

PARTNERS

A Publication by the JCPenney National H.C.S.C. Alumni Club for Former Associates of JCPenney

FALL 2023

JCPennney

Make Your Holidays Count.



Style for every invite



JCPenney

Make Your
Holidays Count.



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PARTNERS

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Volume 121 Issue 3

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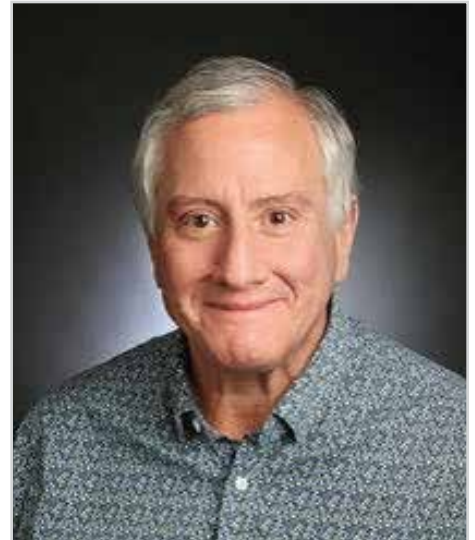
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From the Cover: Photo by Balazs Busznyak on Unsplash



Linda & John Gresham
2nd Vice President

We have come to the season of the year with football, Fall-like temperatures and leaves changing colors. All of this leads to the holidays and family get-togethers remembering those we have lost over the past year or years.

I think as I get older time just speeds up. I look back when I was 17 years old and started working at JCPenney in North Carolina putting grills and bicycles together getting \$.75 each. Now, I am part of the H.C.S.C. Alumni Club. I'm so thankful for my family and the H.C.S.C. Alumni Club family that I have been part of for the past 10 years, making many new JCPenney Alumni Club friends. Truly Wonderful Blessings.

I wanted to share two personal experiences with you all from the fall of 2023.

1. Feeding America Campaign - I started working with Jodi Kaeser of the JCPenney Communities Foundation. JCPenney is pledging \$500,000 over the next three years to Feeding America to support child hunger. She asked if the Alumni Club members could volunteer at food banks around the country. I said yes and thought this could be such a worthwhile project for our Alumni Club members. I decided that I needed to experience this myself, so I asked Will Arrant, Jack York, and Dennis White to go with me to a food bank in Charlotte, North Carolina. We spent three hours working and, when we completed the sorting, we felt that this was a very rewarding cause. We would like to see this program grow with more Alumni Club members getting involved at local food banks.
2. JCPenney Days in Kemmerer, Wyoming – Thank you to Steve Strom, 1st VP, who has been putting on this one-day event in Kemmerer for the past three years and doing a fantastic job. I got a chance to go this year on August 24th. I met two of Mr. Penney's granddaughters and David Kruger from the University of Wyoming who told us about Mr. Penney opening his first store and why Kemmerer was chosen. Unbelievable experience. Also got to see Mr. Penney's bronze statue now located on one corner of Triangle Park. Plus, the Mayor and City Council got together and served food to all the guests. I would encourage anyone to visit Kemmerer next year for this event which will be on Thursday, August 22, 2024.

Bill Kruder, our outgoing President, has made many changes to improve our Club this year and we thank him for his leadership: Small Group "Get Togethers"; New H.C.S.C. Alumni Club Website; Partner of the Quarter Recognition; H.C.S.C. Foundation Support; Membership Drives on Facebook and LinkedIn.

Linda and I wish you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas.

J.C. Penney Gets His Start

Reprinted by permission of Visit Longmont

Longmont has a rich history in agriculture, but many don't realize that retail legend James Cash "J.C." Penney got his start as a small business owner on Main Street in downtown Longmont.

James Cash "J.C." Penney came to Denver in 1897, leaving his hometown of Hamilton, Missouri on his doctor's advice to take advantage of the dry air. Missing the small-town charm of Hamilton, he shortly made his way north to Longmont.

When Penney arrived in Longmont, he took his life savings of \$300 and bought part ownership in a butcher shop located at 331 Main Street (currently Love's Bakery). In 1898, he purchased his partner's half of the business, and changed the name to the James C. Penney Meat Market. The market's biggest customer was Longmont's fanciest hotel, the Zweck Hotel, today referred to as the Imperial Hotel, located at 301 Main Street. The cook would buy all his meat from Penney's market as long as he got his "tip" each week – a bottle of bourbon. Penney delivered one bottle and refused to deliver anymore, so the hotel took their business elsewhere, and Penney's meat market closed within the year.

In December 1898, Penney went to work for Tom Callahan at his dry goods store, The Golden Rule, located at 372 Main St. (currently Crystal Joys). Penney worked hard, and Callahan took notice offering him one-third interest in a new store opening in Evanston, Wyoming. So in 1899, Penney married Longmont resident Berta Hess, and began working at the Wyoming store.

In 1902, Callahan and his partner Guy Johnson, offered Penney a partnership in a store they were opening in Kemmerer, Wyoming. Penney accepted, and in 1907 he officially bought the Kemmerer store and two others (Rock Springs and Cumberland, Wyoming) from Callahan and Johnson for \$30,000. He changed the name of the stores to JCPenney, a chain of dry goods stores that became very successful.

Penney made his way back to Longmont in 1917 when he opened his 169th store at 315 Main Street (the store



J.C. Penney's meat market in Longmont, 1898



Photo: Golden-Rule-Managers

bounced around many downtown locations including 460 and 434 Main St.) The store remained in downtown Longmont until 1985 when it moved to the Twin Peaks Mall (which closed in 2014) and had relocated to 955 South Hover Street. That location closed in June 2017. Penney resigned as president of his Company in 1917, but he remained an active member of the board of directors until he died in 1971 at the age of 95.

Penney was determined and hard-working, and he made a name for himself by being ethical and honest. When asked about his first business, he would often say, "Thank God I failed as a butcher..."

"I do not believe in excuses. I believe in hard work as the prime solvent for life's problems." –James Cash Penney ■

Feeding America

by John Gresham



Mark Radman, Bob DiRienzo, Rod Franz, John Caldwell, Jeannette Siegel, Ida Gephart, Kathleen Langley, Margaret Filingeri, Hedy Sawyers

JCPenney believes that access to nutritious food is essential for good health and well-being. In 2022, the Company pledged \$500,000 over the next three years to support child hunger programs through Feeding America, a nationwide network of 200 food banks, 21 statewide food bank associates, and 60,000 partner agencies, food pantries and meal programs. The partnership with Feeding America is part of the Company's ongoing commitment to help end hunger and ensure that everyone has access to nutritious food.

The National H.C.S.C. Alumni Club is asking for the support of all 12 Regional Meeting Groups (RMG) and its members to plan a volunteer event at a local Feed America food bank partner during October, November and December. We believe this is a great way to give back and support our local communities across the country and to support Mr. Penney's vision of Honor, Confidence, Service and Cooperation.

Each RMG President will assign a point person who will communicate via email the volunteer opportunities that are available nearby. Volunteer shifts are roughly three hours including orientation and helping to sort and pack food and products.

The picture is of local Southeast RMG members. We volunteered in Charlotte, North Carolina in August 2023 to see how this would work. We worked alongside of associates from Food Lion Grocery Store and it was a fantastic experience and very rewarding for us. ■

(See Southwest RMG news for a related story)



Jack York, Dennis White, Will Arant and John Gresham

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Merry
Giftables



JCPenney Announces a 3-Year, \$500,000
Commitment to Feeding America®

JCP Returns to Legacy Building

On July 20, JCPenney officially welcomed associates back to the office with a ribbon cutting of its new corporate offices at the Campus at Legacy West (CALWest). A long-standing member of the North Texas business community, JCPenney's return to its Plano campus marks a transformative moment for the Company as it drives its hybrid work strategy forward, supporting and accommodating the diverse personal and professional needs of its many corporate associates.

The homecoming committee planned events throughout the week to welcome associates back, culminating with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and reception attended by associates, business and nonprofit partners, elected officials and neighbors from the Plano business community.

JCPenney Chief Executive Officer Marc Rosen, Chief Human Resources Officer Andre Joyner and Texas Representative for District 66 Matt Shaheen addressed associates, emphasizing the importance of the associate experience and the Company's place in the Plano community. In honor of the grand opening and as part of JCPenney's three-year partnership with Feeding America, the program concluded with a check presentation to Feeding America from JCPenney for \$175,000 to help address food insecurity in communities across the United States.

