

The Pioneer's Club Newsletter

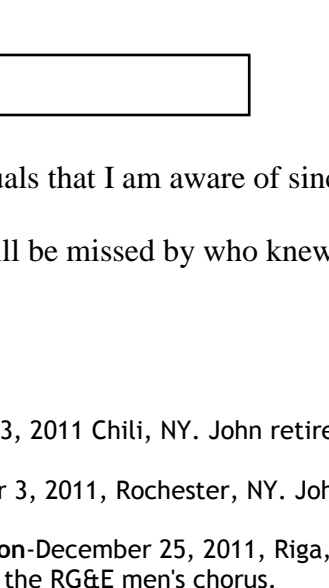
Volume 6, Issue 1
January 2012

Happy New Year!

Arnie and I would like to wish each and everyone out there a very Happy New Year. We hope your New Year started off on a positive note.

For me my first grandchild was born on December 23, 2011. She is Ella J. Boneberg weighing in at 6 lbs 4 oz. Mother (my daughter) and Ella are doing very well.

As you all can imagine I'm a very happy grandfather



Obituary Page

We lost three individuals that I am aware of since the last newsletter.

They will be missed by who knew them.

John J. Philbin -December 3, 2011 Chili, NY. John retired from Gas M&O.

John L. Novgrad-December 3, 2011, Rochester, NY. John worked at Ginna Station.

Ronald Fraser (Papa) Horton-December 25, 2011, Riga, NY at age 61. Ron worked 37 years for RG&E and sang in the RG&E men's chorus.



January Events

Here are the important dates for January

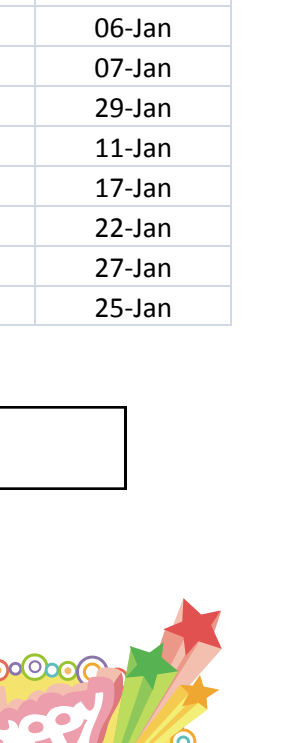
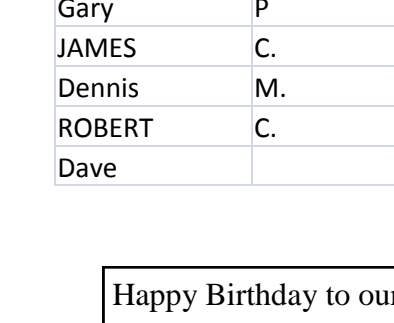
January 3rd—Subway Lunch at Keenans

January 9th—Coming of Age Day (Japan)

January 16th—Martin Luther King Day

January 23rd—Chinese New Years

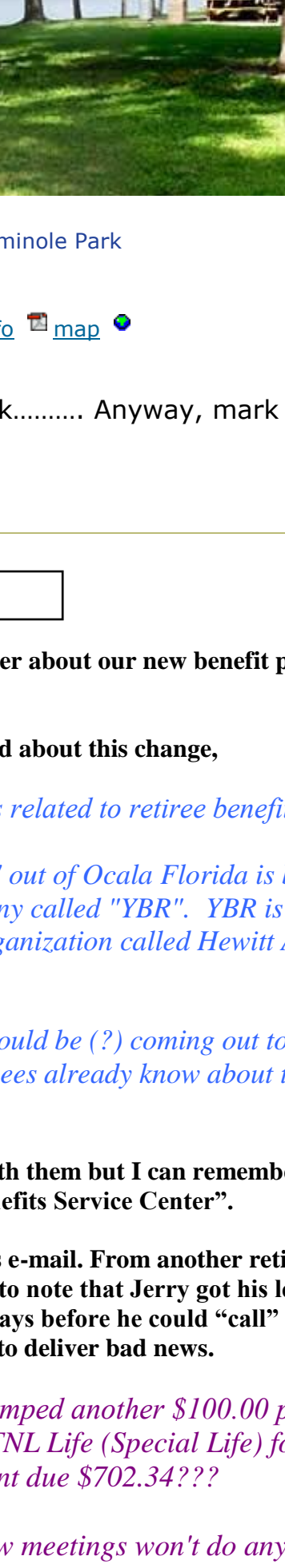
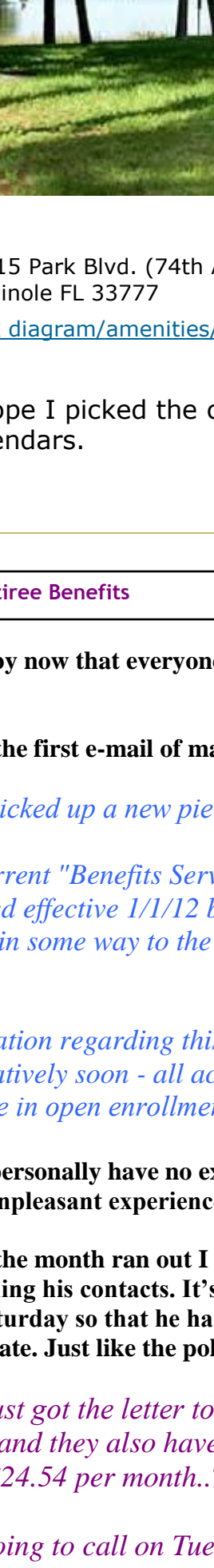
January 26th—Australia Day (Australia)



