

PARTNERS

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



SUMMER 2023



ARIZONA
JEAN CO.



Vacation Mode: ON!



JCPenney

Stay Tropi-Cool



College Living

JCPenney



Dorm away from home



Contents



PARTNERS

SUMMER 2023

Volume 121 Issue 2

FEATURES



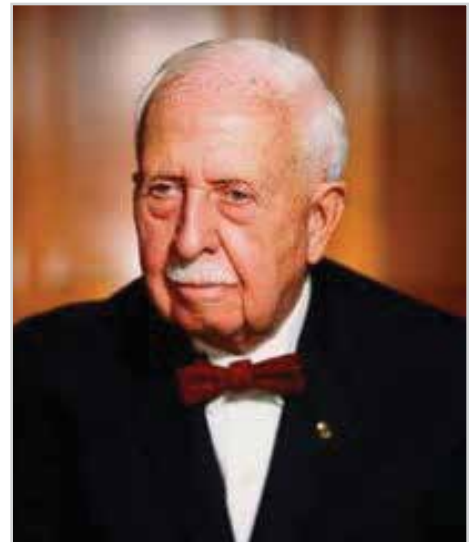
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FROM THE COVER: Photo by Aaron Burden on Unsplash



Steve Strom
1st Vice President
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We are all connected! The strength of our Alumni Club is our shared JCPenney heritage and shared memories of the time we served in the Company. It's always a joy to attend an H.C.S.C. regional meeting group event and see a friend or acquaintance that you haven't seen for a while and catch up. Or to see a friend in an article in Partners magazine and read about their life and activities! And we mourn and remember when we see a friend in the "In Memoriam" section of our website or in Partners. This connection is the common bond that we share and should celebrate always!

It is a priority of your current Alumni Club Officers, President Bill Kruder, 2nd Vice President, John Gresham, and I to build those connections and further strengthen our group! These are some of the ways we hope to build our connections in 2023 and beyond:

- A new **National H.C.S.C. website!** Fresh, new, and loaded with information that we hope will strengthen those connections! We encourage you to visit frequently and check on your connections! Coming in Fall 2023!
- **Small Group "Get Togethers"** – many Regional Meeting Group Presidents have been practicing this informal and casual "get together" and now stay tuned for a national day of connecting in small groups on October 18, 2023. See more info in this edition of Partners.
- **New Partner of the Quarter Program** – what better way to connect than to recognize an Alumni Club member for their contributions both for H.C.S.C and outside of the club in their community! Submit nominations to your RMG President for consideration! Look for our 2023 Partner of the 2nd Quarter in this Partners summer edition!
- **Membership Growth Campaign** – another great way to connect is to add your friends or acquaintances to our group as new members! It's easy with our online application! And it helps keep our club strong as we lose members annually.

We encourage each member to reach out to an H.C.S.C. Alumni Club member (or non-member) this year and connect. A phone call, an email, a card or letter to a friend or acquaintance will be special and enjoyable as you share memories of an important time in your life! Let's all commit to connect this year!

Steve

JCPenney Values Relaunch

By Emily Johnson

Head of Talent Management, Talent Development & Associate Relations

Values have been a part of JCPenney's framework since the very beginning. The idea started when James Cash Penney founded his Golden Rule store and really took hold in 1913 when 34 Golden Rule stores were renamed J.C. Penney. At that time, the values of Honor, Confidence, Service and Cooperation were part of the Company culture.

In 2005, the "Winning Together" values were launched to serve as guiding principles for how the 150,000 associates were to work and win together to realize superior performance. The values were associates, integrity, performance, recognition, teamwork, quality, innovation and community.

In 2013, the concept of Warriors (associate-run engagement group) was born, and new values of loyalty, passion, service and courage were launched. In 2020, loyalty was changed to confidence.

This brings us to today. A new purpose statement and new transformation efforts ignited the desire to update the values to define a clear path forward. This effort began in April 2021, went through multiple iterations, and was even reviewed with the H.C.S.C. Board last July for feedback. Now, the values relaunch has just begun and will be entirely rolled out to store associates by mid-July 2023.

So, what are the new values? First and foremost, JCPenney is keeping the Golden Rule front and center as the company's core value. The Golden Rule helps guide associates in all interactions with customers and with each other, lending itself to deep-rooted beliefs in Service, Passion, Energy, Inclusion, and Family. Service & Passion are a nod to Company legacy. Energy and Inclusion are new values that signify growth and change. That leaves us with Family. Family is a key differentiator because it's genuine and associates describe their peers, past and present, as being like family. Kohl's and Macy's simply cannot say the same!

The beauty of the new values is that some will resonate with individuals better than others depending on their own experience, but there's no question that these describe the Company culture today and what it strives to be in the future.

- Service - This applies to the customer, associates and community. Associates lead with respect and aspire to exceed expectations.
- Passion - We elevate the JCPenney legacy as a brand with the passion of the Golden Rule. Associates inspire customers and fellow associates across the whole organization and do the right thing, even when it's hard.
- Energy – JCPenney associates have a fighting Warrior spirit that is strong, energetic and driven. Speed and flexibility remain relevant to customer needs and wants and associates persevere in the face of obstacles or change, adapting when needed.
- Inclusion - This belief is central to JCPenney's purpose and in strengthening the culture. Associates work hard to ensure customers, associates and business partners of all backgrounds feel safe, valued, and respected. Associates ask questions, listen carefully and work cross-functionally to meet customer needs and solve problems with an enterprise mindset.

And finally, Family – JCPenney views loyal customers and communities as an extension of the JCPenney family. And for over 120 years, associates have described their peers as being "like family," no matter how long or short they've worked alongside each other, and that's pretty cool.

JCPenney Values



Service

We lead with respect + aspire to exceed expectations.

CUSTOMER | ASSOCIATES | COMMUNITY



Passion

We inspire + elevate our brand legacy with The Golden Rule.

LEGACY | INTEGRITY | CUSTOMERS + ASSOCIATES



Energy

We are driven to stay adaptable + relevant for our customers.

WARRIOR SPIRIT | SPEED | PERSEVERANCE



Inclusion

We work hard to ensure everyone feels safe + valued.

PEOPLE | PURPOSE | PARTNERSHIP



Family

We treat peers, customers + community like extended family.

CUSTOMERS | PEERS | CONNECTIONS

Penney Farms

Penney Farms is an incorporated town of 749 people in Northeast Florida. It is located on State Road 16 between Green Cove Springs and Starke.

As you drive through you will think it's just another North Florida town with wide streets and large shade trees. The tidy wood frame houses and well-kept masonry buildings will remind you of a time gone by. If you stop to read one of the historical markers in town, you will find out more about the story of this unusual little community.

History of Penney Farms

James Cash Penney was a businessman who opened his first department store in Wyoming in 1902 and grew his operation to thirty J. C. Penney stores by 1912. Most of his early stores were in the western states. It is an understatement to say that Mr. Penney was a success. By 1924 he was earning more than one million dollars a year back when that was really good money.

He didn't just sit on his wealth, however. He put his money to work on various philanthropic ventures. One of those was Penney Farms. He started by buying 120,000 acres of farm land in Clay County, Florida just west of Green Cove Springs. His plan was to develop a farming community based on the same principles that helped him succeed with his department stores. His idea was to let farmers earn shares in the community by raising crops and using the money to buy interest in the land.

Mr. Penney was a man of strict moral values and subjected applicants for his farming community to a rigid questioning. They had to fill out an application and promise not to use alcohol or tobacco. Character references were also required.

He got enough takers that by 1927 Penney Farms had 300 buildings including a general store, a post office, and a garage. Agricultural products included cattle, pecans, persimmons, oranges, grapes, and a variety of vegetables.

Mr. Penney established an institute of applied agriculture that provided training to members of the community. He also founded another philanthropic venture, The J. C.