JCPenney welcomes back more than 2,000 associates to the 320,000 square foot CALWest campus, in the same building where the Company operated for 28 years prior to the pandemic. The reopening is part of JCPenney's continued efforts to enhance the associate experience and remain a visible leader in the local business community.

"It's important that our corporate headquarters provide an environment where we can collaborate and create, accommodate diverse personal and professional needs, and live and experience the JCPenney brand firsthand," said Andre Joyner, chief human resources office for JCPenney. "CALWest offers all this and more, and although we called this building home for 28 years, there's lots of new things to discover under its new ownership group, Capital Commercial Inc."

The new office is an open working environment, designed to encourage collaboration among colleagues and connection to the JCPenney brand. Beyond the modern design and new technology aimed at fostering a seamless hybrid workforce, CALWest offers best-in-class amenities for our associates, including two pickleball courts, an arcade, state-of-the-art fitness centers and a golf simulator. ■



Home Office Ribbon Cutting



Ida Gephart, Bill Kruder and Hedy Sawyers attended the event and took this photo.

3rd Annual Golden Rule Days

Celebrated in Kemmerer, Wyoming

The Third Annual Golden Rule Days in Kemmerer was another wonderful and memorable event! The day was highlighted by an H.C.S.C. Alumni Club Reception for special guests; a tour of the James Cash Penney buildings conducted by historian David Kruger from the University of Wyoming and author of “J.C. Penney, the Man, the Store, and American Agriculture”; a book signing by David; a special program with special presentations, and a community wide picnic and barbecue!

Special guests at the H.C.S.C. Alumni Club reception included:

- Marion Guyer and Alissa Keny-Guyer and her husband Neal; Alissa and Marion are granddaughters of Mr. Penney
- JCPenney Corporate Head of Government Relations, Angela Marshall Hofmann
- JCPenney District Manager, Gerald DeClouette
- JCPenney Mother Store #1 Store Manager, Linda Slovernik
- Kemmerer Mayor Bill Thek, and Diamondville (sister city) Mayor Clint Bowen
- Carol Harwood, President, South Lincoln County Historical Society
- Cindy Miller, President, Mr. Penney Home and Museum Board
- Teresa Scott, CEO, Penney Retirement Community of Penney Farms, Florida
- David Kruger, University of Wyoming historian
- H.C.S.C. Alumni Club 2nd VP, John Gresham; Royce Bervig, Mile High Denver RMG President; John Chapman, Southeast RMG Past President
- Three H.C.S.C. Alumni Club Century Club members: Jerry Castleton 91, Salt Lake City, Utah; Ted Schmidt 96, Salt Lake City, Utah; and Jim Sivelse 97, Polson, Montana.

David Kruger’s historical buildings tour included the site of the First Golden Rule Store (1902), the Second Golden Rule Store (1903), Mr. Penney’s Home and Museum, the JCPenney Mother Store #1 (1929) and Mr. Penney’s Bronze Statue (formerly in the JCPenney Home Office in Plano, Texas).

The program was conducted by Trista Gordon, Kemmerer Recreation and Special Events Director, and had many notable highlights:

- Remarks by Senior U.S. Senator from Wyoming, John Barrasso
- A presentation of a \$10,000 check by Angela Marshall Hofmann, Head of Government Relations, from the JCPenney Communities Foundation to the James Cash Penney Home and Museum
- A presentation of a \$7,500 check to the James Cash Penney Home and Museum by the granddaughters of Mr. Penney representing nine grandchildren.
- The presentation of the first ever Golden Rule Awards by the City of Kemmerer to two deserving Lincoln County citizens who were selected from 17 nominees.

A special display was set up in Triangle Park with a petition to nominate James Cash Penney for a 2025 U.S. Postal Service Commemorative Stamp in honor of the 150th Anniversary of his birth. Lincoln County citizens enthusiastically signed the petition to be sent to the USPS Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee in the near future.

The Fourth Annual Golden Rule Days will be held Thursday, August 22, 2024, in Kemmerer! Save the date! All H.C.S.C. Alumni Club members are invited to attend! ■

Submitted by Steve Strom

The JCPenney Communities Foundation and Mr. Penney's grandchildren donate to the James Cash Penney Home and Museum! The JCPenney Communities Foundation donated \$10,000 and the grandchildren donated \$7,500!

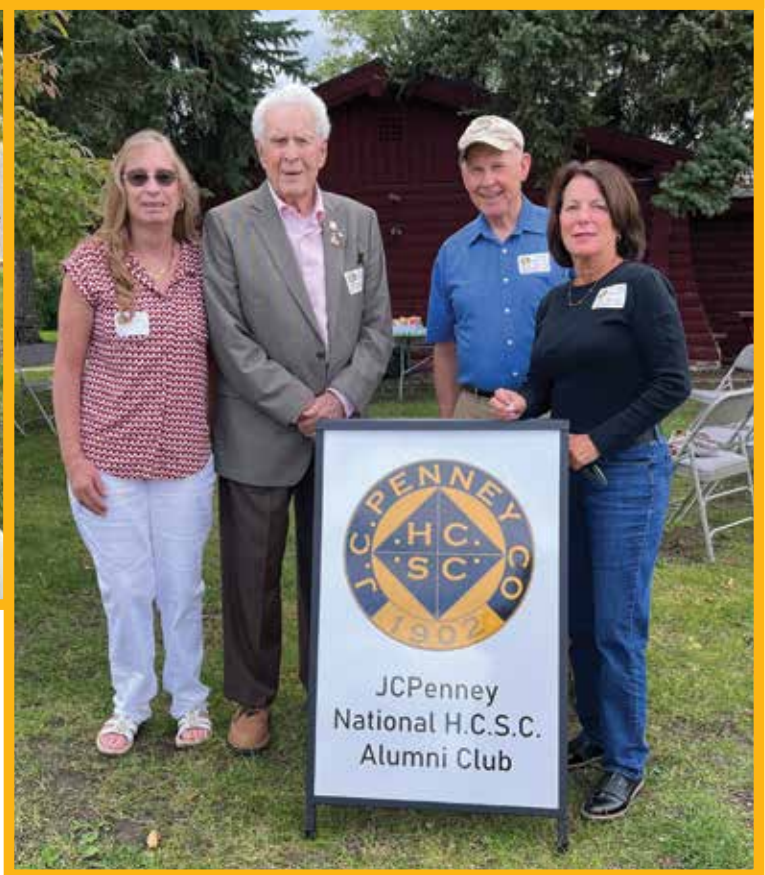
PICTURED: Marion Guyer and Alissa Keny-Guyer, Mr. Penney's granddaughters; Cindy Miller, President of the J.C. Penney Home and Museum Board, and Angela Marshall Hofmann, Head of JCPenney Corporate Government Relations.



3 Century Club Members attend the 3rd Annual Golden Rule Days!

TOP: Sandefur Schmidt, Ted's daughter; Alissa Keny-Guyer, and Jerry Castleton's son-in-law, Melvin Robinson.

BOTTOM: Jim Sivelle (97), Polson, Montana; Ted Schmidt (96), Salt Lake City, Utah; Jerry Castleton (91), Salt Lake City, Utah.



Teresa Scott, CEO of the Penney Retirement Community (Penney Farms, Florida) attended the Third Annual Golden Rule Days.

PICTURED: Leigh Ann and Jim Sivelle, Dave Quirk and CEO Teresa Scott from the P.R.C. Dave is past president of the P.R.C. Association of Residents. The P.R.C. is celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 2026! Mr. Penney created the community in 1926!

Most Memorable Moment from the 3rd Golden Rule Days

**John Gresham, 2nd Vice President,
H.C.S.C. Alumni Club**

Mayor Bill Thek and Trista Gordon, Kemmerer Recreation and Special Events Director, created the first ever "Golden Rule Award" to be given to a deserving resident of the City of Kemmerer and Lincoln County for their Service, Cooperation and Helping Others. What amazed me were the 17 entries of citizens that had exhibited the "Golden Rule" in their life that Mr. Penney believed in and used for the name of his first Store in Kemmerer, Wyoming. These 17 entries have given back to their family, community and others and truly represented what Mr. Penney always felt in his heart, "Treat others how you would want to be treated".

As I listened to Trista reading about these 17 entries, it touched me how important it is that giving back to others is truly the joy that evades so many. Trista mentioned that she got so many entries she needed a committee to decide on the winner and actually narrowed it down to two winners instead of one. I wish they could have awarded all 17 entries. It made me feel that Mr. Penney would be so proud of Kemmerer still believing in the "Golden Rule" 121 years after opening his 1st store.

