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*Newsletter*

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**Words From the Prez****Pete DeRosa**

It's a new year and with it comes a new group of members who have stepped forward to take the reins of our Association. With this also comes a set of challenges. We are a very diverse group of retirees, with overlapping careers that span more decades than we sometimes want to admit. During the course of those careers, we have each worked in multiple locations, had many different friends and developed a multitude of diverse interests. With all this as the backdrop, we asked ourselves a simple question. "What do we, as an association want to accomplish and how?"

We decided we want to foster fellowship. We want to do some good while having some fun. To address these, we agreed on a set of goals. They are:

1. Establish a broader level of participation, interest and relevance of the SWRA.
2. Establish and facilitate communication with other Westinghouse retiree associations.
3. Improve the interface with Siemens Energy by establishing a common value-added proposition.
4. Improve the visibility and opportunities for community service.

To accomplish these goals, we have embarked on a journey that will add some new dimensions to the association. We hope to soon put a web site in place to provide easily retrievable information and links to key benefit sites and other W retiree associations. It will also be a depository for our Newsletters and chronicles of events we have. Should anyone in our association have an interest in community service, our website will also provide information on community service organizations to which some of our members belong. The first steps to get a web site have been taken. To see where we hope to take this and what it can provide, we have established contact with the largest Westinghouse retiree Association in Pittsburgh and have gained access to their great website. Check them out at [www.westinghouseSURE.org](http://www.westinghouseSURE.org).

In order to help locate and communicate with retirees unable to attend meetings or living outside our area, we have set up a group site on [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com). The site's name is "Siemens & Westinghouse Retirees". Facebook is not just for kids anymore! Facebook is a worldwide social networking website, used by over 150 million people. It is capable of searching for and locating people for you. It

also enables blog type communication, the posting of photos, the scheduling of events and many other networking tools.

In future newsletters, I will expand on the other goals we have set and provide updates on where we are in moving forward. In the meantime, when you hear of an event that is planned try to participate; be it a meeting, an outing, or an opportunity to participate in a charitable event or a community service project. Those who don't or can't actively participate will be able to see what happened via the web site or Facebook. For those who do, the fellowship will be rewarding and the time well spent.

**Treasurer's Report****Joe Pankowiecki**

Balance on 12/31/2008 was \$4,267.57.

One item that needs to be completed before the next meeting is to do an official audit of the books. Three individuals other than board members were needed to volunteer for this audit committee. Members volunteering were 1) Wayne Myers, 2) Jim Martin, and 3) John Morgan.

Payment of dues for 2009 may be submitted by \$10 check made payable to the **Siemens Westinghouse Retirees Association** and sent to:

Joe Pankowiecki  
1081 Nodding Pines Way  
Casselberry, FL 32707-5915

If you have any questions on dues status, give me a call at (407) 695-7123 or send an e-mail to [jpankowiecki@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jpankowiecki@cfl.rr.com)

**Secretary's Report****Sharon McIlhenney**

Our new President, Pete DeRosa, opened the first meeting of the year by introducing our guest speaker, Randy Zwirn. Randy started off by saying that this was really a successful year for Siemens. The Company is still extremely strong with good liquidity and we are well positioned in the industry. Current economic environment, while still challenging, Siemens will be able to come out of it. The compliance scandal is behind us. The result has been a dramatic shift in management and a changed culture within the Company. The Company is still actively

recruiting on college campuses. Randy was very happy to take questions from the audience:

Q1. Does Siemens intend to get more involved with nuclear? Answer: Still receiving contracts for our nuclear service. Randy doesn't see nuclear plant coming on line in the United States until maybe at least 10 years. Siemens does need to do strategic positioning in this area.

Q2. What percent of the business is combined cycle? Is it increasing or shrinking? Answer: The Company finally landed Southern Company as a customer. For the next 10 years, natural gas still remains the preferred fuel.

Q3. We have a split group for engineering. Will we continue that way? Answer: We still have a shortage of engineers in both locations. Currently there are 500 openings. Both have power engineering capabilities but it will continue to be a challenge to grow a base of engineers.

Q4. What are the current technical challenges ahead of us? Answer: Product line pretty stable. We have a gas and steam fleet that is working pretty well right now. Somehow though, customers expect the price of turbines to go down with this current economy. Our problem is, "How do we control costs of the product?"

Q5. Now that Transmission and Distribution is coming back, have we looked at bringing back any divisions? Answer: Dave Pacyna is leading the T&D business. United States has incredible potential for T&D. In the next two to three years it is forecasted to double. Everybody in Washington is talking about a smart grid, but nobody knows what it is. We are second to ABB in the United States.

Q6. What is status of factory in US today? Answer: Charlotte is our cornerstone. The plant has made great improvements in Quality. Customer sees that as a core reason for doing business with us. Steam capabilities are coming back into Charlotte and I have just received a capital request to sign for a new lathe. Alstom has just built a new plant in Chattanooga. We still have 85% of the large turbine steam business.

Q7. Will we have a transformer plant in this country? Answer: Maybe through an acquisition or maybe something in Mexico (Greenfield).

Randy ended up by saying, "We have a great group of people. The Company has been built upon a lot of accomplishments. You can take pride in what we've been able to do. If we continue to do things right, we'll come out okay." He thanked us for inviting him to speak with us today.