Statue of J.C. Penney in front of Town Hall in Penney Farms, Florida



Penney Memorial Chapel



Residence



Farm

Penney Foundation Memorial Community. This was built for retired ministers and other Christian church workers and their spouses. The community included 22 buildings with furnished apartments and a memorial chapel.

The Great Depression nearly wiped out James C. Penney. He had to sell all but 200 acres of his vast land holdings in Clay County. He deeded the land to the Memorial Community.

Penney Farms Today

Since 1971 the land and buildings he donated have been operating as the Penney Retirement Community, Inc. In the 1950s the community opened its admission to not only clergy and retired missionaries, but to anyone desiring to live in a Christian Retirement Community. The retirement community now consists of approximately 500 residents. Penney Farms has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1999.

By Mike Miller, Copyright 2009-2023

Reprinted by permission from Mike Miller. Mike is a travel writer living in Florida. You can find more of his articles about Florida communities at Florida-Back-Roads-Travel.com.



Join Today!

Invite your JCPenney friends to join.
First year of membership is free.

Join today at:

www.jcpalumclub.org



Tell Your Story!

We'd love to read about your
JCPenney experiences!

Send your stories to:
1902Partners@gmail.com

or by mail to:

Jeannette Siegel
16610 Cleary Circle
Dallas, TX 75248

Deadline for the next issue is October 1st!

Partner of the Quarter

The National H.C.S.C. Board established the Partner of the Quarter to recognize members for the way they exemplify Honor, Confidence, Service, and Cooperation. We invite you to nominate a member for their outstanding service to the community and our organization.

Here is how the program works:

- *The award will be presented to any club member in good standing.*
- *A member may be nominated for a specific body of work that they have done now or any time in their past. The body of work may include volunteering in the community and/or for their involvement with the H.C.S.C. Club. Any member in good standing may nominate a candidate.*
- *The winner will be announced at the quarterly meetings of the National H.C.S.C. Board of Directors. Winners will be featured in Partners magazine and on the National Facebook page.*
- *The due dates for submission are: February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1.*
- *RMG Presidents will ask for nominations via email.*

Bill Wright

Bill Wright was selected for the “Partner of the Quarter Award” for his dedicated and loyal services to the Indiana H.C.S.C. Alumni Club for 32 Years! He has served in several positions and is presently the National Club Representative and the representative for the JCPenney Foundation. Bill has always been involved in meeting agendas, contacting and encouraging member participation.

In 1951, Bill married Ann M. Masi. They moved several times and had four children while doing so. In 2019, unfortunately, Ann passed away. They had 58 wonderful years together.

Bill served 5 1/2 years in the United States Air Force. He was stationed in Illinois and in Colorado before receiving an honorable discharge in 1956.

Bill started with JCPenney in 1956 and was loyal to the Company for 34 years. The different positions he held involved a group meeting with Mr. James Cash Penney in the New York Office. Mr. Penney was aware of the store that Bill worked in, which was in downtown Indianapolis, Indiana. They were in New York to develop a “Manual” on how to run a Shoe Department using Bill’s nine years’ experience in shoes. He also was assigned to various positions in Indiana including South Bend, Indianapolis, Speedway, Eastgate, Southern Plaza plus surrounding areas like Green Bay, Wisconsin, Mankato, Minnesota, and Mattoon, Illinois. He retired while in Mattoon in 1991. Here are some of Bill’s favorite memories of his store days:

“Eastgate Store 1736: After getting promoted to assistant manager, there was a fire. Very little was burned, but the heat and smoke smell were very destructive; the entire inventory had to be sold at a fire sale. As soon as this was over, with the help of the District Office, our associates got the store restocked and reopened in nine weeks. From then on Eastgate was one of the better stores in the JCPenney Company in dollars per square foot---\$250 was the good number and it continued until the store closed in 1975 when the Company opened Washington Square. It was a great store to work in. I am very thankful for all the help the late John Hughes gave me during our time together at Eastgate.

Speedway Store 1809: I arrived in Store 1809 in July 1976. It was a small store in a strip center about five miles from the Lafayette Square Penney Store and four miles from the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. We worked very hard to clean the store and made it look



Bill with two great grandchildren



Ann and Bill Wright



A Wright Family gathering



Bill with his Century Club Award

like a proud Penney Store. In 1978 the region had a contest for Map stores. The associates got behind this challenge and with the help of some Penney partners, we were able to get the store spruced up and won the contest. The associates were very proud, happy, and appreciative of the award. Little old Speedway had won something.

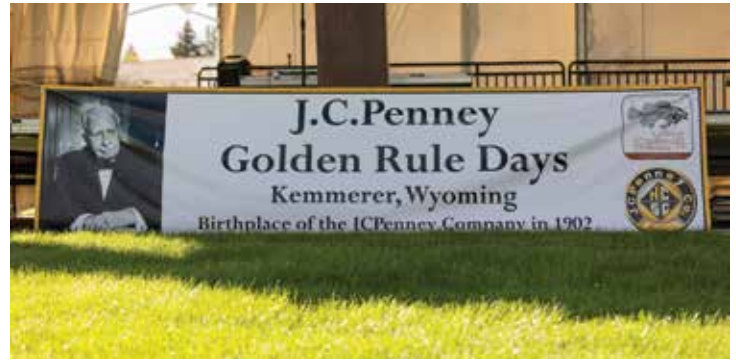
Downtown Indy store 1486: Things happened, I was there and find it hard to believe it. We had a shoplifting problem; we would chase shoplifters down to Indiana Ave...then stopped for our own good. Had a shooting in the store, had a couple of lock-ins overnight. Store 1486 had four levels with many back stairs and lots of places where anyone could hide. It was a different kind of store. We had a candy department and had a special every Wednesday morning. One year for Halloween, we ordered one ton of miniature Mounds bars for 44 cents a pound. And we sold all of them."

During his retirement, Bill surely is keeping busy with gardening and golfing (at least three times a week, weather permitting) and he would not miss his Thursday night "poker game" for anything!

Invitation

3rd Annual Golden Rule Days

Thursday, August 24, 2023



Save the date! Thursday, August 24, 2023 for the 3rd Annual J.C. Penney Golden Rule Days in Kemmerer, Wyoming! Yes, the day has changed to Thursday to accommodate more participation in the community picnic.

Special Guests: 3 of Mr. Penney's Grandchildren have committed to attending. The JCPenney Corporate office will have representatives attending. The JCP District Manager and area store managers will attend. The Mayor of Kemmerer will be "Master of Ceremonies" for the program and City Council and County Officials will attend.

Tentative Schedule of Events August 24, 2023:

- 2:00 PM H.C.S.C. Alumni Club Reception – all Alumni Club members welcome!
(same location behind the Chamber of Commerce Cabin in Triangle Park)
- 4:00 PM Mr. Penney Historical Buildings Tour and Book Signing by author David Kruger, "JCPenney, the Man, the Store, and American Agriculture" and soon to arrive a new book and profile on former JCP CEO, Mil Batten!
- 5:00 PM Program on the main stage including dedication of the new plaque wall behind Mr. Penney's Statue featuring his 6 bronze plaques from the Home Office in Plano.
- 5:30 PM Community BBQ and musical entertainment in Triangle Park

Best accommodations in Kemmerer:

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotels-in-kemmerer/best-western-plus-fossil-country-inn-suites/propertyCode.51070.html

There are also accommodations in nearby cities like Green River, WY and Evanston, WY

Best Airport:

Salt Lake City, 2 hrs, 134 miles to Kemmerer

<https://www.mapquest.com/directions/from/us/ut/salt-lake-city/to/us/wy/kemmerer>

We will keep you informed if any details change! And we appreciate an RSVP by August 15 if you will be attending! Please contact me if any questions! Hope to see you there! Thank you!