**Royce Bervig, President,
Mile High Denver/Rocky Mountain RMG**

My experience going to this year's Kemmerer Golden Rule Days celebration was truly a sense of coming home. My growing up in the JCPenney Company with a 4-state tour in North Dakota, Wyoming, Utah and Colorado stirred up some awesome memories. Fast forward 67 years and reflecting during my time in Kemmerer on my own JCPenney career and retirement season, I am so grateful for the rich history and legacy story of Mr. Penney that lives on through the thousands of associates who are celebrating their time, friendships, and memories at JCPenney in community through the H.C.S.C alumni groups. I have already marked my calendar for next year's event August 22, 2024, and I want to encourage the H.C.S.C alumni community at large to seriously consider attending next year. Shawn and I hope to see you there!

**John Chapman, Past President,
Southeast Regional Meeting Group**

My most memorable moment was touring the James Cash Penney Home and Museum with the granddaughters of Mr. Penney. It was hard to believe I was actually doing that!



H.C.S.C. Alumni Club Member, Tice Siegel, Vero Beach, Florida, donated a First Golden Rule Store replica and a 1996 JCPenney Christmas Train to the Mother Store #1. (L-R) Store Manager Linda Slovernik holds the First Golden Rule Store replica and three of her associates. Tice's gift included an unopened complete Christmas train set that was a giveaway at JCPenney during the 1996 Holiday Season. Both will be displayed in the store.

James Cash Penney Commemorative Stamp Campaign Update

Dear Partners,

Below find the latest updates from our effort to have the USPS Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee approve a 2025 Commemorative Stamp to honor Mr. Penney on the 150th Anniversary of his birth:

1) Angela Marshall Hofmann, Head of JCPenney Corporate Relations, has been working with the Governor's Staffs of Missouri, Texas and Wyoming to have the Governors write a letter of recommendation. No progress reports yet, but Angela is continuing to motivate the Governors and their staffs.

2) Our Alumni Club built a petition program that was implemented in Kemmerer for the 3rd Annual Golden Rule Days. We acquired 46 signatures from citizens of Lincoln County and we will mail the petition with explanatory documents to the USPS Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee. We will then be looking for other locations to have the petition signed in the coming year.

Special Note: If your RMG would like to have a petition drive at one of your group's events, a petition form can be emailed to you. All petition forms are to be sent to this address when properly completed (see instructions on the petition itself.) Please include a letter of nomination.

Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 3300
Washington, DC 20260-3501

3) U.S. Senator John Barrasso, Wyoming, attended the 3rd Annual Golden Rule Days in Kemmerer this past August. He committed to writing a letter of nomination to the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee! Wyoming's other U.S. Senator, Cynthia Lummis, has already submitted her letter of nomination!

4) Our friends at the Penney Retirement Community in Penney Farms, Florida, who originated this campaign, continue to reach out to members of Congress in Florida to have them write letters of recommendation. They also plan to run a petition campaign!

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Steve Strom, First Vice President
sstrom58@gmail.com

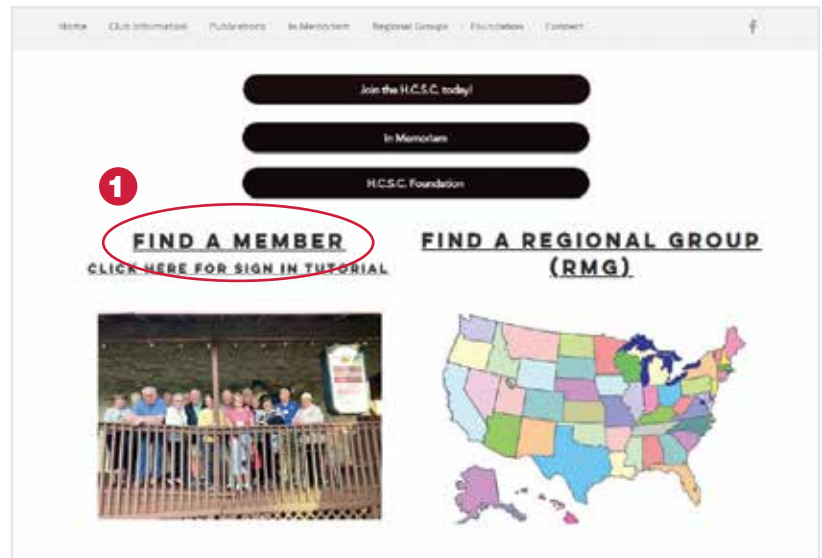
New Database Feature

New sign in process for the member database!

- 1 LOG ON BY CLICKING ON THE “FIND A MEMBER” OR THE PICTURE
- 2 CLICK LOG IN TOP RIGHT AND THE NEW SIGN IN PAGE WILL LOAD
- 3 ENTER YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO SIGN IN!

Instead of entering your member number, enter your email address. The email address is the same one on record in the member database.

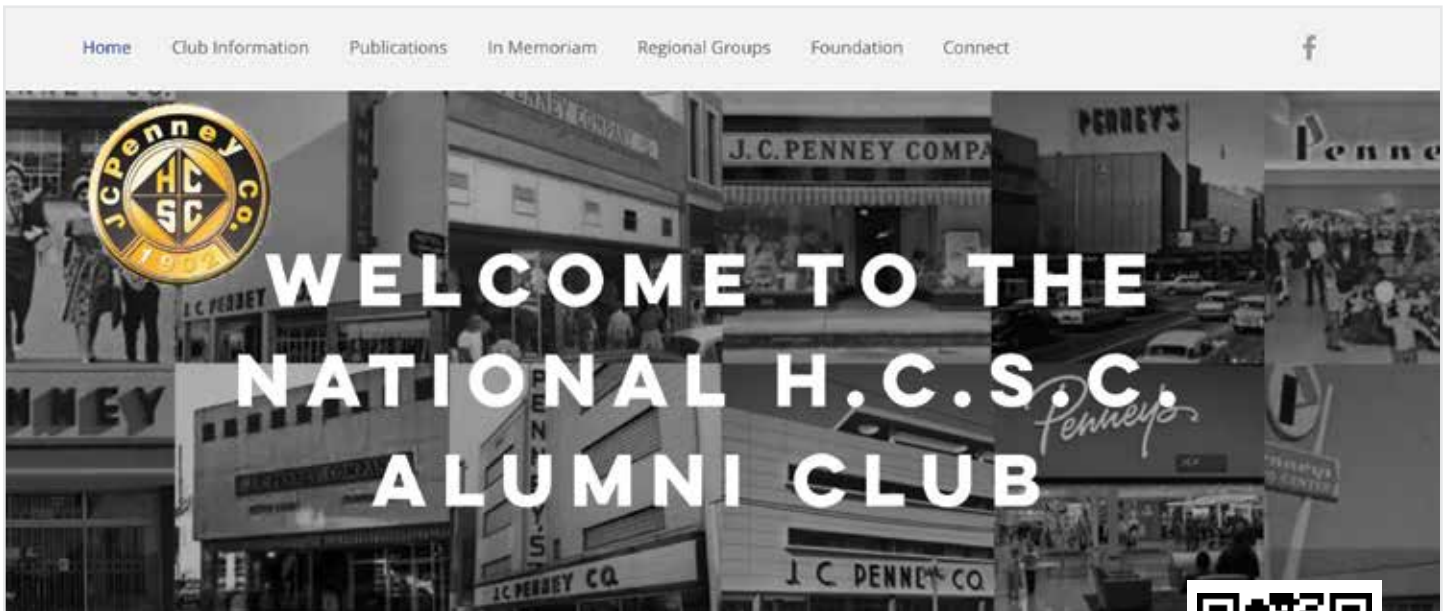
Next, enter in your password and the captcha.



Forgot your password? Just click on the “Forgot Password” link. Enter your email address of record and the captcha and click “request password”. An email will then be sent with a new password from noreply@jcpalumniclub.org.

Next, return to the sign in page, enter your email address, the new password received in your email and enter the Captcha Code and then log in. **RECOMMENDATION: We recommend that you immediately go in and change the password to one of your own choosing that you will remember.**

We trust that these new changes will help you sign in and use the member database more easily. And, while you are in the member database, please review your information to be sure that we have the latest information for you! ■



New Website Launch

Bill Kruder has been working on the new JCPenney Alumni Club website. Here is his report:

They always say before you can move forward you must understand the past.

Well, it's time to first of all say thank you to Shelia Radabaugh who some 20 years ago volunteered to build and maintain our Southwest H.C.S.C. website. Following this, in 2010, she created our National H.C.S.C. website.

