## **Syracuse Elfun Society** 2022 Winter Newsletter



We have been saddened to learn of the deaths of the following current or former members of the Syracuse Elfun Society:

- Edwin Elliott Roulston, Sr., 95, of Syracuse, passed away after a brief illness on Tuesday, October 5, 2021, at St. Joseph's hospital, surrounded by his loving family.
- **Richard "Dick" W. Granville, Jr.**, 88, of North Syracuse, passed away Wednesday, November 10, 2021, at The Nottingham in Jamesville.
- Arthur R. Michalek, 95, of North Syracuse, died in Syracuse on November 27, 2021.
- Jack T. Gorham, 92, of Syracuse, passed away peacefully on December 23, 2021, in Rochester surrounded by his family following his battle with cancer.
- **Robert T. (Bob) Markes**, passed away peacefully on December 29, 2021 at his residence, The Gardens at Terracina, Naples, FL.
- **Robert Murray "Bob" Teza**, from Port Charlotte, Florida, passed on December 31 at the age of 95, surrounded by his three children.
- Leonard J. Hayes, 88, passed away January 4, 2022 and is survived by a loving wife Barbara.

Complete obituaries for local individuals may be found online at Syracuse.com.

### **Chairman's Column**

Happy New Year to all Elfuns, family and acquaintances. The Holiday Party in December was well attended, and everyone seemed to have a good time despite mask wearing, social distancing and other COVID-19 concerns. For that reason, I am looking to have the 2022 Syracuse Elfun Society Annual Meeting live and in person. Send me your comments, especially with regards to potential speakers or venues to <u>carlchermak@gmail.com</u>. In the meantime, stay safe and we'll see you soon.

#### Carl Chermak

### **Social Events**

#### Holiday Luncheon

Back in the good old days of 2019, who would have thought that an Elfun Holiday Luncheon would be a major accomplishment? Welcome to covid-weary 2021. 41 of us gathered on December 2nd at The Cavalry Club in Manlius. Self-serve soft beverages, socially distant tables, and a great view awaited us. The buffet lunch was delicious. The Club assigned us two wonderful attendants who anticipated and met our every need. More importantly, we devoured every single cookie on the dessert tray in record time. My favorite takeaway was how much everyone enjoyed reuniting; we remained chatting at the tables long after the meal ended. Enjoy the great pictures that appear later in this newsletter that Steve Auyer took of this happy afternoon.

#### **Rev Theater** Save the Date **Thursday October 6**

We will attend the 2pm matinee of "Ain't Misbehavin" and dine at The Springside Inn in Auburn, just a stone's throw from the theater. The Springside is looking forward to hosting us after we had to cancel for COVID-19. "Ain't Misbehavin" is a tribute to Fats Waller and the Golden Age of the Cotton Club. You may think you don't know the songs, but you do. In addition to the title song, you all know "The Joint is Jumpin". The humor and romance of the story will be familiar as well. If in doubt, do an internet search for the 1978 show with the original Broadway cast. This may be Nell Carter's only Tony Award performance. Wow! Let's hope that the Rev Theatre can entertain us as well. The reservation form for this event will be included in the spring newsletter

#### Syracuse METS Save the Date Sunday July 31

Our annual outing will be on a Sunday afternoon when the Mets host the Omaha Storm Chasers, an affiliate of Kansas City. The Mets will once again assign us to the left field terrace, where we can move around and mingle with our friends. This is a family event, and we welcome Elfuns and extended family members. If the Mets promotions remain the same, kids will eat free on Sundays. Bring along your grandkids! Watch for the flyer in an upcoming newsletter.

At the holiday luncheon, I recognized the board members present and remarked how their efforts had helped sustain our chapter through the pandemic. One of our fellow Elfuns reminded me that the board members who were not present had contributed as well. He is correct and that was my oversight. Many thanks to our entire board for their commitment to our chapter and for their welcome assistance and advice to me as we ease back into social activities. How lucky we are to be one of the few remaining active chapters. Thank you, board, and thank you, members, for keeping Syracuse Elfun Society so vibrant.

### **Photos From The Holiday** Luncheon

Here are the photos from our December 2nd Luncheon - with apologies to any of the attendees who might have been left out of the photos.





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Cindy Chermak,









### If You Missed.....

Occasionally we run across an article of interest to GE retirees in a publication and send a copy of that article to all members who have asked to receive communications by e-mail. For those of you who have not asked to receive communications by email, here is a list of the recent copies of articles that we have sent out:

- October 19, 2021 The Post-Standard article "Lockheed Martin's Amazing Surge in Salina: 8 Years After Nearly Leaving, It's Expanding and Hiring Hundreds" - describes Lockheed-Martin's plans to bring more business and employees to Electronics Park.
- October 27, 2021 Wall Street Journal article "GE Raises Forecast Despite Flat Sales."
- November 9, 2021 Wall Street Journal article "GE Breakup Marks End of an Era" – initial release of GE's plans to split into three separate firms.
- November 11, 2021 Wall Street Journal article
   "GE Through The Years: The Decline Of an American Powerhouse" – an overview of GE's 200-year history with the major decisions that led to the just-announced pending breakup.
- December 1, 2021 Wall Street Journal article:
   "Chinese Owner Boosts GE's Appliance Unit"

   how Haier, the Chinese firm that bought GE's appliance business located at Appliance Park in Louisville, KY, is reinvigorating the business.

