



Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

WWW.RUAEA.ORG



ISSUE NO. 557

JANUARY 2021

The Writers' Column ~ Thoughts of an Old Man

By Bob Duensing

Identity Crisis ~ My wife and I have always been curious about our ancestry. So recently we had our DNA tested to settle the matter. In my case, this little experiment didn't exactly clear things up completely. I have always thought of myself as predominately German with some English from my mother. To my surprise, German was not even mentioned. I am 52% West European. Although I know there are Duensings in Germany, West European could mean anything. It could mean Dutch, French, Belgian, Danish, German, etc. Having been to Germany and visited Rodewald which is overrun with Duensings, I didn't feel like I belonged in that environment. The first time I set foot in France, I didn't just feel, I knew I belonged. I loved the country and I loved the people. After much thought, I can envision a Duensing girl perhaps moving to Alsace which has bounced back and forth between German and French rule over time. There she could have been seduced by a Sauv  Frenchman and over generations that has provided me with a link to France. I like to think that anyway. The DNA results also showed that I was 25% Scandinavian and 17% Irish. The Irish blood has to be from my mother. It is common knowledge that the Scandinavian hordes raped and pillaged England. I read where they would winter in Ireland and rape and pillage on a lesser scale to rest up before the cycle started again.

So, I am part Irish, which was a surprise to me. That fact has had an odd effect on me. I find myself talking Irish. "Where did I put me cell phone." "Me stomach is upset, perhaps it is from the Guinness that I drank." "Me brother thinks I have gone crazy." To make matters stranger, I now have a smoldering hatred for Englishmen. I now think of Sheppard's Pie and Soda bread as fine dining. I would heat me house with peat but I can't find the damn stuff.

My wife on the other hand, who we found out has a little Arabian blood in her does not particularly like wearing sandals or want to eat Hummus.

It's a mystery. I didn't have all these concerns back when I thought I was mostly German.

Driving ~ My wife and I are in our mid 80's and still driving. That statement alone makes relatives, friends, neighbors, acquaintances and young drivers pale. They'll call, and in polite conversation interject, "*So Bob, plan on motoring today, eh?*" If I say no, they can then plan their driving while we are at home and off the road.

Their apprehension is compounded when I tell them that we are four time graduates of Defensive Driving School. They are thinking, "*Wow, these folks are really slow learners.*" I have to explain to them that the insurance company requires us to take the course every three years to re-qualify for a discount on our policy.

I think that all of this concern is unfounded. If you were to ask me, I would tell you that I still have the reflexes of a cat. My wife and I feel that with our background in defensive driving education, we are certainly qualified to critique other drivers on the road as we drive. "*That driver didn't use his turn signal to change lanes!*" "*That car behind us is following too closely!*" "*Did you see that? He made an illegal left turn by turning onto the outside lane! Where are the cops when you need them?*" "*That guy is waiting to make a left turn and is stopped with his wheels turned. If he is rear ended, it will force him into the oncoming lane. Tsk, Tsk!*"

Back to reality: Driving has always tended to relax me. When I was working and under a lot of stress, I would oftentimes take long drives after work to unwind. A lot of friends in my age group shy away from driving on crowded freeways. I am not intimidated by that. We venture everywhere in our car.

It is unfortunate that driving classes are no longer readily available in high schools, without excessive cost. Drivers are most likely taught by friends or family members. Come to think of it, I was taught by my brother and I have taught other people.

My wife and I are looking forward to the day when we are eligible to attend the safe driving course for the fifth time (said no one ever). Meanwhile, "Happy Motoring". While vacationing in Bulgaria, you could wish a motorist "Nek NbT"! (pronounced) Lek pat. If you are conversant in Klingon and you see a warrior about to depart, he might appreciate hearing "QaQ leng ghaj".

I think my mind is unraveling. ■

Letter from the President



Don Burbank
RUAEA President

Hi Everyone,

I don't have a lot to say that doesn't deal with the pandemic. I hope you are all doing well. UAL is still surviving; which we all hope they keep going and stay out of trouble. Our insurance is still running without any glitches.

The board and I are still available for questions. It makes it easier on questions with UAL if you send me email if possible, then I can send it to the appropriate department and get you a legitimate answer.

Please stay in touch, stay well, and take care of each other and your families.

Thank you.

747 With Extra Engine



We recently discovered this photo. Does it bring back memories to you? Many of our retirees may have seen a plane with this unit attached. For example, maybe as a pilot you flew a plane with an extra engine. Where? Why?

As a flight attendant did you answer passenger questions as to why there was an extra engine? Did passengers even notice? Mechanics, where could the engine be placed? Was this a frequent occurrence?

Coincidentally, **Jan Soderstrom**, the correspondent for the East Bay Diablos, included in her chapter report, an excellent story from **Ken Price** about the 747 extra engine, AKA, the Fifth Pod.

If you have memories to share, please send us an email, ruaeaneewsletter@surewest.net, ruaeanal@qwestoffice.net. We would like to hear from you and we will write an article about your experiences.

A Poem from Mary Jane Stewart RUAEA Secretary

*Oh 2020 I will not miss thee
So all alone with just me
I wear the mask
And stay 6 feet apart
Doing what science asks
Knowing that's smart
I do miss hugs and smiles
I sure miss my friends
But let's all hold out hope
That this virus will end
Let's just play it safe
'Til we all meet again*

New rule on service and emotional support animals December 3, 2020



The U.S. Department of Transportation announced new rules, which permit carriers to treat emotional support animals (ESAN) as pets unless they are dogs specifically trained to assist with a disability.

The rule will be effective 30 days after it is published in the Federal Register, which will likely occur later this week. Our policies regarding service animals and emotional support animals have not changed at this time. However, we are reviewing the ruling and evaluating its impact to our future

policies.

As a reference, the ruling defines that:

- ➔ A service animal is as a dog, regardless of breed or type, that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of a qualified individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability.
- ➔ Airlines are not required to recognize emotional support animals as service animals and may treat them as pets.
- ➔ Psychiatric service animals are treated the same as other service animals that are individually trained to do work or perform a task for the benefit of a qualified individual with a disability.

More info on our Service Animal policy and our Emotional Support Animal policy can be found on [Wingtips](#).

Shop safe, shop local **December 3, 2020**



We are deep in the holiday season and many of us have begun to shop for gifts for family, friends and colleagues. This year, COVID-19 has forced many small businesses to shut down, while others are struggling to stay afloat.

The Market and Community Innovation team has spearheaded an initiative to support “shop local” efforts across the communities where we fly. To do exactly that, we recently partnered with two great causes to help boost business for the small business owners in two of our hubs, Chicago and Denver.

UNITE, our multi-cultural business resource group, recently held a virtual volunteer event, where 30 employees added 600+ Black-, Brown- and women-owned businesses to the [Shop In Place Chicago](#) website, which helps consumers search for small businesses by category and neighborhood. The site was developed and promoted by the Institute for Justice Clinic on Entrepreneurship at the University of Chicago, an organization that focuses on helping lower-income entrepreneurs start their businesses and navigate city regulations.

“As a member of United’s Business Diversity team, it is personally important to me to assist in the development, growth and awareness of small diverse-owned businesses,” said Business Diversity Specialist Deon Crayton. *“Volunteering with Shop in Place and assisting small diverse-owned businesses to grow during the COVID-19 pandemic aligns with our internal strategic Business Diversity and Global Community Engagement goals.”*

[Shop In Place Chicago](#) is a website designed to help you find Chicago’s hometown entrepreneurs. The site includes mapping technology that allows Chicagoans to sort through and patronize small businesses, whether the shops are in a nearby neighborhood or across town.

“Shop in Place Chicago was just featured in a [Chicago Tribune Black Friday article](#),” said Senior Manager for Market and Community Innovation Tina Koenig. *“I’m thrilled that our employees were able to add all of these small businesses to the site before the busiest shopping period of the year.”*

Additionally, in Denver, we partnered with the Denver Broncos to support the team’s ‘Broncos Business Boost’ program, which encourages fans and the Colorado community to support local businesses. Broncos fans and local business owners can nominate deserving local business for a chance to win various prizes, including United Airlines flight vouchers.

“The Denver Broncos are a longtime partner of ours, and we’ve been exploring ways we can support small business through our Broncos partnership,” said Global Sponsorships Activation Manager Derek Russell. *“The Broncos Business Boost program is a great way for us to team up with the Broncos in supporting local Colorado businesses.”*

“The small businesses in your neighborhood are counting on you more than ever amid this pandemic, so please consider shopping locally this holiday season!” said Social Impact Optimization Specialist Michaela Hrbacek.

First COVID-19 vaccine shipment lands at ORD **November 27, 2020**



The Wall Street Journal reported that United operated a dedicated charter carrying the first shipment of COVID-19 vaccines. While we cannot comment on our specific customer’s shipments, United began preparing to support initiatives like this

earlier this year by establishing COVID Readiness Task Force to help ensure we had the people, products, services and partnerships in place to support vaccine distribution.

When shipping pharmaceuticals, including vaccines, time and careful handling are key. Well-developed operational procedures and oversight, as well as properly temperature-controlled shipping containers, are critical as the U.S. prepares for vaccine distribution. The team worked closely with the FAA, aircraft manufacturers, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and several other organizations as we continue to move cargo safely and in compliance with both domestic and international requirements and regulations. This includes a recent certification from the FAA allowing us to carry higher volumes of dry ice which help to keep the vaccines chilled and viable during transportation.

Our deepest gratitude goes out to our Cargo, Tech Ops and Airport Operations, Flight Ops and Network Operations teams whose roles have been instrumental throughout the pandemic. While the vaccine is still pending FDA approval, we stand ready to do our part in the national distribution to ultimately put this crisis in the rear-view.

Stay tuned for more information and behind-the-scenes stories on all that went into readying ourselves for the vaccine's distribution.

Heart 2 Heart 4 Seniors



New Year, New Flow: It's a safe bet to say that most people will not be sad to leave 2020 behind! This was a year that tested so many of us in multiple ways. People have experienced changes in nearly all facets of life; financial, social, spiritual, and physical and mental health, have all been affected. "Social distancing" is now a part of our vocabulary and face masks are now a part of our wardrobe. We're all having to adjust to a "new

normal".

There's no doubt that COVID-19 has taken a toll on nearly everyone throughout the world. The stress, worry, and anxiety brought on by this virus is like nothing most of us have ever seen. With so much being out of our control, the one thing we do have control over, are our actions and our choices.

Saying, "just go with the flow", sounds significantly dismissive considering the magnitude of all that is going on in our lives, doesn't it? Yet, during this pandemic, what real alternative do we have? We do have control, even when it feels like responses are limited to reacting to the reaction.

This pandemic will continue to take unforeseen twists and turns. All we can do is react ... go with the flow. Accepting the fact that slowing the current or trying to bend this crazy, unpredictable river we're all on, is ultimately very freeing. It gives us back some of the control that none of us feel like we have right now. We may not be able to change the flow of this unstable river, but we can adapt to how we ride the rapids. If we flow together, that is where our might comes in.

Consider going with the flow!

If you or someone you know needs to connect to a lifeline, **please call** the National Suicide Prevention Life Line at 1-800-273-8255.

If you or a loved one needs in home care or if you are considering a move to a senior retirement community, **don't stress** ... let Heart 2 Heart 4 Seniors be your advocate and sounding board to help find the right options that will fit your lifestyle and financial needs. We know the questions to ask.

Lisa Weber
Heart 2 Heart 4 Seniors
Transition Specialist
Cell: (303) 359-7418
Office: (303) 371-4100
Fax: (720) 863-8785
... *Helping you find your path home*

9725 E. Hampden Ave., Suite 100
Denver, Colorado 80231
Website: www.h2h4seniors.com

Torgy's Travel Tips – January 2021

We're Not There Yet



Remember as kids in the backseat moaning, “Are we there yet”? The answer was almost always, “Not quite”. I guess that mantra is right on target as we enter 2021. We are still in dangerous territory but there is the proverbial light at the end of the tunnel piercing the darkness. Vaccines are on the horizon—that’s great news. Now we must be patient (excuse the pun) as the enormous logistical task for delivering and distributing said vaccine(s) is coordinated. I remember standing in line with my school classmates in the 1950’s for my turn to receive the polio vaccine. At that time, there were roughly 60 million children that needed to be vaccinated. We are now looking at somewhere nearly 300 million people in the US alone needing the Covid-19 vaccine, which may even require 2 inoculations spread over a 3 week period. This will take time. We are not “there” yet.