Needless to say, technology has changed dramatically since Shelia first built our site.

As we fast forward to 2023, we are proud to announce the introduction of our NEW website.

By the time you are reading this story, the NEW site will have been operating for nearly two months. For those of you that have been using it, we hope you find it easy to navigate.

Now for those of you that have not logged in recently, here are a few highlights to point out:

- Most importantly the URL has not changed.
- At the top of the home page you will find easy drop down options often with one click
- As you move down the home page, you will find several large tabs for what we think are the most used sections of the website, again often with one click
- In middle of the home page you will find a master calendar that will let you scroll through National and RMG shared events

To make this easy for you, we have included a QR code that you can simply point your phone and be on the site.

I hope you are as excited as we are about this NEW site and will utilize it often.

In closing, after you have had a chance to toggle thru the site, if there is something you would like to see improved, please email Maggiemertzluff@gmail.com. ■

2024 H.C.S.C. Member Dues Payment Objective

We are asking for all Alumni Club members to support our dues payment objectives for next year in order to save our treasurer, Karen Bell, time and expense and to complete this part of our business on a timely basis. As of this August, we still have \$7,314.00 of unpaid dues for 2023. That's 23% of our expected dues payments for 2023! We know that many times there are valid reasons for these dues to be late, but we also know none of us would want to run a business with these kinds of results.

So, with your support, we are establishing these objectives for 2024:

1. Please pay your 2024 dues (National and RMG) online when you receive your first notice via email in December 2023. Online payments save us time and expense. If you are uncomfortable with online payments, please pay your dues after receiving your first hard copy invoice in the mail.
2. Our goal is to have 100% of our dues paid for the year by 6/30/2024.
3. For any members still unpaid by 6/30/2024, we will suspend the mailing of our popular Partners Magazine until their dues are paid.
4. If you have not paid your National and RMG dues by April 1, 2024, expect your Regional Meeting Group President or an RMG Board Member to contact you to help facilitate your payment or assist you in resolving any problems.

If you have not received a 2024 dues payment notification via email by February 1, 2024, we may have an incorrect email or home address in our H.C.S.C. database. Please notify us at natclubsecretary@gmail.com if you have not received notification by February 1!

Again, we thank each and every member in advance for supporting these objectives. Let's save time, expense, and receive the dues both at the National level and Regional Meeting group level that allows us to operate in a healthy manner to support our shared H.C.S.C. Alumni Club goals.

Submitted by Steve Strom

Mark Radman

Mark Scott Radman was born on June 22, 1957, in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, about 60 miles south of Pittsburgh. His father, Daniel, owned a men's clothing store and his mother, Rosalind, taught school and also worked in the store. Mark has one sister, Barbara, who is three years younger, married with three children, two grandchildren and currently lives in Plano. Mark moved to Dallas to attend Southern Methodist University. In 1979 he earned his BA degree in English with a "Creative Writing Specialization." In 1981, he received his MBA from SMU's Cox School of Business. Mark also completed the Rice University Publishing Program gaining continuing education credit hours in book and magazine publishing procedures.

Mark worked in the circulation department for Dallas Photo Magazine and Portfolio Publishing Company before becoming an Accounting Manager and then advancing to Assistant Controller for Southwest Media – publishers of D Magazine, Houston City Magazine, Texas Homes Magazine and SPORT Magazine from 1982 to 1987.

Mark started working in retail in his father's store while growing up and during college worked part time as a salesman for Culwell and Son. Over the last 20 years, Mark has worked for JCPenney, starting in family footwear at the Valley View Mall in June 2000. (Barger Tygart was the store manager.) Mark remembers in those first years getting \$.50 for selling a catalog book. He also remembers Allen Questrom's visits to the mall around JCPenney's 100th Anniversary, the launch of the American Living Brand, and JCPenney's helping to raise awareness for children after school care by sponsoring "The Concert for America's Kids" and Rascal Flatts tour.

In 2005, Mark transferred to JCPenney's Town East Mall Store 2338 in Mesquite, Texas, as a selling specialist in men's clothing. He was part of the team when JCPenney's private label, Stafford, grew to sales over a billion dollars. In June 2020, Mark was eligible and accepted the Voluntary Early Retirement Program. While most retail companies do not offer a pension plan for retail shop clerks, Mark was eligible even considering he worked primarily part time!

In July 2021, Mark returned to work part time as a sales floor associate at Town East Mall JCPenney (Chris Macfee was the store manager) and continues to work periodically, including most recently for the back-to-school tax-free weekend.



Mark Radman



Mark with CEO Marc Rosen and SW member Pat Carberry

Mark Radman



Phil Esch, Laura Williams, Jeannette Siegel, Kathleen Langley, Pat Carberry, Bill Kruder, Ida Gephart, Hedy Sawyers, and Mark



Mark Radman, Alan Langer, Ron Winkler, Terry and Kay Prindiville, Bunny and Phil Esch, Pat Carberry

Mark has always loved nature and was a Teaching Fellow for the Northfield Mount Hermon School Marine Biology and SCUBA Diving summer program in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands and Grand Cayman, British West Indies. Mark enjoys walking and taking in the beauties of nature, often listening to music or podcasts with headphones. He has a lot of other interests like wellness (diet/nutrition, exercise/fitness, and psychology/religion), enjoys swimming and taking care of his plants and fish.

Mark says, “The JCPenney H.C.S.C. former associates’ “alumni” group’s activities have been an excellent opportunity to be with many folks that I have a lot in common with, including being passionate about JCPenney’s history and future.” Currently serving as an at-large member of the JCPenney H.C.S.C. Southwest Region Board of Directors, Mark recently met many current executives, including Marc Rosen, Chief Executive Officer, when hosting a coffee and donuts event to celebrate associates returning to the home office headquarters.

Mark has always valued JCPenney’s solid foundation and providing value and customer service. The job was not always easy and as his supervisor Olga recently said “we expect a lot” referring to both the customers and maintaining the merchandise core standards. Mark continues to try to do his best to take care of the customers and meet the needs of his coworkers and managers. Mark is honored to be able to share his background and experiences here at JCPenney. ■



Mark with the Dallas Cowboys mascot

John Chapman

In early May this year, I completed my term as President of the Southeastern RMG with my wife Becky and me hosting our Annual Gathering in Columbus, Georgia. This event served as somewhat of a “circle of life” event for me. It was in Columbus that I was born, started my career, married, and started a family. So, it was exciting to go back home and welcome our group there.

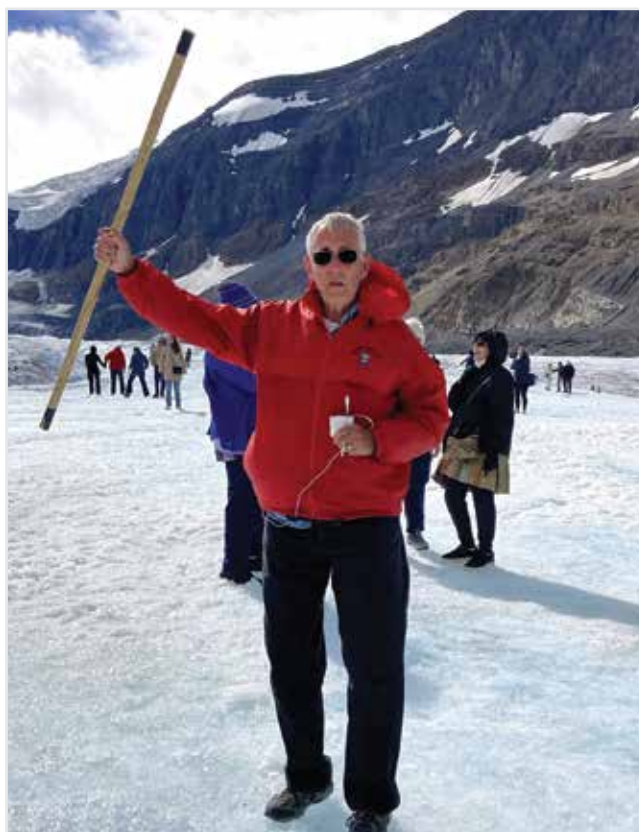
CAREER YEARS

My career with JCPenney was never planned or intentional. In fact, I never even filled out a job application. My dad was a police officer in Columbus and worked an off-duty job as Director of Security at the local mall. Through that job, he developed an intense respect for local Penney Manager Bud Ruffner and always said that he would love for me to work under Mr. Ruffner’s leadership.

