



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

[WWW.RUEA.ORG](http://WWW.RUEA.ORG)



ISSUE NO. 594

FEBRUARY 2024



*Dave & Robin Garland*



*Jim Simon & Mary Jane Stewart*



*Chuck & Sharon Cole*



*Carol Irish & Jerry Pryde*



*Sharon Crain &  
Hank Gosselin*



*Jan Henry  
& Lew Myer*



*John Cunningham*

## 2023 San Diego Reunion Memories

# GENERAL NEWS

[WWW.RUAEA.ORG](http://WWW.RUAEA.ORG)

## RUAEA 2024 Reunion



Mark your calendar for the RUAEA 2024 Reunion at the Dana Resort Hotel in San Diego, CA from 9/27/2024 to 10/2/2024. You can now reserve your hotel room using one of the following three options:

1. Scan the attached QR code with your smart device (phone, tablet, etc.)
2. Use the link <https://bit.ly/3GuIFdd>
3. Call the Dana Hotel reservations department at 800-445-



3339 and mention “RUAEA” or “Retired United Airlines Employees Association”.

The hotel room rate of \$135.00 comes with 2 free breakfasts per room night, free parking and waived resort fee; this rate is good 3 days before our Reunion and 3 days after.

Please book your hotel room as early as possible. The 2024 Reunion is in the early planning stages, the full Reunion package will be published in the June 2024 Newsletter and our [ruaea.org](http://ruaea.org) website; you can register for the Reunion at that time.

## United to Hold Webcast of Fourth-Quarter 2023 and Full-Year 2023 Financial Results December 19, 2023



United will hold a conference call to discuss fourth-quarter and full-year 2023 financial results on Tuesday, January 23 at 9:30 a.m. CT/10:30 a.m. ET.

A live, listen-only webcast of the conference call will be available at [ir.united.com](http://ir.united.com). The company will issue its fourth-quarter and full-year financial results and outlook after market close on Monday, January 22.

## United Raises Miles for Make-A-Wish This Holiday Season December 14, 2023



This giving season, United is encouraging its customers to donate miles to Make-A-Wish America to support efforts to grant life-changing wishes for children who are battling critical illnesses. According to Make-A-Wish, more than 70 percent of wishes require some form of travel. Every donated United airline mile, which never expire, helps children and their families fly across the country to participate in transformative experiences.

During the month of December, United will match the first 2.5 million miles raised for Make-A-Wish America through Miles on a Mission, United’s leading fundraising and crowdsourcing program, giving flyers a chance to use their miles

for good. So far, more than 2.3 million miles have been donated to Make-A-Wish by MileagePlus members this month.

*“We are thrilled to be featured by United’s Miles on a Mission program, which will allow us to continue to give wish families a chance to make lasting memories away from hospital rooms,”* says Leslie Motter, president and CEO of Make-A-Wish America. *“Make-A-Wish needs almost 3 billion airline miles to fulfill travel wishes for children battling critical illnesses each year, making it a critical resource to grant the wish of every eligible child waiting.”*

Make-A-Wish supporters, and its extensive network of over 24,000 volunteers across the U.S. and its territories, help Make-A-Wish grant thousands of wishes each year. When these wishes come true, it creates strength, hope and transformation in a child, giving them the tools they need to fight against and eventually overcome a critical illness.



When you donate, you can give wish kids hope for today – and tomorrow. Meet wish kid Lindsey, who shared that since the start of her cancer treatment, she had her heart set on going to Hawaii. After 3 long years filled with 16 rounds of chemotherapy, 17 surgeries, and many more bumps in the road, Lindsey and her family were thrilled to be passengers on a recent United Flight to her wish destination. *“This trip signifies the beginning of a healthy life. One where the hospital is far away. One where I’m a normal student, enjoying all that college has to offer,”* said Lindsey. *“To the amazing flight crew, thank you for your kindness and for making the beginning of my wish so special. Thank you for all that you do.”*

Since 1986, United Airlines has helped Make-A-Wish grant life-changing travel wishes – experiences that help wish kids and their families replace fear with confidence, sadness with joy, and anxiety with hope.

*“Air travel can be a big expense for an organization like Make-A-Wish and these miles can help them focus even more of their resources on creating amazing experiences for children in need,”* said Helon Hammond, VP of Global Learning, People & Community Impact for United. *“Our customers have raised more than 20 million miles over the past five years alone, and we’re honored to feature this longstanding partnership again this holiday season.”*

Visit [united.com/donate](https://united.com/donate) today to learn more about how you can donate miles to Make-A-Wish and become a MileagePlus® Member for free.

## **Emotional vs. Strategic Decisions**

**By Malcolm Horn, CFP®**



Retirement and  
Investment Services

### **Information vs. instinct** ~

When it comes to investing, many people believe they have a “knack” for choosing good investments. But what exactly is that “knack” based on? The fact is, the choices we make with our assets can be strongly influenced by factors, many of them emotional, that we may not even be aware of.

**Investing involves risks** ~ Remember that Investment decisions should be based on your own goals, time horizon, and risk tolerance. The return and principal value of investments will fluctuate as market conditions change. When sold, investments may be worth more or less than their original cost.

**Deal du jour** ~ You’ve heard the whispers, the “next greatest thing” is out there, and you can get on board, but only if you hurry. Sound familiar? The prospect of being on the ground floor of the next big thing can be thrilling. But while there really are great new opportunities out there once in a while, those “hot new investments” can often go south quickly. Jumping on board without all the information can be a mistake. A disciplined investor may turn away from spur-of-the-moment trends and seek out solid, proven investments with consistent returns.

**Risky business** ~ Many people claim not to be risk-takers, but that isn’t always the case. Most disciplined investors aren’t reluctant to take a risk. But they will attempt to manage losses. By keeping your final goals in mind as you weigh both the potential gain and potential loss, you may be able to better assess what risks you are prepared to take.

**You can’t always know what’s coming** ~ Some investors attempt to predict the future based on the past. As we all know, just because a stock rose yesterday, that doesn’t mean it will rise again today. In fact, performance does not guarantee future results.

**The gut-driven investor** ~ Some investors tend to pull out of investments the moment they lose money, then invest again once they feel “driven” to do so. While they may do some research, they are ultimately acting on impulse. This method of investing may result in losses.

**Eliminating emotion** ~ Many investors “stir up” their investments when major events happen, including births, marriages, or deaths. They seem to get a renewed interest in their stocks and/or begin to second-guess the effectiveness of their long-term strategies. A financial professional can help you focus on your long-term objectives and may help you manage being influenced by short-term whims.

My team of Financial Consultants at Alliant Retirement and Investment Services (ARIS) are here to help you with your investment decisions. Contact us on [aris.alliantcreditunion.com](https://aris.alliantcreditunion.com) to schedule a time to meet. I look forward to speaking to you soon and continuing the conversation.

**Financial professionals are registered reps with, and securities and advisory services are offered through LPL Financial (LPL), a registered investment advisor and broker-dealer (member FINRA/SIPC).** Insurance products are offered through LPL or its licensed affiliates. Alliant Credit Union (ACU) and Alliant Retirement and Investment Services (ARIS) **are not** registered as a broker-dealer or investment advisor. Registered representatives of LPL offer products and services using ARIS, and may also be

employees of ACU. These products and services are being offered through LPL or its affiliates, which are separate entities from, and not affiliates of, ACU or ARIS. Securities and insurance offered through LPL or its affiliates are:

- ▲ Not insured by NCUA or any other Government Agency
- ▲ Not Credit Union Guaranteed
- ▲ Not Credit Union Deposits or Obligations
- ▲ May lose value

The content is developed from sources believed to be providing accurate information. The information in this material is not intended as tax or legal advice. It may not be used for the purpose of avoiding any federal tax penalties. Please consult legal or tax professionals for specific information regarding your individual situation. The opinions expressed and material provided are for general information and should not be considered a solicitation for the purchase or sale of any security.

### **At Large Correspondent – Gerri Adams** **Manatee Viewing Station in Apollo Beach, Florida**



I recently had visitors from the north who spent a few days with us. It's always fun to take visitors to see something which is unique to our area. So, we took a trip to the Duke Energy Big Bend Manatee Viewing Center located in Apollo Beach which is about a 45-minute drive from St. Petersburg, Florida.

Manatees (also known as sea cows) love warm water. When the gulf water cools in the winter, the manatees migrate to warmer water. One of our larger power stations is located on the banks of Tampa Bay in Apollo Beach. This Power Station circulates water from Tampa Bay to

cool equipment located in the power plant, then clean, warm water is sent back into Tampa Bay. In the winter months, the manatees leave colder waters in the gulf to return to the warm water and its welcoming refuge found by the power plant.

Because of this uniquely unusual migration, Duke Energy built the Manatee Viewing Center so everyone could have a chance to see manatees gather. The discharge canal is a state and federally designated manatee sanctuary that provides critical protection from the cold for these unique, gentle animals.



Location: 6990 Dickman Rd., Apollo Beach, FL 33572.  
Hours: Open daily from November 1 - April 15, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Trails close at 4 p.m. They offer free parking and free admission to all who visit!

Snouts up - the manatees are the star of the show, but there's much more to see and learn! Visitors can wander along boardwalks overlooking the warm-water area where manatees gather; visit a newly remodeled education center to learn about the plant-eating, warm-blooded "gentle giants;" and even get a bite to eat at the Southshore Café.

The Manatee Viewing Center's tidal walk offers more than just vibrant birdlife – it's also one of the best spots to view manatees! On this 900-foot, ADA-compliant walkway you'll see a variety of native coastal plants and trees, as well as animal life. At the end of the walkway, you can view manatees in the Big

Bend Power Station's clean, warm water discharge canal.

Manatees aren't the only creatures you can see up close at Tampa Electric's Manatee Viewing Center – there's also a Rays Touch Tank. The tank, part of a partnership with the Florida Aquarium, is the off-season home of the actual mascots of Major League Baseball's Tampa Bay Rays. It offers a fascinating look at

cownose rays swimming just inches away, lightly grazing your fingertips as they glide past.

Connected to the Manatee Viewing Center is a coastal habitat trail that winds eight-tenths of a mile through saltern, coastal high marsh and coastal strand habitats. It showcases a variety of plant and animal life, immersing visitors in a peaceful, natural Florida setting.

Halfway along the habitat trail is a boardwalk that takes you to the wildlife observation tower. You can marvel at the surrounding habitat, including the estuary below, from a 50-foot-high vantage point. On clear days, you can see all the way across Tampa Bay!

This attraction primarily uses volunteer docents. With so many visitors these volunteers are a critical part of the Manatee Viewing Center's operation. Two of my neighbors volunteer there and they are amazed each day as to the number of manatees visible at this location and the number of visitors coming to visit the center.

If you are in the area and want something different to see and do this is an exceptional place to visit and spend a good part of your day.

### **Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter**

All articles submitted for publishing in the Newsletter are due in the Denver Office on **the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month**. This includes chapter reports, letters for the "Letters" Column, obituary listings (***Note:** Rules for submitting an obituary notice is listed in the Obits section of this Newsletter*), and in general, any item for inclusion into the current Newsletter. All items received after the 7<sup>th</sup> are subject to be considered for the next Newsletter.

Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to John Chu at [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com) and [ruaeal@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaeal@qwestoffice.net). If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd, Denver, CO 80207-2433. Please allow for postal delay. We cannot extend the deadline!

