

THE ENGINEERS GLUB NEWS

Spring-Summer 2015 issue

Dayton, Ohio

Birthplace of Aviation

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state of the club: 'a financially strong year' and 'positioned to take advantage of the renewal of Dayton'

By Hap Cawood

Outgoing Club President **Harry Seifert** and outgoing Foundation President **Doug Hutchens** had good news to report at the June 10 annual meeting. It was refreshing to hear it, even knowing that keeping the momentum will require hard work and support from the membership.

Club performance. In the meeting emceed by Bob Hocking, a former Club president and chair of the Building and Grounds Committee, Seifert reported that the Club ended its fiscal year May 31 with a \$77,000 surplus. "We are fortunate to have a very experienced staff that repositioned the Club business as the market changed," he stated. "Our wedding, meeting and banquet business was up substantially. We are a very attractive location for weddings and business-related activities."

Promising developments. "Our location on the river in downtown Dayton and our image are major assets," Seifert went on. "The city's renewal and redevelopment efforts that began over ten years ago are now showing significant progress." Among other developments, Seifert listed the Genesis Project, revitalizing the Miami Valley Hospital area; the Phoenix Project, developing the neighborhood surrounding Good Samaritan Hospital; the Da Vinci Collaborative, revitalizing neighborhoods in Old North Dayton and McCook, across the river from the club; the Midtown project to develop the Fairgrounds; the Water Street Development; the Oregon District; the Brown Street redevelopment; TechTown just east of the Club; Webster Station; CareSource's success and expansion; downtown housing for young people and empty nesters; the Downtown Tower Plan; the Dayton Heritage Corridor, including the Wright Factory buildings; and, impressively, the kayaking and RiverScape developments on the river across from the Club.

The challenge is "to solve our long-term parking needs" because that is "vital to the long-term sustainability of the Club" as the neighborhood around the Club becomes more popular. On that front, Seifert said, "efforts have begun."

Inductions. Mike Murphy was inducted as the new president of the Club. (For more on Murphy, see page 5.) As **Stephen McDonell** and **Robert Johnson** left the board, incoming members were **Bob Ellefson**, **Walt Hoy**, **Jim Mattice**, and **Mitch Heaton**, who is also the board's new treasurer.

Seifert spoke appreciatively of the leadership talent on the Board of Governors. As an example, he commented on the achievements and national stature of incoming vice president, **Glenn Costie**. (See "Costie," page 4.)



Harry Seifert



Doug Hutchens

Continued on page 2

Engineers Club members' names are **boldface** on first mention in EC News stories.



OFFICERS (2015-2016)

President: Mike Murphy Vice President: Glenn Costie Treasurer: Mitch Heaton Secretary: Louis Luedtke Past President: Harry Seifert

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Jeff Addison Ron Decker Bob Ellefson Larry Horwath Walt Hoy Bayard Liesch Jim Mattice Debra Talentino

FELLOWS

('87) Dr. Hans von Ohain ('88) Ermal C. Fraze ('89) Lt. Gen. James Stewart ('90) Dr. Fritz Russ ('91) William Lockwood ('92) Hardy Trolander ('93) Dr. Ervin J. Nutter ('94) Charles Abramovitz ('97) Virginia Kettering ('98) Harold Shaw ('03) John Bosch ('11) Harry Seifert

('15) Zoe Dell Nutter COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bldg & Grounds: Bob Hocking Finance: Scott Reeve House: Walt Hoy Ideas: Ben Graham Marketing: Mike Murphy Membership: Scott Reeve Tech Education: Frank Boensch

CLUB STAFF

Executive Director: Darbie Kincaid Admin. Asst.: Brenda McQueen Executive Chef: Laura Cotton Accountant: Andrea Henrichs

CLUB FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

Scott Reeve, President
Doug Hutchens, Past President
Frank Boensch, Treasurer
Hap Cawood, Secretary
David Clapper
Frederick Dudding
Diane Buchanan Johnson
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The Engineers Club of Dayton does not assume responsibility for statements and opinions in the articles, papers and discussions herein. Continued from cover

Foundation performance. Doug Hutchens reported that the ECD Foundation had a healthy balance in its checking account and reserves of mutual funds. The endowment at the May 31 end of the fiscal year was \$1,025,732. The April 2015 draw from the endowment was \$48,613.

