

THE

May 2006

RETIREE NEWSLETTER

A quarterly publication by the Florida Power Corporation Retirees' Association

CALENDAR

Retiree Meeting

in

Ocala

Ocala Shrine Club

May 16

9:30 am

UPCOMING MEETINGS

September 19

November 21

*Retiree Communications
Phone Numbers Page 2*

*Internet Address:
www.fpcra.org*

Introducing:

Progress Energy Florida's incoming president & CEO



Jeff Lyash, Progress Energy's second-highest-ranking officer in Florida since 2003, will become president and chief executive officer of Progress Energy Florida on June 1, replacing Bill Habermeyer, who will retire May 31.

"Over the past five years, Bill has led our effort to enhance the reliability and efficiency of the system that serves our 1.5 million customers in Florida, and Jeff will continue to build on that strong foundation moving forward," said Bob McGehee, chairman and CEO of Progress Energy. "As we begin to move through a time

of tremendous growth throughout our service territories, Jeff's operational experience and expertise will be key assets for Progress Energy and our customers."

Lyash, 44, currently serves as senior vice president of Energy Delivery Florida. In that role, he oversees all aspects of energy delivery operations for Progress Energy Florida, including electric distribution operations, customer service and community relations. Lyash joined Progress Energy in 1993 and spent his first eight years with the company at the Brunswick Nuclear Plant in Southport, N.C. in a number of management roles, ending as director of Site Operations. He also served as vice president of Transmission for Progress Energy Carolinas.

Before joining Progress Energy, Lyash worked with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in a number of capacities. He has a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Drexel University.

2006 Board of Directors

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<i>Membership</i>	
Irene Schoetker	(706) 896-1645
<i>Mountain Reunion</i>	
Gardner Harshman	(727) 592-0243
<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	
Donna Hicks	(727) 381-4506
<i>Web Master</i>	
Marybeth Showerman	(727) 520-7433

Note: Most of the above can also be reached by e-mail through the association's web page simply by going to www.fpcra.org and clicking on their name.

President's Message



Quite a few years ago, our Board of Directors determined that it would be appropriate to grant new retirees a year of free membership and mailings of our quarterly Retirees' Newsletter. Additionally, a procedure was established to mail ALL retirees a copy of the February Newsletter each year irregardless of dues payment. It was our thought that

with receipt of the Newsletter, retirees would learn about the Retirees' Association, pay dues and attend meetings. This effort has been successful but expensive.

With annual dues set at \$5.00 and a publication/ mailing cost of \$1.05 per newsletter, we were barely covering costs. Then, the large group of retiring employees over the last year or so added 857 retirees to our FREE mailing list. We found, too, that a large percentage of retirees receiving an annual February mailing have never responded with dues payment or by attending any retiree meetings.

We now must take control of our Newsletter costs. In a committee meeting with the Vice-President, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and Membership Chair, we decided the following:

1. Retirees will continue to receive a free newsletter in their first year of retirement.
2. The annual mailing in February to all retirees will continue, but the listing will be purged of those who have never paid dues.
3. We will sell advertising space — at least for this year. (See rate schedule elsewhere in this issue.)
4. We will consider an increase in our annual dues to be effective in February 2007.
5. The newsletter will be published on our website FPCRA.org in PDF format.

These steps will allow us to continue the Newsletter uninterrupted and assure that it remains the publication everyone enjoys.

The Retiree Newsletter is published by and for the retired employees of Florida Power, Florida Progress and Progress Energy for the purpose of providing communication to and from the corporate headquarters, to exchange ideas pertaining to the retirees' welfare and to provide a social basis of fellowship of those who have shared a comradeliness in working together for a great company.

OCALA

Here we come!

OUR NEXT MEETING will be held on **May 16th** in Ocala and hosted by the local retirees. It is being billed as a 'Reunion of Florida Power Family.' As such, it satisfies many needs. It is our regular quarterly meeting; it will be centrally located for our FPC family, we will recognize PIONEERS; it will make the Ocala group happy to host a meeting; and, it gives us a reunion in our own backyard for those who can't make it to the mountains of Georgia and the Carolinas each October.

