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### **December 1, 2025 meeting.**

Attendees: Brian and Sue Krohn, Tom Cooper, Jim and Pam Pearch, Mike and Inga Costello, Jim Abram, Carolyn and Brian Hanlon, Beth Glenn, Bill Schoenlein, Ralph Luft, John Gose, Kim Fitzpatrick, Dennis and Lisa Happy, Doug Petee, Jim and Pat Lammers, Tony and Linda Homolka, Henry Hinojosa, Rick and Diane Kruek, Harry Redford, Kevin and Bernadette McCormick, Paul Bergard, Ed Weaver, Sharon Grodi, Patti and Chuck Thompson.

Greetings to all,

The Christmas luncheon was a great success with so many friends there. Thanks to all who came to join in the Christmas spirit! We had lunch and some holiday cheer. Then we challenged ourselves with a Senior Trivia game. Everyone paid \$5.00 to play. Two teams shared the winning score so we drew cards for the prize, a original piece of artwork by Jerry Ridner chosen by Bill Schoenlein. We continued to draw winning tickets for additional artwork, several beautiful potted plants donated by Carolyn and Brian Hanlon, and some CMS "license plates" for retirees.





President Harry Redford with Patti and Chuck Thompson.











We also sang Happy Birthday to several December “babies”.

Our donation to charity this year was voted on. \$350 will go to New Beginnings Mercy House in Monroe. From their website:

Mercy House honors the mother's decision to choose life for her child. We believe it isn't enough to oppose abortion. God wants us to do more! We must show the love of Christ by offering practical support through every stage of the journey into motherhood. Our support doesn't end with pregnancy; we offer continuing care for you and your baby long after birth.

We strive to be a judgement-free zone. We provide free and confidential support, including counseling and a wide range of resources such as free pregnancy tests, ultrasounds.

Our Blessing Closet offers items for women, children and infants (preemie up to size 5T). We also offer a small food pantry to those in need!

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Linda will submit a matching gifts request from CMS for the organization. Thank you all for your generosity.

If you would like to try your hand at the Trivia contest, I have attached it below.

Also attached are the minutes of the Forerunners' Board meeting in October.

Wishing everyone a joyous Christmas with family and friends. Also, a Happy New Year!



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**Our next meeting will be Monday, January 5, 2026**

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### **Trivia for Seniors**

1. What is the famous music festival in 1969 that symbolized the peak of the hippie movement? \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Who was the American president who declared "I am not a crook"?
  - a. Bill Clinton
  - b. Richard Nixon
  - c. Donald
  - d. Harry Truman
3. Who was the feminist author of the groundbreaking book "The Feminine Mystique"?
  - a. Hillary Clinton
  - b. Julia Child
  - c. Betty Friedan
  - d. Gloria Steinem
4. What 1975 film, directed by Steven Spielberg is considered the first major summer blockbuster?
  - a. Indiana Jones
  - b. Jaws
  - c. E.T.
  - d. Jurassic Park
5. What band released the hit song "Stairway to Heaven" in 1971?
  - a. Led Zeppelin
  - b. Grateful Dead
  - c. The Rolling Stones
  - d. Aerosmith

6. What TV series about a Korean War mobile surgical hospital was popular in the 70s?

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7. Which 1942 film features the famous line, "Here's looking at you, kid"?

- a. The African Queen
- b. The Maltese Falcon
- c. Casablanca
- d. To Have and to Have Not

8. In what 1954 film does Audrey Hepburn play a princess exploring with Gregory Peck?

- a. Breakfast at Tiffanys
- b. My Fair Lady
- c. Sabrina
- d. Roman Holiday

9. What is the largest mammal in the world?

- a. Grizzly bear
- b. Bull Elephant
- c. Blue Whale
- d. Humpback whale

10. Which insect is famous for its migratory pattern from North America to Central Mexico?

- a. Painted Lady butterfly
- b. Dragon fly
- c. Monarch butterfly
- d. Honey bees

