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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: 651-377-8893

e-NEWS

Horst Truedstedt, Editor

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Next Newsletter: (email and US mail) March 2021 (about the 20th)

From the President

Welcome club members to 2021. We all hope that this year is significantly better than the last one.

The club is currently working on activities for this year. We have two events on the schedule right now. The Minnesota Twins, July 26 and the Christmas Party, December 1. We are currently working on golf events and the picnic. If you have any suggestions for events, please send them to rchret@aol.com.

Marty Jensen

From the Office

The office remains closed. We will continue to monitor COVID and update you in future newsletters.

The Salvation Army has installed a new phone system. The new phone number is 651-377-8893 (NO long-distance charge). If at all possible, please send any questions or requests to rchret@aol.com, rather than call.

Thanks for your patience.

Wayne Harris/Marty Jensen

Rochester Area Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

The VITA program offers tax preparation services in the Rochester area and helps over 3,000 low and moderate income and elderly taxpayers. Preparation is offered at three sites in Rochester, as well as in Stewartville, Dodge County and Lanesboro, MN.

The program is offered through the efforts of over 80 volunteers in the area. The program is directed to taxpayers with \$69,000 and less adjusted gross income who otherwise might struggle with the process of preparing their taxes. Taxpayers interested in using this program can contact the United Way referral number 211 starting January 18, 2021.

Volunteers for the program are always needed. Although training to prepare returns is well underway there are positions that are needed for this filing season that do not require extensive training.

If you are interested for either this filing season or next year, please contact the area coordinator at davidrobortoeth@gmail.com or 507 259 3170.

David Oeth

Looking for Technical Help

The Rochester IBM Alumni Club has migrated off the standalone Lotus Notes to a web-based application.

I am looking for backup help on the application. Right now it would be mainly restarting the application if needed but could also include development work. Following are the technologies that the application uses. It would a good excuse to learn these technologies.

On the front end we have an Angular 8 app with typescript and HTML developed using Visual Studio Code.

As a web service we are using a RESTful Web Service using Java, Spring Boot, Spring MVC and JPA using Spring Tool Suite 4 (STS) which is an eclipse based IDE.

The backend database is MySql version 5.6.46

As a code repository we are using GIT.

If you have any of these skills or would like to learn them and are interested in helping, please send me an email or call me.

Paul Brown pdbrown1226@gmail.com cell 507 358 0446

IBMers in the News

Rochester IBM Alumni Stephen Troutman and Gerard Goulet were interviewed for the October 2020 Rochester Magazine. Both Stephen and Gerard are active in taking LIFE (Learning Is ForEver) classes at RCTC (Rochester Community and Technical College).

You can read their interviews by clicking on the links in this article.

[Click here to read Stephen Troutman's interview article](#)

[Click here to read Gerard Goulet's interview article](#)

There were 5 Rochester residents who were interviewed for the October 2020 Rochester Magazine. [You can read all the interviews by clicking on this link.](#)

If you are interested in learning more about the many (Zoom) classes offered by the LIFE program, you can access the LIFE Winter 2021 Class Catalog at <https://learningisforever.net/>

Roger Spee

Golf Committee

As we approach the 2021 golf season, we are going to assume there will be regular season, similar to what we had in 2019!

We have just started working on the schedule and nothing has been confirmed. In the next several weeks, we will attempt to contact the same golf courses we played in 2020 to set up a formal schedule.

We are also working on an on-line registration that will be available by the golf season. We will also accept registrations via email or by calling the club office.

We will have more definitive plans by the March Newsletter.

If you have any input on any changes you would like to see made, please contact us via email.

Until then, think GREEN!

*Paul Brown (pdbrown1226@gmail.com) and
Jim de Longpre (jim@delongpre.com), 2020 Golf Committee*

Rochester Salvation Army needs our Help



For the last several years the Rochester IBM Alumni Club has had its club office in a Salvation Army building in downtown Rochester. The Salvation Army has been very good to our Alumni Club. We (in the past) have helped with fund raising efforts (e.g., Bell Ringing) for them. Unfortunately, we no longer can find a volunteer to coordinate our club's involvement with this fund-raising effort. So alternatively, we are asking our club members to individually consider donating to the Salvation Army by either donating money or making a food donation.