In the spring and summer of 2020, the CDC announced no restrictions on travel. But as lockdowns relaxed and businesses reopened the inevitable second surge developed in the fall. Now the CDC recommends that we “should make other plans and delay travel”. So, what can we do while we wait for safer times ahead?

- ➔ **Staycations** - Explore your own city, or a nearby destination, like a tourist does. Drive your own car there, get outside and discover hidden secrets of your town. Grab a treat at a bakery or market and enjoy an outdoor sunset with someone you love. Splurge on a luxury hotel and order breakfast in bed!
- ➔ **National and state parks** offer many ways to clear the cobwebs from your brain. The great outdoors beckon and the medical community encourages walking, hiking, even cross country skiing. Caution: Downhill skiing and snowboarding is *discouraged* because of the danger of close contact with others on ski lifts.
- ➔ **Virtual Travel** - Want to feel like you’ve actually been away? Maybe you just want to prioritize where you eventually will go when travel can safely resume. Either way, Virtual Travel is the ticket! There are many opportunities from well known tour operators as well as individual tour guides who are now sidelined with no customer base. Take a look at:
 - www.ricksteves.com/watch-read-listen/tv-show ~ All videos are free and extremely well done. He also offers the Rick Steves Guides’ Marketplace narrated by in-country guides. Recent topics were “Meandering around Paris”, “Norwegian Cooking” and “Quirky Villages in England”. The topics change weekly.
 - Amazon Explore lists dozens of “experiences” around the globe. The experience is a private tour lasting 30 to 90 minutes with 2-way audio (so you can ask your guide questions) and 1-way video (you can watch in your PJ’s!). Topics such as Costa Rican Sloths and Toucans and Quebec’s Quartier Petit were on the menu recently. You must request an invitation at: www.amazonexplore.com.

➔ **Travel Blogs –**

- Dr. Nadeen White is a medical doctor in Atlanta who authors a wonderful online travel blog called The Sophisticated Life. Check out her blog at www.thesophisticatedlife.com.
- Amanda Williams writes an award winning travel blog with a title taken from J.R.R. Tolkein. Go to: www.dangerous-business.com.
- Ann Hay is an RV enthusiast with remarkable photography skills and a down-home way of bringing the reader up close and personal with the joy of travel. Her blog is found at www.travelswithtowhee.com

It’s also time to consider how the Covid pandemic has impacted your local economy. Consider spending some of your unused 2020 travel budget to support local food banks, shops and restaurants (for take-out) where you live. We all need to support each other for a successful outcome. Only with masks firmly in place, patience, and respect for the medical and scientific organizations fighting on our behalf will we be able to answer, “Yes, we’re there!”

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.

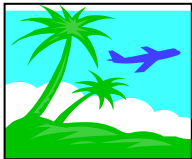
Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to Francis Domaratius at ruaenewsletter@surewest.net, John Chu at johnqchu@hotmail.com and ruaeal@qwestoffice.net. If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd, Denver, CO 80207-2433. Please allow for postal delay. We cannot extend the deadline!

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

Francis Domaratius
Newsletter Manager
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LOCAL NEWS

ALABAMA



GULF COAST (ALABAMA / FLORIDA)

George Atteberry, the correspondent for the Gulf Coast chapter has moved to Indiana. The newsletter staff thanks George for his monthly reports. As George is no longer available to write, we hope there is a Gulf Coast member who will volunteer to take over the correspondent position. Please contact the Gulf Coast President or the RUAEA newsletter, ruaenewsletter@surewest.net.

SWEET HOME ALABAMA

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Due to the virus, our Birmingham chapter will not meet again until possibly the second Monday in December. We wish all of you good health and look forward to meeting again.

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

ARIZONA



PHOENIX AZURES

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

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

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

PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S

Liz Tollefsen
tedtolle@aol.com



Happy New Year! We hope 2021 will be a much better year for all of us. We look forward to seeing our Re-United friends once again and hopefully back doing our monthly breakfasts and our luncheons as planned. We hope we all stay well and are able to return back to doing the many things we love doing. Only time will tell!

We hope your Christmas turned out nice and you were able to celebrate with your families and/or friends. I am sure it was a different Christmas celebration for many of us, and one we will remember in the future.

Our "officers" got together in November to discuss our chapter and make some decisions on what we plan to do in 2021. There will be no dues to be paid in 2021 and our membership directory will not be printed at this time. If you have any changes in your address, phone numbers, or e-mail, please let **John & Joann Griffin** know so that later we can send an e-mail to all our members updating the changes to our membership directory. John's e-mail is jigriffual@yahoo.com. No definite plans have been made yet, but are keeping in mind outdoor restaurants, etc., depending on size and locations. If anyone has some ideas, please let our President **Shirley Claggett** or Vice President **Peg Snowdall** know. We're open to any suggestions you may have.

We have the following Birthdays in January: **John Gaudio**, **Molly Norwood**, **Barb Paymaster**, and **Dakota Morris-Terry**. Best Wishes go out to all of you! We have two couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversaries, **Dillon & Dakota Morris-Terry** and **Barbara & Jay Hartough**. It's "50" years for Jay & Barbara! Congratulations go out to each couple!

In the meantime, stay well, and please keep us informed on how you are doing. We have a very nice group of people in our Re-United chapter and we care about each of you.

TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Pat Sommer Di Lallo, Treasurer
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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 rpdgarlic41@comcast.net or call either **Pat Di Lallo** (520) 825-7370 or **Sandy Lawyer** (847) 826-2640 for information.

We look forward to seeing you.

CALIFORNIA

CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS

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

Calendar:

Next meeting, time and place TBD

CENTRAL COASTERS



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

Finally the Presidential voting is over and all the endorsements are off the TV and we are now back to normal commercials. There has been no news from our members so I'm assuming they are in hibernation as I am.

I've been going through my memory looking for past airline experiences that might be of interest. I think I have run out of stories which will make this report a lot shorter.

We survived Thanksgiving and none of our family traveled to visit us. We did use "Zoom" so we got to see everyone while they were getting their meals ready. The news kept telling everyone not to travel and our family did just that. So far none of our family has gotten the virus and that I'm very thankful for. I'm afraid that Christmas will be pretty much the same. I'm just thinking that in 60 years of marriage we were able to enjoy those family holidays that are just memories now. So here's wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a better 2021 New Year.

I think this quarantine is worth something!

At Least My Bank Account is Thriving

Who knew cooking meals and drinking at home would save so much money?

DESERT SUNBIRDS

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Once again we have no report, as the pandemic is still in place all over the country. Next month, if we are still "down", I will relate an experience I had when I was working. And that is about 50 years ago. It is a true story, and a little humorous.



EAST BAY DIABLOS

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Happy New Year to everyone in RUAEA Land from the San Francisco East Bay. I hope that 2021 brings an end to the pandemic and that things return to normal, albeit it a New Normal, that will be with us for many years.

Ken Price, our resident storyteller, has another memory to share with us: I sure am enjoying his stories! Having worked in reservations my entire 16 years with United, I have no idea of what all went on at the San Francisco Maintenance Base. His stories are a real learning experience for me.

“With the introduction of wide body aircraft, it required larger engines to provide the necessary thrust. Pratt & Whitney, General Electric and Rolls Royce were up to the task. United had the Pratt & Whitney JT-9 for the 747 and General Electric CF-6 for the DC-10. However, these engines were larger than most commercial aircraft air freighters. The military had large C5A’s / C-130’s to move an engine but there was limited commercial capacity.

United was flying the 747 to Honolulu so how do you get a spare engine to Honolulu or across the country? If time is not a problem it can go by ship or truck. If it is an Aircraft On Ground (AOG) situation then maybe an entire C-130 would have to be leased to expedite the shipment. Boeing came up with a solution, called a “Fifth Pod” whereby a spare (Non Operating) engine was attached to the aircraft on the left side between the fuselage and the #2 engine. The wing had to have special attach points with special fittings to accept the engine. Not all aircraft had this provision and a kit was necessary to bundle the engine against air flow. This provided engine movement on a scheduled flight at much less cost. I don’t recall how long it was before 747 / DC-10 freighters were available which could handle the larger engine shipments. I suspect similar situations are also possible with today’s huge engines.”

And adding to this story of the difficulty of moving large aircraft engines in the early days of the 747 / DC-10 aircraft: “When Continental Airlines purchased the DC-10 aircraft they entered into a maintenance agreement with United for the repair / overhaul of their CF-6 Engines. As was bound to happen, they had an engine failure in Honolulu and needed to ship the off engine to United at SFOMB. The engine was put on a flatbed truck trailer, taken to the ship dock in Honolulu, and shipped off to Los Angeles to be off loaded and trucked to SFOMB. As the Honolulu truck company wanted their trailer back, upon arrival in Los Angeles the engine was removed and placed on a local trailer. A trucker was contacted to pick up the engine and take it to San Francisco.

As you drive along highways and pass under overpasses you may recall there are small signs which tell you the height of the overpass: 14 feet/ 10 inches and so forth. The truck with the Continental engine enters the freeway headed north when all of a sudden there is a **boom**, **jolt** and terrible noise. The engine had hit an overpass, resulting in damage to the overpass and almost scrap for the engine.

How did this happen? When the engine was removed from the Honolulu trailer and placed on the local trailer, the local trailer was higher than the original. The trucker took for granted the height was the same and **boom**. Big Bucks!”

Book Corner. Here are some more recommended books.

1. I have just started reading These is my Words: The Diary of Sarah Agnes Prine 1881-1901, by Nancy E. Turner. I am enjoying it very much and can now recommend it firsthand. I’m pushing to get it read by the time my book club meets on December 18. Our country’s early settlers faced so many hardships. I am humbled by their strength and determination.
2. Another book that will resonate with all of us is The Day the World Came to Town by Jim DeFede. It’s the true story of what transpired following the [September 11 attacks](#) when 38 planes were ordered to land unexpectedly in [Gander, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada](#). The musical “Come From Away” is based on this book. I read it over a year ago and even now there is a waiting list for it at my local library.
3. For rose lovers, I heartily recommend For Love of a Rose: The Story of the Creation of the Peace Rose by Antonia Ridge. The book is a bit hard to find, but if you’re patient, it often is available on EBay and in some libraries.

This 2005 article, entitled “Peace - The Rose of Our Time,” was written by Ludwig Taschner, the owner of Ludwig’s Rose Farm in Pretoria, South Africa: “The story of the ‘Peace’ rose is one that can be told over and over again because it encapsulates everything that we hold dear in roses – drama, love and greatness of spirit. This year marks the sixtieth anniversary of the naming of this enduring rose that remains an excellent garden rose, and a symbol of our desire for that ever-elusive peace. The creation of ‘Peace’ was beautifully chronicled in Antonia Ridge’s book ‘For Love of a Rose’ and it was something of a miracle that the rose ever saw the light of day.

In 1935, the French rose breeder, Francis Meilland, the third generation in a family of rose growers near Lyon, selected 50 ‘promising’ seedlings from his seedbeds. One was tagged 3 – 35 – 40 and over the next four years Francis and his father, Papa Meilland, watched its development with interest. In spite of war clouds gathering, the unnamed rose was introduced to friends and professional rose growers who gave it an enthusiastic ‘thumbs up’. But three months later Hitler invaded France and, with the nursery under threat of destruction, three parcels of budwood were hastily sent out of France, one of which was smuggled out in the diplomatic bag to America.

For the duration of the war the Meilland family had no idea whether any of the budwood had survived. In America their agent planted the rose in his own trial beds and gave it to other rose growers for testing in all the climatic zones throughout the United States. The rose did so well that it was decided to release it in the United States and thousands of plants were propagated. Although the war was still raging in Europe, the launch date was set for 29 April 1945, in Pasadena, California.

On the same day that two doves were released into the American sky to symbolize the naming of the rose, Berlin fell and a truce was declared. It was sheer coincidence. In naming the rose, this simple statement was read: ‘We are persuaded that this greatest new rose of our time should be named for the world’s greatest desire: **Peace.**’

‘Peace’ went on to receive the All American Award for roses on the day that the war in Japan came to an end. On May 8, 1945, when Germany signed its surrender, the 49 delegates who met to form the United Nations were each presented with a bloom of ‘Peace’ and a message of peace from the Secretary of the American Rose Society.”

Here are two more feel good stories about our precious wildlife.

Rocky the stowaway Saw-Whet Owl: The northern saw-whet owl is one of the smallest owl species native to North America, just seven to eight and a half inches tall. They can be found in dense thickets or conifers, often at eye level, and can also be found as high as 20 feet up.

