



# RETIREE'S CLUB OF ARIZONA NEWSLETTER



## December 2011

## Honeywell

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President **Ed Taschner** welcomed members and guests to the meeting on November 2, 2011. **Dick Dippold** led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Ralph Koepke** is setting up a "Make a Difference Day" at Southwest Wildlife Rehabilitation and Educational Foundation. Stay tuned for more info.

**Charmaine Burcham** has volunteered to assist **Diane Bennett**. Thanks Charmaine.

Elections are coming up sooner than you think. Time now to consider stepping up for the Club. **John Lester** will be assuming the Presidency next year so will again need a new VP. We will also need a new Treasurer as **Karl Pfitzer** is taking on a new role as fundraiser for Boy Scouts of America. We guarantee that the books are in order so stepping into this role should be a smooth transition.

**Leigh Dechaine** who was scheduled to follow up his presentation with information about the plane crash that occurred this year at the Remo Air Races was unable to attend.

Vice President **John Lester** introduced our featured speaker **Ed Antonowicz**, ComForcare Senior Services - ComForcare Home Care Services. ComForcare is a Scottsdale-based company that provides non-medical home care to seniors. The company supports independence, dignity, and quality of life to our senior citizens by delivering qualified, guaranteed home care services.

The issue here is to enable Seniors to comfortably 'age in place', i.e. remain in their homes as long as possible. This may require custodial care assistance with normal living activities exclusive of medical.

Many families attempt to pro-

### Upcoming Events

- Dec 13 - Holiday Luncheon – Fountain Hills
- Jan 4 – Meeting
- Feb 1 - Meeting

vide this service with a family member as caregiver. Unfortunately, in too many cases, the caregivers gets so worn down that they become unable to support the senior or themselves.

An alternative might be for the family to hire an individual as a caregiver. Rates for this service range from \$12 to \$15/hr but, as the employer, the family becomes responsible for such items as workman's compensation insurance, bonding, tax withholding and reporting, etc.

Families should also be aware that there is no State of Arizona requirement to be licensed as a caregiver. Caregiver classifications consist of:

- Care Companion – no licensing requirements
- Certified Nursing Assistant – licensed by the AZ Board of Nursing
- Certified Caregiver – AZ state certified with a DPS fingerprint record.

Although there are no AZ requirements that non-medical home care business organizations be licensed, there is the Arizona Non-Medical Home Care Association that requires its members to adhere to a published set of standards and ethics. Members of this association are Agencies that can provide to total range of services to the senior as well as total management of the business aspects of caregiving (scheduling disciplinary interventions, emergency coverage). Services provided by Agencies typically run \$19 - \$24/ hr.

In selecting an Agency or even if contracting services through a Registry, take the time to ask the right questions. Included are references, background checks and the development of a specific plan of need for the senior.

There is no meeting next month but please attend and enjoy the Holiday Luncheon.



### President's Column

The holiday season is here!!! I want to invite each and every one who can, to enjoy our Charity Holiday Luncheon to be held at the **Sun Ridge Golf Club** in Fountain Hills. This will be the second year at Sun Ridge as a result of a resounding (98%) endorsement from those who attended last year.

A little background for the luncheon: The club hosts this luncheon as part of a charity event that sponsors families in need during the Christmas season. We do this through **Vista del Camino**, a social service organization with close ties to the City of Scottsdale and Maricopa County.

Vista del Camino offers services aimed at providing families self-sufficiency and independence. They partner with Maricopa County Workforce Connection to provide computer access, readiness skills and writing, and financial literacy to folks who are seeking employment. They even have an extensive loaner wardrobe to assist those who need better clothes to interview in.

Each year, our Club participates in Vista del Camino's "Holiday Adopt-a-Family Program". The City of Scottsdale staff screens families for this program and our Club is assigned two families to assist. This year each family has three young children for whom we will provide gifts. Ages range from 1 to 6 years old.

Two Club member families will be purchasing toys and food items for the Adopt-a-Family program. Frank and Rita Holman will be shopping for one family and Al Stimac will shop for the other. All this requires considerable coordination and dedication to the job. This coordinating and managing is, and always has been, in the very capable hands of Diane Bennett. Please join me in thanking Diane, Frank, and Al for this volunteer, selfless effort. You can view the toys they have acquired at our luncheon on Tuesday Dec 13. Tickets are \$20 per person. You will also be asked to contribute to our charitable effort by bringing with you a food contribution and a tree ornament. Contact any Board member if you desire to participate in this most pleasurable event.

