

# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

WWW.RUAEA.ORG



ISSUE NO. 551 JULY 2020

# RUAFA 2020 Election

ccording to our Bylaws, it is time to gear up for our election. The last election we had was in 2016. The years following lacked candidates and it didn't make sense to hold an election with just one person running for a given position. And this was the case for the subsequent years. We have been blessed to have officers and directors volunteer to stay in their positions and carry on with the work. This year is different; we have multiple folks that are running for office. In this issue, the candidates and the offices they are seeking to acquire, are listed on page 28. This is the section of this Newsletter that pertains to the election. There are candidates and a biography of each one. These biographies are especially interesting as they give us some insight into who the candidates are, things they have accomplished and goals they have. The candidates are free to state what they want their biographies to say about them. Please take the time to read them.

In the past we have offered online voting, but this year online voting will not be available, only mail in ballots will be available. A ballot is published in this issue that can be cutout and mailed in or a ballot can be obtained (downloaded) from our website at <a href="www.ruaea.org">www.ruaea.org</a>. Instructions, on how to fill it out, where to mail it to and a phone number to call if you have questions are printed in this issue, are on the ballot. It should be simple, just download it, print it, fill it out and mail it.

When the voting ends on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020, the votes will be tallied and the winners will be published in the first Newsletter after the election closes, the October issue. Since the 2020 Convention has been canceled, the effective date for the winners to begin serving will be the same date that has always been used, which is the day of the public business meeting at the convention, had it not been canceled. This date is September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

We must remember that RUAEA is a volunteer organization and we sincerely appreciate those that dedicate some of their time to tend to the business of running one of the greatest retiree organizations ever founded, RUAEA.

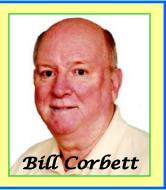
Regards,

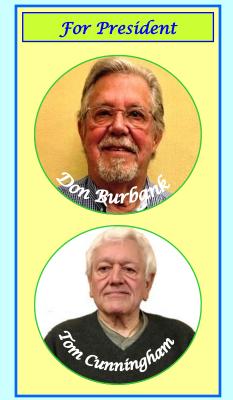
Virgil Gooselaw Past President



For VP Conventions







### **GENERAL NEWS**

# Organizational Changes May 29, 2020



COVID-19 continues to have a significant impact on our business. While there are glimmers of good news in our July schedule – we expect to be down about 75% versus 90% right now - travel demand is still a very long way from where it was at the end of last year and the financial impact on our business remains severe. As Kate Gebo mentioned <u>in her note to our management and administrative team</u> earlier this month, "... this is forcing us to come to terms with the fact that our airline – and our entire workforce – *will have to be smaller than it is today, and it's requiring us to continue taking decisive actions.*"

As a result, we continue to plan for a management and administrative population that will be at least 30% smaller than it is today, starting on October 1. Recently, United is announcing the first steps towards creating structures that are more agile, streamlined, and efficient – these changes include the elimination of 13 Officer positions as well as a restructuring of some departments and functions. The following changes are effective on June 15.

In an effort to align our external-facing functions and form an even more powerful team that advocates for the customer and the communities we serve, we will move an additional set of responsibilities to Brett Hart's organization:

- As was previously announced, Toby Enqvist, Senior Vice President and Chief Customer Officer, will report to Brett. And Corporate Real Estate will move under Toby's organization, as the airport experience and our airport facilities are a key driver of customer satisfaction.
- Advertising and Global Community Engagement will become part of Corporate Communications, under Josh Earnest, Chief Communications Officer, so we can more effectively leverage the available resources inside the company to promote United with the public and our customers.
- → Environmental Affairs, previously a part of Corporate Real Estate, will move under Terri Farriello, Senior Vice President Government Affairs and Global Public Policy, as we continue to actively engage in this area from a regulation and policy perspective

Greg Hart had a tough, 24x7 job as our Chief Operations Officer (COO) and as he refocuses on critical issues like safety, hygiene, and operating efficiency, we've taken this opportunity to change his former organization, and realign some reporting under our new COO Jon Roitman:

- → Matt Miller, currently Vice President of our San Francisco Hub, will become Vice President of our Denver Hub and Lori Augustine, Vice President Line Stations, will return to San Francisco as the new Vice President of our San Francisco Hub.
- Anticipating a smaller operating footprint, we will be consolidating the roles of Vice President, Domestic Line Stations and Vice President, International Line Stations into a single role of Vice President, Domestic and International Line Stations under David Kinzelman.

Our commercial business is more critical to our success as an airline than ever. As a result, we are making the following changes to Andrew Nocella's organization:

- As previously announced, Sarah Murphy, Senior Vice President of United Express, and Jan Krems, Vice President of Cargo, will move into Andrew's organization.
- → With the changes in the international network, a natural synergy exists between our network team and the work that our Alliances team undertakes. These two functions will be combined under the leadership of Patrick Quayle, Vice President International Network and Alliances.
- → Our Business-to-Business Marketing, Branding, Product and IFE teams will be folded into Luc Bondar's organization as Vice President Mileage Plus and Marketing. Combining these elements with our MileagePlus team will allow us to more directly address the changing needs among of our business and leisure customers.

Finally, during these unprecedented times, we know that we are going to have to take steps to fundamentally transform our business. The future will undoubtedly be different than the past. And so we've taken two, highly regarded Officers and recast them to focus on our transformational work, reporting to Gerry Laderman:

→ John Gebo, formerly Senior Vice President Alliances, will return to finance and take a new role as Senior Vice President and Chief Transformation Officer. Mike Leskinen, Vice President Investor Relations and Corporate Development will, in addition to his current responsibilities, work with John on

- some of the big financial pillars that will be essential to getting United through the crisis, but importantly, making sure that we are prepared to bounce back quickly on the other side and allow United to emerge even stronger.
- → We will also consolidate the CFO of Operations and CFO of Commercial roles into a single set of responsibilities under Jonathan Ireland, Vice President Financial Planning and Analysis, and Michelle Brown, formerly CFO of Commercial, will now leverage her commercial, operations and finance skills as our new Vice President of Digital Products and Analytics reporting to Linda Jojo.

As a result of this reorganization the following leaders will leave United, effective October 1: Lynda Coffman, Vice President United Ground Express, Jim DeYoung, Vice President Network Operations, Sharon Grant, Vice President Chief Community Engagement Officer, Steve Jaquith, Vice President of our Denver Hub, Jill Kaplan, Senior Vice President and President, NY/NJ, Mark Krolick, Vice President Marketing, Praveen Sharma, Vice President Digital Products and Analytics, and Don Wright, Vice President Line Maintenance. In addition to these positions, there are five additional Officer roles that will not be refilled.

These decisions are never easy. Each of these leaders has made significant contributions to the United family during their careers with us and we are a better company because of them. They will spend the next several weeks assisting with transition plans and will remain with the company through September 30. Many of these reorganizations will result in further reporting structure changes for impacted team members and we will share those details in the coming days.

With this reorganized leadership structure in place, our focus is to move through the remainder of the process in a thoughtful, but expedient, way. We expect that the next round of management and administrative changes will be announced before the end of June and we expect to complete the entire reorganization process by August. Any and all reductions in management and administrative workforce will be effective October 1.

United continues to be committed to building a strong, talented and diverse team. We are poised to fight our way through this crisis and rebuild together as the public returns to normal life and resumes travel on our world-class airline.

#### Temporary updates to space available travel



Greetings United Retiree Organization Leaders,

We hope you are doing well and staying safe in this current environment.

The United Daily announcement is currently available on Flying Together. Please circulate as needed to prepare retirees for these temporary changes should they have travel plan over the next several weeks. Thank you,

Your Employee Travel team

As more cities and states begin to open up, we expect to see more customers return to our flights. While that's good news for our load factors, we want to do everything we can to help, including promoting social distancing wherever possible.

We're taking many steps to keep employees and customers safe including <u>mandating face coverings</u>, introducing <u>electrostatic sprayers</u> to clean our aircraft and using <u>state-of-the art HEPA filters</u> to circulate the air in our cabins. But, to provide options for customers to social distance while onboard we are also introducing temporary changes to some customer and employee policies.

Starting May 19 and through at least June 30, we'll allow customers on flights that we expect to be above 70% full capacity to choose to rebook on a different flight or receive a travel credit. Read more on this change in The Plane Facts. Given this temporary change in customer policy, flights boarded to more than 70% of the aircraft's capacity with revenue customers will be capped and NRSA passengers will not be cleared for the flight.

It may seem counter-intuitive: As we all know, travel demand has declined dramatically over the last few months and even though we have reduced our schedule by 90%, the vast majority of our flights are less than half full. However, because our schedule is so reduced, there are a small number of flights where our customers are finding planes fuller than they expect, especially on hub-to-hub routes. In fact, last week we had about 4% of our flights with revenue passenger load factors over 70% and if you count standby travelers, that goes up to 8%. This temporary change is also in line with some of our industry peers, who have instituted similar NRSA travel restrictions.

#### How will this work?

- We're not capping inventory, but instead are offering additional options to customers so they can choose what works best for them.
- When a flight is 70% booked, we'll do our best to notify customers 24 hours in advance with the option to change their flight, if desired. We'll also offer this option at the gate. Then, if the flight boards to 70% of the aircraft capacity with revenue customers, NRSA travelers will not be cleared.
- If a flight is less than 70% boarded, NRSA travelers will be seated until capacity reaches 70%, trying our best to avoid seating employees in a middle seat or other previously restricted seats depending on aircraft configuration. Gate agents will still clear standby customers as they do today, up to 70%.
- A flight could still go out more than 70% full of revenue customers but once the 70% point is reached, NRSAs will not be cleared and seated.
- ❖ We're not restricting your ability to list you can still list for any flight, any time.
- \* You'll see communications through employee booking channels, including employeeRES and the United app.
- ❖ Commuting? To support our operation and our Flight Ops and Inflight colleagues, we are offering PS travel for all active pilots and flight attendants commuting to or from their base for a work assignment through June 30. Check your departmental communications for more info.

#### What other efforts are we making to encourage social distancing?

- Our Network Planning and Operations teams will continually evaluate opportunities for additional capacity (read: upgauging) in markets where we're seeing routinely higher load factors like our hub-tohub routes. In fact, we've been upgauging 35-40 flights per day to help create space.
- Hot tip: This is only possible if we have advanced insight on load factors, so pass travelers should try to list at least 48 hours in advance.

Keep in mind that on our more popular routes, there is never a guarantee that NRSA travelers will get seated, as has always been the case. myUA20 discount tickets are a great option to guarantee your seat.

Operational employees should refer to their department communications for additional details related to this policy and new procedures, as applicable.

#### Date extended for temporary boarding and seating changes May 27, 2020



In April and early May, we announced temporary changes to our aircraft boarding and seating in order to promote social distancing.

When the announcements were made, these measures were set to expire on Sunday, May 31. We have now extended these changes through Tuesday, June 30.

#### Help when you need it: International SOS/MedAire **February 5, 2020**



As airline employees, most of us pride ourselves on being expert travelers people who can get to the out-of-the-way locales, endure multiple connections and still make it back in time for work. But even seasoned globetrotters need help sometimes, An International SOS Company and in those situations, we have an ace in the hole: International SOS/MedAire.

International SOS/MedAire is a medical and security advisory service available to all United employees who travel for business or work on company duty outside their home country. International SOS/MedAire also provides limited services for leisure travelers including retirees.

International SOS/MedAire's representatives are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to provide pretrip security and medical tips, overseas care and referral support, and to cover medical costs (for business travelers only) when required. Even times when you just need medical advice for flu-like symptoms, they can provide guidance for what you should do. And, since we often find ourselves off the beaten path, International SOS/MedAire will arrange transportation for sick or otherwise debilitated travelers to the nearest adequate care facility, even by way of a medical evacuation if necessary.

"Every day we have hundreds of crew members on layover at an international destination, so you can understand how important this service is to those employees," said Corporate Medical Programs Director Carol Rogers. "It's not just crew members — this is open for anyone who is employed by United as well as their families and retirees. It's something that not enough people realize we have so they can take advantage of it."

See more information on <u>International SOS/MedAire</u> or download their mobile phone app from <u>app.internationalsos.com</u>. First-time visitors will be asked to provide a corporate membership number; United's can be obtained by going to Flying together/travel and searching for InternationalSOS.

#### <u>DOT ruling on Chinese airlines flying to U.S.</u> <u>June 3, 2020</u>



On June 3, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) announced plans to disallow Chinese carrier passenger flights operating to the United States beginning June 16. The DOT noted that because Chinese aviation authorities "have authorized no U.S. carrier scheduled passenger operations between the United States and China, we conclude that these circumstances require the department's action to restore a competitive balance."

We look forward to resuming passenger service between the United States and China when the regulatory environment allows us to do so.

#### <u>Torgy's Travel Tips – July, 2020</u> <u>To Fly or Not to Fly, Is That the Question?</u>



After months of quarantine, socially distancing, grieving for those lost to Covid-19, praising our dedicated healthcare heroes and hoping there's no resurgence as our economy opens, most folks are looking forward to "getting away from it all". For us with airline privileges, the question to fly or not to fly seems appropriate. With load factors at historically low numbers it's hard not to visualize sitting in a comfy 1<sup>st</sup> class seat to anywhere! But ... here are some considerations before you or your eligibles head to the airport.

