
Newsletter

Words From the Prez**Pete DeRosa**

Over the past several months it has been a pleasure reconnecting with former Siemens and Westinghouse colleagues at our quarterly meetings. Additionally, the meetings have also afforded me the opportunity to meet many retirees I had not met during my working years. New members have come into the organization and have added a renewed interest and dimension. In some cases they learned about the SWRA by seeing our Internet website or our group page on Facebook. In others, it was through word of mouth or our cooperative initiatives with Siemens Power. Or, maybe, word has gotten out that our meetings start off with complimentary coffee and doughnuts!

However, I can't help but think that there are some of our former colleagues that have not been able to make a meeting or two because of either a lack of awareness or difficulty in getting to it. Our next meeting is a great opportunity to help either a non-attending member or a non-member Siemens/Westinghouse retiree get to the meeting and, in doing so, to take part in our country's political process. U.S. Congresswoman Suzanne Kosmas (Florida's 24th District) is scheduled to be our guest speaker. Given the significance of recent and pending legislation and the issues we face as a country, it may be as much a responsibility as it is an opportunity to take advantage of this meeting.

Invite a fellow SW retiree and participate with purpose. I hope to see you there.

Treasurer's Report**Joe Pankowiecki**

The Association would like to take this opportunity to welcome the following new members:

Jerry Brady gtb1732@cfl.rr.com

Jerry worked in Orlando, Philadelphia, and East Pittsburgh

John Kern johngkern@embarqmail.com

John worked in Orlando, New York, and Stamford, Ct.

Rick Antos rickantos@aol.com

Rick worked in Orlando, Lester, and Concordville.

Salvatore Curci poppop_beach@yahoo.com

Salvatore worked in Radnor, Pa. and Stamford, Ct.

The Association membership currently stands at 250 and 91% of the members are in good standing. In accordance with the Association By-Laws, members who have not paid to date are considered suspended and this will be the last newsletter that you will receive. If you are unsure whether you have paid dues for 2009, give me a call or send me an e-mail ASAP.

Please make check for \$10 payable to the Siemens Westinghouse Retirees Association and send to:

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

Please notify Joe Pankowiecki of any change to your e-mail or mailing address so that we can maintain an accurate membership directory.

Secretary's Report**Sharon McIhenney**

Donuts and coffee welcomed retirees to Quad II Cafeteria before the meeting. A pre-meeting slide show was prepared of pictures from the picnic and a Siemens future retirees' group meeting. If you missed this meeting, you can still view all pictures on our website, www.siemenswestinghouseretirees.org.

President, Pete DeRosa, opened the meeting at 9:35 a.m. and presented the agenda. Several new members were introduced. For me, personally, it was a great pleasure to see Gerry Brady again. Gerry was the Safety Manager of the Service Division when he retired in 1996.

Our speaker for this meeting was Gail Horner, Volunteer Director of Habitat for Humanity Family Services. Gail immediately cleared up one misconception that some of us may have had...that Millard Fulmer (and not Jimmy Carter) actually created Habitat for Humanity in Americus, GA. Gail covered the criteria and process that individuals must go through before they are selected for a home under the program. Volunteers are always welcome, to assist during the construction phase or to assist at the restore on Americana Blvd. in Sanford. After the slide show presentation, Gail accepted many questions from the audience. Before Gail left, Pete thanked her from the

association and presented a \$100 donation to Habitat for Humanity.

In lieu of George Baker's absence, Pete then covered the progress that has been made in trying to bring a special educational program for the retirees on financial planning services. More details will follow in newsletter, on website and by email distribution.

Ish Aneja, our Social Director, spoke about planning for a day cruise aboard the Sun Cruz in September, and a holiday dinner dance in December. Earlier this year, the association provided a fun trip to see the "Flight of Fantasy" and a picnic. More details will follow in newsletter, on website and by email distribution.

Treasurer's Report was given by Joe Pankiewicki covering membership and balance of checking account.

At 10:35 meeting was opened for member discussion. Pete talked about other Westinghouse retiree's organizations we have contacted. One is in Pittsburgh. We know that a small group still meets near Philadelphia but we have no contact. If any member is aware of any other retiree's group, say in Charlotte or Winston Salem, please let us know.



Treasurer Joe Pankowicki donating a \$100 honorarium to our speaker for Habitat for Humanity

Member's Letter

George Baker

To all SWRA members and their spouses, and spouses of deceased members...

Financial Seminar

The SWRA has arranged for a Financial Planning Seminar targeted for members and their spouses along with spouses of deceased members, to be conducted on consecutive Mondays from 9:30am to 12:00 on Sept 28, Oct 5, 12 and 19. The curriculum is provided below for the 4 sessions.

The course will be taught by Mr Craig Townsend and Mr Chris Bordner who are Certified Professional Planners who also teach this same seminar at UCF and for major US companies. Chris and Craig have also provided a number of subject seminars for our SWRA Investment Group over the past 2 years.

