



# IBM South Florida Quarter Century Club and Alumni Association



## Presidents Message Fall/Winter 2017

Welcome to the Fall/Winter 2017 IBMSFQCCAA Newsletter. Since this is my first "President's Message" it's appropriate that I reflect on the accomplishments of my predecessors Jud McCarthy and Gregg Cesario. No question, this club was Jud McCarthy's vision. Without Jud's perseverance the club would never have come to exist. His inimitable enthusiasm rubbed off on Lew Miller, Sy Schulman and myself – and we incorporated in May of 2010. By January of 2011 our first newsletter counted 120 members and announced aggressive plans for upcoming activities. A feature article on the second page called for ideas and involvement and said Gregg Cesario and Larry Salerno would be leading and organizing activities. In mid-2011 club members took the lead in re-claiming and re-building many Personal Computers which were featured at the IBM Centennial Celebration at Don Estridge Middle School. Later that year Dave Pavek, who had been conducting

periodic "get-togethers" for some time, merged his activities and by January of 2012 nearly 400 had joined the club.

Under Jud's leadership, the club continued to grow in scope and membership but unlike our Congress, IBMSFQCCAA does have term limits – so Jud wrote his last "President's Message" in the January 2014 Newsletter. Gregg Cesario graciously accepted the Presidency in Early 2015.

For the next three and a half years Gregg worked tirelessly to strengthen the Club and maintain its relevance to our members. Our presence on the Web was strengthened, the Newsletter was expanded to include new popular features. Social, cultural, sports and charitable activities increased to an average of 25 events per year. Webcasts were introduced to address the needs of our members who can't get to Boca Raton. Gregg's perseverance was remarkable. Despite serious illness and extended Hospital stay he didn't miss a beat. Gregg instituted the quarterly "Lecture Series" and strived diligently to enhance benefits to our members.

## Tough Acts to Follow!

A common theme of nearly every communication since our inception has been a constant call for volunteers and Directors. By the end of 2016 Directors were facing term limits and a shortage of members who would serve as officers. As Secretary at our December 2, 2016 annual meeting I appealed for volunteers to serve on the Board of Directors. Despite the term limits the previous Officers remained in "acting" positions until someone came forward. It took a while but in our July meeting a new Board was formed and Dave Johnson was elected Secretary, Larry Salerno Treasurer, Pete Martinez - Vice President, and myself as President.

The months since then were highlighted by efforts toward two great events celebrating the 50th anniversary of IBM in Boca Raton. The November 10, medical plan information meeting, organized by John Ryan and moderated by Sy Schulman was also well received. We are also

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# IBM South Florida Quarter Century Club and Alumni Association

This newsletter is provided for our dues-paying membership by the IBM South Florida Quarter Century Club and Alumni Association (IBMSFQCCAA), a nonprofit organization based in Boca Raton, FL and formed in 2011.

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep members informed of IBMSFQCCAA-sponsored social and volunteer activities as well as general items of interest. Newsletter content is provided in the spirit of camaraderie to help foster IBM alumni connections.

**Circulation:** The Newsletter is circulated to most of our members and friends via the IBMSFQCCAA website (<http://www.ibmsfqccaa.org/>). It is also sent by mail to members who do not have Internet access. Please provide feedback via email to:

[info@ibmsfqccaa.org](mailto:info@ibmsfqccaa.org) or mail to:

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**WE WELCOME YOUR INPUT. HELP US MAKE THIS A GREAT ORGANIZATION.**

**PLEASE PASS THIS NEWSLETTER ON TO FRIENDS WHO MIGHT ALSO BE INTERESTED.**

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## Welcome New Members

Cheryl	Altany	Hector	Hernandez
Bob	Bruni	John(Jack)	Hroncheck
Janet	Cannella	Bette	Hubbard
Thomas	Chalmers	Katherine	Knaack
Emilio	Collar	Ernest	LeDuc
Roseann	Conforti	Theresa	Maes-Morey
Tom	Creamer	Harry	Michel
Gerald	DeVane	Dennis	Moeller
Earnie	Ellison Jr	William "Bill"	Nix
Jeff	Elmore	Janet	Rocco
Mark	Fix	Laura	Rose
Brian	Garr	Martin	Ross
Sherwin	Geitner	Federico	Sequedo
Frank	Harwood	Patricia	Smith
Chet	Heath		

## Farewell

We have learned of the following members of the IBM Family who have passed away.