Pete continued with our regular meeting with the following agenda:

1. Introduction of new SWRA Officers and Board Members.
2. The Executive Board's Objectives
3. Initiatives Underway

4. "Facebook.com": What and Why?

5. Committee Reports

6. Treasurer's Report

7. Call for Audit Committee volunteers

A. Social Events Committee, Chair: Ish Aneja

Main social function is to hold a Holiday party. After a survey last year we changed location for 2008 to the Holiday Inn. Unfortunately, attendance was still low. We were expecting at least 100 people but only 64 attended. Everyone seemed to have a good time. Tried to cut down on cost but board still ended up subsidizing at a loss!

Concern is why attendance so low? Need members help! What should be done? Tried to call individuals as well as send emails. Should we even be having these get together or not? We will try to do more things, i.e.

1. Fantasy of Flight event in February

2. A Spring baseball game event

3. A football game or show event at UCF

4. A wine tour (Lakeridge)

If you have any other ideas, please forward to board member.

B. Guest Speakers Committee, Chair: Tom Radkevich

1. **Next meeting – Tuesday, April 14, 2009**

Speaker Neta Villalobos-Bell from University of Florida/IFAS Extension, Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Program Coordinator for Seminole County will speak on nine landscape principles:

a. Right Plant, Right Place

b. Water Efficiently

c. Fertilize Appropriately

d. Mulch

e. Attract Wildlife

f. Control Yard Pests Responsibly

g. Recycle

h. Reduce Storm water Runoff

i. Protect the Waterfront

**All members are encouraged to invite wives or significant others to attend.**

2. Meeting on Tuesday, July 14, 2009 will focus on Habitat for Humanity by Bob Saunders

3. Meeting for Tuesday, October 13, 2009 still open – Tom talked about program options

C. Web Site Committee, Chair – Paul McCauley

Paul introduced plans for constructing the web site and indicated that there were just a few more things to check on. Looking to see how we might be able to coordinate with Facebook. Still looking for a domain site. Should have something more in a month or so but definitely by next meeting. Site will have whole sections of hyperlinks. Will be updated monthly. Talked about other retiree website in Pittsburgh and if members know of other sites, to let the board know. We have to walk before we start running. Laurie

Conway made the comment that some people still don't have access to email. Paul made the comment that more and more people are on computers. Joe Pankowiecki confirmed that 90 to 95% of members now have email addresses.

- D. Newsletter Committee, Chair – Tom Finnimore  
Looking for articles from the members for the newsletter – preferably upbeat. Send stories from trips, etc.
- E. Community Service Projects Committee, Chair – Jim Polacheck  
Earlier in the meeting Tom Radkevich thought it was a good idea of having these projects. Our President, Pete DeRosa, followed up by saying that we are not going to try to get everyone to do everything. We're just going to do things which will be available and for whomever wants to come. These service projects can be social activities, charitable organizations, etc. Members should let us know what groups may be worthwhile and where we might help. We have contacted Siemens about being considered as a resource for Company philanthropy.
- F. Corporate/Benefits Interface Committee, Chair – George Baker (report given by Sharon McIlhenney)

Our committee's focus will be to interface with Siemens to promote a common valued-added proposition to:

1. Assist in transitioning current employees to retirement
2. Act as a technical resource for a sounding board for ideas or just independent validation...been there, done that kind of thing.
3. Act as a resource for community relations activities sponsored by Siemens
4. Act as a talent pool for events or activities in conjunction with SPARC
5. Act as a bridge between the Company and retirees concerning any retirement related issues.

Prior to the meeting, contact was initiated with a Siemens representative in Communications and Human Resources. We learned that the Siemens Diversity Council has initiated a resource group, "Future Retirees Resource Group". Sponsored by Joyce Bagwell, Human Resource Director, this group will be chaired by William A. Hermann, Jr. and co-chaired by Leon Monahan. Bill attended our first meeting and spoke with our President, Pete DeRosa about the prospects of SWRA assisting in this new resource group.

## Reminder...

The next membership meeting is **9:30, Tuesday, April 14th**, in **Quad 2** cafeteria. Mark your calendars now!!!

If everyone is thinking alike, no one is thinking.

Relating to benefits, helpful information and links will be furnished in the website.

CBS Pension/Benefits:

1-800-581-4222 or <http://www.cbsandyou.com>

Siemens Pension/Benefits:

1-800-392-7495 or <http://resources.hewitt.com/siemens>

- G. SWRA Retirees Financial Investment Group, Chair – George Baker

This sub-group of SWRA meets the last Monday of the month to share information related to financial issues during the retirement years. Meetings start at 10:00 a.m. in the Enrichment Center of St. Stephen's Church, 575 Tuskawilla Road, Winter Springs, FL. To attend or get further information, please contact George Baker at [gbaker6335@cfl.rr.com](mailto:gbaker6335@cfl.rr.com).

**More information was given regarding our next planned outing to "Fantasy of Flight" on Feb. 11. Pete DeRosa indicated that he would send out invitations for this event via our Facebook group page. An email will also be sent to all members. Group will meet at a location (probably Siemens parking lot) and make arrangements to carpool.**



Treasure Joe signs up members for 2009

## Obituaries

## Paul Viscovich

**Sigrud Petersen** passed away early this month. He was a Manager in East Pittsburgh Engineering.

## Directors For 2009

<b>President</b>	Pete DeRosa	<a href="mailto:petederosa@cfl.rr.com">petederosa@cfl.rr.com</a>	407-359-1731
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