



Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

WWW.RUAFA.ORG



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Veronica & Francis Domaratius

San Diego Reunion Western Night!



Hank Gosselin and Sharon Crain



*Richard & Linda Smith,
Rhoda & Brad Green*



*Robin Garland, Carl Alford,
and Rosalie Tripicchio*



Sue & Gary Peterson

GENERAL NEWS

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Letter From The President



Hello to all,

As many of you may know, we just wrapped up the 2024 RUAEA - RUPA -RAFA-ARECA Reunion in San Diego. Once again, the reunion planning team, volunteers and contributing supporters provided a fantastic experience for all attendees. I do want to say a special “Thank You” to **Hank Gosselin** as the RUAEA Vice President-Conventions for working over the past year to bring this to fruition. There were many hands to assist with the heavy lifting, and with such positive spirits that was reflected in the many faces I saw over the past week.

I know you will see more on this event over the next several newsletters and hopefully plan to attend next year’s event. On that topic, we have not yet secured the site for the 2025 RUAEA 50th Anniversary celebration location, so stay tuned for that information in upcoming newsletters and on the website. We are all working to finalize the details and will share as soon as possible.

Take care,

Ruth Morabito
RUAEA President

Letter From The Executive Vice President



The annual reunion in San Diego was great. I connected with members that I worked with many years ago and new ones I never met before. It really gave me a sense of family, being with employees that worked the various positions that are required to run an airline as large as United. Great people, with interesting backgrounds, personal history and work challenges. I had a wonderful time exchanging ‘war’ stories, like the kind that fishermen share about the size of the one that got away. I shared many laughs and maybe too many stories but had so much fun. The location for the reunion was wonderful and the hotel could not have been more accommodating to us. Many people worked tirelessly, from ensuring the best contract at a favorable cost, to the daily management of activities and I thank all for their efforts. Plans have already begun for our reunion next year and I encourage those that have not been to one in a while to consider attending.

The passing of **Don Burbank**, a long-time member and dedicated president of RUAEA, has required a shift in the executive board. **Ruth Morabito** has filled the president’s position. As the only candidate to submit a nomination for the position of Executive Vice President vacated by Ruth, by acclamation, I became RUAEA Executive Vice President.

Like many airline employees, I was fascinated by airplanes at an early age. When our hometown airport held a celebration commemorating passenger service, United provided free rides on a DC-3. Seeing that shiny aircraft and hearing that wonderful sound I knew that had to be my future. I joined the military and after training, served two years in Vietnam as a helicopter mechanic. I then went on to college, graduating with a BS degree in Aeronautics and obtaining an A&P license. I immediately applied to United, but was told I lacked the experience required, so I took a job as a ramp serviceman for a now defunct airline at SFO.

On a daily basis, I would see United aircraft, which only deepened my desire to work for them. After daily attempts to get hired and being told I needed more experience, I challenged the hiring manger. I told him that if someone within the company’s maintenance department could give me a test to determine my qualifications and if I passed, they would hire me and if not, I wouldn’t see them again until I had the qualifications required. Two weeks later I began working at the Maintenance Operations Center at SFO as an aircraft mechanic. My entire 39 years was spent in airframe maintenance, working in various capacities. I retired in 2013 as an assistant manager in aircraft maintenance planning. I joined RUAEA shortly thereafter as a member of the Southbay Chapter in San Jose, CA, serving as a president and now as correspondent for the chapter.

I have been married for 53 years to my high school sweetheart and have two children, one who has been working for United over 25 years. I enjoy auto racing and have worked as a corner worker at various tracks to get that need for speed. I belong to several organizations and am active in my church. As a hobby, I have been visiting the California Historical Landmarks, of which there are 1120 and along with my wife, have visited 930 so far. Aside from compiling miles on the road, we have also compiled miles in the air, traveling to countries and hope to continue as our age and health permit.

I look forward to working with the other RUAEA board members to ensure the continued success of our organization. We still face challenges resulting from the pandemic and those created by the ever-changing environment we live in today. As I mentioned earlier, United people are great and that's what makes us a strong organization.

George Midwin
RUAEA Executive Vice President

Preparing for the Expected
By Malcolm Horn, CFP®



Retirement and
Investment Services

As Teddy Roosevelt once observed, “*Old age is like everything else. To make a success of it, you’ve got to start young.*”

The challenges seniors have met throughout their lives have made them wiser and stronger, preparing them for the unique challenges that come with aging.

As we age, the potential for cognitive decline increases, ranging from simple forgetfulness to dementia. Long-term illness can sap time and energy from tending to your financial affairs in retirement. Even a decline in vision may make it harder to manage your financial affairs.

Fortunately, you can look ahead to help protect yourself and your family against the financial consequences of deteriorating health, and in many cases, insurance may play an important role.

Let’s examine some of the ways you can employ insurance to help protect your financial health.

Healthcare Costs ~ For some, healthcare costs represent a larger share of their budget as the years pass. Recognizing this, you may want to consider Medigap insurance to cover the expenses that Medicare does not, which can add up quickly. You also might want to consider some form of extended-care insurance, which can be structured to pay for nursing home and home healthcare services—two services that Medicare doesn’t cover.

Managing Your Wealth ~ The involvement you have with managing your investments may change as you age. For many seniors, that sort of day-to-day responsibility is unattractive and even untenable. If that’s the case, you may wish to consider what role annuities can play. Annuities can be structured to pay you income for as long as you live, relieving you of the concern of outliving your retirement money. Certain annuities even offer extended-care benefits, which allow you to address two concerns with one decision.¹

Transferring Your Estate ~ If you’re like many seniors, you have a strong desire to leave something to your children, grandchildren, and perhaps a favorite charity. Through the use of life insurance, you can pursue these objectives. For example, life insurance can be used to create an estate or to equalize an estate transfer among your heirs.²

Insurance will never be able to prevent the health issues that come inexorably with age, but it can be used to mitigate their potential financial consequences.

Contact me or my team of Financial Consultants at ARIS to prepare for the expected, aris.alliantcreditunion.com.

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

Please consult legal or tax professionals for specific information regarding your individual situation.

The opinions voiced in this material are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual.

1. The guarantees of an annuity contract depend on the issuing company's claims-paying ability. Annuities have contract limitations, fees, and charges, including account and administrative fees, underlying investment management fees, mortality and expense fees, and charges for optional benefits. Most annuities have surrender fees that are usually highest if you take out the money in the initial years of the annuity contract. Withdrawals and income payments are taxed as ordinary income. If a withdrawal is made prior to age 59½, a 10% federal income tax penalty may apply (unless an exception applies).
2. Several factors will affect the cost and availability of life insurance, including age, health, and the type and amount of insurance purchased. Life insurance policies have expenses, including mortality and other charges. If a policy is surrendered prematurely, the policyholder also may pay surrender charges and have income tax implications. You should consider determining whether you are insurable before implementing a strategy involving life insurance.

United Expands Economy Cabin Wine Offerings with Debut of New Rosé **September 30, 2024**



United today unveiled its new domestic economy cabin wine list that expands the choices for customers, including a new rosé option and a brut bubbles wine available exclusively onboard United flights. Starting October 1, passengers can enjoy high-quality canned wines from women-owned brands Just Enough Wines and Maker Wine.

According to United, the airline has served more than 20 million glasses of wine system-wide so far this year – that's 1.5 times the number of servings for beer or spirits – and more than 3.2 million glasses of wine in domestic economy alone.

"Our *new economy wine list is giving travelers more variety and better quality*," said Aaron McMillan, United's Managing Director of Hospitality Programs. "*After the overwhelmingly positive response to the addition of rosé in United Polaris® business class, and ongoing fanfare for sparkling options, we're thrilled to now offer rosé and a higher quality brut bubbles option for our economy passengers, delivering a more premium experience onboard.*"

Now, United's domestic economy passengers will be able to choose from four different wine varieties onboard, each available in a 250 milliliter can – comparable to about a glass and a half of wine – and served with a cup for sipping. Available to purchase on every mainline flight for \$12, the wines include:

- ▲ *Just Enough Wines Rosé* – A dry, crisp rosé from the California Central Coast features a refreshing flavor profile with notes of watermelon and guava and is balanced by a refreshing minerality.
- ▲ *Maker Brut Bubbles* – An aromatic sparkling white from the California Central Coast with bright citrus, white flowers and stone fruit notes and a crisp minerality. This 2023 vintage is crafted by Nicole Walsh, an award-winning producer in Santa Cruz who has been featured in Wine Enthusiast, Forbes and The San Francisco Chronicle.
- ▲ *Just Enough Wines Cabernet Sauvignon* – A full-bodied cabernet sauvignon from the California Central Coast features a vibrant and rich flavor profile of bright cherries, vanilla and sandalwood.
- ▲ *Just Enough Wines Chardonnay* – A medium-bodied chardonnay from the California Central Coast features a bright flavor profile with notes of melon, honeysuckle and toasted brioche.

A More Conscious Wine List ~ United makes the switch from mini plastic wine bottles to canned wines as consumer demand for canned wine grows. This transition to aluminum canned wine will reduce the use of single-use plastic bottles by an estimated 4.7 million bottles per year. Aluminum is nearly infinitely recyclable and supports United's commitment to sustainability at all altitudes, including recycling onboard its aircraft.

As part of this update, United also adds two women-owned brands to its list of small, independent brands onboard.

Just Enough Wines is a leading female-owned premium canned wine company featuring vintage and appellation specific, award-winning wines derived from vineyards certified by Sustainability in Practice and the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance; ensuring each can provides a pleasure-forward, perfectly portioned wine experience. All their great tasting wines have received prestigious accolades, including 90+

points from Wine Enthusiast and James Suckling, and have been featured on “The Today Show” and in Wine Spectator and Oprah Daily.

Maker Wine is a female-founded, premium canned wine company that partners with women and underrepresented winemakers to put their award-winning wines into cans designed to be recyclable. Each can shares the signature and story of the producer who crafted it. Maker is known as the highest rated canned wine in the industry today, with 15+ wines rated 90 points or higher and 43 Gold medals from major competitions like the San Francisco Chronicle International Wine Competition, Sunset International Wine Competition, Sommelier’s Challenge and more.

United’s Food & Beverage Refresh ~ The economy wine refresh is part of United’s holistic wine program overhaul – its largest to date – and ongoing investment in elevating its food and beverage offerings. Since late 2023, the airline onboarded restaurant-quality, premium brands like Shafer Vineyards, Gary Farrell, Chartron et Trebuchet and Pascal Jolivet. In addition, the airline added more than 60 new dishes to its rotating inflight menus and expanded its premium brand offerings to include illy Cold Brew, Twinning’s Tea, Tillamook ice cream and more.

An NFL First:

49ers and United Airlines Launch SAF Pilot Project to Reduce Carbon Emissions from Air Travel **September 18, 2024**



United and the San Francisco 49ers announced today that the team has become the first in the NFL to purchase sustainable aviation fuel (SAF). As an initial step toward addressing emissions concerns, the team has purchased enough SAF to cover its game-related flying on United from San Francisco to Los Angeles this Sunday.

SAF is an alternative to conventional jet fuel that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 85% on a lifecycle basis – from production to end use – because it is made from renewable materials rather than oil. United’s SAF is certified by an independent third-party as meeting several sustainability criteria, including its carbon intensity.

