



Tenneco Retiree Club Newsletter

Volume XXXVII, No. 2, May 2015

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Ah, Spring & It's Barbeque Time Again! – by Mike Kees

Bear Creek Park's Pavilion #6 is, again, the site of our Spring Barbeque. Your Club is hosting the first of two Bear Creek Park gatherings this year on Wednesday, May 13th. (As always, we'll have another one in the fall.) And as always, there will be no speakers and no formal program - just good food, good friends, good weather and a very nice outdoor venue. Once again, no rain allowed! This, as always, will be a great opportunity for all our members (new and veteran) to mingle and visit so please plan on participating with everyone on this great occasion – and, as always, we welcome your guests!

Please complete your reservation form (to be found elsewhere in this newsletter – or download and print it if you are receiving your newsletter via the internet) and mail it in right away while you're thinking about it!

Date: Wednesday, May 13th

Place: Bear Creek Park, Pavilion #6 (see a locator map at the end of this newsletter)

Time: 11:00 a.m. - Social Hour; BBQ at Noon - Soft drinks, \$2; beer, \$3; wine \$5

Cost: Members – \$16 per person; Guests – \$18 per person. This price includes a generous supply of various BBQ meats, sauces, bread and all the trimmings you'd expect plus iced tea and water.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find a reservation form to complete and mail in with your check. Be sure and complete your form and mail it in before the deadline (which is looming). It's Friday, May 8th!

Important Note: Please mail your reservations to **Mary McClanahan** at her address shown on the reservation form. This is the only address you should use for reservations.

And as we've said many times before, please consider sticking around once we're done. Since we only meet four times a year, it seems like a good idea to extend your time at Bear Creek just a little bit. We all know the pre-luncheon social hour is great but why rush off as soon as you eat?! Consider hanging around! Maybe even take a brief walk around the park to work off all that food especially since the expected summer heat will probably still be a future event in early May!

Once Again, Don't Forget To Carpool - *by Mike Kees*

Back in the day I'm sure many of us took advantage of carpooling to get to work. Why not try it again? If you simply don't want to drive to Bear Creek Park for our May Barbeque (or don't want to have to pay for all the gas), consider teaming up with a fellow retiree or 2 and riding together! Might be more fun that way and it just might be enough incentive to get you out of the house and to the goings on! We want everyone to come – no excuses allowed!

Winter/Spring Luncheon Held March 25, 2015 – *by Sam Stacy*

The weather was bright and sunny, as 56 retirees and guests gathered at the BraeBurn Country Club for our annual Winter/Spring Luncheon. Hand-shakes and conversation occupied the early arrivals. Just prior to the food was being served, Bill Fortney was called upon to give an inspirational blessing for our lunch.

Following the meal, with key lime pie being served as dessert, President Stacy introduced the guest speaker, Matt Brand of The Houston Astros, after reading a short biography about him.

Matt told us he had joined the Astros in 2011 as Senior Vice President, Corporate Partnerships, but had already worked for the owner, Jim Crane, in another capacity, serving as Vice President of Sales for Asia-Pacific for Energy Global Logistics. He also told us about where he grew up, where he had played baseball, and even explained why he was familiar with Tenneco. He discussed the owner's plans to make the Astros one of the best teams in major league baseball. He mentioned why his boss, Reid Ryan, was in Kissimmee, Florida and was not able to be our speaker. He mentioned the many changes being made in Minute Maid Park. He was also kind enough to answer questions at the end of his talk.

Following the program, President Stacy called on Allyn Stott to discuss past and upcoming bus trips, and take reservations for the ones scheduled for April 16th, May 14th and June 11th.

After announcing the next Board meeting on April 8th and the next Club outing, the Spring BBQ, on May 13th, President Stacy closed the luncheon, with thanks to all who attended.



Al Taylor, Louis & Maxine Fantini



**Beth Horne, Bob Thomas,
Jo Ann & James McLaughlin**

Our upcoming Spring BBQ on May 14th will have door prize winners receiving a free meal! They are:

Larry Jackson Ann Jones Jim McLaughlin Al Taylor

After the formal adjournment several attendees stuck around to visit and catch up. You are encouraged to do so at this and all of our events!

Be sure and check out many, many more pictures taken of this event on our website!

Welcome New Members! - by Jeff Stagg & Mike Kees

We're pleased to welcome two new members to our Tenneco Retiree Club roster. We have a spouse joining us plus one new member. Our current enrollment stands at 640.

