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e-NEWS
Horst Truestedt, Editor



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Member Update

The board election results have been tallied. There were 177 votes total for the ballot of Board of Directors. I want to thank those leaving the board this year for their work and participation. It was greatly appreciated and hopefully you will find time to volunteer in the future. I want to welcome the two new board members, Jean Schendel and Marty Jensen. We welcome your fresh ideas and perspective.

No one has volunteered to head the events committee so far. If you are interested in helping organize events like we held in the past you do not have to be on the Board to do it. I want to thank all the members of the Events committee for the great work they have done. They didn't get enough thanks.

In the coming year the Board is looking at making some structural changes and new activities. An evolution committee headed by Bob Thode was formed to explore ways to evolve the club and make recommendations. During the December Board meeting they presented a first recommendation to engage the members in more social activities than just the Christmas party and summer picnic. They are suggesting that during the monthly meeting we shorten the business portion of the meeting and add activities such as speakers to come in and present on different topics of interest. We are open to any ideas for things to do. We have the Rochester Public Utility (RPU) community room from 2-4pm the third Wednesday of the month. We will be looking for volunteers to staff this "social" committee. Best of health and fortune in the coming year!

Larry Plank – President

Social Committee

Our club is planning on having more Social Meetings throughout the year - not just at the holidays. We would value your input on the content of these "get-togethers", frequency, location, etc.

We hope to insure the meetings have the content that meets the needs of our members. Our thought is to include the elements that make for fun "get-togethers" (Social in nature, door prizes, humor, speakers, education, etc.).

If you have any input for us, or would like to participate on the social committee, please contact us by sending an email (IBMAlumniSocial@gmail.com) or leaving a voice mail or text message (507-405-0948).

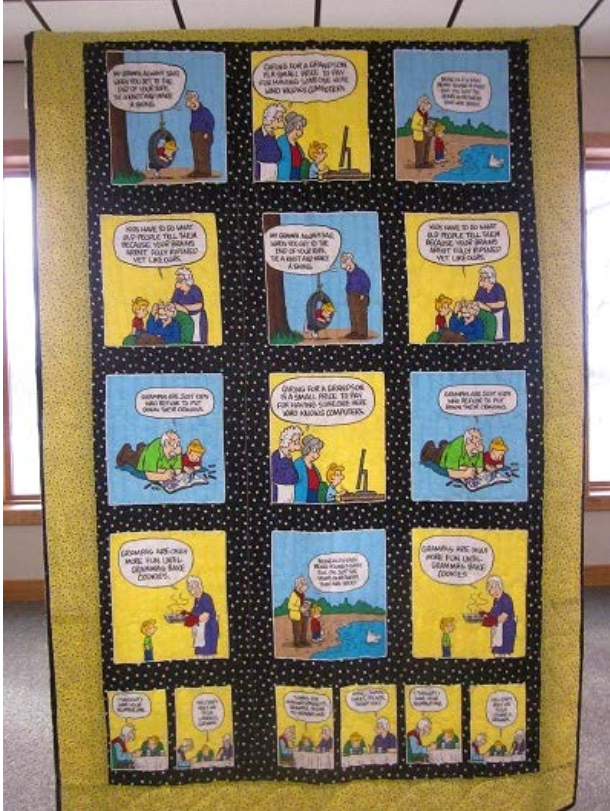
Bob Thode – Committee Chair

Christmas Party 2017

The 2017 Rochester IBM Alumni Club Christmas Party was held on Thursday, December 14th at the beautifully renovated Eagles Club in Rochester. Great food, conversation, and door prizes were enjoyed by about 150 Alumni club members, spouses, and guests. Entertainment included a brief comedy skit and Karaoke Christmas carol sing-a-long. Megan Harms and the Eagles staff did a great job in setting up the room and organizing food and beverage service.

A BIG THANKS to the great group of volunteers who helped put on this event. Nancy Morrison and Seig Hoepfner for making those great name tags and working the welcome table. Karl Shidler for setting up the group Karaoke, music and obtaining numerous door prizes. Darlyne Burchfiel for obtaining and serving the cake, Jeannie Varsoke treasurer at welcome table.

