride through historic Charleston and a welcome cocktail party at the home of Jim and Bettie Keyes. At the private Harbor Club dinner that evening the retirees caught up with each other. The next day brought rain but it didn't daunt the group. A guided walking tour through the historic district included the Nathaniel Russell House and the Charleston County Courthouse and St. Michael's church – built in 1752. A low-country lunch at the famous Hyman's Seafood consisted of fried green tomatoes, hush puppies, she crab soup, seafood and grits. The group proceeded to the harbor and boarded the Spiritline Ship to cruise the Cooper River past Fort Sumter National Monument. That evening we enjoyed a family-style Italian dinner at the trendy Le Farfalle Osteria. The next day we toured Middleton Place Plantation home and gardens. A few rain showers didn't interfere with our festivities! Later, we crowned the reunion with a private dinner hosted by renowned chef “Bob Waggoner Cooks”.

All the JCI retirees enjoyed the company of friends and co-workers who reunited after many years. The charm of historic Charleston made the gathering a special time and very memorable. Someday perhaps we will meet again!



Jim & Betty Keyes; Allen & Debbie Martin; Keith & Debbie Wandell, Jerry & Pam Okarma; George & Kathy Doig; Brian & Pam Stark; Robert & Maja Netolicka; Doug & Judy Decker; Joe & Suni Lewis; Chuck & Cheryl Harvey; Dave & Carolyn Bigler; John & Eileen Barth; Frank & Barbara Krouse; Missing from photo: Roy & Billie Cloudsdale

From Lou Davit – Milwaukee

Educating Our Children

After all the news about our education system failing our children, I came across a refreshing organization called A World In Motion (AWIM). AWIM is for children from 2nd to 10th grade. It introduces them to the new world that they will be growing into – in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) – new acronyms to some of us perhaps, but very important subjects in educating today’s youth.

An article in the 2017 third quarter issue of the Johnson Controls Retiree newsletter, “Back to School with JCI”, was about the “Forces in Motion” program at Lake Bluff School in Shorewood. Fourth grade boys and girls work in teams to build wind-powered JetToy cars. The class met once a week for five weeks. I went to their class on the fourth week and observed the thinking and interaction within each team as they made adjustments to their cars to win in either distance or speed trials.

I also went to the final competition at the Shorewood H.S. Arena among three elementary schools: Lake Bluff, Kluge and Atwater. The kids looked anxious about this event, for some maybe their first ever competition. Excitement built as many parents and grandparents in the stands applauded the kids’ work.

In talking at Lake Bluff with several JCI mentors, all Power Solution employees, I was glad to see their enthusiasm for this program – they could see the kids grow in their understanding of mechanics. The mentors also talked about AWIM. I checked out the AWIM website to see all the advanced classes they sponsor in gear driven cars, fuel cell (PEM) powered cars, gravity cruisers, gliders and others – amazing!

The JetToy Challenge is also sponsored by SAE International and several German companies. They are interested in bringing together teachers, students and industry volunteers to set up friendly competition and encourage a lifetime of learning STEM subjects and possibly new engineering designs.

It made me feel good about what AWIM is doing to inspire students to think creatively and study the STEM subjects to improve the education level for all our children. My wish is that any of us retirees who have grandchildren or great grandchildren in school would encourage the child’s school to look into AWIM.org and explore the possibility of bringing an AWIM program to their school.

I am proud to see that JCI is sponsoring this very good program for the education of our children.

- Lou Davit



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	President
Jude Anders	VP-Communications
Greg Pascucci	VP –Membership
Janice Peters	Co VP-Program
Jim Pasterczyk	Co VP-Program
Brian Bould	Treasurer
Ron Kuta	Secretary

DIRECTORS:

John Meyer
Carol Lomonaco
Erica Wolfe, Ex-Officio

For membership information and dues payment, please contact Brian Bould, Treasurer

Email: bbould@att.net

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: ericawolfe@yahoo.com

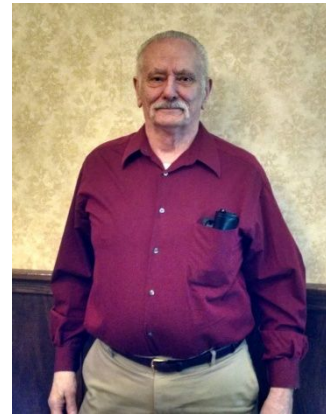
Phone:

414.573.0527

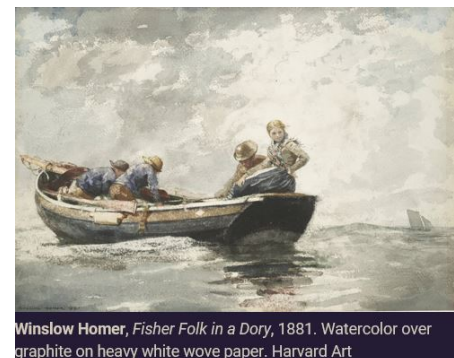
In Remembrance

Michael Lynch passed away on February 13, 2018 while on vacation in Germany. He worked in Milwaukee, the International Division (Belgium and Germany) and Dallas, TX. Mike is survived by his wife Naomi, 6 children and their families.

First time luncheon attendee Tom Szymanski



Jim Pasterczyk and museum docent Laura Lange



Winslow Homer, *Fisher Folk in a Dory*, 1881. Watercolor over graphite on heavy white wove paper. Harvard Art

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 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 10 YEARS

If you are retired from Johnson Controls or still working there with 10 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.