The reunion will begin as early as 9:30 AM. When the doors open, donuts and coffee will be available. After a morning of greeting and meeting, a barbeque lunch will be served by the Ocala Shrine Club. Afterwards, we will have a brief business meeting and then 'get on' with a reunion program. We are expecting some guests and have scheduled entertainment by our own 'Florida Power Players.' (I hope!)

We'll have a 50/50 drawing which is always popular at the October mountain reunion. We have door prizes; and will be raffling a quilt handmade by the spouse of one of our retirees.

You must be registered in advance in order to attend. A definite count is required by the caterer.

Directions: The reunion is being held at the Ocala Shrine Club, 4301 SE Maricamps Road. From Interstate I-75, take SR 200 east to 17th Street SE. A Buick dealer and Walgreen's Drugstore are landmarks on two corners. Head South on 17th Street SE. It will become Maricamps Rd (SR 464). After you pass 36th Avenue, the Shrine Club is located on the left next to Progress Energy Operating Center.

Your Florida Power Family,
Gardner Harshman

Benefit Questions?

Progress Energy's Employee Service

1-800-546-5705

(press 0 to talk to representative)

E-mail: employee.service@pgnmail.com

Newsletter Information? Contact:



Editor: Donna Hicks
Phone/Fax: (727) 381-4506
E-mail: dicks05@tampabay.rr.com
Send: 6800 Ninth Ave. N.
St. Petersburg, FL 33710

Breakfast/ Luncheon Meetings of Retirees



Apopka: First & Third Wednesday at 8:30 am
Steak & Shake
1680 S. Orange Blossom Blvd. (Hwy.41)
(front of Super Wal-Mart)
Jean Lewis-Juckett (407) 886-6113

Crystal River: First Friday of the Month at 9:00 am
Crystal Paradise Restaurant
508 Citrus Avenue
Bill Johns (353) 795-4524

DeBary: First Monday of Month at 8:00am
Four B's Freezette Restaurant
173 Hwy. 17-92
Bill Padgett (407) 323-3763

Dunedin: First Wednesday at 11:30 am
Kally K's
1600 Main Street
Phyllis Smith (727) 785-2492

Ocala: First Tuesday of Month at 11:00 am
Golden Corral
2111 S.W. College Road (State Road 200)
Gene Pennington (352) 622-8739

Seminole: Last Wednesday of Month at 7:30 am
Seminole Family Restaurant
6864 Seminole Blvd.
Buck Raulerson (727) 521-1355

St. Petersburg: First & Third Friday at 8:00 am
The Town House
4601 66th Street N.
Dick Cottrell (727) 544-1828

St. Petersburg: Third Tuesday of Month at 8:30 am
Spring Garden Restaurant
1018 62nd Ave. N.
Dottie Harden (727) 525-0123

Winter Garden: Last Thursday of Month at 8:00 am
Perkins Restaurant
Highway 50 & McGuire Rd, Ocree
Norman Stallard (407) 295-3239

Winter Park: Every Thursday at 9:00 am
Steak & Shake
443 N. Semoran Blvd. (Hwy.436)
(between Aloma & University Blvd.)
Jean Lewis-Juckette(407) 886-6113

Bits & Pieces

“Northern Division” forms Breakfast Meeting

On Tue, 11 Apr 2006 16:03:21 EDT
PSmith9409@aol.com writes: 19 of us old timers met this morning at the Courtyard Restaurant at 9 am for coffee, and will meet again on the first Tuesday of next month, with a view to keeping it going and organizing. I have been designated, along with Bob Turner to be the contact persons for you for now. We passed out the info regarding the Ocala event.

Ron Smith

Devil Rays Game?

We may have an opportunity to get the retirees a group discount if you ever want to gather a group together for a Devil Rays game. Please let me know if you are interested.

Deborah Shipley
Progress Energy - Corporate Communications
727.820.5348 - office
727.409.6639 - mobile
727.820.5003 - fax
deborah.shipley@pgnmail.com

Note

David Fuller, our speaker at the February meeting, brought us financial information to assist us in making choices in our senior years; i.e., leasing or buying a new car, etc. He is offering us further financial information with free booklets on page 8 of this issue. You may wish to check out the information.

