ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

1st Quarter 2013

NEWS FOR AND ABOUT RETIREES AND FORMER EMPLOYEES OF CITGO.





Annual Christmas Dinner ... Good Time Had By All!

Instead of writing "Ditto" for another fun, festive and full of great food and friends 2012 CITGO Retiree Christmas Dinner (held again at the Warren Place Doubletree Hotel), we're going to let the photos speak to it's success. Watch this newsletter for an announcement about the 2013 holiday gathering ... the planning committee is working on a new venue for this year's event!





See more photos on page 2.

PERSONAL PROFILE



Jim McCarthy

Jim McCarthy ... Life After CITGO Has Been Life Enriching!

When asked to write a profile for the CITGO Alumni newsletter I wasn't sure where to start. I have had a wide variety of experiences. Since CITGO, I have been involved with several contract positions for large projects such as moving a rental car headquarters from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, to Tulsa; moving an asphalt company from Wichita, Kansas, to Tulsa; providing a Tulsa-based petroleum company with a foothold in the Pacific Rim; heading up a school consolidation effort for Tulsa Public Schools resulting in a $5-million per year savings; and helped lead a company through – and eventually out of – bankruptcy.

Even more important than the work I have done was celebrating my 35th wedding anniversary in Paris, France, with my wife Marian, the girl of my dreams. I have walked one daughter down the aisle ... and she kept going right on to Portland, Oregon!! However, she did leave her Chihuahua and Great Dane behind. Our other daughter is a junior in college and enjoying the college life. Both girls are doing very well, and Marian and I are extremely proud of both of them. We have also gone on trips to visit my folks in Marco Island, Florida, – another day in paradise. Both of my parents are doing very well and blessed with good health.

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CITGO Alumni, Friends & Family Enjoying 2012 Christmas Dinner!

















For CITGO Alumni, Movie Has Special Meaning!

This April, movie theatres across the country will premiere "Home Run," an inspirational film developed, shot and produced right in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The story centers on Cory Brand, a struggling baseball star who is forced to return home and face old demons. In a town full of surprising characters, unrequited romance and plenty of secrets, Cory finds himself in a faith-based, 12-step program called Celebrate Recovery. (In reality, Celebrate Recovery has influenced the lives of more than 800,000 men and women around the country).

From start to finish, the movie makes a powerful statement about faith, healing and freedom.

"Home Run" has already touched the lives of many people, including some of our own CITGO alumni! Tom Spann, who spent 35 years with CITGO (including 10 as the general manager of marketing for L&SP), is the proud father of the film's executive producer, Carol Spann Mathews. He's also the proud father-in-law of the film's composer, Scott Allan Mathews. If you're in the Tulsa area, you may have seen him around town in his "Home Run" baseball cap, turning up the movie soundtrack in his car, and encouraging those he meets to "go see Home Run April 19!"

Tom's daughter Carol has worked in television and video production since 1989. Like her dad, she chose a profession that requires a mix of networking, logistics and creativity. In 2010, she was inspired to produce a feature film that would give hope to those suffering from addiction. Together with her producing partner, she spent months with writers and Celebrate Recovery leaders fine-tuning the script, and then months with investors, distributors and various agencies working to make the "Home Run" vision a reality.

For Tom, watching the movie evolve has been both fun and inspiring. "The first time I really experienced 'Home Run' was when I went to Okmulgee to watch them do some filming. I met some of the cast and the director, and it was a real eye-opener about how far this thing was going," he shares.

The process has also been bittersweet for both father and daughter, as Tom lost his beloved wife Janice in August 2011—just before the filming of "Home Run" began. Janice was a dedicated advocate of the film, even during her final days, encouraging Carol to stay focused on her vision. Today, Tom continues that legacy of support.

"I'm really proud of Carol, and of her motive for wanting to make this film and trying to help people," he says. "I think it's a great vehicle to get the message across. I remember seeing the first trailer, and it said that millions of people won't go into a church, but they'll go sit in the dark and watch a movie. If you can get the message to them that way, that's great."

