



Warren S. Johnson Society Newsletter
WSJSociety.com
Vol. 32, No. 1 / First Quarter 2025

Spring Luncheon
Thursday, April 17, 2025

Alioto's-3041 N. Mayfair Road

PRICE: \$27 per person

11am-Gathering / 12pm-Lunch / 1:00pm-program

The luncheon selections are:

- 2 breaded pork chops (boneless) served with potatoes
- Tenderloin tips on a bed of noodles
- Grilled chicken Caesar salad

The dessert will be vanilla ice cream with chocolate syrup.

Lunches are served with a salad and choice of dressing, Italian bread, and coffee.

The seasonal salad is served with soup or fruit cup (in season), Italian bread and coffee.

Please let us know of any dietary restrictions you may have when making your reservations. Or, contact Jim Pasterczyk, VP Program at 414-764-8609.

Lunch is \$27 per person.

Please make checks payable to: WSJ Society
Checks need to arrive by **April 10, 2025**

Mail checks to:

WSJ Society
P.O. Box 510105
Milwaukee, WI 53203

See page 3 for instructions to use PayPal™

PROGRAM SPEAKER

James Mercado

James is a seasoned expert in VA home loans, with over 25 years' experience helping veterans and their families navigate the complexities of securing home financing. With a deep understanding of VA loan benefits, eligibility requirements, and the application process, he has empowered numerous veterans and active-duty service people to "Own The Land You Defend"®. Committed to serving those who served, James also volunteers on a national training and education platform to help educate our veterans on credit, real estate and finance. He also serves on a Veterans Advocacy committee in DC where he works with lobbyists and legislators.

- VA home loan myths.
- Busting the myths behind the VA home loan.
- How we can help each and every veteran or active duty service person or reservist, "Own The Land They Defend"®
- The strength and power of the Veterans Administration Home Loan and the benefit to all parties, including the seller.

WE ARE NOT OWNED, OPERATED OR AFFILIATED WITH THE VA OR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN ANY WAY. POWERED BY PROVISOIR, INC. NMLS 1802853 Equal Housing Lender



President's Message

JCI's New Focus & CEO

Last year it was announced that George Oliver was planning to retire and JCI had started a succession plan to find a new CEO. This also follows some moves they say are to more clearly focus on commercial buildings. Here is the related quote from the current Annual Meeting notice, "We refocused our portfolio with our decision to divest nearly 20% of our non-core assets, including the sale of our Air Distribution Technologies business and entering into an agreement to sell our Residential & Light Commercial HVAC business. This marks a pivotal step in our journey towards becoming a dedicated provider of comprehensive solutions for commercial buildings. Focusing our resources and expertise on our core strengths better positions us to innovate, deliver superior value to our clients, and drive sustainable growth. This strategic realignment enhances our operational efficiency while also reinforcing our commitment to excellence in commercial buildings."

If you can read through that current version of corporate lingo – it's more or less saying let's try something new – like going back to where JCI was before corporate raider Victor Posner's 1980's threats forced us to diversify into auto seats, blow molded plastic bottles, residential AC units, louvers, even the Scotch I brought to a luncheon awhile back, and others. For a while our stock was actually grouped with the automotive industries (due to Batteries and Auto Interiors). It looks like JCI is again focusing on the same customer base we served when many of us first joined the company. This is the customer base that JCI served best for most of its first 100 years, and built much of our reputation in. Hopefully, there is still enough understanding of that market segment left within today's JCI, to transition back to that focus.

Early in February Johnson Controls announced that the next CEO would be Joakim Weidemanis. He is 56 yrs old, and most recently from Danaher Corp. In March 2025 he will be replacing George Oliver, who will remain as an advisor for the remainder of the year. (if you have further curiosity – Google his name and prior company). We wish him well as he works into his new leadership position.

Hopefully, he and JCI's inherent understanding of this new (prior) market focus will have a successful transition to a successful future.

Regards,

Gene



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.WSJociety.com.

This Newsletter is published quarterly to contribute to those goals. Member stories and ideas are welcomed and encouraged.

OFFICERS:

Gene Strehlow	President
Jim Pasterczyk	VP Program
Mary Kehoss	VP Membership
Richard Schreiner	Treasurer
Dave Anderson	Secretary
Otto Mageland	Website
Erica Wolfe, Ex-Officio	Newsletter Editor

Board of Directors

John Meyer
Carol Lomonaco
Greg Pascucci

For membership information, contact the Membership VP using this email:

help@wsjsociety.com

For any payments, include a note describing the intent of the payment, make checks payable to **WSJ Society**, and mail to:

WSJ Society
P. O. Box 510105
Milwaukee, WI 53203

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

In Remembrance

Tom Machin passed away on January 23, 2025 at the age of 82. He is survived by his wife Chris, their son Mark and family. Tom was a 50-year employee of JCI and was always the “go-to” guy at 507.

Jerry Gaudet passed away on December 31, 2024 at the age of 98. His wife Bernadette predeceased him. He is survived by their five children and their families. Jerry was a 42-year employee in the Milwaukee branch.

Dennis Kois passed away on January 5, 2025 at the age of 78. He is survived by his wife Carolyn and sons Dennis, Dan and their families. He finished his career as the director of corporate communications where he helped lead external and internal messaging.

Late notifications of employee passing:

Jerry Zimmerman – long time accounts payable manager passed away 7/27/2023 at the age of 80.

Jack Schofield – passed away 1/2/2007 at the age of 82. He was a 44-year employee in Denver.

PayPal option for luncheon payment

To pay for your luncheon using PayPal™, send an email request to wsj.president@gmail.com. Please indicate name(s) and menu choice(s). A PayPal™ invoice will be sent to you electronically with instructions for payment which will include the **5% service fee**. (* Your email must be registered with a PayPal™ account).

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. Not sure you've paid your dues? Please refer to the "WSJ Society - Members List", which is included as an attachment to this newsletter, and can also be found on our WSJSociety.com website in the "Members Only" section.

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.

The address for sending your membership to is listed inside this newsletter.