



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

[WWW.RUAEA.ORG](http://WWW.RUAEA.ORG)



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## 2017 RUAEA Las Vegas Convention



*Arnold Hansen, Pearl Fjugstad,  
Per Fjugstad*



*Dave  
Shaw*

*Charlie  
Wilson*

*Mary Hill, Frankie Frank*



*Stephanie & Ken Norton, Sonda  
Sandstedt, Ron & Barbara Bertacini*



*Bill & Margie Burg*



*Tamara Webb, Ella Tokita,  
Diane Webb, Michael Webb*



*Ray & Phyllis Potsic*

# GENERAL NEWS

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## Letter From The Executive Vice President



Now that the New Year is finally upon us and the hopefully joyful Christmas season has come to pass, I want to express my very best wishes to all of our RUAEA members and fellow co-workers for a very happy, enjoyable and healthy 2018.

Many changes have occurred during the past year in concerns for our membership and for the duties of our Directors who are under my direction and have been relieved of travel obligations to their respective chapters due to the hardships of traveling and the difficulties involved with meeting the former obligations requested by RUAEA in the performance of their duties. My proposal to the board which was accepted and became policy in March of 2017, no longer requires the Directors to travel to their chapters but to communicate with them by email, telephone or USPS in order to inform the membership of current information that is pertinent to changes in company policy, RUAEA activity and any other items that the members need to be aware of in concern of their benefits or other useful information. This policy change has been well received by our Directors and has reduced expenses to our organization which is a benefit to us all.

The primary responsibility left for the directorship was to address the arrears listings that come out each month and take up the majority of the Directors time in notifying the membership of their arrears status. During the Las Vegas convention this past September, the board entertained a motion from **Juliana Alfonso** of our secretarial staff in Denver. Juliana offered to send out the arrears notifications for all our directors as a part of her monthly duties. Her offer was graciously accepted and she is now performing that function as of the New Year. I am extremely grateful for her generosity in this venue and I am sure that the Directors share that feeling with me as well.

The advantage of having this performed in Denver is obvious. The arrears notifications can be handled in a far more efficient and timely manner and notices to the membership will be sent out much quicker than being done by the Directors in the format normally done. If for any reason there becomes a time or problem under this current change, we can always return this responsibility back to our Directors. Thank you Juliana for all you and our other secretaries do for all of us in RUAEA.

In this regard, membership continues to be a concern for all of us. There are programs in effect that will hopefully bring more members to our RUAEA family. We have opened the membership up to any airline employees from our competitors as well as to those involved with any form of airline activity. Our Directors, along with their duties of communication, are making an effort to invite these individuals into our organization and encourage them to become a part of a chapter in their area. The enjoyment of meeting other people with common interests on a monthly basis has always been a positive aspect of the RUAEA connection.

I am looking forward to the New Year in activity with RUAEA. Our convention in Cleveland in September is sure to be another great event and I hope our attendance will bring many of our members in that area to this gathering. It is always my pleasure and joy to serve all of you and I look forward to seeing many of you at our Cleveland convention. Happy New Year to all of you!

**Regards,**

**Jim Simon**  
**RUAEA Executive VP**



### **Watch: A look back on 2017 at United**



*New Routes* ~ United connected customers to 57 new destinations from its U.S. hubs.

*New Tools* ~ United became the first U.S. airline to allow customers to check in using Amazon Alexa and Google Home.

*New Aircraft* ~ United took delivery of 3 Boeing 787-9s, 4 new Boeing 737-800s, and 12 new Boeing 777-300ERs.

*New Uniforms* ~ United teamed up with Brooks Brothers, Tracy Reese and Carhartt to design new uniforms.

2017 was quite a year for United. The company connected more than 136,000,000 customers to the moments that mattered

most.

United will take the New Spirit of United in 2018, continuing to become the world's best airline for its customers, employees and everyone the company serves.

### **No disruptions expected as REAL ID deadline approaches**



Beginning Jan. 22, 2018, by mandate of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the TSA will no longer accept as a valid form of identification driver's licenses and ID cards issued from any U.S. states or territories deemed out of compliance with the Real ID Act.

However, at this time only three states (New York, Michigan and Louisiana) and two territories (American Samoa and Northern Mariana Islands) are listed as "under review" by DHS. United expects DHS to grant extensions or approve their programs before the January 22 deadline, meaning that United doesn't anticipate a disruption to its customers. In the unlikely

event the DHS does not grant approval or extension to those five states and territories, customers from those locations will be required to use an alternate, DHS-approved form of identification when traveling in the U.S., such as a passport or Global Entry, NEXUS or SENTRI travel card.

Passed in 2005, the Real ID Act established a minimum standard of security features for government-issued identification, with the goal of making them more difficult to falsify or counterfeit. The legislation applied to all 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia and five U.S. territories.

In an effort to educate customers, United has added a section to the [Important Notices](#) page on its website that provides details on the Real ID Act and its potential impact.

### **More than \$3M raised for UWC in 2017**



As Oscar said in his [holiday message](#), 2017 was a year to remember. From setting new operational records to launching new exciting routes and making changes to elevate United's customers' experience, the company has many things of which to be proud. But, like Oscar, United is most proud of the way the company came together to respond to a series of

storms and natural disasters that affected so many colleagues and friends across Texas, Louisiana, Florida and the Caribbean.

The response from United family has been overwhelming and unbelievable. Employees from across the globe banded together more than ever before, raising more than \$3 million (and counting) for United We Care (UWC) in 2017.

