



Mailing Address:
20 1st Ave NE, Rochester, MN 55906
Office Location: 120 1st St. NE
Hours: 10:00 a.m. to Noon,
Tuesdays & Thursdays
Phone: 507-424-4193

Visit our website at: <http://www.ibmrac.com/>
E-mail us at: rchret@aol.com
Visit us on [Facebook](#)

e-NEWS
Horst Truestedt, Editor

Preview of 2016 Events

Golfing: See dates below.

2016 Walking/Hiking Events: See dates below.

***Singin' in the Rain* Production:** February 28, 2016

Mark Twain presentation: Life on the Mississippi with Don Shelby: March 19, 2016

Newsletter: (email and US mail) March 2016 (on or about the 23rd)

From the President

It was another great year for the IBM Alumni Club. Our activities were supported and well-attended. A very big thank you to all the organizers (workers) and all the attendees.

We had a Sleigh Ride outing in February, a Mystery Dinner in May, a Rochester Honkers game in July, and a Johnny Mango Tableside Cooking Demo in September.

As in previous years, our most popular events were the food/theater combinations. There was ***Love, Sex and the IRS*** at the Mantorville Theater with dinner at the Hubbell House in April. In August, there was a bus trip to the Old Log Theater for lunch and a performance of ***Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*** - this started out as a one-bus affair but ended up with so many sign-ups that we had to go on two different days. In October, there was a bus trip to Lanesboro's Commonweal Theater for a performance of ***Charlie's Aunt*** with lunch at the Branding Iron in Preston.

Our first theater bus trip for 2016 was on January 10 - again, the signups exceeded expectations and we ended up with two buses.

A very special thanks to Hal Kossman and his committee. A few years ago, Hal said we need more events (lots more events) and got to work - he has been instrumental in setting up so many of the activities and we have had nothing but positive feedback. We know you like the activities because they are so well attended.

The walk/hike events which were started by Dave Lind were very popular and will continue in 2016. The golf outings (thank you, Bill Klies) were well attended and generated lots of great feedback.

A Fraud Fighters Seminar was held in August and a Health Insurance Seminar was held in October. We are very grateful to Redeemer Lutheran Church for allowing us to use their facility for these seminars.

The Summer Picnic at Woodside Park and the Christmas Party at the Eagles Club were both huge successes. Good food and good fellowship at both events.

We got a new Newsletter Editor in 2015. Thanks to Horst Truedtedt for his patience as he learned to deal with the quirks of our schedules and article submissions. Thanks also to Roger Spee and Nancy Morrison for doing all the emailing of not only the newsletter but other activity announcements.

So what's our plan for 2016? We have some things in mind but would like to hear from you. What kinds of activities appeal to you? Are there any activities you would be willing to help coordinate? We need ideas but we also need workers. Please take a moment to contact us and let us know what you want to see from the Club and, also, how you might be able and willing to help. Think about just helping with one event or activity.

Happy New Year to all.

Seig Hoepfner

Board Members

We said good bye to some board members (we will miss them) but we welcome new members of the board - Lloyd Brown, Terry Doty, Judy Moyer, Jeannie Varsoke, and Wayne Wellik - and look forward to working with them.

Christmas Party 2015



The 2015 IBM Alumni Christmas Party was held December 12th at the local Eagles Club. About 150 Alumni members, spouses, and guests enjoyed great food, a great venue, great conversation! Attendance was down a bit but all attendees seemed happy to be there.

The Eagles club did another fantastic job in setting up the room and organizing the food lines. We had many positive comments again this year.

We want to recognize the wonderful donors of door prizes: Culvers, Eagles Club, Honkers

Baseball, Rochester Athletic Club, Grandma's Kitchen, Carousel Flowers, Hair Studio 52, Victoria's Restaurant, Pharmaceutical Specialities, and Rochester Ford/Toyota.

We also had a fantastic group of volunteers help run this event. Thanks to all the board members and spouses who manned the serving lines. Darlene Burchfiel and Barb Nord took command of the cake! We had wonderful help at the registration table and wonderful help passing out the door prizes. Nancy Morrison once again brought and set out the decorations. Dick Odell was the photographer. A very special thanks to Betty Shidler and Alice Miesbauer (spouses) who helped everywhere, but especially with setup and cleanup. This is what it takes to have such a successful party. Thank you everyone!

