

NEWS

Volume XVIII Number 1

Ed Rosencrants, Editor

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January/February 2004

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RETIREES' CLUB VOLUNTEERS

During 2003, several Retirees Club members volunteered their time to staff the Club office at the IBM main site. Thank you to the following volunteers: **Dick Smith, Wayne Harris, Paul Klankowski, Ken Yule, Gary Allar, Chuck Abrath, Del Anderson, Ruth Nevling, Ladd Roering, Ken Willkomm, Shirley Stender, Loel Erickson, Judy Wasser, Arlyn Ward, Chuck Perry and Dwight Gourneau.** Anyone interested in staffing the club office from 10 AM to noon on Tuesdays or Thursdays please call the club office at 507-253-3664.

On Tuesday, November 18th and Wednesday, November 19th, Retiree Club members and their spouses staffed the Salvation Army Christmas kettle at the north end of the Penney's store at Apache Mall. A special "thank you" to the following bell ringers: **Jim and Mary Abraham, Del and Bonnie Anderson, John and Margaret Corrigan, Jim and Peggy McEvoy, Les and Judith Thronson, Harold and Mildred Ames, David Middleton, Dave Monson, Ruth Nevling, Chuck Perry and Loel Erickson.**

Again this spring, IBM Retiree Club volunteers will be selling daffodils for the American Cancer Society. Our assigned location is Econo North on March 9, 12, 13 and 14. If you would like to volunteer for this very worthwhile cause, please call the Retirees' Club Office at 253-3664 and someone will call you to set up a day and a time.

Loel Erickson,

chairman, volunteer committee

RETIREES' HOLIDAY PARTY A SUCCESS

The 2003 IBM Retiree Club Holiday party was held on December 6th, 2003. A total of 479 people attended the Holiday Party, which was held in the North Lobby of the Civic Center. The Mayo Civic Center staff and our caterer, the 7th Rib, did an outstanding job, which resulted in a fun afternoon. When you have an opportunity to do so, thank them.

We had a very good crowd, even though the numbers were down from the previous year. The 2004 Holiday Party will again be held at the Mayo Civic Center on December 4th. Put that date on your calendar now.

We want to make a special note of thanks to the THINK Credit Union. They paid the fee for the liability insurance again this year. When you stop by their offices, please share our thanks with them.

If you have any comments that would help improve the party for next year, write or call and let us know. We know that the North Lobby was crowded, but we believe that rearranging the tables and serving areas will help. We will work with the Civic Center and the caterer to make next years party

even better.

I would like to thank all the board members who staffed the name badge tables, the Holiday Party committee members for time they spent planning the event, and especially **Nancy Morrison**, and **Ron Brovold** for the decorations.

Jim Honsey,

Chairman, Holiday Party Committee

GIRL SCOUTS NEED COMPUTER HELP

They have one server running Windows NT/2000 connected to the other PCs in the office with wireless Ethernet. Hillary is looking for someone to come in approximately 2 days a month and help troubleshoot networking problems as well as other problems they might have. She primarily would like to be educated as the problems are solved so she won't need help in the future

They also have some security issues (physical security of the server, and how to allow at-home use of the files on the server, given that not everyone has the same version of windows) that they would like some help on. They also wish to redo their web-site, and would like some help with that.

Hillary Taylor can be reached at 288-4703, ext. 3030, or by e-mail at htaylor@rivertrails.org. She would like to be contacted directly by any retirees who are interested in helping.

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO?

Hi, I'm **Nancy Morrison**.

I began my IBM career with IBM in August 1967. Even though I was fresh out of college I spent my first six months in Programming School in Poughkeepsie. (In those days successful completion was a condition of employment.) Upon returning to Rochester I participated in the development of the RPG Card Compiler. (96 column cards) I spent the next several years developing and support the disk data management code on the System/3. I continued to work in software development in a management position on the System/3, System/38 and System/36.

I transferred to Education and worked the next several years on a program that provided experienced programmers the latest technical topics taught in University Computer Science programs.

I completed my programming career back in the laboratory working in the database tools area. I retired in 1994.

