ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

March 2015

NEWS FOR AND ABOUT RETIREES AND FORMER EMPLOYEES OF CITGO.





See more photos on page 2.

CITGO Alumni Group's 2014 Christmas Dinner

On December 8th our CITGO Alumni Group gathered for a wonderful dinner and entertainment program at Meadowbrook Country Club in Tulsa. Thanks to John Dillingham being a country club member, we were able to hold our Christmas dinner in the lovely and lush setting. Meadowbrook Food and Beverage Director Jeff Niceley, Executive Chef Keith Burger, and their staff really rolled out the red carpet for our group.

The 108 attendees spent the first hour mingling. We were then treated to a well-orchestrated buffet offering a delicious variety of vegetables, salads and potatoes along with a great chicken dish and finishing the buffet with a carving station sporting prime rib. Kathy Moore working with Jeff was able to make the 2014 Christmas Dinner the best ever. After dinner, we were entertained by the very talented and humorous quartet, Tulsa Tradition, thanks to the efforts of Barb Plummer. It was a great evening of camaraderie with CITGO alumni and their significant others. The evening concluded with door prizes being given out and Jeanne Sturges graciously stayed after the dinner to take photos of couples and groups.

It was a wonderful evening and a great celebration of the holiday season which was all possible because of Kathy Moore's hard work and attention to detail.

PERSONAL PROFILE

Volunteer Extraordinaire — Richard (Dick) Hackbarth



Dick Hackbarth

Dick Hackbarth has been a "volunteer extraordinaire" at Life Senior Services for 12 years. Some individuals stand out for their great qualities and Dick is one of those people. He is well respected for his vibrant personality, intelligence, work ethic, positive attitude, teamwork mentality, diligence and most of all - his motivational leadership. A retired CITGO marketing executive, he has been a creative force in rejuvenating the volunteer and senior programs and increasing the recognition of Life Senior Services throughout the community. Dick has been a driving force behind Senior Fairs, taking on the fingerprinting duties for seniors and was solely responsible for revamping the Senior Emergency Procedure Handbook – a joint partnership with the Tulsa Police Department, aimed at locating missing seniors and protecting them against identity and financial fraud. He gained accolades for his efforts from the Tulsa Police Department and TRIAD, the organization for seniors, senior care providers and law enforcement. Dick also created a newly updated TCSO coloring book for community events and for Life Senior Services Sheriff's Booth at the Tulsa State Fair.

In addition, Dick heads up the Victim Advocate Group for Crimes Against

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2015 Alumni Christmas Dinner - More Fun Photos ... *Continued from cover.*















2015 Alumni Christmas Dinner - More Fun Photos ... *Continued from page 2.*
















Dick Hackbarth ... *Continued from cover.*

Seniors, who call victims and make sure their cases have been taken care of. With limited manpower to dedicate to so many community and senior issues, what Dick has done to help Life Senior Services is a tribute to his award-worthy value! However, this is just what he does for Life Senior Services in his community endeavors!

There is a special place in Dick's heart for children and for three years, he mentored at Tulsa's Salk Elementary during the lunch period, telling stories and promoting the importance of being a good person and to always obey the law! He encouraged them to ask about anything they were interested in and if he didn't know the answer, he would find it for them! Dick also procured a donated golf cart and took on a major two-year project, negotiating with several businesses and tradesmen to design a fun vehicle for use in parades, events and at the Tulsa State Fair, aimed at educating children on law enforcement in a positive way. This special golf cart is worth several thousand dollars, something Life Senior Services would have never been able to acquire without Dick's help.

Dick has raised money through charity golf tournaments to benefit Habitat For Humanity for the past four to five years. He may not be able to climb on the roofs anymore, but he wouldn't let that stop him from getting the money to "raise the roof!"

Dick and his wife have worked with the Assistance League of Tulsa since 1997, at the Bargain Store. He is in charge of maintenance, repairing donated household items so they can be sold to the public and he also drives the vehicle for clothing pick-up.

One of his most unusual volunteer positions has been a two-year commitment with the Castlerock Clinical Research Group on Vascular Disease as a tester and research model. Subjects take part in clinical trials intended to produce valuable knowledge for understanding human disease, prevention and treatment of illness and promotion of health. Dick tries new treatments that may or may not be better than those that already exist. They can also help others better understand how the treatment works in people of different races and genders.

Dick has traveled to Las Vegas for the past few years, on his own money, to care for an aging relative, taking her to her annual checkups, making sure her finances are up-to-date and in order, doing maintenance on her home and conferring with local relatives on her well-being.

Last, but certainly not least, the Oklahoma Aquarium, is where "Education Meets Excitement" for Dick! Dick has been with the Aquarium team since they opened ten years ago and he is still just as passionate about his work there. He is relied upon to help with a wide variety of operations, including greeting guests, providing hands-on experiences with the exhibits, conducting tours and lectures, assisting with special events and chaperoning Boy and Girl Scout sleepovers at the Aquarium.

Dick has not received monetary compensation for any of his volunteer participation, and the fact that he selflessly contributes his time, energy and resources to so many worthy causes is something that merits positive mention.

