

Volume XXXVI Number 1
January 2022

Visit our website at: <http://www.ibmrac.com/>

E-mail us at: rchret@aol.com

Visit us on [Facebook](#)



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 Truestedt, Editor

Content

From the President

From the Office

New Club Members

Fall Walk-Hike Activities

Christmas Party

Obituaries

Celebrations

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

From the President

I hope the first newsletter of 2022 finds everyone healthy and safe. Looking back at 2021, the club was only able to have two events, the picnic and Christmas party. We also had several golf and hiking events throughout the year. We really need everyone's help in organizing new events in 2022. If anyone has suggestions for volunteer or other activities, please send a note to rchret@aol.com.

I would like to thank our outgoing board members Wayne Wellik and Karl Shidler for all they have done for the club. You will be greatly missed.

I also want to thank and welcome back George Heyne, Seig Hoepfner, Roger Spee, and Horst Truestedt. Your commitment is truly appreciated. I also want to welcome Gerry Nonn and Brian Eckre to the board. We all look forward to new ideas and help from these gentlemen.

Marty Jensen

From the Office

The office remains closed. We will continue to monitor COVID-19 and update you in future newsletters.

Wayne Harris and Marty Jensen

2021 New Club Members

I would like to introduce and welcome all the 2021 new members to the Rochester IBM Alumni Club. The new members are:

Gerry Nonn (new board member), Dean Barclay, Jeff Meaden, Rich Fishbune, Jerry Abbott, John Klaus, Ronald Young, Kenneth Trisko, Robert VanDeVoorde, Brian Eckre (new board member), Richard Daly, Patricia Gelao, Mike Curry, Jackie Curry, and Jerome Haase.

Thanks for joining the club and if anyone is interested in becoming a board member and/or helping with events, please send a note to rchet@aol.com.

Marty Jensen, President

Fall Walk-Hike Activities

2021 Walk-Hike activity summary

Quarry Hill Park



Root River County Park



Another year of great fall walk-hikes on beautiful area nature trails. Even though the weather did hamper a couple of the hikes with threatening rain we stayed dry and had great outings enjoying nature in the outdoors while getting some good exercise. There were eight fall hikes during September and October with each outing covering 2-3 miles. The 2021 spring walk-hikes were cancelled because of the covid situation.

The 2022 spring walk-hike schedule and sign-up will be in the March newsletter. If you are interested in helping coordinate the walk-hikes contact Dave Lind at 507-288-8147 or email davel616@chartermi.net.

Dave Lind - your walk/hiking activity leader

2021 Rochester IBM Alumni Club Christmas Party

The Rochester IBM Alumni Club Christmas Party was held on Wednesday, December 1st at the Rochester International Event Center in Rochester. There were 100 club members and guests that attended. We decided to do a sit-down dinner, which included beef tips, mashed potatoes with gravy, seasonal vegetables, cake, and coffee.



A HUGE 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, and taking photographs. We would not be able to put on this event without all their help.

This year we played several games of "reverse bingo". The crowd enjoyed this activity, and we will give it a try again next year.

Marty Jensen, 2021 Christmas Party Chairperson

Obituaries

IBM Alumni (Club members and non-members) who passed away in 2021.

Lional Abrahams	Louis Boness	Reuben 'Ted' Fenske
Nathaniel Anderson	William Bradbury	Charles Fischer
Lonald 'Lon' Amundson	Barry Brass	Jerry Fitzpatrick
Harold 'Porky' Bartholomew	Richard Dean Burns	John W. Franklin
Luis Bartholomew	Jeffrey Carlson	Donald Friedrich
David Beaver	Kenneth A. Cook	Bruce Fure
Everett Beck	David Cutshall	Charles Grimm
DeWaldon Bendtsen	Frederick Daly	Henry Haack
Gary Gustaf Benson	James Eldon Dykes	Beverly Hansen
Milford Berhow	August Eggert	Everett Hanson
David Bierly	Rodney 'Rocky' Ehni	Roger L. Hanson
Paul Birgin	James A. Elton	Orris Hareldson