On November 16, a worker setting up the holiday tree at Manhattan’s Rockefeller Center found a tiny saw-whet owl trapped in the 75-foot tall Norway spruce. The owl was apparently trapped in the tree when it was cut down in Oneonta in upstate New York on Nov. 12. Four days later, after traveling 170 miles across the state, the tree arrived at Rockefeller Center. How the owl ended up in the tree remains a bit of a mystery. A spokesperson for the Rockefeller Center told CBS News that while each branch is individually inspected before it is wrapped, “birds can find their way into the tree on its journey.”

The female owl, initially thought to be male, was uninjured but hadn’t had food or water for at least three days when she was discovered. She was affectionately named Rocky, short for Rockefeller, and sent to Ravensbeard Wildlife Center in the Hudson Valley town of Saugerties. Rocky was treated for dehydration and hunger and began to recover after getting fluids and “all the mice” she could eat.

After a week of rehabilitation, Rocky was cleared to continue her migratory journey south. The center said a return trip to Oneonta would likely be too traumatic for Rocky, so she was released in a conifer forest on their grounds on November 24. The center consulted with owl experts and avian veterinarians to determine the best time for her release. Rocky was released at sunset so that she could find a safe place to rest by nightfall, before continuing to fly south. Rehabilitator Ellen Kalish held the winsome raptor aloft in a field against a backdrop of rounded mountains. In a video posted on Ravensbeard’s Facebook page, Rocky sits quietly on Kalish’s fingers before winging her way over to a nearby grove of pines. “She is a tough little bird and we’re happy to see her back in her natural habitat,” the center wrote on Facebook.

For a week, Rocky’s rescue and rehabilitation captured the hearts of many people across the U. S. The video of Rocky’s release can be found at: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/rocky-rockefeller-center-christmas-tree-owl-released-wild-new-york/>

Since taking in Rocky, Ravensbeard Wildlife Center has so far raised more than \$17,000. Ellen Kalish, the founder and director of the nonprofit, told CBS News that the money will go to a new facility.

Sources: “Rocky, tiny owl rescued from Rockefeller Christmas tree, takes flight.” NBC News, November 25, 2020. Wilson Wong and Tim Stelloh. Rocky, the tiny Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree owl, released

back into the wild.” CBS News, November 25, 2020. Sophie Lewis. “Rocky the Christmas tree stowaway owl returns to the wild.” Olean Times Herald, November 25, 2020.

Kaavan, the “World’s loneliest elephant”, goes to sanctuary in Cambodia: Four Paws International is a global animal welfare group that has been leading the charge to save Kaavan since 2016. Because of the abysmal living conditions blamed on systemic negligence, Pakistan’s high court in May ordered the closure of Marghazar Zoo in the capital of Islamabad, where Kaavan has lived for much of his life.

Kaavan has languished in the zoo for 35 years, most of those years in chains. He lost his partner in 2012. She died after an infection turned gangrenous and her body lay beside Kaavan for several days before being removed. Dr. Amir Khalil, veterinarian with Four Paws, said Kaavan was heartbroken after his partner died. Activists dubbed Kaavan the “world’s loneliest elephant” after his plight gained international attention and the unhappy elephant was diagnosed as emotionally as well as physically damaged.

For the past three months, a Four Paws team including Dr. Khalil and the Islamabad Wildlife Management Board have been treating Kaavan’s many wounds and ailments. Kaavan was diagnosed as both overweight and malnourished. He was put on a diet of fruit and vegetables and has lost half a ton. Previously, Kaavan was eating 550 pounds of pure sugar cane every day, with only an occasional fruit and vegetable.

He has also developed behaviors including shaking his head back and forth for hours, which the medical team of wildlife veterinarians and experts blame on his isolation and total boredom.

Over the past three months, Dr. Khalil has developed a very strong emotional bond with Kaavan. Now, when the “world’s loneliest elephant” hears Khalil’s voice, he comes lumbering over. The vet has also been training Kaavan to willingly back into the huge crate that he will be in for the duration of his flight to Cambodia.

Kaavan was set to leave for a sanctuary on November 29. Iconic singer and actress Cher took up Kaavan’s cause and has been a loud voice advocating for his resettlement. She was in Pakistan to celebrate Kaavan’s departure and to accompany him to Cambodia with the Four Paws International team. Cher said she is making a documentary on Kaavan which people will find “heartwarming.”

Even after he’s in Cambodia, Kaavan will require years of physical and even psychological assistance. Dr. Khalil said there are many elephants at the sanctuary, but in particular three female elephants are awaiting Kaavan’s arrival. The veterinarian joked that Kaavan might just find a new girlfriend there.

Source: “Cher in Pakistan for resettlement of ‘loneliest elephant.’” Associated Press, November 26, 2020. Kathy Gannon

Update on Kavaan as of December 7: Kavaan is in Cambodia! I am having so much fun following this story! If you google Kavaan you will see a range of wonderful articles with amazing pictures of him. Next month, I will write about the logistics of transporting a 9,000 pound elephant and report on his progress adjusting to his new environment. One of the latest pictures of Kavaan shows him reaching his trunk out to touch one of his female neighbors at the sanctuary. If you want to see some great pictures and videos of Kavaan, here are a few urls to start with:

<https://www.cnn.com/travel/article/cher-pakistan-elephant-kaavan-intl-hnk-scli/index.html>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2020/11/30/loneliest-elephant-kaavan-cher-pakistan/>

Multiple uses for Hydrogen Peroxide: According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), hydrogen peroxide kills yeasts, fungi, bacteria, viruses, and mold spores. Hydrogen peroxide, ammonia and bleach are the real workhorses of household cleaning. You don’t need a whole cupboard of different cleaning supplies. You could clean most of your house with just these three cleaners. When I googled this topic, I was amazed at the number of uses I found for hydrogen peroxide. One article even listed 50 items! I will list here just a few uses, and suggest you also google this to find other uses relevant to you.

- ★ Wound Cleaning. Hydrogen peroxide can be used for the initial cleaning of a wound, such as a small scrape or abrasion. Its bubbling action helps remove debris that may be stuck in the wound. But it should not be used for large open wounds or deep cuts, or for a long time.
- ★ Carpet Cleaner. Mix two parts water with one part hydrogen peroxide and five drops of lemon essential oil. Make sure you use a dark bottle (like the one peroxide comes in). Shake it up and it’s ready to go. Just spray it on the stained carpet, let it sit for a minute or two, and then use a brush to scrub the stains out. This solution works on upholstery, too, and you can repeat the process a few times until you get your carpet and fabrics squeaky clean!
- ★ Makeup brush cleaner. Prevent breakouts by cleaning your makeup brushes. Simply drop a teaspoon of hydrogen peroxide into a bowl of warm water, and soak the brushes in there for 10 minutes, then rinse them with cold water.

- ★ Laundry helper. Remove yellow armpit stains. Combine two parts hydrogen peroxide with one part Dawn dishwashing liquid and let the solution sit for at least an hour. Then just spray it on the stain and scrub, scrub, scrub. You can add some baking soda for heavier duty staining.
- ★ Scouring burned pans. Make a paste of baking soda and hydrogen peroxide, and apply that to the burnt, dirty areas. Let it marinate for a bit and then use warmish water to scrub it away. The stain should come off pretty easily, but if it doesn't, simply repeat the process, leaving the paste on a little longer the next time.
- ★ Detoxify fruit and vegetables. Just because you didn't pay extra for organic produce doesn't mean you have to ingest the harmful pesticides generally used on fruits and veggies. Water alone might not do the trick, but this hydrogen peroxide solution sure will. Spray your produce with some food-grade peroxide; let the mixture sit on the food for a minute or two, and then rinse and dry. Next, spray the produce with some vinegar; combined, the two agents work detoxifying wonders!

Until next month, please continue to take care and stay safe. Best wishes for a New Year that brings you **good health**, personal success, and many memorable moments with family and friends ... eventually.

GOLDEN GATERS

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Well, our county has managed to steer clear of the dreaded Purple “don’t go anywhere” notification. I am sure that it will change as our positive tests have been increasing. Us old folks know what to do ... we do it and hope that those younger than us will heed the requests from those in command.

Thanksgiving has come and gone. I’ll bet you did not have the “usual” 25 pound Turkey with 15 side dishes on the table. The 10 pound gobblers were gobbled up quickly as everyone had to stay in place and not mingle with others. There are many things we can be thankful for: Those family members who call just to say Hi, the goodies friends make and drop off at your home for you to enjoy, the laughter of grandkids in the background when your kids call, the walks we can take in the nice weather we have been having, Church services in the parking lot (the Man Upstairs knows we are there) – you know what I mean, simple but meaningful things that we have taken for granted all these years.

Today is December 7th – a day most of us remember (I remember the airplanes flying over the house on their way to Schofield Barracks.) A very big thank-you to those brave men and women who defended our country far and wide so that we could be **free**. We thank all the first responders, medical personnel and those who are caring (lovingly) for those who have been in hospitals all over the nation. We count our blessings ... they are many.

President **Vera Kina** had a Board meeting of the SFO Golden Gaters in her garage at the end of November – six feet across, masks on and business to attend to. Our group was small, **Vera Kina, Ginger Dahlberg, Gene Walter, John Bogdanoff, Harriet Kunze** and **Peter Cooper**. **Jim Goodwine** is still recouping at home, **Barbara Underhill** was unable to attend as was **Art Barrett**. As Art has been unable to get to the meetings, **Peter Cooper** has graciously taken over the Treasurers job on a temporary basis. Our thanks to Pete for stepping up. Because of the restrictions that restaurants have had to conform to, our annual Christmas luncheon has been cancelled. Our meeting facility, the Wm. Walker Recreation Center, is closed all of December and January, all will depend on the condition of the virus as to when we will be able to start up meetings again. So take out your 2021 calendars and mark the 4th Mondays of the year for our usual meetings – as the year progresses, we will let you know what is going on. Do not send in your dues until we can resume meetings – we will let you know the status as the year goes by. If you have an email address, please send it to gingersfo@aol.com so that she can send messages (rather than by snail mail) to you regarding the Golden Gaters’ peregrinations!

Birthdays and Anniversaries have come and gone – we will have a huge celebration next year and a very big cake to catch up on those sugar highs! I think I goofed and had **Bill & Diane Heinrich** married for 63 years – must be the fault of the computer – couldn’t possibly been my error. Sad news from Bellevue, Nebraska – our long time member, **Mary Winkler**, passed away in November. She was 97 years old and led a fascinating life –

one filled with travel adventures, and many years at UAL in various jobs and various cities, a droll sense of humor, a wonderful cook – I shall miss her very much.

So, dear ones, here and across the country – know that you are in our hearts and thoughts, stay well, enjoy having Johnnie Walker visit with you (it is 5:00pm somewhere.) May your Christmas be a healthy one and know that ... "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus." 2021 ... here we come!!

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 11:00am at the William Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd., (Shell Blvd. and East Hillsdale Blvd.), Blue Bird Room, Foster City, CA 94404. Note: Our mailing address is: UAL-SFO Bay Area Retirees, c/o **Vera Kina**, 203 Emerald Bay Lane, Foster City, CA 94404.



HANGTOWN MINERS

Jane Gibson

Secretary

tired-dogs@comcast.net

Hello to All!

Here we go - November! I am writing this on the 11th, and want to send a heart felt "Thank You" to all who served in our military. Whether you "saw combat" or served in another way, the time, the energy, the spirit you gave to this country is so necessary and appreciated.

Of course, November is the month the grocery stores love! I was thinking about all the different dishes that can make up favorite Thanksgiving meals. We come from a wide range of places where we grew up, but our traditions often come from many generations. Which means some of the dishes can be what we will call "unusual"! In my home, our meals were pretty basic - Dad didn't like "strange" foods so it was pretty much things like meat, potatoes, green beans, corn, carrots, celery, salads and lots and lots of cookies! What dishes did you have every Thanksgiving? The turkey is the standard but what did you put with it? Mashed potatoes - sweet potatoes (yams) - the green bean casserole? How about squash or cooked carrots? Anyone have the cream corn casserole? We always had a fresh, cut veggie tray. Did you get a Waldorf salad? Miss those. And, did/do you have "stuffing" or "dressing"? The desserts are to die for - pumpkin, pecan, apple, mincemeat pies. Did puddings show up for any of you? Pickles! Must have a variety of pickles! Oh, dear, I'm getting hungry!