One day Dad and I were walking through the store and ran into Mr. Ruffner. I was only 16 years old, but Dad mentioned that I was looking for a summer job. I didn’t really expect anything to come out of that. But a few weeks later, I received a phone call from the store asking if I could come to work that day- June 29, 1970, on the Auto Center Gas Island. My intention was to work only until Labor Day when school started, but I ended up staying over 37 years through eight relocations spanning five states. Not a bad summer job.

The Gas Island was a dream job for a high school kid. I absolutely loved it. I think I would have been happy to do it for the rest of my life. Little did I know that one day, gasoline would become a self-serve commodity and there would be no need for us gas nozzle jockeys.

After a couple of years and graduation from high school, my role expanded to stockroom and custodial duties in addition to my Gas Island duties. It was during that time that I noticed a beautiful girl named Becky Dixon working in the Misses Sportswear Department and, as they say, the rest is history. A half century later, she is still the best thing that ever happened to me. While we were dating, I was offered the opportunity to move to the sales floor as an Automotive Selling Specialist and found that I could make some pretty decent money in commission sales. And the opportunity to work in a dress shirt and tie instead of a work uniform was pretty exciting. During those three years,



Conquering a glacier in Canada



John and Becky are recognized as John's term as Southeastern RMG President ends

John Chapman



Celebrating five years of credit application goal achievement in Little Rock

I worked full-time, attended college in the evenings, got married, and had a beautiful baby girl.

So, in 1976, when I was offered the opportunity to enter the Management Training Program in that store, it was not an easy decision. I understood the possibilities and wanted to do it, but the pay cut it would involve was tough to accept. Fortunately, with Becky's support and encouragement, I accepted the offer. And again, the rest is history.

My first management assignment was a move to the Atlanta market as Assistant Manager of the freestanding Auto and Garden Center at the Forest Park Catalog Distribution Center. Just four short months later, I was moved across town to the South DeKalb store where I worked as Auto Center Manager for Store Manager Charlie Haygood. During my two years in that assignment, the highlights were being a test unit for the development of the RMM4 Merchandising System for Auto Centers and leading a massive Catalog Surplus Liquidation Sale that produced the largest Auto Center volume day in Company history. Not everyone was happy with that event- most notably Regional Manager John Wells. But we survived that, and I managed to get moved out of the Auto Center and into the main store managing hardlines before I had to fight those figures the next year.

After South DeKalb came another move across town to Northlake for a year managing hardlines. During that assignment came the birth of our second child who made

the news as the first birth of the New Year in Henry County, Georgia, in 1982. Shortly afterwards, I was placed on Special Assignment closing the Atlanta Auto Centers. That was emotionally the hardest assignment I ever had as we had to say goodbye to many great associates.

After those closings were completed, I had the unusual blessing of being transferred back to my hometown of Columbus, Georgia, to again manage hardlines and work for Mr. Ruffner. When the Company made the decision to discontinue those lines nationwide in early 1983, I was offered my first assignment in soft lines managing Women's Apparel and Women's Accessories. It was quite a steep learning curve for a guy who had always been in hard lines, and I was the only male managing Women's in the District. And to make it worse, I was given a supplemental assignment to travel two days per month as a compliance auditor of Firestone stores to assure they were following JCPenney Battery adjustment procedures. The goal of that team was to slow the profit hemorrhaging from the JCPenney Lifetime Battery fiasco. Needless to say, we failed.

After surviving that, I got my first second level assignment in that store as General Merchandising Manager (GMM) in 1986 and after a couple of years was transferred to Dover, Delaware, as GMM reporting on New Years Day 1989. That was a pretty overwhelming move for a guy who had never lived outside the state of Georgia. But working for Store Manager Warren Richards was an outstanding experience.



That pretty girl from Sportswear



Celebrating first transfer at the store picnic with Manager Bud Rufner

Warren and I would remain close and worked on several charity projects together in retirement.

After a couple of years in Dover, I was transferred to Richmond, Virginia, as the District Men's Division Business Planning Manager (BPM) and then in 1993 to the Richmond District Office as District Operations Manager for District Manager Charlie Haygood. So, in my last assignment before becoming a store manager, I had the same boss that I had in my first assignment as a department manager- a young Store Manager Charlie Haygood in the 1970s and a seasoned District Manager Charlie Haygood in the 1990s.

My first store manager assignment was Carrollton, Georgia, from Fall 1994 to Spring 1997 where I also served as Women's Entity Manager for the district. The Carrollton team won the Chairman's Award twice in those three years and I was fortunate to be along for the ride. And it was great being back within 90 miles of home.

Then followed a move to manage Johnson City, Tennessee, from Spring 1997 to the beginning of 2002 where I also served as Host Manager for the Northeast Tennessee Central Receiving Stockroom. During that time, the store achieved the highest sales per square foot ranking in the Company. Every day presented another space challenge. But we had a great team there that got it done and allowed me to win the Store Manager of the Year award in the Birmingham, Alabama district for 2001.

My final move came in 2002 to manage the store in Little Rock, Arkansas, where I remained until retirement. A highlight from that store was becoming the only store in the Company to make its credit app goal every month for five straight years.

RETIREMENT YEARS

Just before retirement, I was appointed to the Maumelle, Arkansas Civil Service Commission where I served as chairman for eight years. After retirement, I spent seven years with the Arkansas State Fair Association in Little Rock working with the rural youth of the state. That proved to be interesting in that I had never lived in a rural setting in my life, but I loved both the people and the work.

During that time, we also became heavily involved in volunteer staff work at our church. A highlight of that time was leading a two-year effort called Mission Mayflower which served the small town of Mayflower, Arkansas, following a devastating tornado. As part of that, we developed and led a school mentoring effort there that received statewide recognition for its impact on children in need of extra attention. It was truly a blessing to be part of that.

In 2017, the urge to be closer to family led us to move back to the Northeast Tennessee area which was our favorite spot from all of our moves. We have a two-acre yard that I take care of myself so that occupies a lot of my time. Also,

John Chapman



Misty Fjord in Alaska



Catching dinner in Maine

I developed a habit of posting some commentary daily on Facebook which I call "JUST THINKIN". Surprisingly, people seemed to enjoy it, and from that I was unexpectedly offered the opportunity to be a writing contributor for Lifeword Media Ministries, which I did for three years.

Never could I have imagined getting the opportunity to have multitudes of people around the world reading something I wrote translated into over a hundred different languages. It was an honor for me to get to do that.

After Becky went through a year of cancer treatments in 2018, we recalibrated our priorities to include some travel in our schedules. Major trips have included an Alaska cruise, road trip of both Florida coastlines, road trip of the entire Maine coastline, a Mississippi River cruise, and a train trip through the Canadian Rockies. By the time you read this, we hope to have completed a Yellowstone/Grand Tetons trip including attending the JCPenney Golden Rule Day festivities in Kemmerer, Wyoming.

Besides travel, we treasure our relationships through H.C.S.C. It was our honor to serve as an officer of our Southeastern RMG for two years with the highlight being presiding over the Spring event in Georgia where we

were able to celebrate 43 new members for our club. Relationships matter and our H.C.S.C. organization is important. Our wish is that more and more former associates would embrace the opportunity the club offers to nurture the many friendships and partnerships established over the years.

Last, but not least, our favorite activity is being Pop-Pop and Nana to three grandsons ranging in age from 16 down to 6. They are truly the crowning glory of older age. ■



Just thinkin'

I remember when...

Mentor

from Russ Longyear

I joined JCPenney in the fall of 1961 in the Planning and Research Department under Oakley Evans. I was surrounded by some of the great men of Penney history, like Walt Nepl, Emerson Tolle and Connie Shea. Under Connie, I was working on a team with outside consultants---Booz, Allen, Hamilton---on a study of future distribution center/warehousing requirements.

Connie and I hit it off and he quickly became my early mentor. I'm not sure how their relationship developed, but Connie was very close to Mr. Penney who, at that time, was coming into his office on 34th Street three times a week.

On two occasions, over about six months, Connie said to me "How would you like to have lunch with Mr. Penney?" So, three of us shared leisurely lunch hours and, as so many others have described, I was treated to the wonderful stories of the early years of the Company. Yes, his short-term memory was confused but his memory of those early years was crystal clear.

A number of years later, when my wife, Mimi, and I passed through the receiving line at a then every four-year H.C.S.C. meeting in Colorado Springs, knowing that he would not remember, I told him how much those lunches meant to me!