Steve Strom

1st Vice President, National H.C.S.C. Alumni Club

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James Cash Penney Commemorative Stamp

We are 6 months into our effort to have the USPS Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee approve a 2025 commemorative stamp in honor of James Cash Penney and the 150th Anniversary of his birth on September 16, 1875. Thanks to all Alumni Club members who have submitted a recommendation letter to the committee and for those who have not, we encourage you to join this effort by submitting a personal letter.

We thought you would be interested in the origin story of this effort. The Penney Retirement Community in Penney Farms, Florida, conceived this project to honor Mr. Penney as founder of their community in 1926 and submitted the first letter of recommendation to the Stamp Committee in June 2022. Caroline Parrott and Lynn Wightman of the P.R.C. Stamp Project group contacted Alyssa Keny-Guyer, granddaughter of Mr. Penney, to enlist the family of Mr. Penney in submitting letters of recommendation. Alyssa, who met Steve Strom, 1st Vice President, at the Second Annual Golden Rule Days in Kemmerer, WY, in August 2022, thought H.C.S.C. would be interested in supporting this effort and contacted him in March 2023 and introduced him to Lynn. And as they say, the rest is history! The H.C.S.C. National Officers wholeheartedly embraced this effort and we have been leading the project in collaboration with the Penney Retirement Community.

The plan for success has focused on involving significant stakeholders in supporting Mr. Penney's commemorative stamp:

1. **The Grandchildren of Mr. Penney**

Alyssa Keny-Guyer confirmed that she and other grandchildren have submitted their recommendation letters and are keenly interested in continuing to support the effort.

2. JCPenney Corporate

The Company enthusiastically submitted recommendation letters by their officers including Marc Rosen, CEO, Andre Joyner, Chief HR Officer, Michelle Wlazlo, Chief Merchandising Officer, and Otis Buchanan, Region 3 Western Vice President.

3. Governors and Congress Members of States that are part of Mr. Penney's History

- Governor DeSantis of Florida – Home of the Penney Retirement Community founded in 1926
- Governor Parson of Missouri – birthplace of Mr. Penney in Hamilton, MO
- Governor Abbott of Texas – Plano home office of the Company since 1992
- Governor Gordon of Wyoming – birthplace of the Company in Kemmerer

The P.R.C. has had success already with Senator Jennifer Bradley of Florida offering a nomination letter and are hoping for support from Governor DeSantis. At this time, we have received responses from Governor Abbott's office and Governor Gordon's office and with the help of Angela Marshall Hoffman, JCP Corporate Government Liaison, we hope to have both these governors write recommendation letters.

4. President Biden

A request letter was sent to and received by the White House on May 19, 2023. While no response has been received yet, we expect to receive one. President Biden is well aware of James Cash Penney and his contributions to American society, history, and culture. A letter of recommendation from the President would be a powerful motivator for the Stamp Advisory Committee!

A recommendation letter has also been submitted by David Kruger, University of Wyoming, and author of the book "J.C.Penney, the Man, The Store, and American Agriculture."

And lastly, the numerical power of close to 1800 plus members of the H.C.S.C. Alumni Club can have a great impact on this effort! If you want to write a recommendation letter to the USPS Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee, here is their contact information:

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

Key Information that should be included in an individual letter:

- *Use of Commemorative Stamp* - This stamp honoring Mr. Penney would enjoy wide use not only among our 1800+ H.C.S.C. Alumni Club members, but other significant groups including the JCPenney Company, his birthplace of Hamilton, MO, his first Golden Rule Store in Kemmerer, WY, his town of Penney Farms, FL, and the location of his archives at Southern Methodist University to name a few.
- *Type of Stamp* - We would suggest that a Forever stamp be used to honor Mr. Penney with his likeness and reference to the Golden Rule which was his personal philosophy in life and what he used to guide his every decision, personal and in business.
- *Suggested Dates of Possible Issue* - It would be wonderful to issue this commemorative stamp on Mr. Penney's birthdate of September 16, 2025, the 150th Anniversary of his birth
- Be sure to identify yourself as a member of the JCPenney National H.C.S.C. Alumni Club.

We will keep you informed of progress as events warrant. Our effort in collaboration with the Penney Retirement Community will continue into 2024 as we strive for success for this noble effort in honor of James Cash Penney.

New Database Feature

We have had several instances of losing touch with some members due to their moving, and changing of contact information, that resulted in the H.C.S.C. National Alumni Club losing touch with the members. On occasion, these members have been dropped from our roles due to nonpayment of their dues for three or more years (moved and no forwarding address).

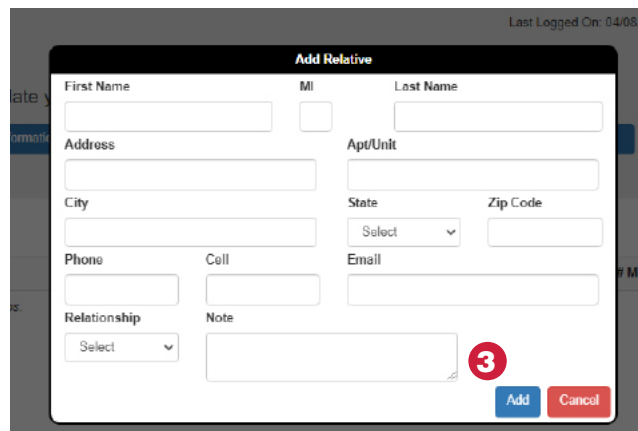
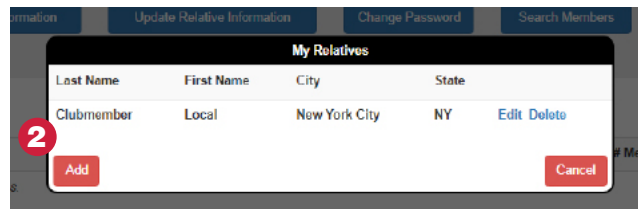
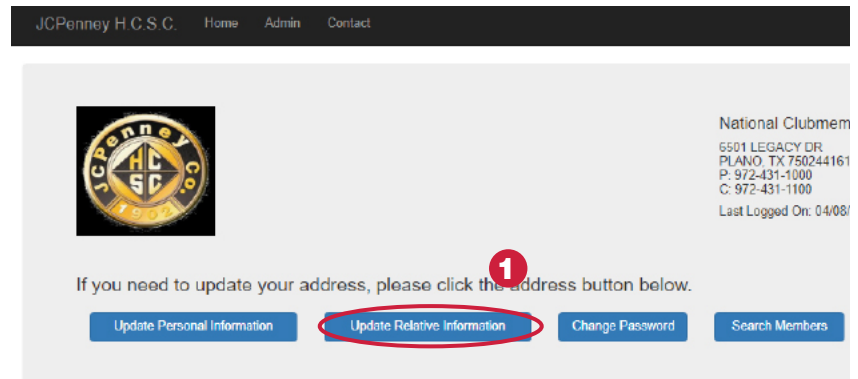
In more than one case, we were aware of a son or daughter of one of the dropped members and we were able to contact them to update the information for the members and keep them active in the club as well as assuring that they receive Partners Magazine.

For that reason, we have added a new feature to the Member Database!

- 1 To access this new feature, click the "Update Relative Information" on your profile page in the Member Database..
- 2 Next, a pop-up window will appear listing relatives listed with your profile. Here you may view, edit, delete or add relatives.
- 3 To add a relative, click "Add". The next screen that appears allows you to input in as much or as little information as you like about the relative you're adding. When you're done, click the blue "Add" button to save the information.

Please note that only the members will be able to access the screen to add or change/remove information to the screens. We will not be able to enter the information for you. We will, however, be able to pull up a report to find the information should we lose track of you.

We want to be assured that you always receive Partners Magazine to keep up with your club and our members. We urge you to add this information to your record.



David Farmer

In 1970, I started with JCPenney in Store 475 in downtown Johnson City, Tennessee, in the stockroom. Later, I became a management trainee and merchandiser. Bill Fleenor was the district manager and Harvey Justice was the store manager. Upon graduation from East Tennessee State University, Harvey promoted me to merchandiser.