Worldwide, all airlines have reduced frequency and capacity as well as eliminated service to many destinations. Some of these changes are temporary with the anticipation that demand will increase later this year and certainly after a proven vaccine becomes universally available. United has been operating only 10% of normal and anticipates ramping up to 25% by mid-July. That said, fewer flights

mean fewer seats which means higher overall load factors on those flights that do operate. Additionally, it was announced in late May that United considers a flight to be **<u>full</u>** when capacity reaches 70%. That will enable empty seats providing separation between passengers, in an effort to create "social distancing". If a flight hits the 70% mark on day before departure, revenue customers will be contacted and offered the option to cancel/rebook on a less full flight.

So what does that mean for NRSAs? Let's say you list for a flight that shows lots of availability. You will be accommodated by normal boarding priority as long as the flight remains under 70% capacity. If the flight suddenly fills up, perhaps due to a delay or another airline's cancellation, once that 70% threshold is reached, no NRSAs will be boarded.

Another consideration is the destination you have chosen. Did you know that many cities and countries are still enforcing travel restrictions? Hawaii has a 14-day quarantine for those arriving in the state. After a successful temperature check upon disembarking the aircraft, each traveler must sign a document affirming their accommodation and phone number. This info will be verified before the traveler is allowed to leave the arrival gate. Every day for the next 14 days, the traveler will receive an email and/or a phone call from the State of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency requiring a response. On the 15<sup>th</sup> day the Agency will call with a release from quarantine decree. Only then may the traveler leave the confines of their hotel room or home. Hotels may issue keycards for single use only enforcing the stay-in-place restrictions. Violations are subject to a \$5000 fine. Inter-island travel, which is currently also under the same 14 day quarantine, is expected to resume normally on 16JUN.

Great Britain has a 14-day quarantine on arriving travelers that went into effect on June 8 and is to be reviewed every 3 weeks. Travelers are required to give the address at which they will self-isolate and where they will be subject to spot checks by police. The fine for non-compliance is £1000 (\$1200).

Even car travel has restrictions within the US. In several states, there are checkpoints on major interstate highway state borders to ensure that incoming travelers do not have a fever. Check the Dept. of Health (DOH) for any state where you may be thinking of taking your RV.

And finally, if you do decide to fly, be aware of changes at the airport. Masks are **required** by United for all passengers, including NRSAs (with the normal exceptions i.e. small children, etc). Some airports require passengers to use masks inside the terminals as well, but once you approach the TSA you must remove the mask for identification procedures. You will be directed to place your boarding pass (or phone with QR coded boarding pass) onto the electronic reader yourself so the TSA does not have to touch it. Up to 12 ounces of liquid hand-sanitizer is now permitted in your carry-on bag, but all other liquids remain at the normal 3.4 ounces. If your carry-on bag is determined to have potential prohibited items, you may be required to leave the secure area with the bag and remove the prohibited items yourself and then get in the TSA line all over again.

All of this information is subject to change as the Covid-19 virus ebbs and flows. Please carefully check the FlyingTogether website for the most up-to-date info and consult the CDC and DOH websites for health travel restrictions. Your health and the health of your fellow Earthlings hang in the balance!

#### **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 Francis Domaratius at <a href="mailto:ruaeanewsletter@surewest.net">ruaeanewsletter@surewest.net</a>, John Chu at <a href="mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com">johnqchu@hotmail.com</a> and <a href="mailto:ruaeanl@qwestoffice.net">ruaeanl@qwestoffice.net</a>. 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.

Francis Domaratius Newsletter Manager ruaeanewsletter@surewest.net

#### **LOCAL NEWS**

#### **ALABAMA**



GULF COAST
(ALABAMA / FLORIDA)
George Atteberry
gwatteberry@cs.com

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

#### **SWEET HOME ALABAMA**

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



Due to restaurants not allowing groups of 10 or more, we have cancelled our June meeting and hope to meet again on the second Monday in September.

Due to declining attendance, we will now meet 4 times yearly. Our meetings will be the second Monday in March, June, September and December. As always, we welcome all retired United friends and their families to join us for fellowship and lunch at 11:30 at various Birmingham restaurants. For more information, call **Beverly Yeager** at (256) 775-1711.

#### **ARIZONA**



#### **PHOENIX AZURES**

Mike Richards
Azures Past President
Claudia Richards
Azures Past Membership Secretary
lgamfr62@gmail.com

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

We meet for Breakfast on the second Wednesday of every month at Tivoli Gardens. Anyone in town is welcome. Please call **Sherry Muoio** in advance, if you wish to join us, (623) 572-4828.

#### PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S

Liz Tollefsen tedtolle@aol.com



Happy Fourth of July! We hope everyone will be able to enjoy the weekend as much as possible. With the COVID-19 virus, many activities have been cancelled. It's difficult to get together with family and friends, and limits us going places and doing things we normally would like to do. More places are opening up, but there is a limit as to the number of people that can be there. In the meantime, wear your masks, wash your hands, and disinfect things in order not to spread germs. We hope things get much better real soon!

Our Re-United Chapter is still not meeting for our normal monthly breakfast at the Black Bear Diner in Gilbert. We will advise you when we can begin meeting again. We all miss being with each other and keeping up with what is going on in our lives.

We were so sorry to hear that a very good member of our chapter passed away on May 10, 2020. **Ferrol Hilsabeck** was a wonderful man. He was part of the group in April 1989 that organized our Re-United's Chapter. He and his wife, Cindy, have remained an active part of our group for the past 31 years. Ferrol had been having some health issues for the past few years, but we never expected him to leave us so soon. Ferrol had several top level positions with United Airlines, and when he retired he was the Cargo Sales Manager. A Celebration of his Life will be held later this fall. Sympathy cards can be sent to Mrs. **Cindy Hilsabeck**, 2625 N. Hogan Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85215-1302.

We also heard recently that **Ginny** & **Fred Rockenhauser** both have major health issues and are scheduled to have surgery. We sure hope everything goes well for the both of them. We will keep them in our prayers. Cards can be sent to them at 2609 Leisure World, Mesa, AZ 85118.

One of our active members, **Richard Vehring**, who really was very involved with our Fantasy Flights held at the Phoenix Airport in December for many years, and helped instigate it, gave me the following report entitled, "Remember the Good Times": "I recently cleaned out my old Fantasy Flight files, and they reminded me of how hard all of you worked to provide so many children with so many great Christmas memories. It

seems like just yesterday that we filled up Cutter Aviation's hanger with Santa's Village, games, food, fun, songs, presents, and snow. I found drawings from schools thanking us for the best Christmas they ever had; letters from three United employees who were children on our first flight telling us how much it had meant to them; congratulations from Channel 12 for being selected as one of the top charities in Phoenix; raffle tickets from Air Canada, Lufthansa, United, and lists of volunteers, sponsors, and donors. I also found a memorable article about the 2010 ASU Cheerleaders, and the Student Athletes who beat Arizona in double overtime late Thursday night in Tucson, and then drove back to Phoenix to sleep in our boarding area, so they wouldn't miss escorting our children the next morning. We had a great run, and were even recognized by Chicago, as one of the most successful Fantasy Flights in United. So, when times get tough, I want you to remember the difference you made to over 2,700 children, and that your efforts helped contribute over \$87,000 to help their schools. It was the best of times, and I can now lean back in my recliner, and think of flying First Class to Hawaii for a walk on the beach, or to Miami, so I can drive down the Florida Keys listening to the oldies. Take care and all the best, Rich."

We have the following birthdays in July: **Ted Higley, Donna Smiley, Fred Rockenhauser**, and **Barbara Hartough**. Hope you all have a wonderful Birthday! We don't have any Wedding Anniversaries to report at this time.

Stay well!

#### **TUCSON ROADRUNNERS**

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



We are the Tucson Roadrunners, an active chapter. We meet for lunch at various Tucson restaurants on the  $3^{rd}$  Thursday of every month except in November and December, when it is the  $2^{nd}$  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 <a href="mailto:rpdgarlic41@comcast.net">rpdgarlic41@comcast.net</a> 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

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

#### Calendar:

Next meeting, time and place TBD

#### CENTRAL COASTERS



Avila Beach, CA Al Rybar P.O. Box 2298 Avila Beach, CA 93424 (805) 595-2532 papawow@charter.net

It's another month of staying home and getting our food delivered by our daughter who conveniently lives 2 miles away. The only time we are getting out is to get our mail that is delivered to our P.O. Box and is a mile away.

Our area is a favorite place for tourists to visit since we are so close to the coast and tourist activities. Our beaches are closed and as well as most of the stores that sell souvenirs, so the traffic has been less. Being told to remain at home has kept the visitors down. However, the Memorial weekend just ended and tourists and locals ignored the closed beach signs and crowded Avila Beach like they do during the summer. The separation was ignored so it will be interesting to see if the virus sickness increases.

The schools are closed and the worse part is that Cal Poly University is also closed and my grandson will be graduating in June. We were looking forward to seeing his ceremony, but now that will not happen. He is finishing his classes online. They interviewed one professor that said "Home Schooling" is not the same as having a teacher doing the instructing since the students are not getting any preparation for future classes. Besides, the kids know more than the parents.

By now I'm sure everyone has heard that Oscar is stepping down from whatever position he had with UAL. His replacement is the same one that filled in for him when he was out ill. His replacement will have his hands full trying to keep UAL afloat until the airlines can resume operation again. From what I've read, there is going to be major changes to the full time employees. The news keeps saying that this virus shutdown could go on till the end of the year, but again this is a lot of guessing.

I was remembering my first year with Capital in MKE (Milwaukee, WI) in 1950. The company had a policy that if any station exceeded their quota for that year, the employees on the day shift will be replaced by the president of CAP and his staff for one day. They were called the "Wrecking Crew". Our President wore coveralls and drove the baggage car and loaded and unloaded airplanes. One of the Vice Presidents would get on the wing and help fuel planes. Later that night we would have dinner and a presentation awarded to our manager. Before Jets, operations were simpler and a lot more fun getting involved.

In the latest RUAEA newsletter, on the back page was pictures of the Historical Foundation in the Flight Training Center in DEN. In one of the displays there are decals of Capital on the wall. I was lucky enough to save a couple of the old stickers and made my own display that I have at home.

One of the News comments was that people working from home could make it permanent. Cities like S.F. where apartment rents are so high and the commute takes a long time, it would be less expensive to work from home. Also office buildings with high rents could also be affected. This is going to be very interesting to watch.

No meeting next month so we will try to stay safe and healthy.

#### **DESERT SUNBIRDS**

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

#### EAST BAY DIABLOS



Contra County
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Our June meeting, scheduled for Monday, June 1, was cancelled due to the Coronavirus shelter in place. Our group has been staying in touch via email but we are overdue for another round of updates.

As I write this, we have been sheltering in place for almost three months. At first, as my meetings and appointments were cancelled a few weeks out, I crossed them out on my calendar. Then, as things got cancelled long term, I stopped that. Now the few things I have to do are written in and/or highlighted. We have all been inconvenienced and affected financially, some more than others. I feel very fortunate that the time has passed quickly for me and that I am not bored or lonely.

In mid February, my dog developed a corneal ulcer with inner eye inflammation. For six weeks, I trekked to a veterinary ophthalmologist who, thankfully, has stayed open. Unfortunately, the elevated inner eye pressure caused glaucoma and permanent blindness, and her left eye was removed on April 2. With the shelter in place in effect, owners are not allowed in the vet hospital. The day of the surgery, a vet tech took her in, I waited in the car for four hours, and the vet called me afterwards with the surgery update. The four-year-old girl next door, who has missed seeing my dog, made get well cards which were left on the porch. Bijou, a Miniature Poodle, is now healed and functioning fine with one eye. She is also a Costa certified therapy dog with over 750 visits. We visit a hospital, nursing home, assisted living, library and children's camp. Since these are the venues most affected by coronavirus, who knows when we can resume visits? Before, with at least three visits a week, it was easy to know what day it was. Tuesday is the nursing home and Thursday is the hospital. Now I've joined the ranks of those having to think twice about what day it is!

And now for a PSA on insect bites: Recently, something bit me while I was deadheading my roses. I noticed a bump when I came in but didn't think anything of it. I put Bactine on it and it stopped itching. Two days later it became a nasty welt, and the area surrounding it was very red and warm. I tried draining it and putting antibiotic ointment on it, but the next day, the red area had doubled in size. At a friend's insistence, off to Urgent Care I went. Long story short, my wound had abscessed and I could have had serious issues if I hadn't gone in when I did. They took a culture and it is a staph infection, which was expected, but they also ran a second test to make sure the antibiotic I'm on will kill the form of staph I have. I am doing dressing changes twice a day, applying hot compresses five times daily, and the wound could take two weeks to heal completely. So, watch out for bites and scratches and don't wait to be treated if they aren't healing properly.

East Bay Diablos meets the first Monday of the month, all 12 months of the year. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 6, subject to shelter in place restrictions. The location of the meeting has not been determined yet.

Take care and stay safe everyone!

#### **GOLDEN GATERS**

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



President **Vera Kina** has received word that our meeting place, the William Walker Recreational facility, will not be open until July 1, 2020, so therefore our June 22 meeting has been canceled. At this time the July 27<sup>th</sup> looks like a "go" for us. Please BYOBL (bring your own bag lunch) for our July meeting and we will cook up some nice surprises for our August 24<sup>th</sup> and September 28<sup>th</sup> shindigs. We will play "catch-up" on birthdays and anniversaries – so don't light those candles yet.