Lynn St. James

from Ron Fazio

In 1992 JCPenney sponsored Lynn St. James, the first female driver to qualify for the Indy 500. In early May before the race, she made an appearance at the Home Office. Hundreds of associates were there to greet her at the south side entrance to the rotunda. She came roaring toward the building before slowing down to turn into front of the southside doors. Unfortunately, Gordon Lindsey (Communications team) was standing a little too close as she made the turn. Without knowing it, Lynn ran over Gordon's foot. The extremely wide tires--believe it or not---don't have that much weight and we were able to pull his foot out. Gordon was fine and Lynn went on to run in the Indy 500 on Labor Day weekend.

- 1992 Indianapolis 500 Rookie of The Year (first woman to win)
- Seven Indianapolis 500 starts in nine years, including six consecutive starts (1992-97)
- Highest qualifying: sixth - 1994 Indy 500
- Highest finish: eleventh - 1992 Indy 500
- Oldest Driver in the field (age 53) - 2000 Indy 500



Lynn St. James

For the record books

from Phil Young

In 1974 I was part of the management team in JCPenney Store 1579 outside Marysville, California. Many of our customers were stationed at or worked at nearby Beale Air Force Base. Beale was home to a Strategic Air Command wing and the super-secret Lockheed SR-71 "Blackbird".



Each member of the ten man ground crew is wearing a Big Mac matched set under the white jacket

During the late summer of 1974, the Air Force announced plans to attempt to set a speed record flying the SR-71 from New York to London. After the flight, the plane would be on public display for the first time at Farnborough Air Show. The flight crews would, of course, wear their Air Force uniforms, but the ground crews attire presented a problem. The ground crew was a combination of Air Force and Lockheed personnel, so they needed a different solution for matching apparel.

Because my merchandising responsibility included the Men's Department, I was contacted and asked if JCPenney could on short notice provide Big Mac Super Klondike matched sets in navy for the ground crew. It was a mad scramble, but we found the various size combinations in time to clothe the ten-man crew.

On September 1, 1974, the SR-71 flew from New York to London in 1 hour and 55 minutes. The average speed was over 1,800 miles per hour. The record still stands today and JCPenney figuratively went along for the ride.

Murray, Kentucky

from Pat Phillips

In 1982 my husband, Earl Lynn Phillips, got his first JCPenney store to manage! It was also the first JCPenney store in Murray, Kentucky, so lots of excitement. He went on to Kentucky while the store was being built, we stayed in Stone Mountain, Georgia, for our three sons to finish the school year, joining him as soon as possible. In July the boys and I went to Arkansas to see their grandparents. When we returned, the 'grand opening' was looming, but Lynn was determined to come home and have lunch with us. He didn't arrive and a little later the phone call came to go to the hospital, there had been an accident.

New shopping center, new traffic light...a loaded gravel truck had sped through a red light as my husband was pulling out, running over our old Volvo wagon, spinning it back and hitting it again. He survived with a concussion, broken collar bone, cracked ribs all the way down his spine, and bruised head to toe. He thought he HAD to be at Grand Opening. He had to be back in the store with employees and customers, but when he realized he could not, he insisted I be there to represent him at the ribbon cutting. I did not want to leave him, but he was adamant, so I was there! My question all these years later, "was I the only wife who got to open a new store in place of their husband?"

Just to follow up, that man made me take him to the store on the way home from the hospital. He managed to walk to his office, greeting employees, sat down long enough to catch his breath, then we walked back. He had me drive him in every day, staying longer each time, until he could drive himself. Our time in Murray were wonderful days for each of us and as a family. Thankful for the Penney family, our church and the community!



Bill and Patti Alcorn, Don and Diane White, Eileen and Ed Savold, Karen Witt and Ray Ward, Jack and Lorraine Clancy and their daughter Elizabeth, Manny Fernandez

Deep South

The 2023 Deep South H.C.S.C. Alumni Annual Reunion took place on the Tampa Riverwalk and Ybor City, September 17th-20th, 2023. This year's annual reunion was special, as the 2022 Reunion was cancelled due to Hurricane Ian devastating parts of Florida.

While the overall alumni attendance was down, it allowed for group tours of Tampa's Riverwalk, the beautiful Aquarium and dining in Florida's oldest restaurant, the Columbia Restaurant. The Columbia opened its doors in historic Ybor City (also known as Cigar City USA) in 1905. This iconic restaurant serves traditional Spanish and Cuban food in an authentic and welcoming environment. The Sangrias, Rumritas and Cuba Libres were also excellent.

The annual reunion included the yearly Deep South RMG's business meeting, in which the 2024 Annual Deep South Alumni Reunion plans were announced. The 2024 Annual Alumni reunion will feature a four-day Caribbean Cruise, sailing from centrally located Cape Canaveral on June 2, 2024 and will include members of the Southeast and Deep South RMGs. ■



Bill and Patti Alcorn

Regional Meeting Group



Heart of America Club members gather in Overland Park

Heart of America Gathering

The Heart of America H.C.S.C. Alumni Club gathered on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 27 and 28 at the Drury Inn in Overland Park, Kansas. On Tuesday, members gathered at 2 p.m. to enjoy cocktails, conversation and snacks followed by a short business meeting. Old friendships were renewed and many memories were shared as the gathering proceeded.

Following our gathering at Drury Inn, we all went to dinner at RC's, one of the areas fine restaurants. Everyone continued to share stories and enjoy the company of one another. The next morning Heart of America members gathered for breakfast once again catching up with what was going on in one another's lives. As always, it was nice to see friends and former business partners from the past. Carolyn Rasmussen was thanked for her service as the HOA treasurer and Ron Miller was thanked for accepting that role for the coming year.

Preliminary plans for the 2024 Heart of America gathering include gathering in Hamilton, Missouri, birthplace and home of the JCPenney Museum. ■

Submitted by Rod Schweitzer

Attendees: Felix and Kay Bluml, Tom Croy, Tom and Cathy Ferguson, Gary Finnell, Kerry and Cindy Halverson, Pam Harman, Chuck Hawkins, John Jones, Bob and Susie Lund, Don and Carol McCormick, Gary and Donna McDowell, Ron and Betsy Miller, Larry and Martha Orth, Ras and Carolyn Rasmussen, Harry Rediger and Debbie Coalter, Margie Schafer, Rod and Cheryl Schweitzer, Don and Kay Smykowski, Emil and Beth Wepprich and Joy Wilson.



Gary McDowell, Ron Miller and Tom Croy



Debbie Coalter and Harry Rediger



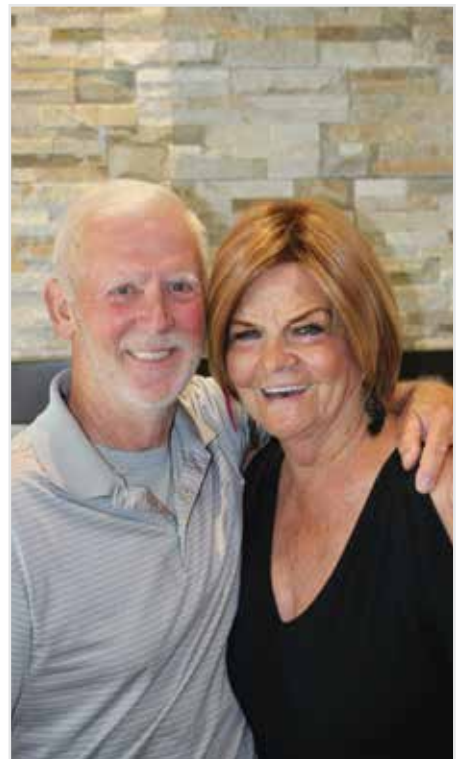
Kay and Felix Bluml



Cheryl and Rod Schweitzer



Betsy and Ron Miller with Carol and Don McCormick



Bob and Susie Lund

Indiana

On Thursday, July 13th the Indiana H.C.S.C. Alumni Club held a casual gathering in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Arrangements for lunch were made by Al Seibold.

We had members attending from the Northern part of our state who for various reasons were unable to attend our “normal” gatherings held in Indianapolis. We had several discussions sharing stories and experiences working for JCPenney.

Highlights:

- The H.C.S.C. pin was presented to Bobbi Rich, retired Salon Manager, who has received several awards for a “Million” dollar salon club.
- The H.C.S.C. Foundation accomplishments were reviewed and continued support requested.
- Business cards were distributed for contacting potential new members.
- Pat Conley updated us on the Indiana RMG Facebook group. He will continue to post JCPenney facts and data regarding Indiana.