I moved to Paducah, Kentucky Store 392, working for Store Manager James Hunter and a favorite Assistant Manager Nick King. While there, I was moved from merchandiser to senior merchandiser. Mr. Hunter was replaced by Fred Baumann, a real gentleman and leader. With Store Manager Len Hair and General Merchandise Manager Bruce Burns, I opened the new Paducah store. I almost became an Operations and Personnel Manager at the new store (more later); we opened and closed two stores and I stayed in Paducah for nine years...and my son Robert was born while in Paducah.

I moved to store 1975 Goodlettsville, Tennessee, as the Operations and Personnel Manager under Store Manager James Lacy. Loved the store and the associates.

Then, District Manager Ray Hinkle moved me back to Johnson City Store 1993 as the General Merchandising Manager. Harvey Justice was still the manager. Jerry Green was the Operations and Personnel Manager and my golf, fishing, vacationing and good friend. Across town in Kingsport, Tennessee, was another lifelong friend Bruce Burns.

Now comes Knoxville Store 1341 with Chuck Dawson Sr. and then Ray Hinkle as store managers. The store had a group of dedicated associates who became close friends and associates. As a GMM, I then helped open the new Knoxville West Town Store 2617 under Don Yeager, a legendary manager and friend. Subsequently, I became Home Business Planning Manager for the district. And then I went to Store 2124 in Knoxville with Store Manager Bob Mantel followed by Store Manager Richard Conwell, a true gentleman and the best listener ever.

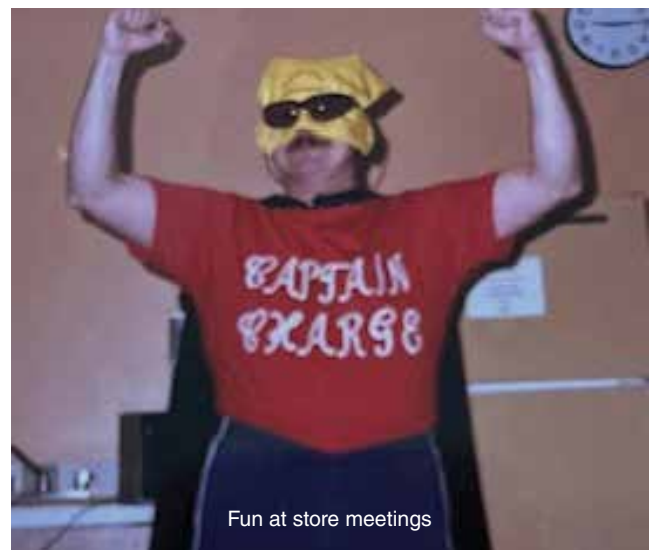
Bob Mantel should have been a store manager/district manager trainer for all future managers... yes, he was that good. A Gentle Giant that never lost his temper, he used gentle persuasion to get to productivity, sales, and profit goals.



David and Tina Farmer



Store meeting fun



Fun at store meetings

David Farmer



Children lining up to play on the swing set



David Farmer and children of Guatemala

Bob brought me to Store 0099 Fayetteville, North Carolina; again, so many associates (from selling to managers) who became lifelong friends and contacts. This is where I met my wife, Tina.

Then, from 2005 to 2012, I was given the privilege of being store manager in Danville, Virginia. District leaders included Bob Cote (my favorite DM), Paul Kuzdas, Kathy Chassie, Sam Beauregard, Kirk Bell. There was a group of fantastic managers that inspired me and tolerated me: Doug Gable, Rosanne Haughey, Deborah Traks, Renea Verdi, Scott Boyer, Tracy Hitson, Ed Cole, Judith Bunders, Pat Wesolowski, Jennie Christopher, Martha Mitchell and many others.

I have lots of favorite memories about my working years. Just ask! In new Paducah store, lifelong friend Bruce Burns, ASM, put me in charge of getting new charge accounts. This prompted many guest characters to our Friday store meetings. My appearances as Father Sarduchie, Michael Jackson (yes, I moon walked), Karnack the Magnificent, Groucho Marx, and Captain Charge led us to a district leadership in beating our application goals.

Regional Manager J.A. Wells visited the new Paducah store. During the walk through, he asked Store Manager Len Hair "Weren't you in Operations and Personnel in the

New York corporate office? I don't think you need an OM/ PM here?" I had unpacked and set up my office and started hiring for the new store as the OM/ PM, but opened the store as a Senior Merchandising Manager.

During district meetings in Knoxville, we all gathered at night for some stories with Bill Ballard and Roger Sawyer. We were in tears with the stories and tales that were told about customers, associates, and their exploits.

At a District Meeting in Knoxville, we talked about checkouts (best selling items) from our store. My nemesis was Jamie Dowdy whom I worked with in Nashville and now we were ASMs in different stores. We were very competitive. I had rigged a beauty case with the canned worms that shoot out and zipped it closed. I asked Jamie to help show the merchandise during the presentation. DM Ray Hinkle said he would help show it, I insisted Jamie help (knowing about the booby trap). Well, they shot out on Ray, he stumbled backwards over a table and the whole meeting erupted in laughter. Quinton Hatcher told Mr. Hinkle, "Ray, he told you to let Dowdy show the merchandise." He would not shake my hand at the end of the meeting. Later, I worked as Mr. Hinkle's Home Business Planning Manager, and as they say, what goes around comes around. A special callout to my wife Tina and to Bob Mantel, Bob Cote, John Gresham and Bill Sessoms for help, friendship



Donating shoes to children in Guatemala



Fitting shoes in Guatemala

and leadership. The best of the best. To my buds: Jerry Green and Bruce Burns, always.

My son is now Chaplain Robert Farmer, Lieutenant Colonel Army and is married to his wife Jana Farmer, M.D. Tina's oldest child is Sean Abeyta, an attorney and partner at Koonz-Fuller and his wife Michelle is an academic counselor and adjunct instructor at the University of North Texas (Go Mean Green!). Tina's middle child is Anthony Abeyta, a partner in sales at TEKsystems along with his wife, Alissa, who is lead sales trainer. Her youngest child is Rachael Guerrant, sales manager at BNSF Railway and her husband Matthew Guerrant works in IT for United Healthcare.

Papa and Grandma's grandchildren: Cooper, Kennedy, A.J., Sophia, Hayes, Harper, and Will make us so proud!! Each one is super special and all are gifted...just sayin'...we are so proud of each of them!!!

Among many activities along the way I was Gideon member for thirteen years and was active in the distribution of Bibles, Jail Ministry, and Witnessing and also was an active member and participant of Center Point Church in Richland Hills, Texas. I am a past member of Lion's Club, Optimist Club, Sigma Chi, and was the Chairman of the United Way in Danville, Virginia. I'm a proud alumni of East Tennessee

State University and retired Sergeant for the Parker County Sheriff's jail in Weatherford, Texas. I was active in the National H.C.S.C. and served two years as President of the Southeastern H.C.S.C. Alumni group. By the way, you know the old saying from Blazing Saddles "we don't need no stinkin' badges." I have two badges: while serving in Parker County, I received the honor of being Rookie of the Year as an officer and also Outstanding Service as a Sergeant.

Tina and I travelled to Nicaragua and Guatemala on mission trips as well as to Brownsville, Texas. I also was active with prison ministry in Danville, Virginia, and Weatherford, Texas. These experiences meant so much to Tina and me. A common thread within these organizations is that our hearts and lives are filled with hugs and smiles for children—Lions Club taking care of glasses and hearing aids, United Way and Angel Tree support for kids, and mission work in providing food, shoes, clothing and back to school supplies for children.

Now, Tina and I enjoy time with children and grandchildren at games, sporting events, plays, and concerts. Our grandchildren keep us going and we love visits and vacations or just hanging out with them!

I remember when...

