

THE VOLUNTEER

A NEWSLETTER FOR RCRV MEMBERS

April 2007
Volume 7 Issue 2

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

Jim Green – Chairman
Keith Sutherland – Vice
Chairman
Don Grimm – Secretary
Arlo Meyer - Treasurer

Committee Chairs

John McDonough –
Community Projects Team
Pete Jurgens – Recruiting/
Retention/Recognition
Rod Thorpe – Communications
Angela Burns – 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)



RCRV Meetings

Community Projects Team

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.

New Retirees Orientation

Informational meetings for new retirees or others interested in becoming active members of RCRV are held at 9 AM on the third Thursday of each month at the REACT Center (927 N. Compton Dr. in Hiawatha). Those of you interested in learning more about RCRV and the many volunteer opportunities we offer are encouraged to attend. ♦

News Flash

RCRV members provided 29,865 hours of community volunteer services in 2006 and we now have 182 active members.

Our community still has many more volunteer needs than these 182 members can fill so please consider joining this growing and important force today. To sign up follow the directions on how to become an active member on our web site – www.collinsclubs.com/rcrv or attend one of the new retirees' orientation meetings noted above. ♦

Aging Services Golf Tournament

The 11th Annual Aging Services Golf Invitational will be held on Monday, June 25. The Two Person Scramble will begin at 1:00 p.m. at the Elmcrest Country Club.

Aging Services is a not-for-profit agency dedicated to helping older adults stay independent and assisting seniors and their families with aging issues. RCRV members are very active in volunteer activities with the agency.

Call 319-398-3644 ext. 315 to register your team and participate in this worthwhile and fun event. ♦

Shining Star Award

RCRV has been notified that we will be honored as a Shining Star at the Governor's Conference on Aging on May 22 in Des Moines. The Shining Star Award is made annually and recognizes individuals or organizations that make a difference in the lives of older Iowans.

Linda Dearing of the Heritage Agency on Aging nominated RCRV for this award based on our many hours of diverse volunteer work with older Iowans. ♦

Collins Museum

Rockwell Collins is in need of additional items for the company museum in Building 120. If any of you have suitable hardware or other artifacts for display please contact Arlo Meyer at 319-393-7461. ♦

Status of the Eastern Iowa Observatory & Learning Center

Members of RCRV have played a leading role during three years of planning, design, fund raising, and implementation of the Eastern Iowa Observatory & Learning Center (EIOLC) which is moving toward on-schedule completion in June of this year. Greg Frohner, Forrest Tomes, Bunnie Tomes, Vern Jackson, and John Leeson serve on the EIOLC project committee, and many members of RCRV have provided financial or construction support to this project.

The \$700,000 capital project is a joint effort by Cedar Amateur Astronomers (CAA) and Linn County Conservation (LCC) to create a family friendly facility to aid in the promotion of astronomy and related sciences through presentations and observing sessions. The EIOLC was initiated in 2004 following the gift to CAA of a 24" diameter, 4,000 pound Research Grade telescope, and funding from Rockwell Collins to create a Robotic telescope. These instruments will be housed in separate domes that are attached to the Main building.

The Main building of the EIOLC is designed to accommodate approximately 100 people for presentations, and capacity can be expanded into an adjacent study room for 30 more people if required. The EIOLC is located several miles Southeast of Cedar Rapids at 1365 Ivanhoe Road on property that is part of the Palisades Dows Botanical Preserve which is owned and maintained by Linn County.

Information regarding scheduled events at the EIOLC can be acquired by

visiting the CAA website at Cedar-Astronomers.org. The first Public Night presentation at the EIOLC is scheduled for July 14, 2007. There is no admission fee and everyone is welcome. ♦

Iowa Traveler

RCRV was the featured subject on the Cary J. Hahn Iowa Traveler show on KGAN Channel 2 television in February. The show featured a class for students with handicaps at Linn Mar

High School using our assistive technology devices. Ann Griffin from the Grant Wood AEA, Linn Mar Staff and several RCRV members participated. ♦



RCRV chairman Jim Green being interviewed by Cary J. Hahn



Les Haerther demonstrating his bowling ball launcher invention for the Iowa Traveler show

Four Oaks Bridge

Four Oaks is headquartered in Cedar Rapids and is one of the largest private, not-for-profit child welfare/juvenile justice organizations in the state serving all 99 counties from 12 Iowa cities.

Jim Shipman, a local attorney and Four Oaks board member, gave a presentation to the RCRV board of directors at our January meeting. He presented information about Four Oaks with specific emphasis on their Bridge Intergenerational Center.



Jim Shipman presenting at the January RCRV Board Meeting



Old Time Radio Show at the Four Oaks Bridge.