11. What ocean is the largest on Earth?

- a. Atlantic
- b. Pacific
- c. Indian Ocean
- d. Antarctic

12. What is the hardest natural substance on Earth?

- a. Granite
- b. Wurtzite boron nitride
- c. Quartzite
- d. Diamond

13. What year did the Titanic sink during its maiden voyage across the Atlantic?

- a. 1912
- b. 1923
- c. 1913
- d. 1903

14. On what date did the Japanese attack Pearl Harbor? \_\_\_\_\_.

15. Which NHL player, nicknamed "The Great One" holds the record for most points in a single season?

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| a. Gordy Howe    | c. Wayne Gretzky |
| b. Steve Yzerman | d. Bobby Orr     |

16. In what year did Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin land on the moon?

- |         |         |
|---------|---------|
| a. 1972 | c. 1969 |
| b. 1971 | d. 1974 |

17. Which US president signed the Civil Rights Act into law in 1964?

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18. What year did the Beatles arrive in America, marking the start of Beatlemania?

- |         |         |
|---------|---------|
| a. 1965 | c. 1970 |
| b. 1968 | d. 1964 |

19. What is the name of Elvis Presley's home in Memphis?

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20. Which artist is known as the Queen of Soul?

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21. Who sang the classic song "What a Wonderful World"?

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## **MINUTES FROM FORERUNNERS' BOARD MEETING**

One North Kitchen & Bar

1310 Abbot Rd.

East Lansing, MI 48823

Wednesday, October 22, 2025

### **In Attendance:**

Kathy Gabriel President/Treasurer (Jacksonians)

Vonda Belanger Vice President (Blue Flames)

Joann Davis Member At Large/Retiree Line Reporter (Jacksonians)

Richard Davis Jacksonians

Rhoda Tinkham Jacksonians

Hank Tinkham Jacksonians

Jerry Letson Wonder Watts (Bay City, Saginaw, Midland)

Kay Witucki Wonder Watts Secretary

Mia Keefer Capitaliers (Lansing)

Al Morgenthaler Adrianites (Adrian)

Paul Timmins Adrianites (Adrian)

President Kathy Gabriel called the meeting to order at 11:30 am.

The Secretary's Report from the April 16, 2025, meeting and the Treasurer's Reports for the quarterly periods January 1, 2025, April 1, 2025, July 1, 2025, and October 1, 2025, were reviewed. Motions to have them accepted as submitted were passed.

### **Treasurers Report included:**

Discussion on nonprofits per **IRS Section 501(C) (3)**, After further discussion it was decided that the Forerunners will not pursue the 501© (3) status.

**CDs discussion:** Kathy will investigate see what we have to do when we decide to cash in the CDs. Kathy has a Forerunners/Kathy Gabriel Credit Card, for in person purchases. She will not use credit card for online purchases.

### **Newsletter & Website Updates:**

Joann Davis is compiling the Fall/Winter RetireeLine and has asked for information from the Chapters. All information should be emailed to Joann by the end of the month.

Retirees' website has been updated with recent retirees, memorials, newsletters. 2026 Scholarship information will be posted on the website January 2026.



## **Old Business**

**Review of 2025 Golf Outing** El dorado in Mason. Twenty teams participated. Down from last year.

**Review of Annual Reunion Luncheon** at Win Schueler's in Marshall. Kathy & Mia reviewed luncheon. The day was planned very well. Retirees enjoyed bingo, and the Music by Jay Hill was a hit. The country attire was a fun addition to the event. There was discussion on the cost of food (\$35). Comments that the cost was too high for what we received. Discussion of the rental of the room (\$500). Mia mentioned that her chapter has used Buddy's in Holt a few times. They do not charge for room rental as long as we have food purchase of a certain amount. In future we could investigate restaurants that have large gathering areas that do not charge a fee. The food cost would be lower. Also brought up using more of the Forerunners monies to subsidize the event.

## **New Business**

### **Forerunners Chapter Grants Awarded:**

**Jacksonians** were granted \$500 towards their Oktoberfest event on October 15, 2025 at a Winery/Brewery in the Irish Hills. All Forerunners Chapters were invited to attend. We had 4 Wonder watts attend and 1 Capitalier along with 1 new retiree. Grant went towards the appetizers. Everyone enjoyed lunch and Oktoberfest Bingo. Total of 33 retirees attended this event.