Another party is planned for December 2016 - look for the announcement!

Gary Zander and Karl Shidler, Party Co-chairs

Salvation Army Bell Ringing Campaign

We had 4 successful Bell Ringing events during November and December to help The Salvation Army achieve their goal of \$400,000.00. Thanks to all of the IBM Alumni volunteers who rang the bells ... Gene Matzke, Tom & Ann Schwalen, Gary & Janet Zander, Rita Buegler, Lizzie Mroz, Peggy Marchesani, Steve & Sandy Majerus, George & Wilma Menshik, Lois Douglas, Bill Beaupre, Barb Nord, David Johnston, Bobette Pronk, Nancy Poeschel, Joe Endrizzi, Dwight Boutelle, Dottie Willkomm, Jeannie Varsoke, Bev Gersevske, Seig Hoepfner, Nancy Morrison, Horst Truestedt, Chuck Kinneberg, Dick Fryer, Lynn Knutson, Sharone Fiedler, and Lennie Broich. We rang the bells at Hy-Vee North, Penney's, and Macy's. Thank you very much.

Bill Beaupre - Community Service Coordinator

Golfing

The schedule for 2016:

June 6 - The Bluffs at Wabasha
June 20 - The Barn at Lanesboro
July 11 - Zumbro Falls
July 25 - Mt. Frontenac

August 15 - Willow Creek
August 11 - Dodge Center
September 12 - Oak Summit
September 26 - The Jewel

2016 Walking/Hiking Events



Walking/Hiking are great ways to get some exercise while enjoying nature and the outdoors. Join other IBM Alumni members, spouses and guests for walking/hiking in area parks this year. We are planning 4 winter outings in Feb/March; 5 spring outings beginning in April and 5 fall outings beginning in September. The trails are moderate with some inclines and usually take about 1 ½ hours.

Winter Walking/Hiking Events:

Feb/10 10:00 AM, **Quarry Hill Park (nature center)**. [Info and map.](#)

- [701 Silver Creek Road Northeast](#) which is accessible from County Road 22 (East Circle Drive)

Feb/24 10:00 AM, **Indian Heights Park**. [Info and map.](#)

- 1800 Terracewood Drive NW, Rochester, MN

Mar/09 10:00 AM, **Oxbow County Park** [Info.](#) [Trail map.](#)

- [5731 County Rd 105 NW, Byron](#)

Mar/23 10:00 AM, **Chester Woods County Park**. [Info and map.](#)

- [8378 Hwy14 East, Eyota](#)

All winter walk/hikes will meet-up at the Park parking lot at 10:00am. We are at the mercy of Mother Nature as far as the weather goes, dress accordingly. A reminder e-mail will be sent a few days prior to the walk/hike date to those who sign up.

To sign up for one or more Winter Walk/hikes please use the [online form: Click Here.](#) Sign-up for the spring walk/hikes will be available with the March newsletter.

For questions contact the Alumni Club office at (507) 424-4193 or email rchret@aol.com
Dave Lind

Sign up for “Singing in the Rain” – February 28, 2016

Join friends for a bus trip to the University of Wisconsin at LaCrosse for an all-time favorite, *Singin' in the Rain*, on Sunday, February 28th, 2016, for a 2:00 pm matinee. And, by the way, it's a super bargain. Bus and tickets for this musical are only \$30. Reservations must be received no later than February 3rd, 2016. Seats with no steps are available if requested. There is an elevator.

Get ready for a downpour of memorable songs made unforgettable by the singing and dancing of Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor, and Debbie Reynolds. Now being presented by U of W/LaCrosse Theater Arts Department, *Singin' in the Rain* (1952) is one of the most-loved and celebrated film musicals of all time from MGM. A spoof of the turmoil that afflicted the movie industry in the late 1920s when movies went from silent to sound. When two silent movie stars, Don Lockwood's and Lina Lamont's, latest movie is made into a musical, a chorus girl is brought in to dub Lina's speaking and singing. Don is on top of the world until Lina finds out. This spectacular show is packed full of charm, romance, comedy, Tinseltown glamour, and features some of the best loved movie songs including *Good Morning*, *Make 'em augh*, and of course, *Singin' in the Rain*. Enjoy this video of Gene Kelly, and then look forward to seeing *Singin' in the Rain* in person: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D1ZYhVpdXbQ>

The bus will board at Gander Mountain at 11:30 am and will leave promptly at 11:45 am. Reserve your tickets now for the musical that will have you humming those familiar songs!