- ◆ **Candi McGonagill (spouse of Michael) - Tenneco Gas**
- ◆ **Randolph Bryant – TEN**

Please look over our spelling and company affiliations listed above. If you see any errors or other needed corrections – or if your name is not here and it should be, do not hesitate to contact us as outlined below!

All members are listed on our website (www.tennecoretiree.com). Please let us know of any necessary corrections via an email to our webmaster at tenclubwebmaster@tennecoretiree.com or directly to Tina Allely (see below). Please keep your eyes and ears open for any former associates and invite them to join our Club! Remember, anyone - and their spouse - who worked for any Tenneco company for just one year (or more), is eligible to join our ranks! Inquiries regarding membership in the Retiree Club should be referred to Membership Chair Tina Allely at 281-343-7504 or at tallely@comcast.net. You – or anyone - may visit the Club's website at any time at www.tennecoretiree.com for a downloadable application form.

Membership Directory Correction

Seems as though we made a typo in our recently printed Tenneco Retiree Club Membership Directory. Board member Betty Brashear's address should be 3011 Sedgeborough Drive, Houston 77084. It's correct in all online locales - just not here. We apologize for this oversight.

As a reminder, all our directory information is now online via a link within our website. Once you click on the Club Directory link, on the drop down menu click Member Directory (Archive). You will then be presented with 3 links. One is for our Current Directory; one is for our most recent Directory Supplement; and the last one is for the most immediate past Membership Directory. Each of these documents is in the exact same format that we use in the hard copy printed versions. Be sure and check it out.

Who's Where Doing What? – by Mike Kees

We all like to hear what our fellow Tenneco folks are doing, what activities you're involved in, what trips you've taken, the volunteer work you're doing, and simply what's going on in your life. And we love to hear you tell us about your grandkids!

We know some of you out there have been on a trip, welcomed a grandchild or 2 or have some memory they'd like to share so let us hear from you!

Unfortunately this time around no one's stepped up with their news. So please consider sharing what's going on in your life. Keep those cards and letters coming! You can just jot down information on any old piece of paper and mail it to Larry Loyd or you may email your story to him at LARMARLOYD@AOL.COM. You can also add your story/message to the enclosed BBQ Reservation Form. Postal mail should go to Larry L. Loyd at 5518 Judalon, Houston, Texas 77056.

Tenneco Retiree Club Explorer Day Trip Report – By Allyn Stott

Tour of Port Arthur Museum of the Gulf Coast & the Beaumont Energy Museum - Thursday, March 19, 2015

The March 19th Tenneco Retiree Club trip was somewhat unusual in that our original destination, the Hill Country I Trip, was changed due to Mr. Larry Gurka being on medical leave (Larry doubles as a county bus driver and tour guide). Larry developed the Hill Country trip plans with all its history. Apparently he did not pass the trip details to other county employees. Our February trip was cancelled due to an insufficient number of members able to go on the trip. Consequently we moved the February trip destination to the March trip. The Hill Country I Trip will be rescheduled for the fall. Since the explorers were on the bus by 8:20 AM, we were able to leave 10 minutes earlier than planned.

Our first stop was a rest, breakfast, and/or quick snack stop at Buc-ee's in Mont Belvieu. It was a very large



Explorers exploring the energy exhibits



Bob Pruessner doing some tanker training

Buc-ee's facility with no shortage of gas pumps! After our Buc-ee's stop we next went to Port Arthur and the Museum of the Gulf Coast. Although the museum was smaller than many, its exhibits were well designed and informative of the history of the gulf coast. The first exhibit was dedicated to the ecology of the gulf including a 15 foot stuffed alligator. To obtain the stuffed alligator, the museum contracted with an individual to shoot an alligator and make it part of the museum. The hunter found a large alligator near Anahuac and shot it. Next, he pulled the alligator on his boat and attached his hunter tag to its tail. However he failed to verify that the alligator was dead. The alligator apparently didn't like having a tag in its tail and quickly moved off the boat into the water. There is nothing unusual about this except that during the next hunting season, the hunter shot another alligator. This time he verified it was dead. Then when he attempted to attach the tag to its tail, he noticed there already was a tag on its tail. It was a hunter's tag from the previous year. In fact it was this hunter's tag from the previous year. Now the museum has an alligator with two tags.†

The museum was organized by sections of the museum dedicated to major events in Port Arthur's history. The various sections include energy, early pioneer life, gulf sea life and sea shells, Port Arthur Maritime, sports, music, and prominent business men. Perhaps the most interesting section was its energy exhibits. Most other sections of the museum trace the roots of their development to money generated by oil discovery, production, refining and transportation.