It sounds like our wonderful feasts will be toned down this year. Won't be a 25 pound turkey, I don't care how much Bill likes the leftovers! But, just because we may not be able to be with each other - family and friends - it doesn't mean that the meaning of this holiday is lost. We all remain grateful for our lives, our families, our friends, and our country.

I don't find any anniversaries for our members this month, but if I missed someone, sorry about that, and, Congratulations! Now, there may be some of you who do get to celebrate a birthday this month, and to you, we send a hearty Happy Birthday!

Since we aren't meeting each month and not having our raffle, I'm sure that our bank balance remains the same. Thank you, **Tom Kenny**, for keeping our money in proper order.

I haven't received any pertinent info to pass along from **Bill Dinette** either. Sometimes it feels like "time has stopped".

Did anyone get hold of **Pati Kenney** regarding the misplaced albums?

Suzanne Kenny has been trying to keep up on all of you. I believe she has sent out a card or two. Remember, if you, or anyone you know of, has had or will be having any medical procedures, let her know. Or if there is something to share - good stuff welcome too - let Suz know.

This is just an aside, but for those of you who get our wonderful RUAEA Newsletter, if you don't already do so, be sure to check out the Solano Flyers. It is written by **Allan Pochop**. I'm sure many of you had your own experiences with Al when you were working at UAL. I don't know him personally, but I get a kick out of the gibberish he comes up with each month. Be sure to take a look!

I would also like to send out a "Good Job" to the staff at RUAEA. Even though so many things are pretty much on hold right now, they all continue to put together a great Newsletter. And I'm sure it requires a lot of research, time and energy.

I hear those of you in the higher altitudes are having some snow! Have never lived in snow country, just visit it, if you go out into it, be careful and wear good coats and gloves - hats too!

So, I guess that's it for this month. Eight months already, way too long, but we have to do what we can to ensure that we all stay healthy. We are in that vulnerable group! Remember, we (sadly) are not planning a December luncheon/meeting. Keeping fingers crossed that next year will return us to normal times.

Stay safe, healthy and happy - happy is really important too! Hugs to you all.



RESANS

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This is my first report of 2021 and I am sure everyone is hoping this year will be one that will let us put the past behind us and move on with our lives.

I would like to send our very best wishes for a special year to those celebrating their Birthday this month: **Betty Tomaino** (1/1), **Helen Hutchinson** (1/5), and **Arnold Pollack** (1/20).

Everyone that I talk to seems to have fallen into a routine of reading, gardening, crosswords, and other hobbies to help with the quarantine and everyone seems to be doing well with it. We are anxious for the time when we can all get together again at our monthly breakfast. What a great time that will be with all of us trying to catch up on the news of the last year.

This month I am again going into United history and my subject is our past president and CEO, Pat Patterson. He transformed United from a collection of airlines into one of the world's largest carriers.

In 1929, William Allan Patterson gave up a position at Wells Fargo bank to join Boeing Airplane Co. and Boeing Air Transport. At the time, there was only about 25,000 miles of airways in the United States and all passenger airlines combined carried less than one million passengers annually.

Few major corporations have been so completely shaped by the wisdom and direction of a single person at United Airlines. From the beginning, United was the unmistakable creation of Pat Patterson.

Born in 1899 in Hawaii, his father ran a sugar plantation. Pat sailed to the mainland after his father's death and began his career at Wells Fargo in 1915 as a 15 year old office boy. Twelve years later, as a vice president, he was approached by Vern Gorst, president of the failing Pacific Air Transport. Gorst needed a loan to stay in business. Airline and business did not go well together at that time but Pat had been fascinated by airplanes and had flown. He paid \$5.00 (two weeks salary) in 1919 for the thrill of a 20 minute flight over San Francisco Harbor.

One of his first major decisions, made in the early 1930's, was to hire eight young nurses to care for the needs of passengers. This was a new profession in the airline industry and they were to be called stewardesses.

Patterson also opened commercial aviation's first flight kitchen. It was the first airline to fly regular scheduled service from coast to coast and the first to use two way radios, in-flight telephones and television. He pioneered promotional for executives only called "take your wife for free".

In 1934, Patterson was elected President. Soon after he established priorities and the biggest asset was the employees. Everything possible was done to encourage employee participation. We had to get our ideas from our employees. He spent up to a third of his time along the front lines seriously listening to the people he believed made the airline work.

Pat Patterson retired from United in 1966, he was a legendary visionary whose eyes have always been on the stars but kept his feet firmly planted on the ground. He created modern air transport.

When I joined United in 1975, I heard many of my fellow employees talk about Pat Patterson and several had met Pat. I was told he was everywhere and talking to everyone. In the many stories I heard over the years, no one seemed to know about his earlier years. That began my search through United history and I share the story with you.

At this time there is no projected date for our monthly breakfasts to continue.

Calendar:

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

**SACRAMENTO
GOLD DIGGERS**

Sacramento, CA
Laverne Haubl
Secretary
lhaubl@sbcglobal.net

SACRAMENTO



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



SAN JOAQUINERS

Rosie Walls
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jawrmw@sbcglobal.net

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

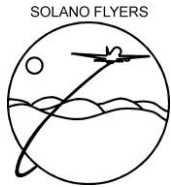
If anyone would like any information about our chapter, please contact our president, **Steve Foster**, (209) 328-1210, and he will be able to answer any question you might have and give you the information about our chapter.

SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

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



SOLANO FLYERS

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

COLORADO

**DENVER
MILE HIGHERS**

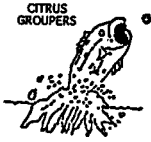
Rich & Cleora Conner
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Once again, we were unable to meet for breakfast. Our mechanics have been able to meet three times this year.

Twenty retirees met at Don Burbank's home for a nice meal and friendship. We hope to start our monthly breakfasts next year if safe. Please stay safe and well.

FLORIDA



THE CITRUS GROUPE THE VILLAGE

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

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



THE ORLANDO REAL MCCOYS

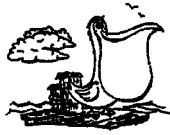
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Well, this year has **finally** come to a close ... it **has**, hasn't it?

The Real McCoy wish everyone a safe and healthy and Happy New Year 2021!

SW PELICANS DROP-INS

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

THE SAND DOLLARS

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The Sand Dollars are still not getting together as we continue to hunker down and try to keep everyone around us safe from Covid. By the time this edition of the Newsletter is printed, Christmas will be over, and we sincerely hope all RUAEA members have not only stayed well, but also managed to have at least a small scale celebration.

As we have no news to report, we thought perhaps a few more Covid jokes would be a good idea, so ...

- ☺ Having plans sounds like a good idea until you have to put on clothes and leave the house.
- ☺ It's weird being the same age as old people.
- ☺ Life is like a helicopter. I don't know how to operate a helicopter.
- ☺ Chocolate is God's way of telling us he likes us a little bit chubby.
- ☺ It's probably my age that tricks people into thinking I'm an adult.
- ☺ Marriage Counselor: "Your wife says you never buy her flowers. Is it true?" Him: "To be honest, I never knew she sold flowers."
- ☺ My wife asked me to take her to one of those restaurants where they make the food right in front of you. So I took her to Subway, and that's how the fight started.

- ☺ During the Middle Ages they celebrated the end of the plague with wine and orgies. Does anyone know if there is anything planned when this one ends?
- ☺ I don't think the therapist is supposed to say "Wow," that many times in your first session but here we are ...
- ☺ I see people about my age mountain climbing; I feel good getting my leg through my underwear without losing my balance.
- ☺ We can all agree that in 2015 not a single person got the correct answer to, "Where do you see yourself five years from now?"
- ☺ So if a cow doesn't produce milk, is it a milk dud or an udder failure?
- ☺ If you can't think of a word say "I forgot the English word for it." That way people will think you're bilingual instead of an idiot.
- ☺ I'm at a place in my life where errands are starting to count as going out.
- ☺ Corona Coaster, Noun: The ups and downs of a pandemic. One day you're loving your bubble, doing workouts, baking banana bread, going for long walks, and the next you're crying, drinking gin for breakfast and missing people you don't even like.
- ☺ I'm at the age where my mind still thinks I'm 29, my humor suggests I'm 12, while my body mostly keeps asking if I'm sure I'm not dead yet.
- ☺ Don't be worried about your smart phone or TV spying on you. Your vacuum has been collecting dirt on you for years.
- ☺ I'm getting tired of being part of a major historical event.
- ☺ I don't always go the extra mile, but when I do it's because I missed my exit.
- ☺ How many of us have looked around our family reunion and thought, "Well, aren't we just two clowns short of a circus?"
- ☺ At what point can we just start using 2020 as profanity? As in: "That's a load of 2020," or "What in the 2020," or abso-2020-lutely."
- ☺ You don't realize how old you are until you sit on the floor and then try to get back up.
- ☺ We all get heavier as we get older, because there's a lot more information in our heads. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.
- ☺ This is the day dogs have been waiting for. They realize their owners can't leave the house and they get them 24/7. Dogs are rejoicing everywhere. Cats are contemplating suicide.
- ☺ If you're trying to impress me with your vehicle it better be a food truck.

As we try to keep our sense of humor, the Sand Dollars look forward to whenever it may be that we can meet again. Meantime, we hope any new retirees who are coming to our area will contact **Ginger Hyde** for the latest news on our group. Her email is: ASDIP920@aol.com, or phone (941) 360-6671.



TAMPA BAY CHAPTER

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

TREASURE COAST

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Each month during the pandemic, I have reached out to our membership requesting anything they might have to share for the newsletter. Unfortunately, the majority has been silent. I think most are just tired of the whole thing and continue to remain without social functions and traveling. I hope everyone is continuing to stay safe and well.

Luckily, our weather has much improved. Hurricane season, truly the worst we have experienced nationwide, has finally ended. Our temperatures are in the comfortable range and the humidity is way down. At last, we know why we call Florida home.

Not unlike many others, I decorated for Christmas early this year. The decorating was a great change of pace and the festive atmosphere lightens the spirit. Non-stop TV holiday movies don't hurt either. Not willing to venture out shopping for family this year, I resorted to ordering online. I was amazed at how easy and swift it is. I realize I got into it long after the general population. We'll see how excited I am when the credit card statements arrive.

We used to say "I don't know anyone who has or had Covid". That is no longer true for many of us. When it starts appearing in your own family and friends, it's a true wake-up call.

I did hear from **Fran & Gene Student** who tell us that they had a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner with their daughter, her husband and two of their grandsons. Their son-in-law cooked a marvelous feast for the six of them. They contributed some side dishes and a pumpkin pie. They "Face-Timed" with their son and his wife in NY wishing they could have all been together. Due to the pandemic it was safest for them not to travel. They also "Skyped" with their daughter's in-laws in England. They enjoyed a lovely quiet holiday and send Best Regards to everyone.

President **Al Popek** and wife **Janice** had a quiet Thanksgiving dinner at his sister's with three families. There were a total of eight with each family distancing 10 feet apart at their own table outside and wearing masks. She and her husband served each of the guests from a menu they made up. Everything was covered.

I just spoke yesterday, 12/3, with Al. He had tragic news to share concerning his wife Janice. While eating dinner on December 1st, Janice had a massive stroke. He immediately called 911. They transported her to Cleveland Clinic in Tradition where they specialize in working with stroke victims. She seems to be showing signs of improvement as each day goes by. Janice is in ICU and only Al is allowed in for short periods to help with communication. She is resting comfortably. He praises the doctors and nurses who are providing wonderful care.

He, of course, misses having her at home as does her cat, Chester. He can't understand why Janice isn't there to feed him and sit on the couch with him.

Al shares: "Here we are at the end of the year and 2020 is holding firm at being one of the worst years ever! As for our monthly meetings, with Covid getting worse again, looks like our monthly meetings will be held off for the near future. Hopefully, with the vaccine on the way, things will become better. Wishing everyone out there the best 2021 can offer. Stay healthy and safe. Happy New Year!"

There are no birthdays to celebrate in January. **Al & Janice Popek** will be celebrating their wedding anniversary. Best Wishes!

HAWAII

HONOLULU MENEHUNES

Patricia Thomson, Treasurer

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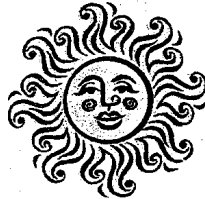


Aloha! The Honolulu Menehunes is an active chapter and we meet for lunch at various Honolulu restaurants on the 3rd Thursday of February, June, and September. All retirees are welcome to join us. If you are planning to be in Honolulu and would like to attend, just send your email address to HNLRUA@gmail.com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

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

PAU HANA KUPUNA

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

IDAHO



BOISE GEMS

Shirley Dempsey
brandyjake@cableone.net

Following the Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2021, our next scheduled meeting will be in February 2021. About the third week of January, members will be notified of the date, time, and place of this meeting.

