

# 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: C. J. Schwartz 419.270.373

Secretary/newsletter editor  
Linda Homolka Cell 419-350-5428

Treasurer  
Tony Homolka 734.847.8846  
Cell 419-340.1177

The breakfast meeting was held on November 5, 2018. Members present were: C.J. Schwartz, Ralph Luft, Tony and Linda Homolka, Harry Redford, Jerry Ridner, Tom Cooper, Ken Pearsall, Ernie Kotnik, Steve Marsahl, Ed Weaver, Mark Fowler, Tom St. Bernard, Lyle Stark, John Pauli, Frank Lambert, Darlene Collins, Floyd Martin, Neil Wagner, Jeanette Morris, Bill Conner, Tim Kolb, and Mike Costello.

The 50/50 raffle was won today by Steve Marshall.



The treasurer's report shows \$124.00. Our chapter donated a prize to the annual golf tournament for a total of \$29.00.

Demolition of the J.R. Whiting plant: There appears to be progress on the plant demolition. Linda has been in touch with Tom McKittrick, President and CEO of Forsite Development. He assured us that they have not forgotten about our request to see the take-down of the smoke stacks. He believes that it will be sometime in the spring of 2019.





Discussion on health insurance changes: Most members have begun the process of making these decisions. If you create your account online before you begin, the process is a bit faster. You will create a personal profile either by going online to [www.My.ViaBenefits.com/cmsenergy](http://www.My.ViaBenefits.com/cmsenergy) or call 1-888-604-2921. This customer service representative will not be able to answer your questions about plans. After that, you will schedule a call to enroll. This will be a licensed benefit advisor who will walk you through the coverage options Tony Homolka reported that VIA benefits were very helpful in making our decisions for 2019. If you have not done this yet, be prepared for a long telephone appointment. We were on the phone for 3 solid hours. It is the actual application process that takes so long.

Below see the minutes from the annual meeting of Forerunners:

Cornwell's Turkeyville USA  
18935 15 1/2 Mile Road  
Marshall, MI  
September 19, 2018

Forerunners' President Vonda Belanger opened the meeting at 11:00 am, welcoming 125 attendees. She then introduced 16 Forerunners' Board members and local chapter officers present.

Treasurer and Annual Golf Outing Chair, Kathy Gabriel gave an update on the prior day's successful gold outing, held at the Medalist Golf Club, Marshall, MI.

President Vonda Belanger and Vice President Sam Lalomia then introduced the scholarship winners: Madison Holcomb, granddaughter of James Tyslenko won the \$1,000 Forerunners' Building for the Future Scholarship, and Kelley Cameron, granddaughter of Kathleen Sterett and Emily Tucker, granddaughter of David Lathrup won the two \$800 Forerunners' scholarships. Scholarship Sponsor, Bill Flynn of Flynn Wealth Management Partners presented the \$1,000 scholarship from his company to Kisa Seerveld, granddaughter of Richard Valk, and Kira Francetic of Richmond Brothers presented their \$1,000 scholarship to Graham Govitz, grandson of Ernest Schaeff. Grateful grandparents in attendance at the meeting, accepted the scholarship checks on behalf of their grandchildren and they expressed gratitude.

Vonda and Sam then drew names for the meeting's door prizes winners:

Grand Prize:	Dell Laptop Computer	-- Cheryl Lantinga (Metro Pioneers)
	Collection of Quarter (value \$175)	-- Jack Reynolds (Lakesiders)
	Rolling Suitcase	-- Phyllis Ullery
	Lottery Tickets Frame	-- Joanne Thomas (Jacksonians)
	\$100 Visa Gift Card	-- Judy Bills (Jacksonians)
	\$100 Visa Gift Card	-- Robert Gilmore (Jacksonians)
	\$50 Visa Gift Card	-- Arleen Lapekas (Energy Stars)
	\$25 Visa Gift Card	-- Norma Vanderhout (Livewires)
	\$25 Visa Gift Card	-- James Hedgcock (Kilowatt Kreekers)
	\$25 Meijers' Gift Card	-- Jeannette Davis
	\$20 Gift Card & Calendar	-- Joyce Vibber (Grey Power)
	Gift Basket	-- Judy Henderson
	Gift Basket	-- Margaret Skinner (Kilowatt Kreekers)

Winners of the 50-50 drawing were Jim Schneider who won \$100, and Chris Bodker won \$63.

President Vonda thanked the scholarship sponsors, Flynn Wealth Management Partners and Richmond Brothers for their support, and the CP Federal Credit Union, Dell computers, and the local chapters for their donations of door prizes.

The official annual meeting then adjourned, and all went into the theater for the turkey lunch, followed by the comedy play "Nun Sense."

Respectfully Submitted,

Helen Riendeau  
Secretary



CJ, Marge and Tony enjoy the show,  
"Nun Sence"



Forerunners officers prepare for the  
meeting.



Members gather at Turkeyville



Scholarship recipients (grandparents)

At our December meeting, Linda will bring membership applications for everyone to fill out. If you want to receive current information from the company and the "Retiree Line", you should keep your membership. Also, remember for only \$10.00/year, your membership helps to fund the scholarships that are offered to the family members of the Forerunners. As you see above, there were many grateful recipients. You will always be welcome at our breakfasts, however.

## **Save the date\***

We will have our Christmas party on Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon.



There will be 4 specials offered, including a vegetarian plate. Don't forget cash for the basket raffle! Be sure to bring a guest to enjoy the holiday merriment.



The group will still meet at the **Monroe Grill** again next month on **December 3rd** at **9:00 A.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

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.

