

# **MOTOROLA AUSTIN ALUMNI CLUB:**

## **THE GENERAL MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 10, 2020**

**Attendees:** Our second ZOOM general meeting had an increase in attendance to 32 members and guests. It is a great chance to see members we have been missing with the shutdown.

**Welcome:** President Jim Binneboese welcomed everyone in attendance with special recognition and a thank you to our Veterans and First Responders. Jim went over the agenda for the meeting and asked Wayne to start with an update on the picnic.

**Picnic:** Wayne Harned updated the members on the Annual Retirees Picnic and after cancellation of the picnic, Wayne said we would have to play it by ear in 2021. Wayne said he would continue to monitor the Covid 19 situation and when the vaccine becomes available. He said we may be able to have our picnic late Spring or early Summer.

**Christmas Party:** Sandra Lawell said the Christmas party is cancelled and we have received our \$500 deposit back from Maggiano's. It was sent to Cal Gooden for deposit to our account. Maggiano's said they would be happy to serve us for our next event.

**Treasurer Report:** Cal Gooden displayed the treasury report updating the Income Balance showing the \$500 returned from Maggiano's and \$300.19 collected in Dues and Interest. This gives our club balance an increase of \$800.19. The Scholarship Balances show a balance of \$250

for the Gary Daniels UT Scholarship and a balance of \$1035.52 for the MAAC Membership Scholarship fund. We sent a \$1500 check to U.T. for the winner of the "Gary Daniels Motorola Scholarship for Leaders" and \$2000 each to UTSA and Texas A&M for the winners of the MAAC Scholarships.

**Scholarship:** Two years ago Mike Coley was contacted by a former Motorola retiree named Raghu Raghunathan in Dallas who said it was a shame that Motorola and the Batwing symbol had disappeared. He and Bill Pfaff suggested creating a scholarship named for Gary Daniels called the “Gary Daniels Motorola Scholarship for Leaders”. They worked with U.T. school of Engineering to come up with a scholarship to support keeping the name Motorola and the Batwings remembered in the Austin community. Funded through MAAC donations, the scholarship recognizes Motorola’s contribution to the high-tec community and Gary Daniels’ passion for leadership. UT chooses candidates with a focus on those in the Electrical Engineering Dept with students that apply. Raghu introduced the winner, Sudep Narala, who joined our Zoom meeting. He is a graduate of Westwood High School. Now a senior in the U.T. School of Engineering, Sudep will graduate this Spring. He is planning on getting his Master’s in Electrical Engineering in Operating Systems. He thanked the club for the scholarship and that the monetary award will come in very handy. He found it valuable to look at Gary Daniels and his accomplishments and his 12 design patents and contributions to the MCU. He spoke of knowing that Gary Daniels returned as a substitute teacher at the University and he is thinking of coming back to try to do the same thing by giving back.

**Speaker(s):** A special tribute was given to Warren Wiemann during the meeting.

One of his two sons (James Wiemann) gave a story of Warren who was born in Brooklyn New York 1939. His family later moved out of the city to Long Island where he attended Mineola High School. He worked many hours in high school at the local ice-skating rink near their home giving lessons and having a little fun cutting up, as well. He played the trumpet in the band, later played an electric guitar as a young adult, and has been a big lover of music his whole life.

After high school, he joined the Navy at the age of 17 as an electronics technician on the missile guidance system aboard the USS Boston, which had just been outfitted as the Navy's first Guided Missile Cruiser. This was an exciting time for Warren where he learned rapidly, and then started along his unexpected path towards Electrical Engineering and Electronics. We have heard many stories about his travels around the world aboard The Boston.

He enrolled himself at the University of New Mexico and ended up getting his Degree in Electrical Engineering. He started riding motorcycles here with friends as a fun way to explore the area both on and off-road.

Warren spent a little time at Northrop Grumman in Albuquerque interning during his last years at College working on some jet propulsion and military related items, then took a full-time position at Motorola in Phoenix as an EE after he graduated. He moved to Phoenix, and continued his love of motorcycling and the outdoors, and exploring the Phoenix area.

