



Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

WWW.RUAEA.ORG



ISSUE NO. 582

FEBRUARY 2023

Sailing the South Pacific Contributed By Pete Molloy

Son-in-law of Sacramento Gold Diggers' members Ken & Stephanie Norton

In 1994 my first wife, Cathy, and I sailed our 35 foot sailboat from San Diego, CA to Auckland, New Zealand. In a straight line that's about 6,500 miles. To go around the world is about 25,000 miles.

We got the idea to do this after reading the book *Dove* where a 16 year old Robin Lee Graham sails around the world alone. We saved all the money we could and looked at boats from San Diego to Santa Barbara. We took sailing lessons in Newport Beach. Finally we bought a boat that needed a lot of work and maybe we got a reasonable price on it. After that we spent about a year fixing it, sailing it and provisioning it with the equipment that we thought we needed. There was no refrigerator or shower. We had a two month supply of food and water. The food had to be non-perishable since there was no refrigeration. It was a somewhat small boat and when you were at sea you needed to be tethered to the boat and had to be alert 24/7. We had a sextant and a GPS for navigation. Being offshore in a small boat is not for everyone, but we thought we were ready.

Our first leg was down the west coast of North America as far as Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. This was our shake down leg of the trip where we planned to get more confident before leaving the coast for the South Pacific. It was a pretty good plan.



The weather was cold most of the way down Baja and it felt wonderful when it got warm around Cabo San Lucas. We were on our own time now and the pressures of work were mostly behind us. We met other boaters in Mexico and did our final provisioning in Puerto Vallarta before heading offshore.

Our big crossing was 21 days of sailing day and night until we made it to a tiny island called Hiva Oa, in the Marquesas. When we got there we knew the folks on half the boats in anchorage. We were greeted warmly with some local food and where to go for what we needed to do. Mostly we needed to sleep. The trip was mostly uneventful, but three weeks at sea is a lot. This starts the best part of the trip. The time spent at sea between islands was shorter and mostly comfortable. If you ever had a romantic idea of going sailing it would be in the warm water of the South Pacific. In a few days we moved to the other side of the island where some natives were camping and hunting pigs. We pulled in after catching a good size Wahoo fish and shared it with everyone. I got invited to go on the pig hunt the next day.

They killed the pig with a knife and I got the honor of carrying it down the mountain. At every step, I got more and more warm pig blood on me until I was soaked. It was a good dinner and a good story too.

There are three kinds of islands in the South Pacific, mountainous islands with no barrier reef like the Marquesas Islands that we were heading out of. Then you have mountainous islands with a barrier reef like Tahiti and Bora Bora. Finally, there are islands that just have a barrier reef. Those islands are called Atolls like Rangiroa in the Tuamotus, which would be our next stop. The water inside the barrier reef of an atoll is very clear and great for diving. Rangiroa is the only place where we saw giant clams. Then it was time to go to French Polynesia.

We stayed in French Polynesia for more than 2 months. We had two sets of visitors come and see us. Then when it was time to move on, the wind was too high for us. The wind was a pretty constant 25 to 30 knots with gust into the 40's. We waited a week on Bora Bora for the wind to ease off. One Boater decided he would go and we listened to his radio report - he had waves go over his boat. Not fun and he lost stuff and sustained damage to the boat. Nobody else decided to follow. A day or so later the winds calmed down a bit and we were off. This delay was not good because it was getting



GENERAL NEWS

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Sailing the South Pacific continued ...

..... close to hurricane season in the South Pacific and we were behind schedule - we didn't really have a schedule up until now. We then went to Penrhyn Island in the Cook Islands. I think it took a week to get there but the sailing was good. This was our warmest stop. 9 degrees south was our closet anchorage to the equator. It is easy to get a cut on your foot when you walk through the water and normally, I don't think anything of it. Here we needed to put a topical antibiotic on any cut right away. Several people had swollen hands and feet from infections, and several had to take antibiotics due to fever. There isn't a doctor in most places, and you need to take common meds with you. Anyway, it was a really good stop. The people here have nothing and yet they have everything they need. Many people that invited us into their houses didn't even have chairs to sit on. But they wanted to share an orange with us. Only about 10 boats a year go to Penrhyn and it is a big deal when a new boat pulls in. At night the young people get together and play the ukulele and sing. If you watch my video the music is from this stop. Here's a link to my video of the trip. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WVEclKcXiFA&t=35s>.

Next, we went to American Samoa and Western Samoa. Good stops and very interesting people. Then we went to the Tonga island chain. On the way we had a bulkhead delaminate from the hull. It happened when we were sailing upwind and in the middle of the night. This was a very big deal and luckily, we were close enough to an island to motor the rest of the way to the northernmost island of Tonga. This was at what was probably our most remote island stop. There were no lights on at night. The locals used dugout canoes and horses to get around. The tropics are historically interesting. This is a land where no one ever goes hungry, and no one is ever cold. They were living much like they did 100 years ago; very interesting indeed but they don't have materials to repair my boat. We radioed back to Pago Pago in American Samoa for someone to bring the stuff we needed to fix our boat so we could sail again. It probably took 2 weeks to get the fiberglass and do the repairs, but this was 2 weeks we didn't have to spare. This delay and the weather delay at Bora Bora meant that we would still be in the tropics at the start of hurricane season. This was not the plan but there really wasn't anything I could do but be careful about the weather when we set out. Tonga is a really nice place, and we made a few stops. It was a shame that we needed to go because this was one of those places you want to stay. We made it down to the southern tip of Tonga, Nuku'alofa, which is a good size city. Here I was able to fix both my self-steering autopilots and make other repairs clean up and get some food. We were listening to the radio and the first hurricane of the season had started but wasn't near us. But there were boats out there in trouble. We waited at a dock ready to leave and listened to the weather report day by day. You talk to other boaters and one by one they pick their day to leave.

We picked the day and headed out for a nine-day sail. We made an overnight stop at Minerva reef for Thanksgiving dinner. There is no land at Minerva reef. We listened to the weather report but didn't understand what a cold front moving through our area would mean. We had a sudden wind shift of 180 degrees and then the wind really picked up. We came very close to losing the boat on the reef there and it was hours until we got back to safety. It's a very good thing that happened during the daytime. We had some damage, but the big worry was one of Cathy's eyes was very dilated. We turned on the Ham radio and got to talk to a doctor from New Zealand and asked what to do. Lucky for us he figured it out. She got some topical medicine in her eye and we just had to wait. (Don't cut your scopolamine patches in two to save money.) In the morning we headed out for what we hoped would be a 7-day sail to New Zealand. Things started out good. Then our engine failed because I ran it too hard at Minerva reef. With 100% cloud coverage, our solar panels would not generate any electricity, so we had no way to recharge our batteries. This was a very big deal because we would now be sailing through a very busy shipping channel, and we needed our radios and navigation light to work. Then we got our worst weather of the trip. When the winds are too high, you reduce the sail area so you are not overpowered. Here the waves were taller than the mast of the boat. Maybe 30 or 40 feet high but they are spaced out more than the little waves. When you are on top of a wave you can look for ships, but you don't really want to be outside. At one point we took all of our sails down and deployed a small sea anchor. The sea anchor keeps the boat straight - keeps it from going sideways when you get hit by a wave. Even with the anchor out we were doing nearly full

speed. In this weather it is very important to keep the hatch to the boat closed. If wave water fills the cockpit, it will drain out. If water gets inside the boat, you may not have enough pumping capacity to get it out. If you are outside, you are definitely going to be clipped into your harness. Everything in the boat was wet and we were wet and cold. I tried to stay outside looking for ships during the daytime. At night, I hoped a ship might see our lights and avoid us. We never saw a ship and eventually the weather eased up so we could sail again.

We smelled the grass on New Zealand about 100 miles offshore which was way before we could see it. You might not get excited about the smell of grasslands, but it was something I'll never forget and truly a cause for excitement. On December 6th, 1994 we pulled into the Bay of Islands New Zealand. The local store had really good-looking food and we had no money because the banks had closed. They said take what you need and pay us tomorrow. It was a really good dinner. We didn't plan to stop sailing in New Zealand but I didn't want to continue in our small boat that broke. I was offered my job back and we made a plan to save money for a bigger boat. We flew back home.

Letter from the President



Hi Everyone,

I hope you are doing well. I'm personally tired of the cold and snow; it can all leave for awhile, I'm jealous of our southern chapters. Here in Colorado, we had a lot of snow about two weeks ago and it is still around which is pretty unusual except it also hit minus 20 degrees for a few days.

A reminder that whenever we get upset at UAL service, we need to look back at Southwest's 17,000 cancelled flights. I can't believe in this day and age that something like that can happen during Holiday travel, but of course I also don't know all the internal problems they were having, but 20,000 bags in DEN?

We should be coming out with the information for our 2023 RUAEA Reunion in SAN (September 29th – October 4th) so please make your room reservations. Remember you can make them now and cancel up to 24 hours before the arrival date with no charge.

I hope you all will consider coming this year and enjoy a great time in a great place with all our friends in the Airline industry who have retired; and some who have not but just want to be with people that are having a good time. Thank you!

Don Burbank
RUAEA President

Letter from the Vice President – Conventions



Hi Folks,

Are you in the process of planning your 2023 vacations? Come join us for a wonderful and reasonable vacation in San Diego; a great city with so many things to do and to be a part of. Yes, RUAEA is planning a Convention in San Diego; September 29th – October 4th.

This year we are calling it a "Reunion" of Airline Employees, family and friends at the outstanding Dana Hotel. With an exceptional room rate of \$135.00 per night (only a \$6 increase from last year). Again, it includes 2 free breakfasts per room night, free parking, and waived resort fee.

We will have RUPA and ARECA joining us for this Reunion, and of course, RUAEA retirees, family and friends. We are again planning four great tours; information on them will be available soon. Also, two great parties: One is called "*Oktoberfest*" and the other "*Tropical Nights*"; a chance for all to wear clothing representing the themes.

The June 2023 Issue of the RUAEA Newsletter will contain the Convention package (Reunion Package); giving you a chance to plan your Reunion with other attendees.

In the coming issues of the RUAEA Newsletters, I will provide you with necessary information to make your room reservations at the Dana Hotel. It is very important that you reserve a room soon. We can only block

a certain number of rooms in our contract. If I have a good idea early on, I can negotiate to increase our room block. There were a few last year that were unable to get the Convention room rate. Remember you can cancel your room reservation if your plan changes.

Please read the RUAEA Newsletter for all the upcoming information on our Reunion. **Barbara Drews** from the RESANS chapter is planning articles with interesting information about San Diego. **Betty Tomaino** has volunteered again to be the Reunion Chairperson. Yes, she will be soliciting your help for various positions throughout the event; if you can help, let her know.

Many have volunteered to help and serve as chairpersons of various committees, and of course others who have filled positions for a number of years. I will let you know in coming issues who they are and if you wish to work directly with these chairpersons, you can personally contact them.

Please plan on joining us at our Reunion if you can!

Hank Gosselin
RUAEA VP Conventions

From the Membership Desk

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



Dear RUAEA Members,

We have a few members from time to time who think that they need a login (Userid and Password) to renew online on our website (ruaea.org). All you need to renew online is your File Number and a valid email address. There is no need for a Userid or Password.

You may have noticed that for your convenience, we have included a QR (Quick Response) code on the back cover of the Newsletter, next to your mailing address. Scan this QR code with your smart phone or device and it will take you directly to the RUAEA website page that allows you to renew your membership or join RUAEA.

United Airlines Unveils Historic Order to Purchase **Up To 200 New Boeing Widebody Planes** **December 13, 2022**



United Airlines today announced the largest widebody order by a U.S. carrier in commercial aviation history: 100 Boeing 787 Dreamliners with options to purchase 100 more. This historic purchase is the next chapter in the ambitious United Next plan and will bolster the airline's leadership role in global travel for years to come.

United expects to take delivery of the new widebody planes between 2024 and 2032 and can choose among the 787-8, 9 or 10 models, providing flexibility to support a wide range of routes.

United also exercised options to purchase 44 Boeing 737 MAX aircraft for delivery between 2024 and 2026 - consistent with the United Next 2026 capacity plan - and ordered 56 more MAX aircraft for delivery between 2027 and 2028.

The airline now expects to take delivery of about 700 new narrow and widebody aircraft by the end of 2032, including an average of more than two every week in 2023 and more than three every week in 2024.

Additionally, United continues its unprecedented effort to upgrade the interiors of its existing fleet. More than 90% of the carrier's international widebodies now feature the United Polaris® business class seat, as well as United Premium Plus® seating – upgrades for the remaining aircraft will be completed by the summer of 2023. United also will retrofit 100% of its mainline, narrow-body planes with its signature interior - about 100 aircraft are scheduled to be completed in 2023 with the remaining expected to be completed by the end of 2025.

