



# THE CRESCENT NEWS

2010 — Issue #2  
1 March 2010

## CRESCENT SOCIETY TO DISBAND

The Board of Directors has unanimously voted to disband the Crescent Society effective at the end of the current Fiscal Year (June 30, 2010). We sincerely regret this action. However, recall that in the March 2008 newsletter we discussed the possibility of the need to disband due to apathy on the part of the members to volunteer to assist in directing the operation of the Society. In the two intervening years we have had a veritable paucity of volunteers. The current officers, after an untold number of years of service, have decided to step down effective June 30, 2010 and no other persons have stepped forward to fill the positions.

According to the by-laws of the Society, the steps to disband are to be as follows:

1. The directors voted unanimously on January 16, 2010 to take the action to disband *The Crescent Society*.
2. There is a requirement of a 30 day notification to the membership of the action to disband prior to a vote to disband. This is the official 30 day notification.
3. During the May 2010 meeting, the proposal to disband will be presented to the members in attendance. A simple majority vote is required for passage.
4. Upon passage of the motion to disband, all members will:
  - a) Receive a refund for all prepaid dues.
  - b) Receive a pro-rata share of the treasury balance as of the close of the books on June 30, 2010.
  - c) Receive a copy of the membership directory current as of the official disband date.

Notice: If the motion to disband should fail, the sequence will be as follows: New officers would need to step forward to continue operations of the society before June 30, 2010. Failure of this to happen will result in donation of the treasury balance to charity (perhaps the Clinton-Bush Haiti Relief Fund) and discontinuation of operations of *The Crescent Society*.

### *Inside this issue:*

Society to Disband	1
The National Debt	2
Musings	2
Membership Desk	3
Houses and Homes	3
From the Archives	3
Quotations	3
BTI Systems, Inc	4

### **Officers & Directors July 2008—June 2009**

#### Elected Officers:

President	Bill Henson
1st Vice Pres	Open
Secretary	Pat Goetzinger
Treasurer	Bob Hickey

#### Appointed Directors:

Membership	Dave Ernst
Publications	Tom Goetzinger

#### Standing Committees:

Historian	Marty Blazy
Caring	Edith Hughes

# THE NATIONAL DEBT

TOM GOETZINGER

It is almost certain that everyone reading this has heard the lament that .. “we are leaving an enormous debt to our children and grandchildren that they will never be able to repay.”

This may be true, but it is exactly the same as what our ancestors did to us. Don't think so? Well, the last time the United States of America was debt free was 1835! In fact 1834 and 1835 were the only two years in the history of our country that we were debt free! The only real concern should be the amount of debt owed.

You may recall that in April of 2008 we wrote about John Adams and the fact that he negotiated a loan from the Dutch to help fund the Revolution! That's right, since the American Revolution there have only been two years where we were debt free.

What has changed, however, is the enormity of the debt being incurred at the present time, and the incredible rate of that enormity.

Put into perspective, imagine our national debt put into common terms .... a Road Trip, as was done in an anonymous video on the Internet. To do this, equate each \$5.8 billion of debt into one mile of travel. Now let each year equate to one hour of drive time. Thus, you

can equate the debt by year to the rate of an automobile traveling on the road trip in miles per hour (mph).

When adjusted for inflation, our national debt has been increasing as follows:

For many, many years, the debt increased at a snail's pace. Only during World War II did it increase dramatically, to a rate of approximately 40 mph.

*1834 and 1835 were the only two years in the history of our country we were debt free!*

After the War and under Harry Truman the rate decreased once again, then began to increase with LBJ and The Great Society. From then and into the Reagan years the rate increased to approximately 50 mph.

There was a slight drop during the 2nd half of the Clinton term to approximately 20 mph.... sometimes considered to be due to the Newt Gingrich “Contract With America.”

Then, during the George W Bush presidency, the rate increased to the unthinkable rate of 64 mph!!

But wait. Now look at the new administration. During the first year of the Obama Administration and according to the White House and Congressional Budget estimates our national debt is increasing—and is projected to continue to increase at the incredible speed of 174 mph!

Should you be concerned for your children and grandchildren? You be the judge, but just remember that the Obama debt is increasing and is forecast to continue to increase at a rate 2.7 times the rate of the Bush administration.

On a related note, considerable concern has been raised by the media over the amount of debt which is held by China. At the close of the last U.S. government fiscal year, 44% of our national debt was held by foreign entities, with China and Japan the two largest creditors at 6.3% and 6.1% respectively.

As an aside, this foreign owned debt is not unusual. In 1803, the U.S. borrowed \$11.25 million to finance the Louisiana Purchase which doubled the size of our nation. This raised our reliance on foreign creditors to 60% of our total debt. As another aside, in January of this year, Japan once again exceeded China as the largest foreign holder of U.S. debt.

## Musings ....

Our president recently celebrated the 1st anniversary of the ARRA or “Stimulus Plan” which would purport to spend \$787 billion. He stated that 2 million jobs were either created or saved and that there were no “pork projects” in the bill. Oops, what about the program at Iowa State University to study pig odor? Aren't pigs pork? (sorry 'bout that). And isn't the project pork? Mr. President, this \$1.7 million project really isn't necessary. Pigs, like all mammals have a by-product known as excretion .... and it stinks. And I'm willing to tell you this for only \$100,000 ... saving you and the taxpayers \$1.6 million.