First you should know money donations to the Salvation Army are tax deductible. The Salvation Army National Corporation is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization and your donation is tax-deductible within the guidelines of US. law.

For money donations

- Donations through USPS mail: if you are donating by writing a check. Send the donation to the address below. Please include a note that this is a money donation to the Rochester Salvation Army.

Rochester Salvation Army
20 1st Avenue NE
Rochester, MN 55906

- To donate by phone, please call 1-800-SAL-ARMY (1-800-725-2769).
- To donate online [click here](#)

For food donations

Bring food donations to the Salvation Army building located at *115 1st Avenue NE, Rochester MN*. All items must be labeled, not out of date or have been opened. No personally packaged items (e.g., homemade baked cookies, etc...) can be accepted.

Food items they are looking for are as follows:

- Cereal: any sized box of dry cereal; oatmeal
- Canned fruit
- Baking supplies: flour, sugar, cake mixes, etc...
- Protein items: spam, tuna, cans of chicken, peanut butter, etc...

The Rochester Salvation Army (<https://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/northern/Rochester/>) has helped many people of need in our Rochester community. They also have been very good to the Rochester IBM Alumni Club. With the COVID pandemic they have had greater need than ever. So, if you can consider donating to help them out, it will be much appreciated.

Roger Spee

IBM Rochester Snowbird Reunion

Last year, we enjoyed the 10th Annual IBM Rochester Snowbird Reunion on March 8. By the time I picked the best group photos and identified the people in those photos, we as a country were in lockdown. 2020 was a challenging year. Some of you have had friends and/or family that have had COVID and even lost friends and/or family to COVID. Some of you have had the virus and some of you are what they call long haulers which are people for whom the effects of the virus linger in a myriad of ways. We, as a group, have just lost two of our own. Since New Year's Day, Barry Brass and his wife Arlene lost their battles with COVID. Many of you worked with Barry and have memories of this dedicated, tenacious, and gregarious person. He truly cared about everyone that he worked with and will be missed by many. At this time, the family is working on funeral arrangements and ways to honor their parents. It goes without saying that funeral arrangements during COVID are challenging.

We are all aware that the vaccine rollout is going much more slowly than anticipated or desired. Rather than put any of you at risk, the IBM Snowbird Reunion will take a hiatus. I, personally, will miss seeing each of you but believe that this is the right thing to do. If you have news of others we have lost, feel free to send me a note and I will make the group aware. Please take care of yourself, stay safe, and be healthy so that we will again be able to see each other in the future.

Diane Moench

We Got Mail

What we have been doing in Arizona

Bob and I are doing well. The weather is getting much better now in Arizona. We can do more things outside! We especially enjoy being with our daughter and her family. We have 2 grandkids (ages 6 and 8) here in Arizona. They keep us busy.

Last year, with their mom's help, our grandkids started an organization called **tiny Giants**. The idea is to encourage youth to help others. **tiny Giants**, so far, has collected legos and games for kids in Phoenix Children's hospital, delivered over 1,000 lbs of food to the food bank, delivered Giant THANK-YOU cards and treats to emergency rooms in 3 hospitals, exchanged valentine cards, with gift cards, to kids in need and is now delivering dinner to older folks.

Deborah Kummer

Obituaries

IBM Alumni (club members and non-members) who passed away in 2020:

Allan Adair	Michael Hanley	Steve Morrow	Daniel Schuster
George Back	Carl L. Hanson	Claude Mosley	James Shanahan
Herbert Barnhart	Edwin Helland	Wayne Munns	Gurninderjit Singh
George Battey	Wayne Hemmer	Elizabeth Murray	Donald Smick
Raymond Beard	Lee Henning	Richard E. Nelson	Phyllis Smick
Douglas Beisell	Robert Hoar	Philip Oliveto	Richard Sonnenberg
Joyce 'JB' Berg	William Hoffa	James Olson	Richard Stehley
Norris Bjorngaard	Phillip Howard	Joseph Parks	Lucinda Stockwell
Robert Braaten	David C. Hudson	John Paternoster	Edward Strickland
Maxine Brehmer	Lyle G. Jacobson	Marjorie Patwell	Sherman Stole
William Broton	David Janson	Gerald Petricka	Harleth 'Whitey' Swanson
Janice Burkart	William Janvrin	Robert 'Soak' Pierce	Richard Thomas
Terrance Burnes	Merlyn Jeche	Dwight Pierson	Thomas 'Dutch' Thompson
Roy Cawley	Joel Johnson	Richard Pingel	Karen Thompson
Russell Clink	Gary Johnston	Robert Plote	David Thorpe
Allen Colburn	Carolyn Kath	Chuck Podolske	James R. Thorpe
Frank Colvin	Charles Keal	Patricia Polt	Donald Thorson
Jackie Cotton	Robert Keller	Ruth Polt	Mavis Tollefson
Donnell Crump	Ronald Kellogg	Leonard Poshusta	Charles VanHavermaet
Robert Curry	Gerald King	Rita Priebe	Henry Van Wier
Alfred Cutaia	Mildred Knoepke	Michael Radio	Robert Varshal
James M. Daley	Melvin Kraft	Alice Redman	Joseph Vroman
John Dunlop	Chuck Krulas	Eugene Reed	Carl L. Wagner Jr
Sara Dunnington	Gene Leitner	Darryl Rice	John F. Wallace
Theodore Elliott	Robert Lentz	William Rocheleau	Edward J. Walsh
Wayland Eppard	Robert Maegerlein	Sandra Rodenz	Dale Wendorff
Phillip Fitterer	Laura McCreia	Andy Romness	David Wenz
Ivan V. Frank	Raymond McRoberts	Donald Ryan	Curtis Wheeler
Eugene Frey	Rodney Miller	Richard Rydman	Richard Wheeler
William Galligan	John Monosmith	Richard Sawyer	Myron Wilke
David Griffin	James Morcomb	Theodore Saxman	Beverly Winchester
Sharon Gronli	Myron 'Mike' Morgan	Arthur Schmidt	Barry Woodle
Marlin Grove	John E. Morris	Fredrick Schultz	Lorena Zeman

Lonald 'Lon' Amundson died January 5, 2021. Lon was hired by IBM Rochester in 1958. He enjoyed coaching youth football, playing golf, pheasant hunting as well as watching the Twins, Vikings, and Gophers. He traveled extensively with family and friends throughout the US and abroad. Lon is survived by his wife, Audrey; children; grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Raymond Beard died December 15, 2020. Raymond served in the US Navy during WWII and also during the Korean War. In 1957, he started work at IBM Rochester, first as an engineer and later as a programmer. He retired in 1987. Raymond enjoyed wood carving and built canoes and kayaks. He liked golf, traveling (especially to Norway) and going up to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. Raymond is survived by his wife, Mary; children; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Joyce 'JB' Berg died November 16, 2020. JB served in the US Army. He worked at IBM from 1957 to 1986. JB was a member of the Oronoco School Board, City Council and charter member of the Fire Department. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, traveling and woodworking. JB is survived by his wife, Irene (also an Alumni Club member); children; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Louis F. Boness IV died January 1, 2021. Louis worked in logistics at IBM, retiring after 30 years. He had a passion for rock collecting. He enjoyed traveling, photography, rollercoasters, cooking, 70s and 80s music, and his dogs. He was an avid sports fan. Louis is survived by his wife, Jeannie; children; and grandchildren.

Roy L. Cawley died November 15, 2020. Roy worked at IBM from 1958 until retirement in 1987. He was a visiting lay preacher at dozens of churches, he loved music and theater, and he had an adventurous spirit. Roy enjoyed cross-country motorcycle trips, living on a sailboat, RV traveling, and singing in choirs. He built and fixed many things. Roy is survived by his wife, Barbara; children; and grandchildren.

Kenneth A. Cook died January 4, 2021. Ken worked for 35 years as a technician and mechanical engineer at IBM in Endicott NY and in Rochester. He was a church deacon, youth leader, and member of the choir. Ken was involved with the Lions Club and volunteered at Camp Victory. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, volunteering for construction activities, and piloting his Cessna. Ken is survived by his wife, Nancy; children; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Jacqueline 'Jackie' Cotton died December 29, 2020. Jackie worked at IBM in Rochester for 20 years. She loved to travel, walk, bake, spend time with family, and make friends wherever she went. She is survived by her children and grandchildren.