Sorry!

The quarterly listing of retiree deaths was unavailable for this issue. (It would be nice if there weren't any).

Thanks to our advertisers!

We appreciate the support of our first time advertisers in our publication. Gardner explained in his President's message about why we have begun, at least for this year, including ads in this Retiree Newsletter. In case you know someone interested, the annual rates for the four quarterly issues, are listed below:

Full page, sponsoring \$ 500
1/2 page \$ 250
1/4 page \$ 125
1/8 page, business card \$ 75

Note from the Editor

When sending e-mails to me, please put FPCRA in the subject line. I receive many messages trying to sell me drugs, a new mortgage, even newsletters, etc. and I go delete, delete, delete down the list without opening them to avoid any virus. If there is nothing in the subject line to designate retirees, I may delete some of your messages accidentally and you may never hear from me.

Hurricane Preparation

We have information from Lori Spangler, Program Development & Administration, that hurricane preparedness by the company is underway. A lot of retiree volunteers signed up last year and these names are being held in case help is needed this year. If you missed getting your name in last year, and would like to sign up, contact:

Lori Spangler
Phone: 1-407-942-9332
E-mail: Lori.Spangler@pgnmail.com

CLAYTON GEORGIA TUESDAY OCTOBER 17TH.....REGISTER SOON	
Cost per person :\$20.00 - Doors open at 9:00 am	
Name(s)	
Address:	
City, State, Zip :	
Telephone:	Email address:
I will bring a door prize: Yes	No:
Send check made out to "Reunion" to: Irene Schoetker 1915 Bell Oak Drive Hiawassee, GA 30546	

Florida legislators consider bills that could impact Progress Energy

Florida retirees have responded enthusiastically to Progress Power's recent call for new members. The voluntary organization is encouraging more retirees to join its ranks and enjoy the many benefits.

Progress Power educates and informs its members about energy-related legislative issues and activities. On issues critical to the company and utility industry, Progress Power occasionally asks members to voice their opinions to elected officials by phone, e-mail or letters.

By becoming a member, retirees stay engaged in important energy-related issues and can become ambassadors for the company on these issues. These grassroots efforts of retirees educate state leaders on matters that could affect Progress Energy, employees, retirees and shareholders; they also provide the support needed to get the desired outcomes.

Progress Power program director Michele Cavallo said the invitation is still open to retirees to enroll. To join Progress Power, please follow the instructions in the box that follows this article.

Progress Power members know that the Florida Legislature is about halfway through the annual session, which ends May 5. There are several issues affecting the company and the industry that are before the Legislature, including:

HB 1471/SB 2494 – These bills establish clear policies and procedures that will keep critical generation and infrastructure investments moving forward. The proposed legislation would help ensure that power plants, transmission lines and other critical infrastructure are built on schedule and in the most cost-effective manner.

HB 145/SB2006 – The Legislature has approved the repeal of joint and several liability. Under current law, even if a business or individual is found in a lawsuit to be only a minor contributor to an accident, the business or individual can still be required to pay more than its share of the damages.

SB 888 – Among the many energy issues this bill touches on: It creates a commission to oversee state energy policy. It establishes grant programs to promote alternative energy technologies. It will help expedite the Power Plant Siting and Transmission Line Siting acts.

HB 431/SB 980 – To build substations and trim trees often involves a difficult permitting process. These bills establish a consistent process for siting substations and a standard for trimming trees.

SB 1414 – This bill requires the Florida Public Service Commission to consider whether electric utilities should be required to absorb a portion of the increase in fuel costs under certain circumstances.

This is only a snapshot of five bills that could affect Progress Energy. More information and legislative updates are available through membership in Progress Power.

Some of the bills mentioned affect nuclear power, which is an important issue currently for Progress Energy and the state of Florida. Late last year, Progress Energy informed the Nuclear Regulatory Commission of its plans to submit a combined construction and operating license for a potential nuclear power plant in both the Carolinas and Florida. Other utilities have announced similar projects in Florida and around the country as it has become evident that there is a need for new generation to support growth.