For those members who have not been receiving communications by e-mail, you can request a hard copy of any of the articles above, to be mailed to you, by sending an e-mail to <u>steve.auyer@gmail</u> or by calling me at (315) 451-7359.

### Speaking of E-mail.....

When I send out communications (newsletters, event flyers, etc.) to our members I hide member's names and e-mail addresses by using "BCC:" in the "To:" field. Back in the days of secretaries typing up letters, "BCC:" stood for "Blind Carbon Copy" which meant that the names and addresses of everyone receiving that letter were hidden. Today it's a way of keeping e-mail addresses private.

It looks as though I, or someone else, messed up in the past and used "CC:" instead of "BCC:" so that everyone who received that e-mail also saw the name and address of everyone receiving that e-mail. And somehow that information found it's way to some unsavory characters who are using it to send spoofing e-mails to some of you.

I've heard from several folks who have received what appears to be an e-mail from me that says something like: "You should be really interested in this", or "Check this out" followed by a link to click on. Here's an actual e-mail someone received recently:

#### "I hope they are still going to be relevant, even now - so here are the photos http:// www.trsjb.hedods.com/"

If you click on the link, it actually takes you to a website that urges you to place an order for CBD Capsules – and as we know, CBD is one of the extracts of marijuana that is now being sold in New York State – so in this case the fake e-mail is relatively harmless. In other cases you might end up on a dangerous web site.

Another hint? If you look at the header of an e-mail and it appears to be sent to you from

#### Steve Auyer<anastasia.gemmani@alice.it>

you'll know that it's fake because I haven't recently relocated to Italy (.it), or changed my name to ana-stasia.gemmani.

So if you receive a short, cryptic e-mail that appears to be from me or another Elfun, don't click on any links in the e-mail.

#### Steve Auyer

### **Financial Update**

Just a short message from your Treasurer to report that our income and expenses for the end of the Calendar year is as we had budgeted for this time in the Fiscal year. Fortunately, we were able to have three social events, which were well planned, (thanks to Cindy) resulting in a break even. Newsletter and insurance expenses are coming in within the budget or even a few dollars under. As of December 31, 2021 we have \$5,723. in our checking and savings accounts. This is a modest amount, but enough to manage expenses with the flow of your dues money later this Spring. So Happy New Year to everyone.

#### Joe Kínzel

### Winter Read

Sometimes it's nice to have an easy to read book handy on one of these cold winter days when you don't feel like going outside, but don't want to do one of the chores awaiting you inside. "Arctic Storm Rising" is a new release by the author Dale Brown that might just fill the bill.



What can you say about the plot of a book that begins with Colonel Alexi Petrov, a test pilot in the (Continued on page 5)

#### (Continued from page 4)

Russian Air Force (who just happens to be dying of inoperable brain cancer), taking off on the first test flight of the "PAK-DA" prototype of Russia's newest and most sophisticated stealth bomber. Shortly after takeoff he kills the other two officers in the plane, manages to evade Russian fighters pursuing him and lands the craft in an isolated portion of Alaska where he offers to sell the craft back to either Russia or the US – whoever is the highest bidder.

You might not expect the book to be a work of great literature, and it may not be, but it does move along rapidly through a series of short chapters (to allow you to take a quick break and put another log on the fire or shovel the snow off your front walk) that make it an easy and enjoyable read.

More interesting however, is how the plot makes use of military technology – including several systems developed by General Electric in Syracuse and Utica and mentioned many times in the book:



The North Warning System in Canada which utilizes the FPS-117 Solid State Radar produced in Syracuse plays a key role in the book's plot, as it provides the first hint to the Pentagon that the Russian PAK-DA has entered US airspace over Alaska.

FPS-117 Solid-State Radar

Airborne surveillance aircraft using the APS-135/145 search radars produced in Utica and Syracuse and used on the Navy's E-2C airborne early warning and command and control aircraft play an important part in the book's plot. The successor to the GE APS-135/145 radar, the Northrop Grumman APG-77 radar is also mentioned. US Navy E-2C Airborne Command and Control aircraft using the GE APS-135/145

So, all in all, a lot of central NY technology and products appear in the book and there are



enough twists and turns in the plot to keep you interested and trying to figure out what will happen next.

"Arctic Storm Rising" is available through the Onondaga County Public Library System, or can be purchased through Amazon.com or local bookstores.

Steve Auyer

### If The Weather Has You Down

It could be worse - here are some photos from the Blizzard of 1966:







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# **G-E'ers 'Shovel Out' After Record Snowfall**



#### Syracuse Elfun Society Board of Directors SyracuseElfunSociety.org

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