*Please note that all submitted articles are subject to editing and approval by the Newsletter Manager. Once they are published in the RUAEA Newsletter, they become the property of RUAEA. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me. My contact information is listed in the Newsletter.*

**John Chu**

**Newsletter Manager - [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com)**

## **LOCAL NEWS**

### **ALABAMA**



#### **SWEET HOME ALABAMA**

Joe E. Jones, Ret. ORDFO  
12115 County Road 29  
Clanton, AL 35045  
(205) 646-3825  
[autiger@centurytel.net](mailto:autiger@centurytel.net)

We meet every three months for lunch at various restaurants in Birmingham and invite all retired United employees and their families to join us. For more information, you may call me at the above phone number.

### **ARIZONA**

#### **PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S**

Matalynne Wandel  
Phoenix, AZ  
Correspondent  
[matalynne@hotmail.com](mailto:matalynne@hotmail.com)



There is no report this month from the Phoenix Re-United's chapter of RUAEA.

### TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Pat Sommer Di Lallo, Treasurer  
14740 N. Palmwood Dr.  
Oro Valley, AZ 85755  
(520) 825-7370  
[rpdgarlic41@comcast.net](mailto:rpdgarlic41@comcast.net)



We are the Tucson Roadrunners, an active chapter. We meet for lunch at various Tucson restaurants on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month except in November and December, when it is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday. All retirees are welcome to join us.

If you would like to attend our luncheons, you can e-mail **Pat Sommer Di Lallo** at [rpdgarlic41@comcast.net](mailto:rpdgarlic41@comcast.net) or call either **Pat Di Lallo** (520) 825-7370 or **Sandy Lawyer** (847) 826-2640 for information.

We look forward to seeing you.

### CALIFORNIA

#### CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS

Chico, California  
Sharon Simonton, Secretary  
P.O. Box 2257  
Paradise, CA 95967  
(530) 990-0936  
[sbsimonton@comcast.net](mailto:sbsimonton@comcast.net)



There is no report this month from the NorthStaters chapter of RUAEA.

#### Calendar:

**January 24** - Wednesday, at 11:30AM, Vittles Restaurant in Anderson. Any retirees that may be traveling in the area are welcome.

#### CENTRAL COASTERS



Avila Beach, CA  
Al Rybar  
347 Calle Lupita  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
(805) 458-4587  
[papawow@charter.net](mailto:papawow@charter.net)

Due to health problems that my wife suddenly developed, we have moved to an assisted living facility. My address and phone numbers have changed (**please note the above new address and phone number**).

Our December meeting was at Rosa's and the food and service was excellent. Attending were **Mike & Bridget Zoldak, Bob & Esther Bartlett, Nina Powers** and her driver **Mayra Solis, Joan Schaefer, Ken & Stella Bake, Bob & Marcia Stanger, David & Jasmine Ludwig**, and a new member, **Mike Stadnick**. A very good turnout.

There was information discussed about Airline travel including European rules and cost; also pass items.

Mike received a "thank you" e-mail from **Kathy Shurtleff** regarding a get-well card sent from the group. Our Chapter donated \$50 to the Wounded Warriors project.

There was no gift exchange but rather door prizes for items that were donated. It turned out to be voluntary and more fun. Our table decorations were very beautiful, including candy.

Nina and Mayra were acknowledged since they drive the furthest to attend our meetings.



## **DESERT SUNBIRDS**

Palm Springs Area

Thomas Sabo

[sabo.thomas@yahoo.com](mailto:sabo.thomas@yahoo.com)



There is no report this month from the Desert Sunbirds chapter of RUAEA.

We try to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month; if you are visiting the Palm Springs area, we would love to have you join us. Email [sabo.thomas@yahoo.com](mailto:sabo.thomas@yahoo.com) for details.

## **EAST BAY DIABLOS**



East Bay Diablos

Contra Costa County

Jan Soderstrom

30 San Piedras Place

San Ramon, CA 94583

(925) 833-9184

[Janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:Janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com)

Happy Valentine's Day to everyone from the East Bay Diablos group! Good grief, I feel like I'm writing this for the very distant future. February? I'm still getting used to it being January and a brand new year.

I hope you had a very nice and memorable holiday season. The weather reports were saying that very few people were going to have a White Christmas. Growing up in Michigan, it was always so special when it snowed on Christmas Eve and we woke up to a White Christmas on Christmas Morning.

Our group holds in person monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month all year long. The restaurants are still dealing with staff shortages, so we have to give them a count beforehand for our meetings. If you are going to attend our meetings, you must RSVP prior to the meeting. I have put the dates of our upcoming meetings and the RSVP deadlines below. We alternate between The Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord and Rocco's Ristorante Pizzeria in Walnut Creek. We like The Old Spaghetti Factory because they have both a regular and a senior menu with reduced portions and soup or salad, ice cream and beverage included. They also reserve a room for us. Our other venue is now Rocco's in Walnut Creek because they also have a separate room that we can reserve.

At every meeting we have two raffles, one for money and one for door prizes. We pay two dollars for three tickets and the winner gets a portion of the money collected. The door prizes are whatever people are inspired to bring. We average about 14 people at our meetings throughout the year, but virtually all our members come to our summer picnic meeting which is a catered BBQ luncheon; and to our December meeting at Zio Fraedo's. Social hour starts at 11:00 and our meal is typically served at noon.

This month's article is shorter than normal because I do not have a meeting to report. Our January meeting was postponed to January 8 as our regular meeting day fell on New Years Day. I will report on both the January and February meetings in the next newsletter.

I am not a fan of spiders but I found the following article interesting. The world's most poisonous spider, the funnel-web spider, is found in Australia in forested areas and suburban gardens from Sydney to the coastal city of Newcastle in the north and the Blue Mountains to the west. Sydney funnel-web spiders usually range in length from just under half an inch to two inches, with females being generally larger than their male counterparts. While female funnel-web spiders are venomous, the venom from the smaller males is more deadly. The Australian Reptile Park, located 45 miles north of Sydney, has a very successful anti-venom program. Safely captured spiders handed in by the public undergo "milking" to extract venom, essential for producing life-saving anti-venom.

With fangs that could pierce a human fingernail, the largest male specimen of the world's most poisonous spider has found a new home at the Australian Reptile Park. A member of the public discovered it by chance and took it to a local hospital. Spider experts from the nearby park retrieved it and soon realized it was the largest male specimen ever received from the public in Australia. The spider measured 3.1 inches from foot to foot and has been dubbed "Hercules."

*"We're used to having pretty big funnel-web spiders donated to the park. However, receiving a male funnel-web this big is like hitting the jackpot," said Emma Teni, a spider keeper at Australian Reptile Park. "With having a male funnel-web this size in our collection, his venom output could be enormous, proving*

*incredibly valuable for the park's venom program*". Since the inception of the program in 1981, there haven't been any fatalities in Australia from any funnel-web spider bites. Source: CBS News, January 4, 2024

**Barbara Cunningham** is collecting both new and used Christmas cards. She donates them to a local special education teacher who uses them in his classroom. He has told Barbara he can use "all the cards he can get." The students make gift cards which they sell at the school fundraiser. If you have cards you'd like to donate, please contact Barbara at (925) 846-8123 or [barbjc1943@gmail.com](mailto:barbjc1943@gmail.com) for more info, or just mail them to her directly at 3556 Touriga, Pleasanton, CA 94566-6931. Note: This is a new email for her. This teacher needs just the cards, no envelopes. The money they raise is for special outings like field trips and other enrichment activities for the special needs students.

**Jan Soderstrom** is collecting coupons for the charity Support our Troops. This is a service project of her Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) chapter. According to Feeding America, an estimated 160,000 military families experienced difficulty putting food on the table in 2020. Troops in junior enlisted ranks are especially vulnerable to food insecurity — almost 30% need help.

I would like to ask all of you to cut out coupons and mail them to me at 30 San Piedras Place, San Ramon, CA 94583-3018. This is such an easy thing to do to support our troops. For the price of a first class stamp, you can get about 90 coupons in an envelope. The coupons have to say Manufacturer's Coupon. If they come in a strip, please cut them into separate coupons. The collected coupons are then distributed to overseas military personnel for use in their commissaries. The commissaries honor them for six months after the published expiration date so expired coupons can be sent too. In my area, the coupons come in Tuesday's mail along with the supermarket ads, and then in the Sunday paper. Unfortunately, manufacturers are cutting back on the coupons they are issuing, especially on food items, just when people need help the most. So anything we can send to the troops is greatly appreciated. I get so excited when I get a coupon for eggs!

I am so grateful for the kindness of all the RUAEA members who are helping me with this project. I have been turning in coupons every month since May 2022, and on January 6, I turned in 910 coupons. The coupons I get at my East Bay Diablos RUAEA meeting on January 8 will go toward February's totals. From now through May 2024, I'll be turning in coupons at my DAR meeting the first Saturday of the month. Thank you so much to the members in my local RUAEA chapter and to members from all over the country who are sending coupons. All the coupon cutters are telling me that they are not getting coupons like they used to. It's really bad in the SF Bay Area and I'm glad that other areas of the country are still able to send coupons. If it weren't for the RUAEA folks from all over the country sending me coupons, my chapter would have very few coupons. This month I received coupons from **Mary Brennan** in MN, **Barrie Hooley** in IN, **Margie Klaus** in NV, **Carol Koslosky** in NY, **Maureen Neidle** in IL, **Margaret Sarsfield** in VA, **Sheryl Schubert** in CO, **Yvonne Schwartz** in AL, **Sue Sealey** in CO, and **Norm Wilkinson** in IL.

Our meetings are the first Monday of the month and we meet all 12 months of the year. Upcoming Meetings: Please join us!

- ▲ Monday, February 5 at 11:00 — Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mt. Diablo Street, Concord. Social hour starts at 11:00 and we typically eat at noon. We order from the regular menu and have separate checks. Must RSVP to **Jan Soderstrom** at [janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com) or (925) 833-9184 by Thursday, February 1.
- ▲ Monday, March 4 at 11:00 — Rocco's Ristorante Pizzeria, 2909 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek. Social hour starts at 11:00 and we typically eat at noon. We order from the regular menu and have separate checks. Must RSVP to **Jan Soderstrom** at [janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com) or (925) 833-9184 by Thursday, February 29.
- ▲ Monday, April 1 at 11:00 — Rocco's Ristorante Pizzeria, 2909 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek. Social hour starts at 11:00 and we typically eat at noon. We order from the regular menu and have separate checks. Must RSVP to **Jan Soderstrom** at [janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com) or (925) 833-9184 by Thursday, March 28.

Until next month, take care and do everything you can to stay healthy!



## **GOLDEN GATERS**

SFO – Bay Area  
Ginger Dahlberg  
821 Magellan Lane  
Foster City, CA 94404  
(650) 224-1865  
[gingersfo@aol.com](mailto:gingersfo@aol.com)



2 0 2 4 ---- The Year of the Dragon

Hark! Good news, same meeting place

A new time – 10am – 12noon

Plan on a local restaurant for lunch

Pick your favorite food

You need to pay with cash or credit card

Need to pay dues - \$20 per member

Everyone is welcome

We urge you to join RUAEA

You'll have a good time

Every 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month

Arrive, chat, eat ... and enjoy

Reserve the date, see you there!

**Ginger Dahlberg** will preside over the 2024 meetings, **John Garis** will be our Treasurer and **Barbara Underhill** and **Carol Slater** are staying on the Board. We do need volunteers to help out, so when you are asked to lend a hand, please do so. We need “sponsors” for the coming months – an easy job, mainly letting the restaurant know how many people to expect.

In order to meet our room rental fee, dues will be re-instated, \$20 per member, so please send in a check made out to **John Garis**, Treasurer, ASAP, and mail it to him at 550 Compass Circle, Redwood City, CA 94065. (What a bargain – that's about \$1.99 a month per person!) Or you can also pay cash or check when you come to the January meeting.