What I have learned during this vicious virus ...

1. I am **not** in charge!

- 2. Do you remember when we were younger? The door-to-door salesman who sold vacuum cleaners. We didn't have one so in he waltzed and dazzled my husband and me with this Compact that was guaranteed to pick up steel balls. He reached into his briefcase and tossed out 5 steel balls onto the floor, plugged in the Compact and whoosh it picked up those steel balls in a flash and I was sold! It was a very expensive piece of equipment. Fast forward to 2020. The man upstairs knows my shortcomings and did not put me on earth to clean house. Lo and behold, the Compact (now with white hair) still works (they don't make 'em like they used to!) How some ever cough, cough, sputter, sputter, a death rattle and, as tears were shed, I thought I had killed my faithful cleaning companion. The local fixer-upper was not helpful but an "older" fella told me to come to his shop, which is 25 miles away, and he would look "her" over for free and let me know if she needed a transplant or transfusion to bring her back to life. \$165.00 later and she lives! That beat the \$699.00 for a newfangled, top of the line machine which would have a 20 year guarantee gadzooks, I'd be 106 years old by then! Took the \$165 deal and have bronzed the 5 steel balls and have them on display in the living room. That "fella" guaranteed the repair job for 60 days so I don't have to clean house until mid-August whatta guy!
- 3. Grocery shopping challenges. The local store has marked the aisles with arrows pointing which way to walk. I have stopped saying, "You are going the wrong way" as the nasty retorts even made me blush ... so I just move my cart so that they cannot get past me and I sneer at them (under my mask!) Ha ... I'll show them!
- 4. I can still cook I finish breakfast and wonder what I should have for lunch I finish lunch and wonder what I will have for dinner ... wait, wait, it's 5:00pm and time for the quarantini-martini, then dinner. Moral: Will probably have to join AA and sign up again for WW/Atkins/Jenny Craig or the Mediterranean diet (are we flying to any of the Med cities yet?) Loved Al Popek's (of the Treasure Coast, Florida fame) "Bar Hopping" suggestion in the RUAEA poop sheet.
- 5. Not much redeeming on the Telly, "All my Children" should be put to bed, "Let's Make a Deal" and stay healthy, we can all be the Lone Ranger and be masked and as Roy said "til we meet again."

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 11:00am 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 **Vera Kina**, 203 Emerald Bay Lane, Foster City, CA 94404.



# HANGTOWN MINERS Jane Gibson Secretary tired-dogs@comcast.net

Hello, All!

So, this is the first time I have ever sent out our "minutes" on the meeting day! Wait, oh yeah, the May meeting didn't get to happen – poo. But, that doesn't mean that we can't still be in touch with each other. So, is everyone healthy and having fun? Yeah, us too. We are blessed with good health, plenty to eat, phones to use to chat with family and friends; we drive each other a little batty, but I can't blame the "stay home" edict on that!

 $I\ don't\ find\ anyone\ having\ their\ anniversary\ in\ May-but\ June\ looks\ to\ be\ a\ big\ winner\ -\ be\ ready!$ 

If any of you have a birthday in May, sending a big Happy Birthday your way.

Our wonderful treasurer, **Tom Kenny**, is keeping our banking up to date. The three checks to local charities have all cashed the checks we sent them.

Now, I don't want to sound like I'm lecturing you, but, we still have a few members who have <u>not</u> sent in their (very reasonable) annual dues of only \$10.00 yet. I know some of you have not been able to attend our luncheons/meetings of late and we're hoping that will change (once this SIP ends) soon. Hopefully our monthly minutes help you to keep up on what goes on with UAL and us retirees. Maybe the photos bring a smile when you see familiar faces? Whatever it is that helps you, don't lose out on it. Next month, June, is halfway thru the year and if we haven't received your check by the end of June, I will need to remove your name from our roster and I sure don't want to do that! So, make your check out to Hangtown Miners and send it to **Tom Kenny**, 3461 Parleys Canyon, Placerville, CA 95667. And thank you for getting on that.

After some online discussions if we should try to plan on a luncheon in June or not, your officers reluctantly decided that it would be better to not plan a get together for another month. As you all know, California has not lifted their restrictions and don't plan to do so for at least the rest of May. We don't know if the restaurants will even be allowed to open for more than take out in June. So, we want to say "Thank You" to **Diana Bell** for signing up for June. Just a side note from me, but I don't see our bunch adhering to the "stay 6 feet apart" and "no touching/hugging" and how in the world would we be able to enjoy a meal with a mask on?

Please keep in touch with each other. If you need some help – call one of us, if you just want to chat, call and share your frustrations and jokes! After all, what are friends for?

## REDWOOD EMPIRE RETIREES

Santa Rosa, California Mary Wilson, Secretary 3623 Aaron Dr. Santa Rosa, CA 95404 marywilson333@sbcglobal.net



There is no report this month from the Redwood Empire Retirees chapter of RUAEA.



# RESANS San Diego, CA Barbara Drews 5642 Amaya Drive #99 La Mesa, CA. 91942 sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com

We have made it through another month without our monthly breakfasts. So far everyone is getting along well, they are enjoying their time of leisure by pursuing new interests.

June was the beginning of a Quarantine Recipe exchange and it will continue until we get a nice collection of recipes so that we can put a cookbook together for everyone to enjoy.

**Peter Wronetzki** is doing well after a major remodeling of his apartment, caused by a flood from the unit above his. He has been moving furniture around and enjoying the peace and quiet.

Several of our retirees are blessed with Birthdays in July: **Marti Ambrosio** (7/3), **Peter Hendricks** (7/6), **Rosina Krefft** (7/12), **Joan Zadrozny** (7/20), **Kayce Ward** (7/21) and **Mary Hernandez** (7/22).

I have always been an avid reader and I love history. The other day I found a book that I had somehow overlooked in my bookcase. It is titled "The Age of Flight". Many of us may have not heard of some of this information in our careers with United.

William Boeing won the San Francisco-Chicago airmail contract in 1927. He offered to fly the mail for \$1.50 a pound for the first 1,000 miles and 15 cents for each additional 100 miles. Most important is the new Pratt & Whitney Engines, they were lighter and the planes could carry more mail.

In 1928, Boeing had a chance to add Pacific Air Transport (PAT) to the operation and served the Los Angeles-Seattle route and points in between. On February 1, 1928 the United Aircraft & Transport Association came to life. Boeing Airplane Co. became one of the subsidiaries. On March 18<sup>th</sup> of that year, UATC acquired Varney Airlines and extended its service throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Then in July 20, 1934, a new holding company was formed, United Airlines Transport Corporation. The responsibility for carrying mail and passengers became a separate holding company United Airlines.

We have come a long way and I think many of us had no idea of this early beginning.

This information is from The Age of Flight by William Garvey and David Fisher.

We hope to see everyone soon at the Pt. Loma Café.

#### Calendar:

**Pending** – Breakfast at Pt. Loma Café, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA. 92106-2394, (619) 226-0255.

#### SACRAMENTO GOLD DIGGERS

Sacramento, CA Laverne Haubl Secretary lhaubl@sbcglobal.net



Vice President **Terry Greenacres** reported that we have decided to cancel the June 24<sup>th</sup> Luncheon.

I spoke width **Trudy Engeldinger**, the June Host, and we discussed the current situation in regards to safe distancing at a restaurant. Some restaurants are starting to offer in person dining but none, that we are aware of, is allowing large group seating since it is not yet approved. We also feel that there would be, most likely, very few members that would attend at this point.

**Angie Dellinger** reported that she misses seeing all her friends and hopes everyone is well and safe.



#### **SAN JOAQUINERS**

Rosie Walls (209) 984-5672 jawrmw@sbcglobal.net

The Coronavirus is still with us and has changed all our lives. The Shelter in Place order has been in effect for many months and still is. This virus has scared all of us so we are all wearing masks, even when we go into our local bank.

Our state Governor has opened some counties but still has requested that we don't travel unless necessary and still shelter in place. Although some dine-in restaurants are opening, most will only take a group from 8 – 10 and still maintain 6ft social distancing. And because of this, we are canceling our June luncheon. At this time, we are not even sure if we will be having a luncheon in July. All we can do is wait and see what happens.

Our new CEO of United Airlines is officially Scott Kirby. When Oscar took over 5 years ago, he was facing the challenge of the Continental merger. That seems rather small compared to Scott Kirby with the world pandemic.

Happy Birthday to **Hans Weber** and **Pat Scoble** who are celebrating May birthdays. We did not have any anniversaries for May. We want everyone and their families to stay safe and healthy.

If there is anyone who would like to join us at one of our luncheons, please call our president **Steve Foster** at (209) 328-1210 and he will answer all your questions and welcome you.

Again, there is no meeting in June due to the concern of the Coronavirus.

#### SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

San Jose, CA www.southbayruaea.org George Midwin 1879 Foxworthy Ave. San Jose, CA 95124 midwin5u@hotmail.com



There is no report this month from the SFO/SJC Southbay chapter of RUAEA.



#### **SOLANO FLYERS**

Allan Pochop 119 Carlsbad Circle Vacaville, CA 95687 (707) 447-4980 apochop@aol.com

May 20, 2020 found the Solano Flyers in a secret enclave ... a basement of a furniture store was selected for ease of operation; selected members were assigned guard duty to prevent any government agency sneaking up and arresting us for violating the Shelter in Place Medical Martial Law. We were successful.

As we assembled, President **Poolos**, perhaps VP **Pochop**, or another chapter officer brought the meeting to order ... one could not determine identities as all were wearing masks.

As the meeting started, I reconnoitered the room and noticed the members' clever masking: A lady with her Marie Antoinette mask and time era dress, was presenting cleavage, this was also noticed by a member in a Guy Fawke mask peering down on her. Ooh la, la, mercy bean pout to. That maybe French.

Meeting opened with questions, a member wearing a POTUS Johnson mask asked, "How long will the shelter in place order be?" The member wearing the Batman mask replied "You tell us, you're a president". That resulted in a discussion that ended up where it started.

Bang! The basement door opened and a masked man entered, and confronted the chapter officer wearing the Monkey Mask and asked if he could address the membership in an urgent mater, and he could not stay for the meeting. He stated, "Citizens, one must be more vigilant today than ever before, remember boys and girls always look both ways before crossing the street", with that the Masked Man and his Indian companion exited.

"Who was that masked man"? Asked the member with the Welding Helmet. "I dunno", said the guy wearing the Lion Head. The Witch Masked lady commented that he was packing a gun, which is a very serious no-no in California.

Small talk was then attempted by the members, but with each separated by the 6 foot rule, one could not follow any of the multiple conversations, so the meeting is adjourned.

Lunch was provided by "Lucky Bob's, Tico-Taco Truck".

Until next month, June 17, the Solano Flyers hopefully will assemble at Raul's Striper Café, 1720 N. Texas St., Fairfield. Until then ...

Mr. Monkey signing off.

#### **COLORADO**

DENVER
MILE HIGHERS
Rich & Clears Cons

Rich & Cleora Conner (970) 660-7040 richcleora@gmail.com



Our June breakfast was canceled due to the Coronavirus. Our next RUAEA breakfast meeting will be Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am at Ted'z Place Restaurant in Commerce City. We welcome everyone back! **Please note that the breakfast is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, not the usual first**.

Address: 5271 E. 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Commerce City. Phone: (303) 287-7544. Directions: Go North on Dahlia St. off I-70 to 52<sup>nd</sup> and turn back East to the address. Going West on I-70 exit on Holly St. and take the frontage road to get to Dahlia.

#### **FLORIDA**



THE CITRUS GROUPERS
THE VILLAGES

Julius "Joe" DiStaso (352) 775-8201 (941) 661-2215

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 or **Rich Capozzi** at rcapozzi@rocketmail.com.



### THE ORLANDO REAL McCOYS

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

There is no report this month from the Orlando Real McCoys chapter of RUAEA.

#### SW PELICANS DROP-INS

Margie Burg, Correspondent 15791 Prentiss Pointe Circle #102 Fort Myers, FL 33908 (239) 400-2544 burgmarge@aol.com



There is no report this month from the SW Pelicans Drop-Ins chapter of RUAEA.

#### THE SAND DOLLARS

Bradenton, FL Judy Macklin, 840 Bird Bay Dr. W., #202 Venice, FL 34285 (941) 214-0252 judymacklin13@gmail.com



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

For information on our group, please call **Ginger Hyde** at (941) 360-6671, or email her at: <u>ASDIP920@aol.com</u>.



#### TAMPA BAY CHAPTER

Trinity, FL
Janis Lindstrom, Acting Secretary
587 Waterford Circle W.
Tarpon Springs, FL 34688
(727) 934-1862
LindeKatz@aol.com

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

#### TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL Mary Kay Wetherington (561) 345-6373 mwether7044@att.net



We, of course, are still unable to gather for our regular monthly meetings. It is recommended that our age group refrain from gatherings and only go out for essentials. I once again reached out to our members requesting anything they would like to share for the newsletter. I did hear from a few of them.