Through the leadership of **Diane Buchanan Johnson** and **Melinda Nutter**, Hutchens reported, the Foundation received grants of \$37,000 from the Dayton Foundation, and "the carpet upstairs was the beneficiary of those funds." (See page 7 [1918 update])



Bob Hocking

Photos by Ron Decker

In a switch of roles, members serve the club staff—with a picnic on the lawn

By Ben Graham

On Sunday June 14, a crew of members set up tables, chairs, tarps and other paraphernalia on the front lawn. **Walt Hoy** parked his heavy-duty, self-built barbecue grill trailer under a tent in the east driveway. This time, the members would serve the servers, and the staffers were welcomed to bring family along. Soon the burgers and brats were sizzling.

This idea of thanking the employees for their dedicated and hard work (coincidentally, in a year they brought the Club through a profitable fiscal year) originated in the Ideas Committee. The Ideas Committee meets twice a month to generate ideas and projects in informal, free-flowing discussions that frequently take side trips into just interesting conversations.

Support for this outing also came from the Barn Gang, one of the main venues in which members tend to gather for Tuesday luncheon programs. Member contributions covered all the costs.

at and enjoy their meal, there were a couple of tables loaded with potato salad, Cole-slaw, lemonade and tea, napkins, paper plates. The employees also were given other souvenir-type gifts.

The weather cooperated nicely, and it seemed

In addition to tables for the attendees to sit

The weather cooperated nicely, and it seemed a good time was had by all to the extent that it appears to merit a repeat down the road.

So, a hearty "Thank you" to Walt and the other members who pitched in to offer a sincere "Thank you" to the staff.

(To know a little bit more about four of our staffers, see page 3 [Staffer snapshots]).

Picnic photos by Dick Palmer.





The Kincaids (left to right) Chloe, Executive Director Darbie, Cole, Cheyenne



Walt the cook



Veda and others

Staffer snapshots: Briefly, in their own words



Melissa Clark, Server

Hometown: Sugarland, Texas Where I live now: Kettering

When I started working for the Engineers Club: 2014

Main interests outside of work: Culinary and food science. Playing tennis at Quail Run and Kettering Tennis Center. Volunteering at the SICSA animal shelter.

Your family: My mother and father are recently retired computer programmers. They live in Sugarcreek Twp. and enjoy traveling, tennis and golf.

Something about yourself that you might not easily guess: I check on my elderly neighbors daily to help them with household chores and errands. They enrich my life with their company.

Anything else you wish to share: I enjoy working here at this historically rich club.



Brenda McQueen, Receptionist

Hometown: Dayton

Where I live now: Moraine

When I started working for the Engineers Club: 1984

Main interests outside of work: Spending time with my daughter, Chelsea (who is 21!) I like to take walks or ride my bike. I love the outdoors. I try to spend as much time as I can outside.

Your family: Besides my daughter Chelsea, I have a granddaughter, Kleio (our cat), two sisters, a niece, a nephew, two great-grandnieces and three great-grandnephews.

Something about yourself that you might not easily guess: I am the oldest employee in age and seniority. I have worked at the club almost half my life.

Anything else you wish to share: Working at the Engineers Club for the last thirty years has been a wonderful experience. I have met so many great people!



Andrea Heinrichs, Accountant

Hometown: None, really. . . moved a lot—Pittsburg, New Jersey, Boston, Cleveland.

Where I live now: Centerville

When I started working for the Engineers Club: 2012

Main interests outside of work: Outdoor activities: hiking, biking, canoeing, camping.

Your family: Jeff—husband 30 years! Three sons: Mike, 25, chemical engineer in Columbus; Jon, 24, teacher in Cincinnati; Steven, 20, mechanical engineering student at the University of Cincinnati.

Anything else you wish to share: I really enjoy working with the staff at the club and getting to know the members. Love my job!



Veda L. Rothmiller, Banquet Server

Hometown: Detroit, MI.
Where I live now: Dayton

When I started working for the Engineers Club: 2009

Main interests outside of work: I love cooking, traveling and relaxing with my family and friends. I enjoy sewing, camping and working out.

Your family: I have been happily married to my husband, Marvin B. Rothmiller, for 13 years as of June 28. He is my lifeline...

Something about yourself that you might not easily guess: I am very particular about how I do things. I love what I do as far as my job. I am very friendly and caring. In other words, I'm OCD.

Anything else you wish to share: I love all my co-workers as well as the members. I have learned so much from the Engineers Club members that I can take with me as I move on in life.

club Tech Ed projects: counseling, judging, teaching, honoring

By Frank Boensch - Chairman, Technical Education Committee

The Technical Education Committee was quite busy in the 2014-15 fiscal year. We were involved in the Charbonneaux Award winner selection, Boy Scout Merit Badge counseling, TechFest 2015, Science Fair judging, and presenting the first Engineers Club Science and Technology award at the Dayton Regional STEM School.