Here are the dates for the following 3 months:

- ▲ January 22 – 10:00am, Short Board meeting, 10:30am Members social time – go to Lunch at 11:30am at IHOP Restaurant on Foster City Blvd.
- ▲ February 26 –10:00am, Short Board Meeting, 10:30am Members social time – Chinese New Year's Celebration at a local Chinese restaurant - Sponsor **Carol Slater** – let her know if you plan on attending so we can let the restaurant know how many to expect.
- ▲ March 25 – 10:00am, Short Board Meeting, 10:30am Members social time – Lunch probably at Par 3, Coyote Point Golf Course restaurant– will advise. Sponsor **Ginger Dahlberg**.

We will be also reinstate the raffle – got any White Elephant items you would like to donate? Watch for some special events we plan over the months. As the year progresses, we ask that you let the luncheon sponsor know if you plan on attending the luncheons. This way we can plan on different places to dine and that we can be accommodated. On a sad note, **Mary Gloria Landrum** has passed away. She was 96 years young. Many of you can remember that she and **Emmett** were long time members of our group and had traveled with us on many trips. Keep their family in your thoughts and prayers. If you know any one who needs some TLC, please let Ginger know so that a card can be sent along to them. Not much else is going on. Want to join us for an evening of “Dancing with the Stars” - Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Let Ginger know and she can give you the details. An early dinner, and the show in San Jose. Please get those shots as Covid, the Flu Bug and RSV are on the rise in our county. In the meantime, stay well, get some exercise. The Foster City Rec. Center offers many classes to keep you fit and mobile! We can even learn how to Line Dance!

Come join us if you are in town, all United and Continental retirees are welcome - we meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at 10:00am at the William Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd., (Shell Blvd. and East Hillsdale Blvd.), Blue Bird Room, Foster City, CA 94404. Note: Our mailing address is UAL-SFO Bay Area Retirees, c/o **Ginger Dahlberg**, 821 Magellan Lane, Foster City, CA 94404.



## **HANGTOWN MINERS**

Jane Gibson  
Placerville, CA  
Secretary  
[tired-dogs@comcast.net](mailto:tired-dogs@comcast.net)

Hello to all!

Phew! I don't know about the rest of you, but I'm exhausted! Christmas 2023 is in the books and New Years Eve is roaring down upon us.

How fortunate we are that we were able to come together at the Smith Flat House and enjoy that last luncheon for the year. **Suzanne Kenny** made all the arrangements for us, **Jane Gibson** put together the decorations (looked much better in my mind!), and we could all chat and laugh with one another. The food was delicious – prime rib or salmon – and cooked perfectly. All the bright and beautiful colors of this special season showed up too. Being of the age of retirement, we've seen quite a few Christmases, but each one is so special in so many ways.

We do not have a (formal) meeting at this luncheon, so I don't have a lot to report. However, our president, **Rudy Blazius**, got everyone's attention and extended a hearty "Thank You" to **Suzanne Kenny** and **Jane Gibson**. Not to miss out, **JR Heier** jumped in and added **Tom Kenny** to that "Thank You" for all the time and effort he has put out with the "Tool Collection Project". Now, JR also has been right there (in Tom's garage) helping to clean and check the condition of the tools donated. They cleaned up the donated tool boxes, getting them ready for their next life with their new owners. I am so proud of all of you who have contributed to this effort for the past two years. Tom, you truly have done the "lion's share" of the work, there wouldn't be anything if it wasn't for your devotion. Sure, you all finally got your garage/shop straightened up, but it's more than that! Passing along tools that will continue to be used to repair aircraft, etc., keeps the profession alive and going; it recycles valuable equipment whenever possible and, we receive brand new items as well. Enabling a new generation to learn and work where you once did, that's pretty darn great. Again, Thank You!

There was also some discussion that I was not able to hear clearly, but I think the gist of it wound around the info that former UAL mechanic(s) are now teaching this next mechanic generation at the Sacramento City College A&P Program! I couldn't catch the name(s), but kudos to you!

Just a couple things to cover: We still need 3 months covered for hosting in 2024! Please, look at your calendars and let me know which month you would like to sign up for: June, August, and October.

Also, remember that our annual dues of \$15.00 is due! If you haven't already done so, please make a check out to Hangtown Miners for \$15.00 and mail it to **Tom Kenny**; 3481 Parleys Canyon, Placerville, CA 95667.

Now, where will we be meeting in the New Year? Funny you should ask! **Rudy & Cindy Blazius** are hosting us at a new place that sounds wonderful – Skipolini's Pizza And Pasta! Doesn't that sound good!

As we wind down and ready for a whole new year (we get that extra day – February 29<sup>th</sup> – this coming year), take time to reflect and pat yourselves on the back. Acknowledge all the caring, helpful, loving, fun times you have enjoyed. Maybe not every day was wonderful, but every day is precious.

Take time to appreciate all you have in your life. Take time to relax. Take time to do something for someone else and to do something for yourself. We only get so many days, make the most of every one of them. I'm eager to see all of you in 2024!



## **RESANS**

San Diego, CA  
Barbara Drews  
Secretary  
[sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com](mailto:sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com)

We are off to a cold start for 2024 with cold weather and rain. Despite the weather, we had seventeen retirees brave the weather and come to our first breakfast of the New Year.

Our Birthdays for February are: **Louis Semon** (2/2), **Paul Zadrozny** (2/15), and **Calvin Iida** (2/28). We wish all the best to them in the coming year.

**Peggy Van Sickle** has been moved the Acute Care back into the hospital to be treated for a recurrence of pneumonia. She is missed and our prayers are continuing on her behalf.



Everyone was happy to hear about United's debut of service to the Caribbean, Central America, Mexico and South America. Not too many occurring out of the West Coast, Seattle, San Francisco or Los Angeles. All are subject to government approval.

If you are anxious to make plans to take a trip in the new year, the Dana Inn on Mission Bay in San Diego is taking room reservations for the Retired United Airlines Employees Reunion. The Reunion dates are from September 27, 2024 to October 2, 2024. The room rate of \$135.00 includes 2 free breakfasts per room per night, free parking and resort fee. The rate applies to three days before and three days after our Reunion.

While making your plans to attend our Reunion, I would like you to take a look at one of our beautiful scenic places, the Cabrillo National Monument: This beautiful, scenic park offers a view of the San Diego Harbor and skyline. One can also see Coronado and the Naval Air Station at North Island. On one of our many clear days, your view allows great views of the Pacific Ocean, Tijuana, also the Coronado Islands of Mexico are visible.

Located at the southern tip of the Pt. Loma Peninsula, also the highest point in the park is the famous Point Loma Lighthouse. Due to low clouds, and fog obscuring the visibility, it was closed in 1891. A new light house has been opened and it has been built at a lower elevation which allows the light to be seen from a greater distance.

The old lighthouse has become a museum which visitors may enter. The site was made a California Historical Landmark in 1932 to commemorate landing of Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo and the San Diego Bay on September 28, 1542; the first European expedition to set foot on what has now become the West Coast of the United States.

#### Calendar:

**February 1** - Retiree breakfast, Pt Loma Cafe, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego. Please email me if you will be attending as the Café needs a number of attendees for staffing purposes. We would love to have you join us.

**September 27 - October 2** - Retired United Airlines Employees Reunion.

#### **SACRAMENTO GOLD DIGGERS**

Sacramento, CA

Ron Bertacini

Secretary

[sgd@surewest.net](mailto:sgd@surewest.net)

#### **SACRAMENTO**



There is no report this month from the Sacramento Gold Diggers chapter of RUAEA.



#### **SAN JOAQUINERS**

Rosie Walls

Secretary

(209) 984-5672

[jawrmw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jawrmw@sbcglobal.net)

Bob stated in our November meeting that we need members to step up and volunteer for officer positions for next year. At the December meeting, no one volunteered to be President or Vice president; no votes were taken, leaving the offices of President and Vice president open. Here is the list of positions and contact person: *President* – Open, *VP* – Open, *Treasurer* - **Bob Scoble**, *Secretary & RUAEA Correspondent* - **Rosie Walls**, *Sunshine Lady* - **Chris Fountain**, *Jokster* - **Don Nesja**, *Roster* - **Sandy Brooks**.

It was also decided to continue paying dues of \$7.50 per year. Please see Bob, Pat or Sandy to pay your dues. As a reminder Bob offered to be Treasurer since Pat and Sandy are now on the account and Pat receives the banks correspondence. As you know, Rudy has not been able to attend for some time and asked to be taken off the bank account. Pat and Sandy had previously stepped up to take over managing the bank account.

With no President to coordinate the monthly lunch, it was decided that the host of the luncheon will coordinate and set up the luncheon as before but will chair the meeting, draft the minutes along with help from Rosie and distribute. We have hosts for most of the months in 2024 and need volunteers to host the June 13<sup>th</sup> and December 12<sup>th</sup> lunches. Bob and Steve will continue to be available to support the host with any of the



above activities.

December 14<sup>th</sup> was our annual Christmas Luncheon. We met at Firenze's in Oakdale. Everyone had a great time. Steve brought in a special guest, Santa! With Santa's help we celebrated Betty's upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 24! We also had a Christmas Ornament exchange and I think everyone had a good time with that in celebration of the Christmas Season. Friends of Bob and Pat also joined us for lunch, **Bob & Emilia Torres**.

Our next luncheon is February 8<sup>th</sup> at Huckleberry's in Oakdale. As usual we will meet at 11am. Please give **Bob Scoble** a call (209) 626 5308, to let him know if you are able to join us. The restaurants have been very accommodating with last minute rearrangement of tables. It would be good if we give them an early head count.

### **SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY**

San Jose, CA

[www.southbayruaea.org](http://www.southbayruaea.org)

George Midwin

1879 Foxworthy Ave.

San Jose, CA 95124

[midwin5u@hotmail.com](mailto:midwin5u@hotmail.com)



We hope all had a great New Year and are looking forward to this coming year. Maybe as a resolution, you can attend the RUAEA Reunion in San Diego, September 27 – October 4. This will be the last year we will be offered the fantastic rate of \$135/night on the water's edge.

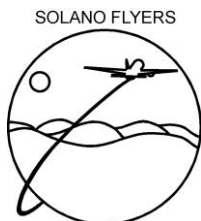
The attached photo was taken during the annual Christmas gathering of over 32 members and guests. Although some guests attend so many of our events, we may as well count them as members, at any rate they are really great friends!

If it was not for our fearless, or should I say ferocious leader's efforts, this event would not have happened. **Chuck Clayborn** worked very

hard to tick all the boxes; distance, location, parking, food quality and quantity, space, comfort, service and cost. Everyone was very satisfied with the restaurant and all had a great time. It was so nice to have so many people in attendance. **Julie Midwin** provided goodies and with the help of **Maureen Snyder**, decorated the tables, with Chuck providing poinsettias, which set the mood for all. Perhaps we have found a new location for our future Christmas gatherings.

Some of the discussion at the party was about the annual summer get together. It was decided that we would go ahead and reserve the covered pavilion at Vasona, which is non-refundable. Although we may not be able to hire the caterer, as in the past, due to the ever increase in costs, we discussed some alternatives. One would be a potluck and the other, a BBQ. To make things a bit easier for all, it seems like the BBQ would be the way to go. Collectively, we could keep costs down if we purchased the food and BBQ'ed it ourselves. This would permit us to charge a reasonable fee and be able to provide a great lunch. Of course, we would need members to help make this event great, so we will seek out a few volunteers. If you have other ideas or suggestions, please contact Chuck and let him know.

