



Johns
Manville
Retirees
Association

Fall/Winter 2013

jmretirees.org

President's Corner

Andy Sokal

This will be my final writing from the President's Corner, as my term as president expires December 31, 2013.

This was an interesting period, primarily to sustain our organization, and to diligently develop a working relationship with the CEO of Johns Manville. There have been some unknowns as we worked with Todd Raba, Warren Buffet's selection as CEO. When Mary Rhinehart was named CEO, many of us felt more comfortable with Johns Manville.

With the change in the Health Benefits Plan, the JM Retirees Association was asked to participate as a sounding board, as changes evolved. This is an example of our working together.

Our nominating committee this year was able to recruit some new retirees to guide us in the future. We have acquired new members, and recently at our request, JM sent out our letter inviting all salaried retirees to join our organization. We are working on an agreement to advise future retirees, of the Johns Manville Retirees Association as they retire.. The nominating committee submitted candidates to replace those directors whose terms were ending. The board voted to approve the new candidates.

Our annual meeting in December will close out 2013. I encourage to attend retiree events, and source out potential retirees to join our group.

In closing, I want to thank all the retirees for their support to the JMRA.

JM Letter Clarification

Both the Johns Manville Corporation and the Johns Manville Retirees Association value our mutually beneficial relationship and work together on issues that relate to the retiree.

A good example of this cooperation was a recent letter from your Association but sent by the Corporation at their own cost that speaks to the mission of the Association and encourages retirees to consider joining. To make sure that no retiree was missed Johns Manville sent the letter to all salaried retirees on their mailing list; active association members as well as to those who have not joined and who may not be aware of our activities on behalf of the retiree.

Since the question came up from a few members; if you are a current member there is no need for you to do anything as a result of this letter and it was not a request for dues. Our Association will send a separate communication when it's time to pay those.

Thank you for your membership which is your voice to Johns Manville on matters that relate to you, the John Manville Retiree.

Nominating Committee

In accordance with the by-laws of the Johns Manville Retirees Association, the 2013 nominating committee was appointed by the board, consisting of the following: Jerry Attridge, Fern Balaun, Jack Kingery, Bob Clark (Chairman), and Rich Johanson elected August 12, 2013.

The committee met on Monday, July 22, 2013 to propose names for Director positions due to expire December 31, 2013 and Officer positions to be vacated also on December 31, 2013. These positions were as follows:

1. Director: Ed Bettinardi
2. Director: Jack Ellis
3. Director: Dick Graves
4. Director and Vice President: Jared Ingwalson
5. Director and Treasurer: John Leasher

All five of the above Directors expressed a willingness to serve another term if elected. The nominating committee unanimously nominated all five to return to the JMRA board of directors for new two year terms.

Bob Clark has elected to step off the board of directors effective December 31, 2013. The committee unanimously nominated Chuck Lemons to fill the remaining one year on Bob Clark's term. Andy Sokal has stated he will remain on the BOD, but will step down as President.

The nominating committee recommended that Jared Ingwalson be elected as President, Norm Zettel be elected as Vice President, and Bob Whitt be elected as Secretary.

All have agreed to serve if elected and all of these positions are to be effective January 1, 2014.

Additional Nominations: The by-laws state, "Nominations may be made by any five or more members if filed with the Secretary within thirty days after mailing of the list of nominees, with permission of the candidates."

Additional nominations should be sent to Norm Zettel, Secretary, Johns Manville Retirees Association, P.O. Box 3336, Centennial, CO 80161-3336.

The nomination should be signed by at least five association members in good standing, as well as by the candidate(s) indicating willingness to serve if elected.

If there are additional nominations, secret ballots will be mailed to members. Should there be no additional nominations; a proxy request will be sent to all members. The Secretary will be directed, at the annual meeting, to cast a ballot for the slate proposed by the Nominating Committee.

The time and place of the annual meeting will be announced later.

Berkshire Female CEOs

Betty Liu of Bloomberg Televisions' "In the Loop" interviewed women CEOs of Berkshire Hathaway subsidiaries at the BRK Annual Meeting. The women answered questions about what it's like to work with Warren Buffett and succession planning at Berkshire Hathaway.

The interview aired May 8, 2013, and can be seen through the following link: <http://www.bloomberg.com/video/buffett-s-ceos-the-women-of-berkshire-hathaway-~3JLqmQITXWdas~PGU9rnw.html>



JM Shows Support for Storm/Flood Victims

JM recently donated \$10,000 to disaster relief efforts in Cleburne, Texas and Moore, Oklahoma after both communities were hit by devastating tornadoes.