Managing our personal finances is now more complicated than ever considering the turmoil of the times and thus having a fundamental base of understanding is vital no matter how involved you chose to be. Craig and Chris understand there will be mixed interest and therefore they will adjust the material to fit the makeup of the class.

Cost of the course will be \$30 per person or \$40 per couple. One copy of the course notebook will be provided per couple. Seating will be limited so we will sign up attendees on a first come first served basis.

The classroom will be located in the Enrichment Center of St Stephen Church located at 570 Tuskawilla Road, Winter Springs, Fla 32708.

Please register with George Baker by email at gbaker6335@cfl.rr.com no later than Aug 20 so that the books can be ordered.

Payment for the seminar materials should be made by check payable to "Siemens Westinghouse Retirees Association" and mailed to:

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

The course will cover the following four topics...

Session 1 Financial Considerations

Retirement Income, Length of retirement, Why people fail financially in retirement, Setting goals, Controlling debt, The power of compounding, Inflation, Income tax, Investments and taxes, Taxes and inflation, Real rate of return, Make the money last

Session 2 Retirement Income

Social security, Retirement plans, Retirement investing, IRA, Roth IRA, Pensions, Withdrawals, Required Minimum Distribution, Beneficiaries

Session 3 Investments

Choices, Allocation and diversification, Cash equivalents, Stocks and bonds, Stock tables, Portfolio management, Mutual funds, Dollar cost averaging, Tax deferral, Annuities, 529 plans

Session 4 Risk Management

Managing risk, Health insurance, Medicare, Long term care, Life insurance needs in retirement, Pension maximization, Survivorship life

Obituaries

Paul Viscovich

Ray Calfo, from East Pittsburgh, passed away in mid-July. Ray was an electrical engineer that stayed in the Pittsburgh area working at the R&D Center and Cheswick.

Charles Ahlman, from Lester and Orlando, passed away in June. Charlie worked in the Met Lab at both locations.

Tom Stott passed away on July 22 at a nursing home in Winston-Salem. Tom worked in Lester and Orlando and moved to Winston-Salem following a series of strokes to be near to family. For those wishing to send a personal note or card regarding Tom, please send to his sister

Beverly Simstein
2330 Hilltop Court
Winston-Salem, NC 27106.

Check This Out!!!!.....

"Siemens Retiree Discounts": The following website provides access to discounts to Siemens retirees. The website can be used to access on-line discounts or local vendors that provide discounts. Discounts are available for everything from consumer goods, autos, hotel rooms, rental cars, electronics and many other products and services." A link to it can be found on the SWRA website in the "Benefits Links" section."

http://www2.beneplace.com/home.jsp?Client_UserId=60082251.

Social Events

Ish Aneja

We are currently planning two events...

CRUISE on Sept. 10, 2009 (Thursday)

Sun Cruz ship leaves from Cape Canaveral at 11 AM sharp and returns around 4 PM. The boarding must be completed at least 15-20 minutes before that time.

Reminder...

The next membership meeting is **9:30, Tuesday, October, 13th**, in **Quad 2** cafeteria. Mark your calendars now!!! The speaker will be District 24 Congressional Representative Suzzane Cosmas. Her primary topic will be energy. Come one come all and let's see how much energy the economy has by October.

If you don't stand behind our troops please feel free to stand in front of them.

We will car pool and leave from the Holiday Inn parking lot at or before 9 AM so that we reach the pier by 10AM. Please arrange your own car pool.

We must have at least ten people in the group to get free hot meal.

I will need to send them a manifest of the people taking the cruise at least a few days before Sept 10. For the manifest I will need the following information for each passenger.

Full Name

Address.

Date of Birth

Telephone number

Proof of residency in USA

You will need to bring with you your driver license and or passport for identification.

Also I will need to collect 3 dollars for each passenger at the Holiday Inn which is the port /security charge

A cruise representative will meet us to collect the charge from me and give us the free meal coupon. She will also give a coupon for ten dollars to be used in the casino.

This is an excellent opportunity to relax and socialize with fellow retirees and spouses. Hope many of you can join us on the cruise

Please send me the needed info for the manifest via email ASAP so that I can reserve your space on the ship. It can about 1200 people.

My email address is ianeja@cfl.rr.com

Holiday Dinner / dance party on December 3, 2009. (Thursday)

This year we will have our Holiday Dinner (Buffet) at Clarion Inn in Altamonte Springs.

The program will start with socializing at 6:30PM and end around 10:30PM. The buffet dinner is followed by dance music provided by D.J./band. More details will be provided in our next news letter.

Please mark your calendar for December 3, 2009 and let us know your interest in attending it ASAP so that we can make appropriate reservations with the hotel. Those of you who do not want to drive home after the even the hotel will provide roost at special rate of \$69/per night.

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