**Bob Langevin** wanted to share: "This is a great way to look at it", a different perspective to think about self-isolation, to stay on track and be grateful. 1. There are no bombs raining on our heads. 2. I am not a prisoner held in solitary confinement, as millions are. 3. I am not a refugee trying to escape with my life. 4. I am not standing in line waiting to fill a pot of water. 5. I have access to fresh food and I am not starving. 6. I have hot running water. 7. My country has not been ruined by years of war. 8. I can reach my friends by phone and check on them. 9. My friends check in on me because they care about me. 10. Any whiplash I feel

about this strange turn of events is itself a sign of privilege. 11. More than half of the world would gladly trade their everyday problems for the modest inconveniences I am experiencing. 12. I may have anxious dreams but I'm dreaming them on a proper bed and I'm not sleeping on the sidewalk. 13. By staying at home, I'm helping the planet rest. 14. As long as I have my mind I can create, imagine, dream and not be lonely. 15. This global crisis connects me to people around the world and reminds me of our common humanity. This is a good thing. 16. When something tragic happens to another country next time, I will respond to it not with superiority but humility and recognition. 17. I will fight for positive changes and economically just policies in my own country. 18. I am surrounded by books. 19. I am surrounded by love. 20. The trees have already begun to bloom. Stay Healthy and Safe.

Jim Morehead writes "Things are going well and I feel great and there has been no change (so far quite boring) here. I suppose the biggest issue here is loss of a number of months over a disease we had no control of and can't fix, but we can minimize. So far, in America some of us have figured it out and some go blatantly adrift and wonder what happened. By the time you read this, I hope this is winding down and in South Florida we are beyond Phase 1 with very little open." Jim loves to travel, so his confinement is even harder on him. He continues to watch the status of countries opening up to travel and space available once again being an option.

We received warm wishes from **Jim** & **Janet Hanley**, **Anne Kenda** and **Sharon Kirk**. All of us are thinking about one another in these trying times. We wish each other well and look forward to getting together once again.

Florida, and indeed the world, was awestruck watching the SpaceX launch from Cape Canaveral. We are so proud of the accomplishment. Seeing the astronauts entering the Space Station was a thrilling moment. We wish them safe travels. Most of us, on a clear cloudless day, can actually see rockets go up. Unfortunately, this one was behind a huge cloud in my back yard. I've thought a lot this week about my dear granddaughter who just graduated from the University of Florida as an Aeronautical Engineer. She starts work today pursuing her new career. My grandson graduated from high school and will be starting flight classes. Their grandpa would have been so proud that they're following in his footsteps.

And finally words from our President Al Popek: "Here we are in June and the COVID 19 continues to increase in Florida as in many other places. Janice and I want to wish our United Family Worldwide continued safety and good health looking forward to improving conditions. Our deepest sympathy and condolences to those who lost any family and friends to this dreadful virus. On a lighter note, please remember all these days relaxing in your comfortable sweats, that all your clothes in your closets, for some reason, are starting to shrink. It's amazing the effects of this virus. God Bless and stay well and healthy."

July birthdays include **Truman Barker** and **Anne Kenda**. **Diane** & **Ron Brodi**s and **Fran** & **Gene Student** will be celebrating their wedding anniversaries. Best Wishes everyone!

#### **HAWAII**



#### HONOLULU MENEHUNES

Patricia Thomson, Treasurer P.O. Box 1709 Honolulu, HI 96806-1709 (808) 946-7847 HNLRUA@gmail.com

Aloha! The Honolulu Menehunes is an active chapter and we meet for lunch at various Honolulu restaurants on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of February, June, and September. All retirees are welcome to join us. If you are planning to be in Honolulu and would like to attend, just send your email address to <a href="https://example.com">HNLRUA@gmail.com</a> and we will email you the details.

We look forward to seeing you in United's Little Corner of the World!

#### PAU HANA KUPUNA

(Hawaii, The Big Island) Ann Eaton Medve P. O. Box 190726 Hawi, HI 96719 (808) 889-1636 annmedve@icloud.com



Aloha from The Big Island! Pau Hana Kupuna is a very old RUAEA group which has become moribund. I would love to hear from anyone who would like to help me get things going again ... lunch meetings, potlucks, good times, and more. If you are interested, please send your email address to <a href="mailto:annmedve@icloud.com">annmedve@icloud.com</a> and/or call **Ann Medve** at (808) 889-1636.

#### **IDAHO**



# Shirley Dempsey brandyjake@cableone.net

Our scheduled meeting in June is cancelled. Our next meeting is scheduled for August, and members will be notified when a date and time have been scheduled.

In the meantime we hope everyone will stay safe.

#### **ILLINOIS**

#### **CHICAGO SKYLINERS**

www.chicagoskyliners.org Chicagomainliner.com Jan Gawenda (847) 437-7073 jawenda@gmail.com



July—Happy Fourth of July! What a half a year this has been. I bet every single one of you could give me a paragraph of what you've been through and how you've been coping. Please feel free to write me. My address is above, email or letter, I'd love to hear from you. Or add to the stories I've been sharing, your career history, best trips, best advice. If you all did that, we'd have enough material for a few months of Newsletters. I bet some of your stories are real zingers. Think about it, no, just do it. Looks like we might be in confinement for a while. Unfortunately!

April showers bring May flowers, well, we've had some real downpours this last month, haven't we? Hope none of you had any devastating damage. Please, no more rain! Just in time for the Dog Days of Summer until August 11. We also have National Hot Dog, and Ice Cream month! Good time for a picnic, too, hope we can be close to each other again. Bastille Day on the 14<sup>th</sup>, and Pandemonium Day, is that to go along with the Pandemic? Amelia Earhart Day on the 18<sup>th</sup>, wish she lived. To end the month, on the 27<sup>th</sup>; Take your Houseplants and Your Pants for a Walk Day. What?

Did you get to watch the Space Launch to the International Space Station on May 30<sup>th</sup>? What a beautiful sight, we're still progressing in the space program. The launch had some setbacks over the months, but it finally took off, thanks to the combined efforts of NASA and Space X's Elon Musk. I hope you got to see the beautiful Strawberry Moon on June 6, named that by the Indian tribes, so they knew when the strawberries would be ready for picking. After all these years, I guess you know I'm fascinated by the skies, moon and stars, always looking to the future and the spaces beyond our world. On my way to heaven, I hope God and his angels let me stop off at the moon and allow me to step on the moon's surface. All the wishes I made on my birthday cakes will finally come true.

Last month I asked you to share your United career history. These came in late, I'd like to share them.

Muriel Bergsma had this to say, "Well, This is my United story which began November of 1966 in Elk Grove. I started my career in the Personnel Dept. as secretary to Bill Thee, Manager of Management Employment. At the time I hired on, George Keck was president. Then in 1970, I transferred to Flight Operations at EXO, working for Capt. J. D. Smith, Director of Flight Safety & Industry Affairs. Capt. Gilstrap became Chief Pilot at ORDFO, and asked me to accompany him as his secretary, in 1984. Approximately two years later, I became an Administrative Coordinator. I remained in that position until I retired in February, 1999. Sure wish I could remember my starting salary, but my UG100's are in the basement along with other treasures from UAL. My first trip was with my first husband to SFO. It was my first trip to that magnificent city, and was a memorable trip for both of us. Husband #1 was born in SFO, it was his first trip back there in years. During my career, I was most fortunate to have never been bumped. My dear husband #2, Ken, and I met through a mutual friend who worked for UAL Computer Services. God planted her in my life so I would be very fortunate to meet my very dear husband. We married in September of 1983, and have been in a state of 'wedded bliss', so the story goes."

Carol Faust also has a good UAL history. She started in June of 1956, at MDW EXO, in Public Relations, as a secretary. Her starting salary was \$255 a month, which she thought was good! Carol's first trip was a SFO, LAX, SAN circle trip. In her own words, "Our photographers would take pictures of celebrities flying UAL. Reservations always notified PR so we could send a photographer. I met Tab Hunter (whoopie), James Garner (yum), and Red Skelton (he was a sweetie). Maybe some others I forgot. Got bumped once in LAX, spent over 24 hours in the airport. A lot of flights were canceled because pilots were training for jets back in the 50's. My luggage was sent anyway. Got an overnight flight to MDW, and had to go right to work—same clothes for three days! Thought my boss, Jim Kennedy would be mad when I missed a day of work; he thought it was hilarious. When Bob and I came back from our honeymoon in Hawaii, we got bumped by the whole UAL bowling team in SFO. That was before nonstop flights, it was an adventure". Carol and Bob have one son, three step kids, two grand kids, and two great grandkids.

Last month, I had to shorten **Norm Wilkinson**'s story a little, I was running out of space. He's so funny, I felt bad I had to leave this out, so I'm going to add a few lines. He was describing his family, they had one son when he started at UAL, here's the rest. "Our daughter was born two years later, and the second daughter, a year after that. That was our family, right? Wrong! Nine and a half years later, our final child came along, a daughter, and the doctor said she was playing with the IUD as she came into the world. Their number has multiplied, nine grandchildren, and four great grandchildren, none of them had anything in their hands when they came out." Thank you, Norm, for the laugh, and your friendship over many years.

This month, I asked for your travel adventures, I got some good ones, after all, we are travelin' folks!

**Diane** & **Fred Seibert** tell of their trip. "One of the best trips we took was to Russia. We went on a river cruise, leaving from St. Petersburg, and ended up in Moscow. A highlight of that trip was a visit to Star City, where their cosmonauts train. We toured the facility, saw where they do water-training in a pool and the centrifuge used for training. We ate in their dining area as well. The best part of that trip though, was meeting one of their cosmonauts. We were able to talk with him, ask him questions and visit for quite a while. Grand Circle was the cruise line we used, but they no longer offer the option of the Star City tour, so we were glad we were able to take this".

Joan & Joe Teister tell of a recent excursion. They have some property in Wisconsin, a motor home on a Lake. Here's her story, "We arrived at our camper summer retreat on June 2, only to find the starter out and our hot water tank out. We reported it to the service company, the temperature kept rising to 96 degrees. Turned on the air, it didn't work either. Investigating why, the serviceman went on the crawl space to find a raccoon had apparently made its home in the ductwork. He chewed so many holes we're now waiting for the service to re-do all the ductwork so we can cool off! The A/C was installed last year, and we wonder what's next!" Joan wrote back on the 4<sup>th</sup>, they came back and fixed it, as the weather was going up to 90. She was glad there is a breeze and they have a screen porch. Well, Joan, in Wisconsin, isn't 90 like 100 in Chicago? Wisconsin is a beautiful state, I wouldn't mind living there in peace and tranquility, and all that green foliage. Thanks for your story of life up North.

I also asked if you received advice from your parents, and did you take it! Got a few answers.

Ann Mahoney tells us, "Jan, Australia was the furthest I've ever flown on UAL. I had just transferred from SFORR to CHIRR, and a friend in SFORR won two free passes on UA, so off we went, in Business Class! Another friend in CHIRR gave me a prize he won for two free nights on Hamilton Island, south of the Great Barrier Reef. We scuba dived there and enjoyed the most beautiful beaches I've ever seen! My CHIRR manager gave me passes on two regional carriers, so we were able to get around and spend time in exciting Sydney, too. My mother was very intuitive, among her many other great qualities! After graduating from

college, I wanted to be a flight attendant, but was too tall for airline standards at that time. My mother encouraged me to apply at EXO for a ground job, which I did, and was hired. She also encouraged me to finish college, which I did! Thanks, Mom! That's my story, and I sticking to it". And a great story it is, Ann. I also went to SYD, and up to Hamilton Island many years ago. I loved it, got to hold a koala, see beautiful beaches and kind people. I spent my trip trying to figure out how I could stay there for ever. Love that county and that Island. Glad I got to go there when I was able, visited there five times, one of my favorite cities along with Rome, and little old Lake Geneva.

Norm Wilkinson tells of his favorite trip. "It's hard to choose one special trip, because they all seem like treasured times. However, I think the most unique trip was a two week photo safari to Kenya and Tanzania. To see thousands of flamingos on a lake take flight, to see an elephant wade into a mud hole to aid a young water buffalo being attacked by a lion, to see a huge herd of zebras migrating, to be within a hundred feet of a pride of lions sunning, to stop our Rover to allow a herd of elephants to pass in front of us. All amazing, but the most awesome and incredible piece of the trip for me was our driver stopping the Rover where looking around 350 degrees, we were the only living creatures in sight. No structures, no animals, no people, just pure nature unblemished for the whole perimeter, a feeling which will always be fresh in my mind, a reminder of our individual insignificance. On a more humorous note, on Diana and my honeymoon in NYC in 1953, we were gong back to our small hotel on Washington Square after a night of jazz at Eddie Condon's Club. We climbed a fence to enter a closed park and were stopped by one of New York's finest, who ordered us out. He didn't believe we were on our honeymoon, or we would have better things to do. But he was a nice guy". Thanks Norm, very insightful description of Africa. BTW, that policeman was right.