See you at the Bill of Fare for our next meeting!



### **SOLANO FLYERS**

Larry Jackson  
President  
(707) 624-0030  
[larry-cindy@comcast.net](mailto:larry-cindy@comcast.net)

The Solano Flyers did not hold a meeting this month due to a large number of members traveling out of town. We do not have a report this month for the RUAEA Newsletter.

## **COLORADO**

### **DENVER**

#### **MILE HIGHERS**

Rich & Cleora Conner  
(970) 660-7040  
[richcleora@gmail.com](mailto:richcleora@gmail.com)



**Paul Goodyear** opened the meeting with the pledge to the flag. Three new members of customer service attended: **Susie Neeley**, **Theresa Odell** and **Jari Laflure**.

In 2023, 99.7% of United flights made schedule. In Denver, United bought land between Tower Road and Pena Boulevard which will be used for a new Training Center with 12 flight simulators. It is expected that the facility will employ 5000 people by 2030.

**Dave Margos** has cancer and is in hospice; no calls please. **Teresa Rushton** (customer service) passed away 5 weeks ago. **Ed Jobson** passed away in October and **Doug Merel** passed away before Ed; they were roommates.

Our 50/50 winners were **Theresa Odell**, **Gene Sibley**, **Paul Goodyear**, **Bonnie Orr** and **Rich Conner** (2x).

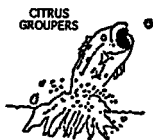
Our next meeting will be February 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 at Ted's Place in Commerce City. All are welcome!

## **FLORIDA**

### **THE CITRUS GROUPEERS**

#### **THE VILLAGES**

Julius "Joe" DiStaso  
(352) 775-8201  
(941) 661-2215  
[wopahofl@comcast.net](mailto:wopahofl@comcast.net)



There is no report this month from the Citrus Groupers chapter of RUAEA.

If anyone has questions or would like to join our group, please contact our president **Joe DiStaso** at [wopahofl@comcast.net](mailto:wopahofl@comcast.net) or **Rich Capozzi** at [rcapozzi@rocketmail.com](mailto:rcapozzi@rocketmail.com).



### **THE ORLANDO**

#### **REAL McCOYS**

Elaine Tillman-Mannella  
7307 Everleigh Court  
Orlando, FL 32819  
(321) 287-4055  
[emt6250@yahoo.com](mailto:emt6250@yahoo.com)

Our Christmas luncheon was a wonderful and very festive affair! Tables were decorated and the food was wonderful, as we have come to expect from Maggiano's Little Italy ... we **will** be back next year! All voting items were tabled until our January 2024 meeting! Anniversary Wishes to **Ted & Char LeGrand** on 68 years! How did you do it?

December Birthdays included **Maureen Sterinsky** and **Jane Houston**, our Christmas Baby! We have a future member, **Eddie DiCicco**, also celebrating a Birthday! Welcome, Eddie ... glad you are joining us!

Well, here comes January 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Real McCoys ... stayed home, shivering in their long johns! Ho! Actually, we had 9 brave souls and lots of laugh for this first meeting of the new year. I was late, ruining all chances of making good on one New Year's resolutions.

President **Al Fields** (most of the Board continues on) began the meeting with the "crowd" standing for the Pledge. The New Treasurer, **Linda Agnello** ... and yes, **Charlotte LeGrand** stepped down after 20+ years of service – she can just come and enjoy lunch now! So, Linda is the keeper of the books. We will select the charities at the next meeting. Russell House and the VA are the recipients, but which VA is the question.

Secretary **Elaine Tillman-Mannella** was next. I read a very sweet Christmas card from **Mary McNeill** up in JAX. We all welcomed **Diane Lewis** back. **Ernie & Cheryl Vosges** did not join us, as Cheryl had surgery **today**. Address is 2904 Birmingham Blvd., Orlando, FL 32829. **Barb Fitak**, had a knee replacement for her Birthday (!) but is already up and using a cane. **Peg Cannata** is home and resting comfortably, 1280 Madelena Ave., Winter Springs, FL 32708. **Rich & Cathy Llewellyn** are just freezing in CLE! Address is 17289 Station Rd., Columbia Station, OH 44028. **Julia Montalvo** is home, but doctoring. She was hit by ... wait for it ... a **forklift**. Address is 12303 Leeks Ct., Orlando, FL 32837. **Joanne Mollet**'s young relative in ORD was seriously injured by a crane on a job site. Prayers of comfort for all of these folks.

President Al asked us all to put the first Tuesday in April in our minds and calendars for the Annual Picnic.

Birthday Balloons for **Diane Lewis** and **Tom Cannata**, both celebrating on January 5<sup>th</sup>! What did they get for a present from our group? We did **not** sing! Also celebrating on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, **Barb Fitak**! Congrats!

### **SW PELICANS DROP-INS**

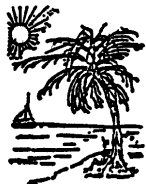
Ray Jensen  
(239) 888-2744  
[rmmjensen@msn.com](mailto:rmmjensen@msn.com)



Since our monthly meeting is scheduled for January 12, which is after the deadline for submitting a report to the RUAEA Newsletter, we do not have a report this month. Our meeting is at the same restaurant and the same time.

### **Calendar:**

**January 12** – Luncheon at LYNQ restaurant in Ft. Myers



### **TAMPA BAY CHAPTER**

Trinity, FL  
Janis Lindstrom  
587 Waterford Circle W.  
Tarpon Springs, FL 34688  
(727) 934-1862  
[LindeKatz@aol.com](mailto:LindeKatz@aol.com)

We had 14 for our Christmas Luncheon, see attached photo on the next page.

We had our monthly social meeting on January 8 with 5 members in attendance; we discussed Alaska Airlines and United. We talked about our families with Christmas and the New Year.





Calendar:

**February 5 - IHOP - 10:30**

### **TREASURE COAST**

Stuart, FL

Al Popek

President

[ualpbi@att.net](mailto:ualpbi@att.net)



Happy New Year to our United family!

We just want to send a quick note to remind everyone that the Treasure Coast Chapter is back in operation again. A big "Thank You" to the members who attended our Christmas luncheon and for the generous amount of toys for the "Toys For Tots" program; it was greatly appreciated.

Mark your calendar for our next meeting to be held on March 5, 12 Noon. Place to meet will be announced.

Happy Valentine's Day!

### **IDAHO**



### **BOISE GEMS**

Shirley Dempsey

[rickshirley.dempsey@gmail.com](mailto:rickshirley.dempsey@gmail.com)

The Boise Gems did not have a meeting in January 2024. Our next meeting is in February; members will be notified when arrangements are made.

Everyone seems to be having weather difficulties this New Year. Boise has snow on the ground now and more scheduled for everyday this coming week.

We did have our Christmas Luncheon at Life's Kitchen in December. Even though our group was small, we enjoyed this celebration. Those attending the luncheon were **Joe & Joan Varady**, **Carol & Dave Adams**, **Joe Sweeley** (**Pam Ortali** had a previous commitment.), **Shirley Perkins** and her daughter **Donna Blake**, and **Rick & Shirley Dempsey**.

Happy New Year to everyone!

## ILLINOIS

### **CHICAGO SKYLINERS**

[www.chicagoskyliners.org](http://www.chicagoskyliners.org)

[Chicagomainliner.com](http://Chicagomainliner.com)

Jan Gawenda

(847) 917-9586

[jawenda@gmail.com](mailto:jawenda@gmail.com)



February—Hearts and Flowers Month, but there's more to this little month than that, isn't there? To start with, it's a Leap Year, 29 big whopping days to celebrate something. When I was a kid, I heard the 29<sup>th</sup> was Sadie Hawkins Day, an extra day for ladies to find a husband. Groundhog Day on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, Lunar New Year on the 10<sup>th</sup>, Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day on the 14<sup>th</sup>, whoops, can we eat all that candy, will the Pope or Cardinal allow Fannie May a dispensation? Guess we'll just be happy with our Paper Roses, (remember that song?) The 19<sup>th</sup> is President's Day, we celebrate all 46 on one day. Remember back a few centuries ago, we got off both of them in Illinois. It also contains Super Bowl Sunday, the 11<sup>th</sup>, what a money maker that has become. TV's are cheaper, also mattresses, and the baseball teams go to the southern cities to start Spring Training. It's about time! It's also Black History Month, American Heart month, Cancer Prevention Month, Weddings Month, Cherry Month, Snack Food Month, and even An Affair to Remember Month. By now, you must have seen that movie or one of its off shoots, it's considered one of the most romantic movies ever made. Cary Grant and Deborah Kerr own the screen on this one. I read that even Cary cried when he saw it, as do all of my friends, and my uncle Bob. We'd sit and share a box of Kleenex each time we watched it. The February flower is the violet, the primrose, and the iris. Tiny little month, has three! Most months have two, some have one, and tiny little February has three! That's a blooming fact! The gem is the amethyst, a beautiful color which symbolizes piety, humility, spiritual wisdom and sincerity. On February 3, 1959, rock and roll musicians, Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, and the Big Bopper were all killed in a plane crash near Clear Lake, Iowa, along with the pilot. The event became known as, 'The Day the Music Died', after Don McLean referred to it as such in his 1971 song, 'American Pie'. The longest rock song ever written until then.

The Northside breakfast had **Charlie Lewis, Ginny Vlach, Virginia Kondraros, Scott Ivey, Dave Dunham, Dona Nefczyk, Deb Jaret, Marsha Sealock-Weber, and Jan Gawenda.**

ORDMM mechanics included **Fred Seibert, Frank Wenig, Frank Ranier, Jim Kraft, Bill Durr, Bob Palm, Cas Paprocki, Boris Spitz, Paul Skrudland, Don Kramlich, LB Neal, Rich Protsman, Ron Geibel, Walt Chornomaz, Bud Lowe,** and two old strangers, **Al Low and Nancy Peterson.** (Also an identified man whom I can't remember his name).

The ORDMM foreman breakfast was attended by **Bob Smietanski, Tom Abraham, Bart & Sue Kendall, Stan Chmielewicz, Glenn Hill** and me.

The IAM 1487 had their January Hot Dog day with 177 people. The February meeting will be serving Chinese food. For a small fee of \$6, you will have a delicious plate of chicken, pork or beef and roll. Email **Dave Roderick** at [kulrod1@gmail.com](mailto:kulrod1@gmail.com) if you plan on having lunch, and which meal you prefer. The bylaw changes were discussed then tabled until next month. Nominations and elections will be held at the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. New officers and board members are needed for the club. If you're interested, let Dave know at the same email address.

