



IBM South Florida Quarter Century Club and Alumni Association



President's Message

Welcome back to all our members who sought heat relief from South FL. Along with that welcome back is an open invitation to all those who permanently live outside of So. FL to “come on down” and join us for 6 mos. of relief from cold temperatures.

We have some exciting events planned for this coming fall and first half of 2015. All the specifics can be found on the web site. Here is a sample of the fall events agenda:

- Delray Beach Playhouse date for a play at discounted rates – “Wait Until Dark” - Oct. 23rd
- Veterans Day event with an IBM WWII veteran speaking about his written/video memoirs – Sugar Sand Park (SSP) Boca Raton - Nov. 7th

- IBM retirement plan benefit alternatives update by Sy Schulman – SSPark, Boca Raton - Nov. 17th
- Annual meeting featuring our very brief (required) business meeting, refreshments and a hypnotist as entertainment – SSP, Boca Raton - Dec. 5th
- Member Christmas Party – Open House in Delray Beach - Debbi Dell Sponsor – Dec 6th
- Quarterly luncheon gathering @ Millers Ale House, Boca Raton – Dec. 11th

In my last message to members, your Board of Directors (BOD) committed to the pursuit of value add event planning for locations and activities that mattered most to our members. All members received an event survey using Survey Monkey. Thanks to a couple of the BOD members, we were able to navigate, format, distribute and tabulate the results of an event survey preference sent to every member at no cost to our budget.

SURVEY MONKEY RESULTS - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Driven by concern to deliver the most appealing events to our members, the BOD sent out a survey to every active IBMSFQCCAA member (approx. 280). A few of our 280 members elected not to participate leaving a substantial number of members who did express their preferences.

We were careful to include events located outside the Boca Raton area based on prior feedback. The survey results were ranked using the highest scores for events surveyed with a maximum response rate of 30% expressing “definitely interested”. For the most part, the highest level of member interest was for currently planned events. If you would like to see the results summary and the granular responses, simply send me an email (GreggCesario@aol.com) requesting the results

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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.

IBMers are shown in italics.

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 or mail to:

IBMSFQCCAA,
P. O. Box 273284,
Boca Raton, FL 33427-3284.

Disclaimer: IBMSFQCCAA, its Board members and Newsletter staff are not legally liable for any material submitted to us in good faith and are not responsible for any errors and/or omissions. If a member feels any content correction is needed, please let us know as soon as possible. IBMSFQCCAA Bylaws can be found at www.ibmsfqccaa.org.

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

Eileen Kerbaugh Jack Maitner
Bill Shaffer Susan Maitner
Robert Lambie Lew Walewski
Eric Quirindongo Tom Devlin

Farewell

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

Chuck Cicchetti	11/23/13
Fredrick Puttlitz	12/13/13
Frank Loricchio	6/4/14
Harold (Harry) D. Yeaw	8/13/14
Bea Clark (Len)	8/15/14
John Robert (Bob) Grieser	9/14/14
James P. Wood	10/10/2014

Upcoming Events

[Oct 23-8pm Delray Beach Playhouse](#)
["Wait Until Dark"](#)

[Nov 17-10am Retiree Healthcare Meeting](#)
[Sugar Sand Park \(now 2 parts-same day\)](#)

[Nov 1-5pm FAU Football/Tailgate Party](#)
[\(FAU vs UAB\)](#)

[Dec 5-3pm-6:30pm IBMSFQCCAA Annual Mtg](#)
[Sugar Sand Park](#)

[Nov 7-3pm Veterans Day Presentation](#)

[Dec 6-6pm-9pm 2014 Holiday House Party](#)

[Nov 12-7pm Pete Martinez Town Hall Talk](#)
[at Boca Raton Historical Society](#)

[Dec 11-11:30am Lunch - Ale House](#)

Credits

Newsletter Editor: *Jim DeArmond*

Newsletter Content: *Bill Gee, Jud McCarthy, Lew Miller*

Newsletter Review: *Bill Gee IBMSFQCCAA BOD Members*

Email Blast Administrator: *Dave Johnson*

Photography: *Bill Gee, Jud McCarthy, Terry Yuen*



President's Message (cont.)

Highest level of interest in planned events:

- Updates for IBM retirees benefits (medical, dental, etc)
- Plays
- Professional Baseball and Football
- FAU sporting events – basketball and football
- Maritime and Seal Museum

Highest level of interest in other than currently or historically planned events:

- Volunteer opportunities

Lowest level of interest in other than currently or historically planned events:

- Concerts
- Cruises
- Tennis
- Miami Heat

Thanks for all your support. Your BOD is in need of candidates to serve as volunteers for event planning and board positions. We welcome interested members – contact any board member or send an e-mail (ibmsfqcaa@ibmsfqcaa.com) expressing your interest.

Thanks. Speak with you soon.

Welcome Our Newest Board Member

[Marge Spence](#) is joining our Board of Directors filling in the vacancy left by Debi



Dell who resigned from board activities for personal reasons. Marge, a 39 year veteran of IBM, has management experience in sales, planning, worldwide marketing, product development re-engineering, and project management in Boca Raton. She and her husband, Bill, are avid golfers and love to travel. Marge is looking forward to meeting with our members and working closely with the board to grow our IBMSFQCAA community. Our thanks go out to Debi for her support and please welcome Marge as our newest member of the team.