Here's an interesting addition, "I am Lillian, the widow of Roe Mallstrom, who retired after 35 years from ORDSW. Because of UAL benefits, we were able to see the world. Employees had the opportunity to take 'FAM' trips, which were offered by other airlines at a discounted rate, so you could experience their service and a new destination. One of the best 'FAM' trips was on the Supersonic Concorde, from New York to London in 1987, in only  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours, against an 8-9 hour regular jet trip. The one class fare was normally \$6,000 one way. Employee fare was \$350 one way. Before boarding the plane in NYC, the Concorde Lounge had complimentary beverages and food to enjoy. The plane held only 100 passengers, and a crew of nine. It felt small with a long narrow aisle and narrow leather bucket seats on each side, and very small windows. We had bulk head seats with the Mach Meter in front of us to watch the Mach speed and altitude. Take off was a phenomenal experience because of the roar of the Rolls Royce engines, combined with being pushed back into your seat because the plane went from subsonic to supersonic speed, and was flying at twice the speed of sound, plus the plane was extremely noisy. Everyone was invited to visit the cockpit which was very complex. There was no inflight entertainment. Dining was the entertainment with unlimited Champagne and caviar, posh food on fine china and silverware. Our Concorde gift was a Business Portfolio with Concorde Logos stationery. You wished that the flight was longer than 3½ hours because it was so comfortable and the food, beverages and service were truly a Red Carpet experience. The Concorde stopped flying in October 2003, and the planes are now in Museums. You would think after all these years later, we would be flying supersonic planes today, as that was the future of aviation, we were told". Super description, Lillian!

A 'bummer' trip is from Marsha Sealock-Weber. Many years ago, she flew home for the holidays to visit her parents in Hasting, NE. "I took United from ORD-OMA, and Frontier from OMA to HSI. My parents left home driving 90 minutes to HSI, only to find out the plane had been diverted to GRI, Grand Island, NE, an additional 30 minutes drive. This was before cell phones, and we had to use pay phones. I left a message at the HSI station to please advise my parents when they arrived, to drive on to GRI. The Grand Island manager advised me that they needed to close the station and go home to eat and rest before they came back to the airport to work the next flight, in a couple of hours. When my folks got there, they were a little shocked to find me out in the parking lot, sitting on my suitcase, in a lightweight jacket, holding an umbrella, in the middle of a rain shower, at dusk! Gotta love small stations, bad weather, going standby, especially over holidays, elderly parents having to drive to strange places, and no place to sit, eat, use the restroom, in the middle of nowhere, and when it's getting dark". Well, Marsha, sounds like fun to be with your folks. Bet you laughed about that for years.

From **Toni Van Kampen**, she said it's hard to pick the best. Toni and her husband, Darryl, have traveled the world. "Maybe it's our first trip to Maui, with two other couples where we all got first class, and drank the airplane out of Bloody Mary mix? Our recent adventures in Machu Picchu and the Galapagos? How about the Mediterranean cruise we took in October of '01, just one month after 9/11/01. Every other American booked on this ship canceled. The only other American on board was the Chief Engineer's wife, so we got assigned to their table. Although they only joined us once, we got amazing service. The people in every port were <u>so</u> happy

to see Americans! We got first class on all the flights, and the final bonus was unseasonably warm weather. It was only our second cruise ever, but it was the one that got us hooked, we took our 38<sup>th</sup> cruise last February! We can't wait to get out traveling again!" You're not alone, Toni, great adventures! We're hoping for the best!

Here's an entry from Rose Nesser, widow of Tom, he was a supervisor in ORDMM. Her experiences start with, "When United was United, and Tom was still alive, we took many trips. Tom's parents lived in Hawaii for 20 years, and when we first started traveling to see them, with little ones, there were no direct flights from Chicago. We would fly through SFO or LAX, then to HNL. The benefits were that we usually got first class both legs, coming and going. (The good old days) We had more of the little red slippers than I can count. The service was beyond belief. Appetizers, then a beautiful roast cut in front of us with all the wonderful sides. Dessert was usually a sundae, but out of this world. Drinks were served before, during and after dinner. The flight attendants were the greatest and loved their job. The next best trip we ever took was to Sydney, the year that the Opera House opened. That was the best! We did not fly United, but of course, with him being an employee, the trip was all inclusive, hotels to choose from, wonderful food, and the opportunity to meet some of the greatest people on earth. (I agree) They served a broiled tomato with every meal, and fried bananas for breakfast at most restaurants, and the finest wines. The SYD zoo, riding the hydrofoil, going to the ocean, the coral reef, and of course, the Opera House are great highlights of our trip. Tom, our girls, and I agree, we will always be eternally grateful for the wonderful service and opportunities United gave us. The instructions from my mom, who died when I was young was, Women never whistle or point, and if you sit on cold cement, you will get hemorrhoids. Ha! Thanks for letting me relive some wonderful United Memories!" Thank you, Rose, I loved them all.

My old friend, **Carol Faust**, had a good trip, she's had quite a few, actually. She and her son, Tim, went to Iceland, they rented a car and drove around the country. No schedule, just had fun. Carol said, "UA was five hours late out of EWR that day, they served dinner at 3 AM. I just wanted to sleep, lost almost a whole day of sight seeing in Iceland. When Bob and I went to Antarctica, I got sick crossing the Drake Passage. That was the furthest we ever traveled. We have been to all seven continents". Carol didn't tell about her trip to Machu Picchu, where she fell and broke her hip. Spent a long time in the hospital with surgery and rehab. The hospital staff didn't speak English, so communication was difficult. She was lucky she had travel insurance, it helped pay for her trip back home with a nurse and reserved seat. Bob sat in the back. Haha

Lastly, we heard from **Charlie Lewis**, one of my favorite little devils. He says, "After seeing many ads for European River cruises, and having been on several ocean cruises, my wife, Carol, and I had a desire to go on one. So, back in 2015, we chatted with two couples we've known forever, and who were on the same ocean cruises. We all decided to go; we met with a travel agent who helped us select the cruise, and booked our fights. Our cruise was on the Danube River. It started in Budapest and ended in Prague. We were to sail from Budapest to Nuremberg, and then be bussed to Prague. Our cruise line was AvalonWaterways. Our flights to Budapest would be on UAL from ORD to FRA, and then on Lufthansa from FRA to BUD. During one session, the travel agent suggested that when we pack our luggage, each couple take out the clothes we're going to bring; divide each person's clothes into two piles, and place one pile in each of our two pieces of checked luggage. Up until then Carol always packed her clothes in her luggage, and all of mine in my luggage, pretty normal. As the day of departure drew near, I asked our daughter, Sharon, if she would drive us and one of the couples to ORD. Well, the day of departure arrived; Sharon came, went and picked up the other couple, and we took off for ORD. When we arrived, we all unloaded the SUV, said goodbye to Sharon, and proceeded into the terminal; we checked our luggage and got into the security line. Once through security, the four of us looked around to find out from what gate our flight would depart. As we're standing there, all of a sudden, I heard this familiar voice say, 'Hi Mom, Hi Dad'. Startled, I looked around, it was Sharon! Surprised, an understatement, I said, 'What are you doing here?' She told us that she too, was going to FRA, and on our flight. However, she being one of my Enrolled Friends, was in First Class, while the rest of us were in coach, since we bought tickets. Come departure time, there was no plane at the gate. Seems that it needed some repairs, and was still at the hangar. Over one hour later, it arrived, then the gate agent informed us that there would be an additional delay because one of the First Class seats needed a repair. (It was never used) We finally departed some two and a half hours late, missing our FRA-BUD connection the following morning. Once though security in FRA, we went to an accommodating agent. She was able to put only four of us on a LH flight to AMS, and then on to a second flight from AMS-BUD. The third couple went from FRA to Munich, then to BUD. The couples going through AMS, had to run to catch that flight; when we arrived at the gate, people were already being boarded, and the same thing happened to our connection flight to BUD. Needless to say, we arrived in BUD, but none of our checked luggage followed us. We stayed at a very nice hotel in BUD for two nights. On the morning of departure, the porter told us he had our luggage. However, he only gave me one bag, mine, not Carol's. When

we met up with our other couple, they said they had neither piece of their luggage. Off we went to catch our cruise. Once the boat captain heard about our problem, he gave the four of us free laundry for the entire cruise. Our cruise was to terminate at Nuremberg, but because of low water levels in the Danube, it had to stop before Nuremberg, in Regensburg. It was there that both of our friends luggage showed up, but not ours. Avalon gave us a choice of going to Nuremberg by coach, riding around the town, and then going Prague, or going directly to Prague. We all chose the latter, so we had an extra day in Prague, and it was time well spent. So, almost five years later, Carol still has not received her luggage, or the clothes that were in it. It's a good thing the travel agent recommended that we put half of our clothes in each of our bags, so we both had something to wear on that cruise. That's good advice for all of you. If it hadn't been for that, the cruise would have been even more delightful. P.S. Thank goodness we did have insurance. Between that and the airlines, we did recover the cost of the physical loss". What a trip, Charlie!

Thank you all for sharing your experiences with us, good, funny stories, that helped bring back memories of us in days gone by. Pat Patterson sure knew how to treat his employees, didn't he? Baby blankets, Christmas cards, etc., he knew our names when he saw us in the halls, smart man.

Our friends that Flew West last month include, from ORDCG, John Pantone, Gayle Gilbert, John (JJ) Johnson; from ORDFO, James Schere and John Lake; Lilian (Leah) Schulman, ORDCS, Marilynne Mancini, wife of retiree Frank Mancini, ORDCG/ORDFF, mother to Ann Mancini, ORDCS; Peg Meeneghan, wife of Pat Meeneghan, ORDFF; and Marie Fiedler, mother to Raymond Fiedler; ORDCG, Corazon Braceros, mother to Erma Rauen, ORDCS and mother in law to Stephen Rauen, ORDCG; Santiago Herrara, father to James Herrera, and father in law to Dolores Carlson, both in ORDCS. Also gone from our world, Annie Glenn (John's wife), Ken Osmond (Eddie Haskell), Phyllis George, Cubs' Ben Johnson, from the sports world, Bears President, Mike McCaskey, basketball great, Jerry Sloan, funny men, Jerry Stiller and Fred Willard, and the one and only Little Richard. Gosh, we were kids when he first started his career. Colorful, one of a kind, for sure, one more in the Choir.

#### Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Elly's Restaurant, 8:30 A.M., 372 E. Golf Rd., Arlington Heights, IL (**July ?**). Second Wednesday of the month.

Southside Breakfast - Jedi's Restaurant, 9:30 A.M., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn. (July ?). Last Tuesday of the month.

IAM Lodge 1487 - 50 W. Oakton, Des Plaines, (July?), 11:00 A.M. First Thursday of the month.

Toni Van Kampen will send out an email blast when we find out if our restaurants will open in July.

#### **INDIANA**



INDY RACERS
Indianapolis, IN
Frank N. Ingegno
(317) 428-7741
figenius@sbcglobal.net

The RUAEA Indy Racers chapter March, April and May meetings were canceled due to Coronavirus restrictions. As a result, there is no news to report.

As of this posting, some Indiana Covid restrictions have been relaxed. Indiana restaurants are now open with some seating restrictions. This means our June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting is a "GO for lunch".

We wish United Airlines and all UA employees the strength to persevere thru these trying times.

Our next scheduled RUAEA Indy Racers chapter meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, at Emmy's Pancake House and Grill, 7508 Beechwood Center Road, Avon, IN 46123.

Our future meetings schedule for 2020 is:

- ➤ August 11, at Emmy's
- > September 8, at Emmy's
- ➤ October 7, at Emmy's
- November 10, at Emmy's

If you are in the Indianapolis area during any of our meetings, please consider joining us. The lunch and conversation are both excellent. For more information please contact **Frank Ingegno**, 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



Greetings to all! For my third month back as secretary, after my stroke, I'm trying to update records, which haven't been touched for 27 months. Needless to say there are a lot of changes. Some members have moved and some are no longer with us. For sure the Nor'Easters is going to be a lot smaller than it was. The good thing about work was talking to so many members. Currently there are only 55 active Nor'Easters, down from our all-time high of 119.

**Jayne Regan** got reinstated for a hip replacement surgery. She says she graduated from a walker to a cane and is feeling fine.

When I had my stroke, I received a lovely floral arrangement from **Ellen Rizzo**. With a little care, it lasted a long time. I tried to contact Ellen to thank her, with no success until now. Only to find out that our treasurer, **Bill Vanderwal** had her contact all along. Well, Ellen got a big thank you two years and seven months later.

I'm still staying home and hope that people aren't rushing into congregating too soon! I feel they've waited so long; a few more weeks until flu season is over certainly wouldn't hurt. Stay well all!

It's frustrating when you finally know all the answers and no one asks the right questions.

July's birthdays ~ Elizabeth Palmer, Joan Twing, and Paul Ward.

July's anniversaries ~ Ron & Joyce Heisler (62 years), Don & Kathy Latter (25), Paul & Eileen O'Mara (54) and Elizabeth & Joe Palmer (53).

#### Calendar:

We're remembering good times at past meetings!

#### **MICHIGAN**



#### **GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES**

Gwen Dyc-Schwendenmann (248) 667-9258 bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net

Our DTWRR retiree group has not met since January. Our February luncheon was cancelled due to weather. Then it was the Covid 19 virus that "locked down" Michigan, preventing us from getting together. All restaurants have been closed except for carry-out service since early March. But maybe that is a good thing because all beauty and barber shops are also closed. The ban will be lifted soon and so, hopefully, we will be able to get together in July.

Unfortunately several of our former employees have passed away recently:

**Celeste Folmar** started her career with United in Detroit reservations. She ultimately transferred to Denver to continue her career. She passed away on April 7, 2020. Cards may be sent to **Leonard Folmar** and family at 9400 Grand Gate St., Las Vegas, NV 89143.