Another CITGO alumnus, Vicki Thompson, has also been a fan of "Home Run" since the beginning. Vicki spent nearly 20 years with CITGO and met her late husband, former COO Jerry Thompson, during her tenure with the company. Jerry retired in 2006 after 35 years with CITGO. Sadly, he passed away in 2010.



CITGO Alumnus Tom Spann, with his daughter Carol Spann Mathews, executive producer of "Home Run."

In the months after Jerry's death, Vicki became involved with Celebrate Recovery. "Once I got involved with the program, I found out how to find freedom from hurts, hang-ups and bad habits, and how to enjoy the abundant life God promised," she shares. Soon after, she found herself at a meeting for potential "Home Run" movie investors. The speaker was Carol Spann Mathews, a woman she had never met but whose passion made a significant impression on Vicki.

Vicki also connected with the vision of the movie—particularly the role that Celebrate Recovery played in the story. Then, after attending Janice Spann's funeral and seeing several CITGO alumni among the group, she discovered that Carol's dad Tom had retired from CITGO the same year she transferred to Tulsa.

In addition to investing in the movie, Vicki became a key supporter of Carol and the entire "Home Run" team. From sharing the movie with other potential investors to folding "Home Run" t-shirts to hosting the lead actress in her home during a month of filming, Vicki has done it all these past several months.

"Every part of this journey has been a blessing. The actual filming of the movie was the most fun part of the experience," Vicki says. "I had never been behind the scenes during the making of a movie, and I found it was not what I expected. One lesson I learned was to never sign up as an extra on a cold rainy October day if they are filming a baseball scene that takes place in the middle of the summer!"

Believe it or not, Tom Spann and Vicki Thompson aren't the only CITGO alumni with a connection to "Home Run." Bob Funk and his wife Jeannie were also those who invested

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For CITGO Alumni, Movie Has Special Meaning ... *Continued from page 3.*



CITGO Alumni and "Home Run" investors (left to right) Jeannie & Bob Funk, Vicki Thompson.

in the movie. Bob spent 22 years with CITGO and retired as VP of corporate planning and economics in 2002. Close friends of both the Spann family and Vicki Thompson, the Funks have enthusiastically embraced "Home Run."

For Carol, having such great support from her dad has been special. But including his "CITGO friends," whom Carol has known since she was school-aged, has made the "Home Run" journey even more meaningful. "To have the Funks believe in 'Home Run' and support both me and the movie has been truly amazing...humbling, really."

"Home Run" opens in theatres April 19. It features the direction and cinematography of David Boyd (*Friday Night Lights, Deadwood, The Walking Dead*) and an impressive cast led by Scott Elrod ("Argo," ABC's *Men in Trees*) and award winner Vivica A. Fox ("Kill Bill: Vol. 1," Independence Day," "Soul Food").

To learn if "Home Run" is opening in your city, visit www.homerunthemovie.com. You can also get exclusive "Home Run" updates and news on Facebook at www.facebook.com/HomeRunTheMovie and Twitter @HomeRunTheMovie. Or just ask Tom Spann, Vicki Thompson or Bob Funk...they'll be happy to tell you all about the movie!

SAVE THE DATE

IT'S NO APRIL FOOL'S JOKE!

Monday ✯ April 1st ✯ 11:30 a.m.
Coterie Theater at Montereau
6800 South Granite • Ph: 918-491-5200

Energy One Credit Union is, once again, graciously sponsoring our Spring Luncheon. Guest speakers will include representatives from Energy One Federal Credit Union, and CITGO Corporate office in Houston.

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 or you may leave a message at 918-296-5183.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND.

(Reminder: this luncheon is for members only.)

Directions: From East 71st Street, turn north at the light on South Granite. Follow the winding road through the gates of Montereau, and the directional signs will lead you to the main parking lot. If the main parking lot is full upon your arrival, continue around the curve to the second parking area. As you enter at either entrance from the parking lot, please advise the guest representative at the desk that you are attending the CITGO Alumni Group luncheon.

We look forward to seeing you there!











