

The Jacksonian



News for and about Jackson-area retirees

November 2017

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RETIREE OFFICE
1945 W. Parnall Rd., P21-504
Phone: 517.788.1221
If no answer, leave a message.

Nov. 29: Lunch & Tour of Meadow Brook Hall

Wednesday, November 29, is the tour to Meadow Brook Hall. The \$30 per person cost includes a gourmet lunch at 11 a.m. followed by the 1-1/2 hour tour. The lunch and tour are available to members of all chapters of the Forerunners (the statewide retiree group).

The Jacksonians board has chartered a Dean Trailways bus (complete with bathroom) for up to 56 chapter members and guests. The bus will leave from the parking lot behind Consumers Energy's Metering Technology Center at 1975 Parnall Rd. The driveway and parking lot are located across the street from the blue Blackman Township Safety Department building and the NW water tower.

The bus will leave from the Metering Technology Center at 8:30 a.m. and will leave from Meadow Brook Hall for the return trip about 2:15 p.m. The cost to ride the bus is \$25 per person. If you've already paid for the lunch and tour, you can pay separately for the bus. On the trip, enjoy refreshments, games and a 50/50 drawing.

There's still room on the bus if you decide you'd rather ride than drive your vehicle in heavy traffic on possibly wintry roads. Call the Retiree Office at 517-788-1221.



Dec. 12: Holiday Lunch at the Country Club of Jackson

The food is always delicious! The atmosphere always upbeat! Enjoy the afternoon with former co-workers and friends at the retiree luncheon at the Country Club of Jackson, 3135 Horton Rd.

Choose breast of chicken with plum wine and cranberry sauce or beer battered haddock for your entrée. Lunch includes chopped salad, broccoli and cauliflower florets, rolls, coffee or tea and dessert. If you have special dietary needs, contact Kathy Lake at 517-688-9301 or vicky32@frontiernet.net.

We'll have door prizes and cash awards in the 50/50 drawing. You're welcome to bring a guest. Cost is \$25 per person. Reservations are due December 7.

Jacksonians board members for 2018 will be elected. Come and cast your vote!



Stay Connected! Join Our Board or Committee

Get more involved and stay connected to the Consumers Energy/CMS Energy family of retirees by joining our board or serving on a committee.

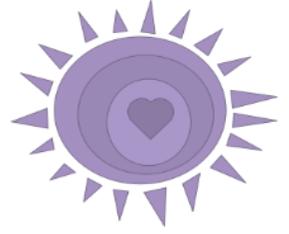
Share your ideas to make the Jacksonians Chapter larger, stronger and more fun for everyone! If you're interested or want more information, contact President Tom Heikkinen, twheikki@aol.com, 517-782-5281.

Upcoming Events: Mark Your Calendar

- Nov. 29 Meadow Brook Hall lunch & tour, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Dec. 12 Holiday Luncheon, County Club of Jackson, Noon
- January No chapter meeting
- Feb. 20 Chapter meeting; program to be determined



Sunshine News



Congratulations to:

- Richard Kulas (ret. 1991), induction into the Michigan State Polka Hall of Fame

Sympathy to retirees/employees who lost family members:

- Judie Holzworth (ret. 2006), aunt Mary Lou Williams
- John Koker (ret. 1995), wife Nancy Koker (ret. 1995)
- Karen Kurzynowski (ret. 2012), sister-in-law Nancy Koker (ret. 1995)
- Renee Nelson (empl.), father Raymond "Joe" Kinch (ret. 1985)
- Michele Puckett (ret. 2016), father-in-law Floyd Puckett

Sympathy to the family of:

- Suzanne Crowley (ret. 1996)
- Joseph Idzkowski (ret. 1985)
- John Martin (ret. 2002)

To have a get well wish, note of sympathy or congratulations for a landmark anniversary or event included in *The Jacksonian*, contact Jan Riede at 517-914-4034 or mikeriede@comcast.net.

Retirees Get Update on 2018 & 2019 Benefits

About 250 retirees and spouses attended the Oct. 17 program at the Ella Sharp Museum to hear Herb Kops, Director of Employee Benefits, and Laura Christopher, Manager of Employee Benefits, talk about 2018 and 2019 benefit plans. The Retiree Pension Plan remains well funded and in good shape, Kops said.

Health care enrollment is from October 25 through November 8. Pre-65 retirees can choose their health care provider and plan and must have an annual physical and complete a Health Risk Assessment. There is an increase for health care coverage. Rates are available on Fidelity's website: <http://netbenefits.fidelity.com>. Some prescription drugs will move into the specialty tier, which has the highest copay. Retirees will pay higher copays for specialty drugs.

There are no changes to the Aetna plan for retirees 65 and over and on Medicare. There will be increased copays for prescription drugs. Express Scripts, the mail order prescription drug program, is the best value for a 90-day supply of maintenance drugs. New next year: retirees also can fill prescriptions at Walgreens or a group of 6,000 independent pharmacies. Fidelity is your information source for Aetna and Express Scripts.

You don't need to contact Fidelity if your health coverage remains the same as 2017. You will automatically be enrolled for the same coverage for 2018 that you now have.

The biggest change will come in 2019 when retirees 65+ on Medicare will select their health care provider from the health care market. Help will be provided to retirees to make the best choice. In many cases, retirees will have better coverage than they have from Aetna, Kops said.

All retirees will receive an information card from Consumers Energy about 2018 benefits. If you don't receive it, please contact our retiree liaison, Kate Nerdrum, Manager of Retirement Plans, at 517-788-1205 or katelyn.nerdrum@cmsenergy.com.



Herb Kops talks to retirees and spouses at the Oct. 17 chapter meeting at the Ella Sharp Museum.

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JACKSONIANS DEC. 12 HOLIDAY LUNCH RESERVATION FORM (Please print)

| | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------|-----|
| Name | | Name of Spouse/Guest | | |
| Address | Apt. No. | City | State | Zip |
| (_____) Area Code | Telephone Number | Email Address | | |

Number of entrées: chicken _____ haddock _____

Reservations at \$25 each: _____ Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Mail your check payable to CP Jacksonians and the completed form above before December 7 to: CP Jacksonians, ATT: Treasurer, 1945 W. Parnall Rd., P21-504, Jackson, MI 49201. Please allow 5 days for postal delivery.