Oh and yes, there are all those road and bridge projects. Worthy projects, I'm sure. The Department of Transportation can easily find a way to spend their allotment. In fact, before the Stimulus Bill, there was a single employee at the Dept of Transportation making more than \$170,000 per year. Now there are 1,690 employees making more than that!!!

## MEMBERSHIP DESK

..... DAVE ERNST

### In Memoriam:

**Dean Ashby** January 23 2010

**Laurence (Larry) Byers** February 8 2010

**Ray McGee** February 11 2010

**Stephan Flemming** February 3, 2010

Stephan is the son of Sylvia and the late Pete Flemming. Stephan was also preceded in death by his brother Shawn and sister Sheryl.

## Houses and Homes

That thing you live in? Is it a house, or is it a home? Developers sell homes, but people buy houses.

Most people don't mind if you put 'em in a house. But under no circumstances do they want you to put 'em in a home. Unless it's a happy home. A happy home is not the same as a happy house. A happy house is one that's just been cleaned and painted. You'd be happy too.

The madam Polly Adler once said, "A house is not a home." Of course, she meant a warehouse is not a home. And it's not: no one would ever go to a whore home. Except a really old whore. That's where they go: The Old Whore's Home.

..... George Carlin

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

MARTY BLAZY

By 1980, OKC/MPI had the success of the HAWK under its belt as other products and events made headlines. Building 102, adjacent to Building 101, was nearing completion. It would house the offices for Engineering, Business and Sales.

The larger FALCON drive was phasing out after 4 years of production totaling 15,000 units. Document Devices Division, under the direction of Dick BAYLESS, was spun off as another business section, separating large equipment from smaller, high volume units.

Beginning what would be an even greater success product line, the WREN series kicked off a unit of a compact size of the 5 ¼" FDD (Flexible Disk Drive with the capacity of a low-end CMD (Cartridge Module Drive). It was launched by a

"Dedicated Team" led by Art WADLEIGH and Hossein MAGHADAM.

The CMD, a product introduced in 1981, celebrated production of 100,000 units in 1989. By the end of the year, 8 months after the start-up, WREN I completed 10,000 units.

The FDD celebrated another milestone in 1984 with 1,000,000 units shipped. The FINCH, introduced in 1981, completed 10,000 shipments.

In April, BancTec, Inc. of Dallas, Texas acquired MPI's Document Devices Division as well as the Optical Character Recognition Equipment of Scan Data Corp and Input Business Machines, Inc. These three acquisitions became BTI Systems, Inc, a wholly owned subsidiary of Bancotec, Inc. (see article on page 4).

Three new WRENs – SASI, SLIM, and III – were announced. WREN I was phased out after 3 ½ years in 1987 and 232,705 units. The total of WRENs shipped as of November 2, 1987 were 785,539. A month later, the number was 840,658. Another version, WREN IV reached 1,000/week by January.

The year 1988 brought a celebration of 1,000,000 units and Building 1, the original site of GE, was closed. Accelerated production reached 2 million WRENs in July 1989.

In December, the end came for CDC/MPI as OKC was acquired by Seagate Technologies. The finale of the WREN drive production ended in 1993 after 10 years with a phenomenal 4.8 million units under the Seagate logo.

Government is not reason, it is not eloquence, it is force; like fire, a troublesome servant and a fearful master. Never for a moment should it be left to irresponsible action. ....George Washington

Every government degenerates when trusted to the rulers of the people alone. The people themselves are its only safe depositories. .... Thomas Jefferson

## THE CRESCENT SOCIETY

% Tom Goetzinger  
9920 Birkenhead Ct  
Yukon, OK 73099  
(405)324-7542  
Thomgoetz@sbcglobal.net

**We're on the WEB**  
**Crescentsociety.com**



### Mark Your Calendar

#### **Reminder !!!!**

**Luncheon at Persimmon Hill**

**March 6, 2010 (12:00 noon)**

Get your reservations into Bob Hickey no later  
than March 2, 2010

Send \$8 per person to Bob at  
1900 NW 160th Place Edmond, OK 73009

## BTI SYSTEMS, INC.

TOM GOETZINGER

After formulation of the Document Devices Division, the Division relocated from Building 5 to the newly acquired Building 6. The two major products designed and produced were the Reader Sorters (Check Sorters) and the Page Printing System.

Scan Data Corporation, located in Norristown, PA. had become a subsidiary of Control Data, Corp and consisted of two major product lines, an Optical Character page reader and transaction terminals. The company was split with BTI Systems acquiring the page reader, and the transaction terminal business was spun off into what be-

came known as Positran., Inc.

Input Business Machines, Inc. (IBMI), located in Frederick, Maryland designed and manufactured Optical Character Recognition logic systems as well as mechanical transports used in the remittance processing industry. The OCR systems were used both in the in house made transports as well as OEM to numerous corporation, including BancTec and BTI.

Everything seemed to be a logical fit (pardon the pun). Your correspondent then became known as the close down artist. The first task was to split Scan Data, with the page reader transitioned to Okla-

homa City and the remaining assets transitioned into Positran.

Next, I relocated to Frederick, Md. The (physically) larger of the transports was transitioned to Oklahoma City, and the smaller units phased out in a two year time frame. The OCR business was transitioned to the BancTec manufacturing facility in Juana Dias, Puerto Rico, which manufactured circuit boards for the entire corporation.

Frederick was then left with just a machine shop and sheet metal fabrication facility which supported all products manufactured in both Oklahoma City and Dallas.