### **Recruiting Again**

At the end of the year, the club will need to replace two officers - our Vice President, who is moving into the President's role on June 1, 2012 - and our Treasurer who is leaving to accept the presidency of another organization. Please help us recruit and find a couple people who can help lead the

organization in the manner intended by our founders. We have done pretty well finding some help for Diane and replacing Dick Dippold at Vice President. Now let's do it again.

### Supporting Our Local Charities

Most of you know that the Club contributes monthly during the Club season (September thru May) to a local charity. Recently, we were approached by the Rim Country Retirees to help with the Pine / Strawberry Food Bank that has seen demand double in recent months. They need immediate help because they are a small organization which makes it difficult to ramp up their efforts quickly.

The Club will make a contribution, but there is opportunity for individuals to help.

Contributions qualify for the AZ "Helping the Working Poor Tax Credit". This means you can deduct, dollar-for-dollar, the contribution you make to the organization from your Arizona taxes. Donation must be made by 12/31/2011.

**To make a contribution:** Make your check out to Pine/Strawberry Food Bank and send it to:

Pine/Strawberry Food Bank  
c/o Sharon Balintine, President  
HC1 Box 205  
Strawberry, AZ 85544

From your Board of Directors ... Our best wishes for a warm and happy holiday season.

*Ed*



This month's charitable donation went to **St Mary's Food Bank** and the **USO**. Club guidelines now dictate that we support local charities exclusively. Thank You notes were received from **STARS**, and **St Mary's Food Bank**.

The 50/50 winners were **Jim Lambert** and **Jack Lawrence**. In addition, ComForcare donated a basket of cheese and crackers won by **Bill Spragins**.

A list of the charities from which the board chooses donations monthly 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.

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

For those of you who are not aware, the registration envelopes are permanent records of your dues payment history. It would be appreciated if you would not deface, cut, or otherwise make them unusable and therefore make it necessary to make a new envelope for the records. Also, if there have been no changes in your address, phone number, marital status, or e-mail address, please just print your name and the date and nothing else.

Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated.

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. Please contact any board member or

send the editor any items that may be of interest to our members.

## **HELP EACH OTHER**

If you need some assistance, e-mail [smitnik@cox.net](mailto:smitnik@cox.net) with your need and contact information.

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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.

## **NEWS YOU CAN USE**

### **The Foster Care Review Board Needs You**

Foster Care Review Board (FCRB) volunteers are citizens from the community who are appointed by the presiding juvenile court judge to serve on five-member boards. Each month volunteers commit one day to reviewing the cases of children in foster care. They read various reports including court reports, case plans, psychological evaluations and drug screens and listen to the interested parties who attend the reviews. The volunteers use this information to make informed recommendations to the juvenile court and other interested parties regarding services and permanency options for the children's cases they are reviewing. More than 9500 children currently are in care. For more information, please contact Charlie Gray at 602-452-3615 or visit our website at [www.azfcrb.org](http://www.azfcrb.org).

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The Club periodically receives information about employ-

ment 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.

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If you would like to honor or provide information about a member with a newsletter blurb, please e-mail the information to [smitnik@cox.net](mailto:smitnik@cox.net).

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**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.

### **2011 Activity Calendar Honeywell Retirees of Arizona (Honeywell North):**

- December 8 Honeywell/Sperry Christmas Party
- More info at [WWW.HRCAZ.ORG](http://WWW.HRCAZ.ORG)

### **Other Stuff**

You know the economy sucks when...

The credit card offer you receive is "pre-declined."

You order a burger at McDonald's and the former-executive behind the counter asks, "Can you afford fries with that?"

CEOs are playing miniature golf.

When the bank returns a check marked "Insufficient Funds," you have to call up and ask if they mean you, or them.

The Mafia is laying off judges.

BP is laying off 25 congressmen.

A truckload of Americans is caught sneaking into Mexico.

And, finally...

You're so depressed thinking about the economy, wars, jobs, your savings, Social Security, retirement funds, and the bleak future, that you call the Suicide Lifeline and get connected to a call center in Pakistan. When you tell them you're suicidal, they get all excited, and ask if you can drive a truck.

### *In Memory of our departed friends and co-workers*

**RON BITNEY  
RON CLARKE  
STEVEN COX  
ROGER CROSSMAN  
M. DECLOUD  
RICHARD DETTMAN  
ELMER FORTNER  
BERNARD GILLES  
JACK L. GIMBEL  
MICHAEL GRENLEY  
WILLIAM GUARINO  
BARBARA HOUSE  
LESLIE HOWES  
EARL JOHNSTON  
W. OGLESBY  
ROBERT OLDENDORPH  
JAMES PROST  
MARGARET  
TRUMPOWER**