Eric Dobransky, plant manager at Cleburne, Texas presented a check to Red Cross representative Sarah Wilson and John Dodi, plant manager at Oklahoma City, Okla., presented a check to Red Cross representative Sara Bruesewitz.

Then in mid-September, a number of Colorado communities experienced more rain in a few days than they normally experience in a year, with damage from flash flood waters to homes, businesses, bridges and roads that will take months and years to repair. JM donated \$5,000 to the American Red Cross to help them in their work supporting shelters and evacuations centers in numerous locations.

In Memory

This list is assembled from many sources. We try to be accurate, but if you find an error, please let your editor know.

Mary J Bedrosian	Waukegan
John Belzer	Wimberly, TX
Henry Chaney	Davisville, WV
Victor DeLazzari	Manville
Loretta L. Ferguson	Denver
Jane Gibson	Wilmington, DE
Carl Herdman	Denver
Margaret G Hoage	Denver
Charlie Kern	Parkersburg
Robert W. Lambert	Defiance
Carmine Lovetri	Manville
Mary S Martin	Denver
Donald W. McQuade	Denver
George Mille	Denver
Evagene Nelson	Denver
Carrol Paaske	Lompoc
Dorothy Pulk	Waukegan
Ethel Ray	Denver
Frances G Reich	Manville
John Roe	Long Beach
Jack G Rueppel	Denver
Joseph J Shumaker	Oklahoma City
Ruth Smith	Tempe, AZ
Toshimi T Tateyama	Lompoc
Margret Truax	Pueblo West, CO
Donald Wingerter	Denver

Affordable Care Act Benefits

We are including an article describing the benefits of the ACA, which we feel you may find interesting. The JMRA makes no claims on this information, and is only included to make our members better informed.



How the Affordable Care Act Helps Seniors

The Affordable Care Act (ACA), signed into law on March 23, 2010, aims to provide greater access to health care coverage, improve the quality of services delivered and reduce the rate of increase in health spending. The ACA provides new ways to help hospitals, doctors and other health care providers coordinate care for beneficiaries so that health care quality is improved and unnecessary spending reduced. Many seniors are already benefiting from provisions of the law such as receiving preventive services and paying lower Medicare prescription drug costs. Below are some of the ways that the Affordable Care Act is helping seniors.

Medicare Benefits Expanded

- Under the ACA, Medicare benefits will not be reduced or taken away, but rather are expanding. Medicare beneficiaries will save, on average, about \$4,200 over the next 10 years due to lower drug costs, free preventive services and reductions in the growth of health spending. Since passage of the ACA in 2010, more than 6.6 million people with Medicare saved over \$7 billion on prescription drugs.
- Private Medicare Advantage (MA) plans are not going away. Between 2010 and 2012, the number of seniors who joined MA plans increased by 17 percent and premiums fell by 16 percent.

Free Preventive Services and Annual Wellness Visit

- Medicare beneficiaries are eligible to receive many preventive services with no out-of-pocket costs. These include flu shots, tobacco use cessation counseling, as well as no-cost screenings for cancer, diabetes and other chronic diseases. Seniors can also get an annual wellness visit so they can talk to their doctor about any health concerns. More than 32.5 million seniors have received at least one of these preventive services with no out-of-pocket costs since 2010. In the first six months of 2013, 16.5 million people with traditional Medicare took advantage of at least one free preventive service.

Lower Medicare Part B Premiums

- Because successful reforms in the Affordable Care Act are making Medicare more efficient and reducing costs, the Medicare Part B premium for 2012 was \$99.90, \$6.70 lower than the amount projected, and only a few dollars more than the premium that most beneficiaries had been paying. In addition, the Part B annual deductible decreased by \$22 to \$140, the first time in Medicare's history when the deductible was lower than the previous year. The 2013 Part B monthly premium – \$104.90 – is also lower than previously projected by the Medicare trustees.

Lower-Cost Prescription Drugs

- For the Medicare Part D prescription drug program, Medicare beneficiaries who fall into the coverage gap, known as the "donut hole," automatically receive a discount on prescription drugs. Each year, beneficiaries pay a reduced cost for brand name and generic drugs in the coverage gap. In 2020, the donut hole will be closed.
- In 2013, Medicare beneficiaries in the donut hole will receive a 52.5 percent discount on brand-name drugs and a 21 percent discount on generic drugs. Seniors who reached the donut hole will save, on average, about \$1,061 per beneficiary.
- Nearly four million people with Medicare who were in the donut hole in 2010 received a one-time, tax-free \$250 rebate from Medicare to help pay for prescription drug costs.