**Lansing Capitaliers** held a Meet 'n Greet on October 15. A Forerunner's Chapter Grant of \$500.00 was used to sponsor the event. Pizza and soda were on the menu for lunch at Tony M's in Lansing. The two-hour special event welcomed the regular monthly members, four new retirees, and some returning retirees who hadn't attended a recent meeting. The event brought in 35 members. There was no special agenda, just an opportunity to catch up and enjoy the afternoon.

### **Feedback Cards Ideas were discussed for possible future Annual Reunions**

Mia brought up "**Flint New City Tour**" of the Training Facility. Mia will speak to someone at the facility to see if there could be a possible tour.

Also brought up a **Tour of the Wharton Center**. Cindy Puffenburger volunteers there and Mia will speak to Cindy about a possible backstage tour. Other ideas for events. To have an event on one side of the State such as: Ball game, Lugnuts in Lansing, West Michigan White Caps Grand Rapids and Great Lakes Loons, Midland.

### **Forerunners Scholarships for 2026**

Discussion of possible 8 Scholarships as was offered in 2025. After some discussion it was decided to offer 8 scholarships. Scholarship information will be online by January.

## **Election of Officers**

Discussion of Forerunners officers President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Election is held for officers every year. No more than two can be replaced in one year. There was no election held at today's meeting.

**Discussion about Forerunners Membership.** Can you be a member of a Chapter and not pay due to the Forerunners? Mia, mentioned that some of her chapter members have not paid dues to the Forerunners. It was explained that chapter members also need to pay a yearly fee of \$10 to the Forerunners. Further discussion on the Forerunners and the important work they do behind the scenes for your chapters.

## **Direction Connection Update**

Good News! Kathy and Paula Johnson have been working with Consumers to update our data base. Mission Accomplished!! We have some updating to do but this information should be ready to be put on the website by the end of the year. This has been a long process. After our updates this process should run smoothly each month.

We will have information in the Fall/Winter RetireeLine.

## **Chapter News**

**Jacksonians** have a trip to the Air Zoo on November 5<sup>th</sup>. All events are offered to all Forerunners to attend.

**Lansing Capitaliers** as part of their monthly community outreach, collected hats, mittens, gloves and scarves in October. They have partnered with a local organization called Footprints of Michigan. On November 11, members of the Capitaliers will help pass out new shoes to Veterans donated by Footprints of Michigan. The Veterans can also choose to take a hat and pair of gloves with them, compliments of the Capitaliers. This is the second year they have supported this Veteran's Day giveaway. The Capitaliers will also be eligible to submit a \$250.00 Community grant for having more than 5 retirees volunteering at the event. The Lansing retirees collected 3 bags of new or gently used items and collected \$200.00 from generous donations to purchase over 115 new hats or gloves.

## **Open Discussion**

Mia, brought up that their chapter has a Facebook page that has 94 members. They are able to reach out to more members by using Facebook. She suggested that the Forerunners look into the possibility of having a Facebook page. You would be able to have members from all the chapters. Information could be placed and questions asked by members and possible new members.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Joann Davis

Filling in for Helen Riendeau

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, April 15, 2026

11:00 am at One North Kitchen & Bar in East Lansing, MI.

### **Action Items**

Kathy – Will gather information on CD cash in.

Mia – Will contact “Flint New City” tour information for possible tour

Mia – and Cindy Puffenburger will investigate a possible Wharton Center Backstage Tour

Joann – Will complete Fall/Winter RetireeLine newsletter to send to CE for formatting.

Kathy & Joann – Will complete updating “Directory Connection” roster by the year.

### **Key to Senior Trivia**

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|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Woodstock         | 16. c                 |
| 2. b                 | 17. Lyndon B. Johnson |
| 3. c                 | 18. d                 |
| 4. b                 | 19. Graceland         |
| 5. a                 | 20. Aretha Franklin   |
| 6. MASH              | 21. Louis Armstrong   |
| 7. c                 |                       |
| 8. d                 |                       |
| 9. b                 |                       |
| 10. c                |                       |
| 11. b                |                       |
| 12. d                |                       |
| 13. a                |                       |
| 14. December 7, 1941 |                       |
| 15. c                |                       |