This Waiver and General Release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the state/country where the Local Club activity is being organized, and that if any portion of this Waiver and General Release is held invalid and unenforceable, it is agreed that the balance of this Waiver and General Release shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

As an eligible participant, on behalf of yourself, heirs, and assigns, you assume full responsibility for the risk of illness, injury, and possible death inherent in participating in any recreational activities. You waive, release, indemnify, and agree not to make a claim against International Business Machines Corporation and the IBM Club together with all of their subsidiaries, employees, or other representatives or agents ("Released Parties") for any and all loss or damage, all illnesses, and injuries (including, but not limited to, death) which relate to IBM Club activities, including, but not limited to, those resulting from the negligence of one or more of the Released Parties.

For participants of minority age under 18 at the time of registration, as parent/guardian with legal responsibility for this participant, you consent and agree not only to his/her release and indemnification of IBM, but also for yourself and heirs, assigns, and next of kin to release and indemnify the Released Parties from any and all liability caused due to minor child's involvement.

*****RESERVATION REQUEST FORM*****

Rochester IBM Alumni Club PLAY & BUS for February 28th, 2016
Deadline for sign up is February 3rd, 2016

Member Name: _____ Phone: _____
Reservation Quantity: _____ x \$ 30.00 each = \$ _____
Number of 0-Step Seats Required: _____

(Please enclose your check)

Mail To:
IBM Rochester Alumni Club
20 1st Avenue NE
Rochester, MN 55906

Cancellation Policy: There will be no cancellations/refunds after February 3rd, 2016. The show will only cancel if roads are impassable. For questions, contact The IBM Alumni Club Office at [507.424.4193](tel:507.424.4193) or Email rchret@aol.com

*****RESERVATION REQUEST FORM*****

Don Shelby on Mark Twain: “Life on the Mississippi” – March 19, 2016



Join your IBM Alumni club friends for a bus trip to the Sheldon Theatre in Red Wing to see Mark Twain: Life on the Mississippi with Don Shelby. Former WCCO news anchor Don Shelby returns to the Sheldon Theatre with his fascinating portrayal of Mark Twain. Using material drawn from Mark Twain quotes, stories and history, the play celebrates life on the Mississippi from the perspective of a riverboat captain and one of America’s greatest literary figures. Shelby’s Mark Twain amazes with

his wit and sensibility.

Please respond quickly if you intend to attend. This event is very popular and is expected to be a full house. We were allocated 58 tickets and signups will be accepted on a first come/first serve basis.

The play starts at 7:00 and the bus will start loading at 5:15. We will not be stopping for dinner. So, you might want to eat an early dinner and/or bring something to eat on the bus. On our last trip many attendees brought snacks and finger food to enjoy and pass. The folks on the bus thought it was a good idea and lots of fun. So, if you care to, you may bring treats or something to pass on the bus on the way to Red Wing. Bottled water and napkins will be provided.

You will be notified of your confirmed reservations. The bus will board at Gander Mountain at 5:15 pm and will leave promptly at 5:30 pm.

This Waiver and General Release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the state/country where the Local Club activity is being organized, and that if any portion of this Waiver and General Release is held invalid and unenforceable, it is agreed that the balance of this Waiver and General Release shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

As an eligible participant, on behalf of yourself, heirs, and assigns, you assume full responsibility for the risk of illness, injury, and possible death inherent in participating in any recreational activities. You waive, release, indemnify, and agree not to make a claim against International Business Machines Corporation and the IBM Club together with all of their subsidiaries, employees, or other representatives or agents ("Released Parties") for any and all loss or damage, all illnesses, and injuries (including, but not limited to, death) which relate to IBM Club activities, including, but not limited to, those resulting from the negligence of one or more of the Released Parties.