United was the first airline to create a goal of reaching net zero greenhouse gas emission by 2050, without relying on voluntary carbon offsets, and remains a U.S. industry leader in the purchase and use of SAF. The airline purchased more sustainable fuel than any U.S. airline in 2023 and has used a blend of SAF at five airports in the U.S. and Europe including San Francisco International Airport – among the most locations of any U.S. airline.

“SAF has the potential to be a powerful tool to help reduce carbon emissions from flying, but the industry is still in its infancy, supply is limited, and most people don’t know what it is,” said United CEO Scott Kirby. *“We’re proud to partner with like-minded organizations like the 49ers to demonstrate and elevate to a broader audience why it’s important to support real solutions like SAF.”*

The 49ers have a strong history of leading community-based initiatives and environmental stewardship in San Francisco. Levi’s® Stadium was the first United States professional football stadium to have achieved a LEED Gold certification, and its solar panels generate enough energy to power every 49ers home game. United was also a founding partner of the 49ers’ “Faithful to the Planet” initiative, a charitable project led by the 49ers and several corporate partners to fund programs that reduce pollution in the oceans, and plant and protect new trees.

“We are thrilled to join United’s Eco-Skies Alliance, and take this important step towards reducing our carbon footprint,” said Brent Schoeb, Chief Revenue and Marketing Officer for the 49ers. *“As the first NFL team to invest in SAF, this is a meaningful part of our commitment to more sustainable practices, and we’re grateful to United for leading the way in this space.”*

The Inflight Wi-Fi Revolution Now Arriving: United Signs Starlink Deal to Provide Industry-Leading Connectivity in the Sky - For Free
September 13, 2024



United today set a new standard of inflight connectivity by signing the industry's largest agreement of its kind with SpaceX to bring Starlink's fast, reliable Wi-Fi service to the airline's mainline and regional aircraft fleet, for free.

United customers will soon enjoy the same high-speed, low-latency internet service in the air that they enjoy on the ground. The new, gate-to-gate connectivity will unlock game-changing experiences in the sky at scale that no other major U.S. airline provides like access to live TV and streaming services,

social media, shopping, gaming and more, on seatback screens and personal devices simultaneously.

United expects to have Starlink on all United aircraft – more than 1,000 planes – over the next several years. Testing begins in early 2025 with the first passenger flights expected later that year.

Starlink service on United aircraft will be free.

Leveraging advanced satellites with its deep experience in both spacecraft and on-orbit operations, Starlink is engineered by SpaceX and delivers internet access around the world, including over oceans, polar regions and other remote locations previously unreachable by traditional cell or Wi-Fi signals. United is the largest airline across both the Atlantic and Pacific and will be the first carrier in the world to commit to offering Starlink service at this scale.

"Everything you can do on the ground, you'll soon be able to do onboard a United plane at 35,000 feet, just about anywhere in the world," said United CEO Scott Kirby. *"This connectivity opens the door for an even better inflight entertainment experience, in every seatback – more content, that's more personalized. United's culture of innovation is, once again, delivering big for our customers."*

"We're excited to team up with United Airlines to transform the inflight experience," said Gwynne Shotwell, President and Chief Operating Officer at SpaceX. *"With Starlink onboard your United flight, you'll have access to the world's most advanced high-speed internet from gate to gate, and all the miles in between."*

United's new Starlink Wi-Fi service will include experiences like:

- ▲ Live streaming: Access personal streaming services and watch live TV, shows and movies without buffering, lag or the need to download content in advance.
- ▲ Workplace productivity: Download/upload documents and edit shared files in real-time.
- ▲ Gaming: Play live games and follow along on live gaming streaming services.
- ▲ E-Commerce: Shop online, schedule grocery delivery and make restaurant and travel reservations all from the comfort of your seat.
- ▲ Multiple devices: Connect multiple devices at once, under one user.
- ▲ Live support with the United app: Download the United app while inflight to get real-time info about connections and access customer support from a real agent through Agent on Demand.

In addition to using Starlink connectivity on personal devices, United customers also will have access on their seatback screens. United has nearly 100,000 seatback screens across its fleet, with plans to grow these numbers as the airline continues to take delivery of new airplanes and retrofit existing aircraft with its new United signature interiors. The inflight content is available in more than 20 different languages. The new United signature interiors include 16-inch HD touch screens in each United Polaris® business class seat, 13-inch screens in every United First Class seat and 10-inch screens in every United Economy seat. In addition to seatback screens in every seat, United's new signature interior also includes Bluetooth connectivity, power in every seat, larger overhead bins with room for everyone's rollaboard and LED lighting.

The new service will also benefit United's frontline employees – United pilots, flight attendants, technicians and gate agents all use mobile devices to help run the operation and serve customers. As United rolls out the Starlink more broadly, it will give those teams the same rich capabilities in the air, as they have on the ground including when working in remote location or when traditional services might be impacted like during power outages or natural disasters.

United's Industry-Leading Innovations ~ United is recognized as one of the most innovative companies in the world and has recently launched a series of policies, products and services that are industry-leading:

- ▲ Mobile app with live activities: United has the world's most downloaded airline mobile app and is the only U.S. airline with Live Activities that gives customers real-time access to their boarding pass, gate and seat number and countdown clock to departure on the home screens of their phone.

- ⬆ ConnectionSaver: United is the only airline that uses proprietary technology to determine the best time to hold a flight a few extra minutes so more people can make their connection.
- ⬆ Stuck in a middle seat?: United is the only airline where customers can log their seat preference in the app and move to a better seat - for free - if it opens up before departure.
- ⬆ Free family seating: United is the first and only airline to offer a digital, dynamic seat map that allows children under 12 to be seated next to an adult in their party for free at time of booking. Since launching the feature last year, United has helped hundreds of thousands of families book seats together for free.
- ⬆ Real-time text updates: Using AI tools, United sends travelers text messages that provide personalized trip updates on everything from gate changes and boarding times to more specifics like aircraft swaps and weather events, now even including live radar maps.
- ⬆ Automatic rebooking assistance: Instead of waiting in line to talk to an agent or search for new options, United's self-service tools automatically present travelers personalized re-booking options, bag tracking information and meal and hotel vouchers when eligible if their flight is delayed or canceled.
- ⬆ Wheelchair booking tool: United launched a new digital sizing tool that helps customers determine the right aircraft for their wheelchair.
- ⬆ Agent on Demand: United's virtual, on-demand customer service tool is patented and lets customers video chat, text or call a customer service representative instead of waiting in line at the airport.
- ⬆ Miles pooling: United became the first major U.S. airline to allow members of its loyalty program, MileagePlus, to pool their miles with family and friends into a joint account.

Take a Ferry to Ireland **Torgy's Travel Tips – November 2024**



Yes, you can take a ferry to Ireland! We did just that in October as a way to further extend and enjoy a long-awaited trip “across the pond” to London. Of course, you have to sail to Ireland from your choice of several ports located in England, Wales, Scotland, or France, but it is the journey itself that is so worthwhile. It's a great

way to avoid the excessive international departure taxes levied on flights leaving the UK and opens up a whole other country to explore. Let me explain how to do it.



We booked a joint train + ferry ticket using the Transport for Wales website: www.TfW.wales. The train originates at London's Euston station, which is easily reachable via the Tube (Underground) on the Victoria, Northern, Central or Metropolitan lines, or a short walk from King's Cross station. Our Avanti West Coast train departed on-time at 9:02AM for the first part of our journey to

Holyhead, Wales. We enjoyed very comfortable reserved seats with a table and room for luggage behind our seats and overhead. (Note: Each of us travel with a carry-on size bag & backpack for our entire 27-day vacation.) The train was smooth, offered a bistro car for food and drinks, free Wi-Fi and charging ports at your seat. The scenery was lovely as we traveled 226 miles northwesterly, for 3 hrs and 25 min until we reached the port city of Holyhead, Wales. Upon arrival, we proceeded inside the station with our luggage and followed the signs to "Irish Ferries Check-In". Since the Republic of Ireland is not part of the UK, it is mandatory to pass through immigration formalities before boarding the ferry. After receiving a large stamp in our passport (a rare treat these days!), we entered the portal to the ferry. Irish Ferries operates five trips a day from Holyhead to Dublin. The vessels they operate accommodate cars, trucks, and walk-on passengers. The ferry Ulysses is truly like a cruise ship, complete with restaurants, bars, 2 cinemas, a kid's area, cabins, shops, and an optional Club Class lounge (available to book upon boarding). This beautiful lounge is spacious with panoramic views, complimentary upscale food and beverages and is located above the bridge at the bow of the ship. We elected to upgrade to Club Class and were so pleased that we did! The cost was surprisingly affordable. The Ulysses is well-equipped to smoothly sail across the Irish Sea, unlike some smaller ferries where the occasional choppy water can be problematic for some travelers. Our journey was like glass and in 3 hours and 45 minutes we arrived at Dublin Ferry Port ready to begin our next 9 days in Ireland.

Dublin Ferry Port is located 3.5 miles from Connolly train station in Dublin. The Nolan Bus Company meets every arrival at the port and quickly delivers you to that station for €3. From Connolly Station you can catch the LUAS tram lines that run throughout Dublin. LUAS tickets are €2 to most inner-city destinations. Taxi service from the port is always an option but is more expensive, of course. The ubiquitous "black cabs" can accommodate 4 passengers and 6 bags.

The process of booking and ticketing this journey to Ireland is definitely something you can do yourself. As mentioned above I used the TfW.wales (Transport for Wales) website to book the reservations and pay for the tickets in advance. You pay the exact fare and there are no extra booking or seat reservation fees. Because this journey involves both a train and a ferry, your tickets have to be issued as paper tickets, not electronic tickets. You will receive a confirmation email which will contain a Collection Reference Number that you will use to obtain your paper tickets. You simply go to any train station in the origin country (i.e., England for our journey) and print your tickets from a kiosk. You can print them anytime before departure. I printed my tickets 2 weeks in advance, in a tiny town on the coast of Cornwall. The "station" there was merely a parking lot and a single train track. But amazingly there was a kiosk, and I simply touched the "Collect Prepaid Tickets" option, typed in my Collection Reference Number and voilà, my train & ferry tickets, seat reservations and receipts all printed!

Ferry service to Ireland is also available from Liverpool, Cairnryan and Troon (Scotland) as well as Cherbourg, France. Along with Irish Ferries, three other companies offer service: Stena Line, P&O Line and Brittany ferries. Some ferries serve Cork, Rosslare, Belfast, or Larne. All of these offer online booking capabilities. Additional information can also be found online from "The Man in Seat 61" at www.seat61.com

I sincerely hope you consider this wonderful alternative to flying when you decide to include the beautiful and friendly country of Ireland on your next journey "across the pond"!

Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter

All articles submitted for publishing in the Newsletter are due in the Denver Office on **the 7th 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 7th are subject to be considered for the next Newsletter.

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

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

John Chu

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LOCAL NEWS

LOCAL NEWS

ALABAMA



SWEET HOME ALABAMA

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

ARIZONA

PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S

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

TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

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We are the Tucson Roadrunners, an active chapter. We meet for lunch at various Tucson restaurants on the 3rd Thursday of every month except in November and December, when it is the 2nd 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 rpddgarlic41@comcast.net or call either **Pat Di Lallo** (520) 825-7370 or **Sandy Lawyer** (847) 826-2640 for information.