Improvements for Medicare Advantage Plan Members

- Medicare Advantage plans cannot charge enrollees more than traditional Medicare for chemotherapy administration, skilled nursing home care and other specialized services.
- Starting in 2014, the health care law provides additional protections for Medicare Advantage plan members by taking strong steps that limit the amount these plans spend on administrative costs, insurance company profits and items other than health care to 15 percent of their Medicare payments.

Medicare Fraud, Waste and Abuse

- The Affordable Care Act includes new resources and tools to protect taxpayer dollars by preventing fraud in Medicare and Medicaid, building on the efforts of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Justice Department. In the last three years, the government recovered over \$14.9 billion from individuals and companies seeking fraudulent payments. These efforts have been strengthened by tougher penalties for people who steal from Medicare and more law enforcement to identify criminals abusing the law and beneficiaries.
- Other measures include supporting technology to prevent fraud before it happens. Examples are preventing fraudulent payments from going out in the first place vs. trying to recapture the money and working with the Senior Medicare Patrol program, which educates seniors and their friends and neighbors about how to stop Medicare fraud.

Medicare Delivery System and Payment Reforms

- The ACA establishes the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test new ways of delivering care that are intended to improve quality while reducing the rate of growth in Medicare spending. Examples include programs to reduce unnecessary hospital readmissions by coordinate care and services for patients when they leave the hospital.
- Other provisions provide for the development of Accountable Care Organizations, bundled payments and medical homes –

- all intended to provide higher-quality, coordinated care for beneficiaries.
- The ACA also provides bonus payments to primary care physicians for certain services.

Helping Americans of All Ages

The Affordable Care Act helps seniors and Americans of all ages. Provisions already in effect prohibit insurance companies from denying coverage to children with pre-existing conditions; prohibiting insurance companies from taking away coverage when someone needs services, eliminate lifetime limits on insurance coverage, allow young adults to stay on their parents' plan until they turn 26 and provide assistance to employers to help them continue providing retiree health insurance benefits. Beginning in 2014, the following ACA benefits will improve health care for more individuals and families.

- Requiring guaranteed issue and renewability of health insurance regardless of health status and allowing rating variation based only on age (limited to a 3 to 1 ratio), geographic area, family composition and tobacco use in the individual, small group market and the health insurance exchanges.
- Prohibiting annual limits on the dollar value of coverage.
- Creating state-based health insurance marketplaces where individuals and small businesses with up to 100 employees can purchase qualified coverage.
- Providing refundable, advance tax credits and cost sharing subsidies to eligible individuals to help pay for health insurance.
- Creating an essential health benefits package that provides a comprehensive set of services, limiting annual cost-sharing to the Health Savings Account limits (\$5,950/individual and \$11,900/family in 2010). Creates four categories of plans to be offered through health insurance marketplaces, and in the individual and small group markets, varying based on the proportion of plan benefits they cover.
- Requiring U.S. citizens and legal residents to have qualifying health coverage or pay a phased-in tax penalty. If affordable coverage is not available, an individual will be exempt from this requirement.
- Expanding Medicaid (optional for states) to individuals not eligible for Medicare under age 65 with incomes up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level and providing enhanced federal matching payments for new eligibles.
- Permitting states the option to create a Basic Health Plan for uninsured individuals with incomes between 133-200 percent of federal poverty level who would otherwise be eligible to receive premium subsidies in the exchange.
- Permitting employers to offer employees rewards of up to 30 percent, potentially increasing to 50 percent, of the cost of coverage for participating in a wellness program and meeting certain health-related standards.

Government Relations and Policy, September 2013

Sources: Kaiser Family Foundation (<http://kff.org/interactive/implementation-timeline/>); Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (www.cms.gov); and the White House (www.whitehouse.gov).

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We Appreciate You

Colorado Credit Union

We would like to wish you a very Happy Thanksgiving, and extend a special thank you to all of the Johns Manville Retirees for your support over the years.

As Colorado Credit Union celebrates our 40th year, we are proud to say our main objective has always been our members. Since 1973, we have continued to enhance our business model while offering products and services that will assist our members in their daily lives: free checking, savings, low-interest credit cards, free ATMs, home equity loans, auto loans, and mortgages are just a few of the stellar products and services our members enjoy.

Our credit union is federally insured by the NCUA, and we also belong to the Credit Union Service Network/Shared Branching.

If we may be of any assistance, please give us a call at 303.978.2274 or visit us online at www.CCU.org.

Directors

Andy Sokal. President
 Rocco Russo Vice-President
 Norm Zettel. Secretary
 Lou Stravato. Treasurer
 Ed Bettinardi Jared Ingwalson
 Bob Clark John Leasher
 Jack Ellis Bob Whitt
 Dick Graves

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