You probably heard by now, effective January 1, Illinois has 320 new laws on the books. I'm putting in a few that might interest or pertain to you. It is now legal to hang your dice, fragrant green tree, or fuzzy balls from the rear view mirror. October will be designated as Italian-American Heritage month. Massive transit bill will explore expanded reduced fare service, require transit agencies to purchase emission-free buses, and will provide free transport to victims of domestic violence. It will be unlawful for any person to allow any member of the public to come into direct contact with a bear or nonhuman primate. A person, surviving spouse or next of kin for any person who is injured or killed by a person under the age of 18, who is impaired by drugs or alcohol, is eligible to pursue legal

damages from a person who willfully supplied or willfully allowed consumption of, drugs or alcohol to the minor in question. The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Pilot will connect grandparents to relevant services and resources provided by state agencies. All estate-planning documents must be prepared electronically. Previously, only wills were included. Any county that exceeds three million residents will be required to establish a vehicle theft hotline to facilitate the location of stolen vehicles. Video conferencing while driving will now be prohibited. All employees will be allowed up to two weeks of unpaid leave in the event of a family member is killed in a crime of violence. Animal control facilities may not charge an adoption fee for dogs or cats if the person presents a valid ID or Illinois Person with a disability card with the word 'veteran' printed on its face. Owners or properties dedicated to residents 55 and older must provide a common area whose temperature is maintained between 67 and 73 degrees. In order to be eligible for state grants, a public library shall develop a written policy prohibiting the practice of banning books. Schools shall provide instructions on the dangers of fentanyl to students in grades 9-12. Pharmacists may sell fentanyl test strips over the counter. A school building's emergency and crisis response plan must include a plan for law enforcement to rapidly enter a school building in the event of an emergency. Non-citizens who are legally allowed to work in the U.S. will now be eligible to become police officers. Nearly all employees will be eligible for a minimum of 40 hours of paid leave per year. Employers can offer more if they chose to do so. The Department of Transportation must develop a mobile app that provides motorists with updated Travel conditions. Requires housing authorities to develop and implement policies grants housing preferences to veterans who are homeless. I left this in the states' words, wasn't going to take a change and use incorrect verbiage.

Interesting info about United buying 113 acres near Denver Airport. The article says United is hoping to build a new flight training center and support facilities on Pena Boulevard near DEN, but the project is still in its early steps. The old training center was just upgraded a few years ago. There's another training center in Houston, but that's for flight attendants. It's a 56,000 square-foot facility at the Bush Airport, it can accommodate 600 new flight attendants per month. We plan on hiring 4,000 this year; sounds like the CEO has some massive plans for our little airline. Will we still be Chicago's Hometown Airline? Wonder if we'll ever see this plan completed to fruition. In the meantime, they're changing the meal service on low mileage flights. No coach meals for under 901 miles; EX, DEN-ORD-LGA, no meal, both under 901 miles.

Not sure about you, but do you have trouble finding good programming on TV these days? I'm not interested in some of the sitcoms on now, teen, family, robots, vampires, games, some sports, just not my thing. I don't watch Hulu, Netflix, HBO, Cinemax etc. So I've done my own hunting for the old, fun shows. I do like my TCM, AMC, FoxMovie, History, Science, Antenna, Metv, Discovery and Cozi, among others. At 9:00 every night, on Antenna is Johnny Carson, real comedy, also Barney Miller and the Jefferson's. On Cozi, is Colombo, Monk, Frasier, and Bones. On the History and Science channels, shows are filled with 'what if's', UFO's, ancient theories of the pyramids, Amazon jungles, Incas and hieroglyphics. I've learned more in the last three years than in all the History classes I had to sit through. Flip those channels, people, if you're not driving or getting out much, at least you're learning something and can throw out all this information to your grandkids, or your bingo-partners. Impressive! I'm not advocating 18 hours of TV everyday, Lord no, but there's a wealth of good information coming out of that 55' screened wonder in your living room.

The Chicago Skyliners had a board meeting last month. We compared notes and decided our Christmas lunch was a success. Thank you to all that attended and told us you were pleased. The only way we can improve is if you let us know, right? Good constructive criticism helps us plan and make our affairs more to your liking. We are planning a Spring Luncheon in April. All the final details are being worked on, but you will be the first to know.

Received holiday greetings from a few friends, **Mila Walker** ORD standby kitchens, now living in Dallas with her daughter. **George Schreiner**, ORD Stores, is still looking for fellow employees to have lunch with. Anybody from Stores that would like to keep in touch? I have his phone number. **Maryann Wiley**, wife of **Tom**, just saying hi and advising of a passing. Lots of nice United people still out there that made UAL what we are today.



Our fellow employees that Flew West included **Cas Mroz**, EXOHH (designed our kitchens), **Roland Konter**, Mechanic in ORDMM, **Eleanore Syoen**, Administrative Assistant in various EXO departments, **Dennis Kellerman**, ORDCG, husband of **Jeanna**, ORDCS.

Also gone from our world are actors, Ellen Holly, (One Life to Live), Marisa Pavan, (The Rose Tattoo), Jack Hogan, (Combat), Glynis Johns, (Mary Poppins), Ryan O'Neal, (Love Story), Andre Braugher, (Glory), Mike Nussbaum, (Field of Dreams), Richard Romanus, (Mean Streets), Maurice Hines, (Cotton Club), David Soul, (Starsky and Hutch), Tom Wilkinson, (The Full Monty), Harry Johnson, (Law and Order), singers, Lola Dee, (Only You), Richard Kerr, (Looks Like We've Made It), Laura Lynch, (Dixie Chicks), Comedians, Tom Smothers (Smothers Brothers), Shecky Greene, TV, LAS hotels, (Splash), Sports figure, Joey Meyer, (DePaul basketball coach), Chicago's own sculpturer, Ron Walker.

#### Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Rose Garden Restaurant, 9:00AM, 800 E. Higgins Rd., corner of Higgins and Scott St., Elk Grove, (**February 8**), second Thursday of the month.

IAM 1487 Lunch, 1487 Lodge, 50 W. Oakton St., Des Plaines, (**February 1**) 11:00AM. First Thursday.

ORDMM Breakfast - Maxfield's, 9:00AM, Plum Grove & Schaumburg Rds. (**February 15**). Third Thursday.

RUPA Lunch - Nick's Pizza, 11:00 A.M., 856 Pyott Rd. Crystal Lake, (**March 13**).

### INDIANA



#### INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN

Frank N. Ingegno

(317) 428-7741

[figenius@sbcglobal.net](mailto:figenius@sbcglobal.net)

Our December meeting was our annual Christmas lunch. This year we held it at Applebee's Restaurant in Avon, Indiana. In attendance were **Bob & Myrtle Duty**, **Frank & Susanne Ingegno**, **Charles Theiss** and son, **Allan & Sharron Miller** and **Ron Bretherick**. As he has done in the past, Charles came dressed as Santa, adding to the occasion's Christmas spirit.

The members of the Indy Racers chapter wish all RUAEA members and their families a Happy and Very Healthy New Year.

The RUAEA Indy Racers chapter is always open for new participants/members. Any United/CO retirees living in the Indianapolis area are welcome to join. Come check us out at one of our monthly meetings. We always enjoy meeting new United friends. Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 12 Noon. Location of our meeting is Emmy's Pancake House and Grill, 7508 Beechwood Center Road, Avon, IN 46123, (317) 272-7200.

Our future meetings schedule:

- **February 13** at Emmy's
- **March 12** at Emmy's
- **April 9** at Emmy's

For more information, please contact **Frank Ingegno**, (317) 428-7741, [figenius@sbcglobal.net](mailto:figenius@sbcglobal.net).

## MASSACHUSETTS

### NOR'EASTERS

New England  
Dick Vee Vecchione  
107 Bunker Hill Road  
Auburn, NH 03032-3521  
(603) 264-3430  
[NH4Vee@aol.com](mailto:NH4Vee@aol.com)



There is no report this month from the Nor'Easters chapter of RUAEA.

## MICHIGAN



### GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Detroit, MI  
Gwen Dyc-Schwendenmann  
(248) 667-9258  
[bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net)

Happy New Year from all the retirees of Detroit Reservations!  
Remember all our United family friends. Keep them in positive thought and prayer.  
Make that your New Year's resolution.  
Health and happiness to you all.  
Thought for the month ~ *"You are a blessing to someone."*

## NEBRASKA



### OMAHA GOLDENEARS

Jan Cornish  
4602 N. 134<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Omaha, NE 68164  
(402) 619-9927  
[kcornish6031@msn.com](mailto:kcornish6031@msn.com)

There is no report this month from the Omaha Golden Ears chapter of RUAEA.

## NEVADA

### LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

Arlene McCroy  
[apolloguy@aol.com](mailto:apolloguy@aol.com)



Friendship and a delicious lunch were enjoyed by nineteen people on November 30 at Durango Hills Golf Course. Unfortunately, **Don & Georgia Rutkowski** were absent, because Don was recovering from a hospital stay due to a ruptured appendix. **Christine & Woody Earl** had a last-minute confliction. There was one no-show.

By unanimous decision, we will try to continue as a chapter of RUAEA. **Mary Chandler** will become the contact for Silverliners. Jeanne and Mary will handle the chapter's bank account. Lee and Arlene will help as needed. We have contacted the RUAEA Newsletter Manager to inform him of the changes. **Lee Price** offered to investigate the possibility of a Spring luncheon.

Sadly, **Chris Czaplewski** will not be joining our group in 2024. Chris lives in Mesquite; it is a long drive to

Las Vegas, Chris will be missed. Maybe we can have an impromptu get-together if/when Chris makes a trip to Vegas or Henderson.

Every Christmas, the Silverliners has given a donation of food to a local charity. This year it was decided to have an optional collection for the Maui Relief Fund. Our generous group gave \$400. This money has been sent to the Maui Relief Fund.

If you are in Las Vegas and or planning a trip here you are more than welcome to come to our Luncheons and visit with our members, you may even know or worked with one of them. Email **Mary Chandler** at [honolulumary06@yahoo.com](mailto:honolulumary06@yahoo.com) or **Arlene McCroy** at [apolloguy@aol.com](mailto:apolloguy@aol.com) for information about the next get together Luncheon.



### **RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP**

Pat Zoboli  
5860 Lone Horse Drive  
Reno, NV 89502  
(775) 856-2044  
[zobolilady@aol.com](mailto:zobolilady@aol.com)

There were 13 members at our annual Christmas Luncheon at the Peppermill Resort & Casino.

We had a nice array of gifts – from our 50/50 cash to many, many wonderful items. It seemed that almost everyone left with at least one gift.

It was nice to see everyone arrayed in their holiday attire but we did miss a few familiar faces. The meal was delicious as always. The weather cooperated and we had no snow. The Sierra Roundup sent a check for \$100 to the Northern Nevada Food Bank as our annual donation.

We hope to continue our meetings at the Black Bear Diner and that has to be confirmed; stay tuned. Meanwhile, our dues continue to be \$5/person for 2024. Please send them to **Kathy Robinson** at 3477 E. Hidden Valley Dr., Reno, NV 89502.

Cards with the 2024 dates were given to everyone at our November meeting so we should all be on schedule. See you soon.

### **NEW JERSEY**

#### **THE GARDEN STATERS**

Newark, New Jersey  
Marty Etler  
Brandywine Room 115  
814 Wyckoff Ave., Mahwah, NJ 07430  
(551) 795-7266  
[MartyEtler@outlook.com](mailto:MartyEtler@outlook.com)



A total of 21 members came to the annual Holiday Luncheon including a few that we haven't seen in quite a while, **Ava Enfield**, **Jeff Fitzgerald**, **Al Asciukwicz** and **Rich Craiton** from the IAM. It is also good to see Marty make the meeting.

**Kathy Deily** won the 50/50. After the flag salute, we had a moment of silence for those heroes that died on December 7 at Pearl Harbor 82 years ago. There was plenty of table talk, and plenty of door prizes, nobody went away without one.

We're taking the next 2 months off from the Winter months and will return on March 27<sup>th</sup>. Have a safe holiday season and we will get in touch with everyone if I hear any news that would involve our members or EWR.