Donnell Crump died December 3, 2020. Donnell joined IBM in Texas in 1969 and in 1977, transferred to the Rochester Marketing Support Center. He retired in 1991. After retirement, he spent several years doing consulting work. Don enjoyed bowling, square dancing, snowmobiling, camping, and all genres of music. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis; children; and great-grandchildren.

Ivan Vincent Frank died December 19, 2020. Ivan served in the US Army. He worked on the family farm, the railroad, construction, and at IBM for 30 years until retirement in 1987. In retirement, he had a snow removal/landscaping business. He enjoyed spending time with family, camping, working in his woodshop, watching tractor pulls, and going uptown for coffee or a beer. He is survived by children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Edwin John Helland died December 6, 2020. Edwin served in the US Army. He worked at IBM as an engineer for 33 years before retiring. Edwin enjoyed traveling, especially to Hawaii where he visited annually for 30 years. He liked gardening, wood working, small engine repair, fishing, cards, and boating. He is survived by his wife, Dolores; children; grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Lyle Jacobson died December 15, 2020. Lyle worked at IBM Rochester from 1965 to 1978. He moved to Mankato where he worked at Katolight Corporation, eventually becoming President and CEO. He was a member of Kiwanis Club, and helped start the Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota. Lyle is survived by his wife, Kay; daughters; and grandchildren.

Robert C. Lentz died December 5, 2020. Bob began working for IBM in Rochester in 1965. He spent some time in San Jose working on a special project. In 1984, Bob retired from his position as Mechanical Engineer at IBM Rochester. For many years, he wintered in Florida and eventually moved there permanently. He is survived by his wife, Louella; daughters; 4 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

John 'Jack' Morris died December 20, 2020. In 1957, Jack began work at the newly built IBM plant in Rochester. He took pride in helping to write the plant's first program. Jack was a charter member of Kiwanis, he was a charter member of the Oronoco Volunteer Fire Department, and he also served as council member and mayor. He loved playing the organ and singing in the choir. He loved his Farmall tractor, gardening, camping, boating and fishing. Jack is survived by his wife, Ardis; children; and grandchildren.

Steve Morrow died December 19, 2020. Steve worked for IBM in Indianapolis IN and in Rochester. Before IBM and studying technology, he had studied to be a pastor. He worked in technology and also focused on mentoring and coaching lay church leaders. Steve is survived by his wife, Susie; children; and grandchildren.

Philip J. Oliveto died December 12, 2020. Philip began his career in 1960 with IBM in Endicott, NY after serving in the US Army. He later transferred to Rochester where he continued to work until retirement. Phil believed in making the world a better place and was especially concerned with the underprivileged, underserved, and refugees. He stayed busy all his life, volunteering his time to community organizations. Phil is survived by his wife, Ronnie; children; 8 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren.

Joseph Parks died December 8, 2020. Joseph was hired by IBM In 1964 to work on the NASA Gemini and Apollo programs in Maryland. He continued with IBM and development of compilers for System 32, 34, 36, and 38. In 1979, he came to Rochester where he designed language standards for cross-system consistency. Joseph retired in 1996 after 31 years of service. He enjoyed traveling to historic sites, all aspects of English history and English politics, genealogy, and gardening. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, and 3 children.

Harleth 'Whitey' Swanson died December 16, 2020. Whitey worked for IBM as a programmer for 33 years and was one of the founding fathers of the IBM Credit Union. After retiring from IBM in 1989, he continued his involvement with the Credit Union. He and his family traveled, from Canada to Mexico and all around the US, often as road trips. He especially enjoyed downhill skiing trips out west. Whitey was always in motion, gardening, mowing the lawn, or picking up sticks. He is survived by his daughters and grandchildren.

Dale Wendorff died December 26, 2020. Dale served in the US Navy in Korea. In 1956, he went to work at IBM in Rochester and remained for 29 years until retirement in 1985. He volunteered to teach Sunday school and enjoyed gardening, golfing, and watching the Vikings and Twins. Dale is survived by his daughter, son, and 4 grandchildren.

Our deepest sympathy to all surviving family and friends.

Celebrations

50th Anniversary:

Dave and Norma Amundson – January 23

55th Anniversary:

Ronald and Nancy Soderstrom – December 11

Please continue to let us know about obituaries and celebrations. We still check the Post Bulletin, so are limited to the SE Minnesota area.