**Shirley Armstrong Kite** passed away on Saturday, May 30.

**Roy Linenberg**, husband of retired DTWRR employee, **Sue Ellen**, passed away on February 27. He was also the brother of **Rhea** (**Jay**) **Jaguszewski**. Cards may be sent to Sue Ellen at 3845 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Sears, MI 49679.

Thought for the month: *Life has an expiration date ... so enjoy each and every day.* 

#### **MINNESOTA**

#### **NORTHERN LITES**

Connie Glattly 82300 Wold Road Willow River, MN 55795 (218) 349-3972 crglattly@frontiernet.net



Sorry I skipped last month's newsletter. What with dealing with Covid restrictions and anxiety plus no meetings of the troops, it got lost in the shuffle.

Heard from **Bernie Hazekamp**, he was pretty much homebound before all the nuttiness started because of slow recuperation from a heart attack last Christmas Day. Who knows now, when or whether he'll be able to join us for lunch?

**Cindy** & **John White** have both been needing extra care lately. The little we know is that John had a fall and was hospitalized. Then not long after, Cindy was also hospitalized with nutritional issues. They both had to spend some time in a care center to get stabilized. Haven't heard whether John has been able to come home yet or not.

**Lyle & Sonja Gunderson** have been muddling along, better than we would have hoped! Lyle is home and doing well except for a persistent sore that doesn't want to heal properly. The docs finally decided that the risk of Covid was definitely outweighed by Lyle's wish to return home to Sonja's tender ministrations after so many weeks and months of hospitals' and rehab facilities' poking and prodding, slicing and dicing.

Condolences to **Janet Meyer** on the loss of her sister, Marianne Brinson. A phone call or text message to Janet would be welcome, I'm sure. Her phone  $\sim$  (612) 964-4629.

Oh, yes, remember how excited we all were to tune into the Today Show and watch the interview with the two brothers, sons of **Carlyle** "**Morto**" **Morton** about their kidney transplant? Can you believe, it actually happened! Only a year later ... **Glenda Morton** let **Sonja Gunderson** know the when and what time so we could tune in. For those of us who weren't able to see it aired, for whatever reason, **Janet Meyer** captured the link and sent it to me to get it out to all of our locals. I was so pleased, because I was one of those who wasn't able to watch the show.

Condolences also to **Teri** & **Eric Wetzel**, colleagues from MSP a long time ago, on the loss of their son, Dylan, taken too early at age 28. I have no current address, but Teri has a FaceBook page for those of you who wish to reach out to the family.

As you can see, the need for the prayer chains is still there. After the first six months of 2020, I don't see any time soon that we can put them away! Stay safe and sane, my buds ...

Lunch and meeting at 11:00 a.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at The Golden Corral, 3000 White Bear Ave., Maplewood, MN. (Directions: I-694 to Exit 50, south 2 short blocks to a strip mall on the left, next to Aldi's Market.)

#### **NEBRASKA**

#### **OMAHA GOLDENEARS**



Jan Cornish (402) 571-6031 kcornish6031@msn.com

Well we continue to social distance and hopefully stay free of the coronavirus. I sure miss seeing everyone at our luncheons and just checking in to see what is happening in everyone's lives. This thing is going to go on for a long time so I don't know when or if we will resume our luncheons.

In the process of making masks I have gotten to talk to some of you that I haven't seen for awhile. I got to visit with **M**. **J**. **Bruening** when I delivered a mask to her, she continues to recover from her bike accident injuries; she is doing quite well but still struggles with some flexibility in some areas. I had a nice conversation with **Betty Marquardt**. She and Hank have moved to a town house in Missouri Valley, just a few doors from

**Patty Shook**. They are doing reasonably well. Hank has a little trouble getting around and uses a walker but otherwise they are good.

Tony and Jackie picked up some masks for themselves and family. And the Payton's found my house and got some as well. **Rob Payton** is hoping to have his hip surgery in June.

**Van VanHouten** had as good of a 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration as was possible due to the virus. His family arranged a drive by celebration for him and many, many people came by to wish him a happy birthday. I would have gone myself if I'd know that it was happening. The event was on the evening news on television and there was a wonderful write up in the newspaper.

I received very sad news recently. **Dick Weak** called to say that he has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. His health is failing and he placed himself on Hospice Care. At this time he doesn't feel too bad. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers. He is truly "one of the good guys." His mailing address is 6408 Deerwood Drive, Lincoln, NE 68516, (402) 488-9006. A card would be a welcome connection.

#### **NEVADA**

# LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

Don Rutkowski 8517 Lynhurst Drive Las Vegas, NV 89134 (702) 300-4038 geodon1192@gmail.com



After much thought and concern for our members we, the Silverliners Board, has determined that we "Cancel the June 11<sup>th</sup> Luncheon" due to the threat of the Coronavirus and its effect on Seniors. Our age group is the most susceptible to this virus with deadly consequences for those that become exposed to it.

Treasurer **Jeannie Rolland** and I have worked with the management of Giuseppe's and they understand the nation-wide concern for this virus and its effects on this group of Seniors. We will closely monitor the conditions relating to the virus and plan the next Luncheon in August when the safety of our members is not at risk.

The Governor of Nevada is starting to open up many of the businesses shut down by his directive. In his Phase II directive, he stated that groups of 50 people (up from 10) or less can get together with mask and social distancing. Then in the next line he states "people that are of the vulnerable population and have under lying medical conditions are to stay sheltered" that hits our group right on the head.

In the meantime we hope everyone will stay safe.

The Silverliners hold their meetings on the second Thursday of every even month. The meetings are held at Giuseppe's Italian Grill at 6065 Durango Road, Las Vegas, NV 89113. If you are in Las Vegas and or planning a trip here you are more than welcome to come to our meeting and visit with our members, you may even know or worked with one of them. Email **Don Rutkowski** at <a href="mailto:geodon1192@gmail.com">geodon1192@gmail.com</a> or call him at (702) 300-4038, we will be glad to see you. Our scheduled meeting in June is cancelled. Our next meeting is scheduled for August, and members will be notified when a date and time have been scheduled.



RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP Pat Zoboli 5860 Lone Horse Drive Reno, NV 89502 (775) 856-2044 zobolilady@aol.com

There is no report this month from the Reno Sierra Roundup chapter of RUAEA.

#### **NEW JERSEY**

#### THE GARDEN STATERS

Newark, New Jersey Marty Etler 15-12 Elmary Place Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-2403 (201) 797-6610 vietler@verizon.net



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

#### **NEW YORK**

#### **BUFFALO CHIPS**

Jerry Stevens 130 Countryside Lane Williamsville, NY 14221-1308 (716) 418-6887 jerste130@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**

Caroline Manelski 94 Erin Lane Setauket, NY 11733 (631) 928-5766

Greetings from the Metros.

I am getting fat. My hair's gone flat.
I wonder if I can still lift
My bowling ball when I get the call.
Inside too much doing puzzles and such.
Take a walk. Call a friend.
When will this epidemic end?
Much to do, but less gets done.
Clearing out junk is not much fun.
No monthly lunch, no picnic either.
Time for a drink. I need a breather.

Aiming for September lunch at Davenport Inn.

#### OHIO

#### **OHIO BUCKEYES**

www.ualohiobuckeyes.com Judy McKnight Secretary ualohbuckeyes@gmail.com



Well this has been a quiet month. So far as I know all of our retirees have been well. No corona virus! We have nothing scheduled for the next few months. September is doubtful.

Long-time chapter member **Lillian K**. **Schabel** passed away on May 6, 2020. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, all services were private, limited to family. But her family has mailed us a beautiful copy of the funeral services that included two beautiful poems. One poem is titled "I'm Free". Lillian, such a wonderful person, is truly missed.



Our member **Steve Pytel** was in the hospital recently for another surgery on his knee, guess there was an infection which was taken care of and then at some point he'll have to go back for another surgery. Boy he sure has had lots of problems with his knee. Also, **Barb Vauls** has not recovered from her 3 strokes that she had in 2018. Please keep them in your prayers.

If anyone knows of someone having health issues please let our President **Dolly Taucher** know. Any other members in other chapters, please be careful and stay well. We wish all retirees a Happy and Safe "4<sup>th</sup> of July".

Knowing that "God" does "Hear Our Prayers" We Ohio Buckeyes pray for health and peace.

#### **OREGON**



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

Portland Terry Hotchkin 20201 NE 179<sup>th</sup> Court Battle Ground, WA 98604 (360) 687-3465 tthotchkin@gmail.com

The Portland Dew-er's continue to hunker down, waiting until the health experts advise that it is safe to venture out more publicly for folks in our age groups. In the meantime, we tolerate our social distancing by sharing funnies which I pass on for your enjoyment.

But first, we do have some news to share. Our long-time member **Shirley Walker** had a stroke a couple of weeks ago. However, we are delighted to report that she has made an amazing come back and was discharged from rehab just two weeks after her stroke. She still has a long road ahead of her but has worked hard and is continuing to make excellent improvement in all areas. If interested, cards can be sent to her at 920 SE 166<sup>th</sup> Place, Portland, OR 97233-4310.

And now for some humor to help you pass your time:

- © I feel like I'm 16 again. Gas is cheap and I'm grounded!
- © Well, well even after three months of sheltering at home and constant baking, it seems my weight is perfect. I'm just 11 feet too short!
- © If you are paying \$3.00 for Smart Water, it isn't working!
- © I finally did it! I bought a new pair of shoes with memory foam insoles. No more forgetting why I walked into the kitchen.
- © Because of the huge increase in deliveries, FedEX and UPS have joined forces and are now Fed-UP
- © Stepped on my scale this morning and it said: Please use social distancing, one person at a time.
- © I'm so bored I went outside to knock on my own door. Then came back in and said, "Who is it?"
- © The buttons on my jeans have started social distancing from each other.

And our parting thoughts: Also highly contagious is – Kindness, Patience, Love, Enthusiasm, and a Positive Attitude. Don't wait to catch it from others, be the carrier!

#### Calendar:

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

#### **PENNSYLVANIA**

#### **THE INDEPENDENTS**

Philadelphia, PA
Joyce W. Lindenmuth
Wesley Enhanced Living
100 Halcyon Dr., Room C-107
Media, PA 19063
(610) 521-2291
joycewlindenmuth@gmail.com



There is no report this month from The Independents chapter of RUAEA.

#### PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

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



**Treatie Karwoski** reported that **Jim Rotella**, formerly PITCS/SANCS, passed away in February. **Paul Musko** reported that **Phyllis Smith** passed away; she started with Capital Airlines working in teletype in operations and reservations in PITRR and CLERR.

Our area just came out of strict restrictions, more business were cleared to open June 5<sup>th</sup> but with restrictions.

May Birthdays ~ Carl Chiocchi, Johnna Chicots, and Dee Chiocchi.

May Anniversaries ~ Carl & Dee Chiocchi, and Vic & Joan Ference.

June Birthdays ~ Verna Alex, Jean Wolfe, and Jim Weber.

June Anniversaries ~ Dave & Gwen Detwiler.

#### **TENNESSEE**

#### TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS



Carolyn Hartshorn 5957 Warrenpark Lane Knoxville, TN 37912 Home (865) 951-1198 Cell (303) 886-9537 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



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

#### WASHINGTON

#### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle, WA
Gay Liesse
104 South 296<sup>th</sup> Place
Federal Way, WA 98003-3626
glliesse@aol.com



Shut-down from the novel coronavirus and its resulting COVID-19 was just beginning to be gradually eased in King County, WA early in June. We in Seattle are looking forward to the time when we can resume safe and healthy gatherings. We hope all of you out there have weathered the storm and are getting back to normal, though the consensus seems to be that nobody really knows what the "new normal" will bring.

We have learned that Vice President **Phyllis Bowman**, still recovering from a fall and broken hip of a couple years ago, has suffered a stroke and has returned to her previous care facility. Our prayers go out to Phyllis and her family. We miss her!

An obituary published locally notes the death of **Howard Holder**, retired UAL pilot based in Seattle and later in San Francisco. In addition to memberships in a number of other organizations representing his many varied interests, he had been a member of ALPA and RUPA. An avid traveler, Howard had visited every continent, counting visits to Kenya, Tanzania and Antarctica as his favorite trips. He had volunteered many years with Habitat for Humanity and the Museum of Flight (B-29 Crew).

As in previous issues, there is no meeting news, so we'll resort to Member Highlights, as published in *Contrails*, the chapter newsletter. This issue provides background on **Jim Fauber**, who, in addition to being an active member of the Emerald City Slickers and a participant in the national Honor Flight program, is a former president of RUAEA. Jim had presented a well-received program on his experiences with the Honor Flight program at a chapter meeting in 2018.

Here, thanks to **John Haferbecker**'s excellent writing, reprinted with permission and minor revisions, is "Member Highlight, Jim Fauber – Part I."

Jim was born and raised in Charleston, WV as an only child. At the age of 17 in 1946 he joined the Army Air Force (the Air Force was not yet a separate military branch) and worked his way up to Sergeant. When he had reached the rank of Corporal, he was put on flight pay and made the Aerial Engineer (a euphemism for Flying Mechanic) flying the B-25, A-26, P-61, B-17, DC-3 and DC-4 airplane types.