The year began with the awarding of the Charbonneaux Award to Team Ohio Rocketry Club. This organization introduces young people (and oldsters) to the world of science and space through rocketry and provides them with proper mentoring and guidance.

In January we sponsored a Boy Scout Merit Badge Trail at the Club in which we awarded over 50 technical merit badges in subjects ranging from Aviation to Sustainability, including – by the way – Engineering.

Perhaps our biggest task was to participate in TechFest 2015. TechFest began in 2003 and we have participated both financially as well as with a booth ever since. This year there were more than 2,100 youths, and over 3,000 parents signed up. We had new and renovated exhibits, including demos on acoustics and thermal conductivity, as well as puzzles the youngsters had to work in order to be awarded a Blinkie. We received numerous compliments on our effort from parents and those who organize TechFest.

The schools involved recognized our efforts in Science Fair judging: Mother Brunner, St. Albert and the Dayton Regional STEM School (DRSS). In addition to judging the individual student efforts, we also awarded Vidur Prasad the first Engineers Club Award for the best combination of science and engineering.



Club member **Charles Bleckmann** congratulates Vidor Prasad, the 2015 STEM School winner of the Engineers Club Trophy for the best combination of science and technology at the school's annual science fair.

seifert, on board talent and Glenn Costie

By Harry Seifert - Past President



Glenn Costie

(An elaboration of his remarks in his June 10 'State of the Club' address)

We are fortunate to have the kind of experience on the Board of Governors that we have. **Glenn Costie**, who is this fiscal year's vice president, and who is in line to be president next year, is a good example of that.

We have a Veterans Administration (VA) executive director who is very engaged in the community and

doing a tremendous amount of outreach. He is well respected in the local VA community because he came into a situation where some improvement was needed, and he took care of that.

He is also very well regarded in the VA world. When problems start to surface throughout the VA system, and the recent focus was on the Phoenix VA, the Secretary of the VA, Robert McDonald, selected him to go out and fix that, and Glenn went out and solved the problems. That further enhanced his reputation within the system.

Glenn was part of the recent Dayton leaders' fly-in to Washington D.C. We had a reception for Congress and various other dignitaries, and Glenn was able to bring the

Secretary of the VA to that reception. Ordinarily you wouldn't expect someone from the Cabinet to attend. It shows Secretary McDonald's high regard for Glenn, and the support that he has.

None of the previous directors of the Dayton VA has done the kind of community outreach that Glenn has. He has put together a master plan for the development of the Dayton VA Center. Rather than keeping that in the VA bureaucracy, as would normally take place, he is having community town hall meetings, in addition to meetings on the VA campus, to share that vision and get input from the community, particularly West Dayton. I think that is an appropriate and tremendous gesture from the VA.

He is very welcoming to all the veteran support groups that are engaged there to help as they can. I belong to a group, the American Veterans Heritage Center, which advocates for preservation and support of veterans on the campus there. He attends all our meetings and is in subcommittee meetings, which is highly unusual.

Glenn is engaged and really taking time to give back by being part of the Engineers Club.

When he came to town, the first organization he approached and asked to be a part of, was the Engineers Club. He is not only engaged with the community but really taking time to give back by being part of this organization.

Getting to know Mike Murphy

By Hap Cawood

Three years ago, **Scott Reeve** invited **Mike Murphy** and his wife to the Engineers Club. "I fell in love with it," Mike recounts. "I was attracted by the history, first and foremost. And I like to use it for my business dealings."

Now, a mere three years later, he is president of the Board of Governors. His style is energetic, a reflection of his interest in sports: He is a former pitcher for the Cleveland Indians and in Dayton he works with the Reds Community Fund. How did he get that drive and his career as an engineer?

He grew up in the Bronx, he says, where his parents were the children of immigrants: his mother of Austrian descent, his father of Irish

"The neighborhood I grew up in consisted primarily of firstand second-generation immigrant families, and with that came the hard-working mindset. My mother worked in New York City most of her life, primarily in the office side of the restaurant and food distribution business. My father was a World War II Army veteran, having served in the European theater. Upon returning from the war, he started his career as a NYC police officer in the Bronx.

"Being a kid from this era, I spent a lot of time outside, playing stickball, baseball, riding my bike, and other games which involved all types of running. I spent a great deal of time on subways and public bus systems getting from place to place. This sparked a very fierce competitive fire, which definitely impacted how I moved forward."



Mike Murphy



Mike at his daughter Erin's 2013 graduation from Miami U, along with wife Margery and son Sean.