Mr. Penney and Gerry Montgomery from Gerry Montgomery

I have a fond memory of a JCPenney Convention. My wife and I stood in a long line for the opportunity to shake hands with James Cash Penney. When we finally got our chance, Mr. Penney shook my hand and then talked to my wife for several minutes. The photo at right shows why he was interested in my wife!



Gerry and Barbara Montgomery

Sunday Opening from Joan Norman

Store 1808-5 Dayton, Ohio

Manager B.J. Lament called a store meeting for all associates with three different meeting times. The Subject!! Sunday opening. He explained why and how your hours would be affected and explained the pay. Excuses were plenty including "I go to church" and more. But as the time came and the store opened on Sunday, things smoothed out.

Mr. Lament commented that opening on Sunday would probably not last long. Ok, ok? That was several decades ago and Sunday opening is still going.

Joan worked for Dave Poston, department manager, and Ed Howard, store manager. She worked in Forest Park Store 1808 and Store 1621 Salem Mall in Dayton, Ohio. She is 96 years-old. When she gets together with friends, she proudly wears her 50-Year Pin.

A Mother's Love

from Jeannette Siegel

I come from a large family. My grandparents were immigrants. Out of 35 cousins, I was the first to get a college degree.

My Aunt Mildred worked at a Sears Catalog store in Seguin, Texas. When she heard that I went to work for JCPenney, she commented that it was a waste of a degree. Well, that comment got back to my mother Edith in San Antonio, who was not very happy about it.

Fast forward 20 years. When W.R. Howell became the volunteer chairman of United Way of America, it was my job to provide the staff support for all that the job entailed, including him giving campaign kickoff speeches. One of those speeches was at USAA in San Antonio. W.R. Howell, Chris Sears and I flew into San Antonio on the corporate jet. My parents, Edith and Laddie, were waiting when I stepped off the corporate jet.

A couple of weeks later, Mom was talking with my Aunt Mildred. With perfect timing, she said, "Laddie and I had to pick up Jeannette at the airport. She flew in on the corporate jet with the chairman of the Company." It took her 20 years, but she finally got even with Aunt Mildred!



Jeannette with her mom Edith

I remember when...

Military experience

from Joan Weed

Recently, I was going through some of my parents' papers and came across a unique finding about my father's military experience related to JCPenney.

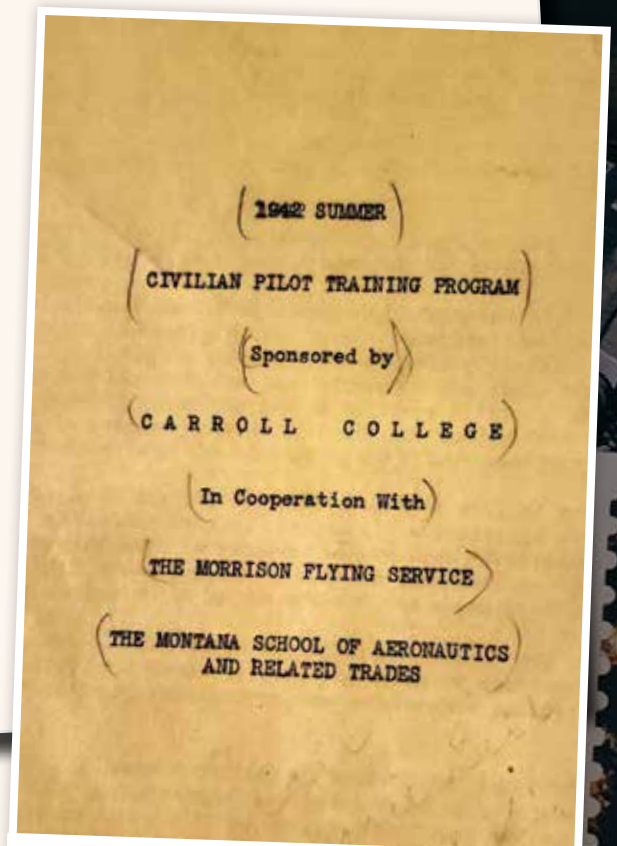
During World War II, the Army Air Corps used civilian pilots to train enlisted men to become pilots. My father, Dorine Knudson, was one of those trainers. Prior to enlisting in July 1942, he was a commercial pilot and certified flight instructor for a flying service in Montana. His active military service began in September 1944 and his training was extensive including Pre-Flight training in San Antonio, Texas; Primary training in Brady, Texas; Basic Flying at Mission, Texas; and Advanced Training at Victoria, Texas. He served as a pilot and safety observer.

While going through his 1942 Civilian Pilot Training Program orientation manual, I came across an entry instructing all trainees to purchase very specific uniform pieces at the "J. C. Penney store" in Helena, Montana: two khaki trousers (Lot 508, \$1.98), two khaki shirts (Lot 508, \$1.98), and one black tie (Lot 2903, 49 cents). (ask for clerk No. 11).

After completing his military service in December 1945, he returned to Helena, Montana to become half-owner of Helena Hardware Company. Note: his mother and my grandmother, Dorilda Knudson, was the seamstress for many years at that same J. C. Penney Store.



Dorine Knudson - Pilot



Syllabus Cover

Civilian Pilot Army Airforce Training Program - 1942



Commotion

from Alma Wheat

Alma Wheat was the wife of Ralph M. Wheat, who was a trainee at the Penney store in Beaumont, Texas, before he was drafted into the war. Upon his discharge from the Army in 1945, Ralph returned to a lifelong career with the JCPenney Company. From Round Rock, Texas, Alma writes:

"In 1945, the Penney stores had metal cups on electric cords that carried the sales ticket and cash from the cash register to the cashier seated in the store balcony.

One day a customer came in with a large dog. When the cup was sent on its way, the dog took off after it, creating quite a commotion in the store before they got him under control.

When Ralph came home and told me about it that evening, we had quite a laugh.

Incidentally the Penney Company sent Ralph a small check each month while he was in the service."

Regional Meeting Group



Deryl Benz, Chris Benz, Jack Fields, Gabby Tamler, Jack O'Brien, L'Oree Conley, Pat Conley, Bill Wright, Jerry Barth, Linda Hackey, Herb McCane, Suzanne Schankle and Richard Schankle.

Indiana Anniversary

On Thursday, April 20th, 2023, the Indiana H.C.S.C Alumni Club held its Spring Gathering kicking off our Club's 34th Anniversary Year.

We welcomed all who attended and enjoyed meeting our newest members Jack Fields, Richard G. Schankle and his wife Suzanne. Introductions and work histories were shared.

The JCPenney Foundation was highlighted by our representative, Bill Wright. Details were discussed using the information provided by Ron Salzetti and Larry Noble. We distributed the handout with details on how to continue supporting the Foundation and possibly reduce your taxes with your Required Minimum Distribution each year (Check with your own tax and or financial advisor regarding this information).

We next invited members to share any personal stories while working at JCPenney or meeting Mr. James Cash Penney. We also discussed the four pages of JCPenney advertising in the Spring issue of Partners. The ads are in return for the Company's financial support for the Club. Pat Conley updated the group regarding our Facebook

Page. He encouraged us to reach out to other retirees to join our Group as well as our Club. Pat has posted numerous notes with information about JCPenney and store managers.

A report on our finances was made by Gabby Tamler. Discussion about the balance was held and a decision for any action will be held during our Fall Gathering.

We wrapped up our meeting/lunch with a JCPenney Foundation "Trivia" Contest. We focused on topics regarding qualifications and what the Foundation has accomplished. Bill Wright was the winner, and the cash prize (everyone contributed) was donated to the Club. Our next gathering is planned for Thursday, October 26th, 2023, at 11:30, Please mark your calendar. More details to follow.



The historic Springer Opera House

Southeast Gathering in Georgia

On Sunday afternoon, April 30, President and hosts John and Becky Chapman welcomed 53 members, spouses, and guests of the Southeastern RMG to the beautiful Columbus Marriott in Columbus, GA for three days of food, fun, and fellowship.