We look forward to seeing you.

CALIFORNIA

CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS

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It is still very hot in Northern California! However, we have nothing to complain about with the devastation in Florida, North Carolina, and Georgia; such a tragedy by Mother Nature. We hope everyone stays safe and can come back with a vengeance.

We had a great day at Woodson Bridge State Park right by the Sacramento River. It was not too hot and we even had a little breeze. **Merritt Odor**, our President, thanked **Sharon Simonton** for making the reservations.

We did not have a planned meeting but enjoyed each other's company and were able to visit. We had 13 members and spouses who were able to enjoy the day.

We shared events and travel that people experienced during the summer.

The winner of the 50/0 raffle was **Bill Simonton**, and **Don Arndt** won the lunch certificate. Merritt donated a six-pack of beer, which was won by **Billie Jorgensen**. Sharon brought desserts which were cinnamon rolls and apple fritters from the new donut shop, Madhatters, that just opened up in Paradise. The dessert was a big hit.

Our next meeting/luncheon will be our Christmas Party to be held in December. Sharon volunteered to make reservations at Kalico Restaurant in Chico where we had it last year. There will be a gift exchange which always is lots of laughs.

Calendar:

December 4 - Wednesday, 11:30 AM, Kalico Restaurant, Chico, Calif. Come and join us!

CENTRAL COASTERS

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

DESERT SUNBIRDS

Palm Springs Area
Thomas Sabo
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There is no report this month from the Desert Sunbirds chapter of RUAEA.

We try to meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month; if you are visiting the Palm Springs area, we would love to have you join us. Email sabo.thomas@yahoo.com for details.



EAST BAY DIABLOS

Contra Costa County

Jan Soderstrom

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(925) 833-9184

Happy November to everyone from the East Bay Diablos group! As I write this on October 7, we have had, hopefully, our last heat wave of the summer. Even people who “love the heat” are tired of day after day of temps over 100 degrees.

It has now been more than a week since Hurricane Helene tore through the Southeast. The stories about the death and destruction defy belief. My heart goes out to everyone who lost loved ones and their homes in the hurricane. Those who survived the force of the wind and water will be traumatized for life.

One of the “heroes” of the storm was the Nolichucky Dam, built in 1913 outside of Greenville, Tennessee, to hold back the waters of the Nolichucky River. By 11pm on the night of September 27, the Nolichucky River was rising at two feet per hour. The dam was operating as designed to allow water to flow over the top. At this point, approximately 1.3 million gallons of water were pouring over the dam each second. For comparison, the peak daily water flow of Niagara Falls is around 700,000 gallons per second. Officials were not sure the dam would hold. TVA stated that the failure of the dam could be imminent and ordered people living downstream to evacuate immediately. Thankfully, the dam held and by the next day, river levels were receding at approximately one foot per hour. Officials inspected the dam and announced that it was intact. The Tennessee Valley Authority called the rainfall at the Nolichucky River watershed a one-in-5,000-year event.

Our group holds in person monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month all year long. The restaurants are still dealing with staff shortages, so we have to give them a count beforehand for our meetings. If you are going to attend our meetings, you must RSVP prior to the meeting. I have put the dates of our upcoming meetings and the RSVP deadlines below. We alternate between the Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord and the Lazy Dog Restaurant in Concord. We like The Old Spaghetti Factory because they have both a regular and a senior menu with reduced portions and soup or salad, ice cream and beverage included. They also reserve a room for us. We went to the Lazy Dog for the first time in September. Everyone enjoyed it so that is now one of our “go to” restaurants. We average about 14 people at our meetings throughout the year, but more members come to our summer picnic meeting, which is a catered BBQ luncheon at a member’s home; and to our December meeting at Zio Fraedo’s in Pleasant Hill. Social hour starts at 11:30 and our meal is typically served an hour later.

Our president **Russ Kennedy** starts our meetings by leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. At every meeting, we have a raffle for money and door prizes. We pay two dollars for three tickets. The door prizes are whatever people are inspired to bring. Our October meeting was held on October 7th at The Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord with 13 members in attendance: **Tracey Blanchard, Rich & Georgia Bouska** and guest, **Barb Cunningham, Diane Griego, Arnold Hansen, Tom Johnson, Russ Kennedy, Joe & Wilma Leather, Carol Parks** and **Sue von Emster**. We had two drawings for the raffle money and **Russ Kennedy** won both times! **Barb Cunningham** also offered RUAEA T-shirts for sale.

I owe a huge debt of gratitude to **Tracey Blanchard** who has been “Secretary for a Day” at the June through October meetings. I have been laid up with limited mobility and surgery since then and she graciously offered to take notes and send them to me. Thank you Tracey!

Last July, I sprained my right knee at a therapy dog visit. I walked across a “meadow” which was basically a grassy field with gopher holes, tree roots, and huge clumps of grass. It did not get better and by October, I was having a hard time walking. I went to an orthopedist who told me it was arthritis and told me to take Voltaren. I went back two more times and he gave me a cortisone shot both times. I asked for an MRI and he ordered an X-ray. By January, I could not put weight on the right leg at all. **Russ Kennedy** loaned me his walker and it was the only way I could get around the house. I started PT in April and at our first session; she submitted a report and “suggested” an MRI of the knee. The doctor refused and at this point, at the urging of **Diane Griego**, I went to another doc, highly recommended by two friends. He took one look at the X-ray and said he suspected a meniscus tear. He ordered an MRI, and about this time, my physical therapist told me “you also have something going on with your hip.” My primary care doc ordered a hip X-ray immediately and I went back to my second opinion doc armed with an X-ray and MRI of my right knee, and the X-ray of the right hip. He said, “The good news is that your meniscus tear will be a simple repair. The bad news is that your hip is totally gone—

bone spurs, no cartilage, etc.” Long story short, Dr. David Bell in Pleasanton did the knee surgery on June 19, and then his former colleague, Dr. John Dearborn in Fremont, did the hip replacement on September 4. When my dog and I visited the local hospital, we often saw knee and hip post-op patients up and walking the same day after surgery. I was always amazed to see how well they did. Little did I know I’d be doing the same thing this summer! After my hip surgery, one of my DAR friends offered to have me come and stay with her for two weeks, and I can never thank her enough for her loving care. I have been having PT home health care through Medicare and my last session will be October 10. I am starting to walk with a cane a few hours a day, again, kindly loaned to me by Russ Kennedy.

The point of all this is not to belabor my “Surgery Summer” adventures, but to share some things I have learned through all this. There are so many kind, loving and generous people in this world. Prior to my surgeries, when I was out and wrestling the walker in and out of my trunk, I almost always had someone come up to me and ask if they could help. At the bank, a man driving by yelled out, “hold on darlin’ I’m coming to help you!” He came back to my car and gallantly put the walker in my trunk. Don’t be afraid to ask for help when you really need it. True friends will be glad you asked and be glad to help. Living alone and being independent, it is very hard to admit I need help, and even harder to ask for help. When I emailed my friends and asked them if they could stay with me for a few days after my hip surgery, three ladies responded and were going to coordinate “shifts” so I had the help I needed. Two other friends are driving me to pre-op and post-op appointments until I’m cleared to drive, probably around October 17. Take the initiative to help people. Don’t wait for them to call you. Call them and ask them what they need help with. For example, my neighbor lets me know when she is going grocery shopping and asks me if I need anything. I can plan ahead, not run out of things and it saves her making a trip to the store just for me. And last but not least, trust your gut instinct and don’t be afraid to get a second opinion if you feel your doctor is failing to diagnose your problem. A little warning bell went off during my first appointment with him, but I ignored it. Even though I told him I’d sprained my knee three months earlier, I got a cookie cutter spiel about arthritis and cortisone. Thanks to **Diane Griego** who validated my concerns and urged me in no uncertain terms to go to another doctor who would order an MRI and get to the bottom of my problem.

Barbara Cunningham is collecting both new and used Christmas cards. She donates them to a local special education teacher who uses them in his classroom. He has told Barbara he can use “all the cards he can get.” The students make gift cards, which they sell at the school fundraiser. If you have cards you’d like to donate, please contact Barbara at (925) 846-8123 or barbjc1943@gmail.com. Barb has moved and here is her new address: 1782 Calle Del Rey, Livermore, CA 94551-3985. This teacher needs just the cards, no envelopes. The money they raise is for special outings like field trips and other enrichment activities for the special needs students.

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

I would like to ask all of you to cut out coupons and mail them to me at 30 San Piedras Place, San Ramon, CA 94583-3018. This is such an easy thing to do to support our troops. For the price of a first class stamp, you can get about 90 coupons in an envelope. The coupons have to say Manufacturer’s Coupon. If they come in a strip, please cut them into separate coupons. The collected coupons are then distributed to overseas military personnel for use in their commissaries. The commissaries honor them for six months after the published expiration date so expired coupons can be sent too; however, please send in coupons at least every other month so the troops have a longer time to use them. Unfortunately, manufacturers are cutting back on the coupons they are issuing, especially on food items, just when people need help the most. So anything we can send to the troops is greatly appreciated - food, nonfood, baby and pet; and current and expired.

I am so grateful for the kindness of all the RUAEA members who are helping me with this project. I have been turning in coupons every month since May 2022. On October 5, I turned in 939 coupons. Thank you so much to the members in my local RUAEA chapter and to members from all over the country who are sending coupons. All the coupon cutters are telling me that they are not getting coupons like they used to. It’s really bad in the SF Bay Area and I’m glad that other areas of the country are still able to send coupons. If it weren’t for the RUAEA folks from all over the country sending me coupons, my chapter would have very few coupons. This month I received coupons from **Mary Brennan** in MN, **Marilyn Carle** in IL, **Marilyn Evans** in CO, **Barrie Hooley** in IN, **Joyce Kadow** in AZ, **Margie Klaus** in NV, **Carol Koslosky** in NY, **Beverly McAlister** in CA, **Maureen Neidle** in IL, **Betty Ogburn** in NJ, **Russell Schleske** in CA and **Jim Taylor** in FL.

Our meetings are the first Monday of the month and we meet all 12 months of the year. Upcoming

Meetings: Please join us!

- ▲ Monday, November 4 at 11:30. Lazy Dog Restaurant, 1961 Diamond Blvd. in the Willows Shopping Center, Concord. Social hour starts at 11:30 and we eat around 12:30. Separate checks. Must RSVP to **Jan Soderstrom** at janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com or (925) 833-9184 by Friday, November 1.
- ▲ Tuesday, December 10 at 11:30. — Zio Fraedo's, 611 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill. Our annual Christmas party not to be missed. We moved the date from December 2 for several reasons. With Thanksgiving falling so late this year, people may still be traveling on December 2. Also, the RUPA Christmas meeting is on December 9. **Diane Griego** is working with the restaurant now and will have details re the menu and cost at the November meeting. We also collect Toys for Tots at this meeting. RSVP required to **Jan Soderstrom** at janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com by Friday, December 6.

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

GOLDEN GATERS

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



Well, the dog days of summer have decided to stick around – ushering in September and October saw summer still here with temperatures in the high 90's and (lucky us on this side of the Bay) 100 and higher temps in the East Bay cities. Needless to say, you do not have to buy a sweatshirt in order to stay warm this year! Our hearts go out to those in the southern states – floods, hurricanes, monumental destructions of cities, homes, food and water at a premium – and another hurricane on the horizon.

