

CMS FORERUNNERS

SOUTHEASTERNS CHAPTER

"The mission of this organization is fraternal, to represent the interests of all retirees; to expand and strengthen fellowship among its members; and to provide leadership, information, programs and social activities."



President:

Harry Redford

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Treasurer

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The breakfast meeting was held on **August 5, 2019**. Members in attendance: C.J. Schwartz, Dave Harvey, Bill Conner, Jeff Zenz, Jerry Ridner, Frank Lambert, Eddie Weaver, Tom Cooper, Ralph Luft, Dave Krawetzke, Brian Watters, Mark Fowler, Henry Hinjosa, Tony and Linda Homolka.



Today the 50/50 was won by Tom Cooper!

The Treasure's report shows \$142.00, including today's drawing earnings.

C.J. stood in for Harry Redford who is on an Alaskan vacation. He reminded everyone that the annual luncheon and golf outing is coming up soon in September. The deadline is the 1st! He also noted that we may consider joining another Chapter as membership declines.

Linda noted some information found on the CMS website:

- CMS is developing a \$10 million program to educate and plan development of an auto charging station infrastructure in Michigan. There is a \$400-500.00 rebate available to homeowners who want to install a 240 volt charging station at home for their electric vehicle. Also, up to \$5000.00 rebate may be available for public and workplace charging stations.
- Amy Walt has been named VP of Operations as of June, 2019.
- CMS share price was \$58.70 as of 8/2/19!

Bill Conner asked if we can get a copy of the power point of the Whiting Plant demolition that was shown at the Bierlein reception. Linda will check into this.

Bill also commented that Russ Gelso is somewhat confined to home and would love to have visits. Please call him at 734-241-1432 for a chat or to set up a visit.

Eddie Weaver reported that Jim and Linda Thompson's daughter passed away this morning. We all signed a sympathy card to them. Their address is 4254 N Otter Creek Rd., Monroe, 48161. Our sincere condolences at this difficult time for them.

Jerry Ridner announced that he will have an art show of his works at the next meeting in September.

C.J. asked if the membership was willing to send a \$25 gift card to the Forerunners as a golf prize for the annual golf outing in September. The vote was positive. Our Treasurer will purchase the card and send it in to Kathy Gabriel.

CJ brought in some old photos and memorabilia:



The day Charlie Elkins struck the supporting legs of the plant conveyor. We think it was 1988?



Looking at the conveyor on the ground over the bulldozer.



Somehow Charlie crawled out without a scratch.

A blast from the past: 1987. Remember this?



Chip "Hot Wheels" Kelly



Don Baker, Elery Barnes, Chip, Kurt Rudolph, Al Collins. Center: Jim Ross

In Defense of Honor

A team consisting of Don Baker, Chip Kelley, both plant engineers, and Elery Barnes, plant electrician, competed successfully in the Great Lakes Triathlon Championship held at Pinckney Recreation Center, Ann Arbor, Michigan, June 14th, placing 10th overall and as a corporate group, third.

However, the team's greatest satisfaction in their success was crushing into submission the much touted team of the Karn/Weadock complex, Jim Ross, Kurt Rudolph and

Al Collins, captained by Paul Preketes, Karn 1 & 2 Plant Superintendent.

Don Baker emerged from the one mile swim with a comfortable six minute lead over his previous high school coach, a University of Michigan swimmer, Kurt Rudolph, to send Chip Kelley on his way well ahead of Jim Ross in a 26 mile bike race. Considering Chip's meager 3 week training period and Jim Ross's cycling expertise, along with his \$1200 bike, maintaining a 2 minute lead for J. R. Whiting was a staggering blow to

this vaunted Karn/Weadock trio. Deep furrows had already formed in the captain's brow. The final death knell tolled when Elery Barnes increased the lead to 4 minutes, leaving Al Collins awash in the wake as he surged to the finish line. Boastful calls from Karn 1 & 2 management to J. R. Whiting have completely diminished. Of course, there is always next year, at least that's what all the loser's say.

PS: Paul Preketes was conveniently called away before he could buy
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Some information that you may have received in the mail from CMS:



Personal challenges, planning for life events or simply managing daily life can affect your overall well-being. *GuidanceResources*, from *ComPsych*, is confidential and provided at no charge to all CMS Energy retirees and their household to help manage any stresses life throws your way.

GuidanceResources

Toll Free: 866-301-9553
guidanceresources.com

Register for first time using the **Company ID: CMSGR** and create your own ID and password

GuidanceResources is:

Suitable for everyone:
GuidanceResources is more than just counseling. It's designed for anyone who can use a little help in managing demanding everyday situations. The program provides access to a wide range of supportive services to help you find support and balance in your life.

Time-saving:
You can access *GuidanceResources* through a toll-free phone number or the website. Because the resources are in one place, using *GuidanceResources* can help you efficiently manage issues that usually require substantial time and effort.

Your Resource for Confidential:

- Counseling
- Financial Information
- Legal Support
- Work-Life Solutions
- Online Services

Our September meeting will be Monday, the 9th due to the Labor Day holiday. See you then!

Submitted by Linda Homolka

FORERUNNERS Member Application

Date _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Spouse First Name _____ Spouse Retiree? _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number _____ Date Retired _____

Headquarters Retired From: J.R. Whiting

Forerunners Chapter _____ South Easterners _____

Email address _____

Alternate Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number _____

Alternate address: Winter ___ Summer ___

Forerunners Dues \$10/year plus any Chapter dues: Attached Yes ___ No ___

Note: We are always searching for more efficient and timely methods of communicating with our members. Electronic communications are very helpful in this regard. Your e-mail address may be used to send information of interest to retirees by the Forerunners, for example, notification that the Retireeline has been posted on the retirees' website, important issues concerning the company, etc. Your address, of course, will NOT be shared outside of the Forerunners office.

By giving us your e-mail address, you are agreeing to receive information from us via e-mail.

Please complete and mail to:

Consumers Energy Forerunners, 1945 Parnall Road P21-504, Jackson, MI 49201. If you have any questions, please call us at 517-788-1221.

