Intel's Retiree Publication Since 2002

Intel® Retiree News

Volume 8-issue 2 Summer/2010

Contact Information

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www.intelretiree.com

Intel Website:
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Email address and Opt-In information:
organization_mailbox@yahoo.com

Changes to home mailing address:
1-800-238-0486

If you have changed your email address, be sure to email us your information to remain on the opt-in list.

Board members, committee chairpersons and site representatives are listed on our website. Find board members at:
http://www.intelretiree.com/content.php?name=boardmembers

Find committee members at:
http://www.intelretiree.com/content.php?name=committees

To opt-in, email us at organization_mailbox@yahoo.com and include your full name, email address and closest Intel site. Don't forget to notify us if your email address changes.

From The Board

Intel has made our SERMA request HAPPEN! Effective January 1, 2011, retirees will be able to use their SERMA money for insurance plans other than IRMP. During our next open enrollment period (October 25 – November 12 2010), Intel will provide us with the details on how to enroll in this expanded program. In our partnership with Intel, we had identified this as our #1 issue that we were requesting help on. Special thanks to the following people at Intel who made this happen for us: Richard Taylor, Lisa Richardson, Julee Weller, Denise Marquez-Padilla and I'm sure many others that the Intel Retiree Organization hasn't directly worked with on the issue.

Intel is also working with us on understanding the impacts to retirees as the new Health Care Reform law goes into effect. Look for postings on the Intel Retiree Organization website and email communications from us (as appropriate) as the impacts roll out. Remind your Intel retiree friends who are not opted in that they will be missing out on these important and timely communications from the Intel Retiree Organization, if they don't opt-in.

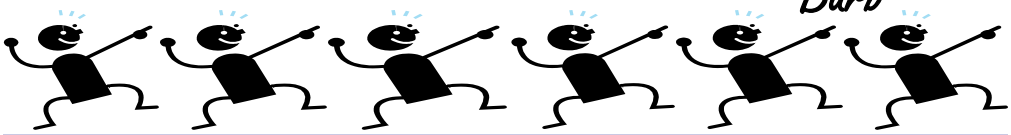
Efforts have also begun on expanding outside of the US. Ciara Leane from Intel Ireland has been assigned to work with our retiree Caspar Helmer, on piloting expansion in GER. Stay tuned for more Intel news & progress in our November newsletter.

Intel also ran a US circuit article (for Intel employees) that the Intel Retiree Organization wrote about our retiree volunteering and its impact on our local communities (over $2M for 2009), which ran April 29th, and received over 1500 hits. We will be following this up with another circuit article on our partnership with Intel, and the benefits impacts.

This is an election year for your Intel Retiree Organization Board officers, if you are interested in running for our 3 positions (President, Vice President, & Secretary), email Barb Frank at frankbarbara@sbcglobal.net

We are also still looking for IT experts who can help us part time on our website conversion to Joomla. If you have the expertise and want to help, email Judy Goodman at judycg2008@gmail.com

Barb



Intel Retiree Organization Mission Statement

To make a meaningful and positive difference for Intel retirees, the Company, our local communities and current employees planning for retirement.

Retiree Announcements

organization_mailbox@yahoo.com

Many retirees are using our mailbox not only to opt-in, but to find answers to questions and provide feedback. A retiree volunteers to check the mailbox on a daily basis and commits to doing this for one month. The retiree directs the inquiry to the appropriate Intel resource for an answer and we make a best effort to respond to the question as soon as possible. Our mailbox represents a "one-stop shop" for our retirees, so drop us a note, ask a question, simply opt-in, or provide a new email address. We love hearing from you!

OPT-IN ! If you have opted-in, you have received important messages from the Intel Retiree Organization. Recently over 1,000 retirees received an email announcement from our organization about changes to SERMA. If you did not receive one, then you are not on our email list. Always check our website at www.intelretiree.com for critical announcements.
Note: If you have been receiving emails from your site coordinator or the retiree organization, you have opted in and it is not necessary to opt-in again.

The Intel Retiree Organization needs your help. We need volunteers to be site representatives and back-up site representatives. **New Mexico currently has NO site rep to coordinate activities, this is a critical need.** We need assistance on our website committee (Joomla skills a huge plus) and we are always interested in retirees with leadership skills for our board and other committees. We offer the ability to work with others (with possibly similar backgrounds to yours), to make a meaningful and positive difference to Intel retirees, the company and our communities. Volunteer to help, the Intel Retiree Organization makes a difference !

