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GREATER ATLANTA CHAPTER  
**IBM QUARTER CENTURY CLUB**  
Newsletter – September 2003

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Margaret Betz, Editor

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## **Presidents' Message**

**By Bill Branson**

It's hard to believe that 2003 is nearing an end. Hopefully you have enjoyed the Quarter Century Club as much as I have.

You won't want to miss out on **the annual dinner to be held Sunday, October 19**. As you will see from the details inside, this year's annual dinner will be something totally new including a new location, gaming, a buffet dinner, and music for your listening and dancing pleasure.

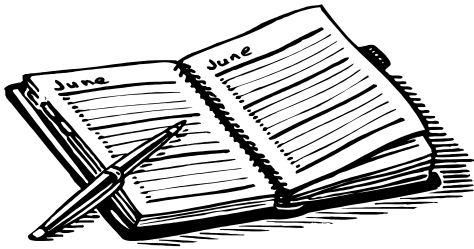
As we bring to a close another fantastic QCC year it is time again to ask for your participation. If you know someone who has 25 years or more with IBM and is not yet a member, please encourage them to join. If you have not served as a board member or as a committee member, give us a call. Remember that the IBM Quarter Century Club is not affiliated with IBM and receives no financial assistance from IBM. Without our members and member volunteers we cannot exist.

As the year draws to a close I will complete my term on the board. It has been a pleasure serving you the past four years. I will continue to remain active in the Quarter Century Club and look forward to seeing you in the future.

Remember to visit our Web site for current information: [www.atlqcc.org](http://www.atlqcc.org).

***Bill***

## 2003 Calendar of Events



### October

Annual Dinner – October 19

Charity Drive -- October 25

### November

Golf Outing – November 3

### December

Holiday Gathering – December 10

## Events – The what, when, and who of it By Tom Satterlee

We had a busy quarter for events with the Atlanta Braves game and our second golf outing.

The Braves played the Dodgers on August 3, with 27 QCC members cheering them on. We saw the league leading pitcher in Russ Ortiz, but the Braves lost to the Dodgers. Rain started the day, but sun prevailed. It was a nice day at the park with all enjoying the game except for the Braves' loss. Go Braves!!!

On August 18, 26 QCC members teed off at the Bradshaw Farms golf course. Braving the high heat and humidity, the group posted very respectable scores and has many stories to tell.

The low gross was won by Al Strauts with a 77. Low handicap was won by two, John Loconto and Bob Brod, each with a score of 66. Closest-to-the-pin went to Al Strauts, who was within a foot. Longest drive went to Don Garrow with a 260 yard drive. The award for highest score went to Tom Burg, but it was a tight race.

### **Third golf outing planned at Bradshaw Farms**

Back by popular demand, the IBM Quarter Century Club will hold our third golf outing at Bradshaw Farms on **Monday, November 3.**

We will tee off at 10 a.m., with a foursome going off every 9 minutes.

Our tournament in August was hot and humid. November should be beautiful. The course is in excellent condition, so don't miss out on the last outing of the year. The cost of \$40 per person includes range balls for practice, golf, and cart.

One-of-a-kind prizes will be awarded for the longest drive, closest to the pin, low net, low handicap, and one final surprise category.

To firm up your participation, send a check made out to IBM QCC to Tom Satterlee, 200 Zeblin Rd, Atlanta, Georgia 30342.

Hope to see you all there on November 3<sup>rd</sup>!

### **Third annual IBM QCC picnic**

Our third annual IBM QCC picnic and "oldies-but-goodies" car show on September 14th began with a hint of rain. However, the afternoon truly turned out as near perfect as you can imagine -- clear skies, moderate temperature, and most importantly, great fellowship with our friends and peers from IBM. Not only were the picnic-style culinary treats great but, everyone enjoyed looking at and voting for their favorite antique cars. First, second and third place trophies were awarded, along with a couple of specialty awards. Too, everyone received a memento dash plaque commemorating this year's event.

If you didn't make it this year, you missed out on a relaxed, fun afternoon. Make a plan to mark your calendar when next year's event is announced. We look forward to seeing you there!

#### **Want to have some fun?**

Work with a committee of the IBM QCC. We need assistance in every area. You can help make our club even more viable. AND, you can see if QCC leadership is for you. It is a small investment of your time with a compound dividend of fun and accomplishment. Call me.