For participants of minority age under 18 at the time of registration, as parent/guardian with legal responsibility for this participant, you consent and agree not only to his/her release and indemnification of IBM, but also for yourself and heirs, assigns, and next of kin to release and indemnify the Released Parties from any and all liability caused due to minor child's involvement.

*****TICKET REQUEST FORM*****

Sheldon Theatre for the March 19th, 2016 presentation of *Mark Twain: Life on the Mississippi* with Don Shelby.

Deadline: 2/25/2016 (Sooner the better)

Mail to: IBM Rochester Alumni Club, 20 1st Avenue NE, Rochester, MN 55906.

Member Name: _____ Phone: _____

The Sheldon Theatre is wheelchair accessible

Handicapped Seating Required? No Yes Specify: _____

Ticket quantity _____ at \$ 38.00 each = \$ _____

(Please enclose your check)

Mail To:

IBM Rochester Alumni Club

20 1st Avenue NE

Rochester, MN 55906

Cancellation Policy: There will be no cancellations/refunds after February 25th, 2016. The show will only cancel if roads are impassable. For questions, contact The IBM Alumni Club Office at [507.424.4193](tel:507.424.4193) or Email rchret@aol.com

*****TICKET REQUEST FORM*****

Broadway Play: "GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE AND MURDER"

Ninety eight of your fellow IBM Alumni friends had a great time on January 10th, 2016 as they attended the play "A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder". The play, a musical comedy was held at the State Theater in Minneapolis and was performed by the touring ensemble from Broadway where it had won a Tony in 2014. The performers had great voices and the humor was very enjoyable. It was a much better way to spend the day than to watch the Vikings loose a heart breaker to the Seattle Seahawks.

Hal Kossman

Alumni Club Office Staffing Volunteers

During 2015, 12 IBM Rochester Alumni Club (RAC) members volunteered their time (200 hours) to staff the Club office at the Salvation Army building 120 1st St NE, Rochester. A big **THANK YOU** to **ALL** the following club members volunteering their time to help fellow IBM Retirees' / Alumni:

Joan Buske, Bev Gerzevske, Bill Hammer, Wayne Harris, Seig Hoepfner, Dave Lind, Steve Majerus, Dave Naatz, Frank Richardson, Larry Plank, Lad Roering, Roger Spee

Any IBM Alumni interested in staffing the Alumni Club office from 10 AM till Noon on Tuesdays or Thursdays is encouraged to call the club office at 507-424-4193 or send an e-mail to rchret@aol.com for more information.

Wayne Harris, Chairman, Office Committee

Florida Snowbird Gathering

Our 5th Annual (2015) IBM Rochester Snowbird Gathering had a wonderful turn out and response on a delightfully *sunny, warm* winter Florida day ... it was actually a Chamber of Commerce type day!



Alumni Row 1: Vicky Wagner; Barb Koench; Lil Batholomew; Barbara Muenkel; Carol Lucas; Carol Egan; Nancy Kryka

Alumni Row 2: Bernie Loeffler; Kenn Boyles; Joel Eikenhorst; Carol Hubbard; Diane Moench; Russ Moench; Marsh Blizzard; Dave Monson; Gary Brun

Alumni Row 3: Judy Haas; Joe Wiggs; Allen Harty; Bill Smith; Ralph Beastrom; Dave Foreman

Alumni Row 4: Tom Modjeski; Joe McCoy; Bob Koench; Barry Pow; Kevin Hubbard; Ray Romon; Glenn VanBenschoten; Frank Reardon; Lyle Hinrichs; Jim Kryka; Ray Lucas

Rochester alumni/retirees and their spouses enjoyed an afternoon of catered heavy appetizers & desserts, renewing friendships, getting caught up on life after retirement and meeting others they may not have previously known from their IBM days.

We will be hosting our **6th annual Snowbird gathering on Sunday, February 28, 2016** in Venice, FL. Mark your calendars if you plan to be in *sunny* Florida. Please feel free to let Barbara Muenkel (bhmuenkel@gmail.com) know if you would like to attend and you will be kept abreast of the details. **RSVP's requested by February 14** for planning purposes.