The hotel is located in the Historic District of Columbus and only steps away from both the Uptown District and the beautiful Chattahoochee River Walk. Each morning we were provided with a great breakfast buffet and each evening Vice President Mary Katherine and Jimmie Hughes hosted us in the always enjoyable Hospitality Room.

Sunday

Our festivities kicked off with an opening reception on the hotel veranda followed by a delicious buffet dinner in the Empire Mills Room- a refurbished section of a pre-Civil War grist meal. The biggest challenge of the evening proved to be breaking up the conversations going on at the reception long enough to move everyone to the dining room. It was much like herding cats!

A highlight of the evening was the introduction of a record

six new members and their spouses to our event and the celebration of 43 new members to our club since our last annual gathering. We were also able to recognize new 50 Year Pin recipient Kevin Leaderer who would be unable to be with us for our closing dinner on Tuesday evening. What a great way to kick off our time together!

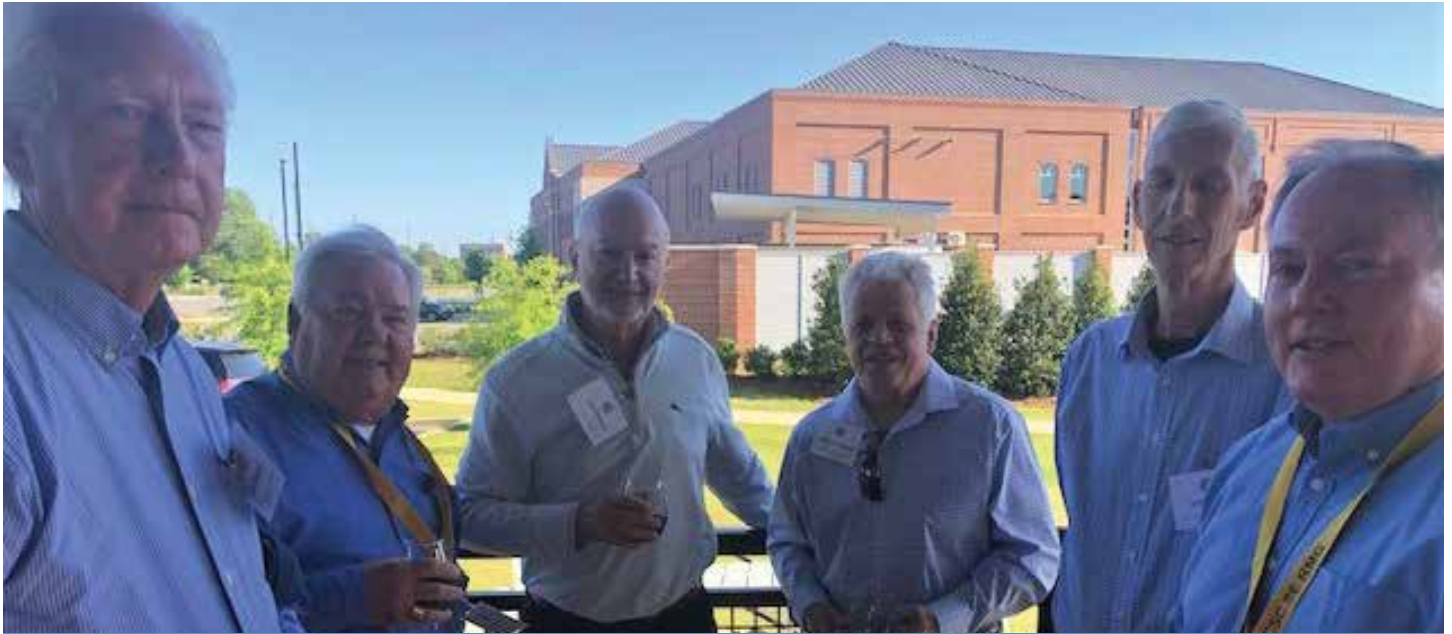
Monday

On Monday morning, sixteen of our group headed out to the Bull Creek Golf Course for a day of golf and lunch hosted by National Past President Bill Watson and Sam Ruffner, Columbus resident and son of longtime Columbus Store Manager Bud Ruffner.

The course at Bull Creek was actually a very late change of venue after a grounds keeper at our contracted golf club inadvertently mixed herbicide with the fertilizer and killed most of the grass on the course. We are extremely grateful to Sam Ruffner for his efforts to get us a replacement course on short notice.

The remainder of us embarked on a short bus tour of the Historic District, Uptown District, Chattahoochee River Whitewater, and Golden Park- site of the 1996 Atlanta

Southeast



Way down yonder on the Chattahoochee with Bill Watson, Bob Cote, Jack Clancy, Jack Johnndrow, rod Rice, Mike Coldiron

Olympics Softball Gold Medal game. A highlight of that tour also included seeing the building that housed the original Penney store in Columbus. One of our members on the bus, Bill Holland, actually worked in that store prior to its closing in 1965.

Our first stop of the day was for a guided tour of the historic Springer Opera House. It was built in 1871 and was named State Theater of Georgia on its 100th birthday by then Gov. Jimmy Carter. We were able to see all of the backstage areas that guests rarely get to see in this beautiful and treasured piece of Columbus history.

Our lunch stop for the day was unique in that it was hosted by a phenomenal non-profit restaurant called the Food Mill. The food was fantastic but the story even more so. We were treated to a short presentation about the inspiring work the restaurant does to fight food insecurity issues in the community. What a great feeling to enjoy a fantastic lunch and know that we were supporting a great cause at the same time. And the brulee' cheesecake dessert was beyond description!

Our afternoon tour was the National Civil War Naval Museum- the only museum in the country that tells the stories of both Civil War navies. The museum houses the largest surviving Civil War battleship, that was raised from the bottom of the adjacent river about 60 years ago. Our group was blessed to have the museum director

personally lead out tour in full era costume. His passion and storytelling style made the tour a memorable one.

Before returning to the hotel and joining back up with the golfers, the group enjoyed a fresh squeezed lemonade and Southern sweet tea break along the beautiful pedestrian bridge that spans the Chattahoochee River. Our host for the break was Country's Barbecue – one of the most popular restaurants in Columbus. One of the owners, Scott Ressimyer, was gracious enough to host and serve us our refreshments personally as we strolled from Georgia to Alabama and back. What a great way to bring our day of touring to a close.

That evening we had no planned activities to allow attendees the freedom to enjoy dinner on their own and take a sundown stroll along the River Walk- a special time of friends just enjoying the evening together informally.

Tuesday

On Tuesday morning the entire group headed out for a tour of the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at the entrance to Fort Benning. This is a premier world class museum and is a must see if you are ever in the area. It documents the history of the Infantry from Revolutionary times right up until today and was a very inspiring look at American history. While at the museum, we were also hosted to a catered barbecue style buffet in the Patriot Room- the very venue that First Lady Jill Biden hosted a



Dennis Miller and Bill Alcorn, the dynamic duo from Florida scorch the links



Outgoing president John Chapman and wife Becky are recognized for service.



New members Linda and Kurt Neufang realize the fun they've been missing.





Hospitality Room shenanigans with Cecil Naftel, Will Arant, John Gresham, Bill Watson, Jack Johndrow, Jack Clancy, Kevin Leaderer

luncheon a few months ago.

As we left the museum, we entered the gates of Ft. Benning, the fourth largest US Army post, for a guided tour of the Main Post and Sand Hill areas. We toured at a very historical moment, as we were one of the last tours before the post underwent a name change to Fort Moore 9 days after our visit. We were able to see preparations going on for this historic event as we toured.

Our return to the hotel was followed by our annual Business Meeting, Highlights of that meeting were the election of Mary Katherine Hughes to a two-year term as our President and the reelection of Jim Strand, Bob Cote, and Ed Savold to their offices of Secretary/Treasurer, National Club Rep, and Foundation Rep, respectively. The club sincerely appreciates the willingness of all these officers to serve.

