



Johns
Manville
Retirees
Association

March 2008

jmretirees.org

JMRA visits JM

With the recent changes in management at Johns Manville, the Johns Manville Retirees Association felt it necessary to re-establish contacts with the Company to assure open communications. Rocco Russo, Ed Bettinardi and Jack Ellis met with Todd Raba, JM's new President and CEO, on January 10, 2008. Rocco and Ed met with Scott Simmons, Vice President Human Resources and Communications and Barbara Schane, Manager of Compensation and Benefits, on March 14, 2008.

Mr. Raba assured JMRA that he was ready to listen...

Both meetings were cordial and informative. Mr. Raba assured JMRA that he was ready to listen to any issues retirees had with the Company. Mr. Raba's six fundamental priorities include "employee commitment," and when he was asked, noted that the same philosophy extends to retirees. As a result of that meeting, Mr. Raba provided the letter to retirees presented in this issue and also agreed to speak at the Columbine Retirees Luncheon on May 15, 2008. With Scott Simmons and Barbara Schane, Rocco and Ed reviewed health care insurance, JM Direct performance, methods of contacting retirees not now members of JMRA and learning of retirees' passing away. Also, JM agreed to provide JMRA with periodic updates on company activities, the first of which is the article on JM's 150th anniversary in this issue.

Greetings from JM's Leadership

Todd Rabba

Dear JM Retirees:

I assumed the role of president and chief executive officer for Johns Manville last August, and since that time have been working hard to get to know our business, our operations and our people. I recently had the opportunity to meet with several members of the JM Retiree Association, who graciously granted me access to your newsletter so I could introduce myself to you.

*I come to JM from MidAmerican Energy Company, a fellow Berkshire Hathaway company. Shortly after joining JM, I introduced six fundamental priorities that have guided much of my career to-date: **customer satisfaction, employee commitment, environmental respect, integrity, financial strength and operational excellence**. JM employees have embraced these concepts and we've established them as pillars that will further strengthen our company going forward.*

My first six months with JM have been challenging but rewarding. We are executing on plans to mitigate the negative impact of the slowing North American residential market that has significantly affected our business. At the same time, we are capitalizing on opportunities to strengthen our business and positively impact the areas that are more directly under our control. During this time, I have visited about half of our global facilities, where I have been impressed with the commitment and knowledge of our employees. I've also had the opportunity to meet with a number of key customers and have begun to establish the type of relationships that have served us so well for the past 150 years.

As a JM retiree, you helped to build the company I lead today. And as we celebrate our 150th anniversary, I want to extend my appreciation for your dedication during your JM career and your ongoing interest in our company's success.

Best wishes to you for a safe and healthy 2008.

Todd Rabba

JMRA Organization

George Kinzer

Organizations for JM Retirees

JM Retirees may be affiliated with one or more of several retiree organizations, each organization with its own purpose. Unfortunately, the abundance of opportunities has led to confusion among our members as to what organization does what function. Our intention here is to help clarify these organizations for you.

Johns Manville Retirees Association (JMRA)

The Johns Manville Retirees Association (JMRA) is a Colorado nonprofit corporation dedicated to the protection, preservation and improvement of retiree benefits for approximately 2500 dues paying members. It was founded in 1992 and is located in Littleton, Colorado.

JMRA is not an official Johns Manville company organization. It is a private organization that is not affiliated with or sponsored by Johns Manville Corporation or its subsidiaries. Members are retired salaried employees of Johns Manville, its subsidiaries and predecessors, as well as spouses of deceased retirees who receive or are eligible to receive retiree benefits.

Members are retired salaried employees of Johns Manville...

It is this organization that publishes this newsletter. Dues of \$20.00 per member are requested every other year in the odd numbered years. The JMRA is totally funded by the members and receives no compensation from the company.

For more information, write to Johns Manville Retirees Association, P.O. Box 3336, Littleton, CO 80161-3336 or send an email to hello@jmretirees.org.