Explorers in front of Energy Museum

We left the Museum of the Gulf Coast about noon and traveled to Groves, Texas for lunch. We ate at Larry's French Market and Cajun Restaurant. The food was excellent with large portions. Our next stop was in Beaumont at the Energy Museum. Once again the museum was not too large, but the exhibits were exceptionally designed and very informative. The oil patch equipment on display looked as if it just came off the new equipment production line. Some of the equipment included oil delivery trucks from about 100 years ago, gasoline pumps, wellhead valve (Christmas Tree), drill bits, some offshore tools, and an interesting set of well cross sections during drilling and production.

One of the video presentations was the refining of oil into gasoline. The theater was in the shape of a large tube to simulate the viewer as a molecule of oil inside the pipes, catalytic cracking unit, and distillation towers used to refine crude oil into gasoline. The display screen was also round to simulate the inside of a pipe. Another video presentation was a training video for tanker captains bringing a large ship to its dock. The bridge in the display had three large flat screen displays to show a panoramic image of the area. The controls simulated the turning of the ship and were coordinated with the video display. The Energy Museum will probably be revisited in the future.

The trip back to Houston was made without a rest stop to try to return before rush traffic. The weather was good, the museums were excellent, and the lunch was great. This was another enjoyable trip for the Retiree Club.

Be sure and check out many, many more pictures taken of this event on our website!

Future trips in the works include the following:

- **Thursday, April 16th** – Annual Bluebonnet Viewing Trip + a Mystery Stop (This event will be concluded by the time you read this, however because of our editing and printing deadlines, this trip's report will not appear until our next newsletter. It will, however, be posted on our website within a week or so of the trip.)
- **Thursday, May 14th** - Orange, Texas - Shangri La Botanical Gardens + a short stop at the Spindletop Museum
- **Thursday, June 11th** - Destination To Be Determined

Please place these dates on your calendar and contact Allyn Stott at **allynstott61@gmail.com** or 713-462-8530 if you would like to be a part of one or more of the trips listed - or if you have ideas regarding potential future trips. Remember you, too, can be a part of this fun activity. Give it a shot! It's a great way to spend a retirement day! And feel free to sign up a guest or 2. Simply contact Allyn and let him know whom you'll be bringing!

We're Still Looking! – *by Mike Kees*

We're still looking for a couple of good men and/or women! A couple of committees could use some fresh faces and we still need a member to become our Vice President. Please consider offering your services. It won't take too much of your time and it can be a very rewarding experience! Contact President Sam Stacy or any board member with your interest and your questions.

Next TRC Board Meeting Notice – *by Mike Kees*

Our next Tenneco Retiree Club Board meeting is set for 10 AM on Wednesday, August 12, 2015 at the Tracy Gee Community Center at 3599 Westcenter between Westpark and Richmond, just east of Beltway 8. Any and all Club members are more than welcome to attend.

IN MEMORIAM

The following deaths were reported since the publication of our last newsletter:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Passed Away On</u>
Jack Leon Adams	January 16 (2014)
Ernest Simank, Jr.	February 28
William "Bill" Ables	March 3
William M. "Bill" Rogers	March 11
David J. "Dave" Freeman	March 15
Jim Dorman	March 21
Wanda Zeuhlke Nichols	March 30
Casey Westell	April 7

We offer our sincere condolences to the surviving families of each of these members of our Tenneco family.

Newsletter News - by Mike Kees

This is repeated information to many of you but is important for all of us.

- You have the option of receiving your newsletter via postal mail or email.†
- There's no cost to elect the email method – and you receive it sooner.†
- We post many more event pictures on our website than we are able to publish in our newsletter.†
- All member contact information is on our website also – same as in the printed directory – in both our traditional printed format as well as in the data base format we've used for many years – and both constantly updated online as things change.†
- You will find all our newsletters dating back to when we first began our website (February 2003). We are now posting a PDF version of our newsletter. †
- The current newsletter should be posted for all to see about the same time the printed copy is mailed.

We're Always Looking For Member Stories – Please Send Us Yours! - by Mike Kees

Most everyone has a story about what you're volunteering for, where you've been traveling, your time in the military, etc., so feel free to either email or postal mail your remembrances to Mike Kees, (mrk1807@comcast.net or to 1807 Rustic Oak Lane, Seabrook, Texas 77586). We'll be more than happy to help you with a little editing if you so desire. Once your stories are submitted and published in our newsletter they will also be made available online under the Retiree's Profile tab on our website. Most of us, in fact, do have a story or 2 to tell so please let us hear from you!