The warm weather has seen many flocking to SFO as we have many great events for you to enjoy. This is Fleet Week with the Blue Angels performing their maneuvers in the sky. Military ships you can tour and see how our sailors live while at sea. The seals have returned to Pier 39 – what a life! Lounging all day long in the sun amidst the fishing boats that supply the restaurants with delicious fresh fish meals for you to enjoy. Don't forget our famous sourdough bread! Musical events, the Hop-on-Hop-off buses you should take, then enjoy an Irish Coffee at the Bella Vista Bar to start off the evening. Dim Sum, Chinese delightful meals and the smell of chocolate wafting in the air. Street vendors galore, ball games to enjoy, super booths in the Ferry Building and more can be found all along the waterfront. Surfs' up so bring your surfboard! If you bring the grandkids, the SFO Zoo is a real treat and they have a great Merry-Go-Round! So much to see in our City By The Bay!

Our treasurer, **John Garis**, has secured our meeting room for the remainder of the year so if you are out here, come see us, we'd love to see you. 4th Monday of the month then off to a tasty meal. We are thinking of lowering our yearly dues (was this a campaign promise made by our candidate running; commandeered is a better word, for President? Will she live up to her promise?)

Here are the next meeting and luncheon dates coming up:

- ▲ **October 28** ~ Meeting in the Wind Room then off to lunch at IHOP which is located three blocks away from the Foster City Library (our meeting room.) Last time separate checks were not available so please bring cash (please bring smaller bills, make it easier for the person who will pay the bill.) A senior menu is available. Please let Ginger know if you will attend the luncheon so that the manager can plan his staffing.
- ▲ **November 25** ~ Meeting in the Wind Room and lunch at Joy Chinese Restaurant located at 1489 Beach Park Blvd., Foster City. There is an extensive menu and Lunch specials are available. Separate checks were available the last time we ate there. Turn right on Hillsdale Blvd., it becomes Beach Park Blvd. and follow it to the small mall where the restaurant is located. Chop sticks optional.
- ▲ It was voted by the members who were present that we have a Christmas Luncheon ... so ... **December 9**, a Monday, we will not have a meeting but will now meet at Bellinis' Italian Restaurant located in Foster City. This is a change of restaurants as the members present wanted this change. Do drag out those (in)famous sweaters and join us for laughter and a good time. Make sure to mark the date change on your calendars.

Membership – No birthdays to celebrate (the Fire Department says “Thank you!”) **Bill & Diane Heinrich** are celebrating their 51st anniversary – congrats you two! **Colleen Wood** is joining the new knee replacement

group – she has a helper with her while she recoups. **Pat Marsala** needs some TLC – her car is on automatic drive to the doctors! Get well ladies!

Andy King, our Jack-of-all-Trades guy- sold tickets for the raffle today. Winners of \$\$ ~ **Gary Chong** and **Patricia Niland**. Raffle goodies won (thanks to you who donated those) ~ **Bill Heinrich, Ginger Dahlberg, Dave Slater, Lydia Rolfe, Pat Ortega, and John Bogdanoff**. We had 18 people join us for lunch at Armadillo Willys' – delicious BBQ ribs or Brisket and some good hot sauce. Love their cornbread!

This wonderful, hot weather has brought out the farmers in our group – **Al Durr** has a veritable “farm” in his back yard and is producing zucchini and yellow squash. He graciously shares those with us. **Lydia Rolfe** is our tomato Lady. Growing your own tomatoes guarantees flavor ... store bought tomatoes are tasteless. Her heirloom beauties were delicious. What we really need is two or three of us to buy a cow as beef prices around here are sky-high. Can't afford a steak these days, but think about it ... the cow will be grass fed and you won't have to mow the lawn anymore. We can also spin our own wool so that we can enjoy Leg of Lamb – Don't ask the butcher to cut something for you ... “Not in my contract, sorry about that!” or “I can't operate the saw”.) The advantages and side products are endless. We could buy a boat and get our fresh fish. We could plant a coconut tree for our Mai Tai goblets! And the list goes on ...

Conundrum of the day: Did you ever wonder what disease cured ham had?

Come join us if you are in town, all United and Continental retirees are welcome - we meet on the 4th Monday of the month at 10:00am in the Wind Room at the Foster City Library, corner of Hillsdale Blvd., and Shell Blvd, Foster City, CA 94404. Note: Our mailing address is UAL-SFO Bay Area Retirees, c/o **Ginger Dahlberg**, 821 Magellan Lane, Foster City, CA 94404.



HANGTOWN MINERS

Jane Gibson
Placerville, CA
Secretary
tired-dogs@comcast.net

Here we are in September! And, as I write this, I just checked out this year's calendar – believe it or not, Halloween is 36 days away, Thanksgiving is about 2+ months and Christmas is only three months from today! Crazy, crazy! When I was younger, a Mom with two girls in multiple activities, I always knew that once month number 9 hit, the year was going to spin away from my grasp. I would say to myself, “Self, someday when the kids are out on their own, life will slow down and time won't go by so fast”. Boy, have I eaten those words! But, you know, I wouldn't have it any other way – or so I keep telling myself.

Rudy Blazius kindly waited until I finished my delicious lunch and then he jumped right into our meeting. An enthusiastic “Thank You” to **Bill & Pati Kenney** for arranging with the Lotus 8 (Chinese Cuisine) in Folsom. I think it has been quite some time since we enjoyed a good Chinese lunch. Since we didn't have any guests today, Rudy went on to inquire about birthdays ~ so, a very “Happy Birthday” to **Gina Kenworthy, Bill Kenney, Judy Fitzpatrick, and Robin Garland** – if you have that special day to celebrate in September, the greeting goes out to you too. No anniversaries this month.

President ~ Rudy brought us some info and topics for discussion – keep on reading!

Vice President ~ **JR Heier** says he didn't have any report, but he contributed along the way and ran the raffle like a true pro.

Treasurer ~ **Tom Kenny**, who normally would give us a detailed treasury report, is off on a trip with his lovely wife, **Suzanne**.

Secretary ~ **Jane Gibson** “shouted” a big “Thank You” to **Suzanne Kenny** for writing the chapter report for her last month. I wish my absence was for something like a (fancy) vacation, but, alas, we went to the final “send off” for a very dear friend. I did give some info to share – keep on reading!

Sunshine ~ As mentioned above, Suzanne and Tom are off having a good time with family on the East Coast – we'll see them in October.

Old Business ~ Remember me saying that “time is going by too fast”? Well, there is a real need for us to talk about where we want to have our December luncheon. All of the restaurants we go to are great, but in December, we like to “treat” ourselves to a little extra. The last couple of years, we have gone to the Smith Flat House. They have a separate building, with a charming stove/heater to keep us all comfortable. We tend to average around 40 members for this luncheon. This luncheon is subsidized by the Hangtown Miners, meaning we have a flat amount that each member pays (if you want to bring a guest, their meal will be full price) and then we make up the difference. Having this luncheon means that it is “catered” ... always going to cost more,

but our meals are served and we have two entrees from which to choose.

Last month (and actually before then) we asked all of you, “Where would you like to go and what would you like to eat?” We are very blessed that Tom & Suzanne are willing to go to check out various places, get the pertinent information and bring that info in to us. This year they did check out a few “other” places and found that their prices (for equivalent place and food) actually ran higher – in some cases a lot higher.

So, to hold our December luncheon at the Smith Flat House, we will have a similar selection to what we had last year. That will be:

One appetizer of seasonal flatbread

- ▲ Caesar salad
- ▲ Garlic mashed potatoes
- ▲ Choice of two entrees: Salmon –or- Prime Rib served with seasonal vegetables, dinner rolls and butter
- ▲ Specialty dessert
- ▲ Non alcoholic beverages

As with everything in our lives, prices have gone up. To have Prime Rib will cost a little more than last year. We can opt to go with something like Tri-Tip. After a show of hands, it looks like most of us would like to order the Prime Rib. That said, it was suggested that we increase our individual cost by \$2.00 over last year's \$15.00. This needs to be decided on so that the **Kennys** can make our reservation with the Smith Flat House and confirm our meal choices. **Kerry Kozelka** motioned that we go to the Smith Flat House and that we increase our members' cost to \$17.00 each. **Peggy Trebnik** seconded the motion and it passed by show of hands. Smith Flat House it will be! Thanks to Tom & Suzanne for handling this for us.

We also want to remind everyone that in December, we have traditionally brought items for two different donations. Last year we found that our December meeting happened after the toys had already been distributed! To avoid this happening again, we are asking all of you to bring the toys you pick up to be donated to the November 13th luncheon/meeting. We will continue to bring in (non-perishable) foods that will go to local families to our December luncheon/meeting on December 11th. Ann Marie will make sure that the toys get to the Marines, Rudy will handle the food.



Left Picture: Minden Organizers **Jane Gibson**, **Sue Hohl** and **Rosemary Heier**.

Right Picture: **Rudy Blazius** and **Tom Biro**.

So, Rudy asked **Jane Gibson** and **Rosemary Heier** to update all of us regarding the UAL Retired Mechanics Reunion held in Minden, NV on September 17, 18, 19. Everything is set for this fun event.

Hopefully, all of you who plan to attend have made your reservations since it is in one week! Last year a couple large groups decided to go to a local restaurant, JT Basque, on Tuesday evening. It was suggested that we do that again this year. Rudy called JT and found that we needed to “adjust” our plans as they wanted to put the whole group on one bill. So by going as smaller groups, we can avoid that – thank goodness you checked, Rudy! We decided to add a new “feature” to the reunion – this year we will have some bottles of wine to raffle off but we also have come up with three baskets of goodies to raffle as well. Since the BBQ price was raised to \$10.00, everyone will get one raffle ticket when they pay for their meal and then you can buy more if you wish. We’ve had fun with these baskets and the whole event as well.

Rudy mentioned that an interesting place to visit nearby is the Great Basin Brewing Co. in Carson City and just across the street is the Nevada Railroad Museum. Of course, there are many good places to visit in the area – plan to go and investigate!

New Business ~ Okay, it's that time of year when we need to think about whom we want to be the Hangtown Miners' officers for 2025! Yes, I did say that. Think about who you would like to hold one of the positions. In October, we will nominate someone for each of our positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Sunshine. You know, you can nominate whomever you want if you have talked to that person and they have agreed to accept the position if voted in. We will vote on the panel of nominated positions at our

November meeting.

We want to inform everyone that **Don Burbank** passed away. Don was the President of RUAEA. There was a memorial for him in Denver. We are sorry to hear of this loss and we send his family our best wishes.

Discussion ~ So, being that our luncheon/meeting is being held on a very solemn day in our country's history- the attacks of 9/11/01. Many of our members were working when this happened. Rudy asked if we remember where we were and/or what we were doing at the time the planes hit. I wasn't able to get down all the accounts, however, Rudy shared that he and friends were in Mexico golfing. Remember that they grounded all flights for three days? He and friends could not get back into the USA, let alone home. It took a lot of finagling and patience but they were finally home after renting a van and driving all the way.

