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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: 507-288-3663 x120



e-NEWS
Horst Truedstedt, Editor

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Next Newsletter: (email and US mail) March 2019 (about the 20th)

Did You Know!

Have you had your identity stolen? If so, you can relate to what happened to me. Last October I was finishing my taxes on line (I know I was late). When I went to a web site called for by the tax program, I received a blue screen stating that I was violated – this happened even though I have virus and malware programs running. Unfortunately, a file that is normally password protected, was open in my system and the hackers got that file which allowed them to steal my complete identity. This file contains all information necessary for our daughters in case something should happen to me.

I first noticed that something was wrong when I had a text that my telephone number was changed. Fortunately, I was able to get my number back for my cell phone since that is the only means (without physical presence) that many of my accounts are verified. Then one account after another (banks and credit cards) were being used to open new charges, and transfer money. Even though I do not have much in my account, I am the executor and treasurer of a Bible School which had substantial amounts in them.

I signed up for LifeLock and LifeLock scanned my system three times (without finding any malicious software). I spent at least 40 hours trying to recover my identity, changed all my credit cards and bank accounts, froze my social security numbers, and modified all automatic payments. I also reported the theft to the sheriff but was told that there was little chance of catching these culprits.

Even though traumatic, I was able to recover the fraudulent activities but hope that the loss (purchasing LifeLock, etc.) can be contained within \$1000.

Things you might want to watch are: regularly check your computer for malicious software (even though the hacker was able to get around the ones I'm using), your bank accounts, your credit cards, and your cell phone.

Horst Truededt

Two Retirees on Veterans Day 2018

On a recent trip to the Mayo Clinic, while I was sitting near the desk, an older gentleman was wheeled up by an attendant. The receptionist asked the gentlemen his birthdate and he replied very strongly "1921" – WOW! This is a very senior person wearing a WWII cap. After reporting into the desk, he was wheeled near the back, and was alone.

I decided to go back and greet him, thank him for his service and ask if there was anything I could do to help. He replied his sight and hearing were bad, but he was able to accept all of that based on his age. We talked for a few short minutes and I told him my name was Robert Adams.

I asked him his name and he replied "Al Petosky". I could hardly believe his reply. I replied back: "Al, we are both retired IBMers, we have worked together, you are a great guy and one of the people I always enjoyed working with." This meeting after not seeing Al for many years made my day. I felt very honored for that chance meeting and the reminder of a lot of good friends and relationships at IBM at the original IBM 201 building, the WAREHOUSE.

Robert E. Adams

From the Golf Committee

Happy New Year! We have eight outings lined up for the coming season and we look forward to seeing you again. The dates are listed here for you to mark your calendars, plus information is posted on our web site. There will be more information in our next newsletter regarding format and how to sign up. In the meantime, start doing those pushups and start thinking of other IBM Alumni and guests you can invite to join you at each event.

June 10	The Bluffs, Wabasha
June 24	Pine Island
July 08	Zumbro Falls
July 22	Mt Frontenac
August 05	Willow Creek
August 19	Dodge Center
September 09	Oak Summit
September 30	The Jewel

Bill Kleis, Golf Committee

Highway Clean-up

The following is the Highway Clean-up schedule for 2019:

Dates: Wednesday-May 15th and
Wednesday-September 18th
Time: 9:00 AM
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).

Branson Tour

It seems like forever, but it has been only ten weeks (November 1) since 20 sleepy Alumni people boarded the 5 am departure for Branson, Mo. Three of Glenn's Tours beautiful Coaches traveling together.

Breakfast was in Albert Lea. After a couple of "necessity" stops and lunch somewhere we arrived late in the afternoon in Branson. The weather was cloudy, but warmer. We planned to be at this motel for three nights. If it could talk, I'm sure you would hear happenings in Branson for the past 30 plus years. However, I think it made little difference to most of us since we were out and about most of the time.

The next two days we were entertained by the pros and excellent dinner buffets. The **DANIEL O'DONALD's CHRISTMAS** show (almost 3 hours) was spectacular - lots of stage interaction with the toddlers and warming traditions. The tour also included "**THE MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET**, **PRESLEY's COUNTRY JUBILEE**, and **LEGENDS in CONCERT**. All were very entertaining - that's what comes with variety!

