

# THE VOLUNTEER

A NEWSLETTER FOR RCRV MEMBERS

October 2004  
Volume 4, Issue 4

## 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

Mike Wilson – Chairman  
Charles Wehage – Vice  
Chairman  
Phyllis Brooks – Secretary  
Colleen Bickford - Treasurer

### Committee Chairs

John McDonough –  
Community Projects Team  
Open – Recruiting/  
Retention/Recognition  
Rod Thorpe – Communications  
Open – Agency Liaison  
Jim Klein – Data Base

### Web Site

[www.collinsclubs.com/rcrv](http://www.collinsclubs.com/rcrv)  
e-mail:  
[rcrv@collinsclubs.com](mailto:rcrv@collinsclubs.com)

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

RCRV Informational Meeting



## RCRV Informational 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 AM in our office in the REACT Center where we discuss future and current projects. Service agency representatives submit new project requests on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month. You are always welcome at any of the meetings.♦

## CRCC - Collins Retirees Construction Corps

The CRCC was formed as a subsidiary of RCRV in August under the leadership of Chuck Wehage. The purpose of the corps is to undertake major volunteer construction projects and do so on a regularly scheduled basis on the second Tuesday of each month. In August the Corps completed the teardown of a donated wheelchair ramp in Marion. The ramp materials will be stored and eventually used in future construction projects. In September the Corps installed a dividing wall in one of the rooms at the Heart of Iowa Substance Abuse facility.

Additional members of the Corps are needed so if you are interested in learning some new skills or polishing old ones please contact Chuck Wehage at 319-378-4104 or [wehage.chuck@mcleodusa.com](mailto:wehage.chuck@mcleodusa.com).♦



CRCC volunteers dismantle a wheelchair ramp in Marion



CRCC volunteers construct a room divider at Heart of Iowa

## RCRV Board of Directors meeting

The RCRV Board of Directors meets the third Wednesday of each month at the Red Cross Building in Northeast Cedar Rapids. Several client agencies are represented on the board and recent meetings have included presentations by these members on their agencies and how they interact with RCRV. Carol Luth, board member from Aging Services, gave a briefing on her agency at the September meeting.



Carol Luth from Aging Services briefing the RCRV Board

Aging Services, Inc. is a private, not-for-profit agency providing services to older adults in the Linn County area since 1969. Supportive services are offered for seniors who wish to continue living as independently as possible. The services include legal assistance, home repair and maintenance, transportation, in-home respite services, vision enhancement services, home safety assessments and many others. The services are provided at no charge or billed on a sliding contribution scale, based on ability to pay.

Several RCRV members provide volunteers services to the agency and more are always needed. For more information on the agency offerings and

volunteer opportunities phone them at 319-398-3644. ♦

## Pat Marshal

We were all saddened to learn of the death of Pat Marshal in August. Pat was one of the earliest



Pat Marshall

members of RCRV and served as a Board member and officer in addition to being one of our champion volunteers. She had a long and distinguished career in many areas of her community including IBEW management, Democratic Party leadership, Creative Artists and on and on. For a more complete biography refer to the July 2003 issue of *The Volunteer*.

Pat will be sorely missed by RCRV and the many other organizations she so faithfully supported with her tireless efforts. ♦

## History Center

The Radio Days exhibit is still up at the History Center through November and it includes an impressive section on the early days of The Collins Radio Company assembled with the assistance of RCRV volunteers. The permanent collection of the museum also contains a very interesting exhibit on the history of the company and if you are really interested in historical details the reference library contains a fine collection of clippings and other documents about the company.

Volunteers are needed especially as assistants in the library, so if you have a few spare hours to spend on an interesting volunteer assignment call or drop by the Center. ♦

## RCRV Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of Rockwell Collins Retiree Volunteers will be held on Wednesday November 17 at 1:30 pm at the American Red Cross building, 6300 Rockwell Dr. NE (behind Target, at the end of Rockwell Dr.).