So many lives were lost that day and how it has changed all of our lives in so many ways. Remember being able to go to the gates to meet someone as they came off their plane? Can't do that any longer. We have had to adjust our timing to stand in long lines to get thru security. Our grandchildren don't know of anything other than that! We all must stand strong so this will never happen to us and our country again.

I hope I have covered everything – I love that we are a lively, talkative group – though, it can make it a bit of a challenge to catch everything!

JR grabbed his box of ticket stubs and got to work. Winner of the donator's prize was **Cindy Blazius**. Thanks to all who brought items to be raffled: **Trebnik** - wine; **Blazius** - kitchen towels and accessories; **Dinette** - fragrance warmer; **Dellinger** - fresh mandarins; **Gibson** - pumpkin light; **Garland** - candle; **Heier** - mug candle; **Barton/Kozelka** - candle; **Fitzpatrick** - pizza stuff; **Akin** - eggs; **Kenney** - table decorations.

Our October luncheon will be hosted by **Chuck & Peggy Trebnik** at El Tapatio.

Rudy left us with this little "chuckle": Why is it after I push one for English, I still can't understand the person on the other end?

As the weather begins to cool off and our days become shorter, I want to caution all of you to be extra vigilant when you go out in the evenings. Whether you are heading home in the dark or you are taking your evening walk, please take extra note of your surroundings. If you're walking, watch for pot holes or raised pavement. I find that we don't "bounce" when we hit the ground but rather (I) just go "splat"!



RESANS

San Diego, CA

Barbara Drews

Secretary

sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com

This year RUAEA celebrated our 49th Reunion, RUPA celebrated 61 years and ARECA celebrated 46 years.

We felt more like a "family" as many friends and colleagues haven't seen each other since the last year's Reunion. Much time was spent catching up on newly arrived grandchildren, moving as now the family house is way too empty, new interests and hobbies.

Our last night together was our Banquet with the theme "Broadway Night" with a great menu. The American Flyboys Swing Band provided music for listening and, yes, even dancing; there were quite a few kicking up their heels on the dance floor. What a great farewell to our Reunion and a special "Thank You" to **John Cunningham** for bringing the Flyboys back for another year!

The location and dates for the 2025 Convention/Reunion will be announced by the end of the year.

Our local RESANS group will be meeting on October 10th, as we have to reschedule our monthly meeting for the Convention.

Next month we will be back to the first Thursday of November which will be on the 7th at the Pt. Loma Café, at 10:00 AM. As usual, I need your R.S.V.P to advise the Café of the numbers that will be attending. If you are visiting our lovely city, just send me a note so I can advise the Cafe of our numbers. Would love to have you visit with us if you are going to be in the San Diego area.

Birthdays for November ~ **John Cunningham** (11/3), **Bill Krefft** will be celebrating on the 16th and **Greg Krok** whose big day is the 17th.

Without further ado, we look forward to November and the forthcoming news I will be able to share with you.

If you attended the Convention, I hope all of you arrived safely home without any travel disruptions.

Calendar:

November 7 – Breakfast at Pt Loma Café. 10:00 AM.

**SACRAMENTO
GOLD DIGGERS**

Sacramento, CA
Ron Bertacini
Secretary
sgd@surewest.net



Left Picture: **Francis & Veronica Domaratius.**

Right Picture: **Jim Simon and Linda Lance.**

While the Gold Diggers did not have a meeting in September due to several members attending the Reunion in San Diego, I would like to pass on some remarks about the 2024 Reunion.

For Barbara and me, it was our 27th Convention/Reunion and one of

the best. Every one we have attended has been good and has had its unique features.

This was the fourth year at the Dana at Mission Bay, a lovely location and the hospitality was great as usual. The management and staff have been excellent over these past four years. Our attendance was slightly less than last year but with many newcomers.

The tours were good and of course, the socializing was the best. Renewing past friendships and making new friendships. It was great to see our friends from RUPA, ARECA and RAFA helping out. Chairperson **Betty Tomaino** along with **Barbara Drews** and **Rosalie Tripicchio** did an outstanding job. As in the past, **John Cunningham** arranged to have the best musical entertainment on Tuesday and Wednesday evening. We look forward to next year, 2025 and the 50th Anniversary of RUAEA, location to be determined soon.



SAN JOAQUINERS

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

Submitted by Bob Scoble

Hello Everyone,

It's a short report this month. As you know we meet in Valley Springs for our September luncheon at Good Friends restaurant. We celebrated a major milestone for **Al Svare's** 99th birthday. **Don & Joann Nesja** brought a special cake for Al and the chapter picked up lunch tab for Al & Betty. Happy Birthday, Al!

If I recall correctly, I did tell everyone that we would meet again at Good Friends restaurant in October but there's been a change; for October, Bob & Sandy are hosting us at El Torero Mexican Restaurant, 2869 W. Hwy 12 Burson, CA 95225, (209) 772 8995. We hope to see you all there on October 10th at 11am. Please remember to let Bob & Sandy know if you are going to join us. Their phone number is (209) 772-9814 or e-mail brooks8281@sbcglobal.net. Just in case you're like me and aren't familiar with Burson. The restaurant will be just a couple of miles west of Valley Springs on Hwy 12.

Several of us went to Minden, NV for the SFO Mechanic cookout. I think everyone had a good time meeting and eating and telling stories. We had hoped to see Rosie while we were there. I have no update on how she is doing other than we believe she is still in Minden and staying with family.

At Minden, one of the neighbor RUAEA chapters, the Hangtown Miners, was there and one of their members was wearing a polo shirt with the chapter logo and name. I'm thinking that our members may like to have this option; we have no idea of cost yet and we should discuss the logo.

I also plan to start collecting dues next month and start the monthly luncheon host list. We need to also select a secretary. I would much appreciate someone offering to take notes and compose the monthly newsletter.

Our monthly luncheon on October 10th at El Tortitos in Burson, CA is after the deadline of the Newsletter so we'll cover that next month.

See you in a few weeks.

SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

San Jose, CA

www.southbayruaea.org

George Midwin

1879 Foxworthy Ave.

San Jose, CA 95124

midwin5u@hotmail.com



Our meeting in October was held outside on a sunny, but a bit hot California day, in the covered section of the Bill of Fare restaurant. Our president had the meeting moved to 1100 which made it great for lunch, although some of the late risers had breakfast. Those in attendance were able to better hear president **Chuck Clayborn**, thanks to taking the initiative to purchase a new speaker system, thanks Chuck! The usual suspects were in attendance, with the exception of **Ben & Cheri Scales**.

Jean Jenkins and **Bob Mattscheck** paid a visit to long time members **Tony & Sally Urso**. Jean brought a cake to celebrate Tony's 93 birthday and reported that both are doing well. **Bill & Rosie Reichard** also paid a visit to **Ann Olthof**, who now is living in Ripon and shared a photo of her. She still looks the same.

As everyone is aware, our president Chuck will be leaving us for Arizona. We need to have someone step up and assume his position. Everyone enjoys coming out to our informal meetings, but we need someone to ensure organization on a monthly basis. For the most part, we will be contacting BJ's restaurant regarding a date for our annual Christmas luncheon, unless someone can identify another facility. The annual summer picnic will also be set up for next year, in the same manner as we did this year. So the new leader will only have the monthly meetings to prepare for. Please consider filling this position for the next year.

I provided a report of the RUAEA Reunion and some discussion about the future of RUAEA, particularly the reunion possibilities for next year. I had a great time and recommend that you attend next year. So mark you calendars for the end of September and first of October for 2025. A city has yet to be selected, but work is underway to find a suitable location.

See you Monday, Nov 2 at our monthly meeting at the Bill of Fare, 1069 Saratoga Ave, San Jose.

SOLANO FLYERS



SOLANO FLYERS

Larry Jackson

President

(707) 624-0030

larry-cindy@comcast.net

Submitted by Allan Pochop, apochop@aol.com.

The Solano Flyers met on September 24 at Bud's Restaurant in Dixon. In attendance were President **Larry Jackson**, **Chauncy Blaine**, **Gene Boyce**, **Rudy Arsaga**, **Diosnel & Luci Perez**, **Eileen & Pad Gardner**, and **Allan Pochop**.

Birthday ~ None this month.

Anniversary ~ None this month.

Winner of the 50/50 (both halves) was **Eugene Boyce**. It pays to be a winner.

Next month's luncheon will be at the Point Restaurant in Rio Vista.

If I got 50 cents for every math test I failed, I'd have \$6.30

COLORADO

DENVER MILE HIGHERS

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



Submitted by Michael Malesardi



For the past several years, United has put together a celebration of recently retired mechanics. This is held at the Adams County Fairgrounds; the park is a great location with a covered area for the catered barbecue.

This is put together by **Barb Donohue** and a team of volunteers. Previously retired mechanics are welcome to attend. This always brings a good group to visit with coworkers and catch up on continuing friendships.

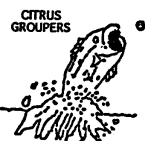
This year was another perfect weather day and was enjoyed by all the attendees. Barb does a fantastic job of setting up and coordinating the festivities. The food is very good and the area clean. Prior to holding the event, an email goes out and you can select if you are coming and how many in your party. This

makes sure there is always enough food and everyone can have a nice meal with good friends.

Meeting current retirees in person and congratulating them on a career well done is a high point for everyone. Thank you Barb for another well-done event!

Our next meeting will be November 7th at 11:00 at Tedz Place Restaurant in Commerce City. Address: 5271 E. 52nd Ave., Commerce City; (303) 287-7544. There will not be a meeting in October due to the reunion.

FLORIDA



THE CITRUS GROUPERS THE VILLAGES

Julius "Joe" DiStaso
(941) 661-2215
wopahofl@gmail.com

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.



THE ORLANDO REAL McCOYS

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

After standing for the Pledge, we got right down to business and made our commitments for food for the picnic, which will be held on Tuesday, November 5th at Cypress Grove Park on Holden Avenue.

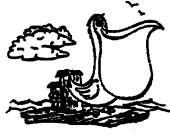
The Christmas Luncheon location at Maggiano's and the cost was approved unanimously by all 19 members present. Tuesday, December 10th, from noon – 3pm as in year's past, is the confirmed date and time!

President Al shared that in "flyingtogether.com", today's article confirmed that the first plane with supplies for those hit by Hurricane Helene, was a United Airlines flight. Those of us in Orlando were lucky with this one, but the season is definitely not over yet.

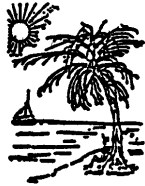
Our Birthday Cakes for October included: 17th - **Al Fields**, 24th - **Elaine Tillman-Mannella**, 25th - **Connie Lenard** and **Mack Chandler**, 26th - **Cheryl Vosges**, and 30th - **Lois Fields**. None would admit which birthday age they were! Ho!

SW PELICANS DROP-INS

Ray Jensen
(239) 888-2744
rmmjensen@msn.com



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



TAMPA BAY CHAPTER

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

September meeting was held on the 9th with 7 members in attendance. We welcomed back **Frank & Helen**. Happy Birthday to **Linda** - she and **Pete** went on a cruise for her birthday.

Also, Happy Birthday to Jan - she had a hurricane for her birthday; we are not happy, Helene. **Kevin** had water in his place.

Five members attended our October 7th meeting. We just socialize and waiting for Hurricane Milton.

