

Syracuse Elfun Society

2024 Fall Newsletter



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

William (Bill, "Bing") John Wingfelder died October 6, 2023 peacefully at Hospice Simcoe in Barrie, Ontario with family at his side. A funeral mass was held Saturday, June 8, 2024, at Our Lady of Mercy Church, Honey Harbour.

Gary Nelson, 91, of Bountiful, Utah, passed away on October 10, 2023.

Raymond Chester Holbrook, Jr., 96, of North Syracuse passed away at home on Thursday, June 6, 2024.

Thaddeus Joseph Astemborski passed away at the age of 92 in Canandaigua, New York. A memorial service was held at St. Mary's of the Lake Church, Skaneateles on June 27th.

William "Bill" J. Piseczny, 92, of Baldwinsville, NY passed away on Friday, July 5, 2024 at Syracuse Home.

Elihu Cohen, 98, of North Syracuse, passed away on Saturday, July 6th, 2024 at Crouse Hospital in Syracuse.

Bruce D. Keller, 89, passed away on July 10, 2024 at his home in Skaneateles after a long illness.

William W. Poorman, 98, passed away on Monday, July 22, 2024. A graveside service was held August 21, 2024 at Beach Memorial Chapel, Saint Petersburg, FL.

Complete obituaries for local individuals can usually be found at <https://obits.syracuse.com/us/obituaries/syracuse/browse>.

Note: Since it is not possible for the board of directors to keep tabs of all member passings, especially when the notices weren't in the local Syracuse Post Standard, we request that, if you are aware of a member passing, please notify a board member so we can include the announcement in our newsletter. Thanks.

Chairman's Column

I hope you all had a great Summer. It was a little hotter than I may have liked, but nice none the less. To everyone who renewed their membership for the coming year, thank you. To our board members who make this happen, thanks to you as well. The Syracuse Elfun Society provides our members with the opportunity to get together and share their experiences. We have our holiday party scheduled for December 9th and I hope you will be able to come. In the meantime, if you have suggestions for a near term get together or have news that you would like to pass on to the group, call me at 315-436-8696 or send me an email at carlchermak@gmail.com.

CAZOMPEY DVD

In June, we sent out a special newsletter describing the video tape that Carl Phillips and Don Roller produced about the test facilities and social activities at the CAZOMPEY test site. Steve Auyer copied and edited the video as a DVD. Quite a few people requested and received copies, but if you missed that opportunity and still want a copy of this DVD (at no charge), send an e-mail to steve.auyer@gmail.com or leave a message at (315) 451-7359 and confirm the mailing address that the DVD should be mailed to.

Social Events

By Cindy Chermak

Broadway in the Finger Lakes "Jersey Boys" and Dinner at Lasca's June 19, 2024



Our annual outing to Rev Theater continues to be popular with our members. We picked a good show, as the theater had a string of sold-out performances for Jersey Boys, including our performance. Our group of 26 was certainly smaller than the 60-70 that we used to have, but Rev recognized us as a long-time group and welcomed us as warmly as ever. Many of us had previously seen Jersey Boys, some multiple times, but we still enjoyed re-visiting the story of the quartet from their origin in New Jersey in 1960 through their induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1990. We sang along with consecutive #1 hits from the 60's such as "Sherry", "Big Girls Don't Cry" and "Walk Like a Man" all the way through the #1 "December 1963" in 1975. A sign of the enduring appeal of the music is that Frankie Valli continues to tour and play to enthusiastic

audiences, and received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on his 90th birthday earlier in 2024.

Lasca's has been an Auburn tradition since 1987, but this was the first time that our group dined with them. They tell us that 90% of their clientele are regulars, and that the same chefs have been preparing their dishes for 20 years. Rev Theater highly recommended Lasca's to us, and it did not disappoint. Our group opted for the family style dinner. It was delicious, but actually much too plentiful. The baked scrod and warm bread with tomato oil may have been the big hits.

We will plan a return to this event next year, with a matinee of "Jesus Christ Superstar" and dinner once again at Lasca's. Rev Theater will begin booking groups in January. Until we receive our confirmed date, mark your calendars for June "something", 2025.

Elfun Family Day at the Ballpark July 14, 2024



One of the best perks of attending a Triple-A

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baseball game is the opportunity to see major league superstars on the way up, on the way down, or in our case, on rehab assignment. The Syracuse Mets may have lost, falling to the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders (New York Yankees Triple-A affiliate), 3-2, but we were treated to a game that featured New York Mets starting pitcher Kodai Senga, who was pitching for Syracuse on the aforementioned rehab assignment. Senga went four and two-thirds innings while allowing two hits, two walks, and one run while striking out three batters. The 31-year-old threw 66 pitches, including 40 strikes. That was the most innings and pitches Senga had thrown so far during his MLB rehab appearances. Oswald Peraza's walk in the 4th, followed by T.J. Rumfield's single, followed by Agustin Ramirez's sacrifice fly, scored Peraza - the only run Senga allowed on the mound for the Mets. While all of this went on, our group of 44 enjoyed our usual premium seats in the Left Field Terrace and mingled with our Elfun friends. We had our expected warm, sunny weather, of course. Though some of us lamented The Mets' loss, our Yankee fans in the group (yes, we had some) were delighted with the RailRiders' win. Let's plan another fun day at NBT Bank Stadium in 2025 so we can cheer on our Syracuse Mets.

Holiday Luncheon at Bella Domani December 9, 2024

It is time once again to celebrate the holidays together. The days of the big dinner dance at

Lakeshore with 100+ attendees are behind us. Bella Domani worked well for us in 2023. The food was as expected, and the service was excellent. The staff members were wonderful as they assisted our group members at the buffet and brought the plates to the table. So, we will return for a luncheon buffet on Monday December 9. Look for the flyer in this newsletter, make plans with your Elfun friends, pull out your holiday finery, and gather for a festive holiday lunch.

Newsletter Assembly Team

We would like to introduce you to the Syracuse Elfun Society Newsletter Assembly Team. On the left, wearing the tuxedo, is Jake and on the right is Cindy.



Website

To view news about upcoming or past events, copies of previous newsletters or other memorabilia, the address for the Syracuse Elfun Society member site is:

www.syracuseelfunsociety.org

A copy of the special newsletter mentioned on page 1 is available on our website.

GE Sells Electric Insurance

RiverStone International reports it has closed on its acquisition of Electric Insurance Co. Electric Insurance is a Beverly, Massachusetts-domiciled insurer licensed in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Canada. Its owner, General Electric (GE), decided to sell the company and exit the insurance business as part of its major restructuring begun in 2021 under which GE has transformed itself into three public companies focused on aviation, energy and healthcare.

RiverStone International, which specializes in acquiring and reinsuring legacy and discontinued businesses, will manage Electric's legacy liability portfolios but will withdraw from personal lines in all states.

Electric Insurance wrote the commercial insurance including workers' compensation, auto and general and product liability exclusively for GE and personal lines insurance including auto, home, yacht and personal excess liability primarily for GE employees, retirees and their families. As of January 1, 2024, Electric no longer insured GE's commercial business.

How Electric will handle the transition for its personal lines business will vary from state to state. If you have questions, contact Electric Insurance directly.

Syracuse Elfun Society Board of Directors

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