The last day, we departed at 7 am. It took about two hours to drive out of the mountains; a few hours later we were traveling through the rolling hills of southern Iowa. We arrived in Rochester at 6:30 pm. There was a lot of camaraderie!

Should the Alumni Club do it again next year? Thanks for the memories seems appropriate for this trip.

Bob Mesarchik

Christmas Party

The 2018 Rochester IBM Alumni Club Christmas Party was held on Thursday, December 6th at the Eagles Club in Rochester. Great food, conversation, and door prizes were enjoyed by 190 Alumni Club members, spouses, and guests - a great turnout.



The Eagles Club, once again, did a great job setting up and providing the food. The food was different this year - a 'traditional' meal of ham and turkey breast along with potatoes, salad, corn, and more was served rather than the 'appetizers' that we've had in the past. As usual, the club provided cake in addition to the meal that was served.

A BIG THANKS to the great group of volunteers who helped put on this event - we had folks who helped with the planning, decorating, setup, making name tags, keeping up with the finances, working the welcome table, taking photographs and obtaining door prizes.

Once again, we want to thank our generous donors for the great door prizes. The feedback we received was very positive. We look forward to seeing everyone at the 2019 Christmas Party.

Wayne Wellik, 2018 Chair and Marty Jensen, 2019 Chair

Tiffany Bottoms – May 18

Save the date for a wonderful train ride to Tiffany Bottoms, near Nelson, WI. It is an open-air train ride through prairie lands and forests. After the train ride, we will go to the Stone Barn Pizza for wood-fired pizza in the nearby countryside. Signup will be in the March Newsletter.

Ken Kiefer

Minnesota Twins Trip – June 15

We are making an early announcement of the 2019 Minnesota Twins trip. Special festivities are planned for the Saturday, June 15, 2019 Twins game to retire the jersey of Joe Mauer. Game time is 6:10 pm. We have reserved the same great seats as last year in Section 124. The cost of the trip is yet to be determined. Please keep this in mind as you plan your summer activities. Details will follow in a future newsletter. Go Twins!

Judy Moyer

Obituaries

IBM Alumni (club members and non-members) who passed away in 2018:

Paul Anderson, Lawrence 'Jerry' Balbach, Samuel W. Blakeslee, Eugene Behrens, Eugene Blume, John 'Jack' Braun, Arthur Brooks, Gary Burkholder, Jack Chandler, Scott Christopherson, Ron Clark, Theodore Clikeman, Robert L. Coe, John Corrigan, Joseph P. Dee, Norbert Dietz, Thomas Dillehay, William Dixon, Allan Eastlee, Larry Elit, Angeline Ellis, Robert E. Erickson, Frank Exe, Thomas Fischer, William 'Buz' Fischer, Wayne Freiheit, Harold Fuchs, Roy Gisler, Gerald Griffin, Merrill Gutzmer Jr, Darlene Harvey, F. Eugene Hawkins, Howard Helland, Diane Hellie, Wallace Horihan, Lewis Judd, Merlyn Kohrs, Richard Kramer, Gary Kuehntopp, Larry Lengerman, Melvin Liljevall, Robert Loy, Gerald Machacek, Hazel Markham, Jerry Martin, Curt Mathiowetz, Richard Myhre, Gary E. Meyer, Michael Monday, Arvella Neitzel, Jon E. Nelson, Robert Neshiem, Steven Nolte, Clyde Norell, Darlene O'Malley, Wilber Oudekirk, David Eugene Perkins, Benjamin Persons, Susan Peterman, Robert Polikowsky, John Pritchard, Gerald Rahman, Richard Redman, Bradfield Richards, Lynn Richter, Norman Rockvan, Ralph A. Russell, Ralph J. Russell, Alan Rustan, Patricia Ryan, Raymond Salvo, Ali Sameni, Richard Sands, Robert Sawinski, George Scarborough, Jean E. Schendel, Harold 'Hardy' Schierts, Lorna Schmidt, Francis Schnorenberg, Clarence 'Clix' Schwieters, Larry Scrapeck, Clayton Severson, Dennis Shilling, Larry Shumway, Allen Simonson, Richard Simpson, Richard Sonsalla, Zanti Squillace, Joan

Swarthout, Clyde Taylor, Lloyd Vehrenkamp, Kathleen Walczak, Allen Wing, Tom Winthers, Glenn Zell

The following IBM Alumni Club members have recently passed away.

