



GE ELFUN NEWSLETTER

Chairman's Column

I am pleased with the opportunity to continue to serve as the Chairman of the GE Syracuse Elfun Society for our 2013-2014 year. My first year passed very smoothly because of the efforts of the board members and the chairpersons of the many events that filled the year's calendar and I need to give each of them a very special THANK YOU! It has been a privilege to serve as your Chairman, and together we plan to continue to provide manpower and monetary resources to help area non-profit agencies and also to provide interesting and fun activities for Syracuse Elfun and their families.

Here is a recap of some of our activities during the 2012-2013 year. In 2012, we attended a Syracuse Chiefs Game, Cabaret and Nunsense at the Merry Go Round Playhouse, took an Adirondack Fall Foliage Train Tour, played in our Elfun Golf Outing, and had the Annual Christmas Party at Lakeshore CC. In 2013, we had the Everson Museum American Modern Program followed by lunch at the Ale & Angus, Elfun Senior Luncheon at Barbagello's, Finger Lakes Wine Bus Tour, More Gifts-More Givers Lunch at Julies, and Legally Blonde at Merry Go Round Playhouse.

Results of the election of Officers for the 2013-2014 year are:

- Chairperson: Dave Fulmer
- Vice-Chairperson: Peter Scalzo
- Recording Secretary: George Fay
- Database Manager: Bob Ruth
- Treasurer: Bob Bryerton

All of the officers and activity chairs are the same as for this current year. Thanks again to all of them for an outstanding job this past year. We will also have a great 2013-2014 year based on the current plans for work projects and social activities.

Dave Fulmer



Road Scholar Opportunities

We have been informed of two additional Road Scholar opportunities:

Road Scholar Program # 21334, New Elfun Service Learning Program at Great Camp Sagamore, Friday, October 4 to Monday, October 7, 2013.

In collaboration with the Great Camp Sagamore, founded by the Vanderbilt family in 1897 and now a National Historic Landmark, Road Scholar has developed a weekend service learning program schedule for Friday, October 4 to Monday, October 7, 2013

Because of weight limits on the number of sheets of paper we may include in an envelope and still fall into the \$0.46 postage rate, this newsletter is limited to four pages (two sheets of paper) plus two flyers. For those of you who receive your newsletter by e-mail you will also be receiving a multi-page supplement which includes photographs of activities and a transcript of the conference call on changes to the medical plans.

(Continued from page 1)

Road Scholar Program # 21430, Monumental Impact: Service Learning in Washington D.C. with GE Elfuns Monday, October 21 to Friday October 25, 2013.

The monuments and memorials of the National Mall in Washington, D.C. form an arresting tableau of the heritage shared by all Americans. Each year, more than 20 million people visit this open-air national park to remember pivotal moments in the nation's history and to celebrate those who served and sacrificed so that future Americans would remain free. Help preserve the dignity of these national treasures through simple but essential service projects on and around the National Mall. Each morning, provide much-needed assistance with U.S. National Park Service beautification and maintenance efforts, and then spend your afternoons exploring the nation's capital with interpretation by National Park Rangers and other experts.

More information on these two programs is included in the e-mail supplement to this newsletter.

In Memoriam

We have learned of the recent deaths of members of the Syracuse Chapter:

David K. Hartman – May 20, 2013

Norman Adams Hoy – June 4, 2013

Eugene C. White – June 18, 2013

James H. Koppenhaver – June 23, 2013

Zenn Z. Zenon – July 7, 2013

Arthur L. Burns – July 10, 2013

Francis Joseph Wiczorek – Jul 12, 2013

Dick Enright

Senior Luncheon

The Syracuse Chapter will partner with the GE Retirees 2nd Thursday Luncheon Group to sponsor a Senior Luncheon on Thursday, September 12th, at Barbagallo's Restaurant on East Molloy Rd.

The speaker will be Joe Gould, immediate Past President of the Global Elfun Board, who will provide anecdotes about his accomplishments during his 32 years of service with his local chapter as well as 11 years with the Global Elfun Board, GE Foundation Board and Global GE Volunteer Boards. Joe will continue to serve Elfun by leading the Road Scholar Programs.

There will be a social hour from 11:30am till 12:30pm, followed by lunch and the speaker. Cost of the event is \$15 which includes salad, choice of two entrees (to be announced), dessert, coffee and tea. There will be a cash bar. Reservation deadline is Monday, September 9th and reservations may be made by calling Emil Chasse at 622-3339 or e-mail at echasse2@yahoo.com.

Carl Chermak

Social

Now that nice weather is here we have been busy. We began our spring with a trip with a visit to The Everson Museum "American Moderns" exhibit and enjoy lunch at the Ale 'n' Angus. We followed this by a day-long trek to the Finger Lakes Wineries. Our driver, John, delivered us safe and sound to Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards, where we sampled multiple wines including "Red Cat", NY's best selling red wine. We traveled onward to Wagner Vineyards for a fabulous buffet lunch in the Ginny Lee Restaurant along with wine and beer tasting. Our day ended at Swedish Hill on Cayuga Lake, where we

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

tasted more wines and had a ball watching the frogs in the pond and feeding Doobie, the 25-year-old donkey.