In the meantime we are all sheltering in place. We wish everyone a Happy Holiday and we welcome with open arms a Happy New Year for 2021.

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO SKYLINERS

www.chicagoskyliners.org
Chicagomainliner.com
Jan Gawenda
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jawenda@gmail.com



January, 2021! Hope we don't have a repeat of 2020, no Ditto Dates, no 'I'll have the Same' for me. I want a 'Get out of Jail' Card, 'Just Visiting Jail' card. This year, I want to land on 'Free Parking', Boardwalk or Park Place, and live a luxurious life all year long. Can anybody guarantee that? Anybody have a Clue? Was it Miss Marple in the closet with a candlestick? If this doesn't end, somebody else will get it with a candlestick and the house will be white. So enough of that, we must think positive! Everyone waiting for 2021 as if COVID expires December 31. Then you can say, hindsight is really 2020. So what's in store for you in 2021? Think you'll venture on an airline, get back to your favorite city, one more time? Or maybe get to the Wall of China while you can still walk on cobblestones? Will the cruise ships be operating? Get out and take a ride on the Blue Danube? Still a lot out there for us. Or maybe just take a car ride to Lake Geneva or the Grand Canyon. Think of all the parties with the Skyliners or Mainliner Club that were canceled. I know we're going to try and get them scheduled again, and they'll be wonderful. We have to see our old friends and laugh, talk about how we were held captive by our walls for nine months. God, we could've had a baby if we were 40 years younger. Ha! Wonder how many more babies will be born this year because of the Covid.

How was your Christmas? Spend it with family, grandchildren, great grandchildren? Or get together with old friends? Or with your four-legged friend. On Thanksgiving, I had an 'encounter' with my little deaf cat, Audrey Hepburn. She loves to sit on my lap when I'm on the recliner, but keeps kneading my thigh, it hurts, those legs of theirs are like sticks. So I moved her paw away, and the little brat bit my right arm. Kind of like she bit the arm that feeds her! I spanked her fanny, she ran away, but two minutes later, tried to get on my lap again. I shooed her off, she came back two more times. Well! But, c'mon, Jan, what does little Audrey know? She's 15, adorable, cute, white, with beautiful blue eyes, but still only wants to do what makes her comfy and wants to sleep another 20 hours a day. The gash was a little over an inch long, bled a goodly amount. I should

add, Audrey only has one Canine tooth on top, and she had to get me with it, missed an artery by a hair. Poured peroxide on it, put on Neosporin, and a big Band-Aid. When I did go to the Emergency Clinic, the doctor told me I did a beautiful job of cleaning it and keeping it from infection or blood poisoning. Here's some interesting information if you have a furry friend. Animals' mouths have bacteria, if they bite you, don't get stitches, because by sewing up that cut, the bacteria can fester and give you a terrible infection. Maybe you know that, but since we're such good friends, I wanted to pass that on to you. My arm is better, my baby is good, back on my lap, God's in his heaven; all's right with the world! Audrey and Kate Hepburn say Happy Meow Year to you all! New Year's Eve is pretty quiet in my house; I fix a nice dinner, open champagne, and rest with two cats on my lap. I'll wear armor this time! Can't watch those modern rockers, cannot relate or enjoy their noisy music, if that's what you call it. Hope TCM has some nice movies on that night, Fred and Ginger preferably. Well, you and yours have a fun night, maybe recall some of the more adventurous and romantic nights you had, with champagne or milk.

So what have you been doing during this captivity? Most of my friends, **Ginny Vlach, Marcie Moller, Gwen Brookins, Joan Teister**, my neighbors, friends, school classmates, and me are visiting our doctors often. They love seeing us, of course. Some have taken up walking, quilting, painting, genealogy, keeping in touch with friends, shopping. Of course, many are relying on ordering from the stores, and then picking up their groceries, clothes, toiletries, etc. Lots and lots have resorted to internet shopping. That's convenient, but I love to see the clothing, shoes, and makeup. I'm a toucher, I want to feel the material, try it on, see how it looks. I bought a few tops and pants from Wal-Mart in the spring, you know they wouldn't take them back? Now they're doing it if I have the receipts, from April? When I was told they weren't accepting returns, I don't know what I did with the receipts. Probably next to the clothes, in a bag, can't find those any more either. Speaking of old friends, I spoke with **Laverne Lundquist**, remember her? Lovely lady, always dressed to the nines, very friendly, she used to sell raffle tickets with me at the Skyliner Lunches. She's doing well, living in an assisted living facility, said hello to everybody. Keep calling your old friends, they love hearing from you in their solitary confinement, and you feel so good letting them know they're not forgotten. Also heard from **Jeanna & Dennis Kellerman, Karen Carney, Bill Weber, and Ruby Singer**, who turns 90 this month.

Funny Days in January: National Hangover Day on January 1, Toss your Fruitcake on the 3rd, Bubble Bath Day on the 8th, here's a good one, Peculiar People Day on the 10th (bet you know a few, if you don't, maybe it's you), Popcorn Day on the 19th, Squirrel Day on the 21st, Pie Day and Measure your Feet Day on the 23rd, another day you can sink your teeth into, Chocolate Cake Day on the 27th. This one I'll leave you to your own comment, the 20th is Global Belly Laugh Day, it's also Inauguration Day. Enjoy your month, it will be cold, wear your mask and boots!

Another date we celebrate is the 18th, Martin Luther King's birthday. He had some great ideas on how to get along with each other, wonder what he'd be thinking today.

The scammers are back. I've had a few phone calls that were so obvious, I just hang up. Others I don't even answer, thank God for caller ID. I had two calls from myself, my name and phone number. Yikes! I answered the second call, I was curious, it was a recorded message, from Microsoft, telling me my computer had some virus attached to it, and I have to call their number immediately, or I might explode. 'However, if we reached you in error, just ignore this phone call'. Isn't that hysterical? Then there are the ones that want me to quit Comed, switch to them, they'll save me hundreds of collars. Just stay on the line, someone will help take your money from you. Another one was from, Y!Communications, threatening to stop their emails to me unless I give them more personal information. Oh sure, yes, right away. Another is an old one, a friend writes asking for a favor, I should get a gift card from Goggle for her niece's birthday. Fran is out of town, but will pay me back as soon as she gets home. Ha, another, sure, ok, right away. Do I really look that stupid? Don't answer ... I understand there are a few scams out there regarding the Covid. People calling saying they will help you get your Stimulus check sooner if you give them your Social number, then they'll have it sent right to your bank, ahhh, No!

Our Northside and Southside breakfasts didn't meet last month. Some of the ORDMM, Maintenance people met, **Jim Kraft, Rich Protsman, Bart Kendall, Glenn Hill**, and yours truly. A few of 'the girls' got together, **Ginny Vlach, Marsha Sealock-Weber, Ann Mahoney, Virginia Kondros**, and me. We all laughed at our holiday happenings, kids and bad meals. It happens ... I got to spend some time with my nephew Chris, and his family, those twins, Emilia and Dominic are a year now, that great age, loving the lights and learning to rip open packages. As you all know, the young ones are so joyful to watch, so innocent, so sweet. Words can't describe the joy I have when I can see those twins. I know you all understand about seeing your little ones, it lets us know our family lines and traditions will be passed on.

If you don't know where you're going, any road will get you there.

If you're stuck in the house, I'll tell you about a few new channels and shows I found. History channel, of course, but also SCI, great shows, Mysteries of the Abandoned, lots of WW2 hidden tunnels and secret jails, also Ancient Aliens, How it's Made, Space Shuttle stories. NASA has great shows about discoveries and new flights to space. AHC, many WW2 stories of Germany, France, and German subs close to our East Coast. Fascinating! I never liked history in school, too many dates to remember, this is different.

Our fellow workers that flew West last month are **Mary Price** (ORDCS), **Anne Margaret Krueger**, Corp-Security/EXOKF, **Jim Sheehan**, HNL Station Manager/ORDFF/EXOHR, **Michael Scollard** ORDCG, **Wayne Ryther** and **Jack Roderick** from ORDFO, **Martha Templemann**, ORDPV, from ORDCS, **Dick Mansfield**, **Gordon Tennell**, and **Herb Sanders**, and from ORDMM, **John O'Grady**, **Duane Borgan**, **Ken Kulik**, **Ed Bobrick** and Supervisor **Ernie Codilis**. **Gloria Goetz**, wife of **Ken Goetz**, EXOAL, and mother of **Sandra Fowler**, OPBOP. Also gone from our world, Paul Hornung, (Packers), David Dinkins (NYC mayor), Illinois senator, Martin Sandoval, White Sox Dick Allen, Dina Dietrich (Mother Nature), Air Force Ace Chuck Yeager, David Lander (Squiggy), David Prowse (Darth Vader), not too many of the original Star Wars people left, Mark Hamill and Harrison Ford.

I know I said this 366 days ago, but it bears repeating ... Happy New Year!

New is the year, new are the hopes, new is the resolution, new are the spirits, and new are my warm wishes just for you. Have a promising and fulfilling New Year. Let's get out of the house a little more.

These get-togethers in the Calendar section are all pending, determined on the situation of the state's Covid restrictions. An email blast will be sent to confirm. Hopefully we'll get rid of these restrictions soon.

Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Elly's Restaurant, 8:30 A.M., 372 E. Golf Rd., Arlington Heights, IL (**January 13**). Second Wednesday of the month.

Southside Breakfast - Jedi's Restaurant, 9:30 A.M., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn. (**January 26**). Last Tuesday of the month.

IAM 1487 Monthly Meeting, IAM 1487, 50 W. Oakton Ave., Mt. Prospect, (**January 7**) 11:00 A.M.

INDIANA



INDY RACERS

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

The RUAEA Indy Racers chapter November meeting was held on Tuesday, November 10th at Emmy's Pancake House and Grill. In attendance were **Hannelore Brabo**, **Bob & Myrtle Duty**, **George Atteberry** and **Frank Ingegno**.

Business discussed regarded our December Christmas banquet. We decided the final menu and ironed out all the details. Unfortunately, due to the rising Covid numbers, it subsequently became necessary to cancel our Christmas banquet and December chapter meeting.

If Covid numbers continue at the elevated level, our January meeting may suffer the same fate. We'll decide at the end of December.

We are hoping to compensate for a bit of the Covid disappointments with some fun outdoor events and a possible road trip next summer, after Covid is gone. We're thinking positive vibes!

The RUAEA Indy Racers chapter is looking for new members. Any United/CO retirees living in the Indianapolis area are welcome to join our chapter. Just come to one of our monthly lunch meetings to meet our members. The more members we have the more fun things we can do (During Covid, interested persons should email me, **Frank Ingegno**, to confirm the meeting will occur).

We also welcome visitors. If visiting Indy consider joining us at one of our meetings for lunch and conversation. We always enjoy meeting new United friends (during Covid, please email me to confirm the meeting will occur).

The next Indy Racers chapter meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 12th at Emmy Pancake House and Grill, 7508 Beechwood Center Road, Avon, IN 46123, (317) 272-7200 (Covid permitting).

Our future meetings schedule for 2020 is:

- February 9, 2021 at Emmy's
- March 9, 2021 at Emmy's
- April 13, 2021 at Emmy's
- May 11, 2021 at Emmy's

If you are in the Indianapolis area during any of our meetings, please consider breaking bread with us. We always enjoy meeting new United friends. For more information, please contact **Frank Ingegno**, figenius@sbcglobal.net.

MASSACHUSETTS

NOR'EASTERS

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



Greetings to all!

I got to talk with **Oscar Bauerle** recently, he turns 92 in December. I believe Oscar is the oldest Nor'Easter member. Keep on going Oscar! **Jayne & John Regan** are staying put at home like everyone else. She is glad their senior complex offers a lot of amenities, The Maple Ridge Estates, in Bedford, New Hampshire.

The Nor'Easters lost two members during November. **Jim Murray** was a pilot and a customer service agent. He wore many hats for the Nor'easters. We also lost **Patti Austin**, one of the three original Red Carpet Room ladies. Patti never realized what the position was going to do for the Red Carpet Room. **Mercedes Hersome**, another original Red Carpet lady, said Patti gave her all and made the position what it is today. Both were regular attendees and will be sorely missed.