Approximately 100 planes of the new widebody order are expected to replace older Boeing 767 and Boeing 777 aircraft, with all 767 aircraft removed from the United fleet by 2030, resulting in an up to 25% decrease in carbon emissions per seat for the new planes compared to the older planes they are expected to replace.

"United emerged from the pandemic as the world's leading global airline and the flag carrier of the United States," said United CEO Scott Kirby. "This order further solidifies our lead and creates new opportunities for our customers, employees and shareholders by accelerating our plan to connect more people to more places around the globe and deliver the best experience in the sky."

“With this investment in its future fleet, the 737 MAX and 787 will help United accelerate its fleet modernization and global growth strategy,” said Stan Deal, president and CEO of Boeing Commercial Airplanes. *“The Boeing team is honored by United’s trust in our family of airplanes to connect people and transport cargo around the world for decades to come.”*

Driving Bottom Line Value ~ The firm order for 787 aircraft addresses United’s current widebody aircraft replacement needs through the next decade – their greatly improved maintenance and fuel burn economics will further United’s efforts to improve its overall cost profile. In partnership with Boeing, this order also helps United maintain flexibility with the timing of widebody aircraft retirements.

At the same time, the 787 options allow United to continue to grow its global network and would help maintain the airline’s industry-leading margins in international flying among U.S. carriers.

“This order solves for our current widebody replacement needs in a more fuel-efficient and cost-efficient way, while also giving our customers a best-in-class experience,” said Gerry Laderman, United’s EVP and Chief Financial Officer. *“And if the future of long-haul flying is as bright as we think it will be, United is able to capitalize on those opportunities by exercising these new widebody options - I look forward to the incremental margin and earnings these aircraft will generate.”*

The exercised options for MAX aircraft are consistent with the 2026 capacity and two margin targets associated with the United Next plan. United also has started to build the order book for 2027 and beyond with the firm order for 56 additional MAX aircraft.

The Flag Carrier of the United States ~ With hubs in the nation’s largest cities, United provides strategic gateways to international destinations across the Atlantic, Pacific and Latin America.

In the last two years alone, United added 13 new international destinations, 40 new international routes and extra trips to 10 existing international routes. This expansion includes service to London-Heathrow, where the airline added five new daily flights, for a total of 23 daily flights planned for summer of 2023, including an hourly shuttle there from New York/Newark.

United now serves double-digit international destinations from each of its U.S. hubs:

- ▲ 78 via Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR)
- ▲ 56 via George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH)
- ▲ 45 via Chicago O’Hare International Airport (ORD)
- ▲ 41 via Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)
- ▲ 32 via San Francisco International Airport (SFO)
- ▲ 18 via Los Angeles International Airport (LAX)
- ▲ 17 via Denver International Airport (DEN)

“Our widebody fleet will be re-energized by these new 787 deliveries and further strengthen what we do best: connect people and unite the world with modern, customer friendly and fuel-efficient aircraft,” said Andrew Nocella, United’s EVP and Chief Commercial Officer. *“United is uniquely positioned to capture international travel demand thanks to our global network, fleet size and gateway hubs. This combination represents a significant advantage for our business for years to come and another reason for business and leisure customers to choose United.”*

#1 Across the Atlantic ~ This past summer United became the largest airline between the U.S. and the Atlantic region, consisting of Europe, the Middle East, India and Africa.

Earlier this year, United kicked off the largest transatlantic expansion in its history with the launch of ten new flights – including to several places no other North American carrier serves like Amman, Jordan; Tenerife, Canary Islands; Ponta Delgada, Azores and Mallorca, Spain.

Next summer, United’s Atlantic expansion will continue with new service to three cities – Malaga, Spain, Stockholm, Sweden; and Dubai, UAE – as well as six more flights to some of the most popular destinations in Europe, including Rome, Paris, Barcelona, London, Berlin and Shannon. In total, United will fly nonstop to 37 cities in Europe, Africa, India and the Middle East next summer, more than all other U.S. airlines combined.

#1 Across the Pacific ~ United is also the largest carrier from the U.S. across the Pacific and will serve 20 transpacific routes at the beginning of 2023, with more returning throughout the year. Excluding Mainland China and Hong Kong, United’s capacity across the Pacific will exceed 2019 levels next year.

The most notable expansion in this region has been in the South Pacific, and in Australia in particular. United was the only airline to operate continuously between the U.S. and Australia during the pandemic, maintaining a vital supply chain link and helping families stay connected. As Australia gears up for its first full southern summer tourist season in nearly three years, United will have more flights connecting Australia and the U.S. than any other airline.

United offers a total of six nonstop routes that link Australia's three largest cities – Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane – with three key U.S. tourist and trade hubs – San Francisco, Los Angeles and Houston. Plus, the recently launched codeshare partnership with Virgin Australia also allows travelers to make easy connections to more than 20 additional cities within Australia, helping support the country's broader economic recovery.

United also continues to build back other transpacific services. In January 2023, the airline plans to fly 48 times per week from the Continental U.S. to Japan, including new service from Newark/New York to Haneda and the relaunch of San Francisco to Osaka.

New Flights to Africa, India & the Middle East ~ In the last three years, United added five new nonstop flights to four cities in Africa and now offers nonstop routes to Cape Town and Johannesburg from Newark/New York and to Accra, Ghana; Lagos, Nigeria and Cape Town from Washington D.C. United's recent agreement with Emirates, which begins with a new nonstop flight between Newark/New York and Dubai, UAE in March 2023, will significantly expand the airline's reach in the Middle East and India, opening easy connections to nearly 100 cities in the region on Emirates and its sister airline flydubai.

Strategic Collaborations ~ United has forged alliances and strategic agreements with many of the world's leading global airlines and travel companies to give customers even more options and help make world travel more accessible. The airline was a founding member of Star Alliance, giving customers reciprocal travel and loyalty program benefits on 26 global airlines and allowing easy connections almost anywhere in the world. United has close working relationships with its joint venture partners the Lufthansa Group, Air Canada, All Nippon Airways, and Air New Zealand and holds codeshare agreements with leading airlines like Virgin Australia and Emirates.

The 787 Customer Experience ~ Each United 787 features four on-board products: United Polaris business class, United Premium Plus, Economy Plus®, and economy, providing an elevated and consistent experience throughout the airline's international widebody fleet. Consistently ranked by customers as the highest scoring aircraft in United's fleet in terms of overall satisfaction, all 787 aircraft also include larger windows, LED lighting, a lower cabin altitude setting and higher humidity, so customers feel more hydrated and better rested upon arrival.

“Our fleet of 787 aircraft brings together the best parts of the United customer experience - helpful, friendly service, terrific amenities and best-in-class technology,” said Linda Jojo, United's EVP and Chief Customer Officer. *“And customers just love our Polaris products – from our airport lounges, amenities and seat-back screens to big seats that turn into beds, luxury blankets and pillows and plenty of room for storage. We're proud to offer customers more lie-flat seat options than all other U.S. carriers combined.”*

Each United Polaris business class seat offers all-aisle access, wool blend seat covers for breathability and a memory foam layer for extra comfort, as well as 16-inch high-definition touch screens and noise-reducing headphones that include free access to more than 1,000 movies, TV shows, audio playlists, podcasts, and games.

All United Premium Plus seats include a six-inch recline, 13-inch seat back screens, and an amenity kit with pillow and blanket at every seat. Economy Plus and economy customers have 10-inch screens at every seat.

The seatback experience throughout the entire 787 aircraft also includes United's Inflight Entertainment System (IFE) with accessibility features for people with hearing or visual disabilities. And United plans to add Bluetooth connectivity throughout new 787 aircraft so customers have the option of using their own headphones.

Premium Onboard Amenities ~ United Polaris customers also receive custom Saks Fifth Avenue bedding that includes a duvet, day blanket, and pillow - items like mattress pads, slippers and United's signature cooling gel pillows are available upon request. Plus, earlier this year United debuted new amenity kits from Away that include Sunday Riley skincare products.

United Polaris Lounge ~ Every United Polaris customer also has access to the United Polaris Lounge – with locations in Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Newark/New York, San Francisco and Washington D.C. – with amenities that include spa-like shower facilities, a full-service restaurant and curated buffet, as well as daybeds with soft lighting and white noise.

Creating Tens of Thousands of Careers ~ Today's order also is expected to lead to increased hiring – the airline hired 15,000 people in 2022 and is on track to add another 15,000 next year. *“When I look at our culture and the trajectory of our brand and company, I know this is the best time to join United Airlines,”* said Kate Gebo, United's EVP of Human Resources and Labor Relations. *“We're not just creating jobs – these are long-lasting careers that offer great pay, outstanding benefits and flight privileges to see the world. And the best part is we're actively hiring across every role at the airline.”*

Pilots ~ United continues to see strong interest in pilot roles, from military and civilian backgrounds as well as from other carriers. In 2022, the airline hired about 2,400 pilots and plans to add more than 2,500 pilots in 2023, with a goal to add 10,000 pilots this decade.

Earlier this year, United opened the United Aviate Academy, with a goal of training 5,000 new pilots at the school by 2030 with the goal of at least half being women or people of color. To date, the airline has received more than 22,000 applications for admissions - nearly 70% of applicants are women or people of color - and the Aviate Academy's 2022 graduating class is more than 60% diverse.

Flight Attendants ~ United will hire more than 18,000 new flight attendants in the coming years with more than 4,000 expected to join the team in 2023 - earlier this year, the airline received 8,000 applications in less than 72 hours for open flight attendant roles.

Early next year, United will open a state-of-the-art Inflight Training Center in Houston featuring 50,000 square feet of classroom space and an aquatics center for safety training. The new facility allows for the training of more than 8,000 flight attendants per year and provides a more realistic customer service environment that will better prepare those in training to deliver the best possible experience to customers.

Aircraft Maintenance ~ United expects to hire more than 7,000 maintenance technicians by 2026 to provide upkeep of its fleet and ensure facilities meet the needs of employees and customers. The airline hired more than 1,000 aircraft mechanics already this year and expects to add 2,000 more in 2023.

In November 2022, United launched Calibrate, a 36-month apprenticeship program to grow and diversify its pipeline of aircraft technicians – through that program, the airline plans to train 1,000 new aircraft technicians by 2026, with the goal of at least half being women or people of color.

Airport Operations ~ This year alone, United hired more than 8,500 new customer service, ramp, and gate agents and expects to add another 7,000 in 2023. These are critical roles in United's operation - the people who work the gate or on the tarmac help ensure customers have a safe, enjoyable and on-time travel experience.

Local Hiring ~ In 2023, United expects to hire across each its U.S. hubs:

- ▲ 2,600+ new jobs in Chicago / ORD
- ▲ 2,200+ new jobs in San Francisco / SFO
- ▲ 2,100+ new jobs in Newark/New York / EWR
- ▲ 1,800+ new jobs in Houston / IAH
- ▲ 1,800+ new jobs in Denver / DEN
- ▲ 1,100+ new jobs in Washington, D.C. / IAD
- ▲ 400+ new jobs in Los Angeles / LAX

Better Fuel Efficiency & Lower Carbon Emissions ~ United has set an ambitious goal to be 100% green by reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 100% by 2050, without relying on traditional carbon offsets. To get there, the airline is introducing more fuel-efficient aircraft into its fleet and investing in sustainable aviation fuel and other decarbonization technologies.

According to Boeing, the 787 Dreamliner contributes up to a 25% improvement in fuel efficiency and lower carbon emissions per seat compared with the airplanes it replaces through new engines, an expanded use of lightweight composite materials, more efficient systems applications and modern aerodynamics.

Boeing has worked to reduce the sound footprint - the distance across which disturbing noise is heard - for the 787 Dreamliners, which incorporate new technologies to ensure that no sound of 85 decibels - about the level of loud traffic heard from the side of the road - leaves the airport boundaries. In fact, the noise footprint of the 787 is more than 60 percent smaller than those of the airplanes it replaces.

So Simple From Sheryl



Talk about simple! It cannot get any simpler and any more delicious than this recipe. Maybe you can have this for Valentine's dinner? This recipe sounds strange, but you will never believe the flavor.

An interesting note, I did my first recipe for this column in August 2014 so this is my 50th recipe! Very hard to believe.

Oatmeal Pie:

- 2 eggs, beaten
- 2/3 cup margarine, melted
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 2/3 cup corn syrup (dark)
- 2/3 cup uncooked oatmeal (fast cooking)

¼ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon vanilla
Mix ingredients. Pour into uncooked pie shell (either homemade or pre-made). Cover edge of crust with foil to prevent burning.
Bake 350 for 1 hour.
Serve with whipped cream.

Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter

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

Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to John Chu at johnqchu@hotmail.com and ruaeai@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.

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LOCAL NEWS

ALABAMA



SWEET HOME ALABAMA

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

ARIZONA

PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S

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Welcome to a new year, 2023! Let's hope it will bring awesome things like good or better health and lots of happy days for everyone!

Our December breakfast had 19 people in attendance. As usual, it was a good time being together. We talked about the fun time we had at the Christmas Luncheon. Our VP **Peg Snowdall** discussed the possibility of having some additional luncheons during the year. It would require members to host them. They don't have to be as big of an event like the Christmas luncheon Peg planned. Just find a restaurant or diner they like and arrange for our group to meet there for lunch.

Next Breakfast will be on January 27 at 9AM, Black Bear Diner, 1890 E. Baseline Road in Gilbert. Please notify our VP **Peg Snowdall**, (480) 396-3317 or email her at phomfeldt@cox.net a couple of days before so she can notify the restaurant. We have a private room to the left as you enter the restaurant.

January Birthdays ~ **Molly Norwood**, **Barb Paymaster** and **Dakota Morris-Terry**.

January Anniversaries ~ **Dakota & Dillon Morris-Terry** and **Barbara Hartough**.

Happy New Year! Please be healthy and happy!

Calendar:

January 27 – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner in Gilbert

TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Pat Sommer Di Lallo, Treasurer

14740 N. Palmwood Dr.

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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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sbsimonton@comcast.net



Neither rain, snow or wind would keep our members and spouses from the Christmas luncheon held at the home of **Vincent & Kay Neidlinger** on December 14th. The house was beautifully decorated and the luncheon was wonderful. Vincent & Kay provided the meat and everyone brought a side dish or dessert.

President **Merritt Odor** held a mini meeting welcoming everyone and thanking the Neidlingers for opening their home. Merritt asked for birthdays or anniversaries. **Vincent & Kay Neidlinger** celebrated their 55th anniversary in November.

Sharon Simonton spoke about the passing of our Regional Director, **Sonda Sandstedt**. She was such a wonderful person and always came with great information from RUAEA; she will be truly missed. A motion was made by Sharon and seconded by **Ray Herrick** to send a donation in Sonda's name to the American Cancer Society. All were in favor.

It was decided at our January meeting, we will be again collecting membership dues. Sharon volunteered to email everyone to advise of the dues and hopefully, we will have more members join us in January. The dues are \$5.00 per person and \$10.00 per couple.

Our next luncheon will be back in Chico at the Cozy Diner. It will be held on Wednesday, January 25th at 11:30 AM. If you are in our area, please join us. We would love to see you.

After lunch, we had a delightful gift exchange including a game. A story was written by **Klaren Odor** and it was so good, I have included it at the end of the article for all to share. Klaren wrote this story for our gift exchange. Every time the word right is said, gifts are passed to the right. Every time the word left is read, the gifts are passed to the left. Needless to say, right and left became an issue in the middle of the story and lots of laughter and giggles became the normal chatter.

The daughter left behind ~ As employees of United Airlines, Merritt and I felt blessed by the unique opportunity of world travel. This was a generous bi-product of Merritt's employment. Merritt had two children when I married him; Gary, age 11 and Lorie, age 9. At that time children lost their pass travel at 18.

When Gary was approaching 18, we traveled the United States but never internationally. We felt it was the right time to venture overseas. We decided that year we would all go to London, England and take Grandma and Grandpa with us.

All were excited to go but Lorie could not bear to leave her boyfriend, so she was left behind as we embarked on our adventure.

As we were waiting in the airport, we wondered, when we board the plane, will we turn left into First Class, or right into coach? Because our party numbered 5, you guessed it; we turned right.

Merritt had made all of the right planning decisions. Our hotel was centrally located, the George Washington Hotel. We were able to walk to many of the sights however, because the traffic flows differently than at home, when crossing an intersection, instead of looking to your left, you should be looking to your right for coming cars. When you look to the right, you really should be looking to your left. Left, right, it took awhile to remember the right direction to look.

As we walked and I looked down the right hand side of the street, we could see ladies walking with gentlemen, arm and arm, wearing just the right period attire. It occurred to me just how small our world truly is. The same moon was shining down on me that moment as did centuries before; the same breeze ruffling my hair. I was left with a sense of belonging and of where I came from, that over the years of time, there has been nothing new about our human experience.

When visiting the Tower of London, we could see right before us, scratched out with some crude implement on the stone wall, the name and date of some poor soul awaiting his beheading. Below us, out the window to the left, the burial site of Ann Boleyn, one of King Henry the Eighth's wives and to the right of the servants rooms, Sir Reilly was confined to, for some supposed slight to the sitting King. In the room housing the jewels, we saw sparkling diamonds, rubies and emeralds on our right and left.

Of course, any first time London visit had to include the Buckingham Palace. As we watched the changing of the guards, marching to the left and then the right with such pageantry, my thought was only of why the Royal Palace was so ugly?

In the mornings, we went to a large room in the basement of our hotel for breakfast. The food was arranged in a buffet style and to the left they offered ham, bangers, bacon, scrambled eggs etc. and to the right was every fruit imaginable. Farther to the right was an array of the most fabulous breads, butter and jams. When we were seated at a table, the waiter would approach us from the left to pour our beverages and remove our plates from the right.

Our next stop was Harrods. I asked Merritt, what is that? Merritt said only the most famous department store right in the city. I tried to appear happy we would spend a good part of our precious days in London in a department store; how boring!

Well, as anyone who has visited Harrods know, department store can't come close to describing the place., As we pulled up in front of the store, I looked down a right hand side of the street and saw a row of limousines letting the privileged people in a special side door.

I know the right spot to aim to kill a deer causing the heart damage. I know the right way to bait a worm on a hook so the worm won't escape. I know the right way to cast a fly fishing rod when fishing for trout. I know the right amount of shortening to make a flaky and tender pie crust but from Harrod's I knew nothing.

Harrod's is stories high with everything from soup to nuts. In the millenary section, Gary and I were enjoying ourselves looking right and left trying on hats, when a staunch proper English woman, came from the left and asked us to leave. Who knew the English take their hats so seriously? By the time we left England to return home, we had experienced so many laughs and inspiring moments to count. Upon boarding the plane for the United States again we turned right into coach.

While flying home, it occurred to me how much historical and cultural growth we all had experienced and most importantly fellowship of family and how much loss the daughter left behind experienced.

Calendar:

January 25 - Wednesday, 11:30 AM, Cozy Diner in Chico.



CENTRAL COASTERS

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

It's hard to believe that another year has passed. It seems that being retired hasn't slowed things down any, but I'm enjoying every minute.

We had our monthly meeting on December 14th at Rosa's Restaurant in Pismo Beach; ten members and 4 guests enjoyed the food and service. In attendance were **Mike & Bridget Zoldak**, **Bob & Marcia Stanger**, **Ken & Stella Bake**, **Nina Powers** with her caregiver Mayra, **Michael Stadnick**, and **Dave & Jamil Ludwig**. Missing was **John Wessel** due to having foot surgery and **Al & Marilyn Rybar**.

I've been noticing a lot of news regarding the airline industry. UAL is going all out to hire in many departments as possible.

We had a very unusual Christmas Day. The outside temperature was 79 degrees with clear skies. Not like the rest of the country with sub-freezing temperatures and snow. The news showed how crowded the terminals were and all the flight cancellations. My wife and I spent Christmas alone since two of our daughters had some kind of Virus and preferred to stay home. This was OK with us so we are planning a get together when we all feel better.

As for New Year's celebrations, we were alone again. We live in a 55 and older community and before the COVID hit, we would spend New Year's Eve at our club house. All the residences pitched in and we had great times. We watched the ball drop at 9PM and by 9:30PM, the club house was closed. So much for seeing the New Year arrive!

So here is wishing everyone a safe and healthy New Year. As for my New Year's Resolution, I plan on driving by my gym at least once a week.

DESERT SUNBIRDS

Palm Springs Area
Thomas Sabo
sabo.thomas@yahoo.com



The Desert Sunbirds gathered on January 11th for lunch at The Slice Italia Pizzeria in Rancho Mirage. Our thanks to **Sandy Sereno** and **Diane Schaefer** for hosting this get together.

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



EAST BAY DIABLOS

Contra Costa County
Jan Soderstrom
30 San Piedras Place
San Ramon, CA 94583
(925) 833-9184

Happy February and Happy Valentine's Day to everyone from the East Bay Diablos group! As I write this on January 7, a lot of the country is still dealing with extreme weather. My heart goes out to all our RUAEA members who dealt with brutally cold weather and massive snow storms at Christmas. **Larry Hoover**, a longtime friend from my DTWRR days, emailed me from PA on Christmas Eve. He'd been dealing with days

of brutal blizzard conditions - extreme winds, snow, & below zero temps. Christmas Eve morning it was minus 5 degrees with a wind chill in the minus 30's, winds 50-60 MPH and power going off & on. Wow!

Here in the San Francisco Bay area, we are dealing with atmospheric rivers and bomb cyclones which bring high winds and large amounts of rain. On New Year's Eve day, I ventured out in the rain to get a battery for my security alarm key fob. Why do things like smoke detectors, motion sensors and key fobs always get low battery alerts in the middle of the night and on holiday weekends? Normally I have sense enough to stay in when it's pouring, but I could not face another night of my security system beeping every 20 minutes. Here in San Ramon we have a creek that runs alongside a hiking trail; I've lived here over 30 years and I've never seen this creek anywhere near full or reaching flood stage. On the way to the hardware store, people had pulled over to watch the creek where it runs under the roadway. There was ponding in the street but the water was only a few inches deep and cars were getting by with no problem. By the time I left the store, the police had blocked off the street and were forcing people in both directions to turn around and go back. One of my friends lives in the senior community about half a mile downstream from this street. Their home was OK, but the southern end of their subdivision was flooded. The clubhouse had water knee deep and 13 homeowners had to be evacuated with the police department's Armored Rescue Vehicle. They were taken to the senior center and then picked up by family and friends. My friend and her husband took in an elderly couple who did not have family nearby. When given several options for dinner, the wife said, "I love pizza!" My friend told me this was one of the best New Year's Eves she's ever had. It started with inviting two total strangers into their home, continued with takeout pizza, and ended with four neighbors making new friends.

Our group holds in person monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month all year long. The restaurants are still dealing with staff shortages, so we have to give them a count beforehand for our meetings. If you are going to attend our meetings, you must RSVP prior to the meeting. I have put the dates of our upcoming meetings and the RSVP deadlines below. At every meeting, we have two raffles, one for money and one for door prizes. We pay two dollars for three tickets and the winner gets a portion of the money collected. The door prizes are whatever people are inspired to bring. We average about 16 people at our meetings throughout the year, but virtually all our members come to our June meeting which is a catered BBQ luncheon; and to our December meeting at Zio Fraedo's.

Our January luncheon was held on January 2nd at Black Bear Diner in Walnut Creek with 13 members in attendance. What a wonderful way to start the New Year! Unfortunately, with the first Monday falling so early this year, several members were out of town on extended family visits. **Joe & Wilma Leather** were in Boise visiting her daughter's family and **Tracey Blanchard** was in Maui. **Poldi von Muhlfeld** was getting ready to visit family in the Philippines. Before Covid we used to meet occasionally at El Tapatio in Pleasant Hill. Our original plan was to meet there in January, but like so many restaurants, they have drastically changed the rules for groups. They no longer allow everyone to order and pay separately. Now it's buffet only and one check for the whole group. Buffet is no longer an option for our group because we have several members who have trouble walking and use canes or walkers. I'm sure other chapters are also finding their post-Covid meeting options reduced. Black Bear Diner does not take reservations and will not hold a long table for us in the back room. We now have a plan. The first one there puts our name in for our group to reduce the wait time. This month **Margaret McGhee** put in her name for 13 people and **Barbara Cunningham**, not knowing what Margaret had done, put in her name for 12. The poor restaurant was going crazy thinking they had two large groups at the same time! We finally figured it out. We were seated very soon and the restaurant breathed a huge sigh of relief. Ha ha! We like Black Bear Diner because it offers a wide selection of both breakfast and lunch choices. All 13 of us ordered something different!