Roy Hawley	Merlin 'Mike' Mestad	Lana Jean Schulz
Jay Heider	James E. Meyer	Rodney Skare
Theodore 'Ted' Hein	James W. Moran	Richard 'Mike' Smith
Virgil Heydt	Thomas Nash	Charles Smyrk Jr.
Mark Holland	James F. Nelson	Dale Stahl
Elmer Hungate	David Newman	Robert Steinbrink
Dean Kaump	Sylvia Nickel	Duane Swanson
Jay Lincoln Kisro	Craig Nordmoe	Charles Taylor
William Kolb	Rolland O'Groske	Noel Taylor
Leonard Koser	Richard 'Dick' Ostrom	Thomas Teal
Raymond Krolak	Monique Ouellette	Harlan Thompson
Donald John Lanners	Rex Clark Patton	Caryl Thorn
Ronald Lehnertz	Margaret Pellegrini	Jerry Toogood
Edith Lenehan	Eugene B. Peters	Susette Townsend
Ordean 'Lex' Lexvold	Patricia Petit	Richard Turner
Glen Leighton	Robert Pike	Frank Twohey
Leonard Liffrig	Charles Podolske	David Underwood
Carol Jean Lingbeck	Jimmy Ptacek	Donald Verdoorn
Sharon Ann Lincoln	David Rappe	Sharon 'Kay' Wachholtz
Janice Lorch	Lawrence 'Mick' Rathbun	Lorraine Wagoner Larson
Oliver 'Sonny' Martin	Bill Reichart	Jerald Warner
Henry J. May	Kenneth Roland	William Weimer
Lorraine McInnes	James Sailors	Richard Weltzin
Gordon McKinnon	Gordon Schacht	William Wichmann
William 'Bill' McNeil	Gary Ray Schaefer	Park Anthony Zillgitt

The following IBM Alumni have recently passed away.

Nathaniel Anderson died November 18, 2021. He started as a chemist with IBM in Vermont, moved to California, then came to Rochester where he finished his 27-year career with IBM. He enjoyed gardening, nature, woodworking, working on cars, collecting stamps and bowling. Nathaniel is survived by his wife, Nancy; children; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Jeffrey Branton Carlson died November 11, 2021. Jeff went from the production line at IBM to a CAD designer, then to a Senior Mechanical Designer where he contributed to several patents. He spent time on the golf course, in the bowling alley, and watching NASCAR races. He could fix just about anything from cars to hair dryers to vacuum cleaners. He loved being on the Mississippi on his boat. Jeff is survived by his wife, Tara; children; and grandchildren.

Frederick Daly died November 9, 2021. He spent time in the Army Reserves and worked as an engineer at IBM. He liked flying and built his own airplane. He also enjoyed traveling. Frederick is survived by his wife, Marlene; two daughters and a son.

John W. Franklin died November 10, 2021. John served in the US Navy during the Vietnam War, flying reconnaissance missions. He trained as a photographer and began his career at IBM as the plant photographer. John won numerous awards for his work at IBM and also at his own photography business. He was active with the Rochester Ability Center, took photos for Habitat for Humanity and Special Olympics. He enjoyed working on cars, reading, watching the Minnesota Gophers and NASCAR. John is survived by his wife, June; children; and grandchildren.

Beverly Ann Hansen died December 3, 2021. She was an assembly line worker at various businesses including IBM where she eventually retired. She and her husband enjoyed traveling and eventually settled in Texas. Bev enjoyed knitting, crocheting, sewing, reading, bingo, baking, puzzles, and playing cards. She is survived by a son and daughter and grandchildren.

Everett Harold Hanson died December 17, 2021. He served in the US Army for 4 years, then served in the Army Reserves for 6 years. Everett joined IBM in 1957 and worked for 30 years until retirement in 1987. He enjoyed camping, wintering in Arizona, following sports, and spending time with family. Everett is survived by his 4 sons, a daughter, 10 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren.

Dean Ellis Kaump died December 9, 2021. Dean enlisted in the US Navy where he pursued a career in electrical engineering. He spent more than 40 years at IBM in a multi-faceted engineering career. Dean received many service awards for his hours of volunteer work. Competitive swimming served as his life sport. He taught and coached many athletes during his lifetime. He also enjoyed building model railroad cars, gardening, woodworking, tinkering with electronics, and ballroom dancing. Dean is survived by sons, a granddaughter, and many nieces and nephews.

Michael Kleinschmidt died January 1, 2022. He joined IBM Rochester in 1965 and held administrative and management positions until his retirement after 30 years of service. He spent time as business manager of the Rochester Knights of Columbus. After 5 years, he returned to IBM as a retiree and worked another 21 years, totaling 51 years with the company. He enjoyed his family, golf, talking news, politics, and sports, listening to Frank Sinatra and having Saturday breakfast with the boys. Mike is survived by his wife, Gail; children; and grandchildren.

Raymond John Krolak died December 8, 2021. He spent time in the US Army during the Korean War. In 1957, he began working as an engineer at the newly-opened IBM plant in Rochester. He enjoyed a 33-year career with IBM, retiring in 1990. Ray loved fishing at his cabin in Wisconsin, wood carving, traveling, and singing in the Rochester Barbershop Chorus and the church choir. Ray is survived by his wife, Irene; children; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Ordean 'Lex' Lexvold died December 2, 2021. He spent time in the service. Lex moved to Rochester and started a long career at IBM, working until retirement. He loved riding motorcycles, snowmobiles and participating in all athletic activities. Lex enjoyed playing cards, joking, and just visiting with his family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Catherine; children; grandchildren; and great grandchildren.