*"I am so proud of the record-setting fundraising response from our employees,"* said Human Resources Services VP Kirk Limacher. *"Thank you to all those who donated and those who helped organize fundraisers. Together, we made sure that our friends and colleagues who suffered some major losses didn't feel alone and abandoned during difficult times. It has truly shown the good hearts of our people."*

Thanks to bake sales, golf tournaments, races and many more organized fundraisers, United's efforts helped nearly 4,000 employees in need this year. *"One employee after another stepped up during our fundraising*

*efforts to support our United family during troubled times,” said IAD SOC Manager Mark Gill, who coordinated several events at IAD. “Three events on the field raised over \$13,000, followed up by our golf tournament, which raised \$27,000! We consider ourselves as one family, and, when family is in need, we step up to help.”*

At SFO, the annual Family Day event also became an opportune occasion for United We Care donations, raising more than \$30,000 for the cause.

United’s efforts don’t end here - United We Care will continue to need support for its ongoing mission. As the company heads into a new year, look for more opportunities in 2018 to help your colleagues in need via United We Care.

United We Care provides short-term crisis relief to those in our airline family needing basic assistance unavailable through other resources.

### **Farewell to United Express turboprop flights**



United Express will no longer operate the Bombardier Q200 turboprop aircraft, making United Express an all-jet operation in North America. The final United Express turboprop flight, operated by CommutAir, was on Sunday, January 7.

*“This aircraft has generated significant value to the company’s route network for many years,” said United Express SVP Brad Rich. “Working together with Network Planning, we are constantly analyzing our overall fleet plans ensuring we have the right aircraft meeting market demand. We are excited to have CommutAir converting to exclusively jet service, providing our customers and employees with a more efficient and consistent product.”*

CommutAir has been transitioning its operations its fleet to Embraer’s E-145. United continues to operate turboprops (ATR-42s) in GUM (Guam) with its partner, Cape Air.

### **Supporting diversity among United’s suppliers**



Fostering diversity isn’t just the right thing to do, it’s good business, and for more than 30 years, United has partnered with the Chicago-headquartered Women’s Business Development Center (WBDC) in advocating for women-owned businesses, giving them equal footing when it comes to selecting United’s suppliers.

This month, United further strengthened that commitment by hosting the first-ever “Perfecting Your Pitch Workshop” at the Chicago Corporate Support Center, in cooperation with the WBDC, offering women entrepreneurs the chance to hone their sales pitches and presentation skills.

Supplier Diversity Director Ruby McCleary coordinated the event with Community Affairs VP Sharon Grant and Procurement Director Michelle Varble. Four buyers from United’s Procurement team – Carol DeBose, LaJoy Hill, Mohit Jain and Grace Wang – served as mentors to the presenters. After each pitch, the participants were given feedback on how they can better stand out from the crowd when meeting with potential buyers.

*“Our goal is to help women-owned businesses succeed, whether they’re working with United or with another customer,” Sharon said.*

More than 30 percent of all privately held businesses in the U.S. are women-owned, making them a valuable source of goods and services that United uses on a daily basis. Last year, 24 percent of United’s suppliers were women-owned businesses, and this year the WBDC named United its Corporate Partner of the Year.

The “Perfecting Your Pitch Workshop” was such a success that the WBDC is planning to host similar sessions in other states with United’s event serving as the template.

### **A wounded warrior gets his holiday wish**

Serving bravely alongside our servicemen and servicewomen, specially trained dogs have long played an integral role during times of war. The bonds that develop between the dogs and their handlers are special, and

for the last two years, LAX Flight Attendant Molli Oliver has dedicated her spare time to helping reunite our military members with their dogs once they retire from combat. Recently she was called upon for a different sort of mission.



While serving as a Marine in Afghanistan, Garrett Carnes was severely injured. A double amputee, he has long sought to have a companion dog, but was having little luck in finding one. Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Christopher Smith, who is currently stationed in Hohenfels, Germany, heard about his plight and decided to do something about it.

He had a German shepherd named Unno who he thought would be perfect for Mr. Carnes. *“It’s incredibly important to assist those who have given so much to our country, so I decided to donate my dog because it’s the right thing to do and because soldiers take care of soldiers,”* he said.

Unfortunately, Mr. Smith didn’t have the funds necessary to transport Unno from Germany to North Carolina, where Mr. Carnes lives. That’s where Molli came in. With the help of two of our own United Marine veterans – Corporate Safety VP Michael Quiello and Operations Transformation Senior Manager Jim Casey – Mr. Christopher got in touch with Molli who helped fund Unno’s trip.

*“If I can help just one veteran, then the coordination and effort to get Unno to his new family is more than worth it,”* Molli said.

Thanks to their teamwork and assistance, Mr. Smith was able to travel with Unno from MUC (Munich, Germany) to IAD. When they cleared customs, Molli was there waiting to greet them. After Unno stretched his legs a bit, the three of them departed for North Carolina to present Mr. Carnes with the newest member of his family.

### **Star Alliance plugs into Silicon Valley**



Star Alliance has entered into a partnership with Plug and Play, the world’s largest start-up accelerator and innovation center. This will allow the Alliance to form relationships with start-ups developing new products and technology for the travel ecosystem.

Based in Silicon Valley, Plug and Play not only supports existing start-ups financially, but provides guidance and mentorship as well as contacts to companies interested in their ideas. Regarding travel and hospitality, Plug and Play’s mission is to discover, support and scale disruptive technologies that are defining the future in this field.