**And now, another installment from Marty Etler's memories: Crop Dusting** ~ Everyone who walks along life's highway, usually encounters that famous fork in the road, and maybe a few more. Then they spend the rest of their lives, thinking as to whether they had made the right decision. Mine came in early 1951, when I was still stationed at Barksdale Air Force Base, in Shreveport, Louisiana. I was 22 at the time, and getting pretty close to my discharge, after almost 4½ years of service. It seems that six of our pilots, had decided to go into the crop-dusting business. Apparently they had contacts with cotton farmers in Texarkana, Arkansas, and Lake Charles, Louisiana. So they all chipped in \$15,000, and bought 5 Army surplus PT-17's. These planes

were ideally suited for crop dusting, mainly because they could fly pretty slow, and as we say in the business they could turn on a dime. They were a bi-wing fabric covered aircraft, and were used by both the Army and Navy for primary training of all their pilots. They also had a position for two pilots, forward and aft.

They then converted the front seat to a hopper tank, the purpose of which was to drop dust onto the cotton, to kill the mighty “Bole Weevil” and since these planes could safely carry about 500 pounds of dust, the best thing the those poor insects could have done was get out of town. Now they had the planes, and the contracts, what they didn’t have was mechanics to maintain these planes. At any rate, they asked me and three other guys, if we wanted to make a little extra money, we could help maintain those planes. The very first place we went to, was Texarkana, which is about 60 miles north from Shreveport. We put all our stuff in the cars, usually left on Friday afternoon, got set up to fly for Saturday and Sunday, then come back late Sunday night. We all stayed at a boarding house, and what an experience that was. Especially when it came to eating, you had to be pretty quick, if you didn’t take your portion off the plate, it was going to be gone by the next time it came around.

Our so-called landing fields were nothing but cow pastures, and yes, there were many of them in the field when our guys came in to land or to take off. In fact, a good part of our time was chasing the cows down to the other end of the fields and meadows so we could operate. The cotton fields that we had to dust were about 1000 acres, the problem was they were all surrounded by very tall trees, and not conducive to really safe flying, but business is business. In the early morning, just like in the famous “Dawn patrol”, we would get our planes ready to go, one of us would use a tractor to chase the cows and the others would get the engines started. Pretty soon our guys were in the air, and were ready for “action”. That was the easy part, when the planes came back, the first thing we had to do, was chase the cows again. Where was Gene Autry singing “back in the saddle again”, I could have used him to move those beasts to the other end of the field.

I do remember one time when one cow would not move. I pushed and shoved, but nothing seemed to move “Elsie”. While our guys were circling overhead and running low on fuel, in desperation I reached into my pocket and found a “Baby Ruth” candy bar. I quickly broke it in half, and when that cow took the bait I think she would have followed me straight into the barn. Yes, I did give her the other half when we got to the other end of the field. When they finally came in and parked, you could see the damage that these guys had done while dusting. Coming to the end of the fields they had to pull straight up, and always seem to hit the trees, it ripped the fabric all along the bottom of the plane. We installed new fabric and brushed a special solution to make that fabric hard., then put gas and oil in and they were ready to go.

After we finished there, we went to Lake Charles, which is about 200 miles away, south of Shreveport. Those were bigger fields, and required a lot more dusting. Anyway, within four months, they had made their money back and gotten some new contracts to dust wheat in Kansas, and they wanted me to go with them after my discharge. Actually I was tired living as a gypsy, and I wanted to go home. Looking back at that split in the road, I’m sure I made the right decision. I was soon to meet my wife Violet, and go on to a happy marriage of 57 years and start my career with 38 years in aviation maintenance with United Airlines at Newark, New Jersey.

I have heard that on the great cattle drives out West, prods were used to move those Texas Longhorns, I have a better method, it’s called “Baby Ruth”.

## **NEW YORK**

### **BUFFALO CHIPS**

Jerry Stevens  
130 Countryside Lane  
Williamsville, NY 14221-1308  
(716) 418-6887  
[jerstel30@msn.com](mailto:jerstel30@msn.com)



**BUFFALO CHIPS**

There is no report this month from the Buffalo Chips chapter of RUAEA.

Any one visiting or planning a visit to Buffalo/Niagara Falls can contact me for information on our lunch meetings. We meet four times a year, usually the first week of March, June, September and December.





## **NEW YORK METROS**

Donna Feingold  
(516) 679-9152  
[djf509@aol.com](mailto:djf509@aol.com)

There is no report this month from the New York Metros chapter of RUAEA.

## **OHIO**

### **OHIO BUCKEYES**

Cleveland, OH  
[ualohbuckeyes@gmail.com](mailto:ualohbuckeyes@gmail.com)



As always, we take a break in January to recuperate from all of the holidays.  
There is no report this month from the Ohio Buckeyes chapter of RUAEA.

### **Calendar:**

**February 1** - Fuji Grill n Buffet -- hosted by **John & Dolly**.

**March 1** - Brown Derby

**April** - No Luncheon

**May 1** - Mahle's

## **OREGON**

### **OREGON DEW-ER'S**

Portland  
Terry Hotchkin  
(360) 907-3868  
[tthotchkin@gmail.com](mailto:tthotchkin@gmail.com)



Unfortunately, I had to miss our December meeting but understand they enjoyed a delicious prime rib dinner, followed by lots of prizes. A fun day for all! I was so sorry to have missed it.

And now for a little humor, with a touch of philosophy thrown in, to help your day pass with a little more fun:

- ☺ Signed up for an exercise class and was told to wear loose fitting clothing. If I had loose fitting clothing, I would not have needed to sign up.
- ☺ Life hacks: I figured out how to have a stress-free Thanksgiving this year. I stuffed the turkey with Xanax, after marinating it in Vodka. It was the most amazing day. You're welcome.
- ☺ Why must I prove that I am me to pay my bills over the phone? Do strangers call to pay my bills? And if they do, why don't you let them?
- ☺ Man: "what's for dinner"? Woman: "nothing". Man: "But that's what you said last night". Woman: "I know. I made enough for 2 nights".
- ☺ Just think about it. If you eat an entire cake without cutting it, you technically only had one piece. Follow me for more life hacks.
- ☺ Exercise is a celebration of what you can do, not a punishment for what you ate!
- ☺ The guy at the furniture store told me the sofa would seat 5 people without any problems. Then it occurred to me, I don't think I know 5 people without any problems.
- ☺ All through the holidays, my jeans were saying "No more Christmas goodies, but my leggings were like, "We got you gurr!"
- ☺ Most people think that T-Rexes can't clap because they have short arms, but really it's because they are dead.
- ☺ Whatever you do today, do it with the confidence of a 4 year old in a Batman shirt!
- ☺ I don't want to brag or make anybody jealous or anything ... but I can still fit into the earrings that I

wore in high school!

- ☺ I hate it when I mean to buy seedless grapes but instead I accidentally get ... well you know ... Oreos.
- ☺ Sometimes I shock myself with the smart stuff I say and do. Then there are times when I try to get out of the car with my seatbelt on.
- ☺ It was a lot more fun being 20 in the 70's than it is being 70 in the 20's.
- ☺ Plot twist: Maybe eating tacos wasn't cheating on my diet. Maybe going on a diet was cheating on my tacos.
- ☺ In 20 years, when kids ask about the 2020 toilet paper shortage, I am going to tell them that we had to drag our butts across the lawn ... in the snow ... uphill ... both ways!
- ☺ Weekend Forecast: Sewing with 0% chance of cooking or cleaning.
- ☺ Morning Forecast: Slightly exhausted with 100% chance of needing coffee. Scattered sarcastic comments throughout the afternoon.
- ☺ I am really glad they taught me algebra in school instead of learning about how much money I would need to retire, or how to do my taxes ... because knowing how many watermelons I would have if I had one more than five times as many as my dad came in really handy in life!
- ☺ There really should be a calorie refund for things that didn't taste as good as you expected.
- ☺ I truly don't know how to act my age. I've never been this age before!
- ☺ All I'm saying is you've never seen me cry and drink coffee at the same time, but I have shot coffee out my nose while laughing.
- ☺ Earl and Bubba are quietly sitting in a boat fishing, chewing tobacco, and drinking beer when suddenly Bubba says, "Think I'm gonna divorce the wife – she ain't spoke to me in over 2 months." Earl spits overboard, takes a long, slow sip of beer and says, "Better think it over; women like that are hard to find."
- ☺ Do you ever just forget to hide your expressions for a minute and then you're like "Whoa I did not mean to make that face out loud!"
- ☺ The best thing about being over 60? We did all our stupid stuff long before the invention of the internet, so there's no proof!
- ☺ There was a piece of cake in the fridge with a note that said, "Don't Eat Me!" Now there is an empty plate with a note that says, "Don't tell me what to do!"
- ☺ Waking up is never easy but I just have to remember that the world can't revolve around me unless I get out of bed.
- ☺ The 5 Stages of A Woman's Life: 1) To grow up. 2) To fill out. 3) To slim down. 4) To hold it in. 5) To hell with it!
- ☺ There's nothing like a little tomato soup to soothe the soul. Especially if it's cold, over ice, with a celery stick, and vodka.
- ☺ Not all storms come to disrupt your life. Some come to clear your path.
- ☺ Pro-Tip: Carry binoculars when hiking so when you make frequent stops, it looks like you're appreciating nature, not fighting for air.
- ☺ A big shout out to everyone who got through the day without taking a nap. I pulled an all-day-er today. It was pretty rough.
- ☺ I'm so very glad to be retired. I remember when I worked full time. Always thought that the first 5 days after the weekend were the hardest!
- ☺ My bed was not feeling well this morning, so I stayed home to take care of it.
- ☺ Scientists recently placed a 10-piece set of matching Tupperware in a sealed chamber. When they opened it a month later, the chamber had 24 lids that did not match any of the 6 remaining containers.
- ☺ I really am Wonder Woman: I wonder where I left my keys, I wonder where I put my glasses and I wonder where my money went.
- ☺ How weirdly ironic is it that computers are now asking us humans to prove that we are not robots!

#### Calendar:

Meetings at Colwood Golf Center Grill – Social Hour 11:00AM, Lunch served at noon

**January 11**

**February 8**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month.

## PENNSYLVANIA

### THE INDEPENDENTS

Gail Bradley  
225 Elm Avenue.  
Media, PA 19063-5740.  
(610) 358-3498  
[gailpbrad@icloud.com](mailto:gailpbrad@icloud.com)



Hello from Philly! We had our last luncheon for the year in December, it was a great Christmas get together; we enjoyed a silent auction with many home made gifts and well thought out gifts.

Each year we collect goodies for our veterans. **Tom Anderlonis** delivers the gifts to The Coatesville Hospital.

At our November luncheon, we got our retirees to start talking about their years working at United. Oh boy! Did we ever hear some crazy stories.

We will not meet again until April. We hope everyone has a Happy and Healthy New Year. See you next month.

### PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

Bill Chicots  
2419 Rochester Road  
Sewickley, PA. 15143  
(412) 352-7375  
[firechief158@gmail.com](mailto:firechief158@gmail.com)



#### *Submitted by Mary Jane Stewart*

The Pit Stoppers gathered for their Annual Christmas lunch on Thursday, December 14. Although the group has gotten smaller, we all enjoyed the visit.



Left to right in the picture: **Karen Moliterno, Diane Weber, Bev Barwell, Lorraine Keith, Mary Jane Stewart, Julie McConaghy** (Secretary), **Dave Beatty** (President), **Marilyn Snyder, Olga Karmaczyn** (Treasurer), **Bill Chicots**, and **Al Ruschel**.

Olga stopped by long enough to pay the bill and collect next years dues. Yes she is still making Pierogi's at her church on Thursday. Marilyn traveled two hours to be with us and brought her delicious cookies again this year. Hats off to Julie who accomplished pulling this together while having some health issues to deal with; also thank you to her daughter who assisted her and attended the lunch as well.

