



The Beacon

National Grid Retiree Club, Inc – LI Chapter

www.krcli.org

Winter 2008

Chairman's Corner – by Bob Benson

I am pleased to inform you that Mr. John Anselmo, (516-471-1778) is now a member of Brecher & Fishman Law firm. John and Senior Partner, Robert Fishman, will be our speakers for the April 5, 2009 retiree meeting. For over 75 years, this Law Firm has been working with Blue Collar Workers and their families. They will be informing you about Social Security Disability, Workers Compensation, Negligence, Wills, Estates and Real Estate matters. The Law Firm will offer FREE consultations for our Members and their families, for any matter you are seeking help for, with no future obligations. They have Staffed Offices in: Suffolk, Nassau, Queens, Brooklyn, Staten Island, Manhattan, and Bronx Counties.

A "Special Thank You" for those who have donated BLOOD for the "Golden Donors Blood Drive" on Friday, January 2nd. The next drive will be the day after Memorial Day, Tuesday, May 28th at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury starting at 8:30 a.m. till 1:30 p.m. Our Past Retiree President, Enrico Vitelli, helped to start the "Golden Donors" in 1990, along with other groups, such as; Grumman, Telephone Pioneers, Sperry, AARP and many other Retiree Groups. We presently owe a great deal of gratitude to both Calvin & Thelma Pomerantz, for their hard work that they

have provided to keep the Blood Drives successful.

President Trivia:

1. Who was the first President to be inaugurated in Washington, D.C.?
2. Who was the shortest and lightest President at 5 feet, 4 inches and about 100 pounds?
3. Who was the only President elected to two non-consecutive terms?
4. Who was the first President to give a speech on TV?
5. Who was the only President to serve in both World War I & World War II? (Answers at the end.)

Tips About Your Car Keys:

Put your car keys beside your bed at night.

If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get into your house, just press the panic button for your car horn. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.

This tip came from a neighborhood watch coordinator.

Next time you come home for the night and you start to put your keys away, think of this:

It's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation.

Test it. It will go off from almost everywhere inside your house and will keep honking until your battery runs down or until you reset it with the button on the key chain.

It works if you park in your driveway or garage.

If your car alarm goes off when someone is trying to break in your house, odds are the intruder won't stick around...after a few seconds all the neighbors will be looking out their windows to see who is out there and sure enough the criminal won't want that.

OTHER EMERGENCY USES:

Always remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in a parking lot. If you are attacked, press that button, the horn will start blasting away and most likely will chase off your attacker.

Carrying those keys with you around the home or out in the garden could also prove to be life saving. Should you fall, or have some medical emergency and cannot reach the phone, press the button. The blasting of your car horn is going to draw attention and someone is going to investigate. Spread the word to your neighbors, if you hear my car horn honking. Please come check on me or call the police.

This is a really fantastic idea, something that should be shared with everyone. Perhaps,

just maybe it could save a life or save you from an attacker or intruder.

Future Meetings And Speakers:

February - Robert Biancavilla, DNA speaker.

March - Detective Hanna, NCPD, Crime Scene Investigations.

April - Robert Fishman, providing free consultations about retiree concerns.

May - John Conte, from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

MERCK SHINGLES VACCINE:

Merck's shingles vaccine, Zostavax, recommended for adults 60 and over, by CDC.

The CDC's recommendation follows the unanimous recommendation of the agency's Advisory Committee on Immunization.

Shingles, also called herpes zoster, is a painful skin rash that strikes roughly one in four adults who have previously had chickenpox. According to Merck, more than 43 million Americans are at risk for shingles. However, according to a 2007 CDC survey, few adults are vaccinated against the disease.

Zostavax, which was approved in May 2006, had sales of \$236 million in 2007.

Newspaper Proof Reading????

1. Man Kills Self Before Shooting Wife and Daughter.

This one I caught in the SGV Tribune the other day and called the

Editorial Room and asked who wrote this. It took two or three readings before the editor realized that what he was reading was impossible!!! They put in a correction the next day.

2. Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over.

What a Guy!

3. If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile.

Ya think?

4. Cold Wave Is Linked to Temperatures.

Who would have thought!

5. Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges.

You mean there's something stronger than duct tape?

6. Hospitals are Sued by 7 Foot Doctors:

Boy, are they tall!

7. Astronaut Takes Blame for Gas in Spacecraft.

That's what he gets for eating those beans!

AND THE WINNER IS.....

8. Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery, Hundreds Dead.

Did I read that right??

Now that you have all smiled at least once, it is your turn to spread the stupidity to others.

We all need a good laugh, at least once a day.

Annual Holiday Party:

Our Holiday Party on December 2nd was one of our best ever, as was told to us by several attendees. The Watermill Restaurant was beautifully decorated for the holidays and John Gieda musically added to the spirit of the occasion. As usual, Roy Kennedy, once again, delivered a very fine invocation. Our Chairman, Bob Benson gave his usual short but very informative speech.

The generosity of our 240 attendees produced a 50/50 raffle of \$600, which was given out in varying amounts to the lucky winners. In addition, a raffle for restaurant gift certificates was also held. Those winners were: John Dillhoff, Pumpnickles; Ann Fraser, Bonwit Inn; Allan Rogers, Milleridge; Ed Crean, Irish Coffee House; Ron Redmond, Parkview Inn; and Annmarie Schiavone, Pia Angelo.

Our volunteers who help us make this affair a success did another fine job! Thank You: Bob & Marie Benson, Herman & Ethel Hess, Dom & Fran Juliano, and Loretta O'Connor.

Ken & Stan

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Helpful Telephone Numbers

- Medical/Dental, Pension Issues,
 - 1-866-KEY-TO-HR
 - (1-866-539-8647)
- 401k Hotline
 - 718/403-3131
- Vanguard
 - 1-800-523-1188
- Life Insurance/Beneficiary Change
MetLife
 - 1-800-906-6779
- Investors Relations:
 - 1-718-403-3141
 - 1-718-403-2629
- Pension Checks/Changes in
Address/Tax Withholding/Direct
Deposit The Bank of NY
 - 1-800-634-7936

ANSWERS FOR PRESIDENT TRIVIA:

1. Thomas Jefferson
2. James Madison
3. Grover Cleveland
4. Harry Truman
5. Dwight Eisenhower