CITGO Alumni Group Volunteers Help Tulsa Area Seniors Save $1.3 Million

There were six CITGO Alumni Group members who volunteered along with others at LIFE Senior Services to help Tulsa area seniors work through the maze of choosing a Medicare Part D Plan during the open enrollment period – October 15 thru December 7. In Oklahoma there are 30 different drug plans to choose from. The best drug plan for someone is totally determined by the drugs they take. Since each of the companies has a different formulary plan, it is important for seniors to compare the plans based on their drugs. This can be a daunting task for most seniors.

After attending a 4-hour training course, volunteers were ready to sit with seniors in one-on-one hour-long appointments to review the best drug plan for them. Using the Medicare website/software, volunteers input the senior's drugs into the software. They were then able to counsel on which plan would cover their drugs the best and be the most cost effective.

CITGO Alumni Group Volunteers included Carol James, Tom Oare, Jim Peebles, Carolyn Stewart, Jeanne Sturges and Paula Tiefenthaler. Cindy Loftin, coordinator of the Medicare Assistance Program at LIFE Seniors Services, said the program could not have been as successful without all their volunteers.

LIFE Seniors Services agreed to conduct a special clinic on November 30 for CITGO retirees only. Each retiree was able to review their best plan, based upon their own drug list. For some of the CITGO retirees, one of the three AARP plans was the most cost effective, however for others, a non-AARP plan was substantially less expensive even with the CITGO subsidy factored in. After CITGO volunteers reviewed participants' drugs with ALL Medicare Part D Plans, a savings of $22,000 was found for the CITGO folks that attended.

Cindy was very pleased with the $1.3 million savings to seniors during the LIFE Senior Services Medicare Part D Clinic, but was also concerned about the seniors they did not serve. Statistics show that only one-third of seniors will review their Part D Drug Plan. It is recommended that anyone with a stand alone Part D Plan review their plan every year because of continuous changes to formularies and insurance companies.

The CITGO Alumni Group volunteers said it was extremely rewarding work. Sometimes there were tears, cheers and relieved faces from the seniors. If you are interested in participating as a volunteer next year, contact Carolyn Stewart at bstewart47@cox.net.

IN MEMORIUM

Joe Capuano
(General Manager)

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 2013, 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
bstewart47@cox.net

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

Jim McCarthy ... *Continued from cover.*

My involvement in the Tulsa Community has continued with different projects. I have served six years on the Board at the River Parks Authority, currently serving as Chairman. The Authority maintains over 26 miles of the best trails in the country as well as Tulsa's urban wilderness located at Turkey Mountain. River Parks also continues to work on refurbishing the damn located at 31st and Riverside. Additionally, I serve as a consultant with Tulsa Ballet and assist in their fundraising efforts.

I have recently taken on another new challenge by serving as CEO, at Community Health Connection (CHC) in Tulsa. CHC is an independent, community-based nonprofit. In government jargon, it is a "federally qualified health center" that is committed to meeting the lifelong healthcare needs of the northeast Oklahoma community. We have two clinics, one in the Kendall-Whittier area and one in east Tulsa. We provide primary health care services, dental care and behavioral health services. Almost 90% of the staff is bilingual, English/Spanish. Approximately one-third of our clients receiving services are on Medicaid, one-half are uninsured and the balance are fully insured.

As you can see, I have expanded my experience into industries that are far different from CITGO's. As I have traveled through these industries that are new to me, I have noticed a marked difference, specifically with the non-profit environment versus the corporate environment. The corporate environment always had a real sense of urgency with the strongest sense of mission and appreciation. The CITGO environment was a prime example of commitment, mutual respect and a strong sense of purpose. I have tried to plant those qualities in each of the organizations that I have worked with.

Marian and I hope all is well with our CITGO friends and look forward to reading more stories about fellow alumni members.

"Thanks for all you folks do in keeping us informed about each other. Tell all hello for me. I think of all you folks often."
~ Larry Brittain

"A real pleasure to enclose my dues for the CITGO Alumni Group. It's been a long time and I'm still hopeful that someday I'll go to Tulsa and visit with all my good friends. Please convey my regards to everyone."
~ Tony Tepedino

Reminder ...



Our CITGO Alumni Group e-mail 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.