The company continues to evaluate potential sites in Florida for future baseload generation needs; it anticipates making an announcement on a potential site during the first half of the year. Even with such an announcement, the company will continue to evaluate all options to deal with the need for new baseload generation.

The last time Progress Energy Florida added new baseload generation was more than 20 years ago – Crystal River Unit 5 in 1984. As the company continues to experience significant customer growth, it will need to add new generation sources to meet customer demand. Florida ranks third nationally in energy consumption and is one of the fastest growing states in the nation, adding nearly 1,000 new residents a day. Last year, Progress Energy Florida added nearly 35,000 new customers.



Make a difference for Progress Energy

- **Membership** – Join Progress Power today as a retiree grassroots member. It's free.
- **Relationship** – Let us know if you have a relationship with a VIP, such as a member of the Legislature or someone else influential.

To join Progress Power

Respond to Program Director Michele Cavallo:

- Call 727-820-5686
 - E-mail her at michele.cavallo@pgnmail.com
- Or write to: 100 Central Ave., CX1F, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

A reverse mortgage could make a difference in your well-being.

by Jim Saeger

Chances are that you spent a lot of time over the years thinking about your financial future. It's likely you made many wise choices and perhaps missed out on others. Now maybe a good time to step back to reflect on the decisions you have made and reconsider some that you may have overlooked. This is an excellent time to ask yourself a few simple questions.

Is your home in need of repair or sprucing up?

Have prescription drugs become a major part of your daily life? Has the cost of health care caused you to give up other necessities and some of life's small pleasures?

Have property taxes and homeowners insurance shot up as well?

Would some physical changes to your home help you live more comfortably and securely?

Are there things you would like to do for your family or yourself if you just had a little more cash?

A fast-growing number of seniors are taking care of these and other financial concerns with a reverse mortgage. An added bonus: by using this innovative financial tool to take the worry of their retirement years their adult "kids" can stop fretting about their parent's well-being.

Unfortunately there are many seniors and their adult children who still aren't aware of this product and its potential benefits, says Peter Bell president of the national reverse mortgage lenders Association. "They don't yet know the reverse mortgage can have a dynamic impact on senior's quality-of-life by increasing their income enhancing their financial security and letting them fully enjoy their retirement"

A reverse mortgage goes well beyond a home-equity loan to work to your advantage:

- A reverse mortgage is only available to homeowners 62 or older
- There are no income qualifications
- The borrowers retains title to the property and can continue to live in and own the property for as long as they choose.
- There are no monthly mortgage payments during the life of the loan
- Proceeds are tax free and can be used for any purpose; they

may be paid out as a lump sum, in monthly payments, as a line of credit, or a combination.

- The loan amount depends on the borrowers age, appraised value of the home, current interest rates and the type of reverse mortgage selected. It's good to know that lending limits have just gone up at that beginning of 2006 and interest rates have stayed surprisingly low.
- The reverse mortgage isn't repaid until the borrowers have moved out of the home permanently.
- The repayment amount cannot exceed the value of the home regardless of the loan balance.
- Once the loan is repaid, any remaining equity is distributed to the borrower or the borrowers heirs/estate. Note: this is a great way to reduce the estate tax burden for your heirs.**
- The home doesn't have to be owned free and clear to qualify for a reverse mortgage.

***consult your tax advisor*

With benefits like these, it's no surprise that reverse mortgages continue to grow by leaps and bounds. In fact, in 2004 Financial Freedom's year-end total was 19,850 funded loans, which is a 44% increase over 2003. In 2005 financial Freedom funded 30,991 loans representing 56% increase over 2004. The number of loans closed this year clearly demonstrates the increasing consumer understanding and appreciation of reverse mortgages as an answer to a wide range of seniors' financial needs.



5 Ways a Reverse Mortgage Can Improve Your Quality of Life

- 1** Eliminate monthly mortgage payment
- 2** Receive extra monthly income
- 3** Eliminate credit card debt
- 4** Receive a cash lump sum or line of credit
- 5** Enjoy life a bit more


For your free Reverse Mortgage Handbook, call

Jim Saeger
727 596 9095
or visit our website at www.financialfreedom.com

Just published:
"The Reverse Mortgage Handbook."
It will help homeowners 62 years or older decide if a reverse mortgage makes good sense for them.