DRILLERS BASEBALL GAME
4:00 PM • MAY 12, 2015

All CITGO Alumni and guests and family members are invited to attend the CITGO Alumni Group Driller game outing on Tuesday, May 12th at 4:00 at Driller Stadium.

Tickets are $10.00 per person and Tom Spann will have your tickets near the Will Call window the day of the game. In addition to the game tickets, a food ticket will be available for advance purchase for $5.00, which includes a hot dog, chips and a drink.



Payment for game and food tickets must be received by April 7th so we can buy a block of CITGO Alumni tickets together on the first base side in the shade. Notify Tom Spann via email at tcspann@aol.com if you want to attend, and send a check made out to "CITGO Alumni Group" to Carolyn Stewart (please note on the check it is for baseball tickets). The tickets can also be paid for at our spring luncheon, which will be held on Tuesday, March 31st.

IN MEMORIUM

Miles Davidson *(Legal)*	**Don Bannister** *(Lubes)*	**Gail O'Connor** *(Health Services)*

Jim Holland – Keeping the ZOOM After CITGO

By Jim Holland

After 32 years with CITGO, retirement meant a welcome move from Houston back to Tulsa - especially so with four grandchildren here. I enjoyed the change from the start but that first year was somehow like shifting into a new gear. My wife, Linda, had already retired from Williams Communications and was fully engaged in her range of activities. Connecting with others at CITGO Alumni gatherings and a Lube Tech Lab reunion was helpful in hearing what others were doing. Following are some of the things and I have been up to.

We have stepped up traveling and really enjoy having more flexibility in travel. We probably drive to about half of our destinations, also about half include friends or family in some manner. Taos, Steamboat Springs, St. Augustine and Quebec are some recent visits (to drop a few names). This may be the year to expand our reach to Britain and meet a lady in Wales who sends a Christmas card message each year. The connection goes back to her family befriending Linda's father in England during WW II.

But mostly we are home in Oklahoma. I volunteer at the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve (TGP) north of Pawhuska in the Osage (old hands don't say Osage County). Bob Funk helped break me in and now I'm helping new docents at the visitor center. I am including a photo taken on my last day there. The TGP is owned and operated by the privately financed National Conservancy and conducts and hosts research in areas from prairie chickens to oil well site remediation to coyote adaptations. Also, there are interesting historic elements. Like the late western movie actor, Ben Johnson who was raised there when it was the biggest cattle spread in the Territory.

Since retiring I have become involved in a couple of ongoing projects at our church as well as a Small Group and special efforts such as Moore tornado cleanup crews.

Along with Dick Patrick, I participate in one of the Great Decisions Groups in the Tulsa area sponsored by the national Foreign Policy Association (who knew such a thing existed!). In the spring the group studies specific global issues in ways I find interesting and more satisfying than watching TV "news bites." It is a work in progress, so we don't have all world problems solved. In the fall we bring in speakers that tend to be on local topics.





Linda and Jim Holland, Christmas 2014.

At our place we love long walks. Back in '94, courtesy of CITGO, I somehow managed to complete the Boston Marathon - along with Bob Hannay and several others. Later, a Houston foot surgeon explained that my running days were over. I miss running, but have more appreciation for the things that I can do – especially things with a new twist.

Linda is virtually a full time volunteer at StreetCats and I help out there on odd jobs and setups for fund raising events. Let me know if you need to find just the right furry critter to adopt - as some other CITGO types have.

Lastly, I'll mention that I also enjoy 'OLLie 'classes. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, working with OSU, offers short courses (2 hours each, meeting 6 times) on a wide range of topics. Cost is low. Some topics I have especially enjoyed include astronomy, Oklahoma earthquakes, local aviation history, and the Tulsa Sister Cities program.

I have encountered CITGO alumni in all of the activities mentioned and always look forward to getting together with old CITGO friends.

"Another year went by!
I hope you, your families and friends from CITGO are doing well, especially keeping healthy. Please convey my best regards to all the good friends!"

Tony Tepedino

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 2016, 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

Save the Date

ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON

Monday • March 31, 11:30 a.m.
Ti Amo's Restaurant • 61st and Sheridan

The Spring Luncheon will again be graciously sponsored by Energy One Credit Union. Check-in begins at 11:30 a.m., with a delicious buffet luncheon at noon.
Please remember this luncheon is for Alumni Group members only.

Reminder: if you haven't paid your dues for 2015, we will accept payment at the luncheon. Dues are still only $10, and your check should be payable to 'CITGO Alumni Group.'

Be sure to sign up for a fun-filled evening at a Drillers' game on May 12 (4:00). Tickets are $10 for the game and $5 for a hot dog, chips, and drink. For more information, see Announcement on page 4.

New officers for 2015-2016 will be elected at the luncheon. If a member wants to nominate someone, they need to get the nominee's permission in advance.

Please R.S.V.P. to Ramona Falzone at OSUmom2@sbcglobal.net by March 23rd.

Visit the CITGO Alumni Group website for the most up-to-date list of new retirees.

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.