We found out that four of our member are at the Apple Blossom Senior Center: **Julie McConaghy, Lorraine Keith, Rose Marie Lavelle** and **Jack Tinney**. We joked that maybe we should have our next meeting there.

Happy New Years to all of our United friends where ever you may be.

## TENNESSEE

### TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS



Carolyn Hartshorn  
5957 Warrenpark Lane  
Knoxville, TN 37912  
Home (865) 951-1198  
Cell (303) 886-9537  
[carolynhartshorn@aol.com](mailto:carolynhartshorn@aol.com)

There is no report this month from the Tennessee Rocky Tops chapter of RUAEA.  
For Luncheon/Meeting's location, please contact Carolyn at the above phone number.

## UTAH

### SALT LAKE RETIREES

Rich Papworth  
[pappys72@hotmail.com](mailto:pappys72@hotmail.com)



There is no report this month from the Salt Lake Retirees chapter of RUAEA.

## WASHINGTON

### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle, WA  
Ken Storey  
(206) 244-9026



Well, another year gone, wow! By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have had our Christmas luncheon, on December 12<sup>th</sup>; right now it looks like there will be 28-30 coming. Angelo's has a great Christmas setting. It is always nice to get together.

Judy and I were sorry to have missed the convention last year. A grandson got married. But we will be there in 2024.

### LILAC CITY FLYERS



Sharon Holmes  
5120 N. Riblet View Lane  
Spokane, WA 99212  
(509) 924.4959 (H)  
(509) 953.5088 (C)  
[ghshic@quixnet.net](mailto:ghshic@quixnet.net)

The Lilac City Flyers in Spokane are no longer meeting on a regular basis. If you are a United or Continental retiree in the Spokane area or visiting in the area and want to meet other retirees, contact **Sharon Holmes** at the information above.



## WASHINGTON, D.C.

### THE DULLES LOUNGERS

Washington, D.C.  
Mari McColl  
Past President  
[marimccoll@aol.com](mailto:marimccoll@aol.com)



The November luncheon here in Virginia was a very light attendance. We only had 25 in attendance, which was disappointing but still acceptable. It was a great group, all of whom were very enthusiastic about our guests. Each November, we have our Toys For Tots Party. Two young marines joined us for lunch and then each said a few words about the program and presented with a certificate of appreciation.



We presented them with a check for \$521 and a table full of gifts for the children. Our winner of the drawing donated her half of the winning to the Toys for Tots program along with the other half which was donated by the chapter. **Eileen Clarke** provided door prizes that were well received.

The rest of the meeting was spent planning our Christmas party for the following month. After the meeting ended, another hour and a half was spent visiting and enjoying each other's company.

Attached picture from L to R: Cpl. Devyn Watkins, Sgt. JeMchael Chambliss, **Judy Dunlap** (Treasurer) and **Carl Alford** (President).



Our December party luncheon was attended by over 35 members, so our attendance is once again picking up.

The highlight each year is our Christmas Caroling.

The Grinch came to help lead us in carols, along with **Carl** and **Keri Schneider**, our respective "go to person" with too many titles and responsibilities to



name.

Kerrie, Carl and the unmasked Grinch.

What a wonderful time we had singing and enjoying the others company. We have our monthly meetings at the Golden Coral in Manassas, VA and our singing usually brings some of the other diners to our portion of the restaurant to enjoy (and sometimes participate) in singing. The highlight is always "The Twelve Days of Christmas" with each day being the responsibility (joy) of a different table. It is always fun and brings our community together in the Christmas spirit.

We are all looking so forward to 2024. We wish you all health and joy!

## NATIONAL

### CLIPPED WINGS



Kathy Denker  
Clipped Wings National Vice President  
(908) 482-9859  
[kdenkerus@gmail.com](mailto:kdenkerus@gmail.com)  
<https://unitedclippedwingsinc.org/>

To all our RUAEA members:

The Boarding on Flight 2024 has been announced. Your luggage should only contain the best souvenir from 2023 ... the bad and sad moments should be left in the garbage. The duration of the flight will be 12 months. The next stopovers will be Health, Love, Joy, Harmony, Well-being and Peace. The captain offers you the following menu which will be served during the flight:

- ▲ A Cocktail of Friendship
- ▲ Supreme of Health

- ▲ A Gratin of prosperity
- ▲ A Bowl of Excellent News
- ▲ A Salad of Success
- ▲ A Cake of Happiness



clippedwingsual.

All accompanied by bursts of laughter ... Wishing all RUAEA and Clipped Wing Members an enjoyable trip on board of Flight 2024 ~ (Unknown Author)

Clipped Wings is a 501(c)(3) with 28 Chapters. We are retired, former and current United, United Express, PanAm and Continental Flight Attendants who would like to "continue the connection".

We are happy to answer any questions you may have about our great organization. You can find us on Facebook at [www.unitedclippedwings.org](https://www.unitedclippedwings.org) and on Instagram at

## NEW MEMBERS

The following new members joined RUAEA during the month of **December 2023**:

Durr, Alan, SFOLX, Burlingame, CA 94010  
 Eslinger, Gaylen, SFO0V, Moss Beach, CA 94038  
 McGing, Kathy, ORDSW, Avon, OH 44011  
 McLeod, Scott, Portage, IN 46368  
 Nadal, Patrick, Allentown, PA 18104  
 Odell, Theresa, DENCS, Denver, CO 80209  
 Pitt, Sharlet, SFOFA, Chico, CA 95928  
 Vanderweyden, Carl, DCAFO, Baltimore, MD 21231  
 Ware, Linda, Colorado Springs, CO 80918

## CONTRIBUTIONS

We appreciated monetary contributions from the following members during the month of **December 2023**:

Barbara J. Anable, Siegfried Mueller, John M. Lyon, Ted Tollefsen, Richard C. Bresett, Miriam Y. G. Ubben, Marilyn Fry, Gary W. Bartlett, Sina H. Beck, Mary C. Hill, Patricia Ortega, Kay C. Ward, John G. Thomas, Darlene Ikeya, Lowell E. Johnston, Bruce A. Aten, Kay E. O'Brien, Paul L. Grossman, Linda Tilford, Ralph Thinnies, Charles Lewis, Russell F. Cormier, Kenneth Johnson, Muriel A. Bergsma, Ronald Winegar, Salvador D. Luna, Ida C. Cummins, Harlen J. Jesser, Joseph Walp, Arlene C. McCroy, Kathy McGing, William R. Nibert, Richard S. Walcha, Robert V. Keefe, Samuel A. Margolis, Bonnie Ruliffson, Kenneth A. Storey, John F. Haferbecker, Arno A. Schaetzke, Sandra L. Wallestad, and Irene Scheuerell.

## OBITUARIES

**Obit Notice Policy:** *Death notices sent to the Denver Office for publication in the Newsletter Obituary Column will be accepted only from a family member or personal representative in **writing**.* The notice sent concerning the deceased must include:

- 1) Deceased's First and Last Name & Date of Death
- 2) File Number (if the deceased was an employee)
- 3) Last Station worked
- 4) Surviving Spouse or Next of Kin (if applicable)
- 5) Address

In addition, contact information must be included for one sending the information. If the obituary is received hand written and it is not legible, it will not be published until a clear and readable document is received in the Denver Office. The information may be sent by email (preferred) at [ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net), or US Mail. Sorry, the information will not be accepted over the phone.

***Please note that the above policy only applies to death notices submitted to be published in this section of the RUAEA Newsletter.***

Retiree – **DeGrange, John A.**, on 11/9/2023, ORDMM/ORDMQ, husband of Kay DeGrange (deceased), 519 S. Highland Avenue, Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Retiree – **Jaromin, Norbert**, on 5/4/2023, DTWCS, husband of Mary Jane Jaromin, 27614 Maplewood, Garden City, MI 48135

Retiree – **Kellerman, Dennis**, on 1/7/2024, ORDCG, husband of Jeanna Kellerman, ORDCS, 976 Goodwin Drive, Dexter, KY 42036

Retiree – **Konter, Roland L.**, on 12/3/2023, ORDMM, husband of Patricia Konter (deceased), 317 Division St., Braidwood, IL 60408 (lived in Spokane, WA)

Retiree – **Margos, Dave**, on 1/8/2024, DENMM, husband of Debbie Margos, 2320 Cessna Dr., Erie, CO 80516

Retiree – **Mroz, Casimir C.**, 12/21/2023, EXOHH, husband of Edwina C. Mroz, 4535 West Lake Avenue, Glenview, IL 60025

Retiree – **Newman, Derrald F.**, 11/23/2023, DENGQ, husband of Sandy Newman, 13929 Colorado River Rd., Gypsum, CO 81637

Spouse – **Syoen, Eleanore P.**, on 12/15/2023, wife of Donald G. Syoen EXOVP (deceased), 1439 McDowell Rd., Unit 241, Naperville, IL 60563

Retiree – **Williams, Quintin S.**, on 9/28/2023, husband of Sharon Williams (no information), 868 Mossy Ridge Ln., Lincoln, CA 95648

## Letters & Notes



Hi Members,  
I'm the person who edits the letters/notes you send for the Newsletter. Your letters are of interest to retirees and especially those with whom you once worked; they are greatly appreciated. When you send them, you can make my job easier by making them as legible as possible.

Martha Gooselaw  
Letters/Notes Editor  
7401 MLK Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80207-2433  
[marthagoose@comcast.net](mailto:marthagoose@comcast.net)

**WE HAVE RECEIVED GREETINGS & THANKS FOR THE NEWSLETTER FROM THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

Barbara Anable, Tony Ballesteros, Gary Bartlett, Sina Beck, Rosalie Bowman, Thomas Boyle, Paula Bloom, Clinton Bresett, Betty Bryant, Patricia Clayton, Russell Cormier, Jr., Jon Deily, Shirley Dochoff, Joseph Donnelly, Blanche Eihorst, William Engler, Josie Esqueda, M. Hasperis, Shirley Keefe, John Klos, Richard

Libby, Sal Luna, Lee Lack, J. Nelson, Sheryl Schubert, James Sullivan, John Thomas, Kay Ward, and John Woytovich.

**WE HAVE RECEIVED LETTERS FROM:**

*(Although we welcome the statements expressed in the many letters submitted, the comments & opinions expressed are not necessarily the convictions of the organization.)*

**Muriel Bergsma, 2809 N. Dutch Cir., McHenry, IL 60051-2699**

I tried to go online after receiving my December 2, 2023 online notification of my membership expiration. However, I was unable to access RUAEA with the password I have used in the past. I sent a request for a password to use to establish a new password, but a response has not been received. Therefore, I am sending my renewal via "snail mail". Hopefully I will be more successful in getting online access to RUAEA.

As we age, it seems the medical profession is getting more of our "golden year's \$\$\$". Many are probably experiencing the long wait to get an appointment for their medical professionals, but I guess that is part of the new world's operation.

Sadly, we were unable to make the convention in San Diego this past September due to my husband Ken's back surgery keeping us from flying anywhere for 3 months. He's now in physical therapy for the sacroiliac joint surgery he had on his right side, with a slow recovery. The orthopedic surgeon did the same surgery in 2020 on the left side, which had him "up and at 'em" very quickly. However, we're told that no 2 surgeries are alike and he's 2 years older (subtle reminder of advancing in years).

I came down with heart palpitation problems after my Pfizer #1 shot, so have added a heart pill for that. Luckily, I don't have a stream of pills to take at this point. I sure wish there was a pill to take to restore my "lost" youth. I hit the magic 80 year mark this past August, but thus far no added wrinkles, only a larger posterior!

Thank you once again for all the care and work involved in maintaining this means of communication for all retirees. You truly are an extended family.

