ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

1st Quarter 2012

NEWS FOR AND ABOUT RETIREES AND FORMER EMPLOYEES OF CITGO.





See more Christmas Dinner photos on page 2.

Another Memorable Holiday Event Goes in the Record Books!

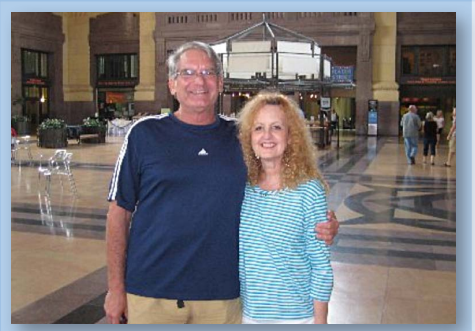
The annual Christmas dinner for the CITGO Alumni Group was held on the evening of December 6, 2011 at the Warren Place Doubletree Hotel. The event was in the Grand Ballroom and the room was full. Both the room and the attendees were very festive. Much visiting and sharing of previous days and current activities was in evidence. The meal was great, as always, and the entertainment was lovely. Jane Luitweiler played the piano and Charles Faigle's family (his wife, Pat, along with her son and daughters, Victor LaCount, Lisa Hutson, Andrea Crook and Kari Schroeder) serenaded the group.

As always, it was good to visit and reminisce with previous co-workers and friends. Many thanks to Gene Kiesling for providing the Poinsettias for door prizes. We're already looking forward to Christmas 2012.



PERSONAL PROFILE

Bob Hannay — the Last Employee to Leave One Warren Place



Bob Hannay and his lovely wife, Angelica, on a trip to Union Station in Kansas City.

When John Hnath retired at the end of August 2011, I was left as the last full- time CITGO employee in One Warren Place. In the interim two months between John's retirement and my 10/31/2011 Halloween retirement, I went through a myriad of emotions and relived a million memories, with some random thoughts concerning my 26 years with CITGO in One Warren Place.

My last two months in the office was a sort of a depressing experience with all the noise of walls being taken down, the data center being dismantled, and seemingly a million miles of computer and communications cables being pulled out of the ceiling by the subcontractors who were hired to de-commission the office and return it to the way it was when we moved into it in 1983. When I went to lunch in September and October 2011, I stood alone in the silent elevator lobby remembering all the yesteryear's noise and the hustle and bustle of anxious employees at lunch time. In September, a friend of mine from Lake Charles emailed me and asked me how many were left in the building and I replied: "Counting me, myself, and I, there are 3 of us." In the silence after the subcontractors left in the evening, I recalled many of the great people I worked with over my 26 years and relived how running into them in the lobby, in a department meeting or in the breezeway between the building and the garage was such a positive and uplifting experience.

Alone in the building my last two months, I reflected on those years and even created a spreadsheet with names of all my CITGO bosses. I was super shocked to find that I had a whopping total of 25 bosses in 26 years (which might be a

Continued on page 4.

More Photo Memories From Our 2011 Holiday Dinner
























REMINDER • REMINDER • REMINDER

For those going on the bus trip to OK City on March 7, please be at the baseball field parking lot at LaFortune Park by 6:30 AM. The bus will leave at 7 AM. Donuts and coffee will be available. The plan is to return by 5 PM. The bus trip is sold out.



Marilyn Hamer and granddaughter, Cassi.

"Out-of-Town" Alumnus Pleased To Win Christmas Dinner Drawing

It was a HUGE surprise to receive an unexpected gift of $25.00 from the CITGO Alumni Group. I felt very lucky to have my name picked in the Christmas Dinner drawing. A big thank you to the Alumni Group for including us "out-of-towners."

When asked to write a short story about my retirement all I could think of was; I lead the most unexciting life imaginable and I love it like that. In the two years since I have been in Corpus Christi, I managed a trip to Las Vegas and two trips to Laughlin, Nevada with an old friend. I have another Laughlin trip planned for the end of January. Laughlin is my new favorite spot mainly because I never tire of walking along and looking at the Colorado river. Secondly, it is one of the few places I can go now that almost everyone is older than I am and the drink server in the casino calls me "miss" ... and she is also older than I am!

After missing day-to-day adventures with my granddaughter, Cassie, when we lived in Broken Arrow, I am so blessed to see her daily here in Corpus Christi. She is now thirteen years old and such a treasure. The only good enough reason for ever having kids is to get the grandkids. They are so much more fun.