Joyous New Year to all, Barbara H Muenkel

Arizona Snow Bird Gathering??_

Some of you have expressed an interest in doing a snow bird gathering in Arizona. We cannot provide contact names nor can we help with the organization, but we can publicize it for you once it's set up. So, is there an organizer out there? Let us hear from you.

Obituaries

IBM Alumni (club members and non-members) who passed away in 2015:

Willette Norine Anderson, Harold D. Atkinson, L. Joseph Bauman, Wallace Arthur Berglund Jr., Richard Bestor, Joseph Blouin, Michael Brossard, John Bruning, Robert Casto, Stephen Clemens, Thomas Colson, Theodore Conger, Lloyd Dickhut, Karen Sue Eikenhorst, Archie Evans, Lucius Evenson Jr., Arnold Felten, Jack L. Foley, Richard R. Francis, George 'Ken' Garrett, Marvin Hayft, Curtis Heeren, Mary Helland, John Hennessey, Edward Highum, Margaret Huebner, S. R. 'Huf' Hufstedler, Robert Hust, John Hulsizer, Barbara J. Johnson, Robert 'Tusker' Johnson, James Jordan, LeRoy Earl Kolb, Bob Kothenbeutel, Ronald Edwin Krom, Philip Arthur Kylo, Robert (Bob) Lechner, Rosalyn Lehnertz, Vernon Lutterman, A. Carl Maki, Gerald Malagrino, A. Worrell 'Mal' Malcomson, Pete Mataya, Bill McGurk, Ronald E. Miller, Thomas Moe, Harvey Newkirk, Dale Peterson, Donald Roy Pischke, Richard Podolske, Donald Redman, John Rink, Morgan Roland, Erhardt Rosen, Alfred Sandeen, Jacob Sanders, Walter S. Schaffer, Myron Schettl, Paul Schmitter, Bill Schneider, Daniel Schottler, Edward Schuck, Kenneth Schumann, H. Robert (Pastor Bob) Sinex, Thomas Smith, Lloyd Franklin Spratte, Earl Stellmaker, Carl Stoltenberg, Gerald Streiff, Robert Waite, John Clement Walter, Twila Weichert, Harold E. Weick, John Henry Willaman, Wayne Charles Witt, Shirley Worden, James Zeman, Dick Zrucky

The following IBM Alumni Club Members have recently passed away:

Thomas Colson died November 20, 2015. Tom worked for IBM in Denver and later Rochester as a system programmer until retirement in 1992. He is survived by his wife, Shirley (an Alumni Club member); a daughter; two sons; and five grandchildren.

Deane A. Fuchs died January 7, 2016. Deane worked as an expeditor at IBM for 35 years, retiring in 1991. He is survived by his wife, Illa June; children; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Mary Helland died November 11, 2015. Mary was the surviving spouse of IBM retiree, Elmer Helland. She was active in choir and enjoyed flower gardening. She is survived by four sons, eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Kenneth Neumann died January 1, 2016. He worked for IBM and served on the initial board of directors for the credit union. He is survived by daughters; ten grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

Harvey Newkirk died September 23, 2015. He worked at IBM in computer manufacturing for over 33 years. Harvey is survived by his wife, Joan; two daughters; a son; ten grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Erhardt Rosen died November 21, 2015. He started his career at IBM in 1957. Erhardt is survived by his wife, Janet; sons and daughters; eight grandchildren; six great-grandchildren.

Richard Podolske died December 27, 2015. Richard worked for IBM as a circuit analyst and retired after 30 years. He is survived by a son and daughter; brother and sister; and close friends.

Myron Schettl died November 30, 2015. In 1959, Myron went to work at IBM where he received several patents. After retiring in 1989, he started a second career as a tree farmer and did custom sawing and drying of lumber for over 20 years. Myron is survived by his wife, LaVerne; sons and daughter; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Thomas Smith died November 11, 2015. Tom worked at IBM from 1961 until retirement in 1992. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; three children; six grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

On behalf of the Alumni Club, we extend our most sincere sympathy to all survivors.

CELEBRATIONS

50th Anniversary:

Don and Judy Grams - November 6

Edward and Patricia Walsh - November 13

Gary and Janet Zander - December 4

Wayne and Mary Kuehn - December 18

70th Anniversary:

Marv and Marvis Muller - December 20