The mission of the Four Oaks Bridge is to bring together people of all ages, races and economic backgrounds in an environment of learning whereby youth, seniors and working adults can connect and contribute through the arts, technology, theater and other learning opportunities. Over 80 children currently participate in the various programs at the Bridge Dummermuth Intergenerational Center at 2100 1st Avenues NE.

RCRV has traditionally had a close working relationship with the Bridge and several of our members have been active participants on their advisory board and volunteering for their programs ranging from teaching astronomy to acting in Old Time Radio shows.

The Bridge is always in need of additional assistance, innovation and ideas and would welcome additional RCRV volunteers. If you would like to participate in this rewarding experience call the center at 247-4834. ♦

Computer Learning Opportunity

The Rockwell Collins REACT Center at 927 North Compton Drive in Hiawatha is holding basic computer literacy classes on Saturday mornings from 9 to 11 a.m. The classes are individually tailored and progress along with the participant's ability. Advance classes are being planned to follow.

If you are interested in this opportunity please contact Barb at the center 319-393-9632. ♦

Drivers Needed for Disabled Veterans

Volunteer drivers are needed to help provide transportation to shuttle disabled (but ambulatory) Veterans to and from their places of residence in Cedar Rapids and the Veterans Administration Hospital in Iowa City for medical assistance. Currently an average of seven veterans from the Cedar Rapids area is transported each day.

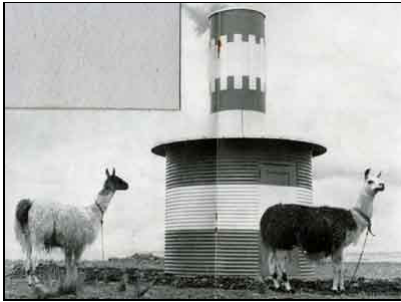
The DAV (Disabled American Veterans) association provides nine-passenger vans to transport veterans from Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois to Iowa City.

Anyone interested in volunteering to help out in this most worthwhile venture should contact Dan Chadwick for additional details at 396-1287 or email at bcdddc@aol.com. ♦



Trivia Quiz

1. Who discovered Alternating Current?
2. What does the electronics acronym IGBT stand for?
3. How many diodes would you expect to find in a bridge rectifier?
4. Can you identify this picture?



Answers to January Quiz:

1. 1914 was the year of the first airline passenger service.
2. Amelia Earhart was the first female to solo the Atlantic.
3. The 1956 payroll innovation was IBM punch card paychecks.
4. The photo is the 1954 Collins men's basketball team & Industrial League champs ♦

St. Luke's Hospital Rehab Center Open House

St Luke's Hospital Rehabilitation Services Center will be hosting grand opening events for their newly renovated facility on the 6th floor of the hospital July 19 through July 22. The public will be invited to an open house on July 22 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the 6th floor facility.

St Luke's Hospital is one of several local agencies that RCRV is affiliated with and for which we provide volunteer services. ♦

Member Profile

Helen Potthoff

Helen Potthoff was born in Illinois and raised in Des Moines. She graduated from the University of Iowa in 1968 with a teaching degree and left that summer to teach at the American International School in Kuwait. After 2 years she returned to the suburbs of Washington D C. Teaching jobs were scarce when she returned to Cedar Rapids 3 years later so she took a half time teaching job and a half time clerical job at Collins.

The following year she moved into a Life Cycle Cost Analyst position in the Reliability and Maintainability Dept.



Helen Potthoff

She helped start the Regional Airlines and Corporate Aircraft RECAP programs. (Reliability Evaluation and Corrective Action Programs). Later she moved to the Air Transport Test Equipment group and was an Engineering Project Specialist. Helen retired in 2003 after 28 years at Rockwell.

Helen is currently substitute teaching in addition to being a very active participant in RCRV community volunteer activities. She is the production and distribution manager for our newsletter and has worked on many

other projects such as installing smoke alarms in low-income homes, painting rooms at non-profit organizations, and setting up and taking down the Festival of Trees. She also has 2 children in the area to help fill any free time. ♦

RCRV Logo Shirts

RCRV now has shirts available for sale with our organizational Logo displayed on the front. Light blue or dark blue long or short sleeved denim and black or white short sleeved golf shirts are available in sizes small through 2X. Prices for the denim range from \$20.50 to \$23.50 and for the golf shirts \$23.00 to \$25.00. Orders may be placed with Arlo Meyer at 393-7461. ♦



Shirts with the RCRV Logo

Collins Retirees Potluck Meetings

The Collins Retirees Potluck Group meets the third Tuesday of the month at the Kenwood Park United Methodist Church, 175 34th St. NE at noon for a potluck lunch and program. Upcoming programs are:

May – The Dixie Notes

June – TRIAD Presentation on Helpful Appliances for Seniors

July – Music from Mary Hanley ♦