*“Partnering with Plug and Play is an important step in our strategy of becoming digitally advanced and delivering seamless travel experiences,”* said Star Alliance CEO Jeffrey Goh. *“An early understanding of future technological and digital trends, coupled with the possibility to participate in the development at an initial stage, will ensure the long-term success of our new digital strategy.”*

As Star Alliance transitions into its third decade, it is developing digital capabilities centrally, which can then be used by its member carriers to enhance their own products, with the aim of extending care to their regular customers even when they are traveling on other member carriers.



## So Simple From Sheryl

Happy Valentine's Day! This is a simple, but delicious dinner that you might like to make for this special day.

### Chicken with Roma Tomatoes:

Olive oil



4 boneless, skinned chicken breasts  
½ cup celery, chopped  
1 Tbsp. garlic  
1 cup onion, chopped  
2 fresh Roma tomatoes, chopped  
½ cup fresh parsley  
2 Tbsp. raspberry vingerette salad dressing (the only brand I can find is Girard's.  
A triangle shaped bottle.)

1 Tbsp. sour cream

1 Tbsp. tomato paste

Cook chicken in olive oil until completely cooked. Take out of pan. Put in celery, garlic and onion until browned. Add the raspberry dressing, sour cream and tomato paste until thickened. It will thicken quite quickly. Add tomatoes and parsley. Mix together and add chicken. Cook a few more minutes. You can serve with either rice or mashed potatoes.

Enjoy!

## 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 7<sup>th</sup> of each month**. This includes chapter reports, letters for the "Letters" Column, obituary listings (**Note:** *Rules for submitting an obituary notice is listed in the Obits section of this Newsletter*), and in general, any item for inclusion into the current Newsletter. All items received after the 7<sup>th</sup> are subject to be considered for the next Newsletter.

Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to Francis Domaratius at [ruaenewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaenewsletter@surewest.net) and John Chu at [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto: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.

**Francis Domaratius**

Newsletter Manager

[ruaenewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaenewsletter@surewest.net)

# LOCAL NEWS

## ALABAMA



### GULF COAST

George Atteberry  
5 Seacrest Beach Blvd E B-201  
Inlet Beach, FL 32461  
[gwatteberry@cs.com](mailto:gwatteberry@cs.com)

December 11<sup>th</sup> found our chapter back in the news reporting business. We had a most enjoyable meeting at the Naval Aviation Museum, Cubi Point Café, aboard NAS Pensacola, FL with 19 members in attendance. They were **Jesslyn Arnold, George & Desneige Atteberry, Bill & Ann Delavan, John & Myrl Eisinger, Conrad Hamilton, Bill Hayden, Chuck & Georgene Krewer, Ray & Mai Owens, Kim Ray, Jeanne & Norm Reinoehl, and Barbara Serra**. A big welcome to our new member **Rita Toucher**, she is our token American Airlines retiree, and a welcome enlightenment to our group. Rita worked in Maintenance on the Ramp at PIT, and said the winters were surely invigorating.

President Conrad called our meeting to order and we immediately got busy with our raffle, then luncheon. Correspondence was twofold with a letter from our former President and Secretary, **Bob & Yvonne Schwartz**. They are busy in Bob's Tax Preparation and their Bed And Breakfast endeavor.

A "Thank You Letter" came to our President from the Manna Food Bank, for our generous \$300 donation. We all donated to the Toys for Tots program, and the delivery was carried out by Santa's helper, the President.

Everyone enjoyed playing the Dirty Santa game, which required stealth and cunning to steal your gift. If you haven't played, it would take too much Prose to explain.

We meet every second Monday of each Month. Come and enjoy The Museum, if you have not attended.



### SWEET HOME ALABAMA

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

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 12<sup>th</sup> but to confirm, please call **Beverly Yeager** at (256) 775-1711.

## ARIZONA

### PHOENIX AZURES

Lynn Cline  
Recording Secretary  
2690 North 162<sup>nd</sup> Lane  
Goodyear, AZ 85395  
(623) 444-9084  
[lynncline1@cox.net](mailto:lynncline1@cox.net)



Hello & Happy New Year from Arizona!

Happy Birthday to **Gail Allen** (2/1), **Victor Liltz** (2/4), **Mildred Hofer** (2/11), and **Keith Steffer** (2/27).  
Happy Anniversary to **Ginny Weiler & Ben Meyer** (2/22).

**Rose F. Barry**, 74, of Goodyear, AZ passed away December 15, 2017. She was born December 18, 1942 in Chicago, IL to Salvatore and Vivian (Cannizzo) LaCavera. She is survived by three sons, Mark Barry, Michael

Barry and Robert Pelozza; one brother, Paul Barry; and seven grandchildren. Rose was preceded in death by her husband **David Barry**. In lieu of flowers, please send a donation to the National Kidney Foundation, in Rose's name. The Azures will also donate to the National Kidney Foundation in Rose's memory.

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: February 7<sup>th</sup> & February 21<sup>st</sup>. 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](mailto:phx22@cox.net).



**PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S**

Liz Tollefsen  
9034 E. Citrus Ln. N.  
Sun Lakes, AZ 85248  
(480) 895-2897  
[tedtolle@aol.com](mailto:tedtolle@aol.com)

The weather out here in Arizona is beautiful, warm and sunny. We are so fortunate to be able to enjoy this great weather compared to a lot of people who are living where it's cold and snowing. If you're in the area on vacation, or visiting family or friends, and have worked at any time for United or Continental Airlines and are 55 years or older, you're welcome to come to any of our monthly Breakfasts or Luncheons. We meet for Breakfast on the fourth Friday of each month at the Black Bear Diner in Gilbert, starting at 9:15 a.m. Our luncheons are hosted by one or more of our members at a location they choose to have it, so it varies monthly. This is nice as we get to check out a restaurant we might not have been before, and may decide to go there again on our own. We just want to see more people come and join us; whether it's someone who hasn't attended any of our events for a while, or someone new to the area and wants to check us out. If you have any questions about any of our events and need more information, you may contact our President, **Shirley Claggett**, at (480) 354-7610, or by e-mail at [indind75@yahoo.com](mailto:indind75@yahoo.com), or you may contact our Vice President, **Peg Snowdall**, at (480) 396-3317, or by e-mail at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net). Give us a try, I'm sure you will be happy that you did.

Our December 15<sup>th</sup> Breakfast had 23 members in attendance. That was a very nice group considering Christmas was coming up fast and everyone being busy. The Christmas Luncheon was held on December 6 at the Palo Verde Country Club in Sun Lakes, but because the drawing for the Credit Cards the hostess purchased was forgotten with all the excitement and fun going on at that time, **Pat Nicholaisen** did the drawing at this breakfast. Everything worked out fine. **Peg Snowdall** mentioned to the members that she had a note from **Bonnie Veillette** telling us that her husband, **Roger**, has been moved to a Long Term Facility and his health is failing. She goes to see him every day. As the Breakfast ended, people were wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and sharing hugs as they departed.

Our Luncheon at Rigatony's on January 11<sup>th</sup>, hosted by **Dakota Morris-Terry** and **Barbara Tremonto**, will be reported next month.

Our February Luncheon is going to be held at Vitos, 1947 N. Lindsay Rd. in Mesa on Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, hosted by **Donna Pedone**. More information will be forth coming from her. If you would like to attend, please contact Donna at [octobermoon10@yahoo.com](mailto:octobermoon10@yahoo.com), or by telephone at (480) 821-8074. She'll be glad to give you directions or anything else you need. Normally, the social hour starts at 11:00 a.m., followed by the luncheon at 12:00 noon. Look forward to seeing a lot of people there!

Our annual Spring Training game between the Chicago Cubs and the Chicago White Sox is going to be Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> in the Party Deck at the Cubs Stadium in Mesa. See **Ron Paluch** for tickets if you want to attend this fun day at the park.

If you haven't paid your dues for our Re-United Chapter yet, please give your money to our Treasurer, **Ferrol Hilsabeck**. The annual dues are \$5.00 each and should be given to Ferrol or mailed to him at 2625 N. Hogan Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85215 right away. If you have any changes in your address, e-mail, or phone, be sure and let him know as we need the correct information for our directory that comes out early in April.

We have the following Birthdays in February: **Marilyn Morey** (2/8), **Ted Tollefsen** (2/10), **Gordy Kubiak** (2/11), **Bill Norwood** (2/14), **Dillon Terry** (2/16), and **Ann Carroll** (2/22). Happy Birthday to each of you! We have two couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversaries in February, **Joel & Marjorie Matteson** on (2/2/63) and **John & Judy McFarland** on (2/8/64). Congratulations to both couples!



### Calendar:

**February 15** – Luncheon at Vitos, 1947 N. Lindsay Rd, Mesa, AZ 85224, starting at 11:00 a.m., Social and Luncheon at 12:00 noon. Need more information, contact the hostess, **Donna Pedone** at [octobermoon10@yahoo.com](mailto:octobermoon10@yahoo.com) or by telephone at (480) 821-8074.

**February 23** – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline Rd. in Gilbert, starting at 9:15 a.m. Please contact **Peg Snowdall**, our Vice President, with your reservation by February 21 at (480) 396-3317, or by e-mail at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net).

**March 10** - Chicago Cubs/White Sox game. Any questions, contact **Ron Paluch** at [ripal96@yahoo.com](mailto:ripal96@yahoo.com) or by phone at (480) 354-7610.

## CALIFORNIA

### CENTRAL COASTERS



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

Our Christmas luncheon was at the Spyglass Restaurant in Pismo Beach on December 14<sup>th</sup>. We had 10 attending that included **Bob & Esther Bartlett**, **Bob & Marcia Stanger**, **Ken & Stella Bake**, **Joan Schaefer**, **John Wessel**, and **Al & Marilyn Rybar**. We missed **Nina Powers** and **Jack Cunningham** who were not able to attend. Our President, **Mike Zoldak & Bridgett** had a family problem in Ohio that they flew to. We hope by our next meeting in February that we will have our entire membership back with us.

**John Wessel** told us that he spent two months in Europe visiting relatives and had a great time. He did say that he had a health problem affecting his stomach and his doctor told him that he is allergic to salads with greens.

**Ken & Stella Bake** took a trip to Italy, all on UAL. However it took them 38 sleepless hours to get there. They had one delay after another. One was by an erupting volcano that caused cancelled and diverted flights. We were very glad to see them back safe and sound.

Treasurer **Marcia Stanger** said that our dues will still be \$5 for next year. She also proposed a Christmas gift to Toys-4-Tots and Wounded Warriors. Our treasury was down some this year and it was approved that we would donate \$50 to each organization.