January birthdays ~ **Bruce Eddy**, **Robert Lincoln** and **Sarah Pitt-wooll**.

January anniversaries ~ **Judy & Jim Kearney** (49 years), **John & Joyce Lagadinos** (57 years), and **Joan & Larry Meisner** (36 years).

Calendar:

Stay safe and stay healthy!

MICHIGAN



GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

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

This past month has not been kind to the DTWRR family. We received word that former DTWRR employee, **Bart Johnson** passed away recently. We have no further information.

Debbie Monette's brother, **Ron Stier**, died on November 3 from injuries that he sustained from a fall from the roof of his house. Cards may be sent to Debbie at 11151 Shamrock St., Windsor, Ontario, Canada N8P1M2.

Ed Black, brother of employee, **Camille Wade**, died on Thanksgiving Day in Youngstown, Ohio. Camille's contact is 5744 Charlesworth St., Dearborn Heights, MI 48127.

Joan Robinson's sister, **Elizabeth Ann Gothard**, passed away on November 28. Joan now lives in Florida and her address is 4514 SE 5th Place, Unit A, Cape Coral, FL 33904.

The husband of **Bev Roberts**, **Cary**, passed away from Covid 19 on November 30. Her address to send cards is 9045 Arnold, Redford, MI 48239.

Reservationist **Deborah Hill**, died on November 30. Deborah retired a few years ago. Her family's contact is 6808 Iowa, Hamtramck, MI 48212.

Retiree **Shirley Furdak**, passed away on December 2. She had been in assisted living for the last couple of years. We have no further information at this time.

Another retiree that passed away in the past few days was **Gail Buchanan**. No other information was provided to us.

Sharon Jacob's daughter, **Lisa Glomski**, let us know that her mother is now in hospice. Sharon's contact is 760 Robar Circle, White Lake, MI 48386.

On a happier note, **Ken & Kay Smith** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on November 29. Congratulations and best wishes to them.

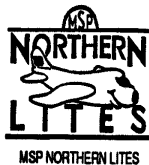
Thought for the month: *When this life is over, let the meaning of our lives be found not a list of accomplishments, but in the hearts and souls of the people with whom we shared our fragile existence.* ~ Mike Gass

Stay safe, healthy and happy.

MINNESOTA

NORTHERN LITES

Connie Glattly
82300 Wold Road
Willow River, MN 55795
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crglattly@frontiernet.net



Happy New Year, everyone! And a hearty obscene gesture to 2020 as it recedes in the rearview mirror. Thanksgiving was a complete bust due to Covid restrictions and as of this writing, traditional Christmas festivities don't look too promising, either. Will this never end?

Well, I got a few responses to my request for news in the last issue. Got a call from **Gordy Olson** to let me know that he & Lou are muddling along like the rest of us, so far healthy but staying close to home. They did, however, defy the edict from On High to not share Thanksgiving with family members by driving up north to be with some of Lou's family.

I also got a call from **Al Kilian**. He & **Mary** are pretty much restricted to their assisted-living apartment except for doctor visits. Their meals are delivered to them so they don't have to worry about cooking and grocery shopping. Mary is now wheelchair-bound, so Medicare's Home Health advocates are coming in 3 days a week to assist her (them). Al's brother is in an adjacent apartment, so at least they have him nearby.

Mary & Jim Brennan are staunch supporters of the U.S. military & in appreciation, their grandson Nicholas Hooker, loadmaster on an Air Force C130 transport aircraft, presented them with an American flag which was flown on the plane during a mission last August. The plane and its crew were part of the 75th Expeditionary Aircraft Force during a Combined Joint Task Force endeavor near Djibouti. The aircraft Commander and the entire crew signed the flag. The Brennans have it proudly displayed in a special presentation frame. I hear buttons popping again.



By the way, Nicholas Hooker is the son of the Brennan's daughter, Susan Hooker, who has been doing the annual Multiple Sclerosis Bike-a-thon fundraiser which our group has supported. Nick himself has ridden in the 3-day event a few times.

A touch of nostalgia ... here's a picture of **Dave Wiley** clowning around at the August, 2010 picnic he hosted at his home. I remember that day, it was so hot and sticky I thought I'd melt. The beer was flowing and everyone was having a good time (remember the longest-ball golf tournament?). Can hardly believe that was only 10 years ago.

Thanks to our resident historian and secretary, **Mary Brennan**, for the above bit of nonsense. If anymore of you have additional nuttiness

to share, bring it on!

NEBRASKA

OMAHA GOLDENEARS



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

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

NEVADA

LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

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



The Silverliners Board has been reviewing all data they can on the COVID-19 Virus and the start dates for distribution of the vaccine. The best we can determine is that in Phase 1 of the CDC plans persons 65+ years will get the vaccine shot in the first quarter of 2021. That is good news for us but it will be in the middle of the year before the population wide receives the vaccine. So we feel that gatherings and Luncheon Meetings will not be allowed till around September. We the Board have done our best to keep all our members informed and up to date on what the Directives are from the Governor's office and the CDC and how they affect us. We just want all our members to stay safe and healthy during this time, so when a vaccine is developed and a sense of normalcy returns to the world we can once again get together.

In October I sent our Members a letter going over the COVID news plus I requested Members to send in their 2021 Membership Dues so we can see what the Membership will look like forward to the coming year and react when times get better. Like all other groups I read about in the RUAEA Newsletter, the membership is in a steep decline. Members are not returning and many groups have just about disbanded or are holding maybe one get together a year. The same with our group, out of the 40+ members we only heard back from 17 members. That number is good compared to other groups but will cause us to find a different location for our meetings because we need a minimum of 25 Members. So, we have a lot to do after this horrific year of 2020 and prepare for the future and what ever it brings our way.

On December 4th, I was informed of the passing of a long time Silverliners Member, **Felix Cicco**. Felix suffered a neck injury and as a result he was hospitalized but lost his battle to overcome the injury. He will be missed by all.

The Silverliners hold our luncheon/meeting(s) on the second Thursday of every even month, our next Luncheon will be on February 11, 2021, the doors open at 11:00am. The meetings are held at Giuseppe's Italian Grill at 2630 W. Horizon Ridge Parkway Henderson, NV 89052. If you are in Las Vegas or planning a trip here you are more than welcome to come to our meeting and visit with our members, you may even know or worked with one of them. Email **Don Rutkowski** at geodon1192@gmail.com or call him at (702) 300-4038, we will be glad to see you.



RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

Pat Zoboli
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Reno, NV 89502
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zobolilady@aol.com

Sierra Roundup will not be having any meetings in November and December 2020. We are teetering on the edge of lock down due to slight increases of COVID in our area and a continuing ongoing rise in Las Vegas.

NEW JERSEY

THE GARDEN STATERS

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



The Garden Staters have canceled our meetings until the first of the year since we have been notified that our meeting place at Snuffy's in Scotch Plains has been permanently closed. As soon as we find a suitable place for us to meet, I will be sending our regular chapter reports.

NEW YORK

BUFFALO CHIPS

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



BUFFALO CHIPS

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

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

GUYS AND DOLLS



New York, NY
Barbara Hill
(212) 799-8061
btristan96@aol.com

It's with a heavy heart that I report the passing on November 29th, of **Marjorie Segal**, founder and President of NYC chapter, Guys and Dolls. She'd been in poor health since a fall on January 12th, 2020. She spent two months in the hospital/rehab, followed by two months at home with health care. In May, her niece, Nicole Segal, moved her to an assisted living facility in Pittsburgh, her home town. Unfortunately, she didn't improve, and spent the last month in hospice care.

Marge was a pioneer in many respects. Starting as a stewardess with Capital Airways in 1948, she became a supervisor with the UA merger in 1961, stationed at JFK. She was responsible for merging the seniority lists of the flight attendants for the two airlines. She then moved onto NYCSS, only the second woman in the department. She had success in selling the first Apollo computer system to a travel agency. She also spent several years as the Convention manager. Marge retired in 1990 from her very diverse career.

She made a mark, did not suffer fools, enjoyed a good joke, and an even better martini! She leaves behind many great memories, and a legion of friends. She had a great sense of humor. When asked, by a Chicago Sales

Rep, "How many all together sales reps are there in NYCSS?" Her reply was "There are no all together sales reps in NYCSS!" She will be missed!



NEW YORK METROS

Caroline Manelski
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Setauket, NY 11733
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There is no report this month from the New York Metros chapter of RUAEA.

OHIO

OHIO BUCKEYES

ualohbuckeyes@gmail.com



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

OREGON

OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland
Terry Hotchkin
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Battle Ground, WA 98604
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tthotchkin@gmail.com



Another month of self-isolating under our belts. We continue to monitor recommendations from the medical/scientific experts (ignoring social media and political pundits!) before deciding when it will be safe to resume meetings, especially considering that our age puts us in the highly vulnerable category. Our meeting site remains closed and I do not anticipate being able to consider resuming our meetings until sometime next year. The good news is that vaccine is on the horizon! It looks like we will be meeting again early next year.

We are sad to report that we heard from sister of **Billy Davis** advising that he passed away on Monday, November 16th. He was a skycap for many years at Portland International airport. He moved to Columbia, Missouri a number of years ago to be closer to family. She reported that he was still living in his own home as well as still driving; he was 96 years old. She said he was always talking about the people he worked with at the PDX and had many fond memories. If anyone wishes to send a condolence card; her name is **Rose Daniels** and the address is 6663 Bellefontaine Ave., Kansas City, MO 64132-1231.

That's all the membership news for now. While we wait to gather and laugh in person, I will again provide a few chuckles, this time thanks to member **Bob Woods**:

On Getting Older

- ☺ When one door closes and another door opens, you are probably in prison.
- ☺ To me, "drink responsibly" means don't spill it.
- ☺ Age 60 might be the new 40, but 9:00 pm is the new midnight.
- ☺ It's the start of a brand new day, and I'm off like a herd of turtles.
- ☺ The older I get, the earlier it gets late.
- ☺ When I say, "The other day", I could be referring to any time between yesterday and 15 years ago.
- ☺ I remember being able to get up without making sound effects.
- ☺ I had my patience tested. I'm negative.

- ☺ Remember, if you lose a sock in the dryer, it comes back as a Tupperware lid that doesn't fit any of your containers.
- ☺ If you're sitting in public and a stranger takes the seat next to you, just stare straight ahead and say, "Did you bring the money?"
- ☺ When you ask me what I am doing today, and I say "nothing", it does not mean I am free. It means I am doing nothing.
- ☺ I finally got eight hours of sleep. It took me three days, but whatever.
- ☺ I run like the winded.
- ☺ I hate when a couple argues in public, and I missed the beginning and don't know whose side I'm on.
- ☺ When someone asks what I did over the weekend, I squint and ask, "Why, what did you hear?"
- ☺ When you do squats, are your knees supposed to sound like a goat chewing on an aluminum can stuffed with celery?
- ☺ I don't mean to interrupt people. I just randomly remember things and get really excited.
- ☺ When I ask for directions, please don't use words like "east".
- ☺ Don't bother walking a mile in my shoes. That would be boring. Spend 30 seconds in my head. That'll freak you right out.
- ☺ Sometimes, someone unexpected comes into your life out of nowhere, makes your heart race, and changes you forever. We call those people cops.
- ☺ My luck is like a bald guy who just won a comb.

And closing with a beautiful Haiku, author unknown, discovered by member **Kathy Russell**:

We isolate now

So when we gather again

No one is missing.

Until next month remember: Also highly contagious is – Kindness, Patience, Love, Enthusiasm, and a Positive Attitude. Don't wait to catch it from others, be the carrier!

Calendar:

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

PENNSYLVANIA

THE INDEPENDENTS

Philadelphia, PA

Joyce W. Lindenmuth

Wesley Enhanced Living

100 Halcyon Dr., Room C-107

Media, PA 19063

(610) 521-2291

joycewildenmuth@gmail.com



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

PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

Bill Chicots

2419 Rochester Road

Sewickley, PA. 15143

(412) 352-7375

firechief158@gmail.com



I just received notice that **Imelda "Mel" Tritinger**, mother of retired CSR BOS/PIT/TPA **Linda McDonough**, passed away November 20, 2020 in Palm Harbor, FL. I also received a call from **Bob Taylor** that his wife **Carol** passed away in November. Prayers to all!

October Birthdays ~ **Doris Abbas, Joan Ference, and Bernie Juth.**

October Anniversaries ~ **Bill & Johnna Chicots (35th).**

November Birthdays ~ **Karen Moliterno, Lillian Lapceovich and Kay Frye.**

November Anniversaries ~ **Bob & Pat Wagner** and **Jim & Diane Weber**.

