

THE VOLUNTEER

A NEWSLETTER FOR RCRV MEMBERS

July 2005
Volume 5, Issue 3

Rockwell Collins Retiree Volunteers

If you can dream it,
we can do it.

Mission

Rockwell Collins retirees connecting to identify and support volunteer needs in our community and beyond, while enriching the lives of the volunteers.

Officers

Charles Wehage – Chairman
Jim Green – Vice Chairman
Don Grimm – Secretary
Arlo Meyer – Treasurer

Committee Chairs

John McDonough –
Community Projects Team
Pete Jurgens – Recruiting/
Retention/Recognition
Rod Thorpe – Communications
Sara Case – Agency Liaison
Jim Klein – Data Base

Web Site

www.collinsclubs.com/rcrv
e-mail:
rcrv@collinsclubs.com

RCRV
927 N. Compton Drive
Hiawatha, Iowa 52233
319-393-9637 (voice mail)



Community Projects Team meetings

RCRV conducts informational meetings at the RCRV office in the REACT Center at 927 N. Compton Dr. in Hiawatha. These meetings are held at 10 AM on the third Wednesday of each month. New retirees and others interested in learning more about RCRV and the volunteer opportunities we offer are encouraged to attend.

The Community Projects Team meets every Thursday at 10:00 in our office in the REACT Center where we discuss future and current projects. Service agency representatives submit new project requests on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. You are always welcome at any of the meetings. ♦

Iowa Association of Community Providers

The Iowa Association of Community Providers (IACP) is comprised of nearly 140 community-based organizations providing services to persons with mental illness, mental retardation and other developmental disabilities. IACP affiliate member organizations serve over 65,000 Iowa residents with disabilities, employ over 10,000 staff and have annual budgets totaling over \$300 million. Options of Linn County is an affiliate of IACP locally and is one of the primary users of assistive devices designed and produced by RCRV members.

The annual convention of IACP was held in Ames on April 12-14 this year. Chuck Wehage, Chairman of RCRV and Wayne Clayton of Options of Linn County made a presentation on RCRV devices and the relationship between our two organizations. ♦



RCRV members Faye Spading, Helen Pottoff and Kay Nelson shown during a painting project at The Heart Of Iowa ASAC Center.

The Heritage Agency

Today's older adults are pioneers in a changing, challenging world. Many are looking forward to longer, more active lives and exciting new ways to contribute to society. The Heritage Area Agency on Aging believes that older adults should have opportunities for lifelong learning in addition to a secure life, free from basic want.

Heritage is one of 667 Area Agencies on Aging nationwide and one of 13 in Iowa. Authorized by the Older Americans Act of 1965, the Heritage Agency has been a department of Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids since 1973. Its facilities include an administrative office and a Conference Center which serves as a regional training facility. The Heritage staff is dedicated to educating professionals, employees, volunteers and community residents to meet the challenges that face older adults and their families in our ever-changing and aging world.

The agency plans, coordinates and funds a variety of human services programs that serve over 60,000 older adults in Benton, Cedar, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn and Washington counties.

Heritage serves people age 60 and above as well as their families, communities and governments.

Elizabeth Selk is the current Executive Director of the agency and staff member Linda Dearing serves on the board of RCRV. ♦

Pierce School Space Shuttle Program

NASA conducts a space camp each summer for students and educators to enhance awareness of space programs and to promote interest in science and math education. Patty Kacera who is a fourth grade teacher at Pierce Elementary School in Cedar Rapids was sponsored by Rockwell Collins to attend in 2003. She has since established a Space Shuttle mission simulation program for fourth grade students at Pierce assisted by RCRV volunteers.

This year the students constructed a mock up of their space shuttle "STS Panther 2" and a multi station, computerized mission control station. Realistic simulations of a shuttle



Inside the Space Station



Teacher Patty Kacera shown with the space and grounds crews and the RCRV volunteers

mission to the Space Station were conducted during the week of April 11 this year by Pierce astronauts and mission controllers in the school gymnasium. ♦

Senior Health Insurance Information Program News

The new Medicare prescription drug coverage will begin January, 2006. Several notices will be mailed to Medicare recipients during the next few months outlining the important aspects of the program and SHIIP representatives caution that all notices should be opened and read carefully.

By November 15, 2005 people who have drug coverage through an employer such as Rockwell Collins will get a letter explaining their options under the Medicare drug coverage.

Future editions of **The Volunteer** will include more information as it becomes available. If you have any questions on the new program or other health insurance issues call the RCRV office at 393-9637 and leave a voice mail asking to speak to a SHIIP counselor. ♦



Construction of the Space Shuttle

Board Meeting at Milestones in Marion

The May meeting of the RCRV Board of Directors was held at the new Aging Services Milestone center in Marion. Jo Benson-Vorwald, Director of Home Based Services and Terry Pint, Director of Milestones in Marion provided a tour of the new facility (1080 Cardinal Drive) which opened in March of this year. This additional adult day health center location offers convenient services to the eastern side of Linn



Jo Benson Vorwald addressing the RCRV Board members

County and supplements the existing facility which is located at 1725 O Avenue NW.