When it came time to pay for our meals with separate checks, out came all the credit cards. **Tom Johnson** was sitting across from me and I noticed that his Alliant Visa looked different from mine. His had an airplane and my card is a nondescript black and gray card. (I hope I get an airplane card when my Visa comes up for renewal this year). Both said Platinum Rewards and the discussion turned to the rewards program. I asked around our table and was surprised to hear that no one was taking advantage of the rewards program. This is a great program and I encourage all of you to check your rewards points at the bottom of your Alliant Visa statement, and most importantly, use them before they expire! For every \$100 you charge, you get a reward point, and at times there are also double points for certain stores. When Covid hit, a lot of stores went to contactless transactions with credit cards and stopped taking checks. So, those points are adding up a lot faster. It is very simple to redeem your points online. Follow the instructions at the bottom of your Visa statement to get into your Rewards account. Your number of points is also in big numbers in your Rewards account. For a cash reward, you can take some of the points or all of them, and have it deposited to either an Alliant checking or savings account. Other options are merchandise, event tickets, gift cards and travel. I'm ashamed to say I

hadn't redeemed my points for several years. While writing my article I followed my own advice. In just a few minutes I redeemed my 72,221 points for \$722.21 which is going into my checking account. Woo hoo! Happy shopping and enjoy whatever gift you give yourself!

At the end of December, I received a letter from a RUAEA reader asking why my articles included items that are not UAL or travel related, such as book recommendations. I would have gladly responded to this person individually, but unfortunately, the letter was sent anonymously. If other readers of the RUAEA newsletter are wondering the same thing, I hope you will find my response helpful. Up until Covid, correspondents wrote about their chapter meetings and what their members were doing. When Covid hit, chapters stopped meeting and members weren't going out or traveling. Our editors at the time, **Veronica & Francis Domaratius**, faced with chapter reports stating "nothing to report," put out a plea to all the correspondents to write about items of general interest so RUAEA members would have something to read. Even though most chapters have resumed meeting, the editor still welcomes items of general interest. We submit our articles to the editor; they are then edited, checked for content, and approved. I forwarded this letter to our editor **John Chu** and he has approved this response. John also stated: *"As Newsletter Manager, as long as space permits, I will honor the contributions of all correspondents; with the caveat that the articles are not dealing with subjects that are considered controversial like religions, politics, etc."*

Reservoir levels ~ Last month I asked the whole country to do Rain Dances for all the areas in the U.S. that are in severe drought. It's working! California reservoirs are gradually filling up but still have a way to go to be at historical average. Our three largest reservoirs are Shasta, Oroville and Trinity. Shasta is now at 36% of capacity which is 60% of historical average. Oroville is now at 42% of capacity which is 79% of historical average. Trinity is now at 24% of capacity which is 39% of historical average. I also follow the Lake Shasta water level which is now 937 feet deep, 129 feet below full.

Therapy dogs at SJC ~ My friend Barbara and her English Cream Golden Retriever Bailey, and I and my Miniature Poodle Bijou, visited the airport on Thursday, December 8th. We met many passengers in the hallways and departure areas. When people first see the dogs they often think they are service dogs that you are not allowed to pet. But after we explain that they are therapy dogs meant to be petted, people enjoy petting them and taking pictures of them. Bailey's working vest still had room on it for more patches, so Barbara got these large patches that say "Therapy dog, please pet me" and that has helped! I so hope that one day we will meet some United retirees while visiting SJC.

Barbara Cunningham is collecting both new and used Christmas cards. She donates them to a local special education teacher who uses them in his classroom. He has told Barbara he can use "all the cards he can get." The students make gift cards which they sell at the school fundraiser. If you have cards you'd like to donate, please contact Barbara at (925) 846-8123 or tbcunningham43@gmail.com for more info, or just mail them to her directly at 3556 Touriga, Pleasanton, CA 94566-6931. This teacher needs just the cards, no envelopes. At our January meeting, Barbara told us that she had just dropped off a huge box of cards to the school. She has been collecting cards for several years but had never met the special education teacher. She usually just drops off the cards in the office, but this time the teacher came to the office while she was there. They met in person for the first time and he asked Barb if she'd like to see some of the gift cards the students create. Of course she said yes and she brought them to our meeting. We passed them around and they really are beautiful. The money they raise is for special outings like field trips and other enrichment activities for the special needs students. Barb again says thank you to everyone who is mailing her cards.

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

I would like to ask all of you to cut out coupons and mail them to me at 30 San Piedras Place, San Ramon, CA 94583-3018. This is such an easy thing to do to support our troops. If you are scissors impaired, ask your grandkids to help! For the price of a first class stamp, you can get about 90 coupons in an envelope. The coupons have to say "Manufacturer's Coupon". If they come in a strip, could you please cut it into separate coupons. The collected coupons are then distributed to overseas military personnel for use in their commissaries. The commissaries honor them for six months after the published expiration date so expired coupons can be sent too. In my area, the coupons come in Tuesday's mail along with the supermarket ads, and then in the Sunday paper.

I am so grateful for the kindness of all the RUAEA members who are helping me with this project. On January 7th, I turned in 1,091 coupons to my coupon chairperson. This is due to members in my local chapter as well as members all over the country. Thank you all!

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

- ▲ Monday, February 6 at 11:00. Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mt. Diablo Street in Concord. We order from the regular menu and have separate checks. Must RSVP to **Diane Griego** at diangriego@aol.com or (925) 676-6097 by Thursday, February 2.
- ▲ Monday, March 6 at 11:00. — Meeting place to be voted on at the February meeting. It will be either Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mt. Diablo Street in Concord; or The Black Bear Diner, 700 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek. We order from the regular menu and have separate checks. Must RSVP to **Diane Griego** at diangriego@aol.com or (925) 676-6097 by Thursday, March 2.

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

GOLDEN GATERS

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



December is quickly fading into the past. No regular meeting for this month as we celebrated our Christmas Luncheon on December 14th. We had a nice turnout for our “annual” luncheon at The Fish Market in San Mateo – good weather, colorful sweaters, cheerful participants and good eats! Some of those enjoying the tasty meal were **Lydia Rolfe, Pat Marsala, John Bogdanoff, Gene Walter, Kathy Cooper**, and her son **Kevin, John Harper, Bill & Diana Heinrich**. Don’t want to pass by the fact that several members had birthdays (**Norm Wood, Jerry Marsala and Carol Slater**.) also anniversaries (**Norm & Colleen Wood - 53 years and Bob & Ella Mae Donovan – 75 big ones!**). **Pat Ortega** hobbled in on her very stylish “foot boot,”- she managed to break a bone on her right hoof – hope it is healing quickly. Sad news that **Milton Schafer** passed away several months ago – he and **Doris** were members for many years and were unable to get to meetings easily. We had two winners with original “ugly” and “beautiful” Christmas sweaters – **Barbara Underhill and Pat Ortega** stole the show, we also had three “scratcher” winners – **Frank Minnick** won big, **Bob Donovan** a small amount and **Peter Cooper** an even smaller one! (A surprisingly group of people did not know what “California Scratchers” were! – you mean to tell me that no one buys Lotto or Mega-Million lottery tickets?)

Our 2023 luncheons will be held at the William Walker Recreational Center in Foster City on the 4th Monday of the Month. Most will be BYOB (bring your own bag lunch) – we may have special meetings and will let you know of them as time goes by – more to come so stay tuned.

- ▲ January 23 – BYOBL
- ▲ February 27 – Meeting and possibly off to a Chinese Restaurant to celebrate Chinese New Years.

With our Luncheon under our belts, the mad rush for those last minute gifts for kith and kin was underway. The anticipation, ripping of wrapping paper, enjoying brunch and then playing with the “toys” was in store for all. The youngest (2 years and 4 years,) no teenagers, young adults, the millennial, the big jump to the 60’s and the “old one,” sat around and watched Dad put together a gift for the 4 year old (it was a motorized Roller Coaster – for those “8 and over”) – purchased by a sadistic member of the family who will remain nameless! The 2½ foot coffee table cleared off the shag rug area (try and find that teeney, tiny cog wheel) and an educational, motor skills enhancer, 9 foot roller coaster, easy to build, with only 649 pieces to assemble (weaving tracks and tiny angel hair size parts, and nuts and clips, small motor, etc., ah yes, instructions too) and Papa having to kneel in order to get the wretched “easy to assemble” contraption to work. (Those of you “oldsters” remember your Dad putting together that rocking horse in the wee hours of the night – learned a few new cuss words too.) No one could breathe as the coaster would fall apart – it finally worked and the little car raced up and down the roller coaster, much to our amazement! The big problem is: Where the heck is it going to be stored? It sits in the middle of the living room – midst the torn wrapping paper and other various toys and books. Under the stairs maybe?

Happy New Year to you all – we are back to wearing masks, please get those “flu and booster shots,” stay well and let those near and dear to you know that you love ’em!

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
Placerville, CA
Secretary
tired-dogs@comcast.net

Salmon or Tri tip? You wouldn't be disappointed with whichever you chose! Delicious! As was the appetizers and then a fresh salad. Veggies and mashed potatoes came with your meat selection, and a choice of either red velvet, chocolate or vanilla cupcake to top the meal off. If you have not been to the Smith Flat House, might want to put it on your list of places to check out. They (normally) have limited hours for guests, so be sure to go to their website for info.

We gathered for our luncheon in a unique building – not sure what it was used for originally, but it was quite nice, rustic with a free standing fire place that was able to keep the room warmed up – of course, all the “hot air” that came from all our talking/laughing helped too, I'm sure! 36 members filled up the 5 tables; **Jane Gibson** made a light-up snowman ornament for everyone as well as a little Kringle Kup with candy inside. So fun to do.

We didn't have a “meeting” per say, but our president, **Rudy Blazius** extended our thanks to **Suzanne Kenny** for finding and organizing this luncheon for all of us.

We do have two couples who have anniversaries in December – **Dale & Donna Pope** (34 yrs) and **JR & Rosemary Heier** are marking 59 years!

I also want to say “Thank You” for all the wonderful toys you brought. This year they went to the Georgetown area. So many homes were lost or damaged with the fires and we want the children to have a good Christmas. Lots of food was also brought to go to the local food bank. We, as Hangtown Miners, are fortunate to be comfortable and safe. We're also fortunate to be able to share with others.

Just a couple items I want to mention: Don't forget to send your \$15.00 dues for 2023! Please make out your check to Hangtown Miners and mail it to **Tom Kenny**; 3481 Parleys Canyon, Placerville, CA 95667. Next, we still need to have a host for our August luncheon. If you can handle this month for us, let me, **Jane Gibson**, (tired-dogs@comcast.net; (925) 443-0905), know so I can get your name on the list.

Our next luncheon will be at Casa Los Abuelos!

Your Hangtown Miners Officers – **Rudy, JR, Tom, Jane** and **Suzanne** – all want to wish each of you a safe, cozy, Merry Christmas and a wonderful, safe Happy New Years too! HoHoHo! & Cheers!



RESANS

San Diego, CA
Barbara Drews
Secretary
sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com

Our New Year has gotten off to a rainy and windy start. Due to the very high winds and heavy rain, we had a low turnout with only 12 attended our monthly breakfast. Many of our retirees drive a considerable distance to get here and the visibility was very bad.

The Retiree Reunion (Convention) dates were announced for September 29th - October 4th. Keep these dates in mind when you make your travel plans. We will again be at the Dana Hotel and the rates are reasonable, still with the free breakfast, free parking and no resort fee. We are working on the tours and they will be announced at a later date.

We did have some sad news. Three of our SAN retirees have passed away between Thanksgiving and December. We observed a minute of silence, followed by a prayer given by **Rosina Krefft**. **Bob Sheridan**, **Ray Wood** and **Sheila Greer** will be remembered and missed by all of us.

Birthdays for February are **Louis Semon**, **Paul Zadrozny** and **Calvin Iida**. May their special days be filled with warmth and lots of California Sunshine!

Many of you coming to our Conventions (now Reunion), have taken the tours and enjoy our Sunshine City. I will begin by writing about the interesting history of San Diego in 1769, founded by Spanish missionaries.

The "birthplace of California" was just an impoverished frontier seaport that went on to become the eighth largest city in America. Along the way, two centuries ago, the region has seen bitter war, restless time of peace. We have survived municipal scandal, civic pride, gifted and bizarre leaders.

In upcoming issues, I will be writing about the history of our fair city including some of the places that you will see in the tours you may elect to take during your visit.

Calendar:

February 2 - Breakfast 10:00AM, Pt. Loma Café, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92106-2394. Joins us if you will be in the area.

