ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

2nd Quarter 2011

NEWS FOR AND ABOUT RETIREES AND FORMER EMPLOYEES OF CITGO.



2011 - 2012 Board meets following Spring Luncheon.



Curt Coffman with Energy One Credit Union updates luncheon attendees.

2011 Spring Luncheon Presents Benefits Resources!

The CITGO Retiree Group met at Michael V's Restaurant on March 28, 2011 for their Annual Business Meeting and Election. The Group enjoyed time visiting and catching up with friends and fellow co-workers. They then enjoyed a delicious buffet lunch. Once again, the lunch was courtesy of Energy One Credit Union. Their President, Curt Coffman, gave an update on the credit union. They are definitely looking out for the members. Thanks to CITGO Corporate in Houston, Mike Najar, Human Resources-Houston, spoke with the attendees about, and provided a comprehensive slide presentation of, benefits, retiree medical eligibility requirements, CITGO plan provisions for coordination of benefits and more resources for employees and retirees. The Retiree Group is always appreciative of receiving this information and learning more about the current state of CITGO. The current Board of the retiree group has agreed to stay on in their present roles. Kent Young is stepping off the board and new at-large members, Marty Sedlacek and Bill Paluso, will join the Board.



PERSONAL PROFILE



Wayne and Johnnie Ann Oestreich

STREET ADDRESS:
1540 Ancroft Court
Trinity, FL 34655

E-MAIL ADDRESS:
tarponcircus3017@aol.com

Wayne Oestreich Retired to Florida and Golf!

Wayne Oestreich retired in 2003 after nearly 40 years with CITGO. At retirement Wayne was the Western Region Manager for Lubes and Speciality Products, which included all states west of the Mississippi, Alaska, Hawaii and the Dominican Republic.

He started his career in 1964 in the Milwaukee Division. Transfers and promotions took Wayne to Madison as District Manager, then on to South Bend, Indiana, as the District Manager for the newly formed Michigan District. Wayne was then promoted to the Charlotte Division as Speciality Products Manager – where he met his wife Johnnie Ann.

Today they've been married for 35 years. They have two daughters and two grandchildren, all living in the Raleigh/Durham area.

After Charlotte, Wayne was promoted and moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, as the Western Region Sales Manager for Lubes and Specialty Products. At retirement, Wayne and Johnnie Ann had lived in Tulsa for 26 years.

Wayne and Johnnie Ann live in Heritage Springs Retirement Community in Trinity, Florida. Heritage Springs is located 25 minutes north of Tampa just off the Sun Coast Parkway in Pasco County.

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PERSONAL PROFILE



M. Jane Merdian

January 2010 was the beginning of "keeping the promise." Sarah made me promise to publish her CarePage journal. I can do a lot of things, but I knew nothing about publishing a book. I do now! After engaging a publication manager, I went "far and away" to a little casita in the mountains near Mountainair, NM, and began the editing process. On May 24, 2011, the book I'm Not Finished, by Sarah Merdian, became a reality.

M. Jane Merdian ... Retired but "Not Finished"

I retired and 2004 and heartily recommend it. How did I ever find time to work? After moving back to the Texas Gulf Coast (originally Seabrook on Galveston Bay) and getting my nest made, I joined the Galveston Historical Foundation. In addition to many social events and educational seminars, I have been a docent at the annual Homes Tours (1st and 2nd weekends in May). I enjoy having access to the historical venues and getting to meet such interesting people (fellow docents and tour participants). Since Hurricane IKE devastated the Island, I have been involved in recovery and restoration efforts. It is well worth the trip to "do" the Home Tours and enjoy the beaches and restaurants.

In the fall of 2005, I began teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) through the adult education program at College of the Mainland. What an eye-opener! My expectations were for a majority of the students to be Spanish speaking. Wrong! They were the minority (Central and South America) in a mix of Russian, Chinese, Japanese, German/Slavic, and Middle East (Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt). When you consider the personnel at the Johnson Space Center and the various Medical Centers, the diversity suddenly makes sense.

Summer of 2005, Angelica Helander (treasury – CITGO 1991-1994) and I journeyed to Spain (Santander, Astrurias area, Burgos and Orta St. Joan, Catalona). We stayed with her family for 3 wonderful weeks. It was true cultural immersion! We are returning July 29, 2011, for another visit to Santander and LLanes.