Johns Manville Quarter Century Club (JMQCC)

The Johns Manville Quarter Century Club (JMQCC) is open for membership to both active and retired salaried and hourly employees of Johns Manville Corporation. JMQCC is an official Johns Manville company organization and is sponsored by the company.

JMQCC is an official Johns Manville company organization...

Employees become eligible for membership in the JMQCC upon achieving 25 years of service with the company. There are a number of chapters of the QCC, usually in the vicinity of present or past Johns Manville facilities.

The Denver Chapter of QCC is comprised of both active employees and retirees. It annually holds an Induction of new members, a Summer Picnic and a Winter Holiday Party. Those attending these events pay for their share of the costs.

A \$10.00 dues contribution is requested of members annually. Some other regional QCC groups provide similar social functions. Johns Manville Corporation funding is limited to the costs of inducting each new member each year. Otherwise, the QCC members fund the organization and its activities.

JM Retirees Luncheon Group

Four times a year, a group of about 100 Denver area JM retirees meet at the Columbine Country Club for fellowship, lunch and a program. Some past programs have included Johns Manville Corporation speakers, but most programs involve topics of general interest for the education and entertainment of the attendees.

The JM Retirees Luncheon Group is not an official Johns Manville company organization. It is a private organization that is not affiliated with or sponsored by Johns Manville Corporation or its subsidiaries. The Colorado Credit Union does provide partial sponsorship of some programs for this group. The JM Retirees Luncheon Group provides all other funding for the notification (mailing), administration, and operation of these luncheons, and no funding comes from the company.

...not affiliated with or sponsored by Johns Manville...

Currently, George Kinzer supervises these events. Participation is open to interested past employees of Johns Manville Corporation or the spouses of deceased former employ-

ees. Participants are welcome to bring guests to the luncheons. If you live in or near the Denver area and would like to be added to the notification list, please contact George by phone at 303-347-2753 or by email to KinzerGR@aol.com.

NRLN Appeal

A financial appeal letter from The National Retirees Legislative Network, Inc (NRLN) is included in this newsletter. Your Johns Manville Retirees Association is a member of the NRLN. If you already are a member of the NRLN, we thank you for your support. We encourage you to support the efforts of the NRLN in strengthening and protecting retiree benefits. To join, complete the NRLN Membership Contribution form and mail it to the address shown on the form or use the enclosed envelope.

JM Celebrates 150 Years

Johns Manville proudly celebrates 150 years in business in 2008. In recognition of this extraordinary milestone, JM is looking back at its rich history throughout the years and is looking forward to a future that is Building on Tradition.

A number of sesquicentennial commemorative items themed around "Building on Tradition" have been developed to observe this momentous occasion. On the company's public Web site at www.jm.com, you can explore JM's great accomplishments over the last century and a half. Visit the "Building on Tradition" commemorative publication or journey through JM's past, present and future in 25-year increments with the "Building on Tradition" video clips. And you can download customized "wallpaper" that will provide a daily reminder of JM's anniversary on your personal computer's desktop background.

During 2008, JM will include anniversary displays at its business group trade shows as well as at the Berkshire Hathaway annual meeting, and will incorporate the 150th Anniversary into its Quarter Century Club celebrations, employee gatherings and other appropriate events.

If you have any stories, mementos or trivia about life at JM that you would like to share, please send an e-mail to JMUpdate@jm.com and the 150th Anniversary Team will get in touch with you.

JMRA Annual Meeting, 2007

Johns Manville Retirees Association held its annual meeting at the Colorado Credit Union on Friday, November 30, 2007. Rocco Russo, President, called the meeting to order at 2:00pm. A quorum was present. Bill Snyder, Secretary, reported that there were 613 member proxies received, which was well over the required 10% as required by the by-laws.

