



Elfun Newsletter

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

By Roland Robb

As you read this, we are rapidly approaching the half-way point of our 2010/2011 year and will have had our Thank You Luncheon on Wednesday, October 27th for as many of Marv Hahn's construction workers as were able to attend. They were all invited so that our Elfun Chapter could, in a small way, say THANK YOU for all the work projects that they have accomplished this year, and there have been many. Their efforts have brought many kudos to our Chapter from the many non-profit organizations they have done work for and also for the help we have given them to obtain funding for the projects from GE. They are an outstanding group of people. All of the outdoor projects are over with for this year because of the upcoming winter season, but they may still have a few projects that can be accomplished indoors. Marv is always looking for help, there are snacks and lunch available for the group so it's not all work, and all skill levels are welcome. If you would like to accomplish some much-appreciated work, please call Marv @ 699-2621.

With the winter approaching, we have only one social event left for the year and that is the annual Holiday Party (see enclosed flyer). This is a great event to end the year 2010! Next year, Cindy Chermak will again provide a variety of outings as she has this year, all of which were well attended - look forward to the spring.

IN MEMORIAM

We have received word of the deaths of Senior members Richard Deitzler, Glenn Reinsmith., John Peterson and Robert McElfresh

NOVEMBER 2010

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

If you have not yet paid your Year 2010-2011 dues, we've enclosed a Second Dues Notice as a reminder that your dues are due. Your \$15.00 payment will ensure that you will continue to receive the benefits of membership in our Syracuse Chapter of Elfun, including our newsletter, and will support our volunteer and social activities. (Note: spouses of Elfun members who have passed away should not pay dues.)

ELFUN LEADERSHIP TEAM

2010-2011

Chairman	Roland Robb	637-5251
Vice Chairman	Art Toll	415-3259
Treasurer	Don MacLaughlin	652-5792
Secretary	Al Roger	457-1142
Database Manager	Bob Ruth	451-0685
Skaneateles Rep.	George Fay	246-1045
Volunteer Coordinator & Construction Projects	Marv Hahn	699-2621
Social Events	Cindy Chermak	637-0380
Seniors Rep.	Dick Enright	457-1364
Community Liaison	Pete Scalzo	457-0598
Past Chairman	Nick Vaccaro	457-3632
GE Volunteers Rep.	Carl Chermak	452-7260
Newsletter Editor	Steve Auyer	451-7359
		n2tkx@arri.net
Communications	Rudy Benfey	652-9790

All phone numbers are in area code 315

GIFT MATCHING - A Reminder

By Rudy Benfey

The GE Foundation continues to match donations to virtually all not-for-profit (501(c) 3) organizations, except churches and the United Way. (The UW is supported in other ways by GE.) Included are public, private and parochial schools and colleges. To obtain the match for the recipient of your donation you must register the gift either by calling 1-800-305-0669, or by going on-line at gefoundation.com/matching_gifts. The gifts must be verified by the recipients. (They are notified by the Foundation by mail.) The matching donations are made by the Foundation every three months, in February, May, August and November. Donations made during 2010 must be registered for matching by April 15, 2011. Only GE employees and retirees and their surviving spouses are eligible to have their donations matched; retirees on Lockheed-Martin pensions are not eligible.

SOCIAL EVENTS

By Cindy Chermak

The calm waters of Oneida Lake and blue skies greeted us on September 10 as we cruised through Erie Canal Lock 23 on the *Mystere*. Our group of 70 filled both levels of the vessel as we enjoyed barbeque and chicken catered by Smokey Bones. Upon entering the lock, we "locked through" and disembarked for a Lockmaster Tour of the grounds and the powerhouse. The highlight was the century old GE generator which is still in service. Many thanks to Wes Andrews for the pictures of the event. It is a good thing that we went on this cruise this year, as next year the *Mystere* will relocate to Poughkeepsie to conduct Hudson River tours.

Social events will take our customary winter hiatus and will plan to welcome the snowbirds back in the spring with an event in April. See you then.



ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

By Dick Enright

This year's Holiday Party will be held on Saturday, December 4th at the Lakeshore Yacht and Country Club. For the fourth year, we are fortunate to again have our food service from Karen's Catering Service. As in the past three years, we can expect an outstanding meal and a large selection of hot and cold appetizers, including the popular "flaming shrimp station". Desserts will include a variety of scrumptious sweet treats. "Smokin", a popular local band, will provide music for our dancing and listening pleasure. Music will feature a variety of pieces from the 40's, 50's and 60's as well as current selections. Vocals are sung by Janice Wilson, accompanied by band members.

This year's price remains at \$75.00 per couple for paid-up members. This is a great party, and we urge all our members to take advantage of this event to enjoy the start of the holiday season and renew old acquaintances. It's also an opportunity to ask some of your GE friends, who may not have previously attended, to join you for a great evening out. The party will start at 6:00 pm with an open bar. Dinner is served at 7:00 pm, followed by music and dancing. For entrée selections and reservations see the enclosed flyer. Send your check, payable to Elfun Society, and your choice of entrée and seating preference to

Dick Enright
113 Patricia Drive
North Syracuse, NY 13212
Tel 457-1364

Your reservations must be mailed before Sunday, November 28th. It's a great party at a great price. DON'T MISS IT!