December Birthdays ~ **Bob Wagner**, **Mary Jane Stewart**, **Vic Ference**, **Marge Morton** and **Georgia Garcia**.

TENNESSEE

TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS



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

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

UTAH

SALT LAKE RETIREES

Rich Papworth
pappys72@hotmail.com



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

WASHINGTON

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle, WA
Gay Liesse
104 South 296th Place
Federal Way, WA 98003-3626
gllesse@aol.com



Yep – still locked down for the sake of health and safety. Rules and regulations have grown stricter and more limiting, as COVID-19 still holds sway over the US – and world - population. Let's hope that the antidotes and vaccines can end the devastation wrought by this voracious invader.

Congratulations to our own **Hank Gosselin**, past president of RUAEA, who was elected National RUAEA Vice President of Conventions last fall, returning to the Executive Board. Let's hope we can put Hank back to work for a 2021 meet.

An October Newsletter article described the development of the RUAEA website, noting the contributions of many well-known retirees, including Slicker **Jim Fauber** whose bio appeared in this column in February and March 2019 issues.

We appreciate the continued service of so many retirees who give of their time and share their experiences to make the organization function. Kudos to volunteers at all levels.

As pointed out in a special issue of our local Seattle chapter newsletter, **Judy Macklin**, correspondent for The Sand Dollars of Bradenton, Florida, thanked national newsletter correspondents in October for the interesting articles on United history and the retirees who made it happen. During these many months when actual meetings have been curtailed, regular chapter news is MIA. It's good to know that these "fillers" do provide entertaining information each month. (Thanks, Judy, from one of those correspondents, whose sister happens to live in Bradenton.)

In lieu of an impossible 6th annual collection of food, toys and cash for holiday charity drives, officers of the Emerald City Slickers provided a donation to Northwest Harvest, which supplies numerous food banks. Chapter members were invited to make personal contributions, perhaps mentioning their connection to RUAEA. The first five years of “in person” giving were initiated and operated by **Ed & Gay Liesse** with donations collected at October and November meetings and delivered to recipients by the Liesses.

We’ll miss another chapter member with the death of **Bob Howard** (SEAGQ/PV - and 22 years at SEAFO) on November 2, 2020. Raised in Portland, Oregon, Bob joined the Navy immediately after high school graduation, serving aboard the USS Yorktown as a flight mechanic. He met his late wife, **Marsha Porter** while stationed in Long Beach, California. After marrying in 1960, they lived in Portland, where Bob joined United, moving to the Seattle area with their 2 children three years later. Bob’s United career included stints as a crew scheduler, flight office manager and foreman of building and plant maintenance. Bob was known in the local chapter as organizer of annual golf tournaments, joined by retirees and active employees. He is survived by his wife **Kirk Ann**, children, grandchildren and other relatives.

David Fagerland, 82, another Navy man who flew Navy fighter jets for 4 years after his graduation from the University of Wisconsin in 1961 with dual degrees in business statistics and naval science, passed away November 14. He flew various planes, but his favorite remained the F8 Crusader. David’s next step was joining Pan Am in San Francisco before settling on Mercer Island, Washington in 1974, where he remained, though that meant commuting to Berlin and New York when the Seattle base closed. During that time, David was active in the Airline Pilots Association, representing the Seattle base of ALPA. When United bought Pan Am, Fagerland completed his career flying DC-10s for UAL. He is survived by his wife **Joyce**, children and grandchildren.

Other deaths include that of **Virginia Seberg Marion**, 95, (Seberg when she was known here), who retired from the Credit Union and is survived by a stepdaughter.

Norm Ediger (SEARR, Apollo Services, SEASS and SEACS and retired after 32 years of service to United) died October 13, 2020 of pancreatic cancer. **Marty**, Norm’s wife of 52 years, daughter, son and four grandchildren survive.

Last month we began telling **Ken Tank**’s story and his United connection, promising to continue next time. Well, you’ve heard that promises are made to be broken, and Ken’s tale will have to wait for the February issue.

As weird 2020 sails off into the sunset, the Emerald City Slickers send their Best Wishes for a vastly different 2021. Let’s hope the craziness of the coronavirus and the presidential election fade quickly and permanently into the past. Here’s to a ... ***Happy New Year!***

Calendar:

No gatherings/meetings scheduled



LILAC CITY FLYERS

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

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

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE DULLES LOUNGERS

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



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

NATIONAL



CLIPPED WINGS

Barbara Dunkelman
Clipped Wings Vice President
barbdunkelman310@gmail.com

As I am sitting at my computer thinking of all the things to say to you and reflecting on family and friends, I hope that each of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving, and did not eat too much. December is a busy month of celebrations as Hanukkah and Christmas are right around the corner. This is a great time to use Amazon Smiles which gives money back to Clipped Wings. To join go to [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), in the browse bar type Smiles, search Clipped Wings Air Lines Stewardess and Flight Attend, location LA Quinta CA/Founded:1963 and join! Happy shopping.

Some of the chapters have been fortunate enough to be meeting during these difficult times. Portland has been Zoom meeting the second Tuesday of each month. They also have a Zoom Book Club, which is a really neat way to stay in touch with members. The book they highly recommend is Lunch in Paris by Elizabeth Barb. Portland also does a Sharing Tree where they buy gifts for people less fortunate, working through local agencies.

St. Louis met for the first time in 8 months where they had a successful raffle to raise money for their chapter.

The Denver chapter had a record accumulative philanthropy total of \$2,131,187.00, combined with the National total amount of \$47,898.00, making the grand total of \$2,179,085.00. That is quite an impressive amount, congratulations to Denver!

The Pittsburgh chapter had their second meeting at a local city club to celebrate the holidays. Everyone was so happy to be together, but we all missed our good friend and past President, **Mary Gorski**. She was such an important part of our chapter, served for several terms, and continued to fly. We all miss her very much.

Oakland Clipped Wing member **Sarah Meade** is making United Air Lines masks, which are so cute and would make great gifts, as they are washable and adjustable. Sarah is selling them for \$10 and is donating \$5 of each sale to Clipped Wings. You can contact her at (925) 202 8584 or email her PUDGE@aol.com.

At this time of year I know we all get very busy with our own lives, but let's not forget the true meaning of the holiday season. My wish to all of you is to have a safe and happy holiday. I hope our lives will soon get back to normal, but until then a Happy and Healthy New Year to all.

If you know any former or current UAL/CAL Flight Attendants that would like more information about Clipped Wings, they can find us at www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org. We are a fun group even when we are apart and zooming!

NEW MEMBERS

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

Berg, Rolin E., SFOMP, 3362 Creighton Pl., Santa Clara, CA 95051
Krydynski, Ken, ORDMM, 4414 W. 115th Pl., Alsip, IL 60803
McDougald, Guadalupe, WHQPX, 5829 N. Kenton Ave., Chicago, IL 60646
Welch, Gary D., DENMM, 109 Shane Lane, Florence, AL 35634

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Joan L. Anderson, Marlene E. Anderson, Sina H. Beck, James Bicknase, Daniel Bolan, Marcia K. Brett, Sonia Brousseau, Ida C. Cummins, Esmee De La Mater, Blanche Eichorst, Pedro Franco, Marilyn Fry, Francis Gibbons, William J. Grubb, Linda I. Harris, Tom Heller, Mary C. Hill, William Hourston, Darlene Ikeya, Alcuin F. Kilian, Thomas Krause, Fred E. Kremerskotter, Paul Liebisch, Robert H. Lindberg, Gus Harrison London, Salvador D. Luna, John M. Lyon, Eileen K. McCarthy, Mary McCarville, Linda McCormack, Bette J. Mock, Ruth Morabito, Connie R. Nelson, Frances Oda, Manuel Ojeda, Joe M. Onodera, Rollo G. Opp, Patricia Ortega, Robert Palmer, Bonnie Ruliffson, Sue Sealey, Arc Seven, Kenneth A. Shabino, Franz Sonnberger, Casimir P. Spokas, Fred Stang, Carl F. Stengele, Patricia Tremont, Stanley T. Tsunemoto, Emily C. Turner, Harold P. Turney, Miriam Y. G. Ubben, Anthony J. Veglak, Joan J. Velotta, Sophie C. Wajda, Mary K. Wetherington, Charles R. Williams.

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.

Corrections: In the December issue, the obituary of Retiree **John Hotchkiss** DENTK has some errors. Johanna is listed as his first name - she was John's wife and is deceased. His son's name is John III. We apologize for the errors.

Retiree – **Bobrik, Edward V.**, on 11/30/2020, ORDMQ, husband of Maria Bobrik, 15571 W. Amelia Dr., Goodyear, AZ 85395

Retiree – **Borgan, Duane O.**, on 11/25/2020, ORDMM, husband of Sylviatte "Susie" "Sue" Borgan (deceased), 715 Olive St., Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

Retiree – **Codilis Sr., Ernest J. (Ernie)**, on 11/14/2020, ORDMM, husband of Lydia J. Codilis, 6950 S. Hillside Rd., La Grange, IL 60525

Retiree – **Dawes, Edward C.**, on 12/3/2020, PDXFF, husband of Loretta Dawes (deceased), 12422 E. Caspian Dr., Aurora, CO 80014

Retiree – **Esola, Louis H. (Harold)**, on 11/16/2020, SMFOZ, husband of Colleen Esola, 8080 Sunrise East Way Apt. 5, Citrus Heights, CA 95610

Retiree – **Fulscher, Toni**, on 11/13/2020, SFOLC – SAMC, survived by son Troy Fulscher, 1591 Dawnview Drive, Brentwood, CA 94513

Spouse – **Goetz, Gloria M.**, on 10/25/2020, wife of Kenneth M. Goetz, EXOAL (Deceased), mother of Sandra Fowler, 437 E. Germann Rd., Lot 104, San Tan Valley, AZ 85140

Retiree – **Kulik, Kenneth A.**, on 11/22/2020, ORDMM, husband of Sandy Kulik, 13241 W. Pine Grove Ct., Homer Glen, IL 60491

Retiree – **Mansfield, Richard E.**, on 2020, ORDCS, father of Mike Mansfield, 21143 Meadowlark St., Farmington, MI 48336

Retiree – **Marion, Virginia W.**, on 11/16/2020, SEACU, wife of Frank Marion (deceased), 919 109th Ave. NE, Apt. 407, Bellevue, WA 98004

Retiree – **Sanders, Herbert M. (Herb)**, on 11/7/2020, ORDCS, proud father of a great family, 6250 N. 19th Ave., Apt. 256, Phoenix, AZ 85015

Retiree – **Sheehan, James W.**, on 10/28/2020, WHQHR, husband of Marilyn Wild Sheehan, 1323 Hidden Knoll Ct., El Cajon, CA 92019

Retiree – **Szekretar, Charles**, on 11/16/2020, SFOPD, husband of Martha Szekretar, 4 Lexington Court, Granite City, IL 62040

Retiree – **Tempelmann, Martha**, on 10/28/2020, ORDPV, wife of Heinz Tempelmann (deceased), 2963 Talaga Dr., Algonquin, IL 60102

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:

Sina Beck, James Closser, Esmee de la Mater, Perry Duvall, Judy Godlove, Sarah Harris, Fred Higgins, Shirley House, Darlene Ikeya, Marylu Johnson, Paula Kielas, Thomas Krause, Lee Lack, Helene MacPherson, Anna McKenna, David Perkins, Brendalynn Riley, Marjorie Sandstrom, Arno and Betty Schaetzke, Margaret Schmitt, Joan Spilotro, Fred Stang, Patricia Tremont, John Woytovich.

WE HAVE RECEIVED LETTERS FROM:

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

Lucille Cox, 1665 Edgewood Dr., Algonquin, IL 60102

Thank you to all who volunteer and write the articles in the newsletter.

And special thanks to **Jan Gawenda** of the Chicago Skyliners for all of the info and humor she includes in her writing.

Hopefully we will all be able to get together for events in the not too distant future.

Blanche Eichorst, 1502 W. Orchard Pl., Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Thank you all so much for all the hard work you put in getting out the newsletter every month.

My husband and I look forward to all the information and stories that members send in.

I would like to especially thank **Jan Gawenda** for her wonderful, funny and uplifting stories. She is without a doubt a very talented lady and we want her to know how much we appreciate her during this most stressful time.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy holiday season and looking forward to a great 2021!

Alcuin Kilian, 1011 Feldt Ct., Apt 134, Hopkins, MN 55343

The Fast Life ~ 17 to 90 Years.