**Jody Hubbard, 1334 Laurenwood Wy., Highlands Ranch, CO 80129-5613**

In response to **Edward Sarkisian** and **Marty Etler**: I salute your patriotism and reminders of the Greatest Generation's ultimate commitments to our country, the USA.

Let us never forget, we live in the land of the free because of the brave.

Thank you for sharing your priceless experiences from history, so that others today can have a better lens to see how important history is to know and understand.

**Darlene Ikeya, 925 Carson Dr., Sunnyvale, CA 94086**

It is always interesting and entertaining to read the articles about RUAEA local chapters from everywhere, what they are doing and who is doing it. Once in a while, I read a familiar name and it brings back a fond memory from days gone by.

The news articles and information articles are always noteworthy and up to date about United events and flying guidelines. Thanks for putting it together every month.

**Jim Simon, 2842 Lindbergh Ln., Lincoln, CA 95648-9357**

It is once again that time for my renewal and as always, it is a pleasure to send my check. I am very impressed with our Newsletter and the content we are receiving with historical articles and lengthy chapter reports. This makes up for the few chapters that have discontinued correspondence with our organization due to lack of membership and difficulty in getting someone to make the monthly effort to inform us of their activities.

I miss the reports from the Northern Lights and the no longer existence of the Northwood's Loonies. I was a past member of both of these chapters. As a former Midwest Director, I enjoyed my many get-togethers with both of these wonderful groups and I still maintain correspondence with many of those that are still going strong.

I can't emphasize enough how much I enjoy receiving the newsletter and reading about the activities of many acquaintances and folks I worked with during my UAL career.

Thanks to all of you for the continued fine and exemplary work you do for all of us.



## Notes

### **Luis Cuesta, Madrid, Spain**

Happy New Year! I have worked over 17 years for United Airlines and 35 years in airline industry, I just retired in October 2023 from UAL in Madrid, Spain. I was in charge of Finance/Admin and HR and I enjoyed working for UAL.

I just joined RUAEA and thoroughly enjoy the monthly Newsletter; I look forward to each month's issue. In the future, I'd like to submit articles to the Newsletter that may be interesting to RUAEA members such as UA destinations in Spain and in Europe, tips and recommendations and cultural exchange.

It would be great if there is a chapter of UAL retirees in Europe since I do not want to lose contact with UAL. I'd also love to meet colleagues in the USA.

### **Janet L. Dooly**

I am enjoying my retirement.

### **Charles Lewis**

Sad news is that I lost my wonderful wife in April. Good news is that this past Friday I turned 94 years old.

Am still going strong: hit the gym 3 days a week and when the weather was warm I would go for a 40-55 minute walk 3/4 times a week.

### **Raymond Knazik**

To the Staff of RUAEA magazine, Great job! Thank you!

### **Danny Wine**

I joined when my husband passed away a year ago. Although he had 38 years with United, and retired at age 60, I also had worked at United for 12 years. I did not retire from United but it will always be family. When his death notice was published, I received some lovely notes from folks from long ago. RUAEA became particularly precious to me for that reason. It was an easy decision to join. Thank you for all everyone does to keep this going.

### **Denis Hansen**

The Newsletter has lots of good information. Thank you!

### **Margaret (Peggy) Griffin**

I'm still serving as Clipped Wings President for the next 9 months. Then I will get back to my ceramic classes next September.

### **Henry A. Suta**

We love to hear about everyone and what's happening with UAL through the monthly Newsletter.

### **George Klocker**

I so enjoy receiving the RUAEA Newsletter every month, it keeps me up to date on all the goings on in the company. I am now 80 and still enjoy woodworking, which I do every day. Still live in the same house, have great neighbors, and enjoy taking my camper out every chance I get. I've been retired now 25 years and enjoy most every day. Had major back surgery in February, which slowed me down a lot, but am getting along great. Hope everyone is doing well and had a great Christmas.

### **Carol Slater**

I attended the RUAEA Reunion in San Diego in 2023. I enjoyed participating in the activities planned and meeting other retirees. The hotel choice is very good, I even managed to buy a Christmas gift in the hotel gift shop.

I'm looking forward to the 2024 Reunion. I'm glad that it will be at the same hotel.

**Michele Bassi-Degenkolb**

Hi! I am interested in a life membership if you offer that option. Thanks!

**Membership Manager's Response:** We are sorry but the Life Membership option ended in 1990 and has not been offered since.

**James R. Trotto**

I'm retired and getting older.

**DON'T MISS IMPORTANT PHONE  
NUMBERS ON THE NEXT PAGE.**

# The Contact Column



## **United Airlines Benefits Center (Central Time)**

1-800-651-1007 (M-F 7AM - 7PM).

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

For Traditional Medical, HMO or Insurance questions;  
report death of retiree or spouse; change of address & other  
forms.

## **United Employee Service Center**

1-877-825-3729

1-847-825-3729 - International Use

## **United Pass Line (1-866-359-3727)**

For flight information and to list or change listing

Password for Pass Line –your birthday, mmddyy

\$25 fee to create new booking

## **Employee Travel Center**

- ▲ Visit Flying Together for travel policies at  
<https://ft.ual.com/travel/passriderslandingpage/retiree>
- ▲ Submit questions using Help Hub at  
<https://helphub.ual.com>
- ▲ Search “Employee Travel Inquiry”
- ▲ Chat with a team member using a virtual chat assistant  
from any Travel page on Flying Together

## **United Airlines Technical Service Desk**

**1-800-255-5801**

For Flying Together password assistance

*\*Do not use for pass travel questions\**

## **Insurance Questions-see number on back of your insurance card**

**PBGC** - for all retiree pension questions

1-800-400-7242, <http://www.pbgc.gov>

## **Social Security Administration**

1-800-772-1213, <http://www.ssa.gov>

## **Alliant Credit Union**

(800) 328-1935 or (773) 462-2000 (24-hours, 7-days-a-  
week except Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day)

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

Malcolm Horn, CFP®, Financial Consultant

Alliant Retirement & Investment Services

(O) (773) 462-3669; (C) (720) 249-8050

(F) (773) 462-3669, [mhorn@alliantcreditunion.com](mailto:mhorn@alliantcreditunion.com)

## **Medicare Hotline** 1-800-633-4227

## **CVS/Caremark (Pharmacy)**

1-844-635-3401

## **VSP Vision Care (Pacific Time)** 1-800-877-7195

(M-F 6AM-8PM, Sat 7AM-8PM, Sun 7AM-7PM)

**PRESIDENT**

Don Burbank  
(Cell) - (303) 495-9941  
[ruaea\\_Pres@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea_Pres@qwestoffice.net)

**SECRETARY**

Mary Jane Stewart  
(724) 745-8703  
[stewartmaryjane@aol.com](mailto:stewartmaryjane@aol.com)

**TREASURER**

Chris Johnston  
[ruaeatreasurer@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaeatreasurer@qwestoffice.net)  
(317) 694-4406

**AIRLINE LIAISON**

Don Burbank  
[ruaea\\_Pres@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea_Pres@qwestoffice.net)  
(Cell) - (303) 495-9941

**ASSISTANT TO THE  
V.P. CONVENTIONS**

Ron Bertacini  
[bertacini@surewest.net](mailto:bertacini@surewest.net)  
(916) 832-5775

**DIRECTORS**

Rosalie Tripicchio

Dave Garland

George Midwin

Chuck Cole

Marge Stamm

Jackie Monilaw

**EXECUTIVE V.P.**

Ruth Morabito  
(970) 901-9088  
[ruaea\\_VP@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea_VP@qwestoffice.net)

**V.P. CONVENTIONS**

Hank Gosselin  
(253) 653-5946  
[henrygosselin@comcast.net](mailto:henrygosselin@comcast.net)

**PAST PRESIDENT**

Virgil Gooselaw  
(303) 963-6690  
[ygoose@comcast.net](mailto:ygoose@comcast.net)

**SITE SELECTION  
COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Dave Garland  
[dave\\_garland@yahoo.com](mailto:dave_garland@yahoo.com)  
(650) 776-7824

**MEMBERSHIP MANAGER** - Michael Malesardi

E-Mail [ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net)  
Phone (303) 780-5022

**NEWSLETTER MANAGER** - John Chu

E-Mail [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com)  
(303) 810-6586

**LETTERS EDITOR** - Martha Gooselaw

E-Mail [marthagoose@comcast.net](mailto:marthagoose@comcast.net)

**WEB MANAGERS** -

Jim Sommerfield

E-Mail [jsommerfield@aol.com](mailto:jsommerfield@aol.com)

(847) 895-8014 - M-F, 9:00AM-5:00PM Central Time

Toni Van Kampen

E-Mail [tonivk@gmail.com](mailto:tonivk@gmail.com)

(847) 806-1371 - M-F, 9:00AM-5:00PM Central Time

The Retired United Airlines Employees Association (RUAEA) is an IRS Code 501 (c) (3) organization. RUAEA Newsletter (USPS #009-922) is published monthly by Retired United Airlines Employees Association, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver CO 80207. Subscriptions are through membership in the association. Periodical postage is paid at Denver, CO Postmaster, send address changes to: Retired United Airlines Employees Association Newsletter, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433

You now have four ways to renew your RUAEA membership or donate to the Newsletter postal fund. The credit card option is available online at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org). Mail your check to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433.



**INCLUDE FILE NUMBER IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE**

For all Membership & Newsletter Circulation issues, please contact Membership Manager:  
*Michael Malesardi*

Phone Number: (303) 780-5022

-or-

RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433

Email: [ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net)

	<u>Membership Dues</u>		
	<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Canada/Mexico</u>	<u>Foreign</u>
One year	\$30.00	\$47.00	\$52.00

*Additional \$5.00 per year for both paper and Web deliveries. Note that this option is not available for Life Members.*  
Applications can be obtained via email, US mail or from [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org). Send your dues to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433. Or, pay your dues online with credit cards (Visa, MC, Discover Card) at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org).

If it's time to renew your Membership, your Newsletter may contain one of the following Red Messages:

**"IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP."**

**"DISREGARD THIS MESSAGE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID".**

**"YOUR MEMBERSHIP WILL EXPIRE UNLESS YOUR DUES ARE RECEIVED."**

**"PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR DUES PAYMENT AT THIS TIME."**

**"DISREGARD THIS NOTTICE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID."**





## United Airlines Historical Foundation

"Preserving the Past,  
Inspiring the Future"

**The United Airlines Historical Foundation has many old and newer Airplane models on display.**

We do **not** have a United Douglas DC-8 nor either United or Continental Boeing 757 or Boeing 767 models on display. Anyone who can contribute these, it would be greatly appreciated.

You can contact **Judy Schweppe**, (303) 905-6573 by phone or if anyone is willing to donate, you can send to: United Airlines Historical Foundation; 7401 E. Martin Luther King Blvd.; Room A-104; Denver, CO 80207. We are a 501(c)(3) organization. Please visit our website at [www.UAHF.org](http://www.UAHF.org).





## Check your mailing label for Renewal Information

**\$30 Domestic Subscription**

<https://ruaea.org/join-ruaea.asp>



You now have four ways to renew your RUAEA membership or donate to the Newsletter postal fund. The credit card option is available online at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org). Mail your check to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433.



*Rhoda Green, Jackie Monilaw,  
& Brad Green*



*Sally Clark &  
Patrick Kearns*



*Standing (L to R): George Cox, John Gorczyca, Phyllis Cleveland, Jon Rowbottom & Jim Morehead. Sitting (L to R): Dan Petrovich, Don Wolfe, Tom Peterson & Rico Santamaria*