Mark your Calendar: Intel's 2010 Community Giving Campaign

By Barbara Frank and Elyce Wair

Because we are producing three newsletters instead of four this year, we encourage all Intel retirees to mark their calendar now so they can take advantage of the Intel Community Giving Campaign that takes place in October-November.

Intel retirees are compassionate and donate generously so we were disappointed in 2009 when only 4.5% of U.S. retirees participated in the Intel Community Giving Campaign. It seems that retirees donate at different times of the year and directly to non profit organizations about which they are passionate. By combining your contributions and making your pledge during the Intel Community Giving Campaign, you can double the value of your contribution and help your local community at the same time. As retirees, we are fortunate that Intel has included us in this program.

Here is how it works. You determine what non profit(s) and how much money each is to receive, then Intel will match up to $10,000 and donates it to your local United Way (based on your zip code). This way, local residents in need receive assistance. The economic crisis has left many families in desperate need and assistance is crucial. The website says it all "When we reach out a hand to one, we help all; that is living United." To see how the United Way fund helps your local community, go to the United Way website (http://www.liveunited.org/) and click on or search for your local agency. When you get to your local home page, click on "What we stand for", and then "Community Investment Fund". In Santa Cruz County, which is Barb Frank's county, it funds multiple human service agencies that focus on seniors, youth, and health."

Incredibly, Intel retirees in 2009 provided $353,000 in matching dollars to local United Way agencies. Intel retirees have increased their contributions and participation each year as more retirees understand the additional value of donating during the Intel Community Giving Campaign.

Think of it as "one stop shopping". You get all your contributions done at one time and you can spread out the payments into monthly increments and/or pay using your credit card. BUT, you must pledge during the specific Intel Community Giving Campaign dates to qualify.

Look for more information from Intel in the future, but mark your calendar now. Let's raise the bar and increase our participation & impact for 2010/2011!

2X the value to your community !!

Read all about it !!! Intel Retiree's make $2 Million Dollar Community Impact

Did you know that in 2009 Intel Employees along with matching funds from the Intel Foundation directly contributed over $2 Million to local communities ?
This community impact was from three Intel Retiree programs, 1) Intel Involved Matching Grant Program, 2) Matching Gifts to Education, and 3) the Fall Community Giving Campaign. Intel retirees in the U.S. logged 43,546 hours in the Intel Involved Matching Grant Program in 2009, totaling a potential $435,460 Intel donation to those nonprofits. In addition Intel retirees reported $722,000 in contributions to educational organizations qualifying for the Matching Gifts to Education and contributed $668,000 to the Fall United Giving Community Giving campaign. The Intel Foundation matched these dollar contributions with $657,000 in additional dollars. See the complete April 29th 2010 Circuit article, for more details. Information on how to report volunteer hours and dollar denotations as well as the Circuit article is found on the Volunteering Page of the Intel Retiree Website, http://www.intelretiree.com/content.php?name=mainvolunteering

Giving back, using Skills

Barb Frank knows exactly how her local Red Cross spends their money, using her Intel honed Finance skills in her position as Finance chair for the local Red Cross board. Barb Frank volunteered to be on the board and learned that local chapters are responsible for raising 100% of their funds. Barbara has also contributed to her local Red Cross through the Intel Involved Matching Grant Program, with over 120 hours volunteered on the Red Cross Board, being matched by Intel contributing to the group at $10 per hour. Read the rest of Barbara's story at http://intelretiree.com/documents/BarbFrankRCArticle2010.pdf

Intel Retiree Rand Potter volunteers over 1500 hours a year and his community receives $15,000 for his efforts. Read about Rand's twenty- two years of service to the American Youth Soccer Organization and why he is proud to be a part of the group, (http://www.intelretiree.com/documents/oneofourown/VolunteeringToHelpDisadvantagedYouth_RandPotter.pdf)

Working with Intel to Improve the Retiree Experience

Partnering to Improve the Retiree Experience
The Intel Retiree Organization, has an effort under way to partner with Intel to improve the retiree experience. Our #1 issue when we met with our sponsor, in early 2009, was SERMA use for plans outside of IRMP. Eighteen months later, we were pleased to learn that SERMA portability will be implemented on January 1, 2011.
So, how did the Intel Retiree Organization push forward this important change for current and future retirees ?