After 4 years in the Air Force, I started my airline career with Capital Airlines at Midway Airport in Chicago. I started as a mechanic in 1951. After 3½ in Chicago and 7 months in Detroit, I transferred to MSP where I worked as a mechanic, lead mechanic and foreman.

When maintenance was reduced at MSP, I transferred to Customer service, where I was Supervisor for the last half of my career. I retired in 1991, after 39½ years.

Now at age 90, I have a full time job being caregiver for my wife who is handicapped. We have been married for 68 years.

How did we get here so fast?

I say Hello, to all that I have met along the way.

Carol Lippincott, 7640 E. Mineral Pl., Englewood, CO 80112

First, I would like to say that **Jim Simon's** poem in the last newsletter was so heart warming. He brought up things we were all feeling.

In the early 1970's, I remember when the newsletter first got started. I was the secretary to the Regional Manager of Personnel in Denver. **Charlie Urbach** came in to ask our assistance. He said they were starting a RUAEA Newsletter. He was wondering if we could type up the names and addresses and print them on labels on our Xerox printer. He was told that we could and that became my job. Every month more names were added and it became too much for our office to handle. So the DENTK print shop took over.

And for several years many volunteers went to TK to attach labels on the newsletters for mailing.

I want to thank all of you that keep the newsletter coming. It keeps us up to date on many things.

Celena Nash, PO Box 747, Borrego Spgs, CA 92004

I would like to express my gratitude for the wonderful newsletter.

It is always much appreciated, but especially so now.

Thank you for all of your efforts.

Manuel Ojeda, 424 Halcon Ct., Calexico, CA 92231

Aloha to my friends and family. We celebrated Christmas in Mexico with the familia, and on my birthday I had cake and stayed at home to receive phone calls from my kids. On New Years we bring in the New Year at my niece Isabel's house. We had lots of tamales, roast pork, pozole and buenuelos.

In January we started to get ready for the Super Bowl. This year my cowboys didn't make it but that's ok. I wasn't feeling that good so we didn't have a big Super Bowl party like I normally do. The next day Esteban turned 28 years old. In the same month my grandson Andrew turned 20, my son Eugene turned 43 on the 6th, and my daughter Carmen turned ?? on the 19th.

In March I started getting my taxes and property tax ready for ol' Uncle Sam. There goes two of my monthly retirement checks. In March my granddaughter Carmencita, turned 13 and two weeks later we realized we were in the middle of a pandemic and had to learn new rules like wear a mask and socially distance and to stay indoors and only go out for essentials and dr appointments.

I want to thank Dr. Jorge Robles, Dr. Theodore Afue, Dr Michael Krutzik, and Dr Stephanie Brammer for keeping me healthy and out of trouble. Also I'd like to give my appreciation to Daniela Vazquez who is a counselor who checks in on my health every two weeks over the phone. Thank you to my favorite nurse, Nohemi. After March's announcement, we haven't really gone out or have our loved ones visit us since then.

In July my other daughter Debbie, celebrated her birthday.

In August my two grandsons, Kennedy and Augustino became a year older. Later that month my niece Mary brought my usual supply of dates.

On September 8th, my son Manny got older. September 22 was my 30th wedding anniversary with Leticia (wow) and two days later we celebrated her birthday with balloons, fresh smelling roses, and her favorite dish of Shrimp ala Mexicano.

In early October my grandson, Angelo turned the big 10 and received a phone for his birthday. Now he calls me to video chat all the time which I love. For Halloween Esteban and I decorated the-house for the spooky holiday. I gave about 40 bags with candy and treats-in a safe manor.

In November I got the great news that my granddaughter Jordann got engaged to her now fiancé, Andrew Daul. Congratulations! Another big news that month is that we will have a new president, Joe Biden, and first female Vice President, Kamala Harris. Congratulations to them. For Thanksgiving it will just be Esteban, Leticia, and I cooking, eating and watching football all day. Hopefully my Cowboys will win on that day.

Our plans for December are to celebrate Noche Buena (the 24th) at home with tamales, black beans, pork, and platanos fritos. And can you believe I'm turning 80 the day after Christmas. Corio, ya estoy bien viejo. On the 27th my other son Patrick will celebrate his ?? Birthday.

Happy Holidays to all! And let's hope next year will be a healthy one for all of you!!

Kenneth Paulson, 3927 N. 151st Dr., Goodyear, AZ 85395

Thank you for all the time you spend keeping all of us informed.

I am not an internet user, so I appreciate all the info that comes with the newsletter. My internet use all comes from access at the public library.

With the current Covid-19 environment, the library is closed and I have no direct contact with United.

John Thomas "Scotty" Thomas, 810 Gonzales Dr., Apt 7K, San Francisco, CA 94132

To all my friends:

This came from my brother-in-law, Eddie Woods. It was so great I had to pass it on. I just came out of the shower, and it is a lot tougher than it used to be, just like the email said. I feel better already.

This is right on the nose. Read it slowly. I don't know who wrote it, but I am guessing it was a senior. I first started reading this and was reading fast until I reached the 3rd sentence. I stopped and started over reading slower and thinking about every word. This is very thought provoking, make you stop and think.

And then it is winter, you know, time has a way of moving quickly and catching you unaware of the passing years.

It seems just yesterday that I was young, just married and embarking on my new life with my mate. Yet in a way, it seems like eons ago, and I wonder where all the years went. I know that I lived them all. I have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams. But here it is, the winter of my life and it catches me by surprise. How did I get here so fast? Where did the years go and where did my youth go?

I remember well seeing older people through the years and thinking that those older people were years away from me and that winter was so far off that I could not fathom it or imagine fully what it would be like. But here it is, my friends are retired and getting grey, they move slower and I see an older person now. Some are in better shape than me, but I see the great change. Not like the ones that I remember who were young and vibrant but, like me, their age is beginning to show and we are now those older folks that we used to see and never thought we'd be.

For each day now, I find that just getting a shower is a real target for the day! And taking a nap is not a treat anymore, it is mandatory! Because if I don't on my own free will, I just fall asleep where I sit!

And so, now I enter into this new season of my life unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and ability to go and do things that I wish I had done but never did!

But, at least I know, that though the winter has come, and I'm not sure how long it will last. This I know, that when it's over on this earth, it's not over. A new adventure will begin!

Yes, I have regrets. There are things I wish I hadn't done, but indeed, there are many things I'm happy to have done. It's all in a lifetime.

So, if you're not in your winter yet, let me remind you, that it will be here faster than you think. So, whatever you would like to accomplish in your life, please do it quickly! Don't put things off too long!

Life goes by quickly. So do what you can today, as you can never be sure whether this is your winter or not! You have no promise that you will see all the seasons of your life, so live for today and say all the things that you want your loved ones to remember and hope that they appreciate and love you for all the things that you have done for them in all the years past!

"Life" is a gift to you. The way you live your life is your gift to those who come after. Make it a fantastic one. Live it well, enjoy today, do something fun, be happy and have a great day.

Remember, "It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver." Live happy in this year and every year.

Lastly, consider the following: Today is the oldest you've ever been, yet the youngest you'll ever be, so enjoy this day while it last.

Your kids are becoming you.

Going out is good, coming home is better.

You forget names, but it is OK because other people forgot they even knew you.

You realize you're never going to be really good at anything.

The things you used to do, you no longer care to do, but you really do care that you don't care to do them anymore.

You sleep better on a lounge chair with the TV blaring than in bed. It is called "pre-sleep".

You miss the days when everything worked with just an "on" and "off" switch.

You tend to use more four letter words like what and when.

You notice everything they sell in stores is sleeveless.

What used to be freckles are now liver spots.

Everybody whispers.

You have 3 sizes of clothes in your closet, 2 of which you will never wear.

But Old is good in some things, like old song, old movies and best of all old friends!

Stay well, Old Friend. Send this on to other old friends and let them laugh in "agreement"!

It is not what you gather but what you scatter that tells what kind of life you have lived.

Michael Vasko, 364 Amalfi St., Henderson, NV 89104

Any retiree who worked for UAL under the IAM Mechanics Agreement (known as the Orange Book) may have a Life Insurance Policy. Most employees that worked under that contract had one.

If anyone knows any retiree or retiree's spouse that passed away, contact that retiree or retiree's family to let them know of it.

Notes

William Anderson

I have been retired for 19 years. We still live in the SFO Bay area. We enjoy and appreciate the good information that the newsletter supplies. Thank you for all of your hard work.

Tom Heller

Thanks for your fine work on the newsletter. It is great to see the names of so many friends enjoying retired life, and recall the fond memories of working together for over 34 years.

Ken Krydynski

I retired in July 2020 under the VSP2 package. It was kind of a quick decision but a wise one. I am now enjoying the better things in life, my 6 grandchildren.

Fred Kremerskotter

With no trips this year, I don't have any news to report other than having turned 85 this year.

Thank you folks for hanging in there during this difficult year and producing our fine newsletter.

Important Phone Numbers



Updated 5/2020

United Airlines Benefits Center (Central Time)

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

United Employee Service Center

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

1-847-825-3729 - International Use

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

For flight information and to list or change listing
Password for Pass Line –your birthday, mmddyy
\$25 fee to create new booking

Employee Travel Center

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

Flying Together Help Desk

1-800-255-5801

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

Aetna Medicare Advantage 1-866-246-8088

BC/BS 1-800-535-9825

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

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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 Secretary:
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	<i><u>Membership Dues</u></i>		
	<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Canada/Mexico</u>	<u>Foreign</u>
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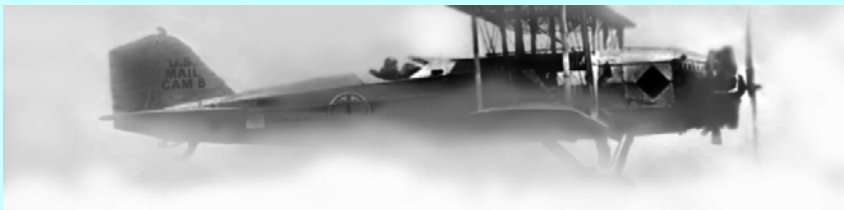
United Airlines Historical Foundation

**"Preserving the Past,
Inspiring the Future"**

What happens when the Government controls Private Business. (Part 1 of 3)

In 1927 William Boeing began flying San Francisco - Chicago on an Airmail Contract. In 1928 he added Pacific Air Transport which flew the Los Angeles - Seattle Airmail route. Then in late 1928 Fredrick Rentschler suggested they join their companies.

On February 1, 1929 the United Aircraft & Transportation Corporation (UATC) was formed with Philip Johnson as President, Johnson was also made the President or Vice-President of each of the individual companies and other UATC subsidiaries such as Boeing Airplane Company, Pratt & Whitney Engines, Chance Vought, Hamilton Standard Propeller Co., Sikorsky Aircraft Co. (which then built flying-boats), Stearman Aircraft Co. and Northrop Aircraft Co. Within a year Stout Air Services was added. On March 31, 1930 National Air Transport was added and three months later Varney Air Lines was acquired.



In July 1931, William Alan "Pat" Patterson was named General Manager of the Air Transport division and he moved from Seattle to Chicago taking charge of the new United Headquarters building at Midway Airport. At this time, the Air Transport division owned no Airplanes or

other equipment, had signed no contracts, had no earnings and was supported by the four Air Transport companies.

This fact was to become important on February 1934 when the Franklin Roosevelt Government abruptly canceled the Mail Contracts effective February 19th. The government's decision to have Army pilots fly the mail was disastrous. The pilots were unprepared for flying long distances in foul weather and at night. In 78 days twelve Army pilots died in crashes, ten died in the first 3 weeks.

Roosevelt put the airmail contracts back for bids, but decreed that all Airline Executives who had attended the former Postmaster General Brown's "Spoils Conference" were barred for five years from participation in any future Airmail Contracts.

Money from the Airmail Contracts had been 45 percent of United's total revenue and although increasing steadily, the Passenger, Express and Cargo Revenue fell far short of supporting the Airline. Patterson made the decision to keep all of his Transport Companies flying their full schedules, hoping that additional Passengers, Express and Cargo would replace the lost Mail Revenue.

His argument was *"Our Pilots and Ground Crews have to eat ... this is our opportunity to show our people that they are in a Stable Business"*. United lost more than one million dollars (over \$19,500,000 in 2020 dollars) during the quarter that followed, flying with airplanes half-full of passengers.

By Marvin Berryman DENTK Retired.

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