Calendar:

November 4 – IHOP, 10:30

December 11 – Christmas Luncheon at Outback Steakhouse at 1:00PM. More information will be forthcoming.

TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL
Al Popek
President
ualpbi@att.net



The Treasure Coast Chapter met in late September due to scheduling problems. It is with deep sadness that we report our Chapter recently lost three members: **Arnold "Arnie" Lakso**, **Bruce Jacobs**, and **Truman Barker**. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families with all our sympathy.

We started our meeting with the Pledge Of Allegiance and enjoyed our cocktails and lunch at Carmines. It's become our favorite meeting place. A hot topic at the meeting was the letters two members received about the different choices offered for the 2025 health options. I hope it was well explained at the recent Reunion in San Diego. The big question was why didn't everyone get the letter?

The 50/50 was won by **Dave Damon**; congratulations Dave.

November Birthdays ~ **Sharon Kirk** (11/1), **Mary Kay Wetherington** (11/4), and **Dee Lakso** (11/15). Happy Birthday to all!

November Anniversaries ~ **Diane & Paul Liebisch**. Congratulations!

Our next meeting will be our Christmas Party on December 9 at 12 Noon at Carmines in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. Mark your calendars.

The Treasure Coast Chapter wants to express our thoughts to the Chapters and their families who were affected by the terrible destruction caused by Hurricane Helene. As I am writing this chapter report, we are waiting for the monster Hurricane Milton to arrive here in Florida. May the Good Lord help everyone dealing with both Hurricanes!

IDAHO



BOISE GEMS

Shirley Dempsey
rickshirley.dempsey@gmail.com

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

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO SKYLINERS

www.chicagoskyliners.org

Chicagomainliner.com

Jan Gawenda

(847) 917-9586

jawenda@gmail.com



November—The beginning of ‘eat all you want’ season, until January 2, 2025. Wait, did I say, 2025? How did that happen? We’re up to 2025? We lived this long? Oh my God, I must have slept through the last five years. That Tick-Tock clock and calendar are going way too fast. If I knew this, I would’ve held on to my teen years a little longer. No, I guess not, at that age and younger, all we want to do is grow up, get a job, get a car, get a boyfriend, get an apartment, travel and have wild and crazy times. Life goes on; it’s been that way forever.

So, November 11, Veterans Day, paying homage to the end of the First World War. The eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the 11th month of 1918, at Compiegne, France. A celebration to honor America’s veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good. The Poppy Campaign runs from October 25 to November 11 by the VFW. They are worn to honor those who have served and died in war, and to support veterans and their families.

Then on the fourth Thursday of November, the 28th this year, we celebrate the early settlers getting together with the Native Americans to observe a good harvest between them and celebrate a ‘meeting of the minds’, and food, so to speak, learning to live together. Did they really have pumpkin pies? If you’re not baking anymore, there are many good bakeries that are still making them. Must have been hard back then to accept the Europeans coming into their land and disrupting their customs and observances. Adjusting and adapting, good words to live by back then, still a good practice. Some places, we’re still trying to do that.

My next favorite day is Black Friday when all the shopping fools go to the malls and neighborhood stores and look for bargains to give your favorite relatives and friends. I’ll be honest, I used to do this for years, loved it, but then life changes, health, age, just not fun like when I was only 68. The stores are getting smart now, offering Black Friday days earlier in the month to spoil our fun and fighting with total strangers for that perfect blouse, pants or package of six underwear for the men in your life. Oh yes, the perfect gift at a low price for all our favorite loved ones. I have a big hint, gift cards, or cash. Marvelous idea, especially for adults, if you still exchange. Don’t waste your time. It took me years to realize some people just don’t like my choices of gifts. Good, let them buy their own. Cheaper on the 26th anyway.

Another important day this month is November 5, election day. Do your research, choose wisely and show up on the 5th. Any channel, any newscaster is saying the same thing, this is probably one of the most important elections in our lifetime, don’t forget to vote. I think they’ve said that the last 4-5 elections. But it is your right to vote, then you can’t complain. I heard they’re even letting women vote now! Thank goodness for those suffragists in the early 1900’s.

Another day to remember is Clock Changing Day, November 3, Spring Forward, Fall Backwards. Push that big hand backward, to the left. You Gain an hour of sleep, eating, or just plain having fun! It’s also a good day to change the batteries in your clock, fire alarm, and carbon monoxide thingie.

The full moon this month is called the Beaver moon. With cold weather coming, the early settlers had to protect themselves and family with the skins of the beavers, a nice plush fur. It will also be a Super Moon, which means it will be closer to the earth, just like in September. The flower is the chrysanthemum, (try that in a spelling bee). The gems are the topaz and citrine. Both stones come in gold, yellow colors, but citrine shows

positivity and promotes success and good fortune. Topaz represents healing, love and affection, befitting the wearer with improved health and wellbeing. It also comes in a stunning blue.

The Northside breakfast only had four people, **Dave Dunham** and his angels, **Maria Sealock-Weber**, **Deb Jaret**, and **Dona Nefczyk**. They had some good conversations with just the four. You really get to talk to each other when there's a small number. The ORDMM mechanics had about seven, **LB Neal**, **Frank Wenig**, **Jim Kraft**, **Rich Protsman**, **Don Kramlich**, **Fred Seibert** and **Walt Chornomaz**.

The ORDMM Foremen had a few surprises show up. **Dave & Judy Stoves** came in from Florida. **John Schnittker** drove in from Arlington Heights. Thanks to you all, it's been a while, so good to see you. The others include **Stan Chmielewicz**, **Glenn Hill**, **Bob Smietanski**, **Tom Abraham**, and **Jan Gawenda**.

The RUPA group met at the Golf Club of Illinois, and had about 50 members and guests. The speaker for the afternoon was present UAL captain, **Brian Wilke**, former F-111 captain, who flew this aircraft out of England when he was involved with Operation Desert Shield. Guest **Dan Thurnau**, was a F-111 simulator instructor, friend of Brian. Another guest was ORDMM **Larry Smith**, who taxied aircraft to and from the terminal and hangar. Also present were captain **Noel Crawford** and **Liz Burton** from Tennessee, and captain **John Vanderwest** from Oregon. How wonderful these folks came in from near and far. Captain **Tom Helms** passed out some copies of the ORD area that he made, dated 1930 to 1932. Only the train tracks and roads were there, but no Orchard Field, yet.

Local Lodge 1487 had their October meeting with a special luncheon in honor of **Ken Thiede**, who died September 12. He held many positions in the local, and a union member for 65 years. Everybody at ORD knew Ken and respected him. I never heard a negative word about him. His presence just made people smile, it transferred to all. There were over 120 people at the lunch, family, members, friends, and union dignitaries. A catered lunch was served by the Local Board Women's Committee; District 141 and 1487 generously contributed to the cost of the lunch. It was a beautiful send off for one of the most valuable members and kind persons we've ever known. His earlier church service was attended by hundreds of people. **Tony Liccardi**, president of the Lodge, announced there would be a plaque put on the front entrance and the name of the Lodge would be changed from World Air Capital Lodge 1487, to **Kenneth W. Thiede** World Air Capital Lodge 1487. I tell you, lots of moist eyes in that room after that announcement. I also heard a gasp of happiness and approval. Thanks for that honor goes to **Tony** and **Dave Roderick**, for being involved in that change. Too bad Ken wasn't there to see all the adulation and good words said about him. He would've laughed, even blushed and said, 'Gee, thanks.' Next month's meeting on November 7, will be a Brown Bag Bingo. Bring your favorite bagged lunch, and afterward play two games of Bingo, for \$1.00. The Christmas Luncheon will be held on December 5, at the Seville, in Streamwood. The choices are beef, chicken and fish. There is an extra charge for the Prime Rib of \$10.00. It would be appreciated if money and envelopes with names be turned in at this meeting.

Our fellow workers that have Flown West last month: **Sandy Ides** ORDCS/CTO, **Joe Herold**, OPBOP/ORDMM/SFOLM, and **Ken Thiede**, ORDMM/IAM Rep 1487.

Personalities gone from our world, Sports, Ed Kranepool, (Mets), Mercury Morris, (Dolphins), Pete Rose, (Cincinnati Reds), Dikembe Mutombo, (NBA Denver/Atlanta), Greg Landry, coach of the Bears, Singers, Frankie Beverly, (blues singer), Tito Jackson, (Jackson Five), Kris Kristofferson, (singer, actor, composer, Me and Bobby McGee), Will Jennings, (Looks Like we Made it), Cissy Houston, (Sweet Inspirations, Whitney's mother), Actors, John Amos, (Good Times), John Ashton, (Beverly Hills Cop), Drake Hogestyn, (Days of our Lives), Kathryn Crosby, (Sinbad, Bing's wife), Chad McQueen (Karate Kid & Steve's son), Christopher Ciccone, (dancer, Madonna's brother), two of the greatest actors, James Earl Jones 93, (Star Wars, Field of Dreams, Lion King etc), Maggie Smith 89, (Downton Abby, Pride of Miss Jean Brody), Business people, Walt Ehmer, (Waffle House), Tony Durpetti, (Gene & Georgetti), Mary McFadden, (fashion designer). We should also give our sympathies to all of our fellow citizens in the Southeast part of the country who have been affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton. God, please help those people and their families that have been affected by this destruction and death.

I'd like to add a few words about **Ken Thiede**. He was on the Chicago Skyliners as long as I can remember. Ken was on our Board and also a luncheon planner, secretary and all around helper. I personally don't know what I would have done without his suggestions, help, and advice all of these years. As far as I can remember, he was with at least 4-5 past presidents. Even when he left the Board, he was there to help me with advice and guidance. Our deepest sympathies go to his wife, Ellen, son, Jim and their families. He was a wonderful and caring husband, father, grandfather and friend. Ken lived a life of faith, hope and love. He did everything with tremendous joy. I'll always remember his uproarious laugh. He's probably at the Right hand of God, giving

Him advice now too. Maybe asking Him, "Is that the best way to handle that situation? I have an idea." I wouldn't doubt it.

Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Rose Garden Restaurant, 9:00AM, 800 E. Higgins Rd., corner of Higgins and Scott St., Elk Grove, (**November 14**), second Thursday of the month.

IAM 1487 Lunch, 1487 Lodge, 50 W. Oakton St., Des Plaines, (**November 7**) 11:00AM. First Thursday.

ORDMM Breakfast - Maxfield's, 9:00AM, Plum Grove & Schaumburg Rds. (**November 21**). Third Thursday.

RUPA Lunch - Nick's Pizza, 11:00, 856 Pyott Rd., Crystal Lake. (**November 12**).

Skyliners Fall Luncheon, Belvedere, 11:00, 1170 W. Devon Ave, Elk Grove, (**December 10**)

INDIANA



INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN

Frank N. Ingegno

(317) 428-7741

figenius@sbcglobal.net

Our latest chapter meeting was held on September 10th. Those in attendance were **Bob & Myrtle Duty, Frank Ingegno and Ron Bretherick**. No new business or events were discussed.

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

Our future meetings schedule:

➤ **November 12** at Emmy's

➤ **December 10**, Christmas Luncheon, location TBD

For more information, please contact **Frank Ingegno**, (317) 428-7741, 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



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

MICHIGAN



GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Detroit, MI

Gwen Dyc-Schwendenmann

(248) 667-9258

bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net

Recently, we were notified that **Trudy Jewel Hall** passed away in July. She retired from DTWRR after over 40 years of service. We have no other information at this time. She was an experienced quilt maker and an avid golfer. What a great gal. We really will miss her at our Domino get-togethers.