We became an official Employee Group, and then we worked closely with an Intel sponsor and liason to provide real-time feedback from retirees.
From 2001 to 2005 the IRO focused on providing volunteer opportunities. In 2006 and 2007 we expanded our reach by creating a website and email mailbox for direct communication and strengthened our partnership with Intel, as we were aware that there were unresolved questions and issues with the growing Intel Retiree population. The group became a chartered Intel Employee Group in 2008 after completing Intel's standard process for qualifying. As a chartered employee group, the IRO and Intel defined our group's role as being the official conduit for communication between retirees and Intel. Our sponsor, Richard Taylor became involved in early 2009, and asked us what were the problems that retirees needed solved by Intel.

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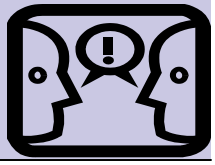


Great News !

Intel is giving you a new option for using your SERMA credits

Effective Jan. 1, 2011, Intel is expanding how you can use your Sheltered Employee Retirement Medical Account (SERMA). You will have the option to use SERMA to offset the costs of health insurance other than the Intel Retiree Medical Plan. If you want to continue to use them for the Intel Retiree Medical Plan, you can do that too.

Having the choice on how to use your SERMA should help you stretch the value of your credits.

You will be able to use your SERMA credits as reimbursement for health insurance premiums paid for you and your eligible dependents. Reimbursements may include premium payments for:

- Individual health plans
- Other employer retiree group plans
- COBRA
- Medicare
- Medigap
- Long-term Care

If you have a SERMA balance, you will be able to change how you use your SERMA during the upcoming Annual Enrollment, Oct. 25 – Nov. 12. If you are not currently enrolled in the Intel Retiree Medical Plan and would like to use SERMA to pay for medical insurance premiums, you will also be able to enroll during the upcoming Annual Enrollment. Watch for your 2011 Annual Enrollment guide, which will be mailed to your home in mid-October. The Guide will provide you details about how you can use SERMA and how to enroll.

Interested in how much is in your SERMA account ?

Your SERMA Balance is found by logging into the Hewitt Benefits website for Intel, http://resources.hewitt.com/intel/ . After login, you should be on the Health Insurance Tab page. If not, select this tab and you should see a slightly colored Window of other links on the RIGHT hand side. In this window is a section titled **Related Info**. In this section are two links, select the "Coverage as of Today for You and Your Dependents". This will take you to a page that shows your current premiums of the Intel Insurance plans you have elected and at bottom is your SERMA election and balance. (If you don't have a user id and password, call Intel Benefits at 877-466-9236. To talk to a live person, say 'representative'.)

Need Help Understanding the New health care law ?

AARP has a monthly newsletter entitled, AARP Bulletin. There is an excellent overview of the Health care Reform law, in a special section of it's May 2010 issue. It has sections where they describe the impact of the new law on various groups of people, for example Currently on Medicare is one group while Buying Your Own Insurance is another group. The Intel Retiree Organization website has a link to the information. The AARP information can be found at : http://www.intelretiree.com/content.php?name=healthcommittee, look under ***Healthcare Reform and Your Benefits.*** Under this same heading, you'll find a link to the official Healthcare Reform site, http://www.healthreform.gov/

IRMP Change, adult kids on health insurance until age 26

IRMP members recently received a letter from Intel Benefits about a special open enrollment period (June 21-July 2) for adult children (aged 19 to 26) to be enrolled into IRMP. This change is being implemented immediately, in line with Healthcare Reform, however earlier than the September deadline spelled out in the law. To enroll your adult children, go to http://resources.hewitt.com/intel/ , log in, select 'change your current coverage'. Retirees who do not participate in IRMP will need to contact their health plan directly for information on enrollment opportunities for their adult children, aged 19-26. You also have the option to purchase insurance on the open market for your adult child.

RETIREE HEALTH AND BENEFITS

Getting Answers to Your Questions about Healthcare

An Intel employee, planning for retirement sent an email to the IRO mailbox (organization_mailbox@yahoo.com) asking IRO about costs of medical plans (once retired) in the state of Massachusetts. To assist the pre-retiree in finding an answer to his question, I went to the IRO website, www.intelretiree.com, once there, I clicked on ***For Your Health***. Under the heading ***Links to Other Sources of Health Information***, I clicked on ***individual health insurance options***. This is a very good presentation on what you should do to find individual health insurance (on the Open Market). I found Massachusetts state listed and the link to the Massachusetts Division of Insurance (to find out specifics from the state). Once there l found the answer to the very specific question the future retiree asked. Having forwarded on the information, I checked with the pre-retiree afterwards to see if the response answered his question and his response was the answer exceeded his expectations, not only did he find an answer to his question he found out more (that he needed to know).