Not long after retiring, I was contacted to see if I would be interested in working on a patent infringement law suit brought against IBM by Data General. That law suit settled after a few years but several more have come and gone and I continue to work as a consultant.

My daughter lives in Stewartville and has two boys and a girl. On several occasion they have invited me to travel with them on vacation. We have made road trips out west spending a week in the Mount Rushmore area another year a couple of weeks in the Yellowstone area. Sometimes we have rented a cabin in northern Minnesota or the Upper Michigan and spent our time fishing, boating, playing cards or just sitting around a campfire. We also made a memorable two weeks at Disney World one year.

One of my sisters and I took a cruise to Alaska one summer. This was a memorable occasion. The scenery was breathtaking and we saw many animals I had previously seen only in captivity.

Being one of nine children, there is always a couple of weddings graduations or some type of special occasion that gathers us together. We always have a great time. My eighty nine year old mother lives with me so I see a birthday celebration coming.

Three other IBM retirees **Norm Erickson, Keith Jacobson** and **Jimmy Hoss** work in the litigation support area so I see them almost every day. We have contacted others depending on the type of law suit we are working on. I also participate in a lunch program that **Janet Stevenson** has been coordinating to get female IBM retirees together a few times each year. I have seen several retirees at these outings.

This is my second term on the Retirees Board and I thoroughly enjoy this activity.

Whatever time I have left I spend sewing with my new embroidery machine or working to get all my old movies, slides and photographs onto DVDs.

IBM RETIREES' BOWLING LEAGUE

This year we have 14 3-person teams. We just completed the first half of the split season. The standings were so close that on position day, any of the top 4 teams could have won. After the dust had settled, the final results were: 1st place - the Zippers (**George Kubat, Isabel Smith, & Clare Hawley**); 2nd place- the DJ's (**Jessie Shanklin, Dick Severson, & Dave Drips**); 3rd place - We Three (**Inez Jacobson, Don Linqvist, & Fred Garske**) & in 4th place - VSW (**Betty Voss, Tom Stuve, & Jerry Warner**).

Individual awards for this season were earned by:

ABC Senior 125+ pins over average (series:

Karl Pasch 694 (127 over avg)

Roy Quelle 667 (145 over avg)

WIBC 75+ pins over average(game) and

200+ game:

Betty Voss 225 game (85 over avg)

Isabel Smith 220 game (82 over avg)

Chris Osland 212 (76 over avg)

WIBC 500+ series

Betty Voss 503 series

Isabel Smith 512 series

Here are the men & women who have put up the high numbers so far:

High avg: **Karl Pasch** - 207

Jessie Shanklin - 163

High game: **Fred Garske** - 267

Betty Voss - 225

High series: **Fred Garske** - 696
Marlys Ohnstad - 555

Congratulations to the first-half winners, and to those who earned awards, and a "high five" to all the regulars and subs who are making this an especially enjoyable way to spend our Wednesday afternoons.

Dick Smith, league secretary

BOARD MEMBERS

At the December board meeting, the following members were elected to serve on the IBM Retirees' Club Board of Directors for a three year term: Del Anderson, Jerry Blaisdell, Rita Buegler, Grant Cooper, Loel Erickson, Judy Haas, Loren (Nick) Nielsen, Dick Odell, Ken Willkomm. Welcome all board members to the IBM Retirees' Board of Directors.

The new members on Your IBM Retirees' Club Board for 2004 were decided by 65 people who chose to vote. This is your chance to voice who serves on your club's board, so be sure and vote this fall for the new board members for 2005.

Also at the same meeting, the following board members were elected to serve as officers.

President	Gary Allar
1st Vice President	Judy Wasser
2nd Vice President	Loel Erickson
Treasurer	Ken Willkomm
Ass't Treasurer	Nancy Morrison
Secretary	Lad Roering
Ass't Secretary	Paul Klankowski

OBITUARIES

The following IBM Retirees' Club members or spouses have passed away since the last newsletter.