We also heard that **Pat Kain Klein**, retired United DTWRR and DTWCS, passed away on September 22, 2024. There will be a memorial gathering on Saturday, October 19, 2024 beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home Chapel until the time of her funeral service at 12:00 p.m. We have no further information.

We are in the process of reorganizing and updating our retiree contact list for DTWRR. If you would like to be contacted and advised of any activities and retiree information, please contact **Marguerite Venn** who is temporarily coordinating the contact list. Please send: Name, Phone Number (please indicate if text is ok), and Email address to mptv85@gmail.com.

Feel free to let others know to contact her if they would like to be included in the new list. We are also looking for anyone that might be interested in being the go to person for this project on a permanent basis. Please advise Marguerite.

Thoughts for the month: *"Time and friends are two things that become more valuable the older we get."*

We are no longer at an age to postpone anything.

NEBRASKA

OMAHA GOLDENEARS



Jan Cornish
4602 N. 134th Ave.
Omaha, NE 68164
(402) 619-9927
kcornish6031@msn.com

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

NEVADA

LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

Arlene McCroy
apolloguy@aol.com



Sadly, the Las Vegas Silverliners lost a wonderful member. **Bob Levy**, SFOKF, passed away in September, after a battle with Covid. Bob and his wife, **Ingeborg**, were longtime and active members.

Our Holiday Party will be on Thursday, November 21, 11:30 AM, at the Durango Hills Golf Club. All UA/CO retirees and friends are welcome to join us.

For more information, please contact **Mary Chandler**, (702) 382-0669, honolulumary06@yahoo.com, or **Arlene McCroy**, (702) 273-0800, apolloguys@aol.com.



RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

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

We did not hold a regular meeting in September. Six members – the **Leusings**, the **Robbins** and the **Zobolis** got together at Murrieta's Mexican Restaurant for our end of summer lunch. The weather is starting to cool down; Fall is coming. Everyone enjoyed indulging in chips and salsa and Mexican food. Unfortunately, the **Klemms** were unable to join us; poor Herb was t-boned by a crazy lady. It appears he is not seriously hurt, which is a good thing. There were several witnesses. We will hear all about his encounter with this person at our next meeting.

Larry & Barbara Leusing were off on another adventure the next day. They were headed to Sonoma first, then Italy to visit family and then on to Tunisia on a group tour.

The SFO Maintenance gathering was held again in Minden, NV at the Carson Valley Inn. John and I did not go to the picnic. The weather was threatening rain for the first time in a long time.

Thank you to **Barbara Leusing** for contacting Murrieta's Mexican Restaurant and making reservations for our September 9th gathering.

Pat Zoboli has confirmed our Christmas Luncheon date with the Peppermill for Monday, December 2 at 11:30 a.m. Lunch to be served at 12:00 p.m. Menus will be distributed at our October meeting, with selections and pre-payment due at our November meeting.

The September birthdays are **John Zoboli** and **John Roe**.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 15 at 11:00 am at the Black Bear Diner on S. Virginia St. See you there!

NEW JERSEY

THE GARDEN STATERS

Newark, New Jersey

Marty Etler

Brandywine Room 115

814 Wyckoff Ave., Mahwah, NJ 07430

(551) 795-7266

MartyEtler@outlook.com



The meeting was opened with a flag salute led by the President. Thankfully, there was no passing of our people to be recognized.

There was plenty of talk at the tables about old times, and honestly what can be better than that.

John Bummra won the door prize; **Kathy Daily** won the 50/50, but donated it back to our meager treasury.

As usual, there will not be a luncheon in November; however, our next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 30. Keep December 4 in mind as it will be our Christmas luncheon; please make an all out effort to be there.

Just as a side note, United flew 44 million passengers in the second quarter of this year and this amounted to an average of 565,000 passengers per day. Can anyone think about this?

Our Garden Staters Chapter was started by **George Whitman** in March, 1994; and we're still going like a set of new batteries.

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

Donna Feingold

(516) 679-9152

djf509@aol.com



NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

After The Pledge of Allegiance, **Ed Pozzi** gave us the information about our Christmas celebration December 4. With limited space, reservations must be made by November 27. Email either wrenchman730@gmail.com (Ed) or djf509@aol.com (Donna).

It was nice to see **Nick Manfredo, Frank Ferrara, and George Riggi** once again at our luncheon. **John Green** was missing due to a hand injury which prevented him from driving; we hope it is healed by next month.

Celebrating October anniversaries are **Roberta & Nick Manfredo, Diane & Barry Carlson, Geraldine & Peter Korsch, Rosemarie & Donald Arnoni.**

Happy Birthday to **Angie Paris, Marilyn Holdsworth, Kathryn Richardson, and Ray Forster!**

Hope to see you at our next luncheon on November 6.

Calendar:

November 6 – Our next luncheon at Davenport Press.

OHIO

OHIO BUCKEYES

Cleveland, OH

ualohbuckeyes@gmail.com



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

OREGON

OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland

Terry Hotchkin

(360) 907-3868

tthotchkin@gmail.com



We had 25 folks attend our September meeting. Good food and great conversations were enjoyed by all. It was great to see **Harold Miller**; he came all the way from Myrtle Point. He just happened to be the only man in attendance with a September birthday, so he has a free lunch coming; hopefully, we will see him again soon. There were no women with September birthdays in attendance. **John & Anita Donaldson** came down from Tacoma, and Anita won the 50/50. Guess you had to travel a few hours or more to win something this month! We had two anniversaries: **Chris & Penny Korbe** (60 years) and **Dave & Pat Smith** (58 years).

And now for a little humor, with some philosophy thrown in occasionally, to make your day pass with a little more fun!

- ☺ To sew or not to sew – What a stupid question!
- ☺ Blessed are the quilters, for they shall be called *piecemakers*.
- ☺ Fall is here. The trees are about to show us how lovely it is to let things go.
- ☺ I understand being a responsible adult ... but every day? Every single day? That really seems a bit excessive!
- ☺ One does not stop buying books just because there is no more shelf space.
- ☺ It's not hoarding if it's books.
- ☺ One day you will look back and realize that you worried too much about things that don't really matter.
- ☺ The older I get, the less I care about what others think of me. Therefore, the older I get, the more I enjoy life.
- ☺ 99% of a child's awesomeness comes from their grandmother ... just saying.
- ☺ I'm so old that I remember multiplication was called "Times Tables".
- ☺ Things I am Super Good At:
 - Forgetting someone's name 10 seconds after they tell me.
 - Buying produce ... and throwing it away two weeks later.

- Digging through the trash for the food box I just tossed, because I already forgot the directions.
 - Making plans, then immediately regretting making plans.
 - Leaving laundry in the dryer until it wrinkles. Then turning on the dryer to dewrinkle. Then forgetting it again.
 - Calculating how much sleep I'll get if I can just "fall asleep right now".
 - ☺ I put a flannel shirt on my cat. Now it's a Plaid-a-puss.
 - ☺ I have a **huge** to do list. I just can't figure out who's going to do it.
 - ☺ As you get older, three things happen. The first is your memory goes, and I can't remember the other two.
 - ☺ I'll never be okay with donut shops cutting a hole in my donut, then charging me separately for the same hole that they robbed me of!
 - ☺ I accidentally punched myself in the face while trying to pull my blanket up and if that doesn't accurately describe my life, I don't know what does.
 - ☺ I don't think it's age that makes us forgetful. I just think there's too much stupid crap to remember.
 - ☺ I wish everything was as easy as getting fat.
 - ☺ I used to wonder why people paid a fortune for small bottle of Evian water, until I read the label backwards and then it made sense!
 - ☺ It takes 7 seconds for food to pass from mouth to stomach. A human hair can hold 6.6 pounds. The length of a penis is 3 times the length of the thumb. The femur is as hard as concrete. A woman's heart beats faster than a man's. Women blink 2 times as much as men. We use 300 muscles just to keep our balance when we stand. A woman has read this entire text. A man is still looking at his thumb.
 - ☺ I find it quite amazing how clean the house gets when I'm really pissed off!
 - ☺ In the last 11 years, 115 people died in weightlifting accidents at the gym. In the same 11 years, only 1 person died eating a donut. Make good choices people!
 - ☺ Is it okay to drink Mimosas during meal prep on Sundays? Asking for a friend.
 - ☺ Shopping with your husband is like hunting with a game warden.
 - ☺ My to do list:
 - ❖ Drink coffee
 - ❖ Try not to kill anyone
 - ❖ Repeat 1 & 2
 - ☺ I never run with scissors. Ok, those last two words were unnecessary.
 - ☺ Senior Citizens Texting Codes:
 - ▲ ATD = At the doctors
 - ▲ BFF = Best Friend's Funeral
 - ▲ BYOT = Bring Your Own Teeth
 - ▲ FWIW = Forgot Where I Was
 - ▲ GGPBL = Gotta Go, Pacemaker Battery Low
 - ▲ IMHO = Is My Hearing Aid On
 - ▲ TTYL = Talk To You Louder
 - ▲ ROFLACGU – Rolling On Floor Laughing And Can't Get Up
 - ☺ Cow farts come from the Dairy Air ... ok, I'm done.
- Until next month!

Calendar:

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

October 10

2nd Thursday of every month.

PENNSYLVANIA

THE INDEPENDENTS

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



Hello from Philly!

We are happy to get back to our luncheons. Ours will resume next Monday, the 14th of October. It will be nice to see everyone again. Our last luncheon was in June.

The birthdays for November are **Harold Turney** and **William Vacca**.

I'm sorry to say we did not get to the SAN Reunion due to back problems. I'm sure it was a success. So until next month, be safe!

PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

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



There is no report this month from the Pittsburgh Pit-Stoppers chapter of RUAEA.

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
Ken Storey
(206) 244-9026



There is no report this month from the Emerald City Slickers chapter of RUAEA.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE DULLES LOUNGERS

Washington, D.C.
Mari McColl
Past President
marimccoll@aol.com



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

NATIONAL

CLIPPED WINGS



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

Clipped Wings® had our wonderful biennial 55th Clipped Wings® convention in St. Louis, MO from September 17-20! The actual hotel was in quaint and historic St. Charles, MO where we had a meaningful and exciting gathering. Around 100 members were in attendance from 24 chapters. We are so grateful for the efforts of our STL Chapter to host this amazing event.

At our conventions, we conduct business meetings where we make important decisions about our 501(c) (3), our National Philanthropy which is Special Olympic Parent Grants, hold elections, and of course, have a lot of fun!

I have the honor of becoming the new National President so this will be my last RUAEA article. I have enjoyed reporting for the last two years on interesting and important issues while spreading the good news of Clipped Wings®. Your new Clipped Wings® correspondent is **Kathy Freeman**, a current flight attendant based in EWR! She is our new National Vice President and is looking forward to this new role.

Our current Secretary and Treasurer, **Sandy Hahn** and **Roxine Lukens**, respectively, have both generously agreed to stay on in their positions. We gratefully thank our outgoing President **Peggy Griffin** who has been on the Executive Board for six years.