**Mike McGuire (770) 394-5690**

## Committee Reports

### Treasurer -- Dave Zilles

Balance xxxxx, 2003    x,xxx.xx

#### INCOME

Memberships	xxx.xx
Golf	xxx.xx

Total Income                    x,xxx.xx

#### EXPENSES

Web Site	xxx.xx
Newsletter	xxx.xx
Picnic	xxx.xx

Total Expenses                    xxx.xx

Balance September 22, 2003    x,xxx.xx

### Membership – Ronda Rattray

Our membership has almost reached 400!

We continue to receive inquiries about membership from former members and some folks who are still interested in staying in touch even though they have moved out of the metropolitan area. Invitations to join the Club are sent to new inductees each month and many have chosen to join. Please continue to encourage your eligible friends and co-workers to join -- we still have a lot of fun ahead!

We are updating the Membership listing on the Web. Thanks for your patience as new volunteers are learning as they go. We have cross-checked applications to update e-mails for distribution of the latest information. If your e-mail address has changed, please send the new and old IDs to Ronda Rattray at [rattray@us.ibm.com](mailto:rattray@us.ibm.com) so we can keep you informed! Certainly, if you are moving, remember to give us your new address and phone number.

## **Community Programs – Jon Jessen**

Fall Collection for Homeless Shelters -- October 25

You can help in two ways -- support the economy and the homeless. The next time you are in Target, Sam's, or K-mart, pick up some men's undershirts, a few towels, and some diapers. Donate them to the Atlanta QCC fall drive in support of two homeless shelters. The Open Door, an in-town homeless shelter, was founded 21 years ago and provides shelter, meals, showers, clothing and limited medical care for homeless men and women. The Atlanta Day Shelter for Women & Children provides the basic necessities for homeless women, including: food, clothing, daily hygiene, limited medical care, as well as work training and job placement for women. Of course, gently used, clean items are also appreciated.

Open Door Needs:

Men's clothing including work shirts/sweatshirts, jeans, shoes, coats, hats, gloves, underwear

Also needed: Shampoo, soap, towels, blankets, Marta tokens, pain medicines, non-alcoholic cold medicines, anti-fungal and antibiotic creams. Sorry, but dress shirts, ties and suits are not needed. All those soaps and shampoos from hotels can be put to great use at the Open Door.

Atlanta Day Shelter Needs:

Women's / Children's clothing, toys, hygiene items

Volunteers and monetary donations, of course, are always appreciated. If you can assist on October 25th with collecting items and delivering them to the Open Door and the Atlanta Day Shelter, or if you would like additional information, send an e-mail to Jean Ellis at [ellisj@attglobal.net](mailto:ellisj@attglobal.net).

Collections points will be announced via e-mail shortly

## **ATLQCC Website**

**Tom Neidhardt**

Let us know if you have ideas for the Web site. Contact Tom at [webmaster@atlqcc.org](mailto:webmaster@atlqcc.org).

# Snippets

**Looking for your wee bits (a.k.a. snippets) of information on YOU!** Take a minute to send us a snippet about things you are doing, places you have visited, or hobbies you enjoy. We'll include it in a future newsletter so others can stay in touch and keep up-to-date. **Send your updates to Margaret Betz at [marandbetz@mindspring.com](mailto:marandbetz@mindspring.com)**

## **Retired, looking for excitement, Let's drive to Alaska**

By: Tom Satterlee

Follow-up to North to Alaska Article

Anyone interested in a drive you'll never forget with beautiful scenery and wildlife all around? Read further as I describe my summer trip from Atlanta to Anchorage, Alaska, along the Alcan Highway.

I needed a vehicle up in Alaska where I am building a house, so I announced to some friends my plan to drive in early July. This caught the interest of Don Burchell who always wanted to make that drive after hearing all the stories of adventure on the Alcan Highway. We left June 30, 2003, for Memphis where I picked up a van I was having overhauled for the trip. Memphis is only 450 miles (Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee) from Atlanta through Birmingham where you pass by the Talladega race track -- one of the largest in the U.S.

From Memphis we drove just north of Madison, Wisconsin, where we stayed at Wisconsin Dell, a resort area and casino. Most of this 670 mile drive was through the "fat" areas (Tennessee, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin) of the U.S., passing St. Louis, home of the Arch. Next, we drove 717 miles (Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota) to Jamestown, North Dakota, home of the largest Buffalo weighing over 50 tons (yes it's cement and stands 40 feet tall). We also got to see a real white buffalo, which is considered good luck.