PAUL EDWARD FIERST died October 29. He was an engineer at Rochester until his retirement in 1987, after a 32 year career. He is survived by a son, Joe; 5 daughters, Paula Plum, Peggy Fierst, Patty Keller, Janet Graham, and Frances Fierst; & 9 grandchildren.

CHARLES B. SPARKS died November 17. He joined IBM at Rochester in 1956, and retired as an engineer in 1991. Survivors include his wife, Norma; 6 sons, Charlie, Mickey, Mark, David, Eric, and Dan; 2 daughters, Pam Williams and Sue Patzer; & 20 grandchildren.

DALE R. BEETS died November 14. He retired from Rochester in 1989 after a 33 year career. Survivors include his wife, Catherine; a daughter, Barbara Diepenbrock; a son, Danny; a stepdaughter, Diane Richason; a stepson, Michael Fishbaugher.
; & 5 grandchildren.

DONALD DOUGLAS HAGQUIST died November 20. He retired from Rochester in 1994, after a 35 year career at various IBM locations. He is survived by his wife, Wanda Mae; and a son, Drew.

DONALD J. SMITH SR. died December 6. He joined IBM in Binghamton, NY, in 1952, and came to Rochester in 1960. He retired in 1987. Survivors include his wife, Barbara; 2 sons, Donald and Max; 2 daughters, Mary Ellen Louise DeGeus, and Theresa Ann McNeil; & 2 grandchildren.

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

UNITED WAY UPDATE

YOU DID IT! Several weeks ago, I sent you a letter encouraging your participation in the IBM Employee Charitable Contribution Campaign (ECCC). In 2002, the IBM Retirees pledged to contribute \$42,815 to area nonprofit organizations. This year you have generously pledged \$54,072 as of the latest report. That is a phenomenal increase of more than 26 percent!

In addition to these funds, several retirees, who are currently working as supplemental employees, contributed directly to the employee campaign. Supplemental employees increased their giving by more than 32 percent. You all are to be commended.

We're all so busy with our work and family lives that we probably don't look around often enough to realize that there are many who are less fortunate than us. Your funds will help your community nonprofit agencies provide the much needed assistance to those individuals and families who are most needy, especially in this year with the state and local budget cutbacks.

Thank you for making me proud to be an IBM Retiree.

Karl Pasch

IBM Retiree Club ECCC Representative

MEDICARE B PREMIUM REIMBURSEMENT

A reminder to send in the completed "**Special Health Assistance Provision Claim Form**" to get your Medicare B Premium Refund. You are eligible if:

You retired December 31, 1990, or prior. Submit for reimbursement of Medicare premium in excess of that included in your pension.

You retired after December 31, 1990, but before December 31, 1996. Submit for reimbursement of Medicare B premiums.

The instructions are on the back of the form, available from "**IBM National Human Resources Center**" at **1-800-796-9876**.

You have until December 31, 2004 to file for reimbursement for 2003.

LIFE PLANNING ACCOUNT

For those of you who are participating in a wellness course or an exercise/weight control program, reimbursements for certain expenses are available. File "Life Planning Account Claim Form", available from "**IBM National Human Resources Center**" at **1-800-796-9876**. Instructions are on the back of the form. Claims must be filed by April 15, 2004.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION OFFER FOR THE RETIREES' NEWSLETTER

Your membership dues for 2004 are due now. If you are a lifetime member, do nothing, you will continue to receive the newsletter. You are a lifetime member if LM is printed on the address label below. If you have been a yearly subscriber, the \$3.00 annual fee is due now, or consider the **onetime lifetime membership** of \$25.00. If you are not a member of the IBM Rochester Retirees' Club and are wondering why you got this issue of the newsletter, it's because we send a copy of the first issue each year to **ALL** IBM Rochester retirees. We want you to know that the club is active and you can join for a modest fee and get the newsletter, as well as participate in the club activities. To join, fill out the following and send with your check.

NAME: _____ SPOUSES NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, & ZIP: _____

IBM EMPLOYEE NUMBER: _____

1 YEAR (\$3.00) _____

LIFETIME (\$25.00) _____

SEND TO: IBM Rochester Retirees' Club
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