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CALLING ALL RETIREES AND PIONEERS

FROM ALL OVER FLORIDA AND ELSEWHERE

Next Statewide regular quarterly Retirees' Meeting will be held in
Ocala, FL - "The closest point to the center of the System"

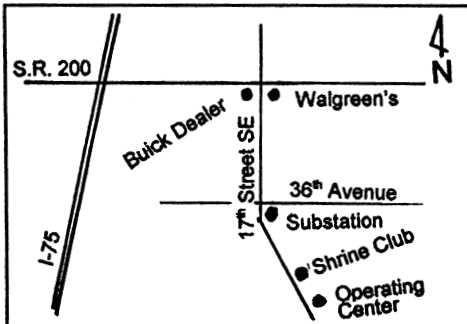


May 16th, 2006
Ocala Shrine Club
Cost \$12.00 per person



Doors open at 9:30 am. Come early or anytime during the morning.
 Coffee and donuts served while meeting, greeting, hugging and visiting.
 A barbecue lunch catered by the Shriner's will be served at Noon.
 After lunch, we will have a program with surprise guest appearances,
 special entertainment and recognition of PIONEERS.

You won't want to miss this event. It could be as big or
 bigger than our annual Mountain reunion in North Georgia.



4301 SE Maricamps Rd
 (SR 464)

This meeting/event satisfies all the purposes of a perfect reunion. It's our regular quarterly meeting; it is centrally located for our FPC family; it will recognize PIONEERS who have been lacking a venue and leadership for a gathering; it will satisfy the Ocala group who want to host a meeting; and, it gives us a reunion in our own backyard. To make it the success our Board envisions, we need the support of ALL retirees. Please make your reservation early. This will be a fun day to see all your old 'family' friends.

(clip coupon)

Registration for Ocala Reunion of Retirees and PIONEERS

May 16, 2006 \$12.00 per person

Name _____	Pioneer: Yes _____ No _____
Address _____	Date retired _____
_____	No. Yrs. Svc. _____
_____	Telephone _____
E-Mail address _____	Retired from: _____
	Department/Location

Mail to: **Ocala Reunion**
 c/o Irene Schoetker
 1916 Bell Oak Drive
 Hiawassee, GA 30546

Will you donate a door prize ? _____
 Will you donate cookies or donuts ? _____

Make Checks payable to: Ocala Reunion

Keep documents up to date

by Gregory G. Gay, Esq.

RE: Many seniors are entering into second marriages. In Florida, if no new will is signed after marriage or a previously signed will does not provide for the new spouse, the new spouse will receive one-half of the deceased spouse's probate estate when there are children by a previous marriage.

If there are no surviving descendants (children or grandchildren) and no new will is signed after the marriage, the surviving spouse will receive the entire probate estate.

Any will or trust signed after marriage should provide for a share of at least 30 percent of the value of the estate to the spouse. The surviving spouse of a permanent resident of Florida has the right to elect to receive 30 percent of the value of any only the deceased spouse's probate estate, but also 30 percent of the value of the descendant's other assets that are intended to pass outside of probate.

This means that the surviving spouse has the right to elect to receive 30 percent of the value of the first spouse to die's real property owned in another state and any other assets including property intended to pass from a revocable trust to another person.

Regardless of a new will or trust being signed, after a second marriage, a surviving spouse is also entitled to a life estate in the deceased spouse's homestead, and will have the right to elect to

receive the deceased spouse's household furniture, furnishings and appliances in the deceased spouse's usual resident up to a net value of \$10,000 and all of the automobiles held in the descendant's name and regularly used by the deceased or members of his or her immediate family as their personal automobile regardless of the value.

The surviving spouse is also entitled to receive an allowance for his or her living expenses during the administration of the estate of the deceased spouse up to a total of \$18,000. The circuit judge determines the amount of the allowance.

A spouse may waive his or her right to subsequently share in all or part of the other spouse's estate or trust, to receive exempt property, to take a family allowance and to receive the lifetime use of the homestead. This waiver must be in writing and can be signed before or after marriage.