Also Rita Kiefer, Wayne Wellik, Joan Buske, Bob Mesarchik, Duane Haugen, Bill Beaupre, Jim and Alice Miesbauer, Larry Plank, Bob Thode, Horst Truedstedt, Nyckie Evans, all involved in a multitude of chores including decorating, food serving, obtaining door prizes, survey, photos, entertainment, cleanup etc.



We want to recognize the door prize donors including Sue Norell for the unique "PICKLES" quilt. Also Willow Creek Golf Course, Rochester Tennis Connection, Hubbell House, 125 LIVE, Rochester Civic Theatre, Rochester Ford, Victorias, Carousel Floral, Grandma's Kitchen, Rochester Athletic Club, THINK Bank, Canadian

Honker Restaurant, Rochester indoor golf, Terrarium Treasures, Hillcrest Barbers, Perkins South, Olive Garden, Lupient Buick/GMC, Charlie's Eatery, Lewiston auto, Megan Harms.

Ken Kiefer and Wayne Wellik – party co-chairs

Highway Clean-up

The following is the Highway Clean-up schedule for 2018:

Dates: Wednesday-May 16th, and Wednesday-September 12th

Time: 9:00am

Where: County Road 3 north of Douglas

Meet in the Douglas Trail parking lot, on the south side of 75th street in Douglas.

Any questions can be directed to Murlin Miller (507-358-0156).

From the Golf Committee

Here are the dates to mark on your calendars for the 2018 season:

June 11 - Bluffs at Wabasha
June 25 - Pine Island
July 16 - Zumbrota
July 30 - Mount Frontenac
August 13 - Willow Creek
August 27 - Dodge Center
September 10 - Oak Summit
September 24 - The Jewel

Same format. Shotgun for nine holes starting at 9:00, followed by lunch. Optional second nine at a reduced price. The price for the first nine and lunch will typically be \$23 if walking and \$30 if riding, except for The Jewel. More information will come when it thaws. In the meantime, stay warm.

Sincerely,
Bill Kleis -- Golf Committee

Korean War Veterans - More

We should have included **Thomas Furr** in the list of people who frequently attend Club events – it was nice to see him at the Christmas Party.

We know that we did not include many Korean War veterans who are deceased and also, veterans who were not included in the Post Bulletin insert.

We heard from the following:

From Joan Newkirk: My husband, **Harvey Newkirk**, passed away in September 2015. Harvey was a Korean War veteran, 1952-1953, and an IBM employee from 1957 - 1990. His name was not included in your latest newsletter, listing the Korean War vets. Please add his name in your listing -- he was a loyal IBMer and a U.S. Army veteran.

From Peg Sparks: Please add **Ronald Sparks**, Air Force veteran to your list. There is a paver for him at the Veterans Memorial at Soldiers Field.

From Ed Berryman: I too served in the US Army.

From Tom Adams: I just finished reading the November Newsletter and the article about Korean War Vets. I spent time in Korea from Mar '57 until Jul '58. I didn't think I was eligible to join the Korean Vets group until I also read the Post Bulletin insert and discovered that anyone that served in Korea could now join the group. Since then, I've been attending the Monday morning breakfasts at Grandma's Kitchen with the group. PS: If someone starts a Germany veterans group, I served there from July '59 until June '62.

From Jay R. Anderson: I retired from the Marine Corps as a MSgt in 1988 prior to coming to IBM Rochester in 1992. I am a Vietnam veteran. I retired from IBM in 2008 after 16 years. Thanks for your help.

Our article was limited to Korean War Veterans. Maybe we should consider doing something for all veterans to 'put you in touch' with each other. Your comments are very much appreciated.

8th Annual IBM Rochester Snowbird Reunion

Sunday, March 4, 2018; 3pm to 7pm

The same caterer as last year will provide another scrumptious heavy appetizer buffet. Cost is \$15 (same as last season), BYOB.

Location: Venice Isles, 101 Via Veneto, Venice, FL 34285

From I75 take exit 193, Jacaranda, toward Venice/Engelwood about 1 mile. At Venice Ave, there is a roundabout. Take the first right to Venice Ave and continue to the Hwy 41 bypass, about 3 miles. Turn left and stay in the left lane about 1 mile. Venice Isles is on the left. Watch closely for it as it's not really well marked but there is a turn lane. The club house is straight ahead on the left - first building past the stop sign, about a block.