Recent Activities

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

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Apr 27-11am-6pm | Sweet Corn Fiesta |
| May 5-1:30pm | Sugar Sand General Mtg |
| Honoring Our Veterans | |
| Jun 12-11:30am | Lunch – Ale House |
| Our quarterly event is always well attended. | |
| Sep 18-11:30am | Lunch - Ale House |
| Sep 20-8am | Golf Scramble & Lunch |
| Boca-Delray CC | |
| Oct 18-2pm | 41st Oktoberfest |
| Lake Worth | |

Our apologies for the shortage of pictures. We misplaced our camera. We'll have more in January's issue.

IBM in the News

The Latest on Our Former Employer

Fortune magazine published an interesting article about IBM on their web site.

Virginia "Ginni" Rometty, the current CEO, has had major challenges in attempting to return IBM to its "glory" days.

Her vision is based on something the article calls "Ginni's Rules". Something that would have many of us scratching our heads.

The company is changing, changing rapidly. The question is will it be enough and does Rometty have the right stuff to make it happen.

Here's the link to the article:

<http://fortune.com/2014/09/18/ginni-rometty-ibm/>

"Senior Moment"

"Asked by a reporter how he had managed to live to the age of 100, an old man explained: 'Well, son, I got married when I was 21. The wife and I decided that if ever we argued the loser should take a long walk to cool off. So I guess I've benefited from 79 years of fresh air.'"

Followup on IBM

Company reported lower than expected earnings for the latest quarter. Revenue fell 4% compared to the same quarter last year. That makes ten quarters without growth. I'm not even going to mention share prices.

Anyone have any questions for Ginni ???

Needed: Another IBM Re-Invention

That's the title of a Bloomberg article. With the company wading through more challenging times, there is no shortage of opinions about the future of the company based on its current position. What do you think ?

Here's the link: <http://www.bloombergview.com/articles/2014-11-06/needed-another-ibm-re-invention>

Anyone remember the IBM 1800?

Or more correctly the **IBM 1800 Data Acquisition and Control System** .

I'm sure some of you remember this terrific product.

It turned 50 this year. Feel old ? I do !!

Ray Sozio



Last month we failed to include the picture of Ray Sozio and his wife. Sorry Ray, hope this makes up for that error.

Have you paid your 2015 membership dues ??





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What Ever Happened to Robert (Robin) Hood

I officially retired from IBM in January of 2009 but then agreed to become a DE Emeritus. This meant that I would be given a confidential non-



Robin and Pamela

disclosure agreement to sign and a new IBM email address but nobody could give me any assignments and I could not receive any financial compensation. I was also allowed to keep my laptop and could interact with anybody I wished. It was especially important to me to be able to keep helping my mentees which I did for the next three years. The other benefit to me was to be able to wind down covering some of the projects I was really interested in like those sponsored by IBM's Asset Architecture Board. I continued my DE Emeritus role for three years but chose to completely "retire" in January of 2012

Where Are They Now

since I found that I was really becoming less and less knowledgeable with regard to key activities where I might have had interest.

We decided to sell our house in Boca and move to the Bradenton, Florida area (just south of Tampa) when my married daughter became pregnant and convinced my wife how happy we would be living close to their expanding family. We bought a "coach home" in a Lennar Golf Community and we LOVE our new life style.

We now have an almost two year grandson and an almost four year old granddaughter. I also play lots of golf and love the lack of normal home duties like taking care of pools, docks, yards, landscaping, bugs and so forth. I would love to hear from any of my former associates and wish all the best of fortune..

What Ever Happened to J. B. Sojourner

I retired and moved into a very nice development in Port St Lucie on a Jack Nicklaus golf course in 1998. Ballantrae is a wonderful community of about 450 residencies. My wife Kay and I have wonderful friends in the community and have gotten very good at Happy Hour (No, we are not alcoholics, yet). I haven't really developed any new hobbies, but still enjoy golf and friends at the 19th hole. My golf game got bet-



Kay and J.B.

ter over the early years but has deteriorated (14 to 27 handicap) but I still love the game. I am convinced that I will get better before I get any worse.

Kay and my lives are good and healthy for our ages. I do have some back problems. We have five children, ages ranging from 46 to 52, and five grand-kids, ages ranging from 12 to 21. They are in Miami and Key West area and are doing well.

All in all, life is good but dull. I can be contacted by e-mail at jbsoj@comcast.net

Now for a short test, who knows what "DE Emeritus" means ?

.....A retired development engineer with distinguished service.



June Ale House Lunch



Judy Bradley, (?), Ruth Lee, (?)



Lou Youvin, Max Enos, (?), Lew Miller



Leroy Simon, Bob Ewartt



Bruce Urquhart, Dave Pavek,
Vance Vallandigham



Bob Schonger, Dolores Latchford, Sy Schulman, Fred Goetz, Ted Davis, Norman Lawson, Jud McCarthy

Golf Scramble



Prize Winners
Fred Goetz & Marge Spence

Editor: My apologies for some missing names.