



RETIREE'S CLUB OF ARIZONA NEWSLETTER



December 2010

Honeywell

PO Box 11633 Scottsdale Arizona 85271-1633

www.garrettretireesaz.com

2010-2011

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President Ed Taschner welcomed members and guests to the meeting on November 3, 2010. **Faye McDonald** led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Diane Bennett forgot to ask dues payers at the meeting if they wanted a copy of the club roster. If so, either call or e-mail **Diane** to express your wishes (send out or pick up at January meeting).

Also, if you wish to attend the Holiday Luncheon and have not purchased tickets, you must call **Diane Bennett** and **make reservations before December 6.**

The Club is looking of an assistant for **Diane Bennett**. Diane does a huge, but largely unseen, job in supporting the club. Her assistant could be a club member or the spouse of a member. If interested contact **Diane** or **Ed Taschner**.

Al Stimac arose to ask for your support of the Wellcare Foundation, providing health care support for single women without insurance. Donations may qualify for up to \$400 break for donations to the working poor.

Due to the subject matter, attendance at this meeting was well over 200, the largest club gathering that this editor can remember. Providing information and answering questions were **Catherine Bennett** (catherine@swpic.net), **Nikki Crouse** (gmnikki@Q.com), and **Ed Taschner**.

Groundrules for the meeting were:

- No marketing or sales or discussion of any specific plans
- No political discussions

The entire powerpoint presentation used at the meeting is available on our website. Key points only, are included herein.

Of note – if you are a Veteran, your best value for medical insurance may be through the VA. You should contact them directly to determine your eligibility.

The reason for this presentation is that Honeywell is terminating Group Medical for over 65 retirees who retired after June 31, 1962. Retirees under 65 should expect to be removed from Group coverage

Upcoming Events

- Dec 13 – Holiday Luncheon
- Jan 5 – Meeting - Stan Settles – Speed Week at Bonneville Salt Flats
- Feb 2 – Meeting -

upon reaching age 65. This was strictly a financial decision by Honeywell and most (if not all) affected retirees may benefit financially by finding as good or better coverage at lower prices. Be aware that if you are eligible for Group coverage, but decide to obtain insurance elsewhere, you can never rejoin the Group

Also of note – Extend Health, the company that sent out the information and ran the seminars is a national insurance broker, with headquarters in Utah. You are in no way obligated or required to purchase insurance through them.

You must make a decision before 1 January 2011. You will not be assessed any penalty for delayed enrollment because Honeywell terminated the group coverage.

Medicare, enacted in 1965, consists of Part A – Hospital Benefits (free) and Part B Medical Services (\$110.50 per month in 2010). Part C – Medicare Advantage, enacted in 1993 and modified in 2003, enables the management of your Medicare benefits by private insurers. You must be signed up for both Part A and Part B to participate. In addition there are ‘Medigap’ plans that provide insurance secondary to Medicare and Medicare Part C drug plans.

All providers of Medicare Advantage and Supplemental insurance are required by law to provide the identical coverages. Some companies may offer additional benefits that

would likely be reflected in their monthly premiums.

ACA 2010, the Health Care Bill, provides significant benefits to Medicare recipients. In 2011, if you are in the ‘donut hole’ there is a 50% reduction in the cost of generic drugs. Also in 2011 an annual physical exam is covered and there is no deductible or coinsurance for cancer, diabetes or cardiovascular screening.

In 2014, the top of the ‘donut hole’ lowers and in 2020 it disappears completely.

The editor recognizes that this brief summary cannot possibly satisfy your desires to know all that is needed in order to make an informed decision on your health insurance choices. Please visit the website to view the entire presentation. If you do not have internet access or a computer, ask a friend or family member who does. Local libraries have computers and I am sure that staff would assist you. Computers are available at the Scottsdale Senior Center where we hold our meetings.

Diane Bennett has on her note pad **Herman Andersen** at **7135 N. 9th Street, Phoenix, 85020**. If you know Herman or he reads this newsletter, please contact Diane.

This month’s charity donation was sent to **Military Officers Association**.....their Packages From Home program for SW Asia troops. There was a 50/50 raffle after the meeting, but with the size of the crowd and the many members and guests wishing to ask questions of the

presenters, this editor missed the whole thing. Congratulations if you won, and if you wish to see your name in print, please let me know.

A list of the charities from which the board chooses monthly donations is posted on the website. If you have a favorite charity you would like the club to consider for donations, please bring it to our attention.

We are looking for volunteers to call members to remind them of upcoming meetings. If willing to help, please contact **Diane Bennett**.

Have you moved? If so provide your new address to **Diane Bennett** in order to continue to get this terrific newsletter et. al.

We welcome any member who wishes to speak to the meeting on a topic of general interest. To do so, please contact any Board Member immediately prior to the start of the meeting.

The Club issues new membership rosters each year. We ask you to properly destroy (shred) old rosters. This information is provided so that our members may stay in touch with good friends. We do not wish this information to fall into the hands of solicitation organizations or worse.

Please remember to wear your badge to meetings and functions. It sure helps in remembering names. If you have lost your badge, **Diane Bennett** can make you a new one for a \$2.00 charge.

Reminder - we no longer charge dues for the spouse of couples who are both retirees from AiResearch/ Garrett/ AlliedSignal/ Honeywell.