Emery Palmquist	7/2/2017
Don Carpenter	10/5/2017
Ken Haddix	10/28/17
Joe Fink	11/14/17

Rick Spagna  
Jon Ulin  
Jerome Woolf  
John Wyns  
Nicola(Nick) Zordan

## Please Update Your Contact Info

**Please update your contact info by clicking on the "Feedback" tab of our website—Thanks!**

## Upcoming Events

- ♦ Dec 8 - 3:00pm Annual Meeting (with Cameo Quartet)—Maple Rm Sugar Sand Pk
- ♦ Dec 12 - 5:30 pm Holiday Lights Cruise of the Intracoastal on the Lady Atlantic
- ♦ Dec 14 - 11:30am Lunch - Ale House

## Credits

Newsletter Editor: Julie Goodwin

Email Blast Administrators: Dave Johnson, Joe Herko

Newsletter Content: Jud McCarthy, Lew Miller

Photography: Mike Day, Angelo Gasparri, Jud McCarthy,

Newsletter Review: IBMSFQCCAA BOD Members

Lew Miller, Dave Pavek, John Ryan, Vance Vallandigham

Events Calendar: Dave Pavek



# IBM South Florida Quarter Century Club and Alumni Association

## President's Message (cont.)

planning some holiday activities - and of course we will continue with a busy calendar of events into 2018 but it occurs to me that a few things need focus over the coming months.

We need to inspire members to volunteer for support at events. We have no bench strength or backup. If one of the "regulars" can't be there, it can become a show stopper. Additionally, I believe that improving member utilization of our Website & Facebook Group if done properly would be of great benefit to the members. The popularity of the Medical Plan meeting is testimony to the fact that we can help each other by sharing our experiences in areas of common interest. The tools are there – we should help our members use them to their advantage. Lastly, I want to inspire Feedback from the membership. While surveys and questionnaires are often a big effort we need to know if we are properly serving the membership.

So, in addition to trying my best to live up to the standards set by Jud and Gregg, I'll be focusing on the vitality of our virtual community. *I would sincerely appreciate your thoughts and guidance.*

*Send me an EMAIL at [angelo@fla-re.com](mailto:angelo@fla-re.com).*

*Angelo Gasparri*

## Recent Activities

Our members have been enjoying association activities over the past several months. Here's a list of events you may have missed.

- ◆ June 8 - Lunch - Ale House (10% discount on reg menu items - 33 attended)
- ◆ June 9 - Meet & Greet at Funky Biscuit (40 attended)
- ◆ Sep 1 - Football: FAU vs. Navy (30 attended)
- ◆ Sep 14 - Lunch - Ale House (10% discount on reg menu items - 26 attended)
- ◆ Oct 14 & 19 - IBM Boca 50th Anniversary Celebrations (over 300 attended)
- ◆ Oct 21 - 44th Oktoberfest at German American Club in Lantana
- ◆ Nov 03 - Play: "Broken Angels" courtroom drama at Willow Theatre (19 attended)
- ◆ Nov 10 - Health Care Experiences: Panel Discussion (83 attended)
- ◆ Nov 18 - Golf Scramble & Lunch

## IBMSFQCCAA and the VFW and Military Heroes Support Foundation

The IBMSFQCCAA and individual members recently donated \$250 to support the VFW and Military Heroes Support Foundation. Over \$1600 was raised to purchase and package food and personal hygiene items destined for our troops deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq. Separate items were also donated which were specifically intended for military K-9 units. They included toys and appropriate dog treats for rewards. 110 boxes were prepared and shipped to military installations. They arrived in time for Thanksgiving. Thanks to all who participated in and supported this event.





