

In Memoriam

Since the November Newsletter, we received word of the deaths of Elfun members Stan Bell 2/21/15, Ed Carrillo 9/11/15, Tom Kohler 11/24/15, Ralph Edmonds 12/8/15, and John McNeill 12/12/15.

Annual Holiday Party

The 2015 Holiday Party was held on Saturday, December 5th at the Lakeshore Yacht and Country Club. The food, service, and band were great. We had 90 attendees. Neil Schantz was honored as Elfun Of The Year for 2015. The site and band have been reserved for the December 3, 2016 party so save the date.

Dick Enright

Social Activities Planned for 2016

Thursday, April 21. Noon. Onondaga Lake Visitors Center Tour followed by a light lunch.

Thursday, May 5. Canandaigua Luncheon Cruise and Sonnenberg Gardens Tour. Tour bus will depart at 9:45am.

Thursday, May 19. Noon. Senior Luncheon at Barbagello's Restaurant on Molloy Road

Tuesday, June 7, 2PM. "Oklahoma" at Merry-Go-Round Playhouse in Auburn followed by a buffet dinner at the Sherwood Inn in Skaneateles.

Sunday, August 21, 1PM. Syracuse Chief's game at Alliance Bank Stadium

Friday, September 30. Fall Foliage Tour on the Adirondack Scenic Railroad with lunch.

Saturday, December 3. Annual Holiday Party at Lakeshore Country Club

And possibly some others.

Cindy Chermak

2016 Road Scholar Programs

Information that is received from GE's Diana Kuehl regarding future Road Scholar Programs is now posted on our website.

Membership Requirements

The Syracuse Elfun Society is open to membership for all current and former GE employees. Dues are \$15/year and help pay for Community Service Projects and subsidize our Social events. Potential new members should contact Bob Ruth.

Other Elfun Chapters

We are in contact with the Elfuns in other chapters that have also decided to continue as stand-alone organizations. If anyone is relocating to one of those areas, we can provide a point of contact. Most other chapters are also continuing with social event, monthly luncheons, and working with GE Volunteers on Community Service Projects.

Future Community Service Projects

Marv Hahn continues to plan future work tasks. If you are interested in being part of the work crew, please contact Marv at 315-699-2621 or at marvh@twcny.rr.com.

If You Move, Please Let Us Know!

Keep up on Syracuse Elfun Society happenings by making sure we have your current address. We don't want to lose you!

When you move, be sure to let us know where you go by providing us your postal and/or e-mail address. Forward both postal and email address changes to:

Bob Ruth, 4763 Echo Park Rd, Liverpool, NY 1308-3603 Or email to ruthrob@msn.com

Syracuse Elfun Society Officers for 2015-2016			
syracusechapterelfun@gmail.com			
Position	Name	Phone	Email
Chair	Dave Fulmer	457-4087	fulmerdm@gmail.com
Vice-Chair	Pete Scalzo	457-0598	none
Secretary	Steve Auyer	451-7359	n2tkx@arrl.net
Treasurer	Bob Bryerton	395-1726	bryertonrobert@gmail.com
Webmaster	Bob Ruth	451-0685	ruthrob@msn.com
Seniors	Dick Enright	457-1364	donnaruel@verizon.net
Social Events	Cindy Chermak	637-0380	chermak@msn.com
Service Projects	Marv Hahn	699-2621	marvh@twcny.rr.com
Newsletter	Dave Fulmer	457-4087	fulmerdm@gmail.com
Benefits	Mal Clark	214-5236	clarkm2c3@aol.com

Some GE History from Steve Auyer

Those of you who watch WCNY, the local PBS station, will shortly be noticing that the station will begin running a 50th Anniversary celebration that will last through 2016. While WCNY went on the air locally in 1966, the WCNY call sign was used for a number of years prior to that by a commercial station in Watertown, NY which now operates as WWNV.

Locally, WCNY greatly benefited from a close working relationship with General Electric which furnished the transmitter and studio equipment use

used by WCNY. The studio and broadcast equipment were manufactured at Electronics Park and for many years WCNY shared space in a building on Old Liverpool Road with various GE operations.

And for many years, GE's local Federated Fund was a major source of donations to WCNY. Anyone who had children that watched "Sesame Street" on WCNY in the 1970's was able to do so because of the sponsorship of GE.

The reprint of an article from the local GE News provides interesting insights into WCNY's first years of operation.

WCNY Makes Debut with VCP Equipment

Central New York's first non-commercial Educational Television station is expected to make its programming debut prior to Christmas with General Electric equipment produced at Electronics Park.

The transmitter and antenna were manufactured by the Visual Communication Products Business Section in Building 7 and are currently undergoing tests at Pompey where the station will conduct its operations for the first few months.

The 30 Kilowatt UHF transmitter is one of the latest models designed by VCP and will operate on Channel 24. A five bay helical UHF antenna is side mounted at about the 800 mark on the tower belonging to WNYS-TV, the local ABC network affiliate. WNYS-TV

has contributed the use of its tower and land for the transmitter building to the educational station.

The WCNY-TV engineering staff is headed by S. Paul Barron who was formerly associated with VCP. Working with him in the installation and testing of the equipment are several former colleagues including Ted Matysiak and Al Best, field service engineers; transmitter engineer Ralph Thompson; and VCP District Sales Manager Sam Morse.

Until March the station will broadcast from the transmitter site in Pompey which will have complete video tape, film and slide equipment. Station officials expect to establish studio and production facilities in the Fazio Building along Old Liverpool Rd., in the section previously occupied by the

GE Photographic Unit.

The ETV Council which will oversee the new station is currently presenting over six hours of in-school programming through the cooperation of the three local commercial stations WHEN-TV, WNYS-TV and WSYR-TV. This programming will continue through Feb. 1 when all in-school programs will originate from WCNY-TV.

To receive the station's fare of educational, informational and cultural programming, TV viewers must have a UHF band on their receivers. All TV sets which have been produced since April 1, 1964 automatically have both the VHF and UHF bands. Older sets must be modified to receive the UHF signal.



GE-built equipment helps launch WCNY Educational TV programming.