September 29 - October 4 - Retiree Reunion (Convention)

SACRAMENTO
GOLD DIGGERS

Sacramento, CA

Ron Bertacini

Secretary

sgd@surewest.net

SACRAMENTO



Standing back row: **Rose Wikstad** and **Robin Garland**

Standing: **Jim Simon**, **Jack Raynor**, **Frank Dellinger**, **Louise Auerbach**, **Lyle Auerbach**, **Robert Opdahl**, **Hank Wikstad**, **Francis Domaratius**, **Veronica Domaratius**, **Marge Raynor**, **Barbara Bertacini**, **Ron Bertacini** and **Lance Engeldinger**

Seated: **Dave Garland**, **Trudy Engeldinger**, **Stephanie Norton**, **Ken Norton**, **Angie Dellinger** and **Jean**

Turley Sinclair

Front: **Pete Molloy** and **Marrilee Norton**

The Gold Diggers met at Las Katarinas in Grass Valley with 23 in attendance. The lunch was hosted by the Norton family. It was good to see Past President and long-time member **Jean Turley Sinclair**. Jean had been unable to attend for some time due to Forester's illness and subsequent death over a year ago. Our meeting was on December 7th and we took a moment to remember that date in our history as a country. We also remembered our members who recently died, **Judie King** and **Sonda Sandstedt**. **Ken Norton** who has filled in for Judie as treasurer was collecting dues for 2023. Ken made it known he would not be able to carry on and that we needed someone to step forward to take over the treasurer job. **Robin Garland** volunteered to take the position of Treasurer. The membership approved of her taking on the job.

We had a brief meeting with VP **Barbara Bertacini** noting that the **Dellingers** will host the January lunch at the Claim Jumper in Roseville, details to come later. Also that the **Garlands** will host the Past President's lunch in February, the **Domaratius** have asked to host the March lunch and the **Bertacinis** will do April.

Sunshine Lady **Angie Dellinger** advised that cards were sent to the **King** and **Sandstedt** families.

Secretary **Ron Bertacini** advised that according to chapter records there were no anniversaries in December. Ron also advised that the 2023 RUAEA Convention will again be in San Diego at the Dana with the dates being September 29 to October 4. **Dave Garland**, Chair of the Site Committee, had tried to get deals at other locations including Phoenix, Tucson, Seattle, Sacramento, Reno and even Portland. The bottom line was no other venue could come close to the pricing and amenities that the Dana offered.

There was a birthday roll off for November and December, **Marge Raynor** won for November and **Francis Domaratius** for December so that both left with a few extra dollars.

The meeting was wrapped up with a fascinating story from **Pete Molloy**, son-in-law of **Stephanie & Ken Norton**. His story is featured on the front cover of this Newsletter; it is about his year-long adventure of sailing a sail boat from San Diego to New Zealand.

Finally, we divided the Toys for Tots donations by our members to go to various locations in Grass Valley, Rocklin and Roseville. Our members were most generous.



SAN JOAQUINERS

Rosie Walls

Secretary

(209) 984-5672

jawrmw@sbcglobal.net

Our Christmas Luncheon meeting was held on December 8th at Ferenzes in Oakdale. There were 18 people in attendance including one guest.

If you get on the Flying Together website, now you only have to change your password once a year. So now you have to remember your password for 1 whole year! Wow!

Many retirees enjoy going back to the base where they worked. We understand you must remember one very important thing; you will need an escort to tour the base.

Steve read the story of Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer as how it was originally written. It was great as many of us have never heard or read the story, me included! Then it was time for our gift exchange which is always fun.

Today was Steve Fosters last day as president of our chapter. Thank you so much Steve for all you have done and for keeping our group active. **Bob Scoble** will be taking over starting in 2023; we all thank you very much and are looking forward to another great year.

We hope you all had a very Merry Christmas celebrating with family and friends. All the San Joaquiners want to wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy New Year to all! Stay well and see you next year!

SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

San Jose, CA

www.southbayruaea.org

George Midwin

1879 Foxworthy Ave.

San Jose, CA 95124

midwin5u@hotmail.com



Our thanks go out to our president **Chuck Clayborne**, for his efforts to organize the Christmas luncheon. Despite not being able to use the same facility as last year and most other venues already booked, Chuck was able to get the Bill of Fare restaurant to accommodate us. As it turned out, we had a great attendance and all had a good time. The restaurant went out of their way to ensure we had an enjoyable time.

The next chapter event is being planned for June 14th at Vasona Park. The venue has been secured and our caterer is on board. So save the date and plan to attend, great food, among great friends. The event is open to all RUAEA members in the Bay area and we will produce a flyer for the event later this year.

Chuck has also been busy trying to find an activity we can all participate in, once the weather permits us to get out and about. There are several places in the Bay area, which members have indicated an interest in seeing. If you know of a particular site our members would want to see, let Chuck know.

The first meeting of the New Year was well attended. The group was made up of hardy, dedicated individuals who braved the cold. Although the area we were in had the heaters turned on, our thoughts went out to the folks back East who had real cold to deal with. Ya, when the temps get down to the 50's we just can't handle that.

Dave Walb and **Peggy Norris** attended the meeting and we were all pleased to see them both, after such a long absence. **Jean Marcolina**, **Leon Manou** and **Pat Ortega** all celebrated birthdays this month, Happy Birthday! There were no anniversaries this month.

Come join us at the next meeting on February 6th. The service is wonderful, the food is great and camaraderie is even better. Bill of Fare, 1069 Saratoga Ave., just off Hwy 280 at 10:00AM.

SOLANO FLYERS



SOLANO FLYERS

Allan Pochop

119 Carlsbad Circle

Vacaville, CA 95687

(707) 447-4980

(with robo blocker - have to dial twice)

apochop@aol.com

There is no report this month from the Solano Flyers chapter of RUAEA.
Our next meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2023.

COLORADO

DENVER

MILE HIGHERS

Rich & Cleora Conner

(970) 660-7040

richcleora@gmail.com



Paul Goodyear opened the meeting with the pledge.

Paul Goodyear and **Don Burbank** talked about the convention this year in San Diego. They suggested we make reservations as soon as the convention hotel reservation is available. You can always cancel if your plans change.

If you have any articles for newsletter, send the information to Rich & Cleora before the 7th of the month. If they don't receive information before the 7th, it will be in the next months newsletter.

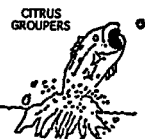
Our 50/50 winners were **Ray Shoults, Rich Conner (2x), Virginia Hansen, Amy Bruchs, and Tom Goodyear.**

Mike & Amy Bruchs joined us from Colorado Springs and they will be new members of the Mile Highers. It's good to see **Tom Goodyear** at our meeting. He seems to be doing well.

Paul & Karen Goodyear celebrated their 25th anniversary. Birthdays were celebrated by **Walt Hansen** and **Mike Bruchs.**

Our next meeting will be on February 2nd at Ted's Place. All are welcome!

FLORIDA



THE CITRUS GROUPE

THE VILLAGES

Julius "Joe" DiStaso

(352) 775-8201

(941) 661-2215

wopahofl@comcast.net

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

Elaine Tillman-Mannella

7307 Everleigh Court

Orlando, FL 32819

(321) 287-4055

emt6250@yahoo.com

Our first luncheon meeting of the New Year 2023 was a pretty small gathering of just 14 members and guests. President **Al Fields** began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance after we all enjoyed our food.

Former president **Ernie Vosges** gave the short Treasurer's Report and Elaine read Christmas cards from **Shelby Michels** and **Mary McNeill**. Shelby is doing fine and hopes to come to a meeting soon. Mary has finalized her permanent move to JAX. Her new address is: 3028 Farmall Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32226.

January Birthday Balloons to **Diane Lewis** and **Tom Cannata** on January 5th and to **Barbara Fitak** on the 23rd!

SW PELICANS DROP-INS

Ray Jensen

(239) 888-2744

rmmjensen@msn.com



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

New members are always welcomed. Our luncheon meetings take place the first Friday of the month at 11:30 am. We presently meet at the Summerlin Café, 11370 Summerlin Square Drive, Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931. Please call (239) 888-2744 for more information.

THE SAND DOLLARS

Bradenton, FL
Ginger Hyde
asdip920@aol.com



There is no report this month from The Sand Dollars. If anyone has questions about our group, please contact **Ginger Hyde** at ASDIP920@aol.com, or phone (941) 360-6671.



TAMPA BAY CHAPTER

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

Since January 2 was a holiday, we had no meeting. Instead, in January, we will meet on January 9 at IHOP - Trinity - 10:30. We will cover this meeting in next month's chapter report.

Calendar:

February 6 – IHOP - 10:30

March 6 – IHOP - 10:30

TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL
Al Popek
President
ualpbi@att.net



The Treasure Coast chapter isn't meeting at the present time. It is with much sadness that we report that our VP **Bob Langevin** passed away on December 16, 2022. Bob was a great asset to our chapter and will be sorely missed; our thoughts and prayers are with his wife **Sandy**.

HAWAII

HONOLULU MENEHUNES

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

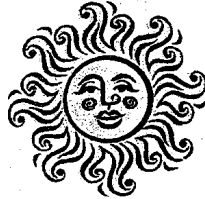


Aloha! The Honolulu Menehunes is an active chapter and we meet for lunch at various Honolulu restaurants on the 3rd Thursday of February, June, and September. All retirees are welcome to join us. If you are planning to be in Honolulu and would like to attend, just send your email address to HNLRUA@gmail.com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

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

PAU HANA KUPUNA

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



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

IDAHO



BOISE GEMS

Shirley Dempsey
rickshirley.dempsey@gmail.com

The Boise Gems had our holiday party in early December. At this gathering, everyone wanted to have a luncheon in January at Bacquet's Restaurant. Members will be notified shortly when this luncheon is confirmed.

Happy New Year to everyone!

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO SKYLINERS

www.chicagoskyliners.org
Chicagomainliner.com
Jan Gawenda
(847) 917-9586
jawenda@gmail.com



February—Hearts, flowers and snow! Hallmark and FTD try to take over the month, but there is a lot more to celebrate! Groundhog Day, remember that movie? Presidents' Day, celebrating all of them, Super Bowl Sunday, where we watch the commercials and half-time show more than the game; Bears aren't playing (literally), so only the die-hard football fans watch in Chicago, right? I'm not a football watcher, the Bears, but that's it. Guys love football, could sit all day and watch yards and yards of running, falling, and touching each other butts. Guess I'll lose a few readers with that attitude. My friends, **Marcie & Don Moller** come in from Denver every year, we meet at a local eatery and have lunch with their relatives in Illinois. It's a tradition, and we look forward to it every year. Covid slowed us down a little, but we still had phone calls and emails. Even 901 miles away, it hasn't stopped our friendship. That's kind of a Valentine love, isn't it?

Other dates of the utmost importance, Dump your Significant Jerk Week, 5-12—Always a week before Valentines Day, Have a Heart for a Chained Dog Week, 7-14, Love a Mench Week, 12-18, Telecommuter Appreciation Week, 25-28, usually on Alexander Graham Bell's Birthday. It's also African American Cultural Heritage month. American Heart Month, Black History Month, Return Shopping Carts to the Supermarket Month, Spunky Old Broads Month (yesss!), Goat Yoga Month, and my favorite, An Affair to Remember Month. Crazy days are, Change you Password Day, (if I can remember the old one), Groundhog, Liberace Day (remember him?), Shower with a Friend, Satisfied Staying Single, Super Bowl and Popcorn Day, Valentines and Extraterrestrial Visitor Day (together?), Drink Wine and Eat Ice Cream for Breakfast Day, Landing at Iwo Jima, the 19th, President's Day, Shrove Tuesday and Paczki Day the 21, Ash Wednesday, Carpe Diem on the 26, and Polar Bear Day. Not a Leap Year, so we're finished.

The Northside breakfast had six faithful souls, **Dave Dunham, Joan Teister, Jerry Tipperreiter, Pam Boydston, and Jan Gawenda.**

The mechanics breakfast had 14, **Fred Seibert, Frank Wenig, Jim Kraft, Bill Durr, Harry Kargenian, Bob Palm, Cas Paprocki, Boris Spitz, Paul Skrudland, Don Kramlich, Rich Protsman, me,** and long-time-no-see, **Ron Geibel**. Nice group, come back again.

The foremen of ORDMM were **Glenn Hill, Bob Smietanski, Bart & Sue Kendall,** and **Stan Chmieliwicz**.

The IAM 1487 group had 69 retirees attend. Three raffles were held, many happy people. **Dave Roderick** was recuperating from knee surgery, so the VP, **Grace Spilotro-Razny** handled the meeting responsibilities.

The Chicago RUPA group met at the Golf Club of Chicago. About 55 members attended. The guest speaker was **Jim Bono**, Chief Pilot at ORD. Their next meeting will be on March 14 at Nick's Beef and Pizza in Crystal Lake.

It was Hot Dog Day, the union took care of beverages, snacks and amenities. The members brought meal salads and desserts. Thank you to the volunteers that set up and cleaned the tables. They can always use more people to help out. The February meeting will be on February 2, it will be a Brown Bag lunch. They tried to get a Chinese Lunch from a restaurant, to celebrate Chinese New Year, but couldn't get a good price deal for the meal. Everything is going up, so bring your favorite lunch.