COMMUNITY SERVICE

By Marv Hahn

The GE Volunteers have been very busy this year with projects at Ophelia's Place in Liverpool, Vera House, HOPE FOR BEREAVED's Butterfly of Hope, and the Syracuse Golden Gloves Athletic and Education Center.

Then the major project for six weeks in July and August was construction of a large 14 ft. by 18 ft. concession stand at the Beaver Lake Nature Center. At their recent pumpkin pancake breakfast, the Friends of Beaver Lake honored the GE ELFUN Syracuse Chapter with a ribbon cutting dedication ceremony and presented a plaque for the concession stand with the names of the twenty GE volunteers that worked on the project: Carl Chermak; Pete Capponi; Myron Egtvedt; Dick Enright; Leo Gordona; Marv Hahn; Harry Heilman; Jim Jaeger; Bob Killius; Dick Martin; Bill McGrath; Russ Rhea; Neal Schantz; Fred Scott; Stan Shubsda; Ray Smith; Art Toll; Ted Webb; Fred Wenthen and Stan Ziemba.

Over five weeks in September and October we completed another major project for the Campfire Girls and Boys at Camp Talooli in the Nurse's Station Building. It required repairing a rotted portion of the floor, then installing a sub-flooring, covered with a laminate flooring in the entire building. The project also included installing tongue and groove pine boards on the entire ceiling to match the wall panels. Many thanks to: Pete Capponi; Myron Egtvedt; Leo Gordona; Dick Enright; Marv Hahn; Harry Heilman; Jim Jaeger; Bob Killius; Dick Martin; Bill Patterer; Russ Rhea, Neal Schantz; Fred Scott; Stan Shubsda; Art Toll; Fred Wenthen and Stan Ziemba.

Remaining this year will be the installation of Christmas lights at the Butterfly Garden of Hope on Onondaga Lake Parkway during the week before Thanksgiving.



GE Elfun/ROAD SCHOLAR (formerly ELDERHOSTEL) PROGRAM

By Stan Shubsda

Maintaining the USS Missouri in Pearl Harbor. Our adventure began Friday August 27 with a flight at 6:30 am from Syracuse to Chicago arriving at 3:00 pm Honolulu Hawaii. After a shuttle ride from the airport to the Waikiki Resort Hotel, we checked in to the hotel and registered for the program. During the remainder of Friday we enjoyed a happy hour, dinner, and orientation to the program and tentative work assignments on the Missouri. We went to bed at about 10:00 pm (or was it 4:00 am Saturday).

On Saturday we started our daily schedule which began with breakfast at 6:15am, arriving at the Missouri at 8:00am, working till 3:15pm, and then returning to the hotel followed by dinner at 6:30pm. On our first day we were given a quick orientation of the dock and the Missouri, locating cold bottled water; bathrooms; break or tool room; and then taken to our work area.

During the week, Winnie worked sorting the Missouri's blueprints and other documents; and also helped setting up folding chairs for the 65th Commemoration Ceremony of the signing of the Japanese Surrender. I worked unpacking and assembling display stands about the size of a drafting table; pulling cables for the security system that is being installed; changing fluorescent light bulbs or starters in the bunks used by guest spending a night aboard the Missouri; and taking down chairs on the deck after the commemoration ceremony.

Sunday had no schedule; but was a free day. Winnie and I went to church at St. Augustine by the Sea parish which was celebrating its 155th anniversary. Mass was preceded by a multimedia show of the parish history. The Choir enhanced the Mass singing both in Hawaiian and English. Two multimedia projectors provided both the Hawaiian and the English for the attendees. We spend the rest of the day wandering about Waikiki.

Monday was a workday. In addition an evening class was scheduled about the attack on Pearl Harbor and its affect on Hawaii's diverse culture. Tuesday half of the group went to the Arizona Memorial and would spend that night aboard the Missouri. Instead of dinner at a restaurant we had a dockside barbeque. Before the barbeque we had a thorough tour of the Missouri. Winnie and I chose to return to the hotel. Wednesday the other half of the group (including us) went to the Arizona. We were aboard the launch at 8:15 and returned to work around 10:00. On our way from lunch we stopped briefly at the Utah memorial.

Thursday we left the hotel earlier and attended the 65th Commemoration Ceremony of the signing of the Japanese Surrender on the fantail of the Missouri. This ceremony was scheduled for 8:00 am and was over by 10:00. Speakers included Senator Daniel K. Inouye and General Eric K. Shinseki. Other highlights included the U.S. Navy Ceremonial Band, the Sounds of Aloha Chorus, taps and rifle salute, and a flyover. After this ceremony, the Elfun Group convened at the Surrender Deck where Joe Gould presented VADM Robert K. U. Kihune (ret), Chairman USS Missouri Memorial Association with a check for \$6,500.00 on behalf of the GE Elfun Organization. We returned to the hotel for a brief meeting then dinner at a local restaurant. Friday we had brunch then departed to the airport for the return trip.

Although much has been done to restore the Missouri including a trip to dry-dock to patch holes and repaint, more work is need especially on the ship's teak deck. Road Scholar has another service program scheduled in February.