From Jamestown we went through Minot, ND, and then crossed the border at North Portal where they searched every corner of the van. Once on the road, we passed Regina and Saskatoon, Canada before stopping at North Battleford traveling 759 miles. I never knew that Canada was so flat in the interior as we passed thousands of acres of yellow flowered fields that produced granola used for oil. In North Battleford, we encountered our only weather problem, a rain/hail storm with hail the size of quarters. Leaving North Battleford we went through Edmonton, the last big city until Anchorage.

Up until Edmonton, all the roads were four lanes and in great shape. We now changed to mostly two lane roads through Valleyview, Grand Prairie, and Dawson Creek to Whitehorse, traveling 930 miles. Now we are getting into some hilly areas seeing some

Elk, silver fox, red fox, black bears, and moose. Dawson Creek is the official Start of the Alcan Highway and home of the gold rush.

Leaving Whitehorse in the early morning, we encountered over 300 elk on the road and, in the mountains, two grizzlies. At one point, driving through a construction area, we had to stop. I got out of the van to see what was happening and saw three buffalo crossing the road.

From Whitehorse, we crossed the border into Alaska at Nabesna going through some beautiful snow capped mountains and glaciers. Most of the roads were in good conditions except for a little construction. From the border to Tok then to Palmer, Alaska, we encountered our worst roads. They had had an earthquake two months earlier where the road had dropped five feet in some sections and they were trying to rebuild. In Tok we saw/took pictures of the Alaska Pipeline before it goes underground.

Our last leg of 850 miles completed our 4,429 mile drive in six days, five nights. If you are thinking of trying this, I would recommend more time to see the sights. We had no problem finding gas, but prices were as high as \$2.50 per gallon for regular. We found AAA support in most areas. Hotels we stayed at were like a Motel 6 ranging from \$50 to \$60 per night, but there were nicer, more expensive rooms. Food was easy to find with reasonable prices.

All in all, it was not a difficult drive, and one with many memories.

## IBM Club

To help you keep abreast of the IBM Club offerings, we've included a couple of items you may find interesting. More information is available at their Web site:

**<http://www.atlantaibmclub.com>**

### ***Enjoy the City***

The Atlanta Metropolitan Area IBM Club is offering a discount book *Enjoy the City* for a special offer of \$12.50 (regularly \$25). The book contains more than \$3,000 in value. Featuring more than 300 popular local merchants, use your membership just once or twice and it pays for itself. **Enjoy the City Membership** is valid thru June 30, 2004.

### ***Callaway Gardens Resort and Preserve***

The Atlanta Metropolitan Area IBM Club is offering discounted passes to Callaway Gardens. Callaway is an award-winning, 14,000-acre gardens,

resort, and preserve nestled in the southernmost foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, in Pine Mountain, Georgia. In addition to three types of accommodations, a choice of restaurants, and plenty of shopping, guests at this family-friendly getaway enjoy lots to see and do. The Virginia Hand Callaway Discovery Center, Birds of Prey shows, Cecil B. Day Butterfly Center, John A. Sibley Horticultural Center, Mr. Carson's Vegetable Garden, Callaway Brothers Azalea Bowl, Overlook Garden and miles of Nature trails showcase the beauty of nature.

	Discounted Price	Regular Price
One Day Adult	\$ 10.80 ea	\$ 13.00 ea
One Day Child	\$ 5.40 ea	\$ 6.50 ea
Two Day Adult	\$ 16.20 ea	\$ 19.50 ea
Child (ages 6-12)	\$ 9.75 ea	\$ 8.10 ea
		(Children 5 years and
		younger are free)

### Advisory Board 2003

<b>President:</b>	Bill Branson	770-590-4279	<a href="mailto:billbranson30@wmconnect.com">billbranson30@wmconnect.com</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	Mike McGuire	770-394-5690	<a href="mailto:mikemcguire2@earthlink.com">mikemcguire2@earthlink.com</a>
<b>Secretary/Newsletter</b>	Margaret Betz	404-238-6103	<a href="mailto:mbetz@us.ibm.com">mbetz@us.ibm.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Dave Zilles	770-835-7134	<a href="mailto:zilles@us.ibm.com">zilles@us.ibm.com</a>
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