Since the Association had received no nominations from the membership, the slate proposed by the Nominating Committee was unopposed. President Russo then directed the Secretary to cast one vote for the slate of nominees. The directors and officers elected are:

Vice President & Director -
Andy Sokal
Treasurer & Director -
Lou Stravato

Directors:
Ed Bettinardi
Jack Ellis
Dick Graves
Bob Clark (1 year term)

All will serve for a two year term except for Bob Clark who will serve for one year to fill the vacancy created by the election of Andy Sokal to Vice-President, thereby leaving a vacancy as Director with one year term remaining.

The Board wishes to thank those who returned their proxies providing a quorum for the annual meeting. The Board also thanks the Nomination Committee who worked on the slate of nominees.

As there was no other business for the annual meeting, the Annual Meeting was adjourned.

The JMRA By-Laws provide for annual elections with approximately half the positions open for election each year. The other officers and directors who will be involved with election next year are:

President & Director -
Rocco Russo
Secretary & Director -
Bill Snyder

Newsletter Editor & Director -
Tom Krzemien
Directors:
John Leasher
George Kinzer

A special thanks to all who serve on the Board.

Finance Report

Johns Manville Retirees Association Fund Activity Report (Audited) As of December 31, 2007

	12/31/2007	12/31/2006
Beginning Balance, Funds on Deposit (Jan 1)	28,476	39,516
Income:		
Colorado Credit Union Interest Earned	1,211	837
JMRA Dues Collected (1)	18,290	340
Total Income	\$19,501	\$1,177
Expenditures:		
Accounting Fees for CPA Review	300	300
Web Site - Bank Charge	340	0
NRLN Dues	2,505	2,412
Travel (2)	2,562	2,487
Directors and Officers Liability Insurance	3,489	3,492
Newsletters and Election Expenses	3,927	3,086
P.O. Box Expenses and Postage	467	440
Total Expenses	\$13,590	\$12,217
Net Change In Funds During Year	\$5,911	(\$11,040)
Ending Balance, Funds on Deposit (Dec 31)	\$34,387	\$28,476
Allocation of Assets:		
Colorado Credit Union Checking	-	60
Colorado Credit Union Savings	10,597	5,823
Colorado Credit Union Certificate	23,790	22,593
Total	\$34,387	\$28,476

(1) JMRA dues are requested and collected in ODD calendar years

(2) Travel expenses to attend NRLN meetings in Washington

In Memory

This list is assembled from many sources including post office return mail, JM Quarter Century Club relationship chairperson, JMRA Regional Representatives, and newspaper articles. The one place where we do not get information is from Corporate Johns Manville. We try to be accurate, but, if you should find your name on this list, let your editor know and a correction and apology will be published.

Joseph Angelos (Waukegan)
Glen E. Averyt (Florida)
Anita W. Axelson (California)
William Chartos (Tucson, AZ)
Watts Chernesky (Illinois)

Alex Chunko (New Jersey)
Ralph Cox (Atlanta, GA)
James Davis (Waukegan)
Edward G. Deister Jr. (Florida)
Stephanie E. Denboske (CA)

Gretchen Dern (Nebraska)
Janet L. Dunbar (Arizona)
Alva V. Emery (Pennsylvania)
Marvin Etchinson (Alexandria)
J.F. (Frank) Fortner (Atlanta)

John H. Fredrickson (Colorado)
Ray H. Fries (Florida)
Hildreth Griffin (Alexandria, IN)
James Griffin (Alexandria, IN)
Harold E. Gypson (California)

Sylvia Hall (Illinois)
Henry E. Hinsenkamp
Rosemary Hinton (Alexandria)
Ann Jarvis (New Jersey)
Virginia Kehoe (Ohio)

John H. (Jack) Kietzman (Den)
Marion Kunc (Colorado)
Richard (Dick) Lewis (Alex)
Emmett E. Lord (Mississippi)
Joseph K. Lyons (Florida)

Anatolius (Tony Mac) Maciukevicius (Wauk)
Richard J. Madigan (Denver)
Mary C. Mason (New Hampshire)
John Miller (Atlanta, GA)
Kathryn Daluga Miller (Wauk)