William 'Buz' Fischer died December 17, 2018. Buz served in the Air Force from 1958 until 1962 before beginning a 27-year career at IBM. He enjoyed traveling, fishing, watching sports, and metal detecting. He loved spending his retirement with his family. Buz is survived by his wife, Lillian; a daughter and 2 sons; 12 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Wayne Freiheit died December 9, 2018. Wayne spent 4 years in the US Marine Corp, serving for a time as a communications specialist in Okinawa Japan. In 1960, he was hired at IBM where he worked in numerous departments, retiring after 32 years as a mechanical engineer. After his retirement, he worked part time at various jobs. He was a member of the VFW color guard. He organized and participated in many community projects. Wayne is survived by his wife, Karen; children; and grandchildren.

Roy W. Gisler died December 10, 2018. Roy came to Rochester in 1956, applied at IBM and worked there for 35 years, retiring as a systems analyst in 1991. He had a degree in theology and served as pastor of several churches. He was very active in missionary work and went on 19 trips to 7 different countries since his retirement. Roy is survived by his wife, Carol; children; 10 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

F. Eugene 'Gene' Hawkins died November 18, 2018. Gene was employed for 30 years at IBM as a parts specialist. His special interests included bowling, playing cards, attending family reunions, studying family genealogy and taking bus tours. Gene is survived by his wife, Zeta; sons; 11 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Max Kingsbury died January 12, 2019. Max worked for IBM for 30 years, then opened a photography studio where he worked with his wife, Judy, until she passed away in 2018. Max is survived by his children, Brian, Randi, and Bonny; 3 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren.

Richard 'Dick' Myhre died December 14, 2018. He worked at IBM from 1957 until retirement in 1990. He loved traveling and saw many countries throughout the world. His interests included snowmobiling, camping, cooking, canning tomatoes and pickles, antiques, and gardening. Dick is survived by children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Richard L. Sands died December 15, 2018. After time in the Air Force, Richard started working at IBM in Colorado. He moved to Rochester in 1978 and continued working at IBM as a program manager until retirement in 1995. After retirement, he continued working with computers and even co-authored several patents. He was a history buff, enjoyed trains and muscle cars, watching birds, traveling, and especially building computers for his family. He is survived by his wife, Kathryn; children; 23 grandchildren; and 7 great-grandchildren.

Allen Merle Simonson died December 22, 2018. He served in the US Navy for 4 years, then farmed in the area, and worked at IBM for 22 years. Allen enjoyed fishing, flying, camping, and going south to Meza Arizona each year for 35 years. He is survived by his wife, June; children; 6 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren.

Joan Swarthout died December 5, 2018. Joan worked at a number of different companies including IBM where she spent 20 years until retirement in 1990. She was a long-time member of VFW Auxiliary and American Legion Auxiliary. Her passions were crocheting, quilting, and sewing. She and her husband enjoyed road trips, fishing, camping, snowmobiling, and an occasional casino run. Joan is survived by a sister and many nieces and nephews.

Raymond Zeman died January 16, 2019. Ray enlisted in the US Air Force in 1954. He went to work at IBM in Rochester in 1957, drawing on his experience and education in the Air Force, and had a very successful 35-year career. Ray was involved in community affairs and spent countless hours of volunteer work for Rochester schools and churches. He was especially involved with Lourdes High School where, for 45 years, he ran the clock for football and basketball games and organized fund-raising events. Ray is survived by his children, Steven, Daniel, Michael, and Renee; 5 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren.

Our deepest sympathy to all surviving family and friends.

Celebrations

60th Anniversary: Rodney and Veda Miller – November 15

64th Anniversary: Duane and Cheryle Haugen – November 28

Please continue to let us know about obituaries and celebrations. We sometimes miss things and really appreciate hearing from you. We especially like to publish your 'celebrations.'