Our monthly meetings are held at the **Scottsdale Senior Center, 1700 N. Granite Reef**, (just north of McDowell). The meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month, September - May, except for December - our Holiday Luncheon. Our social hour begins at **1:00 pm**, club business is conducted at **1:45 pm**, the presentation starts at **2:00 pm** and adjournment is at **3:00 pm**.

Board meetings will no longer be held prior to the regular meeting. However, we do welcome your input and please contact any board member or send the editor any items that may be of interest to our members.

HELP EACH OTHER

We are looking for drivers to transport members/spouses from the Scottsdale Senior Center to the Holiday Luncheon and back. If you have room in your car and are interested, please contact Diane.

If you need some assistance, e-mail s.mitnik@worldnet.att.net with your need and contact information.

AiResearch/Garrett Historical Information - **Ed Gammill**, Historian, asks that if you send/give him photos, please write on the back the names of everyone in the photo.

The Club periodically receives information about employment opportunities that may be of interest to our members. We put notices in the newsletter and post them on the website when new opportunities become available.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

The Retirees Club Board has decided that for sale or trade items will not be published in the newsletter. However, we will provide a bulletin board at each meeting where any club member may post for sale or trade items for the duration of the meeting. All posted items will be discarded at the conclusion of the meeting.

David Konves, grandson of **John Konves**, is the recipient of the Honeywell Retirees Club Scholarship for ASU. He is majoring in Biomedical Engineering and has already completed an Associate in Science degree from Paradise Valley Community College. This is his first semester at ASU. Congratulations.

Honeywell Health and Wellness Center memberships are available for retirees and their spouses at just \$10 per month per person. Get together with some of your buddies! Call them! Phoenix 602 -231-7920, Tempe 480-592-1389. **Wellness Center** info is also posted on our website.

2010 Activity Calendar Honeywell Retirees of Arizona (Honeywell North):
• December 2 Christmas Din-

ner and Dance at Arrowhead Country Club
• December 16 Fall Golf Tournament

More info at WWW.HRCAZ.ORG

Other Stuff

The computer swallowed grandma.

Yes, honestly its true!
She pressed 'control' and 'enter'

And disappeared from view.

It devoured her completely,
The thought just makes me squirm.

She must have caught a virus
Or been eaten by a worm.

I've searched through the recycle bin

And files of every kind;
I've even used the Internet,
But nothing did I find.

In desperation, I asked Google
My searches to refine.
The reply from him was negative,
Not a thing was found 'online.'

So, if inside your 'In-box,'
My Grandma you should see,
Please 'Copy,' 'Scan' and 'Paste'
her

And send her back to me.

My wife and I are traveling by car from Victoria to Prince George. Being Seniors, after almost eleven hours on the road, we were too tired to continue, and decided to take a room. But, we only planned to sleep for four hours and then get back on the road.

When we checked out four hours later, the desk clerk handed us a bill for \$350.00.

I exploded and demanded to know why the charge was so high. I told the clerk, although it's a nice hotel, the rooms certainly aren't worth \$350 for four hours. Then the clerk tells me that \$350.00 is the 'standard rate'.

I insisted on speaking to the Manager. The Manager appears, listens to me, and then explains that the hotel has an Olympic-sized pool and a huge conference center that were available for us to use.

"But we didn't use them," I said.

"Well, they are here, and you could have," explained the Manager. He went on to explain that we could also have taken in one of the shows for which the hotel is famous. "We have the best entertainers from New York, Hollywood, and Las Vegas perform here," the Manager says.

"But we didn't go to any of those shows," I said.

"Well, we have them, and you could have," the Manager replied. No matter what amenity the Manager mentioned, I replied, "But we didn't use it!"

The Manager is unmoved, and eventually I gave up and agreed to pay. I wrote a check and gave it to the Manager. The Manager is surprised when he looks at the cheque. But sir, this cheque is only made out for \$50.00."

"That's correct. I charged you \$300.00 for sleeping with my wife," I replied.

"But I didn't!" exclaims the Manager.

I said, "Well, too bad, she was here, and you could have."

Don't mess with Senior Citizens!

IDIOT SIGHTING:

The spotlight on the corner buzzes when it's safe to cross the street. I was crossing with an intellectually challenged probation officer coworker of mine in Wichita, KS. She asked if I knew what the buzzer was for. I explained that it signals blind people when the light is red.

Appalled, she responded, "What on earth are blind people doing driving?!"

IDIOT SIGHTING:

We had to have the garage door repaired. The Sears repairman told us that one of our problems was that we did not have a 'large' enough motor on the opener. I thought for a minute, and said that we had the largest one Sears made at that time, a 1/2 horsepower.

He shook his head and said, 'Lady, you need a 1/4 horsepower.' I responded that 1/2 was larger than 1/4. He said, 'No, it's not. Four is larger than two...'

We haven't used Sears repair since!

Love those wonderful Church Bulletins:

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth

keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I Will Not Pass This Way Again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation...

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday: "I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours".

In Memory of our departed friends and co-workers

**C ANDERSON
DOUGLAS BARTON
RON BITNEY
BENJAMIN CARLSON
RANDY DEAN
FRED EDDY
THAYER HOFF
JOHN HOLLAND
OWEN JOHANNPETER
FRANK KREMPSKI
PATRICK LEAL
BRAR LORENZEN
WILLIE PAULSON
GARY SCHRAMM
D. SOUTHWELL
AVEILLE STROMME
DON SWENSKI
CLARENCE WALLACE**