The agenda will include election of officers and board members for the upcoming year, committee and agency reports and a discussion of planned activities for the future. The following individuals have been nominated for officers for 2005:

- Chuck Wehage - Chairman
- Jim Green - Vice Chairman
- Don Grimm - Secretary
- Arlo Meyer - Treasurer

This will be an excellent opportunity for all retirees to participate in the plans for the organization. Please plan to attend. ♦

## Community Health Free Clinic

A community partnership that provides medical and dental care to uninsured and under-served patients is the mission statement of the Community Health Free Clinic and their motto is "Health and Dental Care is a right Not a Privilege". The center has served close to 45,000 patients since it was opened in 1992 and since moving into its new facility earlier this year the monthly total of patients served is over 1500.

Except for a very few core staff the center is run entirely by volunteers - both professional and administrative. More volunteers are needed, especially in the finance area, so if you have a few extra hours each week and want a truly rewarding volunteer experience contact the center at 319-363-0426. ♦

# Why You Should Have An Estate Directory

The following article is provided courtesy of *The Involvement Magazine* published by The Heritage Area Agency on Aging.

An estate directory is designed to help you organize critical personal information to be used at a time when it will be needed the most. Documenting this data now will prepare others to assist with your affairs in the event of a severe disability or untimely death.

An estate directory will help to quickly locate the important people in your life, as well as your important personal papers, at a time when things are already complicated enough.

The benefit of this type of advance planning is enormous and people who might ordinarily be overlooked will be contacted immediately

This directory should be left with an advisor you trust, and its whereabouts should be identified on a card you carry with you at all times.

Some of the key elements of the estate directory are:

- A list of where your documents are located
- A list of persons to contact in case of emergency.
- An outline of your personal information such as; your Social Security number, your employer's name and address, your spouse's name, insurance numbers and contacts, your parents and/or children's names.
- -A list of friends and relatives to notify.
- -A list of advisors to consult or notify such a key financial advisors, lawyer, accountant, religious

advisor, doctor, dentist and life insurance agent.

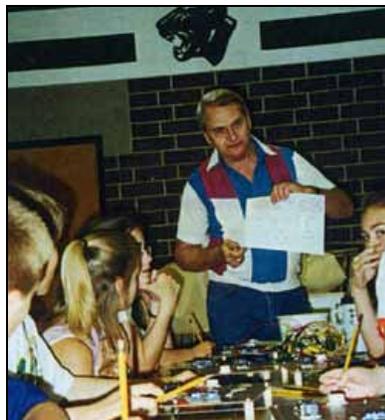
Heritage has an estate directory available that can be obtained free of charge by writing to:

Kirkwood Community College  
Heritage Area Agency on Aging  
P.O. Box 2068  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406. ♦

## K-12 Kick Off Breakfast

Several hundred Rockwell Collins employees, retirees, school officials and local leaders attended the annual K-12 Program Kickoff Breakfast at the Collins Plaza Hotel on August 20 at the Collins Plaza Hotel. The keynote speaker at this year's event was Peggy Steffen, NASA Explorer School Program Manager. She outlined the highlights of key NASA programs planned for the next several years and spoke about the importance of science and engineering education.

Art Roderick, who has been an active member of RCRV for several years, was presented with one of three Outstanding Volunteer Awards at the breakfast. The award was presented by Clay Jones, CEO of Rockwell Collins and the citation noted that Art has been an exceptional leader in the K-12 Program and is an enthusiastic volunteer always



Art Roderick  
K-12 Outstanding Volunteer

willing to devote his time and energy to new K-12 programs.

Several other RCRV members were also mentioned for their work as K-12 liaisons who provide an active link between the teachers, school administrators and volunteers. The RCRV individuals honored were Jim Wolfe, Marv Frerking, John Wauer, Bill Lacy, Bill Windus, Bob Woods and Roy Oberholtzer. ♦

## SHIIP News - Medicare Telephone Access

The Medicare Modernization Act requires all Medicare contractors to replace their individual beneficiary telephone numbers with the 1-800 MEDICARE number. This change will include carriers (Part B), intermediaries (Part A), durable medical equipment (DME) regional carriers and regional home health intermediaries. Beneficiaries will be notified of this change starting August 15, 2004.