We need hosts for next year's luncheons and **Esther & Bob Bartlett** said that they would do our February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. **Bob & Marcia Stanger** said that they would do June 20<sup>th</sup> and **Al & Marilyn Rybar** will do August 15<sup>th</sup>. We will be looking for volunteers for April 18, October 17, and December 19 at our next meeting.

We hope all the retirees have a safe a healthy 2018.

### DESERT SUNBIRDS

Palm Springs Area  
Chuck Lamas  
P. O. Box 149  
Palm Desert, CA 92261  
(760) 772-5960  
[chucklamas@gmail.com](mailto:chucklamas@gmail.com)



The Desert Sunbirds held their December Luncheon at a familiar place, the Restaurant at the Monterey Country Club in Palm Desert. Our hostess was **Elaine Aggson** and her "Elves" - **Patti Sica**, **Gay Traber**, **Carole Paquin**, **Kathy Wilson**, **Dee Whately**, **Marji Lamas**, and **Sandy Sereno**. Our 50/50 ticket seller, **Fred Kellerhals**, was in the Christmas spirit, dressed as a "lean" Santa Claus.

We had a record number of sixty six members and guests attending. The **Brunkens** had three guests, Werner's sister, **Renate Haig**, and friends **Paul & Judy Mallory**. **Edna Fanucchi** brought one of her daughters, **Erin Swade**; **Matt Gauss** brought **Marilyn Merrick**; **Carole Paquin's** guest was **Lee Pelletier**; **Tom Wheaton** was the guest of **Doreen Roberts**; **Sandy Sereno** brought her "many times" guest, **Alice Papanastasatos**; and finally, **Flo Sylvestri** brought **Bob Shilts**.

Another big haul for the children at the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission. **Carole Paquin** did another fantastic job in spearheading our drive to make a lot of kids have a better Christmas again this year. Add **Al Beuchel** and **Mark Kaplan** to the list of people who “lent a hand”.

The Birthday Lunch winner was **Tom Sabo**, and the 50/50 drawing (2 prizes of \$50.00 each) was won by **Ken Hawley** and **Brad Zittel**.

Just as the meeting was about to conclude, **Dick Hopkins** had a final gift to add to the 50/50 drawing; a 1958 edition of Life Magazine. The centerfold was a picture of Stewardesses (in uniform) from 55 different Airlines. The magazine was in mint condition. **Caryl Hinsby** was the lucky winner.

**Merv Myers** - our featured Sunbird for February. Merv graduated High School in 1961. He attended Ohio University for a couple of years before deciding to look into the airline business. He was hired by United Air Lines May 7<sup>th</sup>, 1963 in Akron-Canton as a Station Agent.

Four and a half years later, Merv transferred to LAXTR. He was named a “Senior Agent” in 1968. From 1970 to 1973, Merv was a Service Director on the 747’s. He worked the first 747 non-stop HNL-ORD on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 1970.

Merv was promoted to Supervisor in TR in 1973, and remained in that position until 1985. In that year, and until 1987, he was on “Special Assignment” under Vice-President Frank Clark in LAX. He spent time in El Paso, Austin, and San Antonio, spelling the Managers on vacations, sick calls, and any other needs of the Stations.

In 1987, Merv was promoted to Austin Station Manager, and remained in that position until 1990. Back to LAXCS, where he helped establish and manage the LAX Resource Center, for which he received the “Visionary” Award. The Resource Center handled such things as Manpower Budgets, Scheduling, Vacation Bids, Holidays, Profit Planning, Employee Requests, etc., until he retired in February of 2000, a 37 year career.

A final note on Merv’s career - Merv received two “Awards of Merit” during his time with United. The first was in 1965 in Austin. A man had a heart attack at the Airport, and died. Merv took over, helping the wife-calling the Paramedics, the Mortuary, getting a hotel room, and any other details needed.

The second “Award” occurred in 1993 in LAX. Merv stopped a man from beating up his wife in one of the gate areas, protecting her until the police arrived.

Merv says that he enjoyed every day of his 37 years with UAL. His co-workers were like a second family, and the thing he misses most is that “second family”.

Correspondent’s note: There are at least twenty members of the Desert Sunbirds who worked with or for Merv at some point in his career.



#### **GOLD DIGGERS**

Sacramento, CA  
Rose Rheam, Secretary  
717 Rose Creek Ct.  
Roseville, CA 95747  
(916) 773-1876  
[pennsgal49@gmail.com](mailto:pennsgal49@gmail.com)

The Sacramento Gold Diggers held their monthly luncheon on December 6 at the Lake Wildwood Club House in Penn Valley. It was hosted by **Ken & Stephanie Norton**.

President **Ed Rheam** welcomed the 50 Gold Diggers & 6 guests: **Lance & Trudy Engeldinger**, guest of **Ron & Barbara Bertacini**; **Jamie Schwafel**, guest of **Frank Uhl**; **Jenny Vanderzyl**, guest of **Ed & Shirley Vanderzyl** and **Ron & Rhonda Yates**, guest of **Marji Gabert-Milam**. He thanked Ken & Stephanie for hosting the luncheon.

**Lance & Trudy Engeldinger** and **Ron & Rhonda Yates** became members of our chapter. Ed thanked the members for bringing the items for the raffle prizes and gifts for local needy children.

**Terry Greenacre** announced **Marji Gabert-Milam** was nominated for secretary and her nomination was voted on. The officers for 2018 were installed as follows: President - **Frank Dellinger**, Vice President - **Penny Greenacre**, Secretary - **Marji Gabert-Milam**, Treasurer - **Judie King**, Sunshine 0- **Angie Dellinger**, Historian - **Stephanie Norton**, Member Directory - **Jack Raynor**. Ed thanked the outgoing officers for their support during the past year.