NOTE: for those who wish to stay in Venice overnight, there are three motels close by and right off of the I75 exit 193: Fairfield Inn by Marriott / Best Western / Holiday Inn Express.

Direct any questions to: Diane Moench at dkmoench@charter.net or Carol Lucas at carol.r.lucas@gmail.com

Obituaries

IBM Alumni (club members and non-members) who passed away in 2017:

Alan Ackerman, Dick Amdahl, Robert Amundson, Thomas 'Mike' Armstead, John 'Jack' Beck, Marvin Berreth, Albert Bierly Sr, Ardith 'Gail' Bonnicksen, Dallas Bradshaw, Wayne Brooks, Richard Brown, Gerard Bruns, Marvin Buckland, Robert Bulger, Kenneth Byer, John Champion, Robert Carson, Karen Chaffee, Freddie Charles, Patrick Christenson, Dick Dahl, Barbara Daly, Dale Toby Deters, Curtis Dotzenrod, Barbara Eddy, Leslie Dean Ekhoﬀ, Harold Fuchs, Lyla Fugleberg, Bernie Gardner, Fred Garske, Ruby Gronseth, Forrest Hahn, Art Hamburg, Paul Hospers, Greg Jahn, Ken Johnson, John Justice, Lester Kocher, David Lien, Robert Lyngaas, Art Martinson, Gordon McCoy, Ralph McDonald, James McEvoy, Jerald Miller, Francis Mulvihill, Thomas Murray, Robert Nolden, Jon Nolte, Marvin Nyberg, Jerry Ovrebo, Willard Patchin, Luverne Peterman, Charles Peters, Charles Peterson, Willard Rasmussen, John Reidenbach, Edward 'Sam' Schneider, Ted Schomburg, Eugene Searles, James Shelstad, Gary Simenson, Norman Sjarpe, Ronald Smith, John Stadheim, Bernadine Stahlhut, Mary Ann Stockdell, Clayton Stowe, John Stroebel, Donald Sudor, Jerry Tompkins, John Tillotson, Donald Tobie, Edward 'Ted' Waldo, Earl Wampach, Robert Waterhouse, Luverne Wendler, Myron 'Mike' Wentzel, Kenneth Willkomm, John 'Woody' Wood, George Young Jr.

The following IBM Alumni Club members have recently passed away.

John Thomas Beck died December 12, 2017. He returned from service in the Navy and worked at another job, then started at IBM in 1964 as a machine operator where he remained for 26 years until retirement in 1990. John is survived by his wife, Twila; sons and daughters; grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Albert Bierly, Sr died December 20, 2017. He started at IBM, served in the US Army and worked at various IBM locations like Vestal, NY and Durham, NC. He returned to Rochester in 1968 where he finished his 41-year career as a procurement engineer in

the tool and die department, retiring in 1982. Albert is survived by his wife, Wanda; a daughter and sons; grandchildren; great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandson.

Wayne Brooks died December 30, 2017. He served in the US Air Force and, in 1959, started work with IBM. He spent time in California, Iowa, and Texas. While in Texas, Wayne was part of the IBM programming team that supported the Apollo Space Program. He completed his 32-year IBM career in Rochester, retiring in 1991. Wayne is survived by four children; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Harold Fuchs died January 3, 2018. Harold served in the Korean War, and farmed with his father until he began employment with IBM in 1959. He retired in 1987. Harold enjoyed many things like farming, woodworking, gardening, and spending time at the lake. He is survived by his wife, Neva; children; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Leonard Giesler died October 24, 2017. He served in the US Air Force, then had a 30 years career at IBM. Leonard enjoyed fishing, jigsaw puzzles and being the best grandfather to his granddaughter, Kamila. He is survived by his wife, Opel; a son and daughter; a granddaughter and a host of other family and friends.

Our deepest sympathy to all surviving family and friends.

Celebrations

65th Anniversary: Larry and Jeanine Baringer – December 30

Please continue to let us know about obituaries and celebrations. We try to get information from the Post Bulletin but sometimes we miss things and really appreciate hearing from you.