Questions regarding specific claims will be automatically routed to the appropriate Medicare contractor's call center based on the caller's answers to a series of interactive Voice response screening questions.

Some SHIIP (Senior Health Insurance Information Program) counselors have been assigned Unique ID numbers that allow them to seek information about specific claims on your behalf. Like any caller, a call from a SHIIP counselor will be automatically routed to the appropriate Medicare contractor's call center.

If you would like more information on this or other health insurance issues contact a SHIIP counselor at the RCRV office - 393-9637. ♦

# Member Profile

## Fred Rogers

If you have retired from Rockwell Collins within the past five years you have probably received a telephone call from Fred Rogers to urge you to attend an informational meeting about RCRV to learn about what the organization does and what opportunities and benefits it affords for volunteers. Fred has been an active member of RCRV since the organization was founded and has been the mainstay behind the recruiting efforts with new retirees.



Fred Rogers

Fred was born in Frankfurt, Germany and immigrated to the United States as a teenager. He graduated from high school in Chicago and went on to attend the Illinois Institute of Technology. He joined The Collins Radio Company in 1960 in The Inspection and Test Services Division and at the time of his departure in 1974 was the Division Director. After Collins he went on to work at Kwik-Way Industries and then on to self employment as a consultant and later as co-owner of a manufacturer's representative company representing electronics companies. He retired in 2000.

In addition to his dedicated work as the RCRV recruiter Fred also finds the time for several other volunteer activities. He is a counselor for the Senior Health Insurance Information Program

(SHIIP), a Resident Advocate for residents of the Manor Care nursing home, a designated financial assistant for incapacitated individuals through the Heritage Agency on Aging, a volunteer judge at the Science Fair and remains active in the IEEE. He enjoys traveling and reading during his leisure time.

Fred has a daughter living in St. Louis, a son living in Germany, a son living in Cedar Rapids and seven grandchildren. He and his wife Muriel live in Cedar Rapids. ♦

## Trivia Quiz

1. A verdin is a small gray bird with a yellow head found in the Southwestern U.S. What significance does the name have to the Collins Radio Company?
2. The Collins FCS-110 Automatic Flight Control System was the first equipment of its kind to be certified by the FAA for Category IIIA landings. What year did it occur on what aircraft?
3. What company made a preliminary tender offer in 1969 to buy Collins Radio with a stock trade?
4. What famous American golfer has a dog named Mulligan?
  - a. Jack Nicklaus
  - b. Arnold Palmer
  - c. Davis Love
  - d. Chuck Wehage

### Answers to the July quiz

1. Robert C. Wilson was the first president appointed under Rockwell
2. TACAMO stands for Take Charge and Move Out.
3. The first USAF GPS development contract was awarded in 1974.
4. The first transatlantic flight using GPS as the sole means of navigation was made in June 1983 from CR to

Paris in a company Sabreliner piloted by Charles Hall and David Selzer. (Guess who drank all of the champagne.) ♦

## Citizens for People With Disabilities Award

RCRV has been notified that we have won The Outstanding Service Award from the Citizens for People With Disabilities for our volunteer work with Options of Linn County and other organizations that support disabled citizens.

The nomination states that "RCRV is a group of retirees from Rockwell Collins who put their talents together for the benefit of many segments of our community. People with disabilities are a primary focus of this group. RCRV routinely helps to increase people's independence by designing and producing customized assistive technology at little or no cost to the end user."

The award will be presented at the organization's awards luncheon on October 20, 2004. ♦

## 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:

- October - White Elephant Auction and skit by "The Sisters"
- November - Music from McKinley School and Thanksgiving dinner
- December- Music Program. ♦