In January 2007, my daughter Sarah was diagnosed with uterine and ovarian cancer. I continued to teach ESL as a substitute while supporting Sarah through surgery and chemo therapy at MD Anderson Cancer Center here in Houston and Baylor Sammons Cancer Center in Dallas. In 2008, supporting

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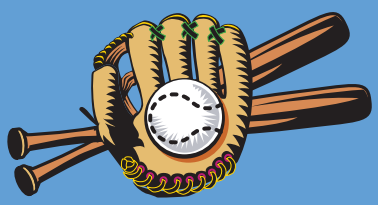
RETIREE WEBSITE UPDATES LINKS FOR BENEFITS AND FORMS

Over the last several months, some of the links and documents/forms on the CITGO Retiree website have been updated. Visit the website at: **citgoretiree.org** and click on "Benefits/Forms" under the "PAGES" menu in the upper right on the Home page. You will then see the listing of current *BENEFITS INFORMATION* and *CITGO BENEFITS FORMS & DOCUMENTS LIBRARY* listing on the left. You can also contact the Benefits Hotline at 888-443-5707 with questions.

Nite at the Drillers

Tuesday • August 2, 2011

7:05 p.m. (Game Time)

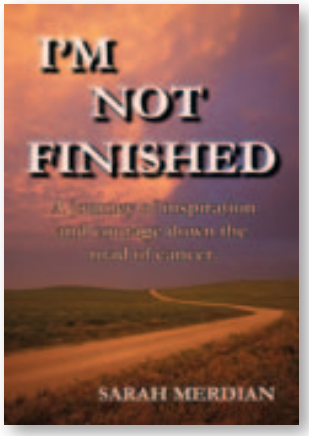


After a successful inaugural event last year, the CITGO Alumni Group is getting together for another ***"Nite at the Drillers."*** We will cheer on the home team and visit some of our old friends. The CITGO Alumni Group will provide a hot dog, chips and soft drink with each paid ticket. Please send a check for $6 for each field premium seat (*in the shade down the first base side!*), by July 25, 2011 to: CITGO Alumni Group, C/O George Margalski, 8323 S. Vandalia, Tulsa 74137. All tickets will be picked up the day of the game at the Driller 'will call' window at 201 North Elgin Avenue.

Any questions, email George @ **gmargalski@cox.net**.

Hope to see you there!

M. Jane Merdian ... *Continued from page 2..*



Sarah (and my sister Doris – colon/liver cancer) was a full time endeavor. Doris died on June 22nd. Sarah died (in Dallas) on August 7th. I had just returned to Seabrook on September 4th in time to prepare and then evacuate for Hurricane IKE. Needless to say, 2008 was my year from hell. I do wish to acknowledge the support I received from my CITGO friends during that awful time. From afar, we were still connected.

January 2009, I began teaching full time again, but decided another hurricane evacuation was more than I could handle. I sold my Seabrook residence and moved to Kingwood in July 2009. I miss the Bay and easy access to Galveston, but I don't miss the hurricane threats. Now my friends can evacuate to my place!

An important note: Warren Williams, husband of Ruth Williams (CITGO – Treasury) designed the covers for INF! Kent Young also graciously assisted with the media text. Be sure to check out the website - www.sarahmerdian.com.

If you or someone in your circle of life is affected by cancer, you really should read "I'm NOT Finished." Traveling with Sarah, a Master Teacher and world traveler, you will experience much more than doctor's office and chemotherapy stories. You will shake your head in wonder and disbelief as you realize the determination one person can muster and the joy one person can spread, all while traveling on life's road with cancer as an unwanted passenger. You will visit a state of grace under fire, the depths of courage, the heights of laughter and a razor sharp wit.

At each level of Sarah's cancer journey, from the shock of the initial MMMT uterine cancer diagnosis, through surgery, then the revelation she also had ovarian cancer and chemotherapy, Sarah kept her boundless love of life (China, Czech Republic and NYC between chemo regimens), her ability to laugh (an INF tattoo), and never, ever gave up hoping for and believing in victory.

"I'm Not Finished" was Sarah's response to her oncologist's prognosis and became her mantra. "INF" became a lapel pin (even worn by her doctors and nurses) and a tattoo on the left side of her head. Sarah's 48th birthday celebration included a healing service. After being anointed with holy oils, she thanked everyone for being there and stated: "I may not win this battle, but as long as any of you remember, I am not finished."