I am loving retirement and have vowed to make 2012 the year that I actually add even more adventure to my life.

Regards,
Marilyn Hamer

"I really enjoy reading the newletter even though I live far from Tulsa and am unable to participate in any of the group's activities. Thank you so much."

Anne Sterioti Keller
Lemont Refinery Retiree

It's A New Year — Dues are Due!

We hope 2012 has been good to you so far! Let's hope this "winter weather" continues and we don't have a replay from 2011.

It's time to pay your $10 membership dues to the CITGO Alumni Group. If you haven't already submitted your dues, please do so at this time. Send your $10 check made payable to the CITGO Alumni Group to:

CITGO Alumni Group, c/o Carolyn Stewart, 7509 East 91st Place, Tulsa, OK 74133

In order for us to keep track of members, please be sure you include any changes to your email address, physical address, or your telephone number. If you have any questions regarding your membership, send them to Carolyn Stewart at **bstewart47@cox.net**.

Hopefully you are enjoying the quarterly newsletters and have checked out our website at **www.citgoalumni.org**.

We are always interested in printing stories about our members. Connie Schlecht is the editor of the newsletter. So, send your stories to her at **cornelia.schlecht@cox.net**. We would love to hear from you.

Thank you ... we look forward to your continued membership.

Reminder ...



Our CITGO Alumni Group email directory is available on our website **http://www.citgoalumni.org/**

Simply click the "directory" tab.

The password is the current day's date (for example 02132012 ... tomorrow it will be 02142012, etc.)

If you have any questions or corrections, please let us know.

IN MEMORIUM

Amelie Stiles
(Government and Public Affairs)

Wil Gulowsen
(Accounting)

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 2012, 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:

Carolyn Stewart
7509 E. 91st Pl. • 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 Carolyn will know who she 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

Bob Hannay ... *Continued from cover.*

record) and decided perhaps the most notable thing about my CITGO career was that I could not keep a boss! I also remembered how I always wanted to "run the office" and then was astonished to realize that for the last 2 months of my CITGO career, I actually achieved my goal. It was, however, achieved not through career advancement, but rather through winning the battle of attrition ... I simply outlasted all of my peers and competition. Then I realized what a hollow victory and unworthy goal it was to "run an empty office" and I longed for the days I was a peon in an office run by Ron Hall. One of my last One Warren Place days I tried to remember the first day I came to work in the building and recalled walking into the building as a brash young man with two small sons and being hired as a computer nerd. Now to think I would be walking out as the last CITGO One Warren Place employee with the stature of an older guy with four grown college educated children seemed surreal. In fact I doubt even "Jimmy The Greek" would have given any odds on Bob Hannay being the last CITGO employee in the building, especially considering 3 of my bosses in the 80's tried to fire me; 3 times in the 90's I had my CITGO job eliminated; and 3 times in the 2000's I had definite and finite "move to Houston" dates given to me (each of which got waived). As I further reflected on my 26 years, I realized probably no other CITGO employee was luckier than I was and honestly feel totally humbled by the opportunities and experiences CITGO afforded me. Quite frankly, they greatly exceeded what I expected. Lastly, during my last two months in the building working in a sort of "solitary confinement" ambience, I had a chance to recall all the wonderful, special and talented people I had the honor, privilege and blessing to work both with and for. As I thought about so many of you reading this profile, I felt a warmth in my heart and it put a smile on my face.

SAVE THE DATE!

Next month we will be 'springing forward' for Daylight Savings time. As you prepare to move your clocks ahead one hour, be sure to mark your calendar for the CITGO Alumni Group's Spring Luncheon.

Monday ✯ March 26, 11:30 a.m.
Ti Amo's Restaurant ✯ 61st and Sheridan

The Spring Luncheon will again be sponsored by Energy One Credit Union and Curt Coffman will speak to the group. Someone from the CITGO Corporate office in Houston will be provided to speak. Lunch will be buffet style with two kinds of pasta, meat, vegetable, salad, dessert and a beverage.

This meeting introduces the new Board. Nominations from the floor will be accepted. Remember to have the approval of anyone you might nominate. Anyone who has an interest in being on the Board needs to let one of the current Board members know before the meeting.

Please R.S.V.P. to Kathy Moore at ak.moore@yahoo.com