Try it for yourself, when you have a question…

RETIREE TRAVEL

Crocodile on Tempisque River Cruise,Costa Rica

Inside the locks at the Panama Canal

Garbage Cart, Old City, Cartagena, Colombia

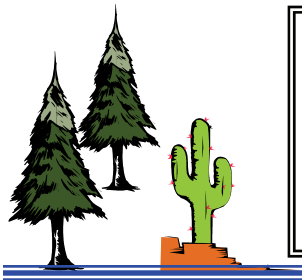
Embera women, Panama

In February 2010 Barbara Frank spent several weeks traveling and enjoyed the adventure and sunsets of Costa Rica with hosts Joe & Cheryl Pruss. Cheryl, also an Intel retiree, owns a beautiful home in northern Costa Rica on the Pacific Ocean. That was only the beginning of the adventure, they continued on to Panama City, as well as Cartagena and Bogota Columbia ! Cheryl and Barb used ideas from the book, **Traveling With Others *Without Wishing They'd Go Home***, that discusses having successful vacations traveling with others by understanding your own traveling style, choosing people to travel with that have complementary traveling styles and planning separate activities for people with differing travel styles. For more details on the trip and details about the wonderful book and how the Pruss' and Frank's used the books ideas to have a successful (fun) vacation go to : http://intelretiree.com/documents/travel/CherylPrussPCArticle2010.pdf AND http://intelretiree.com/documents/travel/CherylPrussTOArticle2010.pdf

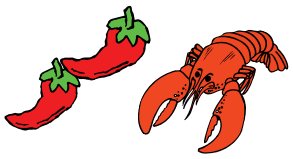
Apple.The Corporate Employee Purchase Program from Apple is good news for you. Apple Computer now offers all employees the opportunity to purchase Apple products at substantial savings — including MacBook, MacPro, iMac, Mac mini and the worlds most popular music player: iPod. Find savings on Apple software, too. Discounts on Apple products up to 17% for Intel employees and retirees.. Go to www.discounts.intel.com

RETIREE MEETINGS

We invite all retirees to join a board meeting. If you are interested, please email Barbara Frank (frankbarbara@sbcglobal.net) so we can include you when we publish the agenda and bridge information. The Intel Retiree Board typically meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 9am-11am PST. Meetings are via bridges provided by Intel.



Are you taking advantage of local events at your site? Be sure to check our calendar page at http://www.intelretiree.com/content.php?name=maincalendar for the most current information about what is happening in your area.



Santa Clara / Bay Area Retirees Like to have Fun

Back row (standing) L to R, Rajeev Singh, Lou Likely-Singh, Terry Lundblad-Jalkemo,Nancy Wheeler, Ruth Short, AlanStivers, Cindy Romero, Peter Sanchez
First row (sitting) L to R Hiromu Koshimizu, Valerie Kohl, Carole Stivers, Ida Holmes, Marilyn Bloom, Glenna Cecchini

Intel retirees in the Santa Clara/Bay Area are an active, fun loving group. Diversity is definitely part of their strategy so there is something for everyone. Here are the latest happenings.

For the third year in a row Bay area retirees enjoyed a fun filled day of wine and wonderful finger food at the home of Ruth Short. There were many new faces and stories to share. Everyone had a great time and thank Ruth for her hospitality.

For the sporting enthusiasts, a group of retirees challenged lady luck at the horse races. The event took place at Golden Gate Field and everyone cheered for their favorite as the thoroughbreds sped past the crowd rushing to the finish line. Whether you wager of not, the brightly colored jockey uniforms and the excitement give the spectators an adrenaline rush.

For the outdoor nature lovers Craig Noke led a group of eleven retirees on a day long six plus mile hike along the coast in Pacific Grove. It could be described as a hike, walk, stroll, meander, saunter, traipse, tramp, plod, prance, promenade, shuffle or slog. Take your pick. Bottom line it was a fantastic day along the beautiful Pacific Coast at the western end of Monterey Peninsula.

By the way, conversations have already begun about a kayak trip on Elkhorn Slough [Moss Landing] in the future. Stay tuned for more details.
Please check the social calendar frequently for Santa Clara/Bay Area social events at www.intelretiree.com .