In other business, the members voted to partner with the Florida Deep South RMG for a four-day cruise in May next year as our annual gathering. We look forward to having a great time on the high seas with our Deep South partners next year!

Our final evening together was spent at the beautiful

City Mills Event Center- a restored grist mill along the banks of the river. Our reception was in an outside setting overlooking the river and again the biggest challenge of the evening was breaking up the reception to get everyone moved to the dining room.

Following a superb dinner, we had a fun program and the honor of recognizing four new 50-year pin recipients in attendance- John Curry, Bill Holland, Cathy Mills Naftel, and Carlos Westerman. Following a round of thanks to all of those that made the event a success, hostess Becky Chapman presented all attendees with a gift of appreciation, and she and John were presented a beautiful, engraved bowl by the club in appreciation for their service this past year.

Wednesday

After many of us enjoyed breakfast together Wednesday morning, we departed Columbus reminded that relationships matter, and our club and these gatherings are important.

And we are already looking forward to our time together next year!



SE President John Chapman (Center) with 50-year pin honorees Carlos Westerman, Cathy Naftel, Bill Holland, John Curry.



Remembering the legacy of Columbus Manager Bud Ruffner;
Bill Holland, Bud's son Sam Ruffner, John Chapman



50-year pin honoree Kevin and Nancy Leaderer.



Head of the table Glenn Wisdom. Far side Brad Wonnacott, Ed Asbridge, Steve and Susan Draper, Jeanne Houston.
Near side Bob Cote, George Houston, Frank and Lynda Coleman, Teresa Cote.

Atlanta Day Out

Bob Cote writes:

In early January, members of the Southeast RMG reached out to a group of H.C.S.C. members in the Atlanta area. For various reasons, many Atlanta members were not able to attend the annual Southeastern gathering, but they still wanted to get together. We organized a luncheon at the centrally located Firebirds Restaurant in Atlanta. We had a wonderful time renewing friendships that spanned many years and reliving some of the memories of our JCPenney careers.

The response was so positive from the attendees that it was suggested that we meet quarterly for food and fellowship. In addition, some names of newly relocated H.C.S.C. members were shared as well as the names of members who were out of town, but who want to participate. It looks like this gathering will grow down the road!!

Attendees: Ed Asbridge, Frank and Lynda Coleman, Bob and Teresa Cote, Steve and Susan Draper, George and Jeanne Houston, Glenn Wisdom, Brad Wonnacott.



Brad Wonnacott, Ed Asbridge



Steve Draper, Susan Draper, Jeanne Houston

Regional Meeting Group



Ron Salzetti, Jeff Paige, Betty Bidwell, Steve Workman, Mark Shultz, Sandy Gonzales, Vince Caporusso, Ross Willour, Larry Noble, Jim McKeown, Alan Rogers

Southern California

Each year in February, the Southern California Alumni Club has a very special event in Palm Springs, California. Many attendees from other Alumni clubs often join us for “Fun in the Sun.” This year it was held on February 22-24, 2023. To start it off, we had a reception at the 4 Seasons Country Club, hosted by Ross Willour. A great time of fellowship, open bar and a Mexican food buffet was had by all.

On Thursday, attendees had a choice of traveling up the Palm Springs Tramway or visiting the Living Desert (a type of zoo). Thursday evening was capped with a visit to the McCallum Theater to listen to the sounds of “Chicago”

Friday morning was busy with meetings for members of the H.C.S.C. Foundation Board and the Southern California RMG.

Following the meetings there was a scrumptious brunch put on by the Hilton Hotel. A great time was had by all! We would love to have other alumni clubs join with us next year in Sunny Palm Springs.



Donna Dotson, Ron Salzetti, Steve Workman, Jim Coffin, Forest and Karen Bell, Larry Noble



Jeff and Jennifer Paige, Bill and Marybeth McGrath, Vince Caporusso, Ross Wilour, Sandy Gonzales, Alan and Mellisa Rogers

Southern California



Ross Wilour, Sandy Gonzales, Jonathan Stelmach



George and Sue Steele, Judy Moore, Jim McKeown, Ron Salzetti and Donna Dotson



Forest and Karen Bell



Mark and Audrey Schultz



Larry and Cheryl Noble



Alan and Melissa Rogers



Bill McGrath and Jeff Piage



Jonathan Stelmach, Vince Caporusso, Sue Steele



Steve and Diane Anderson



Ray Hiza, Jan Hodges, Marianne Gonzales, Jeannette Siegel



Ida Gephart, Co-President, Claud and Beverly Fleener, Mark Radman

Southwest

Le Peep Breakfast

Twenty-four members of H.C.S.C.-SW met at Le Peep in Plano, Texas, on Thursday, March 9. During introductions we learned some fun facts about each other.

- Marianne Gonzales had the longest JCPenney career...43 years!
- Gerry Montgomery turned 90. He's been retired the longest...since 1995.
- Don Barber was a first-time attendee. He's been retired the second longest...since 1996.

It's always fun to see who sits together at these breakfast meetings. This time it was the lawyers...Betsy Carter, Alan Langer and Ron Winkler.

Attendees: Don Barber, Doug Boyle, Don Brown, Pat Carberry, Betsy Carter, Claud and Beverly Fleener, Ida Gephart, Marianne Gonzales, Ray Hiza, Jan Hodges, Steve Jebbia, Alan Langer, Kathleen Langley, Mike Meiberg, Glenn Mieritz, Gerry Montgomery, Dennis and Sheila Radabaugh, Mark Radman, Hedy Sawyers, Jeannette Siegel, Laura Williams and Ron Winkler.



The Lawyer's table...Ron Winkler, Betsy Carter, Alan Langer



Mike Meiberg, Doug Boyle, Don Brown, Laura Williams, Steve Jebbia, Kathleen Langley

Southwest



Jeannette Siegel, Steve Jebbia, Claud and Beverly Fleener, Jan Hodges, Margaret Filingeri, Hedy Sawyers, Laura Williams, Ida Gephart, Mark Radman, Martha Austin, Don Brown

Freedom Matters

We had a GREAT day visiting the outstanding exhibit “Freedom Matters” at the George W. Bush Library on Tuesday, April 4! Thanks to Margaret Filingeri for our own private tour of the exhibit. Margaret is a docent with the George W. Bush Library, and has been for several years! After the tour, we had a delicious lunch at Café 43! Lots of fun stories and laughter took place!

Attendees: Martha Austin, Don Brown, Margaret Steenson Filingeri, Claude and Beverly Fleener, Ida Andolina Gephart, Jan Hodges, Steve Jebbia, Mark Radman, Hedy Sawyers, Jeannette Siegel, Laura Williams

Mother's Day

We had a glorious time on Tuesday, May 9, celebrating our moms and Café de France! There was lots of great conversations and laughter. Several within the group brought pictures of their mothers and told a story honoring them. It was indeed a treasured time!

Attendees: Gale and Darryl Bloom, Don Brown, Bunny and Phil Esch, Beverly and Claud Fleener, Margaret Filingeri, Ida Gephart, Jan Hodges, Kathleen Langley, Mike Meiberg, Hedy Sawyers, Marion Shaffer and her sister Louise Cowan, Jeannette Siegel and her Aunt Bobbie Wesch.

Regional Meeting Group



Jan Hodges, Hedy Sawyers, Bunny and Phil Esch, Beverly and Claud Fleener, Ida Gephart, Don Brown, Marion Schaffer, Louise Cowan, Gale and Darryl Bloom, Kathleen Langley, Mike Meiberg, Bobbie Wesch, Jeannette Siegel and Margaret Filingeri.



