

METROPOLITAN HOUSTON MESSENGER

Chevron Retirees Association

There will not be any luncheons again this quarter!



**LET US KNOW WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON IN YOUR
LIFE THIS SUMMER**

With the current COVID-19 pandemic preventing us from gathering and meeting, we really need to keep in touch with one another. So your chapter is pilot testing an email blast of submitted member mail-in activities.

Submissions should be sent to: mynews@cra-metrohouston.org

Submissions should include personal activity of interest to members such as travel and/or vacations, home improvement projects, maintaining physical fitness, shopping (i.e. grocery, retailing, etc.), dining, hobbies, etc.

**Please keep the length of your mail-in activity to under 200 words
and remember to include your name.**

**Activities should be submitted by September 15, 2020 and limited to
one submission per member.**

President's Podium or Thoughts from the Recliner!

First and foremost, we are holding out hope that each and every one of our members remains safe and healthy. This COVID-19 pandemic is a real bummer. We have cancelled all of our Neighborhood Luncheons for two quarters, and are faced with a decision about the fourth quarter by September. I am hopeful but I am not optimistic that we will be able to resume then. Maybe we are being overly cautious, but with our demographics it is much better to be safe than sorry. Please don't forget about us as you watch your favorite TV shows for the umpteenth time. I am beginning to recite the lines of some of them before the actor speaks!

We are considering a WEBEX meeting with interested members in the near future, and would really like to have your opinion on this. We could have it at noon and call it a BYOS (Bring Your Own Sandwich) event. We would initially be limited to 100 attendees for only 45 minutes (we will start out using the free version). If this is a hit, we will entertain expanding our time available and have a session where everyone has an opportunity to speak. For those who might be concerned about entering a new world of internet meetings, it is quite easy and I am sure a short training session could be arranged by contacting me a few days before the scheduled meeting.

With the closing of the HESS Club, we are looking for a location to hold our Quarterly Chapter Meetings. Many candidates cannot predict when they could accommodate a group, and are unwilling to price the event under the present conditions, so we haven't located anything yet. We have kicked around the idea of finding a Neighborhood Luncheon someplace near the Loop, and having a Neighborhood Luncheon in all areas for three quarters with a Year End Banquet for all of our members during the fourth quarter. We would welcome your input on this idea!

The very successful Neighborhood Luncheon program is also on hold. We have verified that most of the Spring Creek BBQ locations have re-opened, but are not able to schedule the party room. We may be looking for a few new places, but we do plan to restart this program as soon as it is safe to do it. Stay tuned for information about the Chapter Meeting and the Neighborhood Luncheon programs. We will broadcast the good news as soon as we have some.

Our Scholarship program is based upon free-will donations. Since we have not had any gatherings for two quarters, we have not seen the reminder to donate and our collections are running well behind our normal year. Please consider making your donation to help us catch up. You may do so through our website www.cra-metrohouston.org. In the Scholarship drop-down menu, select the Donate by Credit Card or the Donate by Check to access a form to make your donation. Just fill out your name and section 1 and attach your check. For your convenience a blank form is included with this newsletter.

With reference to our new initiative on page one, please do share your recent activity with your fellow members. With all the quarantine and stay at home orders, we tend to lose contact with our friends and feel isolated. We will compile a document with your comments and send to all of our email connected members. We hope this will help us feel that we are part of our group and maybe lessen the isolation feelings. May you each be blessed with good health and return to an active life when this pandemic is over.

Glenn

President

Scholarship Committee

Your Metropolitan Houston Chapter has awarded a total of \$31,500 in scholarships in the 19 years since its inception in 2001. Each year one student nominated by an MHC member is selected as the recipient and the award ceremony is normally held at the June Quarterly Luncheon.

But this year has proven to be anything but normal. Because of the pandemic-caused school closures, the deadline date for nominees to submit all required documents was extended from May 1, 2020 to August 1, 2020. There are eight students who were nominated by your fellow members this year, and four of these have successfully completed all required submissions and are thus eligible to compete for the \$2,000 scholarship award. One other nominee has submitted many of the required documents, so there might be five nominees from which to choose our 2020 MHC scholarship recipient.

After the deadline passes, your Scholarship Committee reviews all submissions from all qualified candidates and then decides who will be awarded the scholarship. It is unfortunate there will not be an opportunity to make the award presentation at the September Chapter Luncheon, since it has been cancelled due to an abundance of caution for the health of our members and guests. Therefore, the scholarship award ceremony this year will be a virtual one, held by a combination of telephone and video conference.

It is worth mentioning that your scholarship is funded solely from your voluntary donations and not from your annual dues. Please consider donating to the MHC Scholarship Fund.

Doug Beatty, Scholarship Committee Chairperson

METRO HOUSTON BENEFITS CONNECTION



As a reminder, Bill Dodge is the CRA Benefits Committee Chair. If you have any questions about Chevron supported health insurance, VIA/Benefits (OneExchange) or issues on other various Chevron/CRA benefits, Bill is the person in MHC to contact. He will either answer your question or find the person who will. His contact information is: Phone - 832-934-0680 Email - wndodge@sbcglobal.net

2nd Qtr Treasurer Report

2020 Budget 2020 Actual		
REVENUE	\$	\$
Income (dues)	\$6,000	\$6,030
TOTAL REVENUE	\$	\$
EXPENSES		
CRA Dues	\$1,800	\$1,809
Luncheon Meal Cost - Net	\$1,150	\$362
Web Site	\$400	\$172
Misc. Expenses	\$600	\$163
PayPal Fees	\$200	\$58
Mail Box	\$540	\$540
Luncheon Door Prizes	\$600	\$205
Luncheon Entertainment	\$400	\$0
Food Bank Donation	\$400	\$400
Scholarship Fund Transfer	\$0	\$0
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$6,090	\$3,709
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$90)	\$2,321
SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$	\$
Beginning Balance	\$0	\$151
Scholarship Donations	\$2,000	\$2,435
General Fund Transfers	\$0	\$0
Scholarship Award	\$2,000	\$2,000
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$0	\$435

NOTES:

- Membership renewals are on target.
- \$2,435 received in donations to 2020 Scholarship; \$435 will be carried over for 2021 award.
- ALL lunches cancelled due to Virus Pandemic; will result in less expenditures than budgeted.

Membership

COVID-19 and its effect on the economy has impacted Chevron like many other companies. Chevron is reducing its employee head count. Chevron's loss has been MHC's gain. We have 208 new members that all of us can give a big welcome to.

For any of you that are feeling the confines of our homes there is a safe way to get out. Open up your MHC Directory and scroll down the pages and find a longtime friend and make a call. Both of you will appreciate a little distraction.

A big **THANK YOU** to the 603 members that have paid their 2020 dues on time or ahead of time.

Just a reminder to the 105 members that have not paid their 2020 dues: membership renewal is from October 1st of the prior year through March 31st of the dues year (e.g. October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020 for dues year 2020). You will be reminded that your 2020 dues are due on the form at the end of this newsletter.

Timely payment of your dues helps your chapter operate smoothly. Please help us out and pay your dues when they are due.

For any member that wants to end the yearly hassle of paying their \$10 dues, we accept early dues payments. So a check or credit card payment for \$20, \$30, or more will get you ahead of this dues payment problem. Try it, you might like it.

And for all those members that have asked to pay by credit card, please go to our MHC website /Membership /Pay Dues by Credit Card

<http://directory.cra-metrohouston.org/Luncheon/Luncheon0.php>

You do not need to have a PayPal account to use this service and there are no fees to you either.

MHC has a "try it for free" for first time members. Any retiree of Chevron or one of its merged companies that has not been a member of any other Chevron Retiree Chapter will receive their first year's MHC membership for free. You may want to use this first time offer to entice one or more of your retiree friends that haven't yet joined MHC. Just give them the link to our website, www.cra-metrohouston.org to show them the benefits of our chapter.

Speaking about our website, www.cra-metrohouston.org you may just want to check it out yourself to see all the good information that is out there for you.

We are interested in any idea or suggestion that you may have to make our chapter more to your liking. Please email membership@cra-metrohouston.org with your idea or suggestion.

Renew today. Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today.

Thank you,
Bill Alvarez
MHC Membership Committee Chair



IN MEMORIAM



We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of these individuals

RICHARD G BAUTCH	CHEVRON	R	WAYNE R PETERS	GULF	R
JERRY P BENTON	GULF	R	ROBERT G PINDELL	TEXACO	R
PETER BERRY	GULF	R	WILLODEAN POWDRILL	GULF	S
WILLIAM P CAMERON	GULF	R	THOMAS W PRICE	TEXACO	R
ALMA J COFIELD	CHEVRON	R	PAMELA J REMBERT	CHEVRON	S
GEORGE E COLESCOTT	CHEVRON	R	ROY K RICHARDSON	TEXACO	R
LOUISE CROWELL	TEXACO	S	FREDDA L ROBBINS	CHEVRON	S
DALE D DEROUEN	TEXACO	R	BETTY D RODRIGUE	CHEVRON	S
HELEN DETHROW	CHEVRON	S	RAE A ROYLE	TEXACO	R
FRANCIS R DRURY	GULF	R	MARJORIE J RUPPRECHT	CHEVRON	S
W JOYCE FELL	GULF	R	AFIF H SAAD	UNOCAL	R
SAMYE R FUNDERBURK	GULF	S	JUNE I SCHROEDER	TEXACO	S
ROBERT M GALBRAITH	TEXACO	R	MARGARET S SHERIFF	CHEVRON	S
JAMES G GUEN	TEXACO	R	LARRY E SIMMONS	TEXACO	R
PAUL H HALL	CHEVRON	R	JESSE F SOBOTIK	GULF	R
CHARLES R HARRISON	UNOCAL	R	VOLLIE W SPONSELLER	TEXACO	R
DONALD R JONES	GULF	R	MAMIE R STEPHENS	GULF	S
LEONARD L JONES	CHEVRON	R	JUNIUS J TOUPS	CHEVRON	R
R D JUDSON	CHEVRON	R	ROSALIND TURNER	GULF	R
TOMMY R KERSH	TEXACO	R	JOSEPH P VOGT	GETTY	R
RANDALL K KUBOTA	TEXACO	R	MARK S WAKEFIELD	TEXACO	R
GLENNA LEBLANC	CHEVRON	S	CLAUDE A WARD	TEXACO	R
WILLIAM K MARSHALL	TEXACO	R	LAWANNA J WELLS	GULF	R
C GLEN MILLER	CHEVRON	R	JIMMIE F WOOTTEN	CHEVRON	S
BERNARD J PANKRATZ	GULF	R			

The Scholarship program is supported by your voluntary donations. Without luncheon reservations to remind us to give, the program is running behind previous years. Please consider sending in a donation today. You may do so online by credit card. Just look in the drop-down menu for Scholarship on our website www.cra-metrohouston.org Of course, we will be happy to receive your check, a blank form is included for your convenience. Just fill out your name and section 1 to ensure proper application of your donation

A LIGHT HEARTED MOMENT TO BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY DURING QUARANTINE

An eye witness account from New York City, on a cold day in December, some years ago: A little boy, about 10-years-old, was standing before a shoe store on the roadway, barefooted, peering through the window, and shivering with cold.

A lady approached the young boy and said, 'My, but you're in such deep thought staring in that window!'

'I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes,' was the boy's reply.

The lady took him by the hand, went into the store, and asked the clerk to get half a dozen pairs of socks for the boy. She then asked if he could give her a basin of water and a towel. He quickly brought them to her.

She took the little fellow to the back part of the store and, removing her gloves, knelt down, washed his little feet, and dried them with the towel.

By this time, the clerk had returned with the socks.. Placing a pair upon the boy's feet, she purchased him a pair of shoes..

She tied up the remaining pairs of socks and gave them to him.. She patted him on the head and said, 'No doubt, you will be more comfortable now.'

As she turned to go, the astonished kid caught her by the hand, and looking up into her face, with tears in his eyes, asked her.

'Are you God's wife?'

On my way home one day, I stopped to watch a Little League baseball game that was being played in a park near my home. As I sat down behind the bench on the first-base line, I asked one of the boys what the score was 'We're behind 14 to nothing,' he answered with a smile.

'Really,' I said. 'I have to say you don't look very discouraged.'

'Discouraged?', the boy asked with a Puzzled look on his face...

'Why should we be discouraged? We haven't been to bat yet!