Talked to a few people that I've lost touch with, **Eileen Starkey, Jack's wife, Maryanne Wiley, Tom's wife, Jim Love,** from Richmond, VA, **Grace Witt** and **Pat Muha,** CHIRR, **Norm Wilkinson,** OPBOP, and **Jim Johnston,** OPBCM. All are doing well, and say hello to you.

Just saw an article that says the 411 and 0 numbers will be retired from use. After all of these years, AT&T customers with digital landlines will not be able to get an operator or directory assistance, oh my, end of an era. Verizon, T-Mobile and other major carriers will offer these services for a fee. On AT&T's website, they direct customer to find addresses and phone numbers on Google or online directories. The operator was the internet before the internet. We would dial the Operator for the time, weather, scores, even election results. What do people do that don't have cell phones or computers? Probably call their children or friends. Progress. Good bye, Ernestine Tomlin.

People are still talking about our Skyliners Luncheon on December 6. Apparently, everyone had a good time. The singing group, the food, everything went down as planned. Again, I'll tell you, **Virginia Monaco** planned that for months, it was her baby. At the last minute, through no fault of her own, her health would not let her attend, but everybody pitched in to keep it going. **Joan Teister** got the flowers, **Ken Thiede** said the prayer, and **Jim Sommerfield** helped with announcements. **Toni Van Kampen** and **Howard Nelson** took pictures of the groups, you can view them on our website, Chicagoskyliners.org, Everybody looks so happy and festive. We all worked together, what a great team we have. I have to say thanks again to the Mainliner Club for coming in and selling the United merchandise. **Margaret Longo, Kathy Cufar,** and friends brought boxes of clothing and other fun articles. Hope you all took advantage of the opportunity. The Mainliner Store is opened daily at the Reservation Building on Touhy Ave. The Board will be meeting this month to plan our next luncheon, hopefully in the Spring. Stay tuned for the news. Meanwhile, join us on the second Thursdays of the month for our breakfasts at the Rose Garden, in Elk Grove, at 9:00. We have fun there, too! Bring a friend, have them join our little club.

A sign of the times for adults; my two sisters came into town for a holiday visit. (Yes, they flew UAL). We attended my Aunt Gen's celebration of life in Chicago on the 18th. Afterward, we went to dinner at an old favorite of ours, perhaps you've been there, White Fence Farm, in Romeoville. My Aunt and Uncle Bob had their reception there 60 years ago. They're always crowded, got there around 5:30, waited for over an hour and a half. Of course, the chicken was worth it, and we were famished. So we waited in the over-crowded waiting room. Kids were screaming and running around, people were making conversation, but you know they were getting crabby, teens were playing games or just texting on their cell phones. And there we were, three sisters over 65, haven't seen each other in about two years, and we're sitting together, texting other people and answering emails! Talk about joining the younger generation, 'Hello! We haven't seen each other in years, and we're on our phones? What about conversation, talking about kids, grandkids, our travels, our body parts that don't work? Anything? We're incorrigible! So, they put down their Apple machines, and we talked and laughed, remembering how mom and dad bought us here over the years, fun times. After sitting so long, we became friends with the other families. When the hostess would call out numbers, we would all scream, raise our hands in victory and congratulate each other for getting called. By then, we felt like family. We finally got called and waited on, Adam was our waiter, asked if we wanted a beverage, ah, Yes, a large one! He also took our meal order, we all ordered chicken, of course. Before Adam left, I asked him if he would only give me the front legs. He said, sure, then he looked up at me, and said, 'What? Only front legs?' My sisters got upset with me, they said, 'We're starving, stop bothering the waiter'. 'Sorry, just trying to make him laugh a little, it's almost 8:00, they close at 8, he probably could use a good laugh'. Adam said, 'you're joking?', as he scratched

out my order for front legs. About five minutes later, my sister, Sue, burst out laughing, 'Front legs?' Guess she just caught on since she was starving before. Well, we enjoyed the chicken and all the little salads they gave us. The corn fritters are the best in the world. Take a ride down there sometime if you've never been, or if it's been a while. Route 55/355 to Joliet Road, can't miss it. Tell them I sent you, maybe they'll give me free back legs next time I go. The Christmas decorations were beautiful. They're down by now, but plan for next year. Oh, take the kids when it's warmer, they have a petting zoo and you can feed them ... the goats and sheep, etc.

As we watched the families of all ages, we couldn't help think of the babies celebrating their first Christmas; and what about the elderly that were perhaps celebrating their last? What a joy to be all together for the holiday, as it should be. Families come first.

Being airline people, I don't think any of us couldn't feel the pain for all the travelers affected by the weather last month, and especially the problems with Southwest Airlines. The fliers that had hoped to spend time with their family, but instead, spend 3-5 days in an airport. I'm not getting into the 'pointing fingers game', only they know what occurred, but just watching the pictures of those travelers sleeping on the floor of any airport on their system, and the luggage! Oh no, my bag would probably still be somewhere in Midway's back room or a small station along the way. I'm glad they'll be reimbursed, but SWA can't give them back their fun with families or a vacation in a warm place with their folks. Let's hope United has better plans for such an eventuality. And, they do.

Our fellow employees that Flew West include **Scott McPhillips**, EXOKA (IT), from ORDFO, **Jerry Potts** and **Mats Carenback**, **Harriet Mendelssohn**, ORDHN, much beloved lady, **Connie Russo**, ORDCS, **Pamela Harris**, ORDSW, **Lee 'Coach' Mintzlaff**, ORDCG/SEACG, and **Leonard Timpone** and **Dan Baroni**, ORDMM.

Also gone from our world are actors, Sonya Eddy (General Hospital), Rita Walker (As the World Turns), Diane McBain (Mary, Mary), Stuart Margolin (Rockford Files), Sports figures, Paul Lila, NBA coach, Franco Harris, NFL running back, Pele, soccer champion, Floyd Brown, WGN sports announcer, Vivienne Westwood, British fashion designer, Pope Benedict XVI, singers, Anita Pointer (I'm so Excited), Danny Kaleikini (long-term performer at the Kahala Hilton), and Hall of Fame TV Journalist, Barbara Walters, what a powerhouse in her field, she affected so many people, not just helping women advance in many areas.

Question of the month, are your tree and decorations put away?

Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Rose Garden Restaurant, 9:00 A.M. 111 E. Higgins Rd., Elk Grove (**February 9**). Second Thursday of the month.

ORDMM Breakfast - Maxfield's, 9:00 A.M. Plum Grove & Schaumburg Rds. (**February 16**). Third Thursday

Southside Breakfast - Canceled permanently

IAM 1487 Lunch, 1487 Lodge, 50 W. Oakton St., Des Plaines, (**February 2**) 11:00 A.M. First Thursday

INDIANA



INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN

Frank N. Ingegno

(317) 428-7741

figenius@sbcglobal.net

December is the month we have our Christmas celebration lunch. This year we had it at Charbonos Restaurant in Avon, Indiana, serving Italian favorites. During the luncheon, we had our annual Kris Kringle gift exchange. Those attending were **Myrtle & Bob Duty**, **Susanne & Frank Ingegno**, **Rita & Frank Prins**, **Sharron & Alan Miller**, **Charles Theiss**, and **Ron Bretherick**. Good food and conversation made for a pleasant event.

Possible future event discussed includes attending Indianapolis Indians baseball game this coming summer; further discussion pending.

The RUAEA Indy Racers chapter is always open for new participants. Any United/CO retirees living in the Indianapolis area are welcome to join. Come check us out at one of our monthly meetings. We also welcome

visitors. When visiting Indy, consider joining us at one of our meetings for lunch and conversation. We always enjoy meeting new United friends.

Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 12 Noon. Location of our meeting is Emmy Pancake House and Grill, 7508 Beechwood Center Road, Avon, IN 46123, (317) 272-7200.

Our future meetings schedule:

- **February 14** at Emmy's
- **March 14** at Emmy's

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

MASSACHUSETTS

NOR'EASTERS

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



Mother Nature has been treating the six New England states better than the awful weather patterns it has shown the rest of the country! We usually have lots of snow and freezing weather, but so far only rain and a lot of fifty degree days. So far the only snow storms have been in the mountains in ski country! Most unusual!

I forgot to mention **Paul & Mary Wards** 60th anniversary last November. I hope their celebration party was the best!

I also hope old age has nothing to do with it!

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of **Elaine** on December 19th, wife of our treasurer and vice president **Bill Vanderwal**. Elaine was a pleasure and never missed a Nor'Easter meeting during our hayday. Elaine last attended our October luncheon and will be missed!

Be careful and stay well until we meet again!

MICHIGAN



GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

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

A Happy New Year to all!

I'm sure we are all looking forward to a new beginning in 2023. But first, we had to say goodbye; **Fred O'Keefe** passed away on December 7. Fred worked for United at DTWCS for 43 years, he and his wife **Carol** attended many of DTWRR functions.

I also recently learned of the death of former DTWRR and SEARR employee, **Janet Mertz**. After retiring from SEARR, Janet and her husband, **Jerry**, moved 'home' to Butler, PA. Please remember Fred & Janet and all those of our United family who are no longer with us. Many of our United family of friends are in need of prayers and encouragement. So look them up, drop them a card, give them a call, meet them for coffee and renew an old friendship. What a beautiful way to start a new year.

Let us know whom you contacted so that we can share it with others.

Thought for the month: *"The meaning of life is to be found in one another."* ~ Charlie LeDuff (Columnist for The Detroit News).

Beautiful and Joyous wishes for a wonderful New Year!

NEBRASKA



OMAHA GOLDENEARS

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

The Goldenears do not meet in January or February, we don't have a report this month.

NEVADA

LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

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



There is no report this month from the Las Vegas Silverliners chapter of RUAEA.

The Silverliners will try and hold their Luncheon Meetings whenever one is organized by a member. The Silverliners now are trying to get through the dwindling membership and lack of member support. Email **Don Rutkowski** at geodon1192@gmail.com or call him at (702) 300-4038; he will be glad to hear from you.



RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

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

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

NEW JERSEY

THE GARDEN STATERS

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



Because of inclement weather conditions, the next Garden Staters meeting will be on March 29th. Following is another memorable excerpt of my travel days:

On our second trip to South Africa, we flew from JFK in New York to Amsterdam. Then on to Kinsasha and Leopoldville which was the Belgian Congo, but now was called Zaire. The airport at Leopoldville was constructed of teakwood, however because of a lack of care you could see how deteriorated this beautiful building had become. It seems they have plenty of money for inspectors, and soldiers running around with guns; but no money to maintain this building. We were then on our way to Johannesburg.

Meeting our friends was just another happy occasion. We soon made plans to visit Victoria Falls in Rhodesia (now called Zimbabwe). We took a bus starting from Johannesburg and headed north to the South African transval cities of Pretoria in Petersburg to the border town of Messina and then on to the town of Bulawayo. Anyone who had any ideas that we would be seeing Tarzan holding onto Jane and swinging through the jungle hanging vines would be sadly disappointed. To me, all that land looked like you were rolling through the lush green fields of Lancaster County in Pennsylvania. We arrived in Bulawayo, and spent about two hours walking through the town. It seemed to me that this place was stuck somewhere in the 1920's. Nonetheless, it was still very interesting to see what they were selling. I then had to go to the railroad station and buy a ticket for an overnight sleeper on the train that would take us directly to Victoria Falls.

When the train arrived, it looked similar to Agatha Christie's Orient Express. Violet and I took our bags to our assigned car, and as I slid the door back, there were two very young girls on the opposite side of us. I said, I think you made a mistake, they of course replied no this is where we're supposed to be. Anyway, who am I to argue! As the train pulled away, about half an hour into the trip the conductor comes around to check the tickets. So I explained to him that there were two extra girls in this compartment, so he says so what are you complaining about? A little while later, he came back and took the 2 girls away and said "I hope you don't mind". Violet was always the one to meet the rising occasion says "Gee Marty just when we were all getting along so well". Actually we did meet up with them again on our second night at the hotel, and we all had an interesting dinner together

Victoria Falls are truly one of the worlds greatest wonders. The cataract is more than a mile wide and has a drop to the bottom of over 350 feet, more than twice the size of Niagara Falls. The first thing that you hear as you approach the falls is a gigantic roar, and a spray of mist that looks like a huge rain cloud. The mighty rivers that feed the Zambezi River that goes over the falls like the Kabompa, the Luena, and the Lungue-Bango are mighty rivers in themselves. The tour guide said, in flood tide, which occurs in September, about 540,000,000 gallons of water flows over those falls every minute. I always compare that to the Croton reservoir that feeds the city of New York. It has a capacity of about 500,000,000 gallons if you can imagine it would take just one minute to fill up this great water reservoir. When you come to think of it, it is mind boggling. The natives call this the smoke that thunders, and I think that says it all. We spent another five days and made our return trip to Johannesburg. Alas, there were no incidents to report. We spent a lot of time talking about our experiences with our friends; most of all, the lingering memories to this day are as strong as ever.