The party waiving any right must sign in the presence to two subscribing witnesses. Each spouse must make a fair disclosure to the other spouse of his or her assets if the agreement or waiver is signed after marriage.

Gregory G. Gay is a lawyer who specializes in elder law in Pasco, Hernando and Citrus counties. Write him in care of Seniority, St. Petersburg Times, P.O. Box 1121, St. Petersburg, FL 33731.

ATTENTION: FLORIDA POWER RETIREE'S FREE FINANCIAL BOOKLETS

ANNUITY OWNER OPPORTUNITIES

- Reduce or eliminate Social Security Taxes
- Market Gains without market risks
- Guaranteed income you cannot outlive
- Safe tax deferred growth

AVOID MISTAKES IN BUYING LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE

- Do you need it?
- When should you get it
- Five Ways to reduce the cost
- Uncle Sam can help you pay for it

Call toll free: (800) 264-4831
(24 hours) for your booklets.



Let's Get Personal:

Pinellas Musical Mentors Perform at Carnegie

For the past several years, our younger daughter, Dawne (Wisner) [Mrs. Chuck] Eubanks, has been soprano soloist (when needed) with a local male chorale over in Tampa, Florida. This Tampa male chorale chose to prepare and participate with other choruses from all over everywhere in a large choral concert program being held in Carnegie Hall on Sunday evening, February 19, 2006. If any of the individual soloists from these various groups also wished to participate in the Feb 19 program, they were asked to submit an audition tape or CD in order to be considered. The Tampa male chorale urged (begged?) Dawne to submit an audition CD, so she did. Long story short, Dawne was chosen as soprano soloist for the Carnegie Hall concert event!!

If we do say so ourselves, Dawne did great in her performance at Carnegie Hall!! The concert program was super, with different choral groups from USA, Canada, Paris and South Africa! The 400+ voices of the combined mass chorus all singing together was quite a beautiful blend of sound, and Dawne singing (soaring?) "above" them....

Can't claim there was a sell-out audience in attendance, but Carnegie Hall is a mighty big place to fill and there was a very appreciative horde of people there! Probably lots of family and friends of the choral participants (like us), as well as the general public.

Dawne's soloing all was just in the first part of the concert program. During intermission she made her way up into the balcony where we were sitting in "the cheap seats". The lights were on then and, probably mostly because of "The Dress", people recognized her immediately and there was quite a spontaneous stir of compliments, congratulations and best wishes. Since Dawne was not participating in the second part of the program, she just sat in a vacant seat next to Ed's and stayed in the balcony with us for the remainder of the program. (Ed was accused of glowing after the lights were dimmed....)

After the concert was over and we got out onto the stairs to go back down to ground level, Dawne received even more compliments at just about every "landing" on the way down. Took quite awhile....

We are so proud of Dawne, and she herself seemed pleased with the way she sang!! On Sunday afternoon when we were visiting with her at her hotel, her speaking or talking voice sounded really congested — almost as if she had a "cold". February routinely has been a bad month for Dawne's allergies all along, so we all were concerned, to say the least.... (The temperatures in NYC were down in the 16- 17- 18-degree range — really "bitter-cold" to us Floridians!!) Dawne, however, had been told by her local allergist (Dr. Steven Klemawesch here at Allergy Associates) to take a "long, steamy-hot shower" shortly before she reported for the final dress rehearsal immediately

prior to the performance. That shower, coupled with the medications that "Dr. K" had prescribed for her, seemed finally to do the trick. Dawne sang with her usual clarity to which we are so accustomed!

What a relief, and what a joy! We believe prayers were answered on her behalf even though this musical program itself was not particularly Spiritual in nature. Just God choosing to give a special blessing to one of His children, we believe!

We know we just sound like "proud parents", but the whole support group who went up from First Baptist Church of St. Petersburg seems to share our feelings. Besides Jo Beth and Ed, there were Chuck, Dallas & Evan Eubanks (of course), and then twelve other non-family folks all from our church who braved the New York cold and flew up in support of Dawne! Also, Dawne's older sister Lenae (Wisner) Badger with husband Tim Badger and the kids Laura, Dan, Emily & Erika Badger (and Dan's new girlfriend, Cindy) all came from Scituate, Massachusetts. They wondered why we Floridians were so cold!