"I'm NOT Finished" is available on Kindle; at www.sarahmerdian.com or by mail (with guaranteed funds) at JM Publishing, P.O. Box 4582, Kingwood Drive, Suite E306, Kingwood, TX 77345-2640. Proceeds from the sale of the book will benefit The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center for cancer research and prevention.

January 2010 was the beginning of "keeping the promise." Sarah made me promise to publish her CarePage journal. I can do a lot of things, but I knew nothing about publishing a book. I do now! After engaging a publication manager, I went "far and away" to a little casita in the mountains near Mountainair, NM, and began the editing process. On May 24, 2011, the book I'm Not Finished, by Sarah Merdian, became a reality.

Don't Miss Our Special Guest!

Denise Northrup (daughter of CITGO member George Margalski) will be the guest speaker at our "End of Summer" Luncheon. Denise graduated from Jenks (Okla) High School and attended Kansas University, earning a degree in political science. She is married to John Northrup, a sergeant for the Oklahoma City Police Department and has one son, Josh. Denise was selected by the Tulsa World as one of those "to watch in 2011." She is now Chief of Staff for Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallon, has run every election for and been the Governor's *right-hand woman* since Gov. Fallon was Lt. Governor. She will speak about "A Day in the Life of the Governor's Office" and answer some questions from the group.

Our next scheduled luncheon will be held on **Monday, September 12th at LaFortune Park**. Watch your mail/e-mail for more information. Be sure to invite a CITGO "friend" to join us. There are many who haven't joined our group as yet and we'd love to have them do so.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

We want the *CITGO Alumni Connections* to offer information from and about ALL retirees and former employees of CITGO. If you participate in activities with other CITGO Alumni in your area, we want to hear from you, so we can share what you're doing with the rest of our membership.

Please send announcements or updates you would like to see in the Newsletter to cornelia.schlecht@cox.net.

The CITGO Alumni Group's membership year runs from January 1 through December 31 and dues are paid once during that period. If you haven't paid your $10.00 membership dues for calendar year 2011, now is the time to do it. By paying your dues, you will receive copies of the *CITGO Alumni Connections* newsletters to keep you up to date on news and events of the CITGO Alumni Group. Send your $10 membership fee (*Made payable to the CITGO Alumni Group*) to:

Lyle Dusenberg
6927 E. 65th St. • Tulsa, OK 74133

Please include your E-mail address and/or any mailing address updates with your payment. THANK YOU.

If you pay your membership dues in cash, please attach your name to the cash so Lyle will know who he received the payment from.

Please send newsletter article contributions for the *CITGO Alumni Connections* by e-mail to:

Ray Yarroll at rpyarr@cox.net

or by U.S. Mail to:

Ray Yarroll
7421 E. 74th St. • Tulsa, OK 74133

Wayne Oestreich ... *Continued from cover.*

Retirement keeps Wayne and Johnnie Ann busy with golf and other club house activities. Johnnie Ann has become quite the ladies golfer, playing up to four times a week. Along with playing golf, Wayne is a heritage springs board member on the disputes and resolutions committee. They also attend Ray's baseball games, along with Buccanneer football games. The couple utilizes the Tampa Bay Port taking cruise vacations in the Carribbean and Europe. Wayne and Johnnie Ann frequently visit the children in north carolina and relatives in Wisconsin while taking in a "Packer" weekend. Living in Florida offers many outdoor activities, including enjoying the beautiful gulf beach areas. They recently we added a pet dog "Coco," who now runs the household.

One of last years' highlights for Wayne and Johnnie Ann was attending the CITGO Retiree Christmas Party in Tulsa. They both agreed it was terrific to see everyone and how well they are doing.

Their door is always open and say if you're in Florida near Trinity, please give them a call and stop by.

SAVE THE DATE!

2011 CITGO ALUMNI GROUP ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

Tuesday • December 6, 2011

The Doubletree Hotel at Warren Place
6110 S. Yale • Tulsa, OK

Watch your mail/email for more details!

Something New



We have changed our communication banner from CITGO Retiree Group to **CITGO Alumni**. Since membership to the organization has always included all CITGO retirees, and any person that worked for CITGO or Cities Service, it was felt that this change would reflect all members. The newsletter and future communications will utilize the **CITGO Alumni** banner.

Our web site log on - **http://www.citgoretiree.org/** will remain the same for the time being.

IN MEMORIUM

Walt Becker
(Lubricants and Specialty Products)

Joseph Fuoco
(Retail Dealer Credit)

Ancal Neal
(Terminal Operations)

Darrell Wood
(Pipeline Division)