Margaret Filingeri with her mother



Ida Gephart with her mother



Don Brown with his mother

Southwest



Beverly and Claud Fleener



Bunny and Phil Esch

Baseball

It was a great night at the Rough Riders game with the H.C.S.C.-SW group on May 11. Thanks to Ron Fazio for organizing this amazing event and thanks to all of the members that came out for this fun evening together!

Attendees: Martha Austin, Tom Clarke, Bunny and Phil Esch, Ron and Diane Fazio, Margaret Filingeri, Noah and Krista Goldstein, Larry and Carol Hamrick, Alan Langer, Linda Linscott, Terri and Glenn Mieritz, Gerry Montgomery, Ben Vaughn, Don Vincent and daughter, Mark Radman, Mike and Flo Ray, Norm Weslow, Ron Winkler, Dorothy Wolchanski.



Alan Langer, Norm Weslow and Ron Winkler



Martha Austin and Margaret Filingeri



Tom Clarke and Gerry Montgomery



Mike Ray, Ron Fazio, Diane Fazio, Flo Ray



Ienn and Terri Mieritz, Larry and Carol Hamrick



HONOR, CONFIDENCE, SERVICE, COOPERATION

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

Dear Partners,

I would like to share with you the current status of the H.C.S.C. Foundation. Our current balance with Morgan Stanley is \$4,200,000. This is down from \$5,200,000 prior to Covid. We currently have 83 recipients receiving assistance. This amounts to over \$550,000 a year. In order to keep the Foundation healthy, we need to increase our annual contributions and hope that the stock market improves. Our average annual donations are from \$50,000 to \$60,000. Donations for this fiscal year ending June 30 are close to \$70,000.

Our goal for the next fiscal year is \$125,000. This won't cover our annual expense, but it will at least cover over 20%. We need your help to meet this goal for our next fiscal year. We encourage everyone to donate. Last year, we had 250 partners donate an average of \$225 per associate. The Foundation thanks each of you.

We know that we have a lot of retired associates that have not contributed. We would encourage everyone to consider the work that the Foundation does to support the retired associates who desperately need our assistance. If all retired associates could donate at least \$150, it would go a long way towards protecting our aid to associates in need. Keep in mind, we all donate to various organizations, but 95% of your donation will go to helping retired associates in need. What other organization can say that?

One way to contribute would be through a Required Minimum Distribution from a standard IRA. You might consider a QCD (Qualified Charitable Distribution). This reduces your RMD by the amount of the contribution, saving you tax dollars. Please check with your financial adviser.

As you know, the Foundation has been in existence for over 63 years. As far as we know, there is no other large corporation that has this type program for retired associates. Please help us continue our ability to help retired associates in need. We have included in this Partners magazine a few testimonials of how we help associates in need and how much they appreciate our help.

Thank you in advance for your contributions.

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

Try our Foundation
QR Code!



Your contributions are tax deductible and can be mailed to:
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 Ron Winkler
 Dick Scoville
 Roman May
 Nancy Nelson
 Bruce Hayes
 Wayne Harmon
 Ken Ellingboe
 W.R. Howell
 Jane Brown

Thank you for remembering these partners and for your support of those in need!

Lisa Adams-Gibbons
 Jack Alfredson
 Alexandra Betterton
 Thomas Clarke
 Barbara Crecelius
 James Deuser
 Roy Ferguson

Wayne Harmon
 Joel Hennessee
 Bruce Hill
 John Lanier
 Don McCormick
 Mirth Meyer
 Larry Noble

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 Jerry Olekslw
 Lucy Rau
 Doug Rau
 Jack Siebert
 Harry Smart
 Valley of the Sun RMG

Bev Whitley
 Robert Wilson
 William Wright Jr
 Robert Wygal
 Jeff Wulff

LETTERS *of* GRATITUDE

Every day I am thankful for Mr. Penney's vision and thoughtfulness in initiating the framework for today's Foundation. As a beneficiary of the Foundation, I am so aware of what dire straits I would be in had it not been for its thoughtfulness and monetary gifts.

I personally have endured one financial hurdle after another for several years, and it seems that every time I feel like I'm getting my head above water, I am dunked once more. In just the last year, my employment was in doubt due to the company's impending closure, I had to begin applying for positions at an advanced age (age discrimination is alive and well in my immediate area), I was hospitalized for eight days and then spent two weeks in a rehabilitation facility, and finally I was offered a position in another state, which necessitated relocation – a BIC expense I had not expected, and for which I had little to no financial means.

But the Foundation carefully reviewed my immediate needs, offered advice and counseling on how best it could assist, and followed-through with immediate and necessary funding to assist in the many expenses involved in a physical move.

Today's economy affects everyone; budgeting is calculated, then re-calculated, "robbing from Peter to pay Paul", so to speak. My goal is to eventually be able to repay the Foundation – in one way or the other. My estate planning documents and a life insurance policy have been drafted, noting the Foundation as beneficiary – that is the least I can do to repay the Foundation, and in doing so, I can be assured that others are being assisted in the kind and thoughtful way that I have been treated.

It is difficult enough to be in a situation that one would never dream would happen, but the Foundation and its leadership are caring, empathetic, knowledgeable of finance and business, and prompt in addressing individual concerns. Being a recipient of funds, I have never been made to feel like a "charity case." I have been able to keep a shred of dignity, and more importantly, my future, solely because of the Foundation. I am grateful and thankful.

Dear H.C.S.C. Foundation Board,

I wanted to say thank you, no single word can express how my heart felt for your help. I don't know where I would be without your help. I have a very small Social Security check. I didn't have money for groceries. I was lucky to pay my utilities every month. I worked hard all my life for 32 years with JCPenney. With my pride, it was the hardest thing I ever had to do was asking for help. I'm 71 years of age and as they say, no golden years after not being able to work because I have MS. I always try to think positive. I wanted to take the time to express my heartfelt gratitude and thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Last summer my refrigerator burnt up. I tried going without the refrigerator. I put all my perishables in an ice box. I had to get ice every day just to keep things cold. Every day was crazy cause I could not buy a refrigerator. I saved some money and after two months I bought a used refrigerator. It worked fine for two months and it burned up. I went another three months using an icebox to keep things cold. Ron called one day just to see how I was doing. I told him about the refrigerator. He said let me get back to you. The next day Larry called me and asked how much it would cost for a new one from Lowes. I found a new one on sale for \$700 and ordered it. A day later my new refrigerator was delivered thanks to the Foundation.

I was so excited to see the refrigerator coming in my house that I couldn't talk to the delivery men from crying with happiness. When they left, I did a happy dance and thanked the Lord for the H.C.S.C. Board. Bless H.C.S.C. for making this happen. Still today, I do a happy dance whenever I look at my refrigerator.

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.jcpalumclub.org and click on the In Memoriam link on the right side of the page.

Ackerman, Jr., Frederick D. (June 29, 2022)

Davis, Gary L. (June 23, 2023)

Davis, Robert S. (April 4, 2023)

Elliott, Melvin L. (December 2022)

Gelvin, Thomas A. (May 19, 2023)

Gusewelle, Jerry R. (June 10, 2023)

Jantz, Robert O. (May 31, 2023)

Lange, Paul G. (February 4, 2023)

Leone, Vincent L. (May 15, 2023)

McCal, Valeria (September 7, 2021)

McKay, Arlene (March 27, 2023)

McKay, Joan (March 2, 2023)

McKay, Wallace (February 25, 2023)

McLaughlin, Norrine A. (October 8, 2021)

McNabb, Don (March 2023)

Neighbarger, Laraine (July 22, 2021)

Newton, Stanton C. (Stan) (December 10, 2022)

Rot, William (April 24, 2022)

Rudd, Donald Stewart (April 8, 2023)

Salmon, Mrs. Vernon (Doris) (January 26, 2023)

Sears, M. Christopher (Chris) (May 30, 2023)

Smith, Nancy J. (October 7, 2022)

Tipps, Mrs. James (Carol) (June 11, 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.



Bling It On

JCPenney



subtle
style

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