John Mongreig (Waukegan)
Walter W. Patten (New Jersey)
Lawrence C. Patterson (WV)
N. G. Peletis (Colorado)
Michael A. Rawlins (New Mexico)

David W. Rice (Colorado)
P. Calvin Robinson
Ann White Rogers (Denver, CO)
Theodore Schasny (N. Carolina)
James R. Scoggins (Texas)

Richard G. Smith (Virginia)
Richard (Dick) Spangler (Atlan)
Pat A. Stanco (California)
Barbara R. Stapleton (Penns)
Betty G. Stockebrand (Colorado)

Carl G. Taylor (California)
Thomas Van der Veer (Arizona)
Richard W. Whitney
Lois R. Williams (Arizona)
Jack Zettel (Alexandria, IN)

JMRA Classifieds

Tom Krzemien

Help Wanted: Globalization has created immediate openings within the Johns Manville Retirees Association Regional Representative staff. No travel required. Work from home. This is a critical part-time position responsible for coordinating fellow employee input with the Directors and Newsletter staff. Do not miss this opportunity if you are a Johns Manville Retiree Association member.

Openings available in the Hudson FL, and Alexandria/Richmond IN. Prior experience preferred but not required. Contact your newsletter editor if you want to join us. Excellent working environment. No benefits. EOE

Reach for Information

Our Website; articles, past newsletters, <http://jmretirees.org>
Newsletter editor email tom@jmretirees.org
JM benefits website. (1-888-709-4567) www.JMDirect.com
Johns Manville Website www.JM.com
National Retiree Legislative Network <http://nrln.org>

We Are Here for You

If you want that personalized service and people that look out for your best financial interest, look no further than your local credit union! We are a full-serviced financial institution serving the Littleton area for 35 years. Because we are a not-for-profit financial institution, we look out for our members—you own the credit union. We offer great loan rates and provide outstanding savings accounts for all of your needs. If it's personalized service, financial security and full range of products you are looking for, look no further than your local credit union.



Come in and bank with us today and we will put \$50 in your checking account with a free VISA debit card. Already a member? Refer a friend or family member and we will give you both \$50*! Yes, it's that easy! The credit union is proud to part of the Johns Manville Retirees Association. (303) 978-2274 or www.ccu.org.

*\$50 bonus for checking will be deposited to your account within 3 business days of opening an approved account. Account must remain open for 90 days or bonus repayment will occur. New member must open checking account with a debit VISA card to be eligible for \$50 bonus. Must open basic \$5 share savings account to establish membership.

Membership in Johns Manville Retirees Association

Johns Manville Retirees Association is a non-profit, self-funded, not tax deductible organization. Your association is dedicated to protecting and improving your benefits. Our greatest concern is your medical and prescription plans, vital benefits promised to you but not guaranteed. We are an active member of the National Retirees Legislative Network, which represents millions of retirees and, as an organization; we pay dues to support their efforts. Your President, Rocco Russo, and other board members may travel there to attend hearings or meet with members of the legislature.

We thank everyone who has contributed to our appeal for financial support in 2007. This allows the Johns Manville Retirees Association to provide this newsletter and continue acting as your advocate with our parent company, Johns Manville. If you recently moved or changed e-mail providers, please update your member record with corrected information..

We always welcome new members. If you know a Johns Manville Salaried Retiree who is not a member of our organization, invite them to join by visiting our website www.jmretirees.org. The \$20.00 dues payable in odd years is waived in 2008.

Johns Manville Retirees Association
P.O. Box 3336
Centennial, CO 80161-3336

Thank you for your continued support.

Yes, I want to join the Johns Manville Retirees Association.

Name: _____ Phone: (_____) - _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____ Zip + 4 _____ + _____

E-mail Address: _____

Confirm e-mail Address: _____

() Yes, Send my Johns Manville Retirees Association newsletter by E-mail.