It was great to visit with current members as well as others who were not able to attend our Indianapolis gatherings. Our next scheduled meeting and gathering will be held in Indianapolis at La Peep on Thursday, October 26th, 2023, at 11:30. More information will follow later. ■

Submitted by Deryl Benz



Deryl Benz presents H.C.S.C. Pin to Bobbi Rich and husband Don



Don Rich, Pat and L'Oree Conley, Cheri and Mark Johnson, Richard and Suzanne Shankle, Betty Sands, J'ette and Alan Siebold, Deryl Benz. Photo taken by Chris Benz.

On The Trail



TOP: Jim and Jan Malone, Phil Riordan, Griff Griffith, Mary Brown, Don Sheely, Royce Bervig, Dave Simpson, Jane and Doug Anderson, Peggy Enzi-Toavs and Merle Toavs. **BOTTOM:** Norm Prince, Mary Beth and Ed Trujillo, Todd Enders, Bob Enders, Shawn Bervig

The Denver Mile High Rocky Mountain RMG held its annual August picnic gathering and fellowship at Mount Falcon West Trailhead west of Denver. We enjoyed some great catered BBQ brisket, with attendee side dishes and desserts. At the conclusion of our meal, we had a special recognition and celebration with Doug and Jane Anderson who put on their JCPenney 50th anniversary pins. We also celebrated August birthdays for Steve Strom, Bonnie Marsillio, Shawn Bervig, Deanne Schwindt, Ivan Stewart and August JCPenney anniversaries for Jim Malone, Barbara Hyink, Dent Roudy, Steve Beideck, Tom Cassidy, Royce Bervig.

Before we closed our time together, we provided an opportunity for all in attendance to share what has been going on so far in 2023 and what plans are in place for the balance of 2023. A lot of life happens in between our monthly emails so this is always a very special time when we can be in person and in community to hear from each other on what is going on. ■



Jane and Doug Anderson, 50-year Pin recipients

Submitted by Royce Bervig

Unwrapping the Magic



Jean Lewis, Paula Lawson, David Lawson, Martha Orth, Larry Orth, Lois Brei, Philip Brei, Gail Scoates, Judy Motsinger, Carol Brennan, Susanne Rotsch, Mary Hellmann, Dorothy Gray, Mary Jane Fritz, Steve Fritz, George Gray, Shirley Jordan, Don Jordan.

This past June 6-8, the North Central Gathering was held in La Crosse, Wisconsin, with an “Unwrap the Magic” theme. Forty-one Penney Partners got together including the following first-time attendees: Philip and Lois Brei, John and Gail Cassady, Jane Foner, Kathy Hattam, and Kay Pihlaja.

As is our custom, our event was opened with a social hour. We then moved to the Freighthouse restaurant for our evening meal. After dinner, John Brennan conducted a Celebration of Life Service to recognize Partners and spouses who had passed away since we last met.

Our evening entertainment was kicked off by emcee and professional joke teller, Don Jordan. We then transitioned to audience participation and began our “open mic joke night.” Before the event, we asked that everyone come prepared to tell a joke, deliver a one-liner, set up a pun, or share a humorous story. Once Larry Orth and David Lawson were sworn in to be impartial judges, we were underway. There were several runners-up, but the judges quickly returned a unanimous decision declaring Carol Ullrich the winner of the “best of show” prize for her funny story. It’s too long to print, so you’ll have to ask her about it next time you see her.



It looks like Carol lost Jane Foner's precious ring.



Bruce Motsinger, Glen Thompson, Bill Lewis, David Scoates, Jim Rotsch, John Brennan, Pat Fahey, John Cassidy

Wednesday morning saw eight golfers head off to Forest Hills Golf Course. When all the razing and misinformation was over and the scorecards turned in, the team of Bruce Motsinger, Dave Scoates, Jim Rotsch, and Bill Lewis had secured a one-stroke victory.

Those who were not golfing had the opportunity to join a chartered bus tour that included a visit to the Maria Angelorium Chapel, a behind the scenes tour of the historic Hixton House, and a final stop at the Sweet Shop. We once again gathered for a social hour before dinner. Local magician, Isaiah Foster, performed some close-up magic as we sipped our drinks in the hospitality room. After our plated dinner, we were treated to the "Magic of Isaiah" stage show. He actively engaged the audience and had many Penney Partners on stage to assist him with his magic.

We acknowledged the following 50-year Pin recipients who were not in attendance: Daniel Eudaly, Jean Landsteiner, Carl Scibetta, Dale Dust, Robert W. Fisher, Mark Flood, Russell Henke, Theresa Hoag, Mrs. Robert O. Jantz (Deceased), Gomer C. Jones, William Kruder, Thomas Krueger, Gloria S. Martin, Ken Murray, Susan Ralph, Ed Scott, Jr., and Carol Ione Thunstrom.

The magical evening concluded with everyone drawing a card from the deck. As cards were matched, that person got



Tom and Mary Hellmann



Paula and David Lawson

Regional Meeting Group



Kathy Hattam, Kay Pihlaja, Kathy Michelsen

to select a wrapped prize such as: various magic tricks, Magic Mike DVD, Unwrap the Magic bear, Magic Johnson all-star card, Magic Box wine, Space Jam items, PeeWee Herman items, or other JCPenney memorabilia.

Thursday morning's breakfast buffet was followed by our annual business meeting. As part of the meeting, a donation of \$1000 to the H.C.S.C. Foundation was approved. We also announced the location of the 2024 Gathering as Green Bay, Wisconsin, on Tuesday June 4 through Thursday June 6.

Since we know that we will have strong attendance from the Wisconsin Green Bay Packer fans, we would like to get a big turnout from you Vikings, Bears, Colts, Lions, and Cowboys fans.

We hope to see you in Green Bay on June 4, 2024. ■



John and Gail Cassady



Glen and Kathy Thompson



George and Dorothy Gray



David and Gail Scoates



Lois and Philip Brei



Jean and Bill Lewis



Steve and Mary Jane Fritz



John and Carol Brennan



Ted and JoAnn Stewart

North Central



Suzanne and Jim Rotsch



Carol and Ed Ullrich



Larry and Martha Orth



Don and Shirley Jordan



Pat and L'Oree Conley



Judy and Bruce Motsinger



Fun and Fellowship in Southern California

SoCal Summer Road Trip

The Southern California H.C.S.C. Alumni Club once again took a road trip to one of our favorite destinations--The Fresco Grill in beautiful Bonsall, California. Ron Hudnall's friend and owner, Leoni D'Arcangelo, and staff create an atmosphere which is warm, inviting, and always memorable. In addition the outstanding Italian fare never disappoints!

After a time of fellowship and Ron Salzetti's update on the Foundation, all attendees enjoyed good company, great food, and a variety of wonderful wines! ■

Attendees: Betty Bidwell, Vince Caporusso, Don and Vicki Gergovich, Sandra Gonzales, Ron Hudnall, Fausto Marisy, Cheryl Newton, Larry and Cheryl Noble, Jeff and Jennifer Paige, Jim Phillips, Donna Dotson and Ron Salzetti, Mark and Audrey Schultz, Jack and Helene Siebert, Dick Scoville, Jonathan Stelmach.



Sandy Gonzales, Cheryl Newton, Jonathan Stelmach, Jeff and Jennifer Paige, Vincent Caporusso



Mark Schultz, Betty Bidwell, Audrey Schultz, Kelley Thomas, Fausto Marisy, Jim Phillips

Regional Meeting Group



The Blue Group at Fairview Farmers

Southwest Activities

Fairview Farmers Breakfast

We had a GREAT time on July 19th during our breakfast event with several of the Alumni Club members!!! A delicious meal served by Fairview Farmers in Allen, Texas, did not disappoint!!! Not only was the food delicious...each plate was artfully arranged!!!

We had 19 attendees and 11 of them wore the vibrant and cool color of BLUE!!! Don't know the meaning behind that, but we have a picture to prove it!!!

Larry Nelson gave an outstanding presentation about his visit to the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta! He won this trip through JCPenney along with several other associates! Larry brought a bag full of memorabilia from the trip to show us! His stories were so interesting and others added their own experiences about the same trip! That all happened 27 years ago that day! WOW!!!

Attendees: John Caldwell, Pat Carberry, Bob DiRienzo, Phil and Bunny Esch, Ron Fazio, Rod Franz, Ida Gephart, Bill Kruder, Alan Langer, Gerry Montgomery, Larry Nelson, Kay and Terry Prindiville, Mark Radman, Hedy Sawyers, Jeannette Siegel, Joanie Weed, Ron Winkler.