He met a girl named Claudia, who lived close by and they fell in love, despite the words of caution from her mother. They eloped, marrying in Las Vegas and started a family in Mesa, AZ. They had two sons, then transferred to Texas to help start the new Motorola Austin facility. Warren spent time at the Ed Bluestein facility at first, then the last 10 years of his career at the Oak Hill facility. He worked in the CAD/CAM areas, helped run the 10X program doing manufacturing site inspections in the US and Asia. He enjoyed camping and road trips all around the US, teaching his boys to ride dirt bikes, boating, and of course, telling stories. This was what he enjoyed the most, besides his family – talking with people, making them laugh and smile, teaching, and learning.

After he retired from Motorola in 1997, they bought a new home in Round Rock, where he spent their last 23 years in the Forest Creek

neighborhood making new friends and playing a little golf along the way. He spent many years with Claudia touring around and camping all over North America. Claudia passed away on her birthday, Christmas Day 2015, which was really hard on Warren. He pressed on, making the most of what he had and found a renewed passion for dancing. He “cowboyed up” dug out his old boots from the 80’s, got some zippers installed, so he could get them on and off, and started enjoying meeting new people and two-stepping all round areas north of Round Rock, Hutto and Taylor.

This is a very abbreviated account of Warren’s ever-changing adventure through life. Covid-19 may have ended his life too early, but he will certainly live on forever through his appreciative family, his stories and jokes, and those around him who spent time to know him.

A few memories from the ZOOM participants were... His goal in life was to make everybody smile. Jules Campbell said “Going on a business trip with Warren was like going with a stand-up comedian.’ Warren joined a group called the Romeos, (Retired Old Motorolans Eating Out) who met on Tuesdays for lunch. Warren will be missed at the door to our meetings.

### **Other speakers -**

Dr. Ray Voith: Ray was asked to speak about his volunteering activities. He retired from Motorola in 2000 but continued to work at Sun Microsystems/Oracle till he retired in 2011. He searched several ways to use his time in retirement and came upon Manos de Cristo and he teaches ESL (English as Second Language). He has been teaching twice a week, 3hr classes for 16 weeks, 2 sessions a year since Jan 2012. He had been teaching at Manos de Cristo at Harmon Ave near IH35 and 51<sup>st</sup> Street, until Covid and now he teaches online on ZOOM. ZOOM is not as good as teaching in person. The teachers are mostly volunteers. You do not need to know Spanish but at Manos de Cristo it’s mostly Hispanic population. Other things they have at Manos de Cristo is a

low-cost dental office, a Food pantry, and they teach Citizenship Classes. There is also IACT (Interfaith Action of Central Texas) and they teach ESL downtown near the Refugee Center at Central Presbyterian Church. There are people from all over the world there and he has substituted there. There is something in Austin called Coming of Age with volunteer opportunities for people over 50. There is a place further south called El Buen Samaritano which is like Manos de Cristo where you can volunteer. Ray recommends volunteering your time. It is a way to give back and you can learn different things in the process.

Jim Binneboese: Jim says some people have boats, RVs, collect cars, or play golf but his hobby is flying airplanes and he is a part owner in a four-passenger Cessna 182 airplane and in a club. The plane has been upgraded to a digital cockpit with fully integrated communications and GPS navigation. Jim's first solo was in 1965. He grew up in Illinois, a couple miles from Chicago O'hare Airport where his step-grandfather owned land which eventually became the Motorola Schaumburg campus. You could say that he grew up around airplanes. He went to college at Southern Illinois University where he studied engineering. He took a side-trip and took his flight training and his mechanics training. He has kept up his yearly physicals and his flights with an instructor and stays current with the airplane. He now has about a thousand flight hours. He has a commercial license, a multi-engine license and his mechanic's license. It takes a little bit of skill and a little bit of knowledge to be able to operate one of these things, and it gives me enjoyment and I really enjoy spending time with the other members of the club and other people I meet. It has been a rewarding experience and I really enjoy it.

Jim says that he would like to encourage other members of the club who would like to talk about the way they spend their retirement. Some may be doing part time work, some may be doing volunteer work

in the medical field. Some may be doing part-time teaching or working with the children or volunteering in other fields. You are asked to send in a little note about your volunteer work and your life after Motorola/Freescale.

Ray reminded others to go on the website and read some of the memoirs and consider writing your own memoir. He also said that he recommends volunteering as something you can do while being retired and it is rewarding.

Here is Ray's website for volunteer opportunities...

<http://maacweb.org/VolunteerOpportunities/volunteer.pdf>

Our next meeting will be February 9<sup>th</sup> and will probably be another ZOOM meeting.

Janet Tidwell  
Secretary