**Forrester Sinclair** volunteered to be the second signer for the checking account. Vote was taken and accepted.

Vice President **Penny Greenacre** announced that the host for our January 31 luncheon is **Judie King** and will be at the China Buffet Restaurant. Hosts are needed for the July and August luncheons.

Secretary **Rose Rheam** acknowledged the November Anniversaries: **Martha & Charles Szekretar** (54 years), **Ray & Lynn Reinmiller** (48 years) and **Ed & Rose Rheam** (65 years).

Treasurer **Judie King** gave the financial report for November.

**Angie Dellinger** reported **Charles Szekretar** and **Ann Frank** were experiencing medical problems. **Sydney & Sherrill Morgan** are moving to Florida.

**Francis & Veronica Domaratius** advised there will be a group picture of the Gold Diggers from the convention.

RUAEA Executive VP **Jim Simon** spoke about the 2018 Convention which is being held in Cleveland, Ohio at the Marriott Airport Hotel. He is sure they will have interesting tours for members attending the convention.

Ed thanked everyone for coming & acknowledged the excellent staff of Lake Wildwood.

The meeting was adjourned, followed by the raffle conducted by **Ken Norton**.

## **HANGTOWN MINERS**

Jane Gibson

[tired-dogs@comcast.net](mailto:tired-dogs@comcast.net)



Greetings to all Hangtown Miners! Somehow we have landed in the final month for 2017. It has been a busy year. As usual, we have dined in various restaurants with all of them serving delicious foods. Places like Round Table Pizza in Cameron Park, Casa Ramos, Jack Russell Brewery, BJ's Restaurant, Los Pinos, Poor Red's, Brookfield in Rancho Cordova and a return to a favorite – Red Hawk Casino. There's always the fun time at **Ed & Lindalee Akin's** ranch in June and the "grande finale" - our December luncheon at the American Veteran's Hall. Also, thanks to everyone who brought donations of food and/or toys that will be distributed locally.



We don't have a (formal) meeting (or raffle) this month, however, our President **Bill Gibson** took a moment to welcome everyone. He then thanked **Rosemary Heier** for serving as Vice President in 2017. Introduced our board for 2018: *President - Bill Gibson; Vice President – Joe Lima; Treasurer – Tom Kenny; Secretary – Jane Gibson; Sunshine – Suzanne Kenny; Historian – Thom Biro*. Since all were here today, we got a picture of this group! Bill didn't ask about birthdays or anniversaries in December, however, my info shows that both **J.R. & Rosemary Heier** and **Herb & Kathy Prevost** celebrate their 54<sup>th</sup> anniversaries

this month. Congratulations!

Bill does want to remind you that the pass travel enrollment period is between December 4 and December 28 (until 7pm CT).

During the enrollment period, you can choose your 2018 enrolled friend(s) names or remove them to open an available slot to be able to add someone later in 2018 (a new feature for us). If you do not wish to make any changes for 2018, retirees will have the opportunity to change their enrolled friend(s) twice; mid-year and again during year-end pass travel enrollment. Don't forget to address this if it applies to you.

We have all of our months filled with hosts for 2018. Here's the lineup: January – **Biro/Kenny**; February – **John Muir**; March – **Kozelka/Barton**; April – **Holly Hilton**; May – **Ouchi**; June – **Akin Ranch**; July – **Ames**; August – **Dinette**; September – **Blazius**; October – **Lima**; November – **Kenney/Heier**; December – Joint effort!

Hoping all of you will enjoy a warm, loving, family Holiday and a safe, but fun, New Year Celebration.





## **REDWOOD EMPIRE**

### **RETIREEES**

Santa Rosa, California

Mary Wilson, Secretary

3623 Aaron Dr.

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

[marywilson333@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marywilson333@sbcglobal.net)

After taking a two months break from our meetings due to the disruptive fires that hit Sonoma County and surrounding areas, we came back together to celebrate our end-of-year holiday luncheon on December 14 at the LaGare Restaurant in Santa Rosa!

The luncheon was hosted by the RER Officers: **Jerry & Barbara Underhill** (Vice Presidents), **Valerie Hulsey** (Treasurer) and **Larry & Mary Wilson** (President and Secretary). **Barbara Underhill** and **Valerie Hulsey** decorated the tables with bottles of fine wines with Santa Claus sleeve coverings, and Ghirardelli chocolate candies sprinkled on the tables. Everyone arrived in their festive holiday attire; we had a great time greeting each other and catching up after our long hiatus marked by mandatory evacuations and staying in various places out of their homes with family or temporary locations. We all brought a toy or two for the annual Christmas Toy Drive.

VP **Jerry Underhill** announced that we had 36 attendees, including 6 guests, which included **Ed & Maggie Nelson**, and **Lee Trevelyan**, guests of **Barney & Claire Hagen**; **Jeanine Lane**, guests of **Dick & Carol Hanna**; also **Jill & Mark Schratz**, daughter and son-in-law of our former treasurer **Oscar Chambers** (whom we lost in December 2016), guests of **Valerie Hulsey**, our present treasurer.

We dined on a choice of grilled Salmon, Pork Schnitzel, or a Beef tenderloin; the cream of Leek and potato soup was wonderful as well as the butter lettuce salad with a creamy salad dressing. The chef blessed us with a great Tiramisu dessert!

