



Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

WWW.RUAEA.ORG



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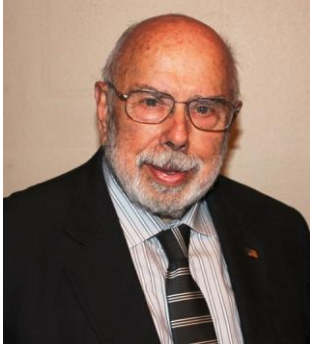
2017 RUAEA Las Vegas Convention



GENERAL NEWS

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Letter From The President



Are you tired of winter? I am and I'm busy making plans to spend some time with the grandkids and fellow retirees when the weather warms up. Here in Denver, we're getting ready for our annual Christmas luncheon which is always good and then on to the big dinner with family and of course waiting for Santa. Next is New Year and all the well meaning resolutions we all seem to make, but never seem to follow through with them. Anyway it's a great time of year!

As I'm writing this letter, I'm reminded of the day, December 7th - Pearl Harbor Day. This morning one of the local radio stations interviewed a Pearl Harbor survivor. He is 104 years old and what a story he told. The determination that welled up within him and his fellow sailors during and after the attack to stay in the fight was very moving. He and his fellows are truly of the "Greatest Generation".

The year 2018 brings many challenges for RUAEA. We, like many retiree organizations are struggling to maintain our membership and at the same time try to enlist some growth. We find that the new retirees are not attuned to socializing with fellow retirees like many of us older folks are. Their mode of communication is a bit different than we are used to. They are more involved in the "social media" and seem to communicate via Facebook, Twitter and so on. But as one of my granddaughters tells me "adjust grandpa" and believe me, I'm trying, or I think I am. We are bringing new ways to communicate into the organization, mainly through our website www.ruaea.org. We do have a Facebook page and many use it. The site is kept up to date with good information concerning discounts, travel and other things of interest to retirees.

I'm asked what is happening with the retiree meetings with the company? At this time there aren't any meetings planned, but we do have an avenue to make concerns known. If you have issues that you are unable to resolve through normal channels simply contact one of our Corporate Liaisons, **Ed Tolle** or **Don Burbank**. Their contact information is in the Newsletter. Also if you have comments concerning RUAEA and possible agenda items for future meetings with the company please let me or the Executive VP **Jim Simon** know. We are open to all comments, questions or concerns. Our contact information is in the Newsletter.

I sincerely hope all is well with you and yours and hope that 2018 is a great year for everyone.

Regards,

Virgil Gooselaw
RUAEA President

United offers new ways to check in



On December 5, United announced an exciting new partnership with tech innovators Google and Fitbit. Customers will now be able to access flight information and other amenities through Google Assistant on their phone or Google Home as well as the Fitbit Ionic™ smartwatch, making United the first airline to give customers the tech-savvy options. United already allows the same features on Amazon's Alexa-enabled devices, which [the company announced in September](#).

The new United app on the Google Assistant lets customers use smart speakers like Google Home, and eligible Android and iPhone devices, to stay up to date on their flights. Once customers have linked their MileagePlus accounts to Google Assistant, users can say "talk to United" to hear their flight status, check amenities and check in for their upcoming flights. The new app also allows Google Assistant users to check their MileagePlus account balances, hear their last account activity, check in for their United domestic U.S. flights and hear flight information. Users of Fitbit's Ionic smartwatch will be able to access the United app – the only airline app available on its AppGallery – to receive flight status information and their boarding passes right on their watches.

"Consumers around the world use smart devices every day to conveniently complete a variety of different tasks," said Digital Products and Analytics VP Praveen Sharma. *"Adding a United app to the Google Assistant*

and Fitbit Ionic allows us to meet our customers on devices they already know and love, while making it easier than ever to check flight status, check in, learn about MileagePlus account details and receive their boarding passes.”

To access all of these new options, customers will need to link their MileagePlus accounts to their devices.

App updates make managing travel on the go even easier



In October, United debuted two more enhancements to the United mobile app designed to give customers more power and convenience in the palms of their hands when traveling.

First, customers and employees can now change segments and cancel flights for paid tickets from within the app in many cases. As this new feature debuts, certain reservations, such as those purchased through third parties, will continue to united.com to allow changes. Support for more reservation options to be completed in the app will continue to expand in the coming weeks.

Second, you can now store your MileagePlus and United Club membership cards via Apple Wallet.

These changes come on the heels of two other well-received app upgrades: The addition of bag tracking functionality and the ability to access boarding passes for 19 of United’s Star Alliance partner carriers.

“Every day, 800,000 customers rely on our mobile app to book reservations, view flight statuses, check in and access a variety of other handy travel tools,” said Chief Digital Officer Linda Jojo. “We’re constantly making updates to the app that help our customers manage their travel with us at the touch of a finger and access even more information about their flights as quickly and conveniently as possible.”

TSA rolls out enhanced screening at additional U.S. airports



To ensure the security of airline passengers and the nation’s airports, the TSA is implementing new, stronger screening procedures for carry-on items that require travelers to place all electronics larger than a cell phone in bins for X-ray screening in standard lanes. TSA plans to expand these measures, as part of a program announced in July, to all U.S. airports during the weeks and months ahead. This change does not impact the current Known Crew Member (KCM) or TSA Pre✓® process.

Watch: ‘Tis the season for Fantasy Flights



The first Fantasy Flight of 2017 departed Friday, December 1 at PHX (Phoenix). It’s a United tradition that gets bigger and better with every coming year. This year, 13 hubs and line stations will be participating, including GUM, LHR (London Heathrow) and HNL (Honolulu). United will have photo galleries and videos from the festivities starting Dec. 4 and running throughout the holiday season.

Last year, 2-year-old Alijah attended SAT’s (San Antonio) Fantasy Flight. Alijah is battling stage four cancer but his mother, Lori, says he’s doing well and very much looking forward to his second Fantasy Flight. Alijah, now three, will be taking off with his two older brothers. Watch the video on Flying Together to take a look back and see how Alijah is doing today.

United’s women in tech inspire young girls at ChickTech conference



According to a 2016 study by the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT), only 25 percent of computing-related jobs in the U.S. are held by women. But who says women can’t succeed in the tech industry? ChickTech, a national organization dedicated to retaining

women in the technology workforce and increasing the number of girls pursuing technology-based careers, is tackling that fallacy.

On November 18, five of United's very own women in tech, Enterprise Quality and Release Management Managing Director Silvia Prickel, Business Architecture Senior Manager Diana Krohn, IT Security Intelligence Director Becky Selzer, IT System Principal Engineer Suzan Liu and IT Security Intelligence Intern Sriya Potham, helped ChickTech in its mission to provide supplemental tech education not offered in high schools.

Through uIMPACT, ChickTech invited Silvia, Diana, Becky, Suzan and Sriya to teach a workshop at the ChickTech Chicago Kick-off Conference, where nearly 70 high school girls who are interested in pursuing STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) careers, participated in hands-on STEM workshops led by industry professionals.

"I jumped on the opportunity to participate because it's a small way to give back and help other young, up-and-coming women succeed in their careers and in life," said Silvia. "If I can make a positive impact on just one young person, then my mission is a success. If we all focus on just helping one person, imagine how many lives we can touch!"

The United team hosted its workshop, "Encryption in Web Development," during which the students learned to create an aviation-themed website and adapt it for mobile and desktop viewing while using encryption to ensure security.

The team also provided an overview of STEM career opportunities at United and guidance about various STEM career paths.

For Suzan, the decision to volunteer at the event was a no-brainer because she herself attended a similar conference in high school that led her to pursue an engineering degree in college. In fact, the woman who presented at the conference Suzan attended in high school later hired Suzan when she graduated.

"I know just how life-changing something like this can be to someone making her first true, big decision," said Suzan. "It was an honor to work with this group of bright young ladies, and I look forward to witnessing their future accomplishments."

Aircraft Recovery team's credo: 'Do no harm'



Some of the Aircraft Recovery team taking a short break during two days of field training. In this photo, the nose landing gear is retracted and the aircraft is resting on its nose.

Twenty-four members of United's Aircraft Recovery Team underwent three days of intensive training at IAH earlier this month and they practiced skills the company hopes are never required - safely removing a disabled aircraft that is blocking a runway, taxiway or ramp at an airport United serves.

The team members gathered for a day of classroom training followed by two intense days of field exercises on a remote corner of the airfield. The subject aircraft, a T-43A (modified Boeing 737-200) belongs to the Houston Police Department and is used for various drills and exercises at the airport.

Principal Line Support Engineer and Aircraft Recovery Team Leader Marc Felice said team members came from all seven hubs as well as CLE, GUM, HNL (Honolulu) and MCO (Orlando, Florida) to join others already trained in stations ranging from GRU (São Paulo) and LHR (London Heathrow) to SYD (Sydney).

Working alongside local employees and business partners, they are on call 24/7 as part of the United Emergency Response Team to handle towing, jacking and lifting aircraft that have become immobilized for various reasons – from failed supports or landing gear to slides off runways or taxiways. The complex recovery kits are kept in six locations – HNL, IAD, IAH, MCO, ORD and SFO – so are never more than a few hours away from a recovery scene.

At the IAH exercise, the teams became familiar with the various components of the recovery kit, which is treated as non-calibrated tooling, and they practiced towing an off-pavement aircraft using an emergency towing kit. These are used in situations where a conventional tow tractor or recovery vehicle is not practical.

In a simulation of a plane that landed with the nose landing gear not extended, they raised the T-43A's forward fuselage with a sling lift and a crane, then inflated a set of airbags underneath to support it until a trolley could be moved into place to enable moving the plane.

On the second day, they performed a full lift of the entire aircraft, using sets of airbags underneath both wings and the fuselage. It's not as simple as it sounds.

“The reason we have so many hoses going to so many airbags is that we have strict pressure limits for the fuselage and wing skin contact areas and thus need to control the pressure going into each compartment of the airbag so the plane lifts evenly and safely,” Marc explained. “Our first priority in any recovery is – Do no harm,” Marc said. “First of all, the recovery needs to be done safely for all the people involved,” Marc said. “Also, while we need to work quickly, we need to take every step to make sure we don’t cause any secondary damage to the aircraft. Third, we need to work quickly – incidents that require recovery are extremely costly for the aircraft operator and for the airfield.”

Twice this year, United’s team has responded to incidents that fortunately were relatively minor. An axle collapsed on an Airbus A320 in EWR, and with the support of a local vendor United moved it from the gate to a hangar. In IAH, a wing jack failed under a Boeing 737-800 that was in for maintenance. The team used recovery airbags to free the failed jack and replace it with an operational one. Also, this year in HNL, local team member supported Line Maintenance when a Boeing 737-900 had a tire and wheel failure during taxi.

In addition to United’s own recovery teams and kits, United is a member of the International Airlines Technical Pool (IATP) cooperative, which has 12 kits and “go” teams stationed around the world. United is the designated responder in HNL and conduct annual exercises as part of the IATP commitment. Coincidentally, while United was conducting its IAH training, a number of United’s Brazil-based employees took part in an annual IATP exercise in GIG (Rio de Janeiro) held by region recovery provider LATAM Airlines Brasil (JJ). Their kit is based in GRU; and GRU Aircraft Maintenance Manager Jose Lisboa said United’s participants got invaluable experience in not only the recovery exercise itself, but also in the logistics of transporting a kit and using it in a different location.

UNITE hosts first-ever African American Networking Seminar



On October 26, UNITE, United’s multi-cultural business resource group, hosted its first-ever African American Networking and Professional Development Event at the Chicago Corporate Center in Chicago. More than 150 participants, including employees from CSC, Contact Centers and Tech Ops, got a chance to hear from a panel of African American leaders across various functions at United about career advice, challenges in the workplace and how to successfully move ahead in the company.

“Working as a remote agent in the Contact Centers means that your primary form of communication within United is email and WebEx,” said Remote Reservations Agent Anthony Vales. “Attending UNITE’s event presented me an opportunity to speak with fellow African-American colleagues and leaders in person about career development.”

Attendees also got an unexpected surprise visit from Oscar, who stopped by the event and candidly discussed diversity at United. He also took the time to answer some questions from employees, which ranged from the NAACP’s recent warning about travel on American Airlines to tuition reimbursement for employees and how he stays grounded amidst the challenges of his job.

“Oscar spoke passionately to the group, not as United’s chief executive, but as an encouraging elder brother or close family member,” said Anthony.

Like Anthony, ORD Flight Attendant Angelique Reddick and Flight Experience Analyst Lindsay Jungers left the event feeling empowered, excited about the future of United and appreciative of an event that allowed them to network with colleagues.

“It was a great event, and I’m glad we’re able to have those types of conversations at United,” said Lindsay.

Call the 50th anniversary chrome for the Plating Shop



The October 1967 issue of *Products Finishing*, a trade magazine for the metal products finishing industry, featured United's then-brand new Plating Shop on the cover and a 16-page feature article.

Engine Overhaul and Repair Senior Supervisor Andy Simonetti with the fishtank that contains waste discharge water from the Plating Shop, a testament to the quality of United's water treatment program.

In October 1967, the United Maintenance Base at SFO opened a metal finishing department so modern that the leading industry publication *Products Finishing* devoted the cover and a 16-page feature article to the facility. The article gushed: *"Built for aircraft maintenance plating, this new plating installation has some pointers for everyone; freedom from overhead obstructions, an 'integrated' waste treatment system that discharges 'drinking' water, and all accessory equipment tucked away in a separate area, to name a few."*



Other media marveled at the goldfish tank fed by treated waste water. The Plating Shop recycles thousands of gallons of water a day, and the many chemicals, metals and other impurities are removed and meet drinking water standards before the water goes into San Francisco Bay – except for the amount that is diverted to the fish tank, which is still in place.

Engine Overhaul and Repair Senior Supervisor Andreino "Andy" Simonetti has been associated with the shop for more than 40 of its 50 years, and pointed out that it was, indeed, state of the art when it opened in 1967 and continues to provide United with a high-quality and environmentally sound method of treating metals for engines, landing gear and other components.

"It was very far-sighted of United to build this shop when they did," Andy noted. *"Back then, we would send the piece parts out to a metal finishing shop on the [San Francisco] peninsula, but now if we didn't have the Plating Shop here, we would have to send a huge volume of work out."*

Engine Overhaul and Repair hosted a lunch for more than 100 employees from the Plating Shop and related departments November 2 and held similar events on the other shifts to thank employees who work in the little-known but essential machining and remanufacturing departments of the huge Engine Shop.

Plating and related processes are essential when working with aircraft parts; in many cases they are coated with chrome and similar metal plating to replace coatings that have worn off or corroded. Coatings improve longevity and resistance to corrosion.

United attains top-tier performance amid GDP challenges



Despite having a higher percentage of arrivals impacted by FAA-mandated ground delay programs (GDPs) than any of United's primary competitors, United is firmly positioned in the top tier in mainline D :00 and mainline completion through the first two weeks of November, trailing only Delta (DL) in mainline performance and sitting in the top spot for consolidated D :00.

As of November 14, United is above goal in both metrics with a 99.87 percent completion factor and a 75.7 percent D :00 average. IAH even set a hub record for D :00 on November 12, with 93.9 percent of its flights departing on

time for the day.

On the mishandled baggage ratio (MBR) front, United's employees have the company well below its maximum target, with a 3.05 MBR against a goal of 3.14. All told, it's the kind of exemplary performance that will have United seeing green come bonus time.

"It's the season for rain, ice and snow, not to mention higher load factors with the holidays coming up, so now is our time to shine," said IAH Ramp Service MD Joseph Peloquin. *"I've never been more confident in our operation and in our employees' ability to push through difficult situations than I am right now."*

Torgy's Travel Tips January 2018
A Year to Travel



The year 2018 is upon us and it's time to make plans for traveling! With newly expanded opportunities to bring along more Enrolled Friends and more UA destination cities coming along, the only question is, "Where shall we go?" To whet your appetite, I've decided to give you 12 choices – one for each month of the year. Each featured destination highlights the reason to visit in that particular month. So, get out your calendar and start making a plan!

January: NYC – New York City is hosting a limited engagement exhibit of the house, history and fashion of the Crawley Family as portrayed on the acclaimed TV series Downton Abbey. Walk through the rooms of Downton exactly as portrayed on the show, see the costumes and props and learn the history of Edwardian England. See www.downtonexhibition.com for all the details. Ends January 31st, 2018.

February: SFO – It's the Year of the Dog and San Francisco hosts one of the top 10 parades in the world with its Lunar New Year Parade on February 24th. Get yourself a place on the street by 4:30PM, or purchase a grandstand seat. Either way you will view fantastic floats, fierce dragons and Chinese lions, gorgeous costumes and exploding fireworks. Go to: www.chineseparade.com

March: WAS – The National Cherry Blossom Festival in Wash. DC takes place March 20-April 15. A gift of cherry trees from Japan to the US in 1912 has grown to 3750 such trees in and around the center of Wash DC, particularly near the Tidal Basin. The pink blossoms are a welcome harbinger of spring and their delicate petals drift like snow to the ground, as the days grow longer. The festival includes lots of activities including opening ceremonies March 23, Blossom Kite festival March 31, fireworks April 7 and the parade on April 14. All events are free. (Refer to my article of January 2017 for more Wash DC bargains.)

April: SAT – San Antonio, TX and Port Aransas are great places to visit this month. Fiesta! San Antonio takes place April 23-28 and includes the Texas Cavaliers River Parade, Battle of Flowers parade and the King William Fair, while Port Aransas offers Texas Sandfest, which draws international competitors in sand sculpting. Check out: www.texassandfest.org and www.fiesta-sa.org

May: GRR – Holland, MI (closest airport is Grand Rapids) celebrates spring May 5-13 with Tulip Time. Over 2 million tulips bloom yearly and 200,000 line the 6 mile route called Tulip Lane. Walk along the lane and to the waterfront to view this feast for the eyes. Visit Windmill Island Gardens, buy tulip bulbs at Veldheer's Tulip Farm to take home and enjoy great shows and events throughout the week. See www.tuliptime.com

June: PDX – Portland, Oregon, is known as The Rose City and each June a grand floral parade that rivals the one in Pasadena celebrates that fact. June 9th is the date this year and you will be amazed by the floats. There are enough live flowers on the floats to send someone a dozen roses, every day for 30 years! And don't miss the close-up tour of the floats the day after the parade. www.rosefestival.org

July: YYC – Calgary, Alberta Canada is the home of the "Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth" because of the famed annual Calgary Stampede. This year's celebration takes place July 6-15. The Stampede preserves and celebrates the western cowboy heritage of Alberta with a world famous rodeo, chuckwagon races, free pancake breakfasts, entertainment, agricultural fairs and First Nations cultural events. A must see for your bucket list. Check out www.calgarystampede.com

August: SNA – Laguna Beach, CA offers The Pageant's of the Masters June 7-September 1. To describe this absolutely unbelievable event as "living pictures" does not do it justice. Imagine an intimate outdoor amphitheater under the stars with music, and a stage where costumed volunteers silently recreate a scene of a famous painting and then freeze in their poses as a giant frame descends to capture the image we recognize. I always leave speechless! See www.foapom.com

September: CVG – Cincinnati is known as America's Oktoberfest and has been rated as the best in the US. Dubbed "Oktoberfest Zinzinnati", this year's 3-day celebration of German bier, brats and much more, takes place September 21-23 in the heart of downtown. Come hungry, come thirsty and go home happy! See www.oktoberfestzinzinnati.com for details.

October: ABQ – The Albuquerque Intl Balloon Festival runs from Oct 6-14. Hundreds of hot-air balloons rise en masse at 7AM each day in a spectacular rainbow of color against clear blue skies. There are laser light shows each morning and evening, competition balloon flying during mid-day and After-Glow fireworks each

evening. The culmination is Saturday “Night Magic” where all the balloons simultaneously light their burners and arise looking like glowing, floating holiday ornaments. See www.balloonfiesta.com for more info.

November: NYC – You can’t have a clean bucket list until you’ve been to the Macy’s Thanksgiving Parade in NYC. November 22 will be the date for 2018. You’re always a kid at heart, so make it this year!

December: CHS – Charleston, SC is home to The Citadel, the military academy of South Carolina. Each year on the first Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening of December, the Summerall Chapel is open to all for a beautiful candlelight Christmas service of music and readings by the cadets. This is a very popular and inspirational event. No tickets are required, but seating is limited so be there by 6:30pm for the 7:30pm concert. More info: www.thecitadel.edu

So, you have a list, you have passes, why don’t you go. Maybe I’ll see you there!

Flight 93 Memorial Chapel

*Donations to maintain the Flight 93 Memorial Chapel are still needed and greatly appreciated. Please continue your support and make a check to United Airlines Flight 93 Memorial Chapel and mail to **Dave Voit** at 507 Hunting Whip Road, Glen Mills, PA 19342-2223.*

Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter



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

Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to Francis Domaratius at ruaenewsletter@surewest.net and John Chu at johnqchu@hotmail.com. 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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Our Birmingham group met on Monday, December 4th at The Club atop Red Mountain for a delicious lunch and much enjoyed fellowship. Those attending were **Bobby & Jean Cox, Ken & Beverly Yeager, Jim & Donna Gooch, Gay Fowler, Herb & Carol Wilbanks, Joe & Jane Jones** and their friends from Clanton, Dr. **Kent Johns** and wife **Belva Johns**.

Birthday congratulations to **Joe Duncan** (11/20), **Teresa Mendum** (11/28), **Jim Gooch** (11/11), **Marie Duncan** (11/29), **Charlotte Gibson** (12/1), **Herb Wilbanks** (12/8), **Bobby Cox** (12/30), and **Travis Glass** (12/31).

Anniversary congratulations to **Jim & Donna Gooch** on December 20th.

The 50/50 drawing was won by **Herb Wilbanks**. Other gifts were won by **Jean Cox, Bobby Cox, Jane Jones** and **Belva Johns**.

We meet every even numbered month at 11:30 at various Birmingham restaurants and welcome all retired United Airlines friends and families to join us. Our next meeting will be February 12th but to confirm, please call **Beverly Yeager** at (256) 775-1711.

ARIZONA

PHOENIX AZURES

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Hello from Arizona!

Happy Birthday to **Jim Ehas** (1/3), **Joe Hopkins** (1/13), **Sherry Muoio** (1/24) and **Sally Illingworth** (1/30).



December's dinner was enjoyed by all – we had 36 in attendance at the Palm Room at Eagle's Nest Restaurant in Pebble Creek

We had a hectic and chaotic Christmas gift exchange and as usual, a 50/50 Raffle. The winners were **Bruce Rosch, Pat Butkiewicz** and **Shirley Bailey**. In addition, our 50/50 ladies **Sherry Muoio** and **Suzie Hughes** donated two bottles of wine to be raffled and the lucky winners were **Marge Mullman** and our Treasurer **Lonna Fischer**.

It was great to see **Rose Barry** back in action after her fall and hospital stay last month.

Breakfast Reminder: We have breakfast every other Wednesday at 8:30 at Lou's Tivoli Gardens in Sun City West and all are invited. The dates are: January 10th & 24th. The address is 12535 W Bell Rd, Surprise, AZ, (623) 974-8224. RSVP: Please call **Sherry Muoio** a day or so before you want to attend, (623) 572-4828, phx22@cox.net.



PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S

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Happy New Year! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas, and look forward to a real good year in 2018. Our chapter has a lot of good things planned in the next coming months and hope to see all the regulars plus some new faces too. We welcome anyone who has worked at any time for United Airlines, and is 55 years or older to come to any of our functions, whether it be a Breakfast or Luncheon. Our Breakfasts are held once a month on the fourth Friday at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline Rd. in Gilbert, starting at 9:15 a.m. Our luncheons are held in different restaurants, hosted by one or more of our members, and are held once a month, except from May through September when most of the Snowbirds are gone. If you have any questions, or need more information, please give our President, **Shirley Claggett** a call at (480) 354-7610, indind75@yahoo.com, or call our Vice-President, **Peg Snowdall** at (480) 396-3317, phomfeldt@cox.net. Our members are friendly and always enjoy being together, so come and join us!

Our November Luncheon was held at the Golden Corral on November 10th with 25 people present. Many of our members attended the Memorial Service for **Steve Koltz** the day before. President **Shirley Claggett** paid tribute to all the Veterans who served, as we celebrate Veterans Day on November 11th. She recently heard from **Jim Fauber**, a past President and active member of our Chapter, who sent his greetings to us. We also were sorry to hear **Mort Wax** died recently. He was very active with United Airlines and RUAEA. United's Travel Center has increased their time to 7 days a week from 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Cubs/White Sox Spring Training game will be held on Saturday afternoon, March 10, in the Party Booth at the Cubs Park in Mesa. We had a new guest join us at our luncheon, **Mosetta Douglas** from Chandler who worked at ORDCG, ORDCS, and PHXCS, and is planning on joining our chapter. Welcome, Mosetta! Thanks to the **Rockenhausers** for hosting this great luncheon.

Our November 17 breakfast at the Black Bear Diner had 19 members present. President Shirley wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Since the Breakfast was moved up, there wasn't too much more to discuss, other than the Christmas Luncheon at Palo Verde Country Club to be held December 6th, and the Fantasy Flight, which is going to be December 1, and the party at Cutter Aviation. We always have a number of our members helping to make the Fantasy Flight a very exciting time for the deserving children. Officers for next year was also discussed. Nominations are open for all the offices. Plans to attend a Musical in March and the Picnic on April 6 was discussed. Dakota is working on the luncheon for January, along with **Barbara Tremonto**. The December Breakfast will be held December 15 at the Black Bear Diner. This date was moved up because of Christmas.

Our annual dues of \$5.00 each are due by January 1st. Please give them to **Ferrol Hilsabeck**, our Treasurer, at any of the social events or mail them to him at 2625 N. Hogan Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85215. If you have any changes in your address, e-mail, or phone, please be sure and let him know, so we can have the correct information for our membership directory, which comes out early next year.

The Fantasy Flight on December 1st turned out just great! The children were very excited and thrilled with their airplane ride, the party afterwards, and the gifts they all received. There were 115 children, kindergarten through first grade, which included 25 children from Luke Air Force Base, whose parents were deployed. Thanks to all the volunteers and to those who stayed to clean up afterwards, as Cutter Aviation needed the hanger place for the next day. Coverage of the event was on TV by CBS and FOX.

Our annual Christmas Luncheon was held December 6th at Palo Verde Country Club in Sun Lakes with 33 members in attendance. This is always a very special luncheon with everyone enjoying the delicious food, great raffle gifts, and the time to be together once again before everyone gets real busy getting prepared for the Holidays and their time with family and friends. Shirley reminded us that if we use Enrolled Friends, be sure to make any changes or updates soon. **Ron Paluch**, on the Nominating committee, asked if anyone wanted to take any of our present officer's positions. No one came forward, so the group voted to keep the same people on the board for another year. Thanks **Pat & Buss Nicholaisen** for being such wonderful hosts. It's always great!

Barbara Tremonto sent out a notice about the January Luncheon. It will be held at RigaTony's, 1850 W. Werner Rd., in Tempe, on Thursday, January 11, starting at 11:00 a.m. for the Social Hour, with the Lunch being ordered off the menu, starting at 12:00 noon. **Dakota Morris-Terry** and **Barbara Tremonto** are the

hostesses. This restaurant is noted for their excellent Italian food, so it should draw a good crowd. Please RSVP to Barbara by January 2, 2018, (708) 334-5653. Remember to call her right after New Year Day!

We have the following Birthdays in January: **John Gaudio** (1/5), **Molly Norwood** (1/14), **Ferrol Hilsabeck** (1/15), **Judy McFarland** (1/22), **Barb Paymaster** (1/22), **Carole Hinkle** (1/24), **Linda Cooper-Koltz** (1/25), and **Dakota Morris-Terry** (1/28). Happy Birthday to each of you! We have two Wedding Anniversaries: **Dillon & Dakota Morris-Terry** (1/8), and **Jay & Barbara Hartough** (1/16/71). Congratulations to both couples!

Calendar:

January 11 – Luncheon at RigaTony's, 1850 E. Warner Rd., Tempe, starting at 11:00 a.m. Hostesses are **Dakota Morris-Terry** and **Barbara Tremonto**. RSVP to Barbara by January 2 at (708) 334-5653.

January 26 – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline Rd. in Gilbert, starting at 9:15 a.m. Please contact **Peg Snowdall** with your reservation by January 24 at (480) 396-3317, phomfeldt@cox.net.

February – Luncheon to be announced

February 23 – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner.

TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Tucson, Arizona

Doris Clark

desertdoris@q.com



There were 24 Roadrunners for lunch November 9 at Red Lobster in the Oro Valley Marketplace. Prior to lunch being served, President Charli opened the meeting and thanked **Doris & Larry Clark** for arranging the lunch. She reported that her recent ID 90 trip to Johannesburg, South Africa went very well and would be happy to share her experiences. She also brought a couple of pamphlets regarding upcoming music programs in the area.

There will be larger planes on trips out of Tucson: A 320 Airbus with 150 seats will depart for Houston at 0722, and there will be a 319 Airbus with 128 seats departing at 1430 for DEN. Hopefully this will be helpful for pass riders.

The 50/50 winners were **Lee Benner** (today's Birthday Boy) and **Dora Starr**. Congratulations. **Pat DiLallo** reported that **Mary Garrahan** had heart surgery last summer but she is doing well and we hope to see her soon. The Christmas party is set for December 14. It's not too late to make plans to go.

Chuck Cole gave his report on recent RUAEA updates. The in-cabin pet fees have been waived (saving \$125 each way), as well as unaccompanied minor fees saving \$150, each way. There are some changes in our Enrolled Friend Travel program. The myUAdiscount program has been enhanced; go to the Travel tab and click on the myUAdiscount program box underneath the Travel Blog.

December Birthdays ~ **Carolyn DiSanto** (5th), **James Hafferson** (10th), **Doris Clark** (19th), **Bill Roy** (21st), **Frank DiSanto** (27th), and **Clair Byle** (29th).

December Anniversaries ~ **Carolyn & Merritt McGlothin** (12/13/1968).

The December Christmas Luncheon on December 14th at Arizona Inn will be reported in next month's issue of the Newsletter.

Our Christmas Charity will be Senior For Kids.

Chapter dues \$5.00 P/P due by February 1, 2018.

CALIFORNIA

CENTRAL COASTERS



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

We had no meeting in November but our Christmas get-together on December 14th is usually well represented. I have not received any news from our members this week which means everyone is doing well.

One bit of news is that there was a celebration on Veterans Day, November 11th, at our local restaurant. The celebration was for WW2, Korean, and Viet Nam Veterans and guests. There had to be over 400 attendees. We had a delicious lunch and then there were several guest speakers and dignitaries. At one point the M.C. had WW2 vets rise and be recognized. I was one of them as was a neighbor. I don't think there were more than 5 WW2 Vets in attendance. They then had Korean, and Viet Nam Vets stand and also be recognized. There were about 12 women Vets, from all branches of the Service that were introduced. At this point the M.C. said that at most of these functions, if there were any POW's present, they were never acknowledged. He did mention that he knew of one POW who was shot down over Poland and captured by the Germans and forced to march West to avoid the Russians. He then asked if there was any POW in the group and only one stood up. It was my neighbor, whom I've known for over 10 years. He never talked about his WW2 experience, but I will find out the next time we talk. I've said this before, you never know about people until you read about them in the Obits.

DESERT SUNBIRDS

Palm Springs Area
Chuck Lamas
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Palm Desert, CA 92261
(760) 772-5960
chucklamas@gmail.com



The Desert Sunbirds met at "June Hill's Table" in the Trilogy Polo Club in Indio for our November Luncheon. Our hostesses were **Doreen Roberts** and **Sheryll Weiss**. Present were twenty six members and two guests - **Bob Little**, **Gay Traber**'s brother, and Doreen's frequent guest, **Tom Wheaton**.

The following is taken, word for word from the Sunbirds own Newsletter of November, from **Elaine Aggson**.

*"November marks the 28th anniversary of the Desert Sunbirds. On our first anniversary, in 1989, we celebrated at Las Casuelas Nuevas in Rancho Mirage. Thirty five members (**Elaine Aggson**, the only one still a member) came bearing "paper gifts" to exchange as Door Prizes. Over the years, we have missed only one monthly meeting, August of 1989. We have been to over 170 restaurants, clubs, and private homes for our meetings. Much has changed at UAL, but Retirees still remember the good times and good friends we made, working at what was once the best Airline in the world."*

A special treat for three of our members - **Mike Bailardo**, **Gay Traber**, and **Louie Horvath** flew on the "Farewell Flight" of the 747. Wow, I still think of the 747 as a relatively new aircraft!

Shirley Spitler (good to see her again at our Luncheon) won \$40.00 in the 50/50 drawing. Our hostesses added 4 bottles of wine to the drawing, won by **Maureen Schultz**, **Melinda Lerg**, **Gay Traber**, and **Fred Kellerhals**. **Barb Harrison** won the "Birthday" Lunch.

Our featured Sunbird this month, **Flo Sylvestri** ~ Flo graduated High School in Silverdale, WA in 1954. She moved to Chicago to attend Emmaus Bible School. Later, she was hired by General Electric as a Secretary.

Fast forward to 1977. Flo had met her future husband, Ray, who also worked at GE. She had four children (in 5 years); and when the children were in High School, she went to College to obtain a Certified Professional Secretary Certificate.

In April of 1977, United Air Lines hired Flo as a Secretary at ORDFO. Her duties included being the "mail" person to the several hundred pilots stationed at ORD. She also processed their "Irregularity" reports along with her other secretarial duties.

Several months later, Flo transferred to a permanent position at EXO as a secretary to the Communications and Field Services Manager.

Six months later, Flo was again on the move. She transferred to CHIKZ, to become the Secretary to the Manager of Communications.

A few years later, Flo transferred to EXOPE as secretary to the Manager of Personnel Services.

Flo retired on July 1st, 1992, after 14 years with United. She says, *"I very much enjoyed my career with UAL. There is something exciting about working for an airline. I met many wonderful people, and made many friends. It was a wonderful time in my life."*

HANGTOWN MINERS

Jane Gibson

tired-dogs@comcast.net



Sushi, tri-tip, chicken, potatoes, ravioli, sausage, noodles, tacos, salads, make your own salad, ice cream, pie, cake, cookies, fruit – and that was just on the first trip around the Red Hawk Casino's buffet! Guess what they did not have? Turkey! In November, no turkey on the menu. Had to chuckle at that but it was great to be back at a restaurant that our group (of 26 this time) has long enjoyed. President **Bill Gibson** extended our thanks to **Tom & Suzie Kenny** for putting this all together for us. As it happened, November 13th is **Joe Lima's** birthday. Joe shares the month with his wife, **Lynda**. A heartfelt Happy Birthday to those two and anyone we may have missed. No anniversaries to report. Bill welcomed **Janice & Reggie Key**, friends of **Irv & Sherrie Wolfram**.

President ~ **Bill Gibson** read a letter from **Rosemary Heier** declining the nomination for Vice President in 2018. Bill wanted to be sure we all know that, effective October 26, 2017, the full scope of the additional security measures for all airlines that operate at international airports with direct flights to the U.S. will be in effect. These measures include heightened screening of large electronic devices, as well as additional screening of passengers. United's Corporate Security team along with all operating groups have been working to ensure all equipment and training necessary is in place at our international locations to comply with the directive. Be sure to give yourself extra time to get through security.

Vice President ~ **Rosemary Heier** was not in attendance.

Treasurer ~ Terrific treasurer **Tom Kenny** was able to join us today. Tom reports that our checking balance stands at: \$1,077.08 and says that this figure is a bit less than past Novembers, but he is not worried.

Secretary ~ **Jane Gibson** did not have a report.

Sunshine ~ I am not sure if **Suzanne Kenny** gave us this information or not, but **Reva Gordon** is recovering from heart surgery. She is doing well – we wish you a speedy recovery, Reva.

Historian ~ **Thom Biro** reports that on the last shirt order he mistakenly ordered extra Men's, ivory, Polo style, size large shirts. If you would like one, contact Thom and he will get one (only \$20.00 each) to you. Thom also alerted everyone that Alliant Credit Union sent out letters detailing actions that will be taken for inactive/dormant accounts. If you have an account with them that is just "sitting", they will, after a period of time, begin charging you \$10.00 for maintenance, it will be designated as "Inactive". After 5 years it will be tagged as dormant, closed and sent to the State of California under their unclaimed department. You then will have to go to their website, do a search, prove that it's yours in order to collect your claim for your money. You need to show some kind of movement in a calendar year to prevent this happening. Alliant charges \$1.00 per paper statement. This is also the case for other banks. Check on the status of your various accounts.

Old Business ~ Nominations for Hangtown Miners Officers for 2018. Since **Rosemary Heier** declined, we needed a nominee for Vice President. **John Muir** nominated **Joe Lima**, **Thom Biro** seconded. Jane read the names of the nominated officers: President - **Bill Gibson**, Vice President - **Joe Lima**, Treasurer - **Tom Kenny**, Secretary - **Jane Gibson**, Sunshine - **Suzanne Kenny**, and Historian - **Thom Biro**. A vote was taken by show of hands; unanimous "yeas". Congratulations everyone!

Now, taking on the subject of December Luncheon. Normally we probably would have begun the discussion regarding this special luncheon in October, but, your secretary neglected to bring it up then. **John Muir** and **Rudy Blazius** were contacted to see if they would contact those in charge of the American Legion Hall to see if it would be available on Monday, December 11th. John did this for us even though he was on a trip. Put our name on the schedule and got a rental fee. The fee had gone up to \$300.00! He was going to talk

to them and see if we could get it for a lesser price when he returned. Fortunately **J.R. Heier** heard about it, is also a member, talked to the right person and they reduced the fee to \$200.00. This we can deal with much better. Everyone agreed that Leo Cooper with “Fit For A King” catering (Leo did the catering last December) had done a great job for us last year and okay-ed the “go ahead” to contact him. Jane contacted Leo ~ Lady Luck was still our “angel”, as he will be able to accommodate the Hangtown Miners again, and, the price will remain the same.

Leo will be serving Turkey with gravy, ham, ranch potatoes, green beans, salad, cranberry, rolls & butter and apple pie for dessert! We did talk about our members – only if you would like to do so – bringing appetizers and extra desserts. We do have a request: **Pati Kenney** and **Rosemary Heier** have an idea for the table decorations but they need your help. If you have access to some type of pine boughs that they can use, will you please contact Rosemary at (530) 676-1811. Living where you all do, I can’t help but imagine that there should be plenty of positive response to this! Also, remember that we do not have a raffle at this luncheon. We do collect toys and/or gift cards to go to local families to brighten their Holidays. We will also take to a local organization canned and/or nonperishable foods. So, bring what you can, it all goes to help others.

Parking at SFO: We have received an update to this frustrating problem via **Jerry Malcolm**. He passes along: “I am pleased to inform you that the problem has been resolved. Retirees from the MOC are all to park in the south lot. Remember that the bus to and from the terminal will use the “D” lot bus.”

RUAEA Regional Director ~ **Sonda Sandstedt** was able to join us today, she shared information regarding imputed taxes on travel and Pass Travel Change. Sonda brought pictures of the last flight of the 747 to view on her computer. Jane brought a piece from her local paper with pictures of the last 747 flight from SFO to Hawaii. Crew and passengers were decked out in 70’s clothing (did we really wear that?!). **Suzie & Tom Kenny** happened to be on the last flight from SFO to London and had a great experience.

New Business ~ Bill brought the signup sheet for hosting our luncheons in 2018. After being passed around the room, we have almost all the months covered. However, right now there is no one for January or November. The signup sheet will be passed around again at the December luncheon. If you are willing to host either and may not be there, call me, **Jane Gibson**, (925) 443-0905 and I will put your name down. The January slot is the most “critical”!

Guess what is coming! 2018 Membership Dues for the Hangtown Miners! For an annual membership dues of a mere \$10.00 you can receive all this wonderful information monthly, pictures to enjoy, friends to laugh with while you experience different dining settings! What a bargain! (Do I sound like a sideshow barker?) You can just bring your ten dollars when you come to the luncheon or mail a check made out to “Hangtown Miners”, to **Tom Kenny**, 3481 Parleys Canyon Placerville, CA 95667. January is “pay dues month”, but you can pay early if you’d like.

Before our meeting came to a close, **Bill Dinette** expressed our gratitude to all our Veterans. We are proud of you and Thank You for your service.

Bill brought our meeting to a close. **Bill Dinette** handled the raffle again (thank you) and **Bob Ames** won the donators prize. A hearty “Thank You” to all who brought items to raffle: **Gibson** – salt & pepper shakers; **Sandstedt** – retiree baseball cap; **Blazius** – deco plate; **Wolfram** – hand crafted Pilgrims; **Akin** – eggs; **Ouchi** – plant in orange pot; **Lima** – nuts & pretzels; **Dinette** – wine; **Kenny** – table decorations; **Biro** – spice rack; **Ames** – limes.

RESANS

San Diego, CA
Barbara Drews
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The Holiday season is upon us and we are looking forward to our breakfast on December 7th and our Christmas Lunch on December 14th. Unfortunately these events all happen after the deadline for the newsletter. I will have a report on both in the next issue.

We have also received an invitation for the United Dinner at the Coyote Café in Old Town on December 8th. Not sure how many retirees will be attending but it is always a good time to get together and connect with the many employees still working that we don’t see very often.

Al Soderberg is going to have knee replacement on December 11th and I assured him that we will keep him in our thoughts.

Arlene Roberts is not doing well and has moved to the Life Care Center in Vista located on Melrose, she welcomes visitors.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to those in the Los Angeles area that are now being evacuated due to the massive fires that are burning uncontrolled due to the high winds and low humidity. At this time no reports of any United people in danger. I am sure many employees and retirees live in or near the affected areas.

Calendar:

January 4 – Pt. Loma Café, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA. 92106 -2394, (619) 226-0255.



GOLDEN GATERS

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

Our final 2017 meeting of the year was opened by President **Vera Kina**. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was followed by a few moments of silence for our military forces both here and abroad. 30 some odd (well, not really odd) members will enjoy our Christmas luncheon at Mimi's Restaurant on December 6th – then it's off to the stores to shop, shop, shop. Special thanks go to the Board for their dedication and time they put in to make our group a place to swap stories, maintain friendships, good food, make scads of money (Bingo winners usually make 'enuf to go Taco Bell – only 99 cents for “Yo Quiero Taco Bell” – there is a reward if you can give us the Chihuahuas' name! Sign our petition to bring her back! Enjoy a good joke, shed a tear or two (we said “goodbye” to two of our Honorary Members: **Zelma Kibler** and **John “Brandy” Branstetter**) ... and hope that we all can age gratefully and gracefully!

Here's what's in store for the next 3 months: (no December meeting)

- January 22 – BYOBL (ahhh, leftover Turkey, Ham, PB&J, Egg Nog ...)
- February 26 – Chinese Cuisine – always a favorite, cost and sign- up sheet to follow.
- March 26 – Annual St .Paddys' Corned Beef and Cabbage Pot Luck – more info later.

Treasurer **Art Barrett** paid our meeting place fee so we have a place to hang our hats next year. He reminded everyone to send in their dues (\$15 per person.)

Secretary **Ginger Dahlberg**, Pro-Tem, read the October minutes which were approved as read. The 2017 “recap” flyer and roster sent out to members had a good response – still need to receive dues.

Membership ~ **Barbara Underhill** has a long list of those not feeling up to snuff – after **Ella Mae Donovan** fell and broke 4 ribs she re-entered the hospital with problems with her lungs; **Lydia Rolfe** is having a foot problem as well as a bout of shingles (most Drug stores have the shot available – sure beats the pain of having shingles!) **Donna Taiclet** fell and suffered a concussion, their daughter has come out from the Carolinas' to help; **Barbara Underhill** will be having hand surgery soon; **Lil Christian** has had some high blood pressure problems and visited the hospital; **Gene Walter** is having some dizzy spells – Egads y'all – as I tell my dog ... “Heel....Heal.” Blowing out many candles: **Don Hughes**, **Pete Cooper**, and **Dorothy Reuszer** – we ran out of matches! Wedded Bliss couples: **Norm & Colleen Wood** with 48 years and **Art & Linda Barrett** with 52 years.

Auditors **Gene Walter**, **Dorothy Reuszer**, and **Ben Vietz** will have information for our Chinese Luncheon as well as the St. Patricks' shindig at the next meetings.

Ticket Coordinator **Harriet Kunze** gave 25%/25% winnings to **Linda Barrett** and **Kathy Cooper**. She thanked everyone for bringing in canned goods and un-wrapped Christmas gifts for local Shelters.

Historian **Jim Goodwine** had nothing to report other than we are getting older!

Travel Coordinator **Ginger Dahlberg** recapped the 2018 proposed trips – interest lists are available. The San Antonio jaunt was a blast – lotsa good times ... join us on our fun-filled excursions.

New Business ~ After a long and arduous campaign, mud-slinging, unsubstantiated name-calling, pleading, begging, a tear or two - elections for Board Members came to a close with no hands being raised – the Bored (Board) will remain “give us your tired (that's us!), your poor (no salary raises next year), your huddled masses, yearning to breathe free, (that's still us)” the same as 2017 (sigh!)

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.) Foster City, CA 94404. Note: Our **new** mailing address is: UAL-SFO Bay Area Retirees, c/o **Vera Kina**, 203 Emerald Bay Lane, Foster City, CA 94404.

SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

San Jose, CA

www.southbayruaea.org

Robin Garland

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Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Our chapter traveled over to the central valley town of Atwater on November 6 to take in the Castle Air Museum. Some had visited this display of WWII vintage to present aircraft before and wanted more from our group to see it. It was quite the display with over 60 aircraft having been restored and with many more in the works. Primarily an outdoor exhibit sitting on 20 acres of land, it is complemented by an indoor museum that shows a collection of wartime and aviation memorabilia. Following the tour, we were taken 'on base' (decommissioned in 1995) to see the restoration hangers. It was quite interesting to see what was in process. Those who joined in on this excursion were **Vern & Maureen Snyder, Ben & Cheri Scales, Dave & Robin Garland, Bill Reichard, Bob Devlin, Bob Mattscheck, George Midwin, Tony Urso, and Chuck Thuener. Bob Scoble** who also retired from United was our very able tour guide as he is also a volunteer at the museum. You may remember an article I wrote a couple of years ago about Vern & Maureen visiting the museum but as the indoor museum was closed for renovation that day he wasn't able to take it all in. I was very thankful he was able to join in on this trip!

A couple of our members were actually stationed at Castle Air Force Base in the early 1960s. I've asked **Bob Devlin**, our current VP and soon-to-be President for 2018, to share of his experience. *I transferred to Castle AFB in February 1963 from Grand Forks AFB North Dakota and was in the 4133rd Strategic Wing and 319th Field Maintenance Squadron. At the time Castle had 50 B-52s of the older model Bs, Ds, and Fs. It was quite the sight to see those 50 B-52s lined up wingtip to wingtip on the flight line! The B models were the first B-52s Boeing produced. That meant they required a lot of maintenance. Castle AFB also had about 40 KC-135 tankers. I worked in the engine maintenance shop. Castle was the training base for all B-52 crews so there were many planes taking off and landing every day. One of the most memorable events I had took place when I was working the flight line. A truck drove up on November 22, 1963 and we were informed that President Kennedy had been shot and was believed to have died. What a shock that was! The base went on lockdown alert and planes were made ready to take off at a moment's notice. I felt fortunate to work and live with the people I served with. I will always have good memories of my time at Castle.* Note: Bob left Castle AFB in 1965 to start work for United.

We are looking forward to our upcoming Christmas luncheon to be held on December 12. Raffle gifts are wrapped and ready, baked goods are in process, and toys for Toys for Tots are being bought to put under the tree. It promises to be a lovely time together and I'll share more on this luncheon in the next newsletter.

Some from our group have been on the go recently with **Ted Boone** flying to Costa Rica to see his daughter. **Joanne Saso** and daughter **Michelle** and family flew WOW airlines to Europe. Michelle said, *"The price was right but it was definitely a barebones operation."* **Marianne Johnson** was in Denmark celebrating her son's 40th birthday. They had a delightful time seeing some of the sights there together. Several traveled on Thanksgiving with **Chuck Thuener** heading to San Diego to celebrate the holiday and **Bob & Karen Devlin** going to Sacramento then Napa to visit their children.

We've had some members ailing who we'd like to keep in our thoughts and prayers. **Charlotte Cacioppo (Jay)** has been struggling with various health issues. President **Boyd Sweet** has started radiation and chemo for melanoma. **Vern Snyder** had a fall then a stroke but has recovered and joined us for our weekly breakfast meeting the first Friday in December. **Dave Garland** is continuing to recover from a total reverse shoulder replacement. We wish you good health and peace and comfort in the days ahead.

We gather every Friday at Holder's Country Inn on DeAnza Blvd. in San Jose across from Home Depot. Breakfast is at 8am with a short meeting following at 9am. Please join us.

Calendar:

December 12 – Christmas Luncheon, Mariani's Restaurant, Santa Clara



SAN JOAQUINERS

Stockton, California
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Our chapter's November meeting was held at Strings Italian Restaurant in Jackson, hosted by **Joy & Bob Blair**. President **Bob Scoble** opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. **Don Nesja** offered his usual stand-up routine to liven the group up.

President Bob told the group a long time member, **Austin Hart**, had passed away in June. **Rosie Wall** received his obituary from his niece and she shared it with the group. Many members shared memories of Austin.

Treasurer **Rudy Reyna** stated we have a balance of over \$700.00, with all bills current and receipts deposited and with one check still outstanding. Rudy will follow up on the outstanding check. Since we continue to pay a \$10.00 monthly fee for the checking account, the group authorized **Rosie Walls** to investigate banks in Jackson to see if a better deal can be made for us.

New Business gave us the information for our annual Christmas Dinner. It will be held Thursday, December 14 at the Leger Hotel in Mokelumne Hill and will require prior reservations and cost \$20.00 a head. The chapter officers will pick up the tax, tip and dessert. We will have a simple ornament exchange. The chapter voted to have the Treasurer send \$100.00 to each of the following five non-profits: Emergency Food Bank San Joaquin County; the Interfaith Food Bank, Amador County; the Resource Connection Food Bank, Calaveras County; the Salvation Army, Stanislaus County, and the Interfaith Community Social Services, Tuolumne County. This will allow us to retain \$200.00 to start the New Year.

Birthday celebrants were **Bobby Wood, Ken Wesela and Jacque Foster**. Anniversaries were **Rudy & Elma Reyna and Bobby & Eleanor Wood**.

President Bob closed the meeting with a moment of silence for the loss of life and injuries at the Texas Church shooting.

Remember, there will be no meeting in January (we are "dark"). Our next meeting will be February 8. We would like to issue an open invitation to anyone living/visiting in our area to join us. We meet for lunch the 2nd Thursday of each month (our next meeting is Thursday, February 8, but, since we meet at various places, you can call our President **Bob Scoble**, (209) 626-5308 for information.

EAST BAY DIABLOS

Contra Costa County
Diane Griego
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We met November 14 at a new venue, Fuddruckers, for some delicious hamburgers. There were 26 of us in attendance. They provided a spacious room. We will be incorporating this in our rotation during the year. Thanks to Arnold for the suggestion!

Since we paid individually at the order counter, no need for a Cashier. **Barbara Underhill** took care of the 50/50 (and no ... Diane did not win), sigh!

Many thanks for **Jan Soderstrom** taking over my Correspondent duties last month. She did a wonderful job!

We meet the 2nd Monday of each month until 2018 and then will move to the 1st Monday of each month. The exception to that would be our January Meeting which will be the 1st Tuesday due to the Holiday. We have an ongoing book exchange as well as new or used Christmas cards. We have discontinued the collection of magazines due to lack of interest. The leftover books are donated to the Contra Costa Library for their book

sales. **Barbara Cunningham**, our Sunshine Lady, has kindly offered to accept and distribute the Christmas cards. In addition to books, **Diane Griego** has offered to accept any of your shampoo, shower gel, etc. that we many times bring home from our trips for a wonderful Domestic Violence organization that was created by one of our special UA ramp employees.

Calendar:

December 11 – Christmas Party and Toys for Tots collection at Zeo Fredo's in Pleasant Hill. 611 Gregory Lane.

January 2 - (Tuesday) only because of the Holiday January 1 – we will be meeting at Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord

February 5 – Old Spaghetti Factory

March 5 – El Tapatio

April 2 - Fuddruckers

COLORADO



DENVER
MILE HIGHERS

Bob Duensing

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Rd5280@hotmail.com

We are nearing the end of a very busy year here in Denver. The building boom is the biggest that I have witnessed since arriving here in 1965. The United Flight Training Center is in the midst of a complete remodeling and a new addition is being built to house several more simulators. The most significant event for us as retirees is the culmination of the effort to improve our pass benefits by **Virgil Gooselaw** (RUAEA Pres.), **Tom Goodyear** (DEN Chapter Pres. Ret.), representatives of other retiree groups and Oscar Munoz's (UAL CEO) decision to upgrade our choices for travel with enrolled friends throughout the coming years. We appreciate all of their efforts.

The December breakfast was attended by 34 members. The 50/50 winners who returned their winnings to the chapter were **Paul Miller** (DENMM), **Cas Spokas** (DENMM), **Yumi Trujillo**, **Walt Hansen** (DENMM), **Gary Trujillo** (DENMM), **Richard Conner** (DENMM), **Paul Miller** (DENMM) and **Bob Duensing** (DENTK). The 50/50 drawing, along with the collection and sale of aluminum, helps support the chapter since this chapter does not collect dues.

President **Don Burbank** opened the meeting by reading the minutes of the November meeting. Remember to bring aluminum for recycling to provide income to the chapter. **Bob Duensing** (DENTK) is retiring from the correspondent's position and a volunteer is needed to take his place.

The Flight Center (DENTK) cafeteria will open in December or January. The decision was made by a show of hands to remain at Ted's Place for all future meetings.

Starting in June, traveling companions can be changed and this allows the retiree to have the option of up to four traveling companions during the year. Two companions can be selected in the first half of the year, and two in the last half of the year, if desired. Checking flight availability on alternate routes will be available soon on Flying Together.

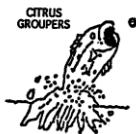
Bob Bandach (DENMM) passed away November 21st from cancer. Cards can be sent to **Bea Bandach** at 9255 Utica St., Westminster, CO 80031.

Keep in mind, the next RUAEA Breakfast Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 6th at 9am at Ted's Place Restaurant in Commerce City. Address: 5271 E. 52nd Ave, Commerce City. Phone: (303) 287-7544. Directions: Go North on Dahlia St. off I-70 to 52nd and turn back East to the address. Going West on I-70 exit on Holly St. and take the frontage road to get to Dahlia.

FLORIDA

THE CITRUS GROUPERS THE VILLAGES

Tita Q. Dumagsa, President
(352) 259-4565
(352) 391-4828 (Cell)
titaqd44@gmail.com



The Citrus Grouper Chapter does not hold meetings in the month of November because of the Thanksgiving Holiday. The December monthly Luncheon Citrus Grouper Meeting/Christmas-Holiday Party was held on Thursday, December 7th at the Arnold Palmer Legends Country Club in The Villages, FL. The start time was moved up to allow for a mix and mingle. The reception preceding the actual luncheon meeting, courtesy of **Tita Dumagsa**, President as a Christmas treat for all the members. The goal was for members to catch up with each other, bond and renew friendship ties which are usually stymied once the formal meeting is underway. Members wore red as requested to be in the Christmas/Holiday spirit.

A presentation by Guest Speaker, Peter Rosendahl, a technology expert who also teaches technology courses at The Villages, FL Enrichment Academy that offer continuing education courses to residents of The Villages. He spoke on Amazon's Echo electronic gadget and Alexa, the personal assistant. It was a very interesting and informative presentation.

Christmas is the season for Giving. Members responded generously to the call to bring donations of canned goods and non-perishables as well as personal sanitation items and toiletries to benefit a local Food Pantry/shelter. This was the Citrus Grouper initiative to share blessings with the underprivileged in addition to its two other Christmas charitable initiatives of cash donations to the Flight 93 Memorial Fund and to Shoebox for gifts for those who serve in the Military.

To beef up the Citrus Grouper coffers after the above donations were made, the raffle ticket prices were beefed up for a bigger 50/50 Jackpot prize. Several donations were received for additional raffle prizes. Member, **Elaine Lies**, CHIRR, HDQFF made 5 Christmas themed arrangements that doubled up as table centerpieces as well as raffle prizes. There were 13 other raffle prizes that were given away. These made for many happy Raffle winners.

For the Citrus Grouper "Getting to know you" Interview Program, the featured Member of the Month was Capt. Dale Buss, PhD and a Reading of his bio as written by member **Richard "Dick" Bligh**, SFOKM, EXOKU was superbly done by **Elaine Lies**. Capt. **Dale Buss**' bio was also published in the Citrus Grouper column in the RUAEA December 2017 Newsletter. Capt. **Dale Buss** had a very distinguished career filled with many accolades and recognition awards, one among them from President Ronald Reagan in the field of airline safety. His pioneering work along with other dedicated professionals led to the prohibition of batteries that could explode in the cargo hold now mandated by law for air safety in the airline industry.

The January Member of the Month Interviewee under this same Program is **Elaine Lies**. Her interview and bio were done by **Dick Bligh**.

Elaine was born and raised in Chicago in the 1930's in the midst of the great depression. She attended parochial grade and high school and also studied at Loyola University in Chicago. She married Robert in 1950 and was employed at Raytheon Corporation in Chicago, working in the Personnel Department. She left to raise her family which grew to eventually become 5 girls and a boy. Her husband Robert left the workforce because of asbestosis/mesothelioma and was on permanent disability after a serious surgery.

To assist in supporting the family, Elaine studied at the American Floral Arts School. The school has taught basic and advanced floral design for over 66 years. Elaine opened her own flower shop and to supplement her family income, she started working at United in the keypunch department. After a short time, she transferred to Airfreight (HDQFF) and worked nights in that department for many years. Along the way she transferred to Chicago Reservations Sales Department until 1987.

That year Robert said "*I can't take the cold anymore. I'm moving to Florida*" so move they did. Elaine closed the business and commuted to Chicago spending weekends with the family in Florida. In 1988 she took a buyout after being an employee for some 19 years. They moved to Merritt Island on the Space Coast. In Florida, Elaine started another business, a Bridal shop selling gowns, flower girl dresses and flower bouquets as well as things like flower arches for outdoor weddings. By this time Robert's illness had really progressed making living in the home difficult. So in 2006 after selling the business, they reluctantly moved to Dell Webb

in Summerfield, Florida just north of the Villages. The development has over 3250 homes on 1600 plus acres. In 2009 Robert died.

Since then Elaine has become part of a support group in her community, called “Angels on Request” where members assist anyone with a ride or when a caretaker is needed at home. There are 100 angels in the community who help when asked. She also puts her flower knowledge to use by assisting with decorating the Sacristy at her church. Another angel role for her is visiting the sick in her parish which also can keep her very busy.

Elaine says that *“I love the privilege of our retiree air travel benefits as well as my flight benefits made available by my children’s employment with American and Norwegian airlines.”* She is most appreciative of her relationship with all of her retired friends. Elaine has been a member of the Citrus Groupers for 5 years.

In the queue for the upcoming “Member of the Month” featured interviews will be those of **Terri Davis**, DENCS, DENTQ, SFOCS, SFORR, CLERR; **Charles Cochran**, EXODD, and **Julius “Joe” DiStaso**, EWRCS.

Members of the Nominating Committee, **Joan Brandonisio**, **Terri Davis** and **Joe DiStaso** were reminded that they will have to be prepared to submit the slate of candidates at the January 25 meeting since Elections will be held during the February 22nd meeting. They were given a reference guide of each other’s contact information for communication purposes.

The January Monthly Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 25 from 11:30 AM-2:00 PM at the VKI Japanese Steakhouse in Lake Sumter Landing, The Villages, FL. Ms. Debbie Johnson, MPH, Community Health Director, SE Affiliate of Orlando, FL American Heart Association and American Stroke Associations will be the featured Guest Speaker. Topics will be “Symptoms and Prevention of Cardiovascular Diseases such as Heart Attacks and Strokes. CPR will be covered.

Continued prayers were requested for **Robert “Bob” Faust**, OMACG who is still in the hospital going into 2 months now. Everyone wrote messages and signed the huge Get Well card to be given to **Bob Faust**.

Kathie Torgison sent her thanks for the Citrus Groupers hospitality when she came to The Villages as the October Guest Speaker.

President **Tita Dumagsa** wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a very Prosperous New Year, with no further business, meeting was adjourned.



SAND“DABS”

Daytona Beach, FL
Gloria Marcantoni
644 Donald Ross Way
St. Augustine, FL 32092
(904) 940-9908
ddmgm@sbcglobal.net

Our December Christmas Party was held on December 7, hosted by **Juanita Karten Ritt** and **Ken Carpenter** at the beautiful Smyrna Yacht Club in New Smyrna Beach. We were very thankful for their hospitality especially in light of the fact that this facility was heavily damaged during Hurricane Irma just 3 months ago! The repairs were amazing! But we were saddened to hear that Juanita and Ken will soon be moving to Mountain Home, Arkansas. We will miss them but they have promised to return for periodic visits.

Rick Johnson started our celebration with a tribute to remembering Pearl Harbor as well as all the wars we’ve been engaged in and **Frieda Coughlin** followed with a prayer. We all enjoyed a delicious meal of salad, prime rib, asparagus, mashed potatoes and a yummy cake dessert. Juanita and Ken donated 3 lovely holiday centerpieces for door prizes and they were happily won by **Molly Gardner**, **Anne Johnston** and **Gloria Marcantoni**. Some of us were also fortunate because as we were leaving, the Yacht Club was holding a ceremony we believe to remember Pearl Harbor Day. A bugle was played, the flag was lowered to half-staff and the National Anthem was played. Many uniformed officers participated as well as spectators. It was a heart-warming and patriotic end to a perfect Christmas Party!

Thanks again to **Juanita Karten Ritt** and **Ken Carpenter** for a wonderful event and we all wish them well in their new home!

Calendar:

January 4 - 11:30 - Red Lobster, 3162 S. Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach, FL

February 1 - Same as above

THE ORLANDO REAL McCOYS

Elaine Tillman-Mannella
7953 Canyon Lake Circle
Orlando, FL 32835
(407) 523-6983
emt6250@yahoo.com



A very festive group of McCoys met at Bonefish Grill at noon for a wonderful Christmas luncheon! Lots of red, green, and gold decorated the tables and the guests; and a tasty meal was enjoyed by all, finished with our favorite dessert, Macadamian Nut Brownie Sundaes!

Gene Hall & Eleanor surprised many of us, traveling from their new home in Alabama to join us, **Jane Houston** came from MEM, and new member, **Maureen Sterinsky**, drove in from New Smyrna Beach! Lots of hugs, laughs and stories for everyone!

Several members who RSVP'd for lunch were not present: **Bobbi Gay** (broke her hip and is in rehab), **Mary McNeill** (landed in the hospital), **David Leighty** (recovering from surgery), and **Charlie & Sharon Ringer** (both have been struggling with this aging-thing). Please keep these folks in your prayers for healing, strength and comfort, especially during the holidays.

President **Al Fields** opened our meeting at 1415, and the first order of business was to have Charlotte read the Treasurer's Report. Fortunately, we had enough in all our funds for lunch and the charities that we support every Christmas! By unanimous vote, Hospice of the Comforter, VA Hospital's Orlando Recreation Center and The Russell Home for Atypical Children will each receive a check from our chapter for \$300.00 this year! A large part of our Chapter's donation come from the 50/50 raffles held at every meeting and often the winner donates part of their "take" to the Charity Fund also!

Pres. Al scooted around the election of officers by asking VP **Ken Michels**, Treasurer **Charlotte LeGrand**, Sunshine Lady **Linda Agnello**, and Secretary Elaine if we would continue to do our fine jobs for another year – 'course we said yes. Then, he nominated **Ernie Vosges** to fill his shoes for next year. We protested a bit, but in the end, Ernie was unanimously elected! Yeah!

Our December Christmas Babies include: **Maureen Sterinsky** (16th), **Jim Hernandez** (17th), **Gloria Armistead** (24th), and **Jane Houston** (25th). Those celebrating Christmas Anniversaries with their honey are **Julia & Angel Montalvo** (12th), **Lisa & David Leighty** (15th), and **Ted & Charlotte LeGrand** (31st)! The most wonderful time of the year! Congrats!

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Blessed New Year 2018 to All!

The Real McCoys meet the first Tuesday of each month at 1pm at the Golden Corral on So. Semoran Blvd. Our first luncheon of the New Year should be on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 **BUT, in a surprise move, our newly elected President Ernie decreed that we would meet instead on the SECOND TUESDAY, JANUARY 9th to allow for a little holiday recovery!**

THE SAND DOLLARS

Bradenton, FL
Judy Macklin,
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Venice, FL 34285
(941) 214-0252
bjmacklin@comcast.net



We had 23 happy members attending the luncheon at Mattinson's City Grille, Bradenton Riverwalk. As always, **Ginger Hyde** had found an excellent restaurant for the group, where the food and service was very good. After everyone had ordered, we stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. We welcomed **Sue Lindstrom**, DENSW to the luncheon for the first time. **Betty Woods-White** brought her friend **Carol Stranga** with her – it is a long drive from North Port by herself. It was so nice to have **Doug & Sandy Horuczi**, **Skip & Cindy Irwin**, **Vince & Norma Malena**, and **Harvey & Vivian Rucker** back from their summer homes. The luncheon was on the same day as **Judy Macklin's** husband **Bill's** Memorial Service, so we missed Judy and **Bob & Shirley Adams**. The Travelers, **Bob & Lisa Young** were on a Holland America 9-day cruise.

Vivian Rucker's name was pulled for the attendance prize. She was present so the pot will go back to \$5.00.

The 50/50 was won by who else, but **Suzan Goodson**. She knows how to pick the lucky tickets! The **Hydes** won 2nd place, and the **Horuczis** won 3rd place.

Birthday and Anniversary greeting for December went to: **Paul & Shelly Grossman** (56th Anniversary on 12/3rd); **Diane Hoffer** (7th); **Maria Santangelo** (14th); **Loretta Marvett** (15th); **Lou & Phyllis Balestra** (56th Anniversary on 12/23rd); **Gretchen Bulin** (27th).

We always welcome visiting retirees or any who are thinking of moving to our beautiful area of Florida. For information on our meeting places, call **Ginger Hyde** at (941) 360-6671, or email her at drjeckly.hyde@aol.com.

... and advice from our military: The best way to get out of an ambush is to not go in one.



TAMPA BAY CHAPTER

Trinity, FL
Carolyn Lodge
Secretary
(813) 994-7839
dizfanmom1@aol.com

Our December meeting was held at Outback Steak House. This was our Christmas luncheon. We had 12 in attendance. There was no regular business meeting.

Our birthday for December was **Loretta Marvett's**.

Our thoughts are with **Terri Breslin** who is temporarily residing with her daughter in Ohio. Also with **Ron Wilkinson** who has some medical issues.

Beverly Alderdice and **Jan Lindstrom** passed out lottery scratch off tickets for all.

The charity we sponsored this year is Ft. 93 National Memorial. At year end we will be sending them a check in the amount of \$400.00. We also decided to sponsor them in 2018.

Calendar:

January 8 - IHOP at 10:30 a.m. (The first Monday is New Year's Day)

February 5 - IHOP at 10:30 a.m.

TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL
Mary Kay Wetherington
8849 Egret Isle Point
Lake Worth, FL 33467
(561) 345-6373
mwether7044@att.net



Our Christmas party will be held on December 11th at The Twisted Tuna in Port Salerno at 12 noon. In our next newsletter we will cover the festivities.

Jack & Glenda Boisseau celebrated their wedding anniversary on December 1st. **Millie Rossi** will celebrate her birthday on December 28th.

Our secretary, **Mary Kay Wetherington**, will be compiling our 2018 Roster in January. Check your current roster to see if any changes need to be made to your information. If you are a new member, be sure that your information gets in. Please get a current e-mail address filed. I have had a few fail. As you know, this is a great way to communicate to everyone.

Treasurer **Diane Liebisch** is collecting dues. If you have not yet paid yours, mail a check to her as soon as possible.

Our big thanks to Vice-president **Bob Langevin** for all the information and reminders he sent out this year. He's always on top of it.

A huge thanks goes out to President **Al Popek** and wife, **Janice** for all their hard work with meetings and functions. They are the best!

Our Best Wishes to you and yours for a Wonderful, Healthy New Year!

Calendar:

January 2 - Luncheon/Meeting at Duffy's South Stuart 12:30

February 6 - Luncheon/Meeting at Duffy's South Stuart 12:30

March- To be determined

HAWAII

HONOLULU MENEHUNES

Patricia Thomson, Treasurer

P.O. Box 1709

Honolulu, HI 96806-1709

(808) 946-7847

HNLRTUA@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 HNLRTUA@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 126

Kapa'au, HI 96755-0126

(808) 889-1636

annmedve@aol.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@aol.com and/or call **Ann Medve** at (808) 889-1636.

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO SKYLINERS

www.chicagoskyliners.org

Chicagomainliner.com

Jan Gawenda

920 Ridge Sq. #208

Elk Grove, IL 60007-4196

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jawenda@gmail.com



January - The beginning of a new month, a new year, maybe a new **you**! It's like a sunrise, a new day, a new opportunity to get it right, again ... a chance to right some wrongs, to forget old bugaboo's that we've been hanging on to. What good does it do? I'll have to start with myself on that one. I do have a tendency to hold on to things, like that kid in second grade that ticked me off. Guess I should drop it, I think he's dead. Or the UA bosses that gave me a hard time, they're dead, too. So, we're going to start the month of Janus, the Roman gods, and wipe the slate clean, and start all over again. Thank God. Did you have nice holidays? I sure hope so. With advancing age, we realize how important these holidays are. Did you see the Super Moon in December? It was a little hazy, more spooky than bright - Boo! But, on January 2, we have the Wolf Moon, named because wolves would howl outside Native American villages. Nobody ever asked them why. Reminds me of the wolves in Dr. Zhivago, when Lara and Yuri were self-exiled in that frozen cottage in Varykino, romantic, right, ladies? They howled, too. The wolves, that is ...

The North Side Breakfast was attended by about a dozen people. Remember the days at the Artemis, there had to be about 6-7 dozen retirees. I think the main reason for the decline in numbers is probably illness. Also some have moved from our area, whether it's Arizona or the southern suburbs. We miss you, and unbelievably,

we do say, 'What happened to Bob, or Alice'. Don't ever think we've forgotten you. We just wish you were able to join us again. Speaking of traveling, some EXOKF people, **Toni & Darryl VanKamen**, took a cruise to Cancun; **Rich Maionchi**, flew to SAN, went through the Panama Canal and ended up in FLL. Rich is becoming a Cruisin' Fool. Cruises are perfect, they include food, room, entertainment, adult beverages, and you get to see beautiful sights. **John Pasakarnis**, ORDCG, brought candy and writing tablets to the breakfast, thanks, John. **Jackie Monilaw**, our Midwest Director, attended and gave a UAL baseball cap to **Marsha Sealock-Weber**, EXOKF, who had the most seniority, 44 years of service. Jackie also gave me a Certificate of Achievement from RUAEA. Since I was unable to attend the LAS Convention, she brought it to me. Thank you, RUAEA, I will always do what I can for the organization. Now if I could just get more people to join. Hint, hint, let's try to tell all of our friends about how great our Newsletter is, chuck full of travel, insurance and other benefits information. Plus all the different city's reps write what's going on in their chapters. You're bound to see familiar names you've worked with over the happy years at UAL. **Ed Gioni**, ORDCS, is in the VA Home, his address is 1015 O'Connor Ave., LaSalle, IL 61301. I was able to attend the memorial for **Elizabeth Ashton**, EXOFI, at the Moorings. It was a beautiful service, they included her family and work history. Friends and fellow tenants spoke very highly of her character, personality and kindness.

The South Side Breakfast had nine people, small attendance because of doctor appointments, a funeral, and general malaise. Our raffle was won by **Sylvester Gant**, and lucky **Tom Hurley**, won twice.

The ORDMM breakfast had two returnee retirees, **Carl Johnson** and **Al Munch**. **Elaine Davis**, **Saul's** wife, passed away in November.

RUPA had their lunch at Nick's Pizza and Pub in Crystal Lake. About 40 people came to have a great meal and throw peanuts on the floor. Since it was around Veteran's Day, some of the pilots wore the old uniforms from their service days. Others just wore their hats. Announcements were made concerning discounts, and the new Medicare cards we will all be getting in April. The government is trying to discourage fraud, so the Social Security number is being removed and replaced by a randomly chosen 11-digit number. Nevertheless, the scammers are out already, calling and asking seniors for personal information. If somebody calls you, just hang up. Do these crooks ever sleep?

The Skyliners had their Christmas Party at the Avalon in Elk Grove. **Virginia Monaco** and her committee threw a fabulous party for 175 retirees. The group, Encore, performed again this year, they had us all tapping our toes and laughing at their clever routines and choreography. Our 50/50 raffle was split between the Elk Grove Food Pantry and our retirees. There were three newbies, **Marilee Hamilton**, **Pat Wilkie**, and **Balbir Singh**. **Ralph Robbins**, ORDPV, was honored for being retired the longest time, 26 years, with a box of chocolates. **Jackie Monilaw**, passed along UAL news, explaining the new Enrolled Friends rules and the imputed tax questions.

IAM 1487 had their Christmas Party at the Seville in Streamwood. **Karen Carney** and her Merry Elves certainly know how to have a successful party. Over 140 people mingled and laughed, reminiscing over old times. People brought donations for the food drive, or contributed money. Their raffle was fit for a king/queen. Lots of gifts and lots of happy people, especially **Bob Francis** and **Bertha Gonzales**, who won quite a few times. I love attending all of these parties, seeing old friends, having a laugh or two, talking about old bosses that were great or stupid. You know ... That's why I'd love to see more of you come to our breakfasts and lunches. These are for you, not me, or the committee, they are for you to come and enjoy and see how everybody is, and what they've been doing. Of course, there will be at least an hour describing our aches and pains.

An interesting journey for you ~ Any of you from the NW suburbs, remember that Thorndale Avenue was a two-lane highway for years. Then the state made it four lanes. Nice, it went from Lake Street in Hanover Park, to York Road in Bensenville, good road to almost get to ORD. They called it the Elgin-O'Hare. Well, somebody in Springfield decided, it should become a super highway. So for the last two years, the construction team came in, made it a six lane highway, with overpasses, clover leaves, big green signs, and confusion for thousands of cars every day since we never knew which new road was closed or opened that day. Now, after all this time, they made it a toll way, The 390, very streamlined, going through neighborhoods that didn't know they'd be next to a toll way five years ago when they bought their dream home. It cost the State, that's you and me, only \$780,000,000, that's Million, dollars. The kicker is, it still doesn't go to Elgin or O'Hare, probably never will. That's Illinois!

Our list of friends that flew West last month include, **Bob Bandach**, ORDMM/DENMM, **Jim Lyckberg**, from ORDMM; from ORDSW, **Karen Anderson**, **Marsha Barfield**, **Gaye Matthews**, **Annie Pickering**, and **Lisa Zajac**. From ORDOO, **Nancy Richter**, **Frank Olivera**, father of **Denise Larsen**, CHIRR. Also gone from our world are, John Hillerman, Liz Smith, John Gambino, Charles Manson, Rance Howard, Christine

Keeler, and a group of singers that have joined that Heavenly Choir in the sky, Mel Tillis, Della Reese, Pete Moore, Malcolm Young, Wayne Cochran, teen heartthrob, David Cassidy, and Gomer, honorary Marine, Jim Nabors. Some real biggies in there.

Something to think about, David Cassidy's final words were, 'So much wasted time.' How true ... Lets not waste any more.

Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Elly's Restaurant, 8:30 A.M., 372 E. Golf Rd., Arlington Heights, IL (**January 10**). Second Wednesday of the month.

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

IAM Lodge 1487 Luncheon, Lodge Office, 11:00, 50 W. Oakton St., DesPlaines, (**January 4**). First Thursday of the month

RUPA Lunch—Golf Club of Illinois, 1575 Edgewood Dr, Algonquin, (**January 9**), 11:00 cocktails, Buffet at 12:00.

MASSACHUSETTS

NOR'EASTERS

New England

Dick Vee Vecchione

107 Bunker Hill Road

Auburn, NH 03032-3521

(603) 264-3430

NH4Vee@aol.com



Submitted by Carleen Eddy

The Nor'Easter Chapter has been plagued with illnesses lately. Our Secretary, **Dick Vee Vecchione**, suffered a stroke right before Thanksgiving and is currently in rehab in New Hampshire. Luckily, two other members, Vice President **Sarah Pitt-Wooll** and **Irene Kimball** have volunteered to take up the slack and assume Dick's duties until he is once again able to serve. We thank them for doing this.

Also, long time member, **Oscar Bauerle**, BOSHH is in rehab after a stroke and **Charlie Enos**, MHTCS, has also been hospitalized. We wish them a speedy recovery and hope they will be back with us soon.

MICHIGAN



GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Gwen Dyc-Schwendenmann

(248) 667-9258

bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net

Our December luncheon was held at the Pegasus Taverna in St Clair Shores, MI, hosted by **Mary Moir** with 12 in attendance including some retirees that we had not seen in a while. Attending were **Cathy Dewey**, **Carol Shaffner**, **Gay Givens**, **Geri Wimshurst**, **Patty Gates**, **Marlene Heaney**, **Jeen Kobb** (Marie Cook's daughter), **Charm Nicoll**, **Maggie Pringle**, **Trudy Hall**, **Gwen Schwendenmann** and our host, **Mary Moir**.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in the New Year.

MINNESOTA

NORTHERN LITES

Connie Glattly
82300 Wold Road
Willow River, MN 55795
(218) 372-3973
crglattly@frontiernet.net



21 Northern Lites came for lunch and visiting on a windy, brisk, typically November day. **Andy & Norma Holen** drove over from their home on Lake Mille Lacs. We don't get to visit with them very often, so that was a treat. And our honorary members, **Tom & Judy Cafilisch** were once again in attendance after a several-months' absence due to Tom's joint surgery and rehab after complications. He was a bit subdued, not his usual sassy self, but we were all glad to see him up and around again.

Mary Brennan and **Connie Glattly**, secretary and RUAEA correspondent respectively, were reminded that they're not infallible in reporting the meetings. President **Lee Storlie** gently chastised them for a couple of errors that he had noted entered into the meeting minutes and the newsletter. So the two considered themselves lucky to have been fired for cause from these jobs that no one else wants.

Re the office of chapter president, Lee still maintained that Dec. 31, 2017 would be his last day after 14 years. One of those attending tried to get him to change his mind, but no luck. The silence was deafening when there was a call for someone to take the job, so the assembled Lites were forced to try to come up with a plan that would retain our status as a RUAEA chapter but ease the burden on Lee.

After some discussion about how other chapters handle their meetings, it was decided (with his approval) that Lee would remain as President of the chapter but not be responsible for handling the monthly meetings. Consequently, each month, the meetings in 2018 will be conducted by someone different. That person will come up with his/her own agenda and present whatever information seems appropriate and interesting. A list of all months was passed around and the following months are still available: March, June, September, November and December. The rest of 2018 has been spoken for by different people in attendance that day.

SO! Put on your thinking caps, folks, and come up with something to titillate the masses. It's not as if we're springing this on you, it's been simmering along for months now. We need one of you to volunteer for one of the remaining months of 2018. Look at it this way ... good ol' Lee has been coming up with local and system news plus lousy jokes for years! I recognize that we have big shoes to fill, but you can do it! Call **Mary Brennan** at (651) 324-1918 or email her at buzzygrin@icloud.com to sign up for a meeting of your very own.

Two birthday bunnies (**Norma Holen** and **Arlene Kelley**) vied for the monthly \$5 prize with Arlene throwing an "8" to Norma's "6" on the dice. Five lucky winners won \$10 each in the raffle.

The **Holens** were leaving soon for a nice vacation in Hawaii and there was some discussion about their intended route, place they were going to stay, etc. **Arlene** spoke up and said that winter vacations from MN always left her feeling that she had "goosebumps on her sunburn" after her return home. We all agreed that we knew just how she felt!

Lunch at 11:15 a.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at Perkins Restaurant, 7425 Currell Blvd., Woodbury, MN. Take I-494 to Exit 59 (Valley Creek Rd.) east to Queens Dr., left to the stop sign (Currell Blvd), then right to Perkins.

NEBRASKA

OMAHA GOLDENEARS

Jan Cornish
6501 Rainwood Road
Omaha, NE 68152
(402) 571-6031
kcornish6031@msn.com



Twenty five of us gathered at the Golden Corral on November 7th. It's always a good time to visit with good friends and catch up with everyone's current status. We missed **Shirley Payton** who was in the hospital after back surgery. She was going home that day and said she was really feeling optimistic about the success of this surgery. We were glad to have **Frank Sesto** attend since he has been recovering from a severe accident

after he stepped on a sharp object outside and it penetrated through his foot. The area became infected and he spent several days in the hospital and a few weeks on “house arrest” since it was his right foot and he couldn’t drive. His daughter Gina and son Mick have been transporting him to doctor appointments. Also in attendance was **Larry Nollette**. We haven’t seen Larry for a while so it was good to see him.

I heard recently from **Roger Jensen**. He let us know that he and **Carol** have moved to a larger apartment and they are now living with their daughter and granddaughter. He sounded good on the phone. He states that he is still receiving chemotherapy periodically. He says it’s not too bad but he does have a rough couple of days following the treatment.

The winners of the 50/25-25 were **Stan Longmeyer** and **Dick Weak**. Each received \$11.

Here it is time to be talking about Christmas again. Our next meeting will be on December 5th at Anthony’s Steakhouse on 72nd and F. Street at 11:00am, with lunch served at 11:30, hosted by **Shirley & Ev Payton**. We will be treated to entertainment which will be followed by bingo. For the Christmas bingo please bring a \$5.00 unisex gift for prizes. Complete your menu choice and follow the instructions listed. You will notice that the cost of the meal is quite inexpensive this year. That is because the chapter is subsidizing the cost of each meal. It’s the bargain of bargains. So, we hope to see many of you that we haven’t seen for a while. This is the time of year to reconnect with friends and family. It’s a really good time and sets the tone for the holiday season.

Change of Address: **Roger & Carol Jensen**, 12602 Ames Plaza, Apt. 101, Omaha, NE 68164, (402) 491-3079.

Birthdays for month of December: **Mel Harrison** (12), **Stan Longmeyer** (20), **Sharon DeLong** (21).

We celebrated Veterans Day this past week. Thank you to all of you for your service and to all the active military around the world. We owe you a great big debt of gratitude.

It’s also time to pay next year’s dues. The cost is the same, \$10 per person here in the area and \$10 per couple outside the area. Please make your check payable to United Airlines Retiree Club and send to **Ev Holly**, 6535 Cypress Drive, Omaha, NE 68137. It will be easy to send it along with your reservation for the Christmas luncheon. Just one stamp will take care of both.

NEVADA

RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

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



There were 17 members and 1 guest, **Lesly Mathis**, at our November meeting at the Black Bear Diner. Lesly accompanied **Maurine Williams**. It’s good to see **June & John Roe** down from the Lake, especially as the weather seems to be finally turning more winter-like.

The Christmas Luncheon will be on Monday, December 11 at Tamarack Junction. The signup flyer has been mailed to each member separately. The due date is December 2. **No payments at the door**. Once again, we will be collecting cash and checks for the No. Nevada Food Bank. Please make checks payable to the No. Nevada Food Bank. For the Luncheon, the meal choices will be Chicken Marsala, Baked Salmon and Pork Loin and will include salad, bread/butter, dessert and coffee and tea. Cocktail service will also be available.

Barbara Leusing has resigned as Picnic Chairman. There were no volunteers to replace her. Due to declining interest and attendance, it was agreed that there would no picnic in 2018. The supplies were donated to the Reno Gospel Mission prior to Thanksgiving. The Mission provides free meals to hundreds of people daily.

November birthdays were celebrated by **Allen Robbins** and **Frank Gibbons**. The lucky winner of the 50/50 was **Kathy Robinson** and **June Roe** won the small Thanksgiving decoration. **Bill Perkins** once again treated us to homemade banana bread.

Our next meeting will be our Christmas Luncheon at Tamarack Junction at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, December 11.

NEW JERSEY

THE GARDEN STATERS



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

There is no Garden Staters meeting this month, so I'm submitting this instead.

Not an Aesop's fable UAL: The great prophet Leroy was walking along the beach, Cape May of course, when he sees a rather large bottle bobbing in the water. He brings it back to the shore, examines it, and decides to open the bottle. Well you guessed it, he opens the bottle and outcomes a big Genie.

The Genie says to Leroy, thanks a lot, I've been cooped up in a bottle for over 200 years, but I got places to go, so I'll see you. Prophet Leroy says hey wait a minute, I get three wishes. So the Genie replies, we used to give three wishes, but too many people abused them. So now we only give one. So the prophet says okay. I would like to see you build a suspension bridge directly from New York to England. I want at least four lanes on each side, and one lane for trains coming and going. And by the way, I want a motel every hundred miles.

So the Genie says, I got some crazy requests, but this one takes the cake. How on earth am I going to anchor that bridge in the deepest part of the Atlantic Ocean? What about the storms, the corrosion, and how are we going to power that so-called bridge. He says to Leroy, I'm out of here. The prophet says, wait a minute, I still got one wish coming to me. Okay what is it? Well I belong to a retirement group of all retired United Airline personnel, about 60 people, and I would like you to go to each one and wish them a happy Thanksgiving. So the Genie asks the great prophet, do you have a computer and are you on the Internet? He said yes. Well I can do your request, but trust me, you can do it much faster, and with that, there was a flash of light and the Genie was gone. So here I am at the computer. Maybe not the great prophet but, **Marty Etler** is here to wish all my friends in the Garden Staters to have a great holiday.

OHIO

OHIO BUCKEYES

www.ualohiobuckeyes.com

Judy McKnight
494 Playland Pkwy
Chippewa Lake, OH 44215
jlucybm@aol.com



We gathered for lunch at Tony K's in November and had 55 members in attendance. Our snowbirds flew the coup for Florida and other points "South". Grace was said by **Dolly Taucher**, and a fine lunch was had by all. We thanked **Tom & Helen Hockett** for volunteering to setup and host this fabulous luncheon. We thanked all our Veterans and asked them to stand and be recognized for their service. **Tom Hockett** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and singing "God Bless America". Their service to our country was acknowledged with applause by all. And we had on display our American flag.

President **Dolly Taucher** continued the announcement that on 10/14/2017, member **Bob Biesh**, a veteran of the U.S. Army - Airborne Division passed away, CLEMM. Dolly & John saw **Ben & Marilyn Bogucki** at Costco, they left to go "south", but they asked to relay a message to everyone. They wish a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Healthy New Year to all. Also, Dolly went to see member **Carol Waldron** a couple of weeks ago and she is doing okay. Carol said "Hi" to all.

Dave & Marie Placko held the 50/50 drawing and the winners were #1 - **Steve Pytel**, #2 - **Elda Custer**, and #3 - **Kay Preston**.

Dolly also announced that we have 3 more new members: **Tom Duta** / customer service, and **Kathy Kilbane** / customer service; both joined us today. Also joining our Chapter is **Rose Horton** who has retired from food service.

We didn't have any Anniversaries today and our Birthdays in attendance were **Candace Kane**, **Dave Placko**, **Jack Preston** and **Pat Snow**.

Update on the 2018 RUAEA Convention which will be held here in Cleveland. The committee has been working hard on the schedule of events. There have been 2 meetings already and a 3rd meeting was on November 15th, before all the holidays. If anyone is interested in what is going on or volunteering, you may contact **Barb Vauls** or Dolly, co-Chairpersons for the Convention.

Calendar:

December 6 - Diamond Event Center, hosted by **Dave & Marie Placko**

February 7- Fuji's, hosted by **John & Dolly Taucher**.

OREGON



OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland

Terry Hotchkin

20201 NE 179th Court

Battle Ground, WA 98604

(360) 687-3465

tthotchkin@gmail.com

Our attendance was up again in November with 71 joining us. We had a delightful meal, lots of fun conversation, and many laughs. It was wonderful to see returning members **Fred Von Peggert**, and **Sue & Larry Lowenstein**, as well as several visitors. We look forward to our Christmas luncheon next month and are looking into whether or not the Park Rose High School Debonaires will be able to serenade us again.

Barbara Heidegger officially resigned as president so elections will be held next month.

Unfortunately we were informed that **Suzanne Silver Zaweurcha Carroll** passed away in April at her home in Battle Ground, WA. No other information was known.

John & Anita Donaldson have moved up near Tacoma, WA. They plan to come to our meetings when possible, but we certainly will not be seeing them as regularly as in the past. **Paul Russell** reminded all who have not yet received flu shots to do so, and that open enrollment has started. Be sure to make any changes now or it will have to wait for another year. And, once again, **Cliff Blare** kept us laughing and greatly entertained with wonderful jokes.

Anniversaries ~ **Bill & Sara Petersen** (56 years) and **Roger & Juanita Null** (23 years).

Birthdays ~ Anita Donaldson (78); Sarah Blare (78); Sara Petersen (80); Eileen Stapp (71); Bill Petersen (80) and Dale Stapp (72).

Drawing Winners ~ Lunch/Door Prize - **Paul Russell**, Men's Birthday - **Bill Petersen**, Women's Birthday - **Anita Donaldson**, 50/50 - **Harold Miller**.

Calendar:

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

December 13 – Christmas party

January 10 – Social

February 14 - Social

OUR CLUB

(Oregon United Retirees)
Grants Pass, Oregon
Gidget Walcha - Secretary
(541) 474-6414



OUR Club does not have a chapter report this month but, we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Happy Holidays.

PENNSYLVANIA

THE INDEPENDENTS



Philadelphia, PA
Joyce W. Lindenmuth
208 Stull Rd.
Ridley Park, PA 19078
(610) 521-2291
joycewlindenmuth@gmail.com

Hello UAL retirees,

I have been lacking in my duties as far as the newsletter is concerned. I apologize.

It is with regret we have to announce that **Hal Zerbach** passed away last month.

Our attendance numbers have been down. The month of November had 30 persons attend for a presentation of Alexander Hamilton by Gene Pissale. He is a novelist and had a book signing for us. My daughter and granddaughter went to New York to see Hamilton. They loved it.

Our Christmas banquet went well as usual. We always have a great time.

Keep our sick ones in your thoughts, **Donna Lynn**, **Al Edwards**, and **Dee Burrs** are on the list.

This will be my last newsletter from this address. I am moving to a retirement community in January. My kids and sister have been after me to get rid of the steps. It is a big step. I fell over a year ago and I am as good as I am going to get. I am thankful I am on my feet.

This is our last luncheon till Spring. You will get a notice!

PITTSBURGH

PIT-STOPPERS

Paul & Betty Musko
21 Sunridge Dr.
Coraopolis, PA 15108
Lesuex4@comcast.net



Welcome and Happy New Year, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanza to our RUAEA friends! Wishing all of you a very Happy and Healthy New Year and Peace! We have thoughts and prayers for our loved ones who passed throughout the years.

Here it is December, the first week, and still no snow in Pittsburgh! Paul is walking around singing, "You are My Sunshine!" What's up, he is saying - just getting in tune for "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas!"

We are looking forward to our RUAEA Christmas Luncheon on December 7 at J.W. Hall's Restaurant! It is always great gathering for good food, social, and raffles! We hope to plan for the New Year with special guest speakers to give new updates on what we can prepare and be alert for the new year! We look forward for any suggestions. Please inform us of new information and guests we can arrange to entertain at our luncheons! I received an email from **Bill Chicots** who had to cancel for the luncheon. He mentioned that his Dad turned 93 in September, and he had to find a memory care place for him to live and found a great place, we hope he does well at his new place.

Our Pittsburgh Sports update for anyone who may be interested: Here we go Steelers, Here we go! The Steelers are now 10 wins and two losses. It's unbelievable, the record really doesn't show the whole picture. The last three of four games were really battles, with Pittsburgh winning in the last ten seconds, by a field goal, by Chris Boswell, placekicker. I like to think that Steelers were lucky to win the game. They need some fine tuning to win the playoffs and the Super Bowl. Sadly, to say, due to injury at the last game with Cincinnati –

Ryan Shazier - Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker was hospitalized with a spinal injury. At this time, he is still hospitalized in Cincinnati and having more tests and should, hopefully, be transferred to UPMC Pittsburgh.

Our Pittsburgh Penguins are in the hunt for a playoff, come June 2018. Yes, Virginia, hockey playoffs are also in the Summer, it's a long season! This year the Pens lost their Goalie - Matt Murray, to an injury. It never surprises me how a rookie steps up and performs so well, when they have to, reminds me of individuals working for United again or RUAEA!

Our deepest sympathy, one of our United retirees, **Sam McDermott**, passed away – his daughter is **Nadine McDermott** (Leilani 68). Nadine worked in Reservations in Pittsburgh, United. Nadine had been in touch with **Joann Juth**, very lovely lady, as we all knew her dad.

Love and much thoughts to our **Joann Juth**, **Treatie Karwoski**, **Phyllis Smith** and many of our RUAEA Pittsburgh members. You are all the most amazing ladies and we are so fortunate to have RUAEA men and women who are hard workers and really outstanding and truly care about our local chapter! Be well and take care.

Holiday Greetings! If you were not mentioned in this year's newsletter – hopefully, you will be in the future. We love you all! Be well, be safe, and enjoy! Anyone who would be in Pittsburgh or relocating to live here, we will be happy to assist you finding a great place to eat, many new restaurants and places to see.

TENNESSEE

TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS



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

Ten members and two perspective member guests (**Kristin & Jack Mc Gee**) attended our November luncheon and business meeting. President **Pollie Klosky** and her husband **Terry** were our host/hostess. The view, food, fall table decorations and door prizes were great.

Al Brockmann announced that he got a new pacemaker and is “fit as a fiddle”. **Ray Perry** has been in the hospital, he should be home now and **Mary Gilbert** is having knee replacement. We all signed get well cards and our thoughts go to them.

WASHINGTON

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

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



Once again, the Emerald City Slickers' November meeting was called to order by the ringing of the brass bell used by **Bob Brumfield's** “schoolmarm” grandmother to call her class to order back in the day.

Ed Liesse shared Ruth Apperson Rou's “I Am the Flag” before President **Ken Storey** opened the meeting at Angelo's Ristorante in Burien. With our luncheon's proximity to Veterans' Day and with the ongoing discussions over disrespect of the American Flag, learning more about its meaning was apropos.

Dick Clement further enhanced the patriotism of the meeting by detailing his recent experience in traveling to Washington, DC with the Puget Sound Honor Flight program for veterans, which he highly recommends, urging others to apply. Dick's trip was made even more special when his son and grandson made a surprise trip to DC from Boston to meet him.

Another chapter member, **Don Hanson**, had reported similar enthusiasm for the Honor Flight program, when he participated a while back.

Ed & Gay Liesse loaded their car with the remaining contributions of food and toys and thanked participants for making the 3rd annual drive a success. Food donations were delivered to the South King

Country Multi-Service Center in Federal Way and toys were dropped off for the Marines Toys 4 Tots program. Cash donations were submitted and mailed by check, to avoid confusion.

We bid farewell to outgoing treasurer, **Jackie Stenger**, as she performed her last duties on her 88th birthday – she was born 2 weeks after the infamous Crash of '29. With a candle in her cheesecake, Jackie expressed her thanks for the friendship extended to her by the chapter and the pleasure meetings had given her over the years.

Those of us who migrated from California were familiar with Kaiser Permanente, but chapter members in Washington have only recently been introduced to their health insurance option through Kaiser's absorbing local Group Health. **Ken Tank** reported on what he had learned regarding costs.

Do you want to go back to work? **Dave Jones** had spoken with San Francisco retiree **Tom Edwards**, who reported that NASA was looking for a maintenance technician familiar with the 747 to join their group. A willingness to travel to destinations around the world is only one requirement.

RUAEA Past President **Hank Gosselin**, mentioned that he was leading the search for volunteers to fill positions at the national level. With aging and declining membership, it's difficult to find retirees willing to donate their time and energy. Is it time for you to step up?

Good to have **Hank & Carol Lucarelli** back in the fold.

Doing her part to increase membership, Vice President **Phyllis Bowman** mentioned that she sends information to anyone with a SEA station address when she finds a name or address on a retirement list, which often is available only from this newsletter.

Ken Storey reported that former chapter member, **Virginia Brown** (SFOSW), had recently passed away.

Unfortunately, we've lost another Emerald City Slicker with the death of **Otto Wieland** (SEAHH), a regular at chapter functions, on November 21. Otto had been profiled a couple issues ago for his work with local food banks – and was a frequent winner of the 50/50 prize, including during our meeting just the week before.

Phyllis Bowman and **Bob Broomfield** formed a team to determine winners of door prizes. Chocolates were popular with the holidays coming up. Phyllis also congratulated birthday and anniversary celebrants for November and December.

Members apparently are busy with holiday activities, as there haven't been many "good reads" to appear on the book table in recent months. Books and magazines that are not claimed by future readers are donated to the King County Public Library System.

Remember that Emerald City Slickers, RUAEA's Seattle chapter, welcomes United and Continental retirees to luncheon meetings that are held on second Tuesday in the months of January-May and September-November. If you'll be in our area and would like to join us, Gay (address above) will be happy to put you in touch with an appropriate chapter member to provide you with information and take your lunch reservation.

We hope that 2018 has started everyone off on the right foot. Happy New Year!

Calendar:

January 9 – Luncheon meeting at Angelo's

February 13 – Luncheon meeting at Angelo's

March 13 – Luncheon meeting at Angelo's



LILAC CITY FLYERS

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

Fourteen of us had a great Christmas Luncheon and Gift Exchange. Guess our ages reflected the gifts - mainly candy!

It's been one year since our last get together. We shared many laughs and "back whens"! We wish everyone a wonderful Holiday Seasons!

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE DULLES LOUNGERS



Mari McColl - President
1517 Hiddenbrook Dr.
Herndon, VA 20170
(703) 471-8218
marimccoll@aol.com

At our November Luncheon, we collected \$1200 for United We Care. We are in hopes that this money will lessen the hardship of our UA sisters and brothers that were so horribly affected by the many disasters of 2017. We send our thoughts and prayers along with this small gift.

We will be having a cookie exchange in December. Christmas time is such an awesome time of year. The lights and glitter are magic; the food is scrumptious; and the music is so very beautiful. Speaking of music, annually, **Kerrie Schneider** leads us in Carols. It's all fun and lovely, but the very best is the "12 days of Christmas."

Bill Clarke celebrated his 100th birthday on Thanksgiving Day with more than 60 friends and family members. His mind was sharp but his body was frail. He had a wonderful time. Several days later, Bill peacefully left this earth. He lived a remarkable life and was well loved.

We have quite a few members on "sick list". **Peggy & Joe Ganey** are both having issues. They would love a get well or Christmas card, I'm sure. Their address is 6119 Ferrier Court, Gainesville, VA 20155. **Bud Reed** has missed quite a few luncheons due to poor health. You can find him at 1848 Golf View Court in Reston, VA 29190. **Ralph & Dollie Bagget** have been struggling with Dollie's hospitalizations. They are home now at 4987 McFarland Dr., Fairfax, VA 22032-2523. **Blanche Harris** (DCASW) has moved to a memory unit facility. Her address now is 1 Friends Dr., Room 605, Woodson, NJ. 08098. **Jack Lindhl**'s address is now The Shenandoah Center (a long term nursing home), 50 Mulberry St., Charles Town, WV 25416. **Lucy Chatelaine** (IADRR) has a new address as well. It is #145 2030 Westmoreland St., Falls Church, VA 22043. **Peggy Frank** (IADRR) can be reached at Squirrel Hill Center for Rehab, 2025 Wightman St., Pittsburgh, PA 15217. My husband, **Dan Per-Lee**, has had his share of hospitals. In June he had eye surgery due to a detached retina. In July, he had back surgery and on the 6th of December, he had cataract surgery on his left eye. His vision went from 20/200 to 20/40 in one day. Eye surgery was a breeze with great results. Back surgery - not so much. This recovery has been slow and painful. We hope all of our friends will be happy and healthy for the holidays.

Wishing everyone a very Happy New Year. Blessings to all!

NATIONAL

CLIPPED WINGS

Karen Williams
CW Vice President
P O Box 161
Highland, MD 20777
cwkarenwilliams@gmail.com



As Roy and Dale often said, Happy Trails To You! Life seems to look a great deal brighter on horseback for a child, teen, disabled veteran or adult with physical, developmental or emotional challenges. Since 1987, our wonderful DEN Clipped Wings Chapter has been involved in helping to make this brighter view a reality at the Praying Hands Ranch in Parker Colorado. Therapeutic horsemanship offered at the Ranch enables a sense of freedom, helps to build self-esteem while also toning muscles and improving balance and co-ordination.

Many years ago, DENCW's generous financial donation was the first "seed money" that enabled the Ranch to start growing from serving 7 clients at that time to over 100 per week presently. At Clipped Wings we're very proud that our amazing DEN Chapter has continued with their support of the PHR with a creative Melmac Plate Project which they manage and coordinate with the involvement of approximately 34 local schools. This is a win-win project since the children and parents love the plates the children have created and our DEN chapter can continue their support of PHR with the profits from the plate sales.

If you are a current or former UAL/CO Inflight Crew Member and would like to be a part of an organization having lots of fun, continuing their airline friendships and helping others in many creative ways at different

locales, we'd love to hear from you. Just check on our website at www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org. We would be happy to contact you with more information about a chapter in your area.

Enjoy your view for 2018 whether it's from a plane, skis, bicycle or even on horseback!

NEW MEMBERS

The following new members joined RUAEA during the month of **November 2017**:

Anthony, Leyba, DENJL, 10902 Depew Pl., Westminster, CO 80020
Brown, Gregory, SFOAT, 2604 Bayfront Court, Richmond, CA 94804
Burnette, Janet, 16049 E. Milan Dr., Aurora, CO 80013
Fowler, Sandra, WHQFO, 215 Forestview Drive, Crystal Lake, IL 60047
Herlihy, Charlene, PO Box 653, Pioneer, CA 95666
Kaiser, Richard, WHQFP, 745 Milbeck Ct., Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
Lohden, Marsha, 6221 Buena Vista Avenue, Oakland, CA 94618
Marren, Alexandria, 27878 Forester Drive, Bonita Springs, FL 34134
Mckibbin, Douglas, 1112 9 Street SW, Calgary, MB T2R 0Y5, Canada
Pinnock, Janice, 19202 NW 23 Court, Miami Gardens, FL 33056
Thomas, Robert J., 391 Dellwood Drive, Eugene, OR 97405

CONTRIBUTIONS

We appreciated monetary contributions from the following members during the month of **November 2017**:

Shirley R. Alexander, Joan L. Anderson, Kenneth Bader, Edward T. Barrett, Karl Besteder, James Bicknase, Celeste Brodigan, Sonia L. Simon Brousseau, Juergen Brunke, William R. Bruso, Harry L. Dasher, Jeanne Decherd, John J. Doherty, Robert E. Duensing, Anne E. Dulin, Bruce Dunkle, Phyllis M. Easley, Philip J. Elliott, Donald G. Elster, David Folkers, James A. Foster, Marilyn Fry, Lawrence Gardner, Ishbel L. Garrett, Francis Gibbons, Carl L. Gruenberg, Thomas A. Hassel, Edith Heisler, Mary C. Hill, Sharon G. Hill, Jessie Hiltbold, Barrie Hooley, James Hottel, William Hourston, Shirley A. House, Homer H. Hudelson, Norm Kirby, Robert K. Koch, Thomas Krause, Noreen A. Krawczyk, Marjorie A. Kum, Arnold E. Lakso, Mardell Leeper, Gus Harrison London, R. M. Rosemary Lump, Robert A. Newberg, June Nichols, Irene Nightingale Nettler, Kay E. O'Brien, Frances M. Oda, Gary L. Opperman, Sam S. Oshiro, Robert Palmer, Kenneth W. Paulson, Janice Pinnock, Allan O. Pochop, James Reif, Juanita M. Ritt, Mary Kathleen Robinson, Eugene R. Rollins, Marlene E. Rosenberg, Bonnie B. Ruliffson, Jim Schmidt, Nalini M. Shah, Forester H. Sinclair, Franz Sonnberger, Jackson Spurlock, Carl F. Stengele, Warren G. Tenhaken, Patricia Tremont, Stanley T. Tsunemoto, Harold P. Turney, Joan J. Velotta, Sophie C. Wajda, Richard S. Walcha, Casey Walker, Sandra L. Wallestad, Joseph Walp, Mary K. Wetherington, Mary Alice Yando.

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 – **Bandach, Bob**, on 11/21/2017, DENMM, husband of Bea Bandach, 9255 Utica St., Westminster, CO 80031

Retiree – **Hewelt, Lois E.**, on 11/4/2017, DTWRR, mother of Kathy Gualtieri, 533 S. Minerva Ave., Royal Oak, MI 48067

Retiree – **Lyckberg, James**, on 11/30/2017, ORDMM, husband of Joan (nee Willis) Lyckberg, 622 Arlington Ave., Des Plaines, IL 60016

Retiree – **Tong, James P.**, on 11/18/2017, SFORQ, husband of Josephine Tong (Deceased), 1552 Dorsey Ln., San Jose, CA 95120

Retiree – **Wilk, Vincent J.**, on 6/28/2017 SEASZ, husband of Joanne Wilk, 13001 53rd Ave. NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98332

Letters & Notes



Martha Gooselaw

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:

Shirley Barber, Lucille Cox, Stan Chmielowiec, Jeanne Decherd, Marilyn Fry, Sarah Harris, Jessie Hiltbold, Eldonna Klobe, John Meyer, Celena Nash, Kenneh Paulson, Andrew Russell, Harvey Samson, Pat Tremont, Rich Walcha.

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.)

Shirley Dochoff, 148 N. Richard Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126

Mahalo for your efforts and fine job on the Newsletter.

And, a daily Mahalo to UAL for the wonderful 80's and early 90's for flying to Maui twice a year. What amazing trips, not to mention those to Katmandu, HKG, etc. Aren't we blessed; we have much to be thankful for, UAL.

Phyllis Easley, 882 Annesley Cir, Meadville, PA 16335

I sure appreciate the written copy of the newsletter. We read every word and enjoy the pictures.

LAS convention was good and the tours were excellent, we loved the Zion one.

We are really excited about CLE next year. It is only 100 miles from us here in Northwestern PA. It will be a nice time of year too.

The last flight of the 747, what fond memories of trips we had on it.

Thank you for all of your time and hard work spent on the newsletter.

Ishbel Garrett, 2775 S. Sedalia St., Aurora, CO 80013

I have happily moved back to my home in the Caribbean. I could no longer deal with the cold and the current social climate.

You know, every time I hear "Rhapsody in Blue" (our theme song); I think of how fortunate we were to have been a part of such an elite organization like United Air Lines. UAL made us feel special by celebrating our anniversaries, birthdays, etc.

I am currently reading a book titled "Flight 232" by Laurence Gonzales. It is a great read! I worked the day that 232 crashed. I was a CSR and I was roving between that flight and another. I saw so many children boarding the aircraft and interacted with some of them. We have had other accidents while I was employed, but I am still haunted and saddened by the crash of 232.

Much love and respect for what you do.

Sue Riedl, 604 Hillpoint Way, Brandon, FL 33510

I'd like to thank you for your hard work in keeping us all informed of what United is up to.

Dick worked for 43 years in ORD/TPA and I worked in the narrow body kitchen at ORD. We made a lot of friends and still communicate through e-mails/texts/Facebook. It is nice to know how all of our friends are doing after retirement.

Dick left us in October after being here for 85 years, 36 of them we were together.

Keep up the good work, I know how it is as Dick and I worked on the newsletter for many years. It is so appreciated.

If anyone remembers me from EXO and food service, I would be glad to hear from them via e-mail, dickr2@aol.com.

A blessed Thanksgiving to all. Stay safe.

Notes

Shirley Alexander

Love the new changes to pass travel ... thanks for your great work in keeping us informed.

George Atteberry

We meet with the Gulf Coast Chapter and don't have a scribe to send info for the local news. This is my intention to renew our membership, and to start sending news of our meetings.

Gregory Brown

This publication is my link to the past 41 years working and 27 retired years. It has been a large part of my entire life.

Sandra Fowler

Enjoying retired life, and looking forward each month to read RUAEA Newsletter and keeping up with United.

Meline Knevel

Andy retired December 7 from Toyota Motor Sales USA and we sold our home in Los Angeles. We now live out in the country in Prescott, AZ. We love the wildlife and have trips for next year's travel on the motorcycle thru national parks.

Fred Kremerskotter

Time to pay my dues and for a brief update as to what I have been up to this past year. I turned 82 in December and besides some minor health issues, I am handling the challenges of getting older pretty well. I still enjoy traveling and embarked, last May, on a small ship cruise through Eastern Europe. Embarking at the Black Sea in Romania and sailing to Budapest, Hungary, the cruise offered many opportunities for side trips. We even visited Dracula's Castle in Transylvania. Scary! For a long time I had wanted to visit and re-visit some of our beautiful National Parks and Monuments. So, in September, I went on a three week bus tour from Mt. Rushmore, SD to Albuquerque, NM. This seven state tour visited Crazy Horse and Mt. Rushmore in SD

Daniel Langan

Enjoying retirement but being a care giver for my wife limits what I can do.

Marsha Lohden

Retired flight attendant October 30, 2015.

Larry Newsome

Happy and blessed to be here in the great Tar heel State 3 years ago. After open heart surgery, docs thought that I would not recover but thankful that I am still around and even doing a little UAL traveling despite 3x weekly dialysis! God is good.

Gary Opperman

I have been retired since 9/11 and am keeping busy. I have gotten into Cruising mainly on Royal Caribbean. I play golf twice a week and wish that United would have more tournaments for us seniors and present employees. I live in Houston and would like to belong to a chapter here but there does not seem to be one.

Janice Pennock

Since I retired from UA, I've continued working as a registered nurse. United means fun and great memories to me. It's great to have an outlet like RUAEA to have our voices heard and to rely on for valued information!

Bruce Williams

I have very fond memories of my career with United, but I am also glad to be retired.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS ON THE NEXT PAGE

Important Phone Numbers



Updated 7/2017

United Airlines Benefits Center (Central Time)

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

United Employee Service Center

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

1-847-825-3729 - International Use

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

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

Employee Travel Center

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

Flying Together Help Desk

1-800-255-5801

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

Aetna 1-800-334-0110

BC/BS 1-800-535-9825

PBGC - for all retiree pension questions

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

Social Security Administration

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

Alliant Credit Union

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

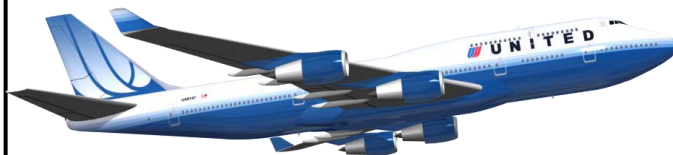
Medicare Hotline 1-800-633-4227

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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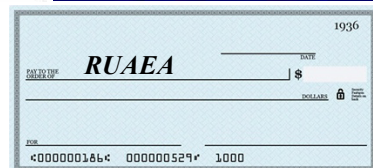
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-or-

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"Preserving the Past,
Inspiring the Future"



A Tribute to the Boeing 747 - Top photo by Thom Rowland - By Marvin Berryman, DENTK Retired

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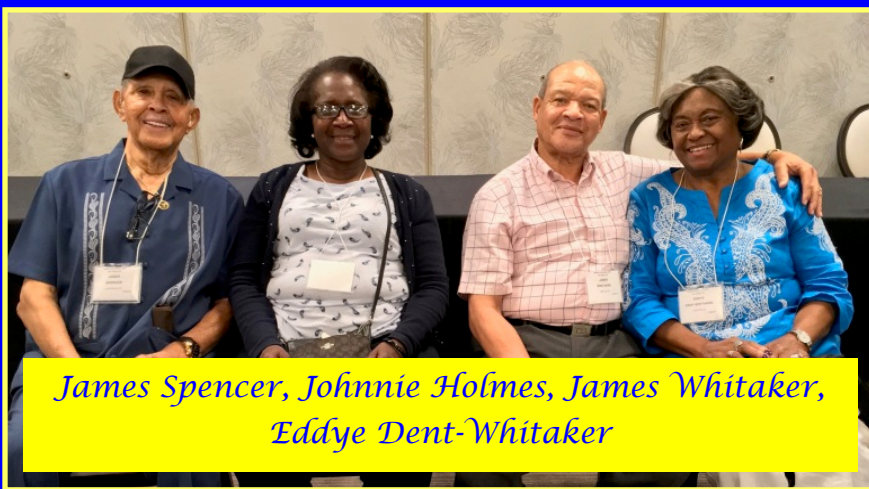
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SJ Southbay
Standing:

Ben Scales, Dave Garland, George & Julie Midwin, Marianne Johnson, Cheri Scales, Rosemarie Reichard, Karen Devlin, Jack & Linda Hornfischer, Alex Klaus.



Sitting: Robin Garland, Bill Reichard, Bob Devlin, Roger Casterline, Boyd Sweet, Merle Sweet, Margie Klaus.

Arizona ReUnited's and friends



Sitting: Donna Pedone, Rita Zarek, Valerie Forsberg, Bob Forsberg, Sybil Voss, Bob Irwin
Standing: John Griffin, Joann Griffin, Fred Frey, Bonnie Frey, Ted Tollefsen, Liz Tollefsen, Shirley Eaton, Bill Eaton, Shirley Claggett, Ron Paluch, Mike Richards.