All in all, with family and friends making such an effort to get there for her performance, Dawne felt really loved, supported and appreciated!! We, her parents, just rejoiced with everybody! After the concert, this whole mob together walked from Carnegie Hall in the crisp cold wind down to a nearby French restaurant. We nearly froze getting there! Turned out the waiter/waitress service at that time of night was lousy, and the food prices were exorbitant, but the cheery fellowship was a neat experience. There were lots of hugs and congratulations and "toasts" and stuff all around. Somebody in the group jokingly asked Dawne to autograph his Playbill from the Carnegie program, then the rest of us all wanted ours autographed, too! (We all just happened to have our souvenir Playbills with us, having just come directly from the auditorium....) Two or three of the guys from the Tampa male chorale, and who know Dawne, just by chance came to this same French restaurant, so they joined with us in all the celebration. It was an evening long to be remembered.

We never got a full-length photo of Dawne in "The Dress". Carnegie Hall strictly forbids any photography or video taping or audio taping of programs in progress. (Can't blame Carnegie for wanting to sell their own wares, we guess, but we've heard that the quality of theirs never is great — just "legal". Don't know how soon any such will be available for purchase, if ever.) We believe husband Chuck might have gotten some good photo shots at the dress rehearsal. Hope so....

Guess that's about "it" from here for now.

Our love,

Happy Ed & Jo Beth Wisner

Let's Get Personal:

Sam D'Avico Travel Experiences

I retired from FPC in 1996 as the Manager of Power Production Training at the age of 57. My career was in Fossil and Nuclear Power Plant Supervision, Operations, Mechanical and Training. I wasn't ready to retire and I wanted to use my experiences. I found a company called Penpower that supplies engineering and technical people to the power and petrol-chemical industry world wide.

My first project was an assignment in Paiton, Indonesia, which is 75 miles from Bali. Fluor Daniels was the prim contractor building two 675 MWE Coal fired ABB-CE Boilers and GE Turbines. Over a two-year period I worked as the worldwide contracts administrator for the non-power block equipment, start -up shift supervisor and the training superintendent.

Indonesia is a very beautiful Polynesian country with lush mountains dense jungles and white sand beaches. They have some of the most beautiful terraced rice farms on the side of the mountains. While Indonesia has more Muslims than the "rest of the world combined" they accept all cultures, religions and races. The plant personnel consisted of Muslims, Christians all faiths, Buddhists and Hindus. They are also allowed to marry 3 wives. The cities were very cosmopolitan and modern but when you went outside the city limits it was absolute 3rd world conditions. The people lived in mud, reed or straw huts with no running water, electricity, or sewers. There was usually a ditch in front of the homes with water, which was used for cooking, bathing, sewers and washing animals. We had a man who worked for us as a grounds keeper. He had 4 children and lived in a one-room reed hut with dirt floor, which was falling down. The 5 Americans in my group built him an 800 ft square cement block home with concrete floors inside bathroom. It cost us each about \$200.

My next assignment was very short in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia with GE Services who were installing 10 GE Frame 7F combined cycle plants. I held a training program for the plant staff. When I reported to the site the prime contractor was Abdul Bin Laud in father of Osama Bin Laud in. We lived in a secured compound and when the wives went into town they had to wear a "burka" and be accompanied by their husband. Outside the cities there was nothing but Brown desert and wild camels. When the Saudi men went to they went to bars and sat around and smoked and drank tea.

After Saudi I was assigned to a project in the Philippines. Alstome was the prime contractor and they were building 4 coal-fired power plants. Two in a town called Sual in northern Philippines and two in Paigbilo southern Philippines. My primary duties were as the Training superintendent and we did a complete job and task analysis then built training manuals for

every position in the plant. Some of you may remember we did this for the power plants at FPC 10 years earlier. The Philippines are very similar Indonesia. The cities and the 3rd world conditions were the same. They did have more electricity available outside the cities but no running water, sewers etc. Almost all the people spoke English and they liked the Americans. My driver came to work on morning and told me he had killed a 6-foot cobra next to his daughter who was sleeping on the floor.