Murphy pitching for Cleveland

Mike says
that it was at
the Catholic
St. Michaels
High School
in the Bronx
that he formed
many enduring
friendships with
schoolmates
who went on
to become
engineers.
"I believe
my desire to

become an engineer was nurtured as much by my friends as it was by my curiosity and hands-on approach to fixing my own car and breaking my share of electronic devices in my youth."

At Manhattan College, also in the Bronx, he earned his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, and "was fortunate to meet my wife, Margery, an electrical engineer herself."

"Throughout my education, I played baseball, and at the end of my junior year in college, I was drafted by the Cleveland Indians to pitch. I played in the Indians organization from 1983-1988. This fed my competitive need."

"My background and experience still plays today," he says. "I've ventured into marketing and product development over the years and now help technical companies with their business development strategies. It was a big leap for me to move to Ohio in 1998 from a career as an engineer to become a marketing professional. The confidence I gained growing up in the Bronx and playing baseball provided me with the mindset that I could take on any challenge."

Today, in addition to business, Mike is involved in baseball coaching and working with inner-city kids as well as college bound athletes. "I still have to feed the baseball side of my personality," he says.

His children seem to be working the same genes. His daughter, Erin, a graduate of Miami University in Oxford, is a Certified Athletic Trainer. His son, Sean, an economics major at Wright state, is catcher on the WSU baseball team.



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Donations to the Club and Foundation for the fiscal vear 2014 - 2015

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Continued on page 7.

1918 Capital Campaign Donors

At the conclusion of the capital campaign in 2018, those who have donated \$1918 or more will be honored on a plague.



REPLACE. RENEW. REPAIR. RESERVE.

Those pledging \$1918 or more:

(Members in **bold print** have fulfilled the pledge)

Karl Ayers David Bauer

Clarence Bittner

Charles Bleckman

Frank Boensch

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Diane Buchanon-Johnson

Ronald Bullock

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Tobey Cordell

Harry Couch

Jack Darst

Ron Decker

Robert Denison

Randy Derr

Fred Dudding

Mark Dues

Robert Ellefson

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Ben Graham

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Thomas Schumann

Joseph Schwan

Mike Scott

Claude Short

Chris Small

Debbie Talentino

Kenneth Taylor Donna Varner-Walker

Jim Walton

Richard Wegmann



New, safer carpet: a 1918 **capital campaign update**

The Engineers Club Foundation used \$37,000 in grants from The Dayton Foundation to replace the carpet in the upstairs English Room, Main Hall, Library and the Executive Offices. The carpet in place was almost 40 years old and coming apart at the seams. The reason for replacing the carpet was safety (tripping hazards) and

simply replacing a worn-out component. The goal was to install a good grade carpet that would last 20 years or more, and we accomplished that.

The total cost of the project was \$30,786, and a pair of grants—\$25,000 and \$12,000— from the Dayton Foundation more than made this project possible. The Club and Foundation boards are very appreciative to The Dayton Foundation for these grants, and to Michelle Brown for the help she personally provided in applying for these grants.

The carpet replacement was made possible by grants from The Dayton Foundation.

The Engineers Club promoted fundraising within; the "Past Presidents Who Care" united to call the membership that had not yet donated and raised another \$17,000+ for the 1918 Capital Campaign. Additionally, the members who are contributing on a monthly basis to the 1918 Campaign add \$16,387 to this fund per year, if all continue to fulfill their pledge.

Diane Buchanan Johnson, who co-chairs the campaign with Melinda Nutter, has investigated another fundraising technique: Power2Give, sponsored by Culture Works. On this site folks can donate to an approved non-profit project by credit card. DPL will match the gift at \$.50 on a dollar (minus an administrative fee). If you are interested in funding through this technique, please let Diane know (937-477-7866) so that she can create the project for this site.

Diane and Melinda continue to seek out potential applicable grants for the 1918 Campaign. Grant writing requires an incredible amount of time and patience and "wordsmithing." Then one must wait for analysis and decision. They work hard for you and appreciate your participation.

In Memoriam

Larry E. Shpiner June 23, 2015 Club president 1995-96, 1996-97 Member since 1988

Sponsors

All expenses for the production and mailing of this newsletter were donated by Bob Johnson and Diana Buchanan Johnson as a gift to the Engineers Club of Dayton and its members.

Wish List for the Club

- Flat screen TV's
- · Serving platters

Club ambassadors

Special thanks to these members who sponsored new members during the 2014-15 fiscal year and since June 1.

Patrick Adamson (4) Frank Boensch (2) Robert Johnson & Diane Buchanan Johnson Darbie Kincaid Brenda McQueen (2) Bill Vaughn





Donors to the **Engineers Club** & Foundation

Donations to the Club and Foundation for the fiscal vear 2014 - 2015

Continued from page 6.

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