January Birthdays

First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name	Birthday
Reginald	J.	Allen	12-Jan
Sue Ann		Conway	02-Jan
Glen		Davis	19-Jan
MARY	E.	DIBBLE	12-Jan
Barbara	A.	Donish	06-Jan
ALICE	L.	HASSETT	07-Jan
Robert		Hobday	29-Jan
Gary	P	Litto	11-Jan
JAMES	C.	MC GUIRE	17-Jan
Dennis	M.	McCumiskey	22-Jan
ROBERT	C.	NESBITT	27-Jan
Dave		Phillips	25-Jan

Happy Birthday to our January babies.



Florida Picnic

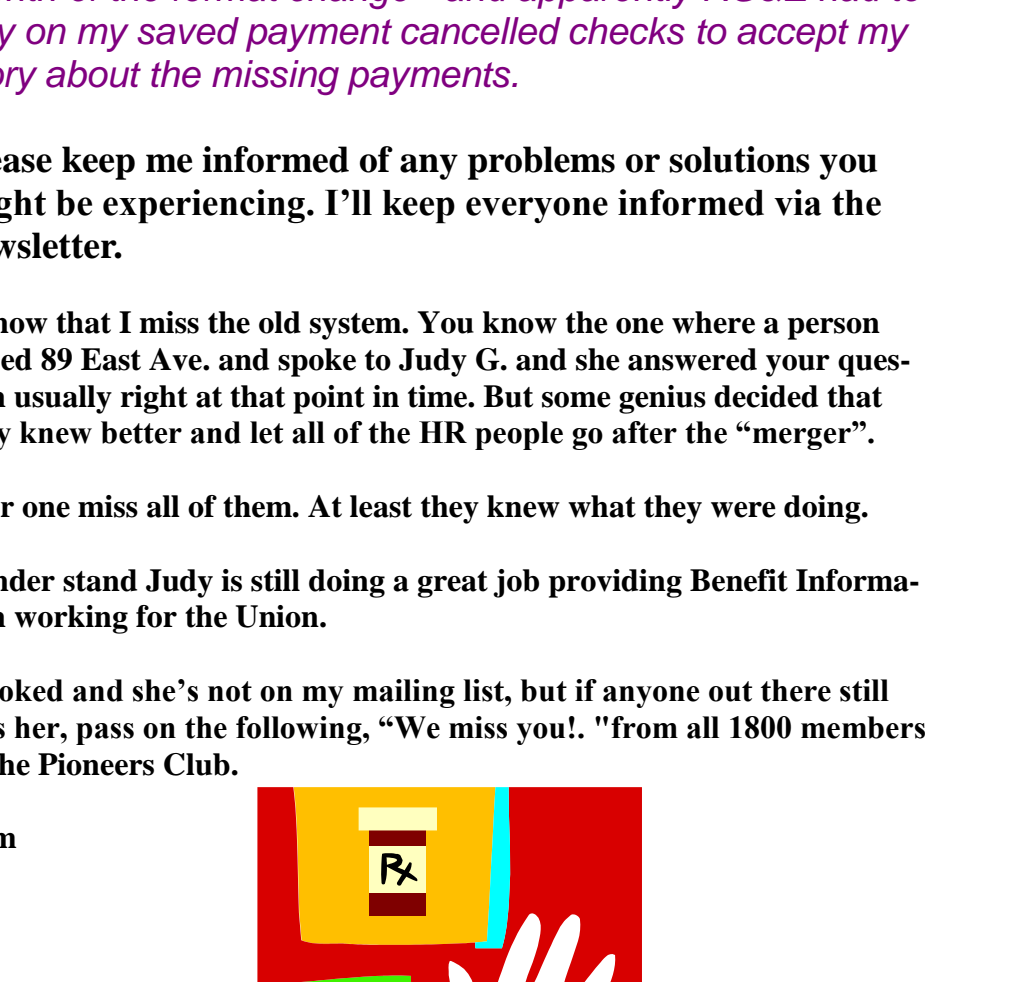
I got this e-mail from down south. There will be another Florida Picnic. So here are the details.