NATIONAL RETIREE LEGISLATIVE NETWORK, INC

Website: www.nrln.org

P.O. Box 18757, Washington, D.C. 20036-8757

Spring 2008

Dear Johns Manville Retiree,

The pensions and healthcare benefits that retirees and future retirees have earned continue to be under attack from corporations, Congress and the courts. Because the National Retiree Legislative Network is the only U.S. organization solely dedicated to representing your retiree interests, we greatly depend on annual contributions from individuals like you to provide the financial resources to secure federal legislation to protect retirees' employer-sponsored pensions and benefits, plus keep Social Security and Medicare strong. Here are a few reasons why your support is necessary.

Earned Pension and Healthcare Benefits Are Still In Jeopardy! Millions of America's retirees have seen drastic erosion of earned pension and healthcare benefits. Many retirees have seen their pension benefits turned over to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC), and in many cases pension benefits have been reduced. No laws exist to protect earned healthcare benefits! The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's new rule allows employers to reduce or drop benefits for age 65 and older retirees who are eligible for Medicare. However, this rule does not protect those under 65 from healthcare cuts. Unless the EEOC's rule is overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court or Congress, many companies will use the rule to reduce or eliminate benefits for Medicare-eligible retirees and possibly younger retirees. The NRLN is supporting an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court calling for the repeal of the EEOC rule and will submit legislation to reverse it if necessary.

What Has Been Done About Pension Benefits? The NRLN was directly involved in getting Congress to pass the Pension Security Act of 2006 that strengthened the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), the federal law protecting pension benefits. The NRLN wants to further strengthen ERISA by passing a bill to stop companies from using your pension assets to pay for company restructuring. The NRLN believes those assets should remain in pension trusts to protect pensions and possibly fund Cost of Living Allowances (COLA).

Healthcare - A Costly National Problem. In 2007, the NRLN was able to get an amendment passed that funded 17 new FDA staffers and millions of dollars to reduce the huge backlog on the approval of generic drugs and to speed up new approvals. With your financial and grassroots support, 2008 and 2009 can be the years when we bring about the importation of safe, lower-cost prescription drugs and implement competitive bidding to reduce your drug costs. Last year the NRLN adopted and is now lobbying for national healthcare guidelines that cut costs and inefficiencies out of the system and set guiding principles for better, more affordable healthcare.

Legislative Agenda Requires Support. The NRLN has a good legislative agenda. (Read the Legislative Agenda at <http://www.nrln.org>.) Corporations contribute multi-millions to politicians and lobby groups. Often, these lobby groups write the proposed legislation and then get U.S. Representatives or Senators to introduce the legislation. The NRLN does not spend one cent on wooing Congressional leaders or their staff—no campaign contributions, lunches, trips, etc. The NRLN's lobbying is performed by its staff and Grassroots Network members, you and others, who write and speak to their elected representatives, and it is working. In 2008, we'll need to pay experts to write one or two bills and then lobby them through to passage.

How You Can Help. You can help us advance our Legislative Agenda by participating in our Grassroots Network efforts (sign up at <http://capwiz.com/abtr/mlm/signup/>) and by making a contribution of \$25, \$50, \$75 or more. Any amount you can contribute will be appreciated. You may make your check or money order payable to **NRLN, Inc.** and mail it along with the Membership Contribution Form to the address shown on the form at the end of this letter. Or, you may make your contribution online with your credit card through PayPal on the NRLN website at <http://www.nrln.org> by clicking on the "Support the NRLN" link on the home page. With help from you, we can advance the NRLN mission of enacting federal legislation that guarantees fair treatment of retirees. Thank you for your support. Our NRLN mail systems are very basic and may overlap so we apologize in advance should you receive additional NRLN solicitation letters. We will improve on this soon!

Sincerely,

Bill Kadereit, President
National Retiree Legislative Network

NRLN MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

Johns Manville Retiree

The NRLN is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization. Contributions are not tax deductible.

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

E-mail Address (if available)

I get my pension check from (name of company)

Mail this form with your check or money order (no cash please) for \$25, \$50, \$75 or more (any amount will be appreciated) payable to **NRLN, Inc., P.O. Box 18757, Washington, D.C. 20036-8757**