One of my friends told me the Spanish, which held the Philippines for hundreds of years gave them religion but the Americans who had them as a territory for 50 year gave them education.

My next assignment was in California for Mirant Corp. in Pittsburg Ca., which was 45 miles north of Sam Francisco. I was a training manager and developed a job and task analysis and training manuals for 3 gas and oil fired power plants. One of the surprising things I learned was that when you get away from the cities California is a very conservative state. One weekend the US Navy had several ships on display at the piers in S.F. A friend and myself decided to take the BART transportation. We walked up the steps from the stop at the pier and were right in the middle of San Francisco's GAY PRIDE Parade. You can't imagine what we saw.

My next assignment was in Amman Jordan. I was the Project Manager for a major training project with USAID. USAID is a government organization, which develops foreign countries. This project was to develop a power plant training program for 200+ Iraqi's in Amman Jordan. This included Ministry of Electricity, Plant Managers, Maintenance, Operations, Electrical, Instrumentation and Controls Engineers, Maintenance and Operation Technicians. I made arrangements with the University Of Jordan to use their Engineering labs and classrooms. The students stayed in a hotel in the city. Every 4 weeks we would fly 80 (4 classes of 20) students from Baghdad to Amman and hope the airlines would not cancel. At the completion of a 4-week training program we would hold a graduation dinner and celebrate and the students would give us small gifts. One of the most rewarding things was a comment made by several of the students. They told me that when they arrived in Amman they disliked the Americans very much. Some of our troops had to break into their houses and search it for weapons. When they left they realized the searches had to be done and they learned that Americans are warm and friendly people. There was a lot of hugging and kissing when they left.

Let's Get Personal



If you head for Vegas, you may see this young lady doing Barbara Streisand. She is the daughter of **Dick and Judi Seifried** and she does a tribute to her Dad every night in a song.

From the commercial cooking rep who was known for his alligator bread:

Surprise! Surprise! Thought I would let you know I am still among the living! Just finished reading the February 2006 "Retiree Newsletter" and decided I should bring you up-to-date as to the **Don Judy** family. We are still living in the same house we purchased over 50 years ago, and of the five children, three boys are living in this area; one in Bradenton, another in Winter Haven, and one here in St. Pete. Our only daughter lives in Yorba Linda (part of L.A.) and the youngest son lives in Richardson (Texas).

A bit of bad news.....I became the victim of a spinal cord stroke in 2005, and have been somewhat incapacitated ever since. The original stroke left me paralyzed from the neck down, but with a good wife(RN) and good nurses in the five hospitals I was in, the paralysis has settled only in the legs. I depend on my "hover-around" to get me where I want to go. Don't drive the car anymore. Well, let's face it.....I was 87 in April.

Thanks for the list of Breakfast/Luncheon meetings. Will surely try to catch one in the near future. Sure would like to hear what is going with other retire members of the good OLD Florida Power company.

Don Judy

A GOOD DEED!

An incident occurred early in my Florida Power career which I remember well. Margie and I were a family of three small girls and members of Pilgrim Congregational Church on central Ave in St. Petersburg. Living close by, we became involved with the church and I was elevated to the social visitation ministry. While visiting one member named Esther Randall, I soon learned she was a retiree from Florida Power. Asking Esther about how she was getting along to see if I could help, she replied "well, it would be great to be able to drive!", however, I'm getting along. I asked about how she did her grocery shopping and she said, "no problem, Frank Shiphorst picks me up every week and takes me shopping". She also confided that since her FPC retirement was \$93, money was tight but not to worry, Frank ALWAYS paid for the groceries. Esther swore me to secrecy as that was Frank's wishes and, to this date, I have obeyed. Now that Frank has passed on, this experience is no longer a secret, and the kindness and consideration from one person to another common to the FPC heritage needed to be voiced. Just thought you would like to know. Thank you Frank! John Scheidt

If it happens as Gardner states in his President's Message, that the dues may have to be increased in 2007, perhaps you may want to pay ahead and get grandfathered in at the \$5 fee. Don't have to, but in case you do, here is your opportunity.

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