Germaine Little died December 6, 2021. Germaine had plans to be a professional singer, but these changed when husband Jack began his career at IBM, first in New York and later in Rochester. Germaine became a member of the Alumni Club as the surviving spouse of husband Jack. She was a member of the Elks Club, she joined card playing groups, she played tennis and loved going to dinner at the Elks Club on Fridays. She is survived by nieces and nephews.

James W. Moran died December 29, 2021. Jim enjoyed a 30-year career at IBM as a computer programmer and project leader. He managed the development of the IBM 390 minicomputer and the AS/400 computer system. He enjoyed canoeing, back country camping, woodworking and explaining the stars, constellations and mysteries of the universe to children. Jim volunteered at the Mayo Visitors Computer Center and Rochester Reading Center. He is survived by his wife, Janet; children; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Jimmy 'Jim' Ptacek died December 3, 2021. Jim farmed for many years and also worked at IBM for over 34 years. He enjoyed old time music and dancing, puzzle books, bingo, feeding birds on the farm, woodworking, and tinkering in his shop. Jim is survived by his wife, Sandy; children; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Frank W. 'Bill' Reichart died November 13, 2021. Bill was born in Canada and moved to the US. He played a lot of hockey in college and in many minor leagues. He became a US citizen and joined Team USA, as a team captain, for the 1964 Winter Olympics. Bill lived in Rochester and worked at IBM for 30 years. He retired in Southern Pines, NC and enjoyed golfing. Bill is survived by his wife, Betty; children; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Kenneth Roland died November 26, 2021. Ken started his career at IBM Rochester and worked for many years until retirement. He enjoyed driving a school bus for years. Ken liked woodworking and selling his creations at craft shows. He loved planning adventures from boating and camping trips to picnics, concerts, auctions, and state fairs. Ken is survived by his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

James Sailors died November 18, 2021. He spent time in the US Navy and then a long career as an engineer and manager in electronics field operations, including 25 years at IBM. He founded a Christian bookstore and worked as a realtor. Jim was an avid golfer and loved reading, country western and bluegrass music. He is survived by his children and 9 grandchildren.

Dale Stahl died November 13, 2021. From 1980 to 2014, Dale worked as a computer programmer at IBM. He later worked as a programmer at Mayo Clinic. He was known for his sharp wit and his own brand of 'Stahl humor.' Dale is survived by his wife, Jean; children; and grandchildren.

Phyllis Swanson died November 17, 2021. Phyllis became an Alumni Club member when her husband Gerald died. She was a 'home body' who enjoyed bingo, quilting, crocheting, gardening, picking strawberries, and an occasional glass of wine. Survivors are 3 children, 9 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren, and special friend Dean Hamlin.

Charles Eugene Taylor died December 6, 2021. He served in the Air Force during World War II. Charles started his career with IBM in 1953 and eventually became a mechanical engineer. He worked in Endicott NY, Boca Raton FL, and Rochester. Charles was a skilled craftsman who could finish a basement, build a deck, pour a driveway, build a dollhouse, and carve wildlife sculptures. He is survived by children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and a great great-grandchild.

Jerry Toogood died December 20, 2021. He served in the US Army for 2 years and spent 33 years at IBM as a manufacturing and tool room machinist before retiring in 2000. Jerry enjoyed volunteering, reading, cross country road trips, summertime biking, wintertime downhill skiing, and spending time with family. He is survived by his wife, Lillian; children; and grandchildren.

Jerald Burton Warner died December 28, 2021. In 1956, Jerry enlisted in the US Air Force and spent time in Germany. In 1960, he went to work for IBM in Rochester and eventually became a Senior Associate Procurement Engineer. He traveled nationally and internationally until retirement in 1990. After retirement from IBM, he spent a few more years at Pemstar. He spent time teaching his children to train and show horses.

Other hobbies included hunting, fishing, golfing, and bowling. Jerry is survived by his wife, Barb; children; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Our deepest sympathy to all surviving family and friends.

Celebrations

54th Anniversary: Horst and Jeanne Truestedt – December 23

57th Anniversary: Rick and Ruth Lindner – November 21

60th Anniversary: Roger and Darlene Rishavy – November 11

Ron and Judy Olness – December 9

Please continue to let us know about obituaries and celebrations. We appreciate hearing from you.