Hi Tom,
It's getting near that time of year again.
Don Jeering, Jack Klein and I will be hosting another picnic at Lake Seminole Park on Park Blvd in Seminole, FL.
As with last year, it will be held on the first Monday in March (March 5) and everyone should bring their own food and drink.
The three of us will be developing additional details early in January and hope to provide them for publication in the February News Letter.

Would you please make a general announcement in the January issue urging the Florida residents and visitors to add it to the schedules.

Thanks,

Lee Harris



Lake Seminole Park

10015 Park Blvd. (74th Ave. N.)
Seminole FL 33777

[park diagram](#)—[amenities/restroom info](#) [map](#)

I hope I picked the correct park..... Anyway, mark your calendars.

Our Retiree Benefits

I hope by now that everyone has the letter about our new benefit provider.

This is the first e-mail of many I received about this change,

"Just picked up a new piece of info as related to retiree benefits"

The current "Benefits Service Center" out of Ocala Florida is being replaced effective 1/1/12 by a Company called "YBR". YBR is connected in some way to the benefits organization called Hewitt Associates.

Information regarding this change should be (?) coming out to retirees relatively soon - all active employees already know about this as they are in open enrollment phase."

Now I personally have no experience with them but I can remember many unpleasant experiences with "Benefits Service Center".

Before the month ran out I received this e-mail. From another retiree concerning his contract. It's interesting to note that Jerry got his letter on a Saturday so that he had to wait 3 days before he could "call" and investigate. Just like the politicians use to deliver bad news.

"Yep just got the letter today ours jumped another \$100.00 per month and they also have a Ret OPTNL Life (Special Life) for another \$24.54 per month..Total amount due \$702.34???"

I am going to call on Tuesday..I know meetings won't do any good but one can only hope...Maybe we will become part of the population that does not have Medical.

Merry Christmas to you and yours and we can stay in touch..

Jerry"

This is the latest e-mail I received. It does not indicate that there is any improvement in the current benefit processes.

Tom, you would have noticed that the new outsource is Aon Hewitt, 100 Half Day Road, Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069 P.O. Box 1495. (1-855-577-4237) Actually, they are simply a billing sweatshop. When I had an error to correct, I was referred to Benefits Adm., somewhere else at 1-800-717-6740 - who knew nothing about the billing records and referred me to 1-800-317-0582, extension 3701 in New Glouchester Maine, "Shane". Shane took my number to refer the case to someone apparently at 89 East Avenue. later in the day I got a call to tell me to call 1-800-577-4237. I called there and someone told me that it is a billing error and that I should pay the amount that I had been paying since June.

To back up: On Christmas Eve, I got a billing notice of a health care payment due January 1. The amount due is increased from what I've been paying and that was shown last May on my 2011 Benefits Annual Enrollment Worksheet, by the amount of my monthly flexible credit dollars.

So, others of the retirees may also have received a billing in error, in the amount of their flexible credit dollars if they had applied them to their health care premiums.

There were three previous incidents of billing errors occurring when the format of the invoice was changed. Each time previously, they had lost the record of my payment for the month of the format change - and apparently RG&E had to rely on my saved payment cancelled checks to accept my story about the missing payments.

Please keep me informed of any problems or solutions you might be experiencing. I'll keep everyone informed via the newsletter.

I know that I miss the old system. You know the one where a person called 89 East Ave. and spoke to Judy G. and she answered your question usually right at that point in time. But some genius decided that they knew better and let all of the HR people go after the "merger".

I for one miss all of them. At least they knew what they were doing.

I understand Judy is still doing a great job providing Benefit Information working for the Union.

I looked and she's not on my mailing list, but if anyone out there still sees her, pass on the following, "We miss you!". "from all 1800 members of the Pioneers Club.

Tom



Help! - Repost

Ray Henry is the Historian for Canandaigua. He wrote asking for our help identifying the badge I have pictured below.

The badge belonged to Everett Pierce who worked for RG&E from 1934 to 1973.

Anyone with information please write Ray at rgbhenry@frontiernet.net.

Ray is also looking for any photos about RG&E in the Finger Lakes Region.



Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation badge with number 829.

Remember: Pass this Newsletter on, so everyone can see it!

[And if you're not on our mailing list, click here](#) to join

Questions, or Comments, or Articles?

Just Email me at Tom@ThePioneersClub.org

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#) (we'll miss you!)

To a Friend! They'll be glad you did.

www.thepioneersclub.org