Father's Day Celebration

We had a great time Tuesday, June 13 celebrating the dads in our lives! We brought pictures of our dads and



Karen Wertz, head of Home Division Product Development, Hedy Sawyers, Michelle Wlazlo, Ida Gephart, Sharon Winkle



Phil Esch, Laura Williams, Jeannette Siegel, Kathleen Langley, Pat Carberry, Bill Kruder, Ida Gephart, Hedy Sawyers, Mark Radman

told memorable stories. It was so interesting to hear these touching stories and to learn more about each person that was at the luncheon. It was truly a special time!

Attendees: Doug Boyle, Don Brown, Pat Carberry, Phil and Bunny Esch, Margaret Filingeri, Jan Hodges, Mike Meiberg, Mark Radman, Hedy Sawyers.

JCPenney Home Office Welcome Back Coffee

Associates have been returning to the former JCPenney building in Plano. On Monday, July 17, members of the Southwest RMG held a coffee and donuts gathering welcoming associates back to the "Home Office."

Attendees: Pat Carberry, Phil Esch, Ida Gephart, Bill Kruder, Kathleen Langley, Mark Radman, Hedy Sawyers, Jeannette Siegel, Laura Williams and Sharon Winkle.

North Texas Food Bank

We had an AMAZING morning at the North Texas Food Bank in Plano, Texas on October 5. This was an opportunity for our club to get involved and give-back to our local community for a cause that aligns with the JCPenney Communities Foundation national partnership with Feeding America. Our team was assigned to the "pack and box" category and we all enjoyed every minute of it!!!

Thanks goes to Jodi Kaeser from the JCPenney Communities Foundation for helping us get this event



Jeannette Siegel, Mark Radman, Hedy Sawyers, Kathy Tapp, Margaret Filingeri

going! It was so rewarding and definitely a blessing for all!

Attendees: John Caldwell, Bob DiRienzo, Margaret Filingeri, Rod Franz, Ida Gephart, Kathleen Langley, Mark Radman, Hedy Sawyers, Jeannette Siegel

Sixth Floor Museum

We had a memorable day visiting the Texas School Book Depository, touring the Sixth Floor Museum. After the tour, we had a delicious lunch at the Downtown Dallas El Fenix. It's hard to believe that it will be 60 years since JFK's assassination on November 22, 1963. Where were you on this day?

Attendees: Pat Carberry, Margaret Filingeri, Jan Hodges, Mark Radman, Hedy Sawyers, Jeannette Siegel, Kay Tapp.

Father's Day Celebration



Don Brown, Mike Meiberg, Margaret Filingeri, Doug Boyle, Jan Hodges, Mark Radman, Hedy Sawyers, Pat Carberry, Bunny and Phil Esch



Mark Radman, Bob DiRienzo, Rod Franz, John Caldwell, Jeannette Siegel, Ida Gephart, Kathleen Langley, Margaret Filingeri, Hedy Sawyers

JCPenney

Make Your Holidays Count.



◆ All is bright ◆



◆ Vow to
WOW





HONOR, CONFIDENCE, SERVICE, COOPERATION

A Nonprofit Foundation Dedicated to Assist Retired Associates and/or Spouses in Need of Financial Assistance

Dear Penney Partners,

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know that we have put together a major Holiday Fundraising program that will be mailed to you the first of November. We are desperately in need of funds to keep the Foundation healthy. I urge each and every one of you to take the time and consider donating. Currently, we have almost a \$300,000 deficit in the amount that we give to our recipients versus the amount of income.

We have 84 recipients that count on our assistance at this time. What better charity to donate to than our Foundation where 100% percent of your donation goes to assist Penney associates. Your volunteer Foundation board works very hard to assist each recipient. We meet four times a year to review all recipients to check on their individual situation. In addition, we call each recipient on their birthday. I would like to thank all board members for their hard work.

The following are our current board members:

Ron Salzetti - Chairman
Jeff Paige Vice Chairman
Larry Noble - Secretary/Treasurer

Betty Bidwell
Vince Caporusso
Sandy Gonzales
Roger Hanson

Jim McKeown
Lucy Rau
Alan Rogers
Mark Schultz

Ross Willour
Steve Workman

Emeritus Directors: Tony Zarifis, Wayne Harmon, Ron Rhoads

The board would like to thank W.R. Howell for his assistance in putting together this major fundraising program. Also, many thanks to Jeannette Siegel and Robin Caldwell for their assistance.

Thank you in advance for donating,

Ron Salzetti
Chairman, H.C.S.C. Foundation

Your contributions are tax deductible and can be mailed to:

H.C.S.C. Foundation
15220 Green Valley Drive
Chino Hills, CA 91709-4267

You can also donate through our GoFundMe account by going to our website:

HCSCFoundation.com



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 Sandy Gonzales
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 Gerry Lang
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 William Doss

Milt Schulle
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 Milt Schulle
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 Jim Schwaninger
 Chris Sears
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 Ken Ellingboe
 Frank Fitzpatrick
 No/Cal/NV RMG
 Harold Monroe
 Larry Noble
 Jeff Paige
 George Steele
 Ron Salzetti
 Dick Scoville
 Robin Caldwell
 Robin Caldwell
 Jeannette Siegel
 Darlene Wilson

Thank you for remembering our Partners and for your support of those in need!

Jack Alfredson	Rikke Doyle	Peter McGrath	Alan Siebold
Rodney Birkins	Rodney Franz	Harold Monroe	Mikw Tuttle
Timothy Carney	John Gresham	Theresa Nass	William Watson
Eugene Corl	Wayne Harmon	Walt Parker	James Winger
JCPenney Corporation	Mark Kuritzsky	Terry Prindiville	
Lawrence Dowler	David King	Roger Peterson	
Rhonda Dickson	Darlene Leydecker	Mike Ray	

LETTERS *of* GRATITUDE

My husband passed away and there was a short fall in my income so I took a very small part time job. The outcome was that Social Security took \$500 out of the monthly check. I was in terrible trouble trying to make ends meet. The JCPenney Foundation came to my rescue and was there when I needed it.

Thank you - it was easy and special!

Foundation Recipient

We have over 80 JCP associates receiving financial help. These individuals have received assistance in various forms, based on their individual needs. I can assure you we do extensive research every year to verify individual need and adjust as necessary. One example of the integrity of this program.

We had an individual who had major roof damage during a storm and was having trouble getting help from their insurance company. It was winter and they needed immediate help. We were able to send payment to the roofing company and stop further damage. That is only part of the story!!! Several months later this individual received payment from their insurance company. We had no idea that the insurance company would pay— until our recipient returned the money to us from their insurance company. I call that a CLASS ACT, and proof that this program is working, and doing the right thing.

In Memoriam

JCPenney Partners & Spouses we will miss

These valued Partners passed away recently. We are grateful for their support of H.C.S.C. and most of all for their friendship. We extend our sincerest condolences to their families and friends.

If you would like to read the full obituaries, please go to www.jcpalumniclub.org and click on the In Memoriam link on the right side of the page.

Anderson, Dick (August 2, 2023)
Bard, Shirley (November 29, 2022)
Beere, Gail (September 12, 2023)
Blackstock, Ralph (October 7, 2023)
Brister, Ben (October 10, 2023)
Dziedzic, Richard F. (June 9, 2023)
Fry, Richard C. (August 14, 2022)
Gilliam, Herbert H. (June 16, 2022)
Gillibrand-DeClue, Cheryl (November 30, 2022)
Kirkley, Marguerite W. (May 15, 2008)
Knapp, Ruth Ann (September 9, 2023)
LaPlante, Warren R. (June 2, 2023)
Lubbert, June (October 12, 2023)
Marlowe, Claude Allen (May 2, 2023)
Melin, Joni (June 3, 2023)
Mothershead, Elbert M. (Mel) (December 10, 2022)
Overmeer, Frank A. (December 19, 2022)
Preisser, Joyce (August 31, 2023)
Riewe, Susan Margaret (June 2, 2023)
Roberts, Carroll L. (June 24, 2023)
Schulle, Milt (August 6, 2023)
Schwaninger, Sr., James C. (June 11, 2022)
Spears, Larry S. (June 19, 2022)
Tageson, William C. (August 30, 2023)
Thomas, Brenda Joy (June 20, 2023)
Whitson, Mac (June 1, 2023)
Wuerth, Jacinta Maria (August 25, 2023)

Using your mobile phone, open your Camera icon. Hold the camera over the QR Code. A message will appear. Tap on the message and you will be taken to the obituaries on the website.



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