NEW YORK

BUFFALO CHIPS

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



BUFFALO CHIPS

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

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

NEW YORK METROS

Ed Pozzi
wrenchman730@gmail.com



NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

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

Our next Meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2023.

OHIO

OHIO BUCKEYES

Cleveland, OH
ualohbuckeyes@gmail.com



As usual, we are not having a luncheon/meeting in January. But this year is going to be a little different. As for our Ohio Buckeyes: We are getting hit hard also. But the issue has nothing to do with the Covid or flu. All our members are “about” the same age. We have added a couple of new members, but health issues have hit us hard the past 4 years. We see many now with canes, walkers, and losing their eye sight. It is very sad. But I must say this, our members continue to attend until they physically can’t. And then there are those that passed away. We just had another long time member “Florence” who passed away on December 31, 2022. And like all those who have passed before her, they are all “Wonderful People”. Because of all that, our attendance has fallen “a lot”. But the restaurants are still working with us, and in some cases they are ignoring their minimum count, which is greatly appreciated.

With all of the above, some people might start thinking about qui----. Hey! That word is not even in my computer’s dictionary.

We “Ohio Buckeyes” are just getting started. And To Prove It: We have already sent via USPS (US Mail) our entire schedule for 2023 to our membership. Yeah! Okay! But there are “only 2” Exceptions - October and November. And that’s because of the “Economy” (Not us). A few of our regulars (restaurants) are saying they do not know what the cost of the food will be, so consequently they do not want to give us a price and then wind up with a much higher cost for the food (that would be their loss). And that includes a few places that our members really love, but they have said that they can not even schedule a luncheon that is only 2 months into the future.

Yes, we had our “Christmas” party in December at “Williams on the Lake”. Everyone had a really good time. The food was “great”, and so was the “company”! A big “Yes, he did come!” And who - you say? “Santa Claus”. He was there with “bells and gifts”. What a wonderful time everyone had.

The Ohio Buckeyes wish everyone a Happy, Safe, and Fun New Year!

Calendar:

February 1 - Fuji Grill 'n Buffet

March 1 - Brown Derby

April 5 - Simon’s Restaurant

OREGON

OREGON DEW-ER’S

Portland
Terry Hotchkin
tthotchkin@gmail.com



Another good meal and great conversation at the December luncheon!

Unfortunately, I need to report the death of **Tony Passannante**, retired UAL pilot, on 11/27/22; his Celebration of Life was held on 1/7/2023.

This year we will continue to meet at Colwood grill the 2nd Thursday of the month, **except** for January and August, which will be on the 3rd Thursday. Not a lot of news otherwise. We hope to see more familiar faces this year!

In the meantime, a bit of humor, with a little philosophy thrown in. Enjoy!

- ☺ I used to be envious of anyone that could do a cartwheel, but these days I am jealous of anyone that can get up off the floor without grunting or holding on to furniture!

- ☺ Instead of a sign that says “Do Not Disturb”, I need one that says, “Already disturbed, proceed with caution.”
- ☺ I’m not saying I’m old, I’m just saying that my dinner time and bedtime are getting dangerously close to each other.
- ☺ I hate it when I gain 10 pounds for a role and then remember that I am not an actress.
- ☺ Managing your weight around the holidays just requires a little planning ... for example, I took the batteries out of my scale.
- ☺ Do you ever just forget to hide your expressions for a minute and then you’re like whoa, I did not mean to make that face out loud!
- ☺ A day may come when I get enough sleep and don’t need coffee. But it is not this day.
- ☺ Why the heck do underwear and socks come in re-sealable bags, but potato chips don’t?
- ☺ We can’t help everyone, but everyone can help someone.
- ☺ A new study links drinking more coffee to a longer lifespan. Awesome, I’m going to be immortal.
- ☺ I don’t always go the extra mile, but when I do it’s because I missed my exit.
- ☺ I don’t know how to act my age, I’ve never been this old before.
- ☺ Common sense is a flower that does not grow in everyone’s garden.
- ☺ The easiest way to organize your stuff is to get rid of most of it.
- ☺ I don’t always diet and exercise ... but when I do, I expect the results to be instant, dramatic, and spectacular.
- ☺ I have decided to cut back on being sarcastic. I solemnly swear to only be sarcastic on days that begin with T, like ... Tuesday, Thursday, Today & Tomorrow.
- ☺ It’s been a very strange day. First I found a hat full of money. Then I was chased by an angry man with a guitar!
- ☺ Why do seagulls fly over the sea? Because if they flew over a bay, they would be bagels.
- ☺ I grilled a chicken for two hours ... it still wouldn’t tell me why it crossed the road.
- ☺ I’ve decided that I am not old. I am 45, plus shipping and handling!
- ☺ Coffee is the answer, I don’t remember the question.
- ☺ Sometimes, I think that I can do anything ... and then the coffee stops working.
- ☺ For those of you that don’t want Alexa listening in on your conversations they’re making a male version ... it doesn’t listen to anything.
- ☺ You know you are a bad driver when Siri says: “In 400 feet, stop and let me out.”
- ☺ Coffee is not just a beverage; it’s a cup of liquid sanity.
- ☺ Last night, my wife asked me if I had seen the dog bowl. I said, “I didn’t know he could.”
- ☺ I’ve finally lost my mind. If found, don’t bother to return it. It wasn’t working properly anyway.
- ☺ I gain weight so easily that even food for thought goes straight to my thighs.
- ☺ The only time I’m jealous of another woman is if her coffee is bigger than mine.
- ☺ Do not regret growing old. It is a privilege denied to many!
- ☺ A pirate walks into a bar with a paper towel on his head. The bartender asks, “Hey, what’s with the paper towel?” The pirate says, “Aaargh, I’ve got a Bounty on me head!”
- ☺ I’m so good at sleeping that I can do it with my eyes closed.
- ☺ I made a huge to-do list today. I just can’t figure out who’s going to do it?
- ☺ Sometimes it takes me all day to get nothing done.
- ☺ I am not lazy, I’m just in energy saving mode!
- ☺ It’s not procrastinating if you’re drinking coffee, it’s “procaffinating”.
- ☺ Seasonal Bookworms: Winter – It’s snowing; I should stay inside and read. Spring - I have allergies; I should stay inside and read. Summer - It’s too hot; I should stay inside and read. Autumn - It’s so windy; I should stay inside and read.
- ☺ Can you die from sitting on the floor to play with your grandkid? Because I just tried to get up, and it feels like you can die from it.
- ☺ That moment at 3AM when you whisper to yourself, “I need to stop ...” as you turn the page.
- ☺ I’m always in a rush to get home and do nothing.
- ☺ Have you ever been crazy about somebody back in the day and you see them now and you think “glad I missed that ship”!
- ☺ If at first you don’t succeed, try drinking a glass of wine. You’ll be amazed at how much less you care.

Calendar:

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

January 19 - 3rd Thursday. 2nd Thursday of every month.

PENNSYLVANIA

THE INDEPENDENTS

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



We won't have our next meeting until April; we will take the bad weather months off.

35 retirees including their guests attended our Christmas luncheon and we all enjoyed a very good meal. A number of shoe boxes were brought with goodies to be taken to Coatesville Hospital. **Tom Anderlonis** delivered them for us.

Our talented friends made goodies for our Chinese auction. **Marge Eggles** won the prize for the oldest person (91); **Walt Sonderman** won our wheel of 100 lottery scratch offs.

Everyone enjoyed each other; talking and reminiscing. So until next month, have a Happy and Healthy New Year!

**PITTSBURGH
PIT-STOPPERS**

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



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

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
Kathie Torgison
email4torgy@aol.com



Our most recent gathering was the holiday luncheon at Angelo's restaurant in Burien on December 13th. Covid, flu and creaky bones kept some at home but it was great to see the 29 members who were able to come. Among them were **Phil & MaryAnn Anderson, Rosie Bittner & Jennie Schubert, Dick Deveraux, Virginia Dice, Fred & Bonnie Frey, Hank Gosselin** (who donated a huge gift basket for the door prize), **Ed Karr, Rosa Koller** with **Linda Ryan & Diane Wiese, Gay & Ed Liese, Noreen Krawczyk, Ron Paluch** (who won the gift basket) & **Shirley Claggett, Betty & Arnie Schaetzke** (who won 1/4 of the 50/50 drawing), **Syd Reynolds, Ken & Judy Storey, Ken & Marcia Tank, Kathie Torgison, Lloyd & Julie Towne** (who won the other 1/4 of the 50/50) and **Ben Watson**.

Ken Storey gave a nice welcome introduction to the festivities and **Hank Gosselin** informed everyone about the RUAEA conventions which will now be known as Reunions. As chairman of the national committee that determines when and where these events occur, Hank gave us an insider's look into all the factors his team has to search out and evaluate before these events can take place. Hank's committee was very pleased to successfully secure the same hotel in SAN for the next 2 years.

Kathie Torgison gave an update explaining the necessity to move away from mailing paper copies of Contrails. Our longtime editor, who is not associated with UA, has fulfilled her contract with us and we have no one to step into that capacity. So we will now use your email to send out a new version of Contrails. Please advise **Bonnie Frey** at (360) 459-8048 if you need to update your email address. We expect sending only 2 or 3 emails per year. If you do not have an email address, please consider asking a relative or friend to allow us to send your copy to their email. You must advise Bonnie of that email address at the same phone number.

The meal was delicious and even included Angelo's traditional cheesecake, which is always a hit. We toasted each other wishing for good health and happiness in the New Year.

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



Since I did not write an article last month, Happy New Year! I hope you all brought in the New Year with a meal of pork, black eyed peas and collards. This is an old southern tradition which guarantees good luck and good fortune. Since this is the February Newsletter, I also wish you a happy Valentine's Day.

I have missed our last two luncheons because of my misfortunes and my husband's serious illnesses. **Kerrie Schneider** has kept me well informed. I am particularly sad that I was not able to attend the Christmas party. As always, it was a blast. Our President, **Carl Alford**, opened the meeting by wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2023. He wished everyone with success in keeping their New Year's resolution. He claimed that he was going to stop procrastinating; he plans to do that in February or March. I think he will be in need of some help. They had their first ever "ugly sweater contest." **Dutch Schneider** won with his Grinch outfit. There were 30 members in attendance. President Carl introduced a new member named **Marcheta Sanders**. Kerrie tells me that she is quite lovely and a very welcome addition to our group.

Alice Feng brought many items from the Mainliner Club for our members to buy. I'm hoping that she will do this every month. She brought in teddy bears, pilot hats, toys, colorful UAL luggage tags and more. Alice made Christmas shopping much easier for so many.

At a previous meeting we asked **Ruth Blackwell**, our resident artist, if she could contribute some of her paintings for an auction to raise money for our treasury. Our dues are low, we collect half of our 50/50 drawing most months and we try to be generous with our charities. We try to have a really nice party in June to celebrate our end of the year meeting. This usually brings our bank account down to a number that really makes our treasurer, **Judy Dunlap**, rather nervous. Ruth, of course, generously donated several paintings to our Christmas party; how perfect, and thoughtful. At our January luncheon we will have a silent auction for one or two and save one for February.

Since I skipped writing an article for last month, I was not able to tell you that in November the Marines came in full uniform, as always, to collect our Toys For Tots as well as our annual cash donation. This is an annual occasion and our members are always very generous. **Kerrie Schneider** is our contact with them and is the person who always contacts them. She and Dutch even drove down to Quantico, VA a couple of years in a row with their SUV loaded to the gills.

Now, back to the December party. It is always an exciting end to our gathering when the caroling begins. This year the songs were led by **Carol Alford**, **Kerrie Schneider**, **Linda Scriven**, and the Golden Corral Managers. They are all such good sports. They sang our (and your) usual carols, all favorites. Then the usual and hysterical (the way we do it) "12 Days of Christmas". Many of the other diners at the Golden Corral joined in and shared our joy.

Another quotable mention from our esteemed President: *"Finally, I want to take a moment to speak on behalf of the guys, with the bevy of beauties amongst our members, I would be remiss if I failed to mention our January 11th meeting falls on National Girl hug a boy day. Ladies, we look forward to seeing you again and await you with open arms"*. No wonder everyone loves Carl.

Now I must share bad news with you. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the Pregano family. **Frank Pregano** was a lovely and kind gentleman (retired IADMM). He was well loved and will be missed. Many of the Loungers attended his funeral. His wife was also a very frequent attendee of our functions. His daughter, Angela Knight, a professional opera singer, until this year, has always led our group in song at Christmas. Rest in peace, Frank. You will be missed.