Jim had been flying A-26s with Colonel Gilchrist and at one-point had an opportunity to make some extra money by working on a B-17 that was being prepared for an upcoming movie to be filmed at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida. One day Colonel Gilchrist asked Jim, "So you want to be in the movies, eh?" Jim replied "No," but a short time later they told him that he was assigned to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox filming of the movie "12 O'clock High" starring Gregory Peck, Gary Merrill and Dean Jagger, among others.

Jim flew every day for 3 weeks of filming. In one movie scene stunt pilot Paul Mantz is piloting the actual crash of the B-17. The crash comes as a returning formation of B-17s lands at the base with the last plane, under Mantz' control, being crippled and having to land wheels up, crashing and skidding down the runway. Mantz survived without injury and a small group of actors – Jim included, wearing his dark aviator glasses - stood together watching the action. During his 3 years in the service, Jim worked on many top secret projects that would aid in fighting the developing Cold War.

In 1949, after he was discharged from the military, he enrolled for one quarter at Virginia Tech during which time he discovered that he was better suited to go in a different direction, and enrolled in the Spartan School of Aeronautics in Tulsa, OK. A year and a half later he graduated with his A&E license and hired on with Capital Airlines at DCA where he married his first wife, Vivian, to whom he was married for 25 years until she passed away.

Jim worked at DCA for a year before transferring to his hometown, Charleston, where he worked for 9 years until the Capital-United merger in June 1961. On May 12, 1959 Capital Airlines experienced two aircraft crashes on the same day: One was a Vickers Viscount airplane that collided mid-air with a national guard jet flying at the wrong altitude, and the second was a Lockheed Constellation that skidded on the Charleston runway while landing, spinning off the side and down an embankment backward and catching fire. Jim helped rescue the Flight Engineer from the burning plane and still has photographs of the damaged plane.

At the time of the Capital merger, Jim was selected to represent the Capital IAM District 144 mechanics at a meeting in the Ben Franklin Hotel in San Mateo, CA to work out some of the issues of the merger. Once he was with United Jim was destined to again represent the mechanics in IAM District 141. At the conclusion of the meeting it was announced that maintenance overhaul activities would relocate to SFO and that each line station mechanic had 3 choices of stations they could go to and Jim picked SEA; another 4 mechanics from Charleston came along to SEA with Jim, who came as a Lead Mechanic. Jim worked in SEA maintenance until he retired in 1987 with 36 years of service to Capital and United.

One incident in Seattle that Jim was involved in was the August 18, 1972 hijacking of a United 727 by Frank Sibley, a former Navy and commercial pilot. Sibley rode his bicycle onto the Reno airport and dragged it up the stairs into a 727 while sporting his 30/30 rifle, and while he was dictating his orders to the flight crew, the flight attendants stopped the boarding process and had the passengers exit the plane. This upset Sibley and he next had the remaining crew fly him to Vancouver, BC and then on to Seattle. Jim worked with the FBI in planning how to end the saga, including showing them how to disable the aircraft from moving. In the end, the perpetrator was shot and wounded by an FBI agent who was posing as a relief crew member. Jim was very impressed with the skills employed by the FBI.

Jim met his second wife, Bonnie, at a dance in Seattle, and from 1989 until 2015 they spent their winters in Sun Lakes, AZ near Chandler and their summers in Federal Way, WA. Bonnie's health influenced their move back to the Federal Way area in 2015. Jim and Bonnie were married in 1977 and enjoyed 39 years of marriage until she passed away in July 2016.

Join us next month for a continuation of **Jim Fauber**'s further experiences with United Airlines and RUAEA.

Raise the Flag – Celebrate Independence Day With Hope for a united United States

#### Calendar:

Chapter meeting cancelled until September



#### LILAC CITY FLYERS

Sharon Holmes 5120 N. Riblet View Lane Spokane, WA 99212 (509) 924.4959 (H) (509) 953.5088 (C) 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





Looking at this picture, and looking up into the clouds, gives me a sense of peace. I smile, knowing that I have been there and I will be there again. This "social distancing" has not been easy, but it has made me keenly aware of the many blessings in my life. It has given us all time to think about things we value in life. It has also given us time to re-evaluate our values.

Last year I traveled a lot. I thought that this year I would be doing the same. Instead, I am staying close to home and wearing a mask when I go to the grocery store once a week. I know, you are doing the same. Each state is in different stages of this virus. Here, in Virginia, we recently entered Stage 1 of

our re-entry process. This means that some hair salons are opening with a few restrictions (You must wear your mask and the stylist cannot touch your face.). Some restaurants have opened, with fewer diners allowed inside. Some pools are open but you must reserve your time in advance. I'm sick of my own cooking, my hair desperately needs a cut and color and I'd love to take a swim but, I think I'm going to be on the safe side and wait a bit.

We are all anxious to get back to what we used to call normal. Our luncheons usually end in June with our picnic at the winery, but of course, that is cancelled. July and August are our free summer months and in September, we begin our new year. We are being cautious and just making decisions a month at a time.

Ina Ayres has been our Sunshine Chairperson since **David Cox** organized the Dulles loungers in the 90's. Two years ago, **Mary Beth Collins** volunteered to help her. Now, our dear Ina is turning over the reins to Mary Beth. We are hoping that we will find a volunteer to help Mary Beth, but we all agree that Ina has earned a break. We are so very grateful for her many years of service and dedication.

**Cathy Gilbert-Silva**'s husband, **Larry**, is at home after a rather difficult back surgery. Cathy reports that he is doing very well in his recovery, but we all know that this is a long and difficult path back to his normal self. He has an excellent nurse and we send him our best wishes.

We lost another friend, **Ralph Baggett** on May 13, 2020, following a heart attack. He lost his wife, Dollie in 2019. The two of them were devoted to each other and are now back in each other's arms. He was a Marine, as were all eight of his brothers. He loved our annual Toys For Tots event in November. He quite often sat and ate with the young marines that came to collect our donations. He is survived by his daughter, Laurie Scott and her husband and their two children: Riley and USMC Lance Corporal Brandon Scott. He is also survived by a brother and a sister. Ralph was a very valuable member of our chapter and he will be sorely missed.

We regret that we are not celebrating the birthdays of our members who were summer babies, but we promise a huge shindig when we discover our new normal. Everyone will be invited.

Hang in there!

#### **NATIONAL**

#### **CLIPPED WINGS**



Peggy Griffin CW Vice President <a href="mailto:cwpeggygriffin@gmail.com">cwpeggygriffin@gmail.com</a>

Hello RUAEA,

Well, here we are, in July already ... Wow! Wasn't that just the longest Spring? So glad that Summer (?) has finally arrived. Being shut in for the last several months has made us appreciate so many new experiences. One of our members, **Sue Bolton**, from SMF (Sierra Mountain Foothills) found a little "ditty" and shared with the Clipped Wingers in our last Quarterly Newsletter, so I thought I would share it with RUAEA. The author is Unknown; Unknown writes a lot of great things.

You asked "What's going on during isolation? Actually, I've just been talking about this with the microwave and the toaster while drinking coffee. All of us agreed that things were getting bad. I didn't mention anything to the washing machine as she puts a different spin on everything and certainly not to the fridge as he is acting cold and distant. In the end, the iron calmed me down, saying everything will be fine, <u>no</u> situation will be too pressing. The trash just kept a lid on it, the blanket covered it up and the curtains shut themselves in. The rug was useless because it told me to just sweep it under the carpet. My blinds can't see the difficulty of this situation and shut it all out. Finally, I tried talking to the vacuum but it rudely told me to suck it up! Oh well, remember the good times before social distancing and <u>stay sane</u>."

As I mentioned to you last month ... Our Chapters are Zooming, we do get some business taken care of but mostly we gain back some sanity just by seeing friends and saying "Hi". I am sure most of the July 4<sup>th</sup> activities have been canceled in your area ... I know they are in mine.

Since we were isolating, I am sure many of our homes have never been more organized and our gardens and lawns have never looked better. I hope by now you have made your appointments for hair cuts and/or color touch-ups. And the all important "Mani/Pedi". Gotta make your nails look great for the summer ... since you are probably now in your flip-flops and not wearing gloves anymore.

Have a wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> of July! Hopefully by now we will be socializing with family and friends at an acceptable distance.

If you know any former or current UAL/CAL Flight Attendants that would like more information about Clipped Wings, they can find us at <a href="https://www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org">www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org</a>. We are a fun group!

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

The following new members joined RUAEA during the month of May 2020:

Howe, Joan, WHQHO, 928 S. Summit Ave., Villa Park, IL 60181 Marx, Georgann, 14064 East Hampden Place, Aurora, CO 80014 Otto, Larry, SFOEG, 2912 Hallmark Dr., Belmont, CA 94002 Pierce, Douglas J., 415 Laurel St., Pmb 412, San Diego, CA 92101

#### **CONTRIBUTIONS**

We appreciated monetary contributions from the following members during the month of May 2020:

James Andrews, Lyle C. Backus, Nancy M. Bain, Bonnie K. Bena, Nancy J. Bessenbacher, Theodore M. Beth, Joseph A. Bilicki, Lawrence F. Bogumil, Hannelore S. Brabo, Nancy R. Brock, Janice T. Brown, H. Don Brunjes, William J. Burg, Joann L. Butler, Virginia F. Cable, Dennis F. Carroll, Mardele A. Celestin, Marilyn J. Cheadle, Frank A. Christenson, Herbert E. Delker, Laverne Dice, Robert E. Duffey, Bruce Dunkle, Shirley K. Elrod, James E Fauber, Per O. Fjugstad, Charlotte J. Flagg, Leonard T. Friedel, Donald R. Fusina, Wanda Garofalo, Helen M. Habeeb, Harry A. Horst, Allan F. Huber, Jimmie D. James, Barbara B. Kaczmarek, Lorraine Y. Karpen, William E. Krefft, Maria Lesiak, Janet B. Lockhart, John J. Mackenzie, Stella M. McCcaffrey, Connie A. McManus, Paula S. Moody, Edward W. Moran, Mary Ann Moylan, Dawn Murphy, Matt Ohr, Paul E. Olson, Don O'Malley, Larry Otto, Delphine Diane Perry, Rogelio O. Ramos, Robert Roebuck, Maria C. Santangelo, Mary Ann Schaefer, James H. Staib, John Stanczyk, Donna M. Stewart, Aida R. Stream, Patricia A. Surwall, James R. Taylor, Theodore Tollefsen, Peter H. Waid, Jon Wilkinson, Maurice Wilson, Dennis J. Wong, Beverly A. Yeager, Cheryl A. Zerkle, Harold E. Zook.

#### **OBITUARIES**

<u>Obit Notice Policy</u>: 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 <u>writing</u>. 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 <a href="mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net">ruaea@qwestoffice.net</a>, 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 – **Gibson**, **James M**., on 2/23/2020, INDJZ, husband of Patricia A. Gibson (deceased), 11901 E. 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Indianapolis, IN 46229

Retiree – **Hamblin**, **Jeanne Y**. (**Betsy**), on 1/26/2020, LAXSW, sister of Yvonne Hamblin Shewmaker, 4701 Date Ave., #423, La Mesa, CA 91948

- Retiree **Maguire**, **Douglas K**., on 5/11/2020, LAXJL, husband of Theresa Maguire, 7476 Regency Dr., Palm Springs, CA 92264
- Spouse **Mancini**, **Marilynne Ann**, on 5/23/2020, wife of Frank Mancini, ORDFF, 13 Shade Tree Ct., Algonquin IL 60102
- Retiree McClain, Joe P., on 3/25/2020, SFOLX, husband of June McClain, 5321 Skycrest Court, El Dorado, CA 95623
- Retiree **McDonough**, **Geraldine A.**, on 5/17/2020, PITRX, mother of Deborah Daugherty, 226 Osceola Dr., Bridgeville, PA 15017
- Spouse **Sadlowski**, **Werner H**., on 2/10/2020, SFOMR, husband of Ursula Sadlowski, 1528 Perez Dr., Pacifica, CA 94044
- Retiree **Schulman**, **Liliane** (**Leah**) **B**., on 5/17/2020, ORDCS, lifelong partner of Jack Schrandt, ORDFO, 3950 N. lake shore Dr., Apt. 2030, Chicago, IL 60613
- Retiree **Ward**, **Russell A.**, on 10/10/2019, DENFO, husband of Patricia J. (Pat) Ward, 3840 Field Dr., Wheat Ridge, CO 80033

### 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

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

Ted Beth, Nellie Brawner, Henry Brunjes, Joann Butler, Frank Christenson, John Coleman, Sondra Conner, Carl Dean, Sherry Elms, Dorothy Engels, Marilyn Etchingham, Charlotte Flagg, Sean Foley, Charles Gagliano, Carroll Hedrick, Joan Hoffmann, Lorraine Karpen, Jan Lockhart, Dennis McComb, Connie McManus, Mary Ann Moylan, Mary Ann Owen, Berna Rasmussen, Ann Roseman, Sally Ryan, Maria Santangelo, Nancy Scriven, Carol Stogsdill, Ida Stream, Shirley Telegdy, Therese Tasse, Beverly Yeager.

#### 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.)

#### Mardele Celestin, 2024 Newcastle B, Boca Raton, FL 33434

Since moving to the Boca Raton area, I was able to join the Treasure Coast Chapter and reconnect with old friends from the New York area.

Thank you for keeping us connected and United.

Stay safe and don't forget to wash your hands.