From those events, we moved on to Merry-Go-Round Playhouse for a performance of "Legally Blonde: The Musical. The songs were catchy and the humor was light and enjoyable. Best of all, we were treated to the performance of a Broadway veteran - Chico - who played Bruiser the doggie. Chico originated the role in the Broadway production.

Our next outing was Elfun Family Day at the Ballpark. 44 adults and 11 Junior Elfun watched from behind home plate as the Chiefs defeated the Lehigh Valley IronPigs 2 to 1. The game was scoreless the first five innings, but then we saw a stand-up triple that was almost an inside the park home run as well as a wonderfully crisp double play and strikeout executed by the Chiefs. Pete Scalzo arranged the event for us, but also ordered up the double play and strikeout. I was sitting behind him and witnessed the whole thing! Pete really does have an in with the Chiefs. Thanks Pete!

Our next outing will be August 23, when we attend "Cats" and then dine at The Sherwood Inn. We are planning a dinner at Julie's Place followed by a tour of WSTM NBC Channel 3 studios. The date has not been fixed, but it will be on a Tuesday evening. Later in the fall, we will take a road trip to Utica to revisit Chesterfield Restaurant and tour the Saranac Brewery. Again, dates have not been fixed. Keep an eye out for email from Steve Auyer for details and sign-up information. We hope to see you out and about socializing with Elfun this summer and fall.

Cindy Chermak

Medical Update

To coordinate the various Elfun chapters, a "Town Hall Meeting" conference call takes place once a month. Several months ago Charles Welch, who is one of seven current Elfun Board Members and who has taken an ac-

tive role in the subcommittee that is assessing the impact of the upcoming changes to the medical plans for current and future GE retirees, participated in the call to share his thoughts. He made two points:

- The Elfun medical plans are not subsidized so their cost has to be covered by members of the plans. As the number of members decreases in the future and becomes older, costs will eventually rise but this is far in the future—don't worry, current enrollees are in good shape.
- We have explored options for allowing new Elfun enrollees after the 2015 planned cutoff with United HealthCare independently of GE, but this is not financially workable

We have a transcription of his comments during the conference call but because of the size it is included in the e-mail supplement rather than in this newsletter.

Community Service

We have completed a number of projects so far this year and have more in the planning stages. The projects to date have included: construction of a maple sugaring station at Beaver Lake Nature Center; lighting installation and painting at the Butterfly Garden; and packing college supply kits at OnPoint for College (a second session is already planned)

Future projects involve work at Vera House and at the Butterfly Garden in Liverpool. As these projects firm up we will be sending out flyers soliciting volunteers and you can always have your questions answered by contacting Marv Hahn at (315) 699-2621 or MarvH@twcny.rr.com. Photos of the projects are in the e-mail supplement.

Marv Hahn

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Skaneateles News

We were all taught, “April Showers Bring May Flowers.” In this case there were few flowers to be seen at the Auburn Nursing Home flower beds. The areas had been taken over by weeds. In celebration of Earth Day on May 20th, several GE Volunteers and Elfuns teamed up to tackle the problem. After a few hours and a large amount of mulch the areas in front and in the courtyard had been transformed into a well-manicured display. The residents and workers could not wait until it stopped raining to admire the improvements. Additional photos of the activity are in the e-mail supplement.

George Fay



2012/2013 Chapter Officers

Position	Individual	Phone	E-mail
Chairperson	David Fulmer	(315) 457-4087	fulmerdm@gmail.com
Vice Chairperson	Peter Scalzo	(315) 457-0598	none
Secretary	George Fay	(315) 246-1045	george.fay@ge.com
Treasurer	Robert Bryerton	(315) 395-1726	rbryerton@twcny.rr.com
Database/Webmaster	Robert Ruth	(315) 451-0685	ruthrob@msn.com
Seniors Rep.	Richard Enright	(315) 457-1364	donnarue1@verizon.net
Newsletter/Communications	Steve Auyer	(315) 451-7359	n2tkx@arrl.net
Social	Cindy Chermak	(315) 637-0380	chermak@msn.com
Construction Coordinator	Marv Hahn	(315) 699-2621	marvh@twcny.rr.com
GE Volunteers	Carl Chermak	(315) 637-0380	carl.chermak@ge.com
Community Liaison	Peter Scalzo	(315) 457-0598	none
Skaneateles Rep.	George Fay	(315) 246-1045	george.fay@ge.com
Benefits Rep.	Mal Clark	(315) 637-3996	clarkm2c3@aol.com
Former Chairpersons	Art Toll	(315) 415-3295	art.toll@yahoo.com
	Roland Robb	(315) 638-5251	none
	Nick Vaccaro	(315) 457-3632	nvaccaro@twcny.rr.com