**Barbara Underhill** announced that with our agreement at the last luncheon to meet every other month for our 2018 luncheons, many are wanting to meet at the LaGare Restaurant each time, since we all enjoy the ambiance and service there and the owners are agreeable to that plan! A show of hands of agreement was taken; Barbara asked for someone to volunteer to host the first luncheon of 2018 in February; **Barney Hagen** and **Sam Orchard** agreed to team host that luncheon on February 8.

Sunshine Lady **Verda Burr** was back with us after several visits to her family in Georgia and Oregon! She announced there were five birthdays celebrated for December: **Mary Hill**, **Lee Berry**, **Dorothy Ochoa**, **Kathy Staples** and **Mary Wilson**. **Mary Hill** was the winner of the free birthday lunch. The special Wedding Anniversary was **Dick & Carol Hanna**, celebrating 57 yrs. Congratulations was sung for all the celebrants. **Valerie Hulsey** brought a few jokes to share in place of Verda! She and **Jan Blackburn** also brought us news of **Al Bentham** recently suffering a stroke. A card will be sent to him soon; a card was previously sent to **Joanne Huhn**, who is home recovering from having a 2<sup>nd</sup> total knee surgery; we hope to see Joanne and maybe Al at the February luncheon.

Treasurer **Valerie Hulsey** announced the status on our RER bank accounts; we ended 2017 with a positive balance of \$979.81 in our General fund and over \$87.35 in the Charity fund. A total of \$500 of Charity fund \$\$ was split between the 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest Food Bank and the Meals on Wheels program for the annual Christmas holiday donations. The toy donations went to the fire victims in the Rincon Valley section of Santa Rosa, along with some very generous donations of school supplies and some household items donated by Bay area contributors, to the same 120 families affected by the October 2017 fires!

**Larry Wilson** encouraged people to share their stories of the fire evacuation of their homes in October; **George Schwind**, **Sam & Maggie Orchard**, and **Barney & Claire Hagen** shared what it was like!

The traditional Raffle was held for the bottles of wine and See's candies. Prizes were awarded even to members of the LaGare restaurant staff! They were thrilled to be among the winners! **Claire Hagen** stepped up to thank everyone for coming, and wishing everyone a Happy Holidays with their families!

See you RER members on February 8<sup>th</sup> at the LaGare restaurant!

## **RESANS**

San Diego, CA  
Barbara Drews  
5642 Amaya Drive #99  
La Mesa, CA. 91942  
[sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com](mailto:sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com)



The year 2017 went out with sadness. **Ralph Hernandez** passed away on December 11<sup>th</sup>. He was with us for many years working on the Ramp and he and **Mary** were frequent attendees at our monthly retiree breakfast.

Also on December 11<sup>th</sup>, **Al Soderberg** went into the hospital for a knee replacement. It was his second in the same knee. That means he really gets around a lot! I don't know of anyone who has had two replacements on the same knee! I just talked to Al and he is on his way home from the Acute Care Center where he has been since before Christmas.

There were forty six at our Christmas Lunch on the 14<sup>th</sup> at Hunter's Steakhouse in Mission Valley. We welcomed **Eddie Taylor** to our family and look forward to seeing him at future breakfasts. Eddie came to San Diego from Pittsburgh and worked on the ramp until he retired a few years ago.

Now we are well on our way into the New Year, 2018, and as we move along, may it be uneventful and filled with peace and good health.

At our breakfast this week we welcomed a new retiree, **Sharon Olson**. After working in Customer Service for several years, she went into inflight and flew for sixteen years and has since retired. We look forward to having her with us again.

We are sorry to hear **Debbie Taylor** is in the hospital with blood pressure issues and we are hoping she comes home soon and is having a smooth recovery.

**Carmen DiGregorio** did not make our breakfast as he is not feeling well and hoping it is not the flu.

**Peggy Van Sickle** reports that she is in touch with **Helen Grissom** and she told Peggy that Bob is in the hospital with kidney failure. They have been living in Minnesota for the past few years.

Come and see us if you get tired of the snow or if you can even get out of the snow. Join us for some sunshine!

## **Calendar:**

**February 1** – 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](mailto:gingersfo@aol.com)

\* \* \* \* 2 0 1 8 \* \* \* \*

**Help a Neighbor**

**Attend your local UAL retirees' meetings**

**Pay it forward**

**Pucker up – Kiss a Pal!**

**Yearn for Peace**

**No arguing – Smile instead**

**Eat Less**

**Win the Lottery! (spell my name right!)**

**You Matter!**

**Enjoy a good laugh**

**Ask for help**

**Renew Friendships**

That's our wish to all of you – with good health and happiness galore! (Drs.' orders - Hydrate – don't Fall)

Come join us if you are in town, all United and Continental retirees are welcome. We meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at 11:00am at the William Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd., (Shell Blvd. and East Hillsdale Blvd.) 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.

Dues are due: \$15.00 per member

Dazzle the Board – become a member of the Board (we need help....help)

#### Calendar:

**February 26** – Chinese Cuisine Catered Feast (more info at January meeting), (\$10 member, \$15 guest – Call **Dorothy Reuszer** at (650) 341-5765 if you can't make the January meeting to let her know if you are coming.)