#### Marty Etler, 15-12, Elmary Pl., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

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 17s. 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 "Boll Weevil" and since these planes could safely carry about 500 pounds of dust, the best thing 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, that 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 over head and running out of 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 seemed to hit the trees. It ripped the fabric all along the bottom of the plane. We installed new fabric and brushed on a special solution to make the fabric hard, then put gas and oil in and they were ready to go again.

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".

#### Barrie Hooley, 6045 East Island Ave., Syracuse, IN 46567

I have changed addresses.

Thank you for all you do in these trying days of the pandemic. You are a lifeline and it is so appreciated.

#### Edward W. Moran

I started with CAL in Sep 1959 after 3 years in the Army at MDWJL, ORDJL, BHMCS where everyone taught me to be a station agent, MOBCS, JAXCS, ONTCS, LASCS, and the last 21 years in DENCS, and DENDV. I have many wonderful friends from all stations and great working for UAL.

#### Sheila Rowan, 25 Noranda St., Toms River, NJ 08757

I look forward to the newsletter each month.

I retired from JFKSW 21 years ago. I enjoyed those years very much working at UAL..

#### John "Scotty" Thomas, 810 Gonzalez Drive 7K, San Francisco, CA 94132

Martha, this is a letter that the Catholic San Francisco published and it was well received. I thought your readers might enjoy it. Rick Del Vecchio is the manager of the newsletter.

About thirty five years ago we befriended a neighbor, Paulyne Cronin, and we socialized with her over the years. When she was 92 years old, she went to a retirement home in Petaluma. We would visit her about every month and take her out for lunch. One time, the subject of her age came up and she said to us, "The reason I have lived so long is because I have Angels looking after me". I am sure I must have made a face because she said, "Scotty, I am not talking about the ones with wings but about the ones like you and Helen". I never forgot those words and I think she said a mouthful.

Now we come to the present. About three weeks ago, my wife and I were sitting at the computer doing our best to order some groceries from Safeway. We tried for about an hour with no luck and our tempers were beginning to flare so we gave up. Minutes later my wife's phone rang. It was a former student from Epiphany School calling from Georgia. Adrienne wanted to know how we were doing. Helen told her the problem with Safeway and she said that she wished that she was there to help. After they talked and hung up about ten minutes later her phone rang again. It was another student, Laura, who Adrienne had called from Georgia. She told my wife that they were going shopping in ten minutes and my wife told her what we needed. About two hours later our groceries arrived and my wife paid for them. After we put the groceries away, the phone rang again. This time it was our daughter Moira. She wanted to know about the Safeway order and when we told our sad story, she said that she would order from now on. She lives In La Crescenta.

Paulyne was right. Paulyne died at 107 years old. Fr. Green, another of her Angels, sent her on her way. After the funeral, one of the women who had cared for her in her final years handed us a package and told us that Paulyne wanted us to have this. It was two beautiful portraits of Angels. Paulyne, our Angel, is still taking care of us. Yes, this morning the groceries we needed arrived from Safeway.

#### Leslie Will, 1131 Lake St., San Francisco, CA 94118

The article that **George Midwin** wrote about John J. Montgomery and his accomplishments in Aviation prior to the Wright Brothers was very interesting. This is an amazing article and it is well written.

Thank you, George. I loved it.

#### Jason Weiner, 91 East End Ave., Hicksville, NY 11801-2248

Reading about the memories of our members in the May issue, brought back one of my own.

In the early 1970s, I transferred to the JFKGC department. There were two of us. Part of our many duties were setting up and maintaining X-ray machines and metal detectors at about a dozen UAL stations, in the Northeast.

One day while we were passing by a boarding area, a passenger walking through a metal detector kept setting off the alarm. She was advised to remove bracelets, necklace, metal belt buckle, wrist watch, rings etc. One at a time she removed these items and still set the alarm off. Other passengers did not set off the alarm.

After much frustration, my associate suggested that she walk through without shoes. Success! It fixed the problem. I took her shoes and put them on the X-ray machine belt and ran them through. The monitor revealed long steel shanks under the lining.

As a result, 2 inch high, tapered ramps were then used on the floor of the metal detectors, to compensate for the high sensitivity of those units near the floor. At a later date, updated metal detectors solved the problem.

#### Notes

#### **Geraldine Adams**

Thanks for all you do. I enjoy being retired.

#### Rajashree S. Ambegaoker

I spent over 2 months with our son & family in Virginia due to the quarantine. Mail was on hold; just came back on Sunday picked up mail and oops realized delay in renewing membership. Sorry.

Thanks for all the work you do to keep us updated.

#### Stella McCaffrey

We enjoy retirement in Florida and appreciate RUAEA keeping us informed about UAL. We are so sorry for what employees are going through during this terrible Pandemic time.

#### Mary Ann Schaefer

RUAEA keeps me in contact with the part of my life that I shared with my husband, Bob for over 35 years.

#### Jon Wilkinson

Just a word to say thank you for all for all you do. The national wide illness has shut the kids and kubs down. You can pick us up on Facebook at kidsandkubs senior softball. We are opening up with batting practice only since May 19, ready to start our 91<sup>st</sup> year of playing.

We are the oldest and longest continuous softball club in the world. All are over 75 years of age. I have been in the club 11 years and have been president for 10 of those. This will be my last year as president but I will play as long as I can, thank you.

#### **RUAEA CANDIDATES YEAR 2020**

#### President

Don Burbank

**Current Position - President RUAEA - 2018 to present** 

Other Positions Held – RUAEA Corporate and Airline Liaison – 2014 to present

**President Denver Mile Highers - 2014 to present** 

Don completed school in Denver. After a stint in the Navy, he earned his Aircraft and Powerplant license and began his aviation career with Denver based Frontier Airlines. While at Frontier, he became Director of Aircraft maintenance. In 1985, he resigned from Frontier and joined United Airlines in Denver, CO. After serving in many positions, he retired from United in 2013 as the Managing Director of Aircraft Maintenance for the Eastern Division.

Don has received many awards during his years of service, and before his retirement from United he was awarded the Charles Taylor Award for being active in Aircraft Maintenance for 50 consecutive years.

Don stays active in aviation and retiree activities. He flies with the EAA as a Crew Chief on the B-17 "Aluminum Overcast" for 4-6 weeks a year. He is the local RUAEA Denver Mile High chapter President. As the RUAEA Corporate and Airline Liaison, he works to help retirees resolve problems they encounter with United. He is busy but takes time to be with his wife Toby and multiple grandchildren.

#### Tom Cunningham

**Current Position - Executive Vice President, 2018 to present** 

Previous positions held - Director of the Northwest Region.

Tom was born in Bakersfield, CA, he now resides in Pleasanton, CA. Tom worked for United for 39 and ½ years, fulfilling duties such as maintenance clerk, ticket sales, and gate agent. In addition to his job he held the office of President of Local Lodge 1782 of the IAM union.

Now, a member of the East Bay Diablos chapter of RUAEA, Tom enjoys retirement with his wife, Barbara, two adult daughters and 3 grandchildren. Hobbies include gardening, RUAEA duties, home repair, cooking and travel.

#### Executive Vice President

William (Bill) Corbett

Current Position - Vice President Conventions - 2018 to present

**Assistant VP Conventions - 2016-2018** 

Bill began his career with United in 1973 at MDWCS as a Ramp Serviceman. He spent his entire career in Chicago, later on moving from MDW to ORDFF as a Cargo Lead. Bill received the Outstanding Service Award as Cargo Team Leader in 2001.

In retirement, Bill is a member of the Chicago Skyliners Southside. He volunteers at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Chicago Area Runners Assoc., Arts & Business Council of Chicago. Bill also served on the Board of Governors at the Lansing Country Club as well as Treasurer at the Pono Kai Resort in Kauai. In his free time Bill enjoys reading, walking, running and swimming.

#### Ruth Morabito

#### Current Position - Director of Mountain and Arizona Regions - 2018 to present

Ruth was born in Eureka, CA and raised in the Pacific Northwest. She currently resides in Eckert, CO.

Ruth began her United journey, hiring on 7/18/1978 as a Food Services Porter in Las Vegas, NV. During her employment with United she excelled and on 8/2/2017, retired as a Sr. Manager Financial Reporting Benefits, working in WHQHR at the Willis Tower in Chicago, IL. During her career she received recognition and awards. In 1996, she was awarded MVP for the Mountain Region, Company 2001, United We Care Denver, 2008 Implementation Leader – Enrolled Friend Project, 2010 Safety Leadership WHQHR, 2015 & 2017 United Airlines Volunteer Impact Grant.

She has become a very active member of RUAEA. Soon after becoming a member, she volunteered to be the Director of the Mountain and Arizona Regions. Ruth is now working with RUAEA National and Local. Recently she spearheaded the realignment of the Regional Directors areas of responsibility. In addition, she has ideas to deal with the membership challenges RUAEA faces.

Ruth is also on the Board of Directors – President Proventus Place: Providing tools and resources for low income housing families, moving them towards self sufficiency. Other side interests include gardening, travel, bowling and reading.

#### **Vice President - Conventions**

Hank Gosselin

Current Position – Assistant Vice President Conventions Previous Positions Held – RUAEA President – 2012-2016 Vice President Conventions, 2006 - 2010

vice Freshuent Conventions, 2000 - 2010

**Executive Vice President 2010 - 2012** 

**Director- Northwest Region** 

**General Chairman of the Seattle Convention** 

#### Co-General Chairman of the Washington D.C. Convention

Hank worked his whole career in SEAMM. He was hired as an Aircraft Maintenance Foreman in 1960. He retired 40 years later as a Team Leader – SEAMM. During his working years, Hank received Awards of Merit for the B-767 Program, the Hong Kong startup and as Shuttle Coordinator. Hank has been a member of the Emerald City Slickers since he retired and served as their VP.

He has a long history of service to RUAEA (see Previous positions held above). In his convention work, he infused new life in the hospitality nights, bringing attendees together for Prop Wash at the SEA convention; Western and Hawaii nights in SMF; Sports night and 50's night in PIT. Through the Newsletter, Hank used a survey to improve the Conventions with input from the members of RUAEA.

Hank is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles serving as a Trustee and fundraiser and, as Santa to over 100 children in need, supplying the majority of gifts himself. In his leisure, he likes to fish and travel.

Hank is committed to see RUAEA continue the monthly Newsletter, annual conventions, and expand the Website as a more effective means of informing members in a timely manner with useful links. Hank feels that as leaders of RUAEA, we must continue to provide value for our members and increase our membership. RUAEA must be an advocate for all retirees, which in turn benefits our members and increases our membership.

## RUAEA NATIONAL ELECTION 2020 OFFICIAL BALLOT

All RUAEA members in good standing are eligible to vote and to hold office.

Please mark your ballot with an 🗵 for your choice of candidates.

Sign the ballot, include your file number, enclose in an envelope and mail to the following address:

**Cleora Conner** 1218 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Johnstown, CO 80534 (970) 232-6594

<u>President</u>	Executive Vice President
□ Don Burbank (*)	□ Bill Corbett
☐ Tom Cunningham	□ Ruth Morabito
Vice President - Conventions	
☐ Hank Gosselin	

Ballot must be received by August 31, 2020

VOTE VOTE VOTE

# Important Phone Numbers



Updated 5/2020

#### 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, esc@united.com (email) 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

1-877-825-3729, ETC@united.com (email)

#### Flying Together Help Desk

1-800-255-5801

https://flyingtogether.ual.com

#### Aetna Medicare Advantage 1-866-246-8088

BC/BS 1-800-535-9825

<u>PBGC -</u> for all retiree pension questions 1-800-400-7242, <u>http://www.pbgc.gov</u>

#### Social Security Administration

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

#### Alliant Credit Union

(800) 328-1935 or (773) 462-2000 (24-hours, 7-daysa-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, <u>mhorn@alliantcreditunion.com</u>

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 don8585@comcast.net EXECUTIVE V.P. Tom Cunningham (925) 846-8123

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stewartmaryjane@aol.com

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ASST. V.P. CONVENTIONS Hank Gosselin

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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. 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 Secretary: Michael Malesardi.

Phone Number: (303) 780-5022

-or-

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

Email: ruaea@qwestoffice.net

	<u>Membership Dues</u>		
	<b>Domestic</b>	Canada/Mexico	<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. 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.

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."

# Check your mailing label for Renewal Information \$30 Domestic Subscription

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 <a href="https://www.ruaea.org">www.ruaea.org</a>. Mail your check to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433.





# United Airlines Historical Foundation "Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future"











One evening when I was working the "Swing Shift" on our Genigraphics Computer, **Bill Traub**, Head of the Training Center, came by and asked me if I would paint a Mural on the (then new) conference room wall.

He suggested painting a mural of all the airplanes United had "ever flown" ... and "the airports". I briefly hesitated (not wanting to tell him I didn't have time to do it) and then suggested painting the current fleet on panels. He agreed. I painted all the planes except the DC-10 which **Bob Wilson** painted. We then had Building Maintenance create the frames and hang them. *By Marvin Berryman DENTK Retired*.

UAHF will continue accepting your tax-deductible monetary (\$) contributions which can be mailed to: UAHF, Tom Goodyear, 7401 Martin Luther King Blvd., Denver, CO 80207. Visit our website at <a href="https://www.uahf.org">www.uahf.org</a>.