Cindy Romero and Lou Lively-Singh are the newest members of our social committee. We welcome others who would like to participate in event planning.

Committee Member, Terry Jalkemo is visiting "down under" in Australia where Gordon, Terry's husband, is filming and writing about the outback. Look for upcoming articles as they make their way up the coast to snorkel on the Great Barrier Reef and wander their way inland to Ayres Rock and beyond.

Hiking with Pat, Paula, Linda, Mary, Netty, Barb, Craig, Marilyn, and Calvin

On Investing - One Retirees Experience

Taking Another Look at Annuities

By Ray Hill

Ray retired from Intel Santa Clara site, in 2007. He spent the first half of his career working in D2, and the 2nd half in IT operations. Ray is a member of the Intel Retiree Organization (IRO) Health and Benefits committee.

The real estate and stock market gyrations, combined with the risks of living too long, have made me jealous of my friends with lifetime pensions. Intel offered an annuity option in SERP which was not competitive when I retired, so I wasn't interested in annuities at that point. However, the insurance industry has had a revolution in 'variable annuity' products in the last 5 years which combine guaranteed minimum lifetime payouts with market investment options which could outperform the minimums.

I wanted to invest more in bonds to get a more conservative portfolio, but I realized that bonds aren't very safe either, and may be headed for a bubble since everyone is seeking that security. Low interest rates keep the returns low and rising rates could reduce bond principle. When it comes to bonds, timing is everything. The new annuity products use formulas to move money in and out of bond funds automatically to guarantee a minimum growth of 2X over 10 years, but also have more investment options that could yield more if the market moves up. And if you live longer than 20 years after you start withdrawals, you come out ahead.

The biggest risk with annuities is the insurance company goes out of business before you die, but many insurance companies survived the crisis by staying out of derivatives and just hedging mortality risks between life insurance and annuities.

The second biggest risk is, an emergency requires a withdrawal from the annuity during the penalty period (generally 4-7 years from signing up), you don't want to put too much in an annuity, *and make sure the penalty period and minimum growth guarantees are over before the age 70.5 withdrawal deadline if you do it within SERP or IRA. Or you can avoid that by creating the annuity outside SERP or IRA.*

The last risk is that the fees are generally 3.5% vs. 1.5% for mutual funds, so your upside isn't quite as high, it's the price you pay to protect your downside.

It's worth a second look *before turning age 60*. Web postings on the subject are either extreme scare stories or marketing bluster, so it's wise to use an investment advisor to help vet the right product for you.

IRO Impact- Continued

We had a clear definition of the Problem

Retiree committees have been working on behalf of Intel retirees to make improvements for years. When the current Health and Benefit committee met in early 2009 there were years of Intel Retiree Organization Benefit committee work, showing much discussion of issues related to IRMP and SERMA. The retirees issues were many, but when the new committee looked at the data closely, they found a simple problem statement that encompassed the problem perfectly : The current IRMP doesn't work well for many retirees AND we can only spend our SERMA account on IRMP. Our problem statement made sense and our sponsor, Richard Taylor championed our cause.

What is so unique about this ?

The Intel Retiree Organization is a group of volunteers. Contributors give their time to assist retirees (and future retirees) to improve the retiree experience. We are the only dedicated group working in this area, on behalf of Intel retirees. Our efforts helped make changes to SERMA, and we can use your skills to help. We offer opportunities to work with like minded volunteers, using aspects of the Intel culture, with a retirees twist. Check out our website at http://www.intelretiree.com/ to get involved.

About Our Newsletter

The Intel Retiree News is an on-line publication available on our website three times per year: March, July and November. The Intel Retiree Organization represents over 3000 Intel Retirees. Articles and feedback are welcome. The next deadline for submissions is October 15. Retirees are encouraged to contribute articles of less than one page, including photographs. Although the focus is on the Retiree, minimal advertising of your business which might benefit Retirees is permitted and should include a contact/website. All articles may be edited for content and appear on the Intel Retiree Organization website. Email the newsletter editor at organization_mailbox@yahoo.com for specific guidelines or to provide feedback. Past issues are available at www.intelretiree.com.

The Intel Retiree Organization does not endorse any business nor accept paid advertising. Information on our website or in our newsletter is provided as a service to Intel retirees and readers should not act on the basis of any information on the website without first obtaining advice relevant to their specific situation from Intel or from appropriate professional advisors.