Website News - by Mike Kees

As always, you may reach our webmaster, Angie Crowe, at acrowe@hal-pc.org. Please direct any inquiries regarding our website via the link on our homepage at www.tennecoretiree.com or at webmaster@tennecoretiree.com. Be sure and take the time to log on and check out all these interesting items.

Our website has become a great repository for a wealth of information about our Club and company's history since its launch over 10 years ago. Photos, personal stories, Explorer day trip reports, newsletters, obituary information, membership info, meeting reports, bylaws and much more reside online for your perusing – and it's all just a few mouse clicks away! So what are you waiting for?

Generally, day trip reports are available (along with photos) a week to 10 days after each event. Also, information about future trips, upcoming meetings, and upcoming luncheons are all listed for your convenience. Your Club continues to strongly solicit your stories and your profiles to add to our site. Please consider stepping up to the plate and get your news online! And if you've submitted a profile that needs updating or you have an additional story to add, please don't hesitate to do so. There's no limit! Just send your submissions to Mike Kees at mrk1807@comcast.net or to 1807 Rustic Oak Lane, Seabrook, Texas 77586.

3 Chuckles

- You know you're getting old when it takes longer to rest than it does to get tired.
- Definition of a tattoo: Permanent proof of temporary insanity.
- Definition of a fancy restaurant: A restaurant that serves cold soup on purpose.

CLUB NOTES

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Changes of postal mailing addresses or telephone numbers should to be given to Tina Allely, our Membership Chair by calling her at 281-343-7504, or by emailing her at tallely@comcast.net or by postal mail to Tina as follows: Attn.: Tenneco Retiree Club, 1403 Honeysuckle Lane, Sugar Land, Texas 77479. When you provide Tina with a change of address, please be sure that you include your new telephone number and email address, if applicable.†

DEATHS

News of the death or serious illness of a member should be provided directly to Mary McClanahan at 713-466-7874 - or her cell – 281-287-9726 or to Wanda Schaffner at 713-266-6244 as soon as possible and **include as many details as possible.** †