Milestones in Marion provides needed daytime care when a loved one can no longer be home by themselves. Services provided include health screening, medication monitoring and set up, activities of daily living - including practical personal care, education, stimulating recreation, and a wide variety of social activities in a supportive

environment.

The staff and clients expressed their appreciation for the efforts RCRV volunteers provided in the establishment of the new facility.

Contact Aging Services at 398-3644 if you would like additional information. ♦

2005 Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program

Senior Farmer's Market checks will soon be available to folks in Benton, Cedar, Iowa, Jones, Johnson, Linn and Washington counties. This Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program provides checks to Iowa seniors to be used at farmer's markets and farm stands to purchase fresh Iowa grown fruits and vegetables.

The program is designed to promote the

consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables, to encourage seniors to shop at these direct marketing outlets, and to support the local farmers who participate in the program. Farmers' markets and other efforts that support locally grown and processed foods have a positive impact on the regional economy. Farmers' markets not only are a great place to get fresh produce, flowers and baked goods; they also may generate an estimated \$20.8 million in sales and more than 325 jobs for the Iowa economy.

To be eligible to receive the checks, a person must be 60 years of age, and must have a yearly income of \$17,705 or less if they are single or \$23,736 if they are a married couple. For married couples, each person may receive a book of checks. The checks may be used at any Farmer's market in Iowa where the farmer displays a sign that says "Iowa Farmers Market Nutrition Program Checks Accepted Here".

For further information please contact the Heritage Agency at 319-398-5559 or 1-800-332-5934. ♦



The RCRV construction crew has designed and built several handicap ramps this spring.

Collins Retirees Potluck Meetings

The Collins Retirees Potluck group meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at the United Methodist Church located at 302 33rd St. NE at noon for a potluck lunch and program. Upcoming programs are:

- July** - Dave Rasdal from **The Cedar Rapids Gazette**
- August** - Violinist Mary Hanley speaking on her European tour
- September** - The Dixie Note Plus music group
- October** - White Elephant Auction ♦

Member Profile

Don Grimm

Don Grimm has been a regular at RCRV meetings since shortly after his retirement in 2000, and currently serves as Secretary for the RCRV Board of Directors. He is a volunteer home safety inspector for Aging Services, and has undertaken a variety of electronic, construction, and mechanical projects for RCRV. The hot project now is drafting changes to the RCRV Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws to accommodate the new Iowa nonprofit corporation law that goes into effect in July.

Don was born and raised in Hurdsfield, ND, where he was "chief mechanic" in his father's garage until starting college at North Dakota State University. He worked as a TV broadcast technician during college, and earned both BS and MS degrees in Electrical Engineering. At Collins, Don was a design engineer for a large number of projects, and retired as a systems engineering manager in the General Aviation Division.

One of the first orders of business in Cedar Rapids was to obtain a pilot's license, and Don now holds commercial pilot credentials with instrument and multi-engine ratings. Never completely



Don Grimm with his Piper Comanche

able to get the grease from under his fingernails, Don is an amateur machinist and makes model gasoline engines to display at exhibitions around the country.

His wife, Marj, keeps him semi-organized. Oldest daughter, Ann, works as a systems engineer for Wabtec Railway Electronics in town. Roy is a software engineer for Lockheed aircraft in Fort Worth, TX. Jane is a customer service representative for Moore Wallace business forms in Iowa City. Don and Marjorie have two grand-dogs, Marley and Dillon. ♦

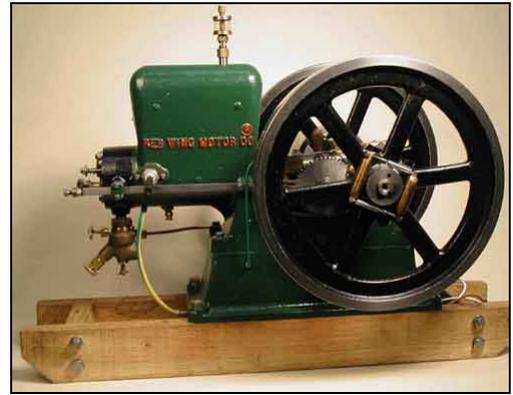
Trivia Quiz

1. What year was the first radio signal transmitted across the Atlantic Ocean?
2. On what date did the U.S. Federal Radio Commission issue the first television license?
3. What year was the first patent for single sideband radio filed and what year was it granted?
4. What year was the first legislation passed in the U.S. requiring radio stations to be licensed?

Answers to April quiz

1. Collins of England was founded in 1955
2. The Rockwell Collins facility in Melbourne, Florida was dedicated in 1977

3.



Don's quarter-scale model of a 5 HP Red Wing Hit-and-miss engine, made from a casting kit

James Flynn, Jr. was the first general manager of the Dallas Division

4. The Communications Accessories Company was acquired by Collins in 1956. CAC produced coils, magnetic amplifiers and filters. It had been founded by Ed King who later founded The King Radio Company. ♦

Newsletter Address Changes

If you have a change of address please notify RCRV. You can let us know via the RCRV voice, e-mail or regular mail. The phone number, e-mail address and mailing address for RCRV can be found on the first page of the newsletter.

If you send an address change via regular mail or email please include your name as it appears on the newsletter address label and your old and new address. If you leave an address change message on the RCRV voice mail, please spell your last name and give your old and new address. ♦