It “takes a Village” as they say to run this important organization and we thank all those who make it run smoothly and efficiently. “Behind the Scenes” we have over 1000 members and 32 additional advisors and chairmen who make a difference! Kudos to you all! If you know anyone interested in joining our group, please check us out at unitedclippedwingsinc.org, Facebook, and Instagram.



NEW MEMBERS

The following new members joined RUAEA during the month of **September 2024**:

Aleta Bailey, Los Angeles, CA
Carl Blades, Broken Arrow, OK
Howard Penley, El Paso, TX
Thomas Reinert, Spring, TX
Enrico Santamaria, Trabuco Canyon, CA
Howard Allen West, Playa Del Rey, CA

CONTRIBUTIONS

We appreciated monetary contributions from the following members during the month of **September 2024**:

Ronald G. Baker, Thomas Badon, Randy Benson, Carl Blades, Florence Book, Diane Brodis, Marian Bruns, Virginia A. Burke, Lorraine Barbara Butow, Joanne Cote-Carlsen, Kathleen Donehower, James F. Ferrance, Dorislee H. Guckert, Jim Hurst, Irene A. Jarmulska, David H. Keefer, Arthur C. Kruegel, June Linhart, Lillian Mallstrom, Prunella Maneau, Jone Angell Manley, Libby Perkins, Joseph Pero, Thomas Reinert, Richard A. Romshe, Barbara L. Rothermal, Enrico Santamaria, Robert Schwartz, Ernestine Sculerati, Alfred A. Veryssel, Marian M. Wickersham, and John H. Zoboli.

OBITUARIES

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

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

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

- Spouse – **Bogucki, Marilyn Frances**, 1/10/2024, wife of 64 years to Bronislau (Ben) Bogucki, TPACG, Benbow Rd., Strongsville, OH 44136
- Retiree – **Hansen, Walter F.**, on 9/10/2024, DENMM, husband of Virginia (Vee) C. Hansen, 419 S. Victor Way, Aurora, CO 80012
- Retiree – **Hesser, Inge G.**, DOD 2024, ORDCS, friend of Anna Wozniak, ORDCS, 14625 W. Via Montoya, Sun City West, AZ 85375
- Spouse – **Johnson, Doris**, on 8/13/2024, wife of Clyde E. Johnson, OPBOP, 967 N. County Road 440, Manistique, MI 49854
- Spouse – **Lakso, Doris**, on 6/25/2024, wife of Arnold E. Lakso, BOSMM (deceased), mother of Kristin Hughes, Kari Ann and son Jonathan, 4520 NE 15th Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33334
- Retiree - **McKinney, Jack F.**, on 7/30/2024, SFOCE, husband of Sidnee McKinney, 217 Calaveras Ct., Roseville, CA 95747
- Retiree – **Sherrod, Keith M.**, on 6/13/2024, SFOOV/SFOPD, husband of Donna J. Sherrod, father of Shari Merkle, Kenneth Sherrod and Grandfather of Amanda Merkle, 182 Mill Valley Circle South, Sacramento, CA 95835
- Spouse – **Venard, James L.**, on 8/20/2024, DENCg, husband of Marilyn J. Venard, DENTK, 12539 W. Crestline Dr., Littleton, CO 80127
- Retiree – **Wade, William**, on 5/24/2024, DTWCS, husband of Camille Wade, 5744 N. Charlesworth Street, Dearborn Heights, MI 48127

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:

Linda Alhouse, Bernadette Boyce, Ronald Brown, Marge Caliendo, Patricia Conrad, Jackie Corr, Diane Douglas, Jo Ann Greenwood, Patricia Guerin, Evan Holly, Thomas Hunter, Clyde Johnson, Vera Kina, Salvador Luna, Joseph Pettrow, Joyce Pfeifer, Barb Lovell Reid, Terry Tidmore, and Cindy White.

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.)

Barry Constantine, 3049 Romaza, Carlsbad, CA 92009

I hope you all are well and planning to be here in San Diego for the reunion.

We have had a very warm summer but if you have seen around, very cold and very hot ones. However, the cooling trend has begun, so the reunion will be seeing nice weather.

I have included my dues for this year. I have been on the lookout for the label reminder, but I must have missed it. I have included some extra for the postage fund, as I really appreciate the report you folks put into the newsletter.

Thanks for all the information about new procedures for pass travel and also company changes and new destinations.

We are so lucky that United is not being stagnant and we have so many new places to pick for vacation travel.

Keep up the good work that you all do for us old timers. It is really appreciated.

Gerald Vann, 13215 Michigan Ave, Huntely, IL 60142

Enclosed is a check for my annual dues and for postage.

All your hard work is so appreciated. I am grateful to you for putting the newsletter together and keeping us informed.

I have been retired since 1996. Things of life and at United have changed so much.

I am glad to have wonderful memories and friends from the years working at United.

Thanks for all that you do.

Notes

Florence Book

It's great keeping up-to-date with United through the newsletter. Thanks for all that you do to keep us informed.

Ernestine Sculerati

I have been very busy with DAR in being the Leadership Coordinator for NJ State DAR and being on the Board of my local chapter. Being a United employee helped me to work and deal with people.

Robert Schwartz

We continue to live in Tuscaloosa, AL near our daughter and son in law. They own and operate the Bama B&B near the U of Alabama campus. We lived there and ran it from 2015-17 after they opened it.

When it became a full time job, we moved and bought us a home, Yvonne continues to bake all the homemade cookies that they serve their guests.

We have 10 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren but don't get to visit them often as Yvonne is on her fourth year of chemo with no immune system. We can't travel any longer but do enjoy reading the RUAEA Newsletter cover to cover.

Thank you so very much for the faithful volunteers who volunteer for the organization and the Newsletter, we appreciate it very much.

Joseph Pero

Oops! Almost forgot to renew my membership. As the years go by, it seems to get busier and busier than ever, with all sorts of doctor appointments.

I (we) depend on the newsletter for info on our former co-workers, present and past. It seems that we see fewer names that we remember from my days with UAL at EWRSW and OPBSK. Time just marches on and stops for nobody.

Thanks for all you do (I say that at each renewal) but what else can you say? Everyone working on the newsletter is committed to do whatever it is to get the latest info to all retirees. I miss dealing with F/A's on a daily basis but that's life.

I have been retired since 2/28/2001 and am making the best of life, although a bit slower than 24 years ago.

Barbara Paresa

Reading the newsletter allows me to stay in touch with many old friends I met while working at UAL.

Wesley J. Roak

I'm still traveling and getting around on my own.

Rosemarie Schaeffer

I will see you at the convention.

Diane Brodis

I worked at NYCRR and LGACS for 33 years. I live in FL now and do not miss the frigid, snowy NY winters. I'm enjoying retirement since 2002.

I traveled and cruised a lot for about 14 years ... slowed down now due to some health issues. I belong to the Treasure Coast chapter of RUAEA since I retired. I've met wonderful people from various job groups, airports and cities. We enjoy lunch and keeping up with the happenings at United.

June Linhart

Just trying, to stay au courant.

Enrico Santamaria

I'm currently a member of RUPA, glad to join RUAEA after attending the 2023 Reunion in San Diego.

Ronald G. Baker

Congratulations to those that produce the Newsletter; you do a great job. After enjoying my 35.6 years with UAL, I volunteered at Northwest Community Hospital in Arlington Heights, IL for 29 years. Completing two careers. I am very fortunate that my 93 years allowed me to do that.

Janice A. Blackburn

Love receiving the newsletter to keep up what's going on at United and the people I used to work with!

James F. Ferrance

I retired in 2001 after 32 years with United. I have been a RUAEA member since then and truly enjoy the tremendous work the RUAEA folks do to keep us all in touch. Many thanks to you all!

**DON'T MISS IMPORTANT PHONE
NUMBERS AND PHOTOS FROM THE
2024 REUNION ON THE PAGES
BELOW**

The Contact Column



United Airlines Benefits Center (Central Time)

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

United Employee Service Center

1-877-825-3729

1-847-825-3729 - International Use

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

For flight information and to list or change listing

Password for Pass Line –your birthday, mmddyy

\$25 fee to create new booking

Employee Travel Center

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

United Airlines Technical Service Desk

1-800-255-5801

For Flying Together password assistance

Do not use for pass travel questions

Insurance Questions-see number on back of your insurance card

PBGC - for all retiree pension questions

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

Social Security Administration

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

Alliant Credit Union

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

Malcolm Horn, CFP®, Financial Consultant

Alliant Retirement & Investment Services

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

(F) (773) 462-3669, mhorn@alliantcreditunion.com

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)

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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 Manager:
Michael Malesardi
Phone Number: (303) 780-5022
-or-
RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433
Email: ruaea@qwestoffice.net

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

Additional \$5.00 per year for both paper and Web deliveries. Note that this option is not available for Life Members.
Applications can be obtained via email, US mail or from www.ruaea.org. 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 NOTICE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID."



United Airlines Historical Foundation

"Preserving the Past,
Inspiring the Future"

At the United Historical Exhibit in Denver TK; in addition to Historic United and Continental Pilot and Flight Attendant uniforms, Advertising Videos, Aviation Books and other Training Material, including a Link Trainer. We also have these Historic Toys for Children:

- ❖ A United Flight Attendant "Barbie Doll".
- ❖ A United "Barbie's Friend Ship" Airplane Cabin. On the left is the Airplane's "fabric United Tail".
- ❖ A "Barbie's Friend Ship" Airplane Cabin.
- ❖ Detail of "Barbie's Friend Ship" Airplane Cabin including a F/A work station.



The UAHF Board of Directors voted to have the **William S. Arnott** Scholarship Fund (chaired by **Dale Dopkins**, UAL Captain ret) to be sent as an Endowment to Southern Illinois University for university aviation students.

After some other contributions to the Fund were made, the total of \$25,000 was recently transferred to S.I.U. This is in memory of UAL Captain **Bill Arnott** for his tireless organizational and financial efforts to establish UAHF years ago along with the Scholarship Program.

Any Scholarship donations can now be made directly to S.I.U: Southern Illinois University Foundation – Colyer Hall – Mail Code 6805 – 1235 Douglas Drive, Carbondale, IL 62901.

Also, we are again requesting donations to the United Airlines Historical Foundation. The Historical Exhibit is located on the first floor in Room A-104 of the Denver Flight Training Center in Denver. We volunteers are at the Exhibit every Friday. This is the day all new First Officers get their wings and also includes Captain upgrades. They are there with their families and other guests. We are able to give them a thorough tour of the artifacts including an Audio-Visual Room and a Library. We are a 501 (c) (3) organization. All donations can be sent to: United Airlines Historical Foundation; 7401 E. Martin Luther King Blvd.; Room A-104; Denver, CO 80207 ■

Check your mailing label for Renewal Information

\$30 Domestic Subscription

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



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We had fun at the 2024 San Diego Reunion!



**RUAEA
Board Meeting**

L to R: Dave Garland, George Midwin, Mary Jane Stewart, Hank Gosselin, Rosalie Tripicchio, Ruth Morabito, Ron Bertacini, Chris Johnston, Chuck Cole, Virgil Gooselaw, Martha Gooselaw



*Judy Schweppe, Jaki Laflure,
Judy Page, and Theresa Odell*



*Ellen & Gary Chong, Zane & Bruce
Shropshire, Cathy & Gerry Sims*