Our next luncheon will be on January 11, 2023 at the Golden Corral in Manassas, VA. **PLEASE JOIN US**

NATIONAL

CLIPPED WINGS



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

Here we are a few weeks into 2023 and as most people/organizations/companies do ... we contemplate several things. We look back on the year past and decide if we want to change things.

Should we make resolutions? What do we want to accomplish in 2023? As RUAEA members, maybe we plan our trips using our well deserved UA/airline benefits? We certainly have access to many ideas from our correspondents in this great publication. Exercise and a healthy diet are usually at the top of most folks list for the New Year as well. There are a myriad of beneficial additions one can make to their life/organization/company to accomplish their goals.

So as we proceed into this New Year, we at Clipped Wings have several goals. We are determined to increase our membership through innovative ideas, we are resolute in continuing our important Special Olympic philanthropy and carry on fostering camaraderie in our 27 chapters. If you know anyone who would like to be a part of our great organization, please have them go to our website at www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org. The website has information about “who we are” and “what we do” and there is a membership link for current and

former UA/CO flight attendants to complete. Once the inquiry is submitted, the connection to a chapter will be quickly made and the possible new member will be on their way to “continuing the connection”!

If you know of any former or current UA/CO Flight Attendants that would like more information about Clipped Wings, they can find us at www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org. The website has great information on “who we are” and “what we do”. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any further questions! We are a group that enjoys having fun while doing great things for others!



NEW MEMBERS

The following new members joined RUAEA during the month of **December 2022**:

Baldwin, Wanda, 877 Rincon Lane, Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274
Bartow, Anne, SEASW, 10787 Armada Ave. NW, Silverdale, WA 98383
Bauer, Nancy, SFOEG, PO Box 256, Wellington, NV 89444
Clark, Jerome, 2886 Forest St., Denver, CO 80207
Gallimore, Wayne, 9523 Clarke Farms Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95624
Gardei, Kevin, IAHCS, 5245 Amulet Dr., Apt. 106, New Port Richey, FL 34652
Giffin, Pat, ORDOR, 10404 Oak Ridge Road, Marengo, IL 60152
Higgins, Nora, SFOSW, 8140 E. Granite Pass Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85266
Langston, Terry, PO Box 1487, Eureka, MT 59917
Lockmann, Neidi, 79 Davidsons Mill Rd., North Brunswick, NJ 08902
Maynard, Charles, 1446 Bahia Dr., Navarre, FL 32566
Mcmahon, Pamela, 709 West Kimball Ave., Palatine, IL 60067
Palmer, Bob, DCARR, 50 Lake Pointe Circle, Hendersonville, NC 28792
Phelps, Richard, 313 Edinburgh Lane, Orange Park, FL 32073
Protsman, Richard, ORDMM, 7 N. 171 Glen Road, Medinah, IL 60157
Rains, John C., DCAFO, 211 Allan Ridge Rd., Morristown, VT 05661
Rauch, Jeff, NAA, 27250 Nicolas Rd., Apt. A-244, Temecula, CA 92591
Riffel, Sherry, 28 Regent Cir., Unit D2, Schaumburg, IL 60193

Sackett, Craig, SFOOR, 2221 Princeton Dr., Apt. #1, San Bruno, CA 94066
Sheridan, Patrick, MIAOZ, 3021 Heather Beach Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46234
Smith, Joy, 1274 Winterberry Lane, Schererville, IN 46375
Speidel, Patrick, 4140 Peninsula Point Drive, Seaside, CA 80238
Wallestad, Sandra, 13335 Watertown Plank Road #201, Elm Grove, WI 53122

CONTRIBUTIONS

We appreciated monetary contributions from the following members during the month of **December 2022**:

Shirley R. Alexander, Wanda Baldwin, Anne Bartow, Sina H. Beck, Karl Besteder, Ronald F. Bloom, Maxine A. Bruso, Betty S. Bryant, Donald E. Clark, Patricia Clayton, Russell F. Cormier, John J. Deily, Richard R. Del Boccio, Marsha L. Disanto, Robert Duensing, Mark Elston, Deborah A. Erickson, Charles J. Esqueda, Marilyn Fry, William Game, Lawrence Gardner, Valentin Garmasch, Pat Giffin, William J. Grubb, John B. Hagen, Arnold H. Hansen, Walter D. Harris, William Hourston, Darlene Ikeya, Kenneth Johnson, Lowell E. Johnston, Robert V. Keefe, Eldonna Klobe, Fred E. Kremerskotter, Charles Lewis, Edward E. Liesse, Ea Mace, Beverly McAlister, Frances Meierkort, Lacides Miranda, Judi Nelson, Margaret Nelson, Louise C. Prairie, Richard Protsman, Sherry Riffel, Harvey A. Rucker, Bonnie Ruliffson, Arno A. Schaetzke, Nalini M. Shah, Joy Smith, Wing Soohoo, Carol Sostarich, James H. Staib, Kenneth A. Storey, Carol Suminski, Linda Tilford, Theodore Tollefsen, Emily C. Turner, Peter H. Waid, Sandra Wallestad, Norman W. Wilkinson, Maurice Wilson, Ronald Winegar.

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.

Retiree – **Bohan, John M.**, on 12/23/2022, LGAMM, husband of Marilyn Bohan, 54 Orchard Dr., North Port, NY 11768
Retiree – **Brett, Marcia K.**, on 9/25/2022, ORDSW, wife of Thomas E. Brett, 589 St. Andrews Rd., Winter Haven, FL 33884
Spouse – **Crandall, Patricia M.**, on 12/7/2022, wife of Harry A. Crandall, DENTK, 3434 S. Laredo Ct., Aurora, CO 80013
Retiree - **Kalicki, Robert (Bob) J.**, on 12/6/2022, WHQKR, husband of Patricia Kalicki, nee Hall, 2031 Greenfield Rd., Hoffman Estates, IL 60195
Retiree - **Lion, Jake H.**, on 7/31/2022, SFOPD, Jake is the last of seven children, 298 Third Ave., Daly City, CA 94014
Retiree – **O'Keefe, Fred**, on 12/7/2022, DTWTR, husband of Carol O'Keefe, 48490 Edgar, Belleville, MI 48111

Retiree – **Rupp, Frederick**, on 12/1/2022, DENTK, husband of Virginia Rupp, 4473 W. Hindsdale Ave., Littleton, CO 80128
Retiree - **Whately, Dolores (Dee) C.**, on 10/13/2022, LAXSW, mother of Lynne Whately, 868 Eldorado Way, Sacramento, CA 98519

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:

Paul Andersen, Sina Beck, Maxine Bruso, Russell Cormier, Jr., Patricia Clayton, Charles Esqueda, Arnold Hansen Jr., Diana Kaiser, Lee Ann Lack, Judith Macklin, Joan McGrane, Beverly McAlister, Francis Meierkort, David Rickenberger, Sue Riedl, Arno & Betty Schaetzke, James Sullivan, Libby Timchak, Emily Turner, Valerie Veitch, and Sharon Wagner.

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.)

Richard Bresett, 1375 Vintage Way, Auburn, CA 95603

Thank you for the reminder, I never want to stop getting the nice information in the loaded Newsletter. Thanks to all of you that put so much of your time in producing the newsletter.

I have been retired now for 22 years, still active in the Salvation Army and doing brick and stone work. I am 78 now and slowing down but thanks to the Lord, I can still cut firewood and do some masonry work.

Thanks again for keeping all of us retirees informed with the latest United news.

Darlene Ikeya, 925 Carson Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Time flies, as many of the RUAEA members write in their reports from the chapters around the country. The newsletter always includes interesting and informative articles and a little humor to add a smile.

Keep up the great job at getting the newsletter published and keeping members informed.

Eldonna Klobe, 4058 Alla Rd., Los Angeles, CA 90066

Hal and I got to the Convention this year and had a **great** time. Unfortunately, we didn't see many old friends; but it has been a very long time since we retired.

We read every letter in the newsletter and love the pictures included.

I appreciate all the time and effort so many people put into publishing the newsletter.

Joretta Schneider, 12891 W. 74th Dr., Arvada, CO 80005

Hello to all of my fellow retirees.

Many thanks to all who put together our wonderful and useful newsletter.

We are downsizing to a new home.

John Sheehan, 350 W. Schaumburg Rd., Unit A 262, Schaumburg, IL 60194

Sorry that we are so late with our dues.

Our oldest daughter, Irene, died in May after a long battle with MS.

Our lives are starting to get back on track now.

Kenneth Story, 16039 12th Ave. SW, Burien, WA 98166

We had a great time at the convention. The Dana was an excellent place to have it. The resort staff was a fun group. Special thanks to the RUAEA Board for making the convention what it was.

It does look like I put on weight, when I saw the picture taken at the Cabrillo National Monument.

The breakfasts were great. It was nice to sit outside every morning and enjoy talking to the people around you.

Notes

Bob Palmer

I am a former employee of UAL, not a retiree. Membership information elsewhere on RUAEA website indicates former employees are eligible for membership but this app requires signing up as a retiree so here I am. Mentioning here in the interest of full disclosure, I don't want anyone to think I am trying to impersonate a retiree.

Our family has close ties to United: Father-in-law 40 years with Capital/United, wife 3 years with DENSS, son 9 years (so far) with ORDFO.

Nalini M. Shah

United is a great company to work for; it is ranked as second best company in the world. I am glad that I worked for United for 25 years.

Nancy Bauer

I am widow of **Raymond Bauer**. He retired in December 1999. He was in the Engineering group but I don't know his station code. He hired on 10/5/64.

Kevin Garde

I worked for United from January 20, 1992 till August 30, 2022. MIAOO, MIAAF, INDJL, PHXOO, DENCS, MCOCS, ORDCS, SFOCS, IAHCS ...

Mary Agbayani

I love the updates of what's going on with UA, especially the new routes.

Charles Lewis

Well, as I begin my 93rd year on earth, and continue my 30th year of retirement, I think back on the wonderful times I had with RUAEA - the wonderful conventions; the work as treasurer, both for RUAEA and for 2 conventions. I was also on the Audit committee headed by **Mort Wax**. During my active years with RUAEA I met some wonderful people. RUAEA was and **is** a great organization.

Ray & Cheryl Knazik

It's enjoyable to read the monthly goings-on from The Dulles Loungers, Ohio Buckeyes, and all other RUAEA chapters; it truly feels like a second family, even though we don't know most of the folks. We're all UAL.

We send our best wishes, to one and all, for a blessed Christmas, a peace-filled and healthy New Year.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS ON THE NEXT PAGE ...

The Contact Column



Updated 11/2021

United Airlines Benefits Center (Central Time)

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

United Employee Service Center

1-877-825-3729

1-847-825-3729 - International Use

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

For flight information and to list or change listing

Password for Pass Line –your birthday, mmddyy

\$25 fee to create new booking

Employee Travel Center

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

United Airlines Technical Service Desk

1-800-255-5801

For Flying Together password assistance

Do not use for pass travel questions

Insurance Questions-see number on back of your insurance card

PBGC - for all retiree pension questions

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

Social Security Administration

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

Alliant Credit Union

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

Malcolm Horn, CFP®, Financial Consultant

Alliant Retirement & Investment Services

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

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

Medicare Hotline 1-800-633-4227

CVS/Caremark (Pharmacy)

1-844-635-3401

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

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

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The Retired United Airlines Employees Association (RUEA) is an IRS Code 501 (c) (3) organization. RUEA 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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Genigraphics



“Genigraphics” was developed by General Electric Company, Syracuse, N.Y. The Genigraphics 35mm slide-making system included a “mini-computer”, the tall cabinet in the above photo with **Rich Twardy**, with a hard disk drive connected to the color console and a “mouse”, permitting the artist to compose an illustration. A paper copy was taped to the ceramic pad and the artist traced the subject by using a “point-to-point” drawing method. If a curved part of the illustration was desired, it took many “points” to create a reasonably smooth contour.

The “Airplane Ditching” art, above, shows the limitations of detail and colors. There was a very limited number of colors available, including black & white. Creating a graphic was similar to cutting layers of paper, one on top of the other, each with a separate color. The console monitor displayed the Illustration pieces as they were drawn.

Once the Illustration image was finalized, the “digital data” was recorded on a floppy-disk. A driver took the floppy-disc to a Genigraphics Processing Center and later “picked-up” the Master slides returning them to the Training Center where Duplicates were produced. The Duplicated slides were then placed in class-room projectors to be viewed on a large projection screen.

At Denver Flight Training, we had three Genigraphics Artists working 10-hour days, 4 days per week.

Notice: Because the Training Center Archives are being moved into Storage and later to Chicago, any Future Donations should be “put on hold” until further notice. Thank You All, for your Donations through the years. ■