E-MAIL

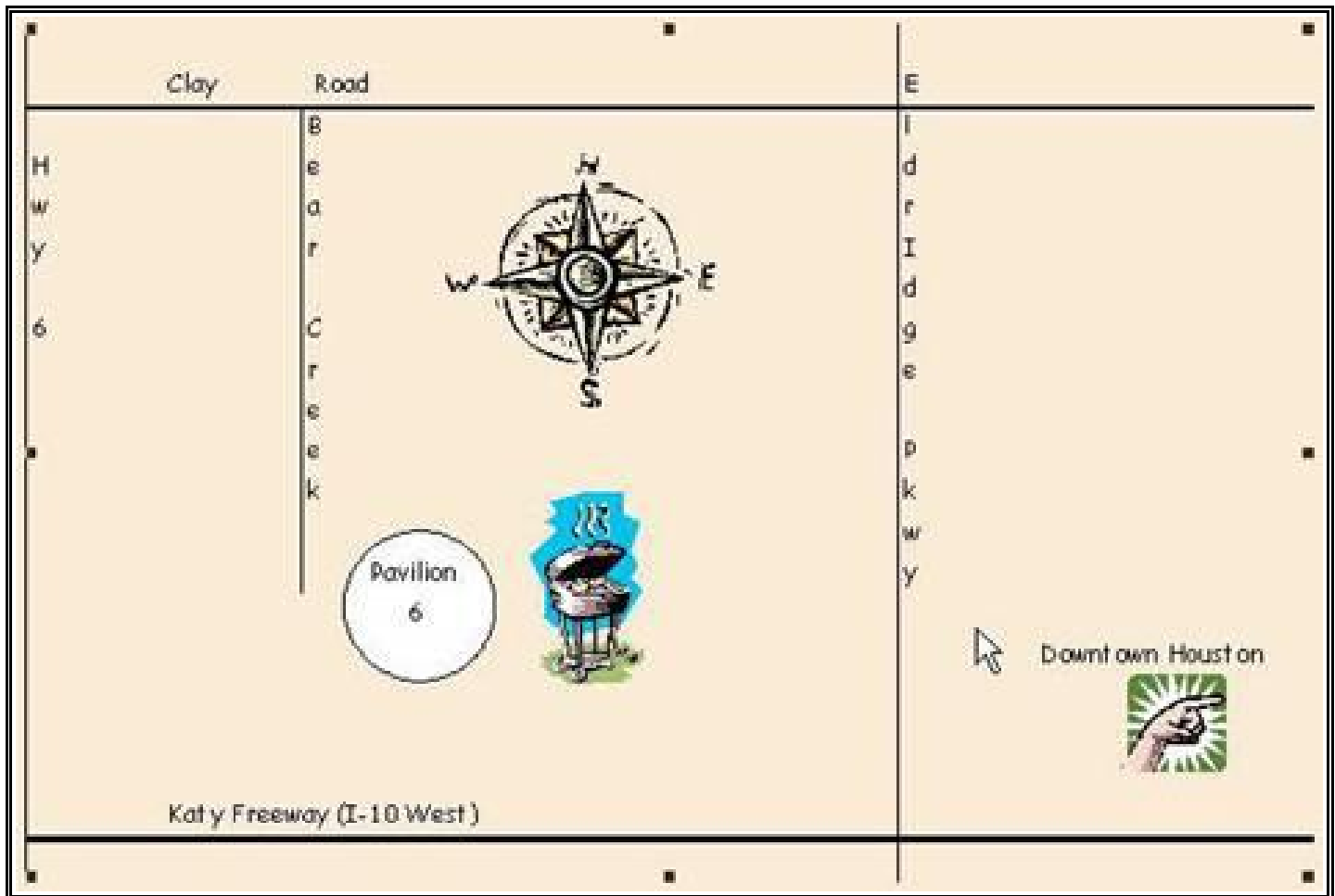
Please send any e-mail address changes directly to our Tenneco Retiree Club Webmaster at webmaster@tennecoretiree.com or, if you so choose and as stated above, directly to either Tina Alley (Membership) at tallely@comcast.net or Angie Crowe (website issues) at acrowe@hal-pc.org. This will allow you to be placed on our emailing list so that you may quickly receive important messages regarding member deaths and other events of note. Please double check to make sure the email address we have on file for you is current. If you have not been receiving email notifications about various events, milestones, etc., we may have an incorrect address for you. We certainly don't want you to be 'out of the loop' because of some simple typo. Also, if you change email addresses for any reason, please send us an update!

THE NEWSLETTER

News items for the newsletter or corrections should be referred to Mike Kees at mrk1807@comcast.net or 281-474-1225. Postal mail should be directed to Mike at 1807 Rustic Oak Lane, Seabrook, Texas 77586. Your input is strongly solicited!

(This newsletter is compiled and edited by Mike Kees. It is formatted for printing by Angie Crowe. It is assembled, collated and mailed under the direction of Sandra Grimes†)

Map to Pavilion #6 at Bear Creek Park, Houston, Texas
Hope to see you there on May 13th!



**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND THEN MAIL THIS ENTIRE
PAGE ALONG WITH YOUR CHECK!**

For the **Wednesday, May 13th, 2015** Tenneco Retiree Club Spring Barbeque to be held at Pavilion #6 at Bear Creek Park please reserve _____ place(s) at **\$16** per person for members (or a Door Prize Drawing Certificate from our last meeting) and _____ places at **\$18** each per guest. Social hour @ 11 AM; food @ noon.

Amount enclosed \$

Member Name _____
Spouse Name _____
Guest Name _____
Guest Name _____

Make checks payable to **TENNECO RETIREE CLUB** and mail to the address below.

(Now, please turn this form over and tell us something about what's going on with you and your family that you would like to share with your fellow Tenneco employees. Hobbies, trips, volunteer activities, grandchildren, military stories, etc., are all eligible topics!

Please mail this entire form along with your check to:

Mary McClanahan
Tenneco Retiree Club
15601 Shanghai Street
Houston, Texas 77040-2132
(mlfc50@sbcglobal.net or 713-466-7874 if you need to call or email Mary)

Please remember that your Club's policy is to NOT ACCEPT walk up payments for any barbeque or luncheon from any member(s) or guest(s) who has not made payment arrangements in advance of the event day. Certain minimum guarantees are required to each venue supplier several days in advance of each event. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

PAID RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, MAY 8TH

No, I can't make it to the Spring Barbeque this year, but here's some information about what's going on with me that I would like to share. Please jot down your submission on the reverse side of this form or on a separate sheet of paper and send it to Larry Loyd at 5518 Judalon, Houston, Texas 77056.