# IBM South Florida Quarter Century Club and Alumni Association

## What Ever Happened to Doug Graybill ?



25 years sure does pass by quickly when you're having fun. Hard to believe that it's been that long since I was a full-time IBM employee in Boca Raton. Yes, like many others, I received a letter in the winter of 1992 offering me the opportunity to retire early from IBM . With 11 months to go to my 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and a nice bonus for taking their offer, I jumped at the opportunity. Little did I know, that the Monday after I left, I would again be turning into the Big Blue parking lot as a Supplemental employee.

## Where Are They Now

And when that six-month gig was up, I would return yet again as part of Penta Group in a contractor role. The group was composed of Chuck Whetsel, Mark Harlan, Jim Keitchen, Don Dettmering, and myself. We did work for IBM Boca, Xerox on the west coast with Dennis Andrews, the University of Florida, and several other technology companies. Over the years, we had as many as 15 employees working in a diversity of locations from Boca to Raleigh, Austin, California, and New England. Over the next few years I lost my partners, one by one, to other interests, but I continued Penta Group until 2001 when I also decided to relax a bit more. Best decision of my life.

Stepping back in time a bit, it was during my White Plains assignment (1987 to 1989) as Frank King's and then Nick Donofrio's AA that Lesia (my wife) and I came to realize that our son, Steve, was severely dyslexic. When we returned to Boca in 1989, we looked for schools that would accommodate his problems and we also had him working with a special teacher. During that final six years in Boca during which Penta Group was formed, Lesia read everything she could find on the topic and we had him tested to determine the severity of his problem.

It was recommended that a special school for dyslexic kids might be appropriate. We searched the east coast from Boca to Boston and finally found a small school in Greenville, SC. Since I could run Penta Group from anywhere, we moved in 1996.

In Greenville, I joined the board of Camperdown Academy, Steven's school, and was later asked to run a nationwide headmaster search...some fun that was. Using the Greenville IBM office for large print jobs and occasional conference calls, I met a young lady who asked if I could help a local non-profit with their computers. A quick call to Steve Petracca and I had a brand new PS/2 Model 30 planar and they were back in business. Guess that's what happens when you mention that you have home built several computers along the way!!! That led to an 8 year association with Camp Opportunity including 2 years as board chair.

The original plan was that Steve would attend grades 5-8 and we would then return to Boca. 10 years later an ice storm on our mountain with no power for 5 days and indoor temperatures



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**Doug and Lesia Graybill**

hovering around 45 made me long for Florida's more temperate climate. Lesia said, "I'll go anywhere you want in Florida, so long as it's Vero Beach". And off we went to Vero Beach and here we've been for 10 years.

Switching from a kid-centric volunteer role to a nature-centric one I ended up spending 7 years on the board of the Environmental Learning Center and also worked with a cadre of folks who were much concerned with the health of our Indian River Lagoon to get

## Where Are They Now (cont)

local governments together to address the problem. Also spent time on the local Yale Club Board and worked with several other environmental non-profits. While Penta Group is gone, I continue to do some consulting with some small companies and nonprofits focusing on strategic planning and project management. Keeps me out of the pool halls!

Two very successful daughters, one in Wilton, CT with 2 grandsons and one in Atlanta, GA with 2 grandsons (one of whom was delivered on MY birthday) and a granddaughter keep us traveling and trying to keep up. Young Steve, despite his dyslexia, has found a home as the technical director of the Lake Worth Playhouse.

Photography has become my hobby of choice with nearly 100,000 digital images cataloged and indexed in Adobe Lightroom. Over the past 2 years I have scanned 10,000 slides to digital, 25 reels of video tape, 6,000 feet of Super8 movie film and 400 feet of 16mm film. Still have about 10,000 prints to scan this summer. In between I find time for some lap swimming, golf (there will be no mention of my handicap here!!) and biking. Have to keep this body moving since I have declared my inten-

tion of living until I'm 123. "Why 123", you might ask. "It's an easy number to remember", I might reply. Only problem I have, is that the lovely Lesia has already told me that she's not going to be changing my diapers! Just another one of life's little challenges.

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Vero Beach, FL 32963

Doug Graybill



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## What Ever Happened to Russ Rogers?



After leaving IBM Boca in June, 1989, I spent 6 months consulting as VP of Engineering for Voxon Corporation in San Jose, California. The project consisted of selecting, re-badging, testing and releasing a line of Personal Computers from France based on licensed IBM's robust Micro Channel Bus architecture. The schedule was met, and we announced the systems at the Las Vegas Annual Comdex Computer Show in late 1989.

A major memory from that Comdex is the sharing of our large lapel buttons with the IBMers that read "EISA-JUST SAY NO!" at the annual trade show.

## Where Are They Now

EISA was a competitive PC architecture to IBM's Micro Channel architecture, which was created by Compaq and the "Gang of Nine" group of companies.

Then, in 1990, my wife Jo and I moved to San Jose, California, where I joined Reply Corporation, a Silicon Valley start up, as VP of Development. The mission of the company was to develop, test, manufacture, and sell Reply Micro Channel Personal Computers. Later, we became business partners with IBM. We then jointly sold and installed Reply-developed and manufactured powerful replacement motherboards into the very large installed corporate base of IBM PS2s.

In 1992, my wife and I moved back to Boca Raton for 1 year, where I set up a small development lab for Reply to utilize skilled IBM developers that were becoming available at that time. Then some time after moving back to San Jose, Jo and I moved to Greenford, England for 6 months to establish a Reply (UK) Sales and Service organization.

We moved back to San Jose to manage Reply development of "DOS on Mac" Processor

cards for the Apple Corporation in Cupertino, CA to run on their high-speed internal bus in select Mac Systems . This was at a time when Apple and Microsoft did not get along very well, and Apple needed our hardware and bios to run DOS on their Macs in native mode which gave them much higher performance than their current emulation mode running DOS. We demonstrated our DOS ON MAC cards along with Apple engineers at their annual MACWORLD convention in San Francisco.

In January, 1996, I left Reply Corporation and became President of HT Logistics USA LTD, in Citrus Heights, CA, reporting to HT Logistics HQ in Greenford, England. Jo and I moved back to Florida in the fall of 2002 after HT Logistics was purchased by another UK company.

In net, I retired from IBM after 28 years, I retired from Reply after 8 years, and I retired the third time from HT Logistics after 2 years. We



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now live in Delray Beach where we are happily enjoying being close to our son, grandson, and close friends.

On a personal note, I have been involved with photography starting in high school during the black and white film era when I worked in a commercial studio. I have set up personal B&W as well as Color Darkrooms for developing, printing, and enlarging pictures, and I have made the switch to digital cameras as well as the "digital dark room" (post editing software). I enjoy the shooting and editing of family, community and church charity events like holidays, 5K Runs, 60-mile cycle races, and special Church services.

Although, like all seniors, we seem to spend a lot of time on medical appointments and prescription pickups, but we are thankful to be able to enjoy south Florida and our family and friends. Also, I became aware of a South East Florida Honor Flight program at one of our IBMSFQCCAA meetings. I was very humbled in Sept 2017 to join the flight to Washington DC as a Korean War Veteran.

My wife Jo and I would like to congratulate and thank all of the organizers and implementer's of the two recent IBM 50th Anniversary events. I hope every attendee appreciated the amount of volunteer work it took to plan and execute

## Where Are They Now (cont)

two such truly enjoyable events. A special thanks to the IBMSFQCCAA BOD for turning an idea into a successful reality.

**Russ and Jo Rogers**

[rjer@gmail.com](mailto:rjer@gmail.com)

## IBM Boca Raton 50th Anniversary Celebrations

IBM began operations in Boca Raton in 1967 and in March of 1970, some 3,500 people joined IBM Chairman Thomas J. Watson, Jr. as he dedicated a new facility slated to become a manufacturing and development site for IBM's General Systems Division.

The Boca Raton Historical (BRHS), the Boca Raton Innovation Campus (BRIC), the IBM Corporation, and the IBM South Florida Quarter Century Club and Alumni Association (IBMSFQCCAA) held two events (Oct 14 at BRIC and Oct 19 at BRHS) to celebrate IBM Boca Raton's 50th Anniversary.

At the Oct 14 celebration some of the pioneering IBM employees shared their experiences as IBM Boca Raton grew from a handful to over 10,000 employees and changed

the world along the way. IBM Boca Raton is best known for launching a revolution in personal computing..

A plaque was presented to recognize the historical achievements of IBM Boca Raton and the contributions of IBM to the community. It will be placed at the entrance to what used to be the main entrance to IBM's administrative offices. Several vintage computers and historical artifacts were on display.

On Oct 19 the Boca Raton Historical Society at Town Hall displayed a more extensive display of IBM Boca Raton artifacts and celebrated with an IBM Boca Raton 50th Birthday Cake!



Lew Miller

## IBM Boca 50th Anniversary at BRIC - Oct 14



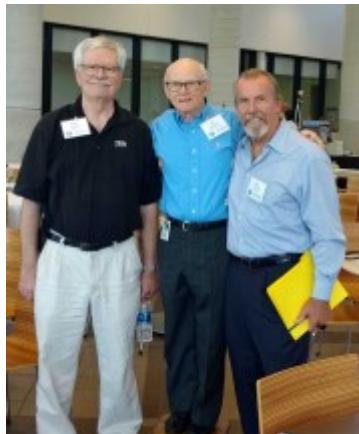
Pete Martinez



Dave O'Connor



Angelo Garparri



L to R: Dr Dave Bradley, Jud McCarthy, Dave O'Connor



L to R: John Ryan, Dave Johnson, and Angelo Gasparri  
(IBM Boca 50th Committee with Commemorative Plaque)



Juan Rionda



Jud McCarthy



Andrea Fredericks, BRIC Operations Mgr and  
Danielle Vennet, BRIC Site Mgr



Rick Qualman

## IBM Boca 50th Anniversary at BRIC-Oct 14 (cont)



Boca Raton Mayor Susan Haynie



Julie Goodwin and Jud McCarthy



Susan Gillis and Larry Salerno



Mike Day—Event Photographer



L to R: Angelo Gasparri, Bob Weinroth, Susan Haynie, Steve Abrams, Pete Martinez, Rick Qualman



Attendees viewing IBM memorabilia



Judy Bradley, Gregg Cesario, Nichole Gasparri



L to R: Russ Rogers, ?, Carol Herko, Joe Herko, Jo Rogers



Attendees watching speakers' presentations

## IBM Boca 50th Anniversary at BRHS- Oct 19



Angelo Gasparri



IBM Boca Raton 50th Anniversary Birthday Cake



Event Attendees



IBM Boca 50th Anniversary items available at the  
Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum Gift Shop!  
Mugs: \$13.95; Mouse pads: \$9.99; Ornaments: \$16.95  
Visit us at 71 N Federal Hwy M-F 10-4  
(561) 395 6766 X 302 [www.bocahistory.org](http://www.bocahistory.org)



Vintage IBM computers on display at BRHS



Dave O'Connor and Thelma



Jud McCarthy and Susan Gillis



Dr Dave Bradley



Event Attendees

## June Quarterly Luncheon

33 members and guests enjoyed a nice meal together at Miller's Ale House on June 8th. It's always a lot of fun to visit with our good friends and colleagues!



L to R: Tom Hearn, Gregg Cesario, John Ryan



L to R: Betty Wisner, Rose Loricchio, Rita Gasparri,  
Patricia Desmond



L to R: Wayne Cohen, Len Sheiner, Norm Lawson, Fred  
Goetz, Edythe Davis, Ted Davis, Sy Schulman



L to R: Dan Flax, Bob Dornblaser, Bob Wisner, Bruce Smith,



L to R: Eric Quirindongo, Eric Drinkhouse, Joe Herko, Jim  
Joyce, Rob Baker, Gary Wisgo



L to R: Charlie Helton, Max Enos, Bill Paul, Lou Yovin,  
Lou Walewski



L to R: Patty Desmond, Betty Wisner



L to R: Len Desmond, Lee Stone, Kay Stone, Bob Wisner,  
Wayne Cohen



L to R: Nick Smiciklas, Gail Beitzell, Joe Herko, Sy Schulman

## September Quarterly Luncheon

On September 14th, 26 brave souls ventured out, just a few days after hurricane Irma, to enjoy the quarterly luncheon at Miller's Ale House. Though the restaurant was not officially offering any specials during hurricane recovery, they DID have one of our group's favorites, the \$5.99 meatloaf dinner special, simply because they knew we were coming! :-) Be sure to mark your calendar for our next luncheon on December 14th.



L to R: Judy Bradley, Max Enos, Dave Pavek,  
Vance Vallandigham



L to R: Shelly Flax, Bob Dornblaser, Larry Crismond,



L to R: Henry Deer, Clif Stone



L to R: Mike Lukens, Sue Larson, Rob Baker, Gary Wisgo,  
Lena Ingraham



Everett Johnson, Jeff Johnson, Shaun McCuen, Greg Ryan

## FAU vs Navy Football - Sept 1



Ron Langlois, Humberto Cordero, Phil VanVliet,  
Ralph Pallozzi



Boca Raton VFW Guests



John Ryan, Dave Johnson & Jud's back



Boca Raton VFW Guests



Jeff Johnson, Shaun McCuen



Fred Goetz, Sean Goetz ?



Fred Goetz, Fred's Grand Son Sean & Gregg Cesario



Jeff Johnson, Dave Johnson, Greg Ryan

## FAU vs Navy Football - Sept 1 (cont)



Gregg Cesario



Greg Ryan, Everett Johnson



Colleen Lopez, Phil Van Vliet, Ralph ?,



Becky and Barry Goldin



John Shelly, Jack ?



Jim ?, Marilyn ?



Linda Steinmuller, ?



Mike Lopez, Ron Langlois



Bill Tydings

## IBM Equipment at Museums - by Carol & Joe Esser

Carol Esser and Joe Herko had the opportunity to visit two museums this year that had IBM equipment on display. The **Computer History Museum in Mountain View, California** is a delightful collection of items from the earliest calculating and computer devices to the most recent technology including the autonomous car. You must visit this museum if you have the time while you are in the San Francisco area.

An overview from their web page. <http://www.computerhistory.org/about/>

"The Computer History Museum is a nonprofit organization with a four-decade history as the world's leading institution exploring the history of computing and its ongoing impact on society. The Museum is dedicated to the preservation and celebration of computer history and is home to the largest international collection of computing artifacts in the world, encompassing computer hardware, software, documentation, ephemera, photographs, oral histories, and moving images. The Museum brings computer history to life through large-scale exhibits, an acclaimed speaker series, a dynamic website, docent-led tours and an award-winning education program."

One of the demonstrations was the 1401 area where docents demonstrated unit record equipment and a 1401 computer. The demonstration brought back memories since Joe used some of the unit record equipment as a Junior Engineer in Huntsville, and Carol had installed 1401 computers as a Systems Engineer in St. Louis.



The **Musee de La Civilisation (Museum of Civilization) in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada** has a number of outstanding exhibit areas.

<https://www.mcq.org/en/informations/mcq>

"A place of knowledge and ideas, Musée de la civilisation takes a fresh and often unexpected look at the human experience. With original and bold exhibitions, the Museum transports children and adults into the great cities of the world, fascinating ancient civilizations, significant sociocultural movements and the heart of Quebec society. Set in Old Quebec, Musée de la civilisation is a leading cultural experience for every family in the area and a top tourist attraction for visitors on vacation."

We were in the "People of Quebec" exhibit area when we noticed the an IBM time clock. I think the plaque indicated a 1940s time period, but I am not sure.