**March 26** – Annual St. Paddys' Corned Beef and Cabbage (Board will supply), Pot Luck (members bring side dishes)

#### SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

San Jose, CA

[www.southbayruaea.org](http://www.southbayruaea.org)

Robin Garland

1917 Farndon Ave.

Los Altos, CA 94024

(650) 969-9530

[robin\\_garland@yahoo.com](mailto:robin_garland@yahoo.com)



There were 94 people attending this year's Christmas luncheon held on December 12. This festive event was held at Mariani's with the restaurant serving up a delightful buffet. We enjoyed new entertainment by **Jeff & Juli Strametz** (greatest hits of 60s & 70s) with many compliments received. Others joined us from nearby chapters and many members invited family and friends to join us for this memorable time together. President **Boyd Sweet** announced 2018 chapter officers with **Bob Devlin** as President, **Marianne Johnson** as VP, and others continuing on in their respective roles. Boyd & Merle gave thoughtful gifts of appreciation to those who served in 2017. Guest **Doug Jones** did another marvelous job as our Master of Ceremonies raffling off baked goods and announcing the winners of over 70 raffle prizes donated by various members of our chapter. Many unwrapped gifts were brought for the Toys for Tots toy drive and we are pleased with everyone's generosity (133 toys donated) and grateful that we can help bring a smile to a child at this time of year. Thank you to **Jean Jenkins** and **Wilma Sandy** for contributing the dessert and **Cheri Scales** and her team for organizing and working on this successful event.



Our new president, **Bob Devlin**, is also a member of local American Legion Post #642 which has sponsored, along with others, the National Wreaths Across America Day. It was a privilege to join him and others from our RUAEA chapters for the ceremony held on December 16 at a nearby cemetery. I discovered that this movement to honor our fallen soldiers began in 1992 in Maine. A boyhood visit to Arlington National Cemetery left a big impression on **Morrill Worcester**—one he will never forget. Decades later, his company's surplus of 5,000 wreaths and his desire to have them placed at Arlington kicked off an annual tribute that went on quietly for over ten years.

National interest in the project grew and there are now over 1,200 locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea, and abroad that hold similar ceremonies. Remembrance wreaths are placed on the graves of our country's fallen heroes and every volunteer who places a wreath on a veteran's grave is encouraged to say that veteran's name aloud and take a moment to thank them for their service to our country. It is considered a small act that goes a long way toward keeping the memory of veterans alive. If your RUAEA chapter is interested in finding out more about this organization and would possibly like to get involved, there are a variety of ways to do so. Check out their website at [wreathsassamerica.org](http://wreathsassamerica.org).

In December, we gave a gift of appreciation to 2017 President **Boyd Sweet** that included a gift card for Holder's and a lemon cake (made by **Cheri Scales**). Thank you Boyd for your hard work last year! We're wishing you good health for this year. While we were passing out gifts at our weekly breakfast, we gave our faithful and ever helpful wait staff generous monetary gifts and special cakes as well.



Guests joining us for recent breakfast meetings include **Kathy Boyd**, **Ken Demblewski, Jr.** who has worked at United for 22 yrs at SFO's Super Bay and sister **Mary Demblewski, Lloyd & Claire Eber** (returning after significant health issues), **Charlie Owen** (**Vi Mattscheck's** (dec.) grandson), **Harry Willever** (now in good health), and **Marion Gaever**. It's been a very long time since **Mary Ann Lock** has been with us for one of our meetings or luncheons. If you would like to send her a note or a card, her address is: 600 E. Weddell Dr. #105, Sunnyvale, CA 94089. We discovered **Billie Cramb** (wife of **Sam Cramb** (dec.)) has moved to Canada to be closer to family. She is happily getting settled there and if you'd like to be in touch with her, her cell phone number will be good for a year.

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.

### **EAST BAY DIABLOS**

Contra Costa County

Jan Soderstrom

30 San Piedras Place

San Ramon, CA 94583

(925) 833-9184

[Janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:Janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com)



We met on December 11<sup>th</sup> at Zio Fraedo's in Pleasant Hill with 38 members in attendance. Our holiday party is our most special and favorite meeting of the year. Zio Fraedo's is known for their prime rib, and the other meal choices, salmon and chicken cordon blue, were also excellent. **Jan Soderstrom** and **Wilma Leather** acted as cashiers and Wilma gave everyone a candy cane with antlers when they checked in and paid. Social hour was from 11:00 to noon and then we had lunch, followed by a raffle. Everyone contributed a gift to the raffle so everyone was also a winner! We had lovely gifts of wine, candy, candles, handmade soap, and even a Panini maker. We had one lucky winner in the 50/50 raffle.

Members also brought in Toys for Tots and we took a van full of toys to the local fire station. Special thanks to **Cheryl Kincaid** who was more than generous with her donation of toys to Toys for Tots and her donation of toiletries for the domestic violence organization we support. **Barbara Underhill** also brought in a nice donation for the domestic violence charity.

Going forward in 2018, **Jan Soderstrom** is taking over the job of secretary from **Diane Griego**.

We have also changed our meeting day to the first Monday of the month and will meet all 12 months of the year. In January 2018, we will meet the next day on Tuesday because the meeting date falls on the New Year's holiday.

**2<sup>nd</sup> report by Diane Griego:** Our January meeting was held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and we had a very small group. Guess everybody partied on the first! High hopes were held that Diane might finally win the 50/50 \$\$\$\$\$, however, no luck. Sigh!

Good door prizes, however.

Thanks to **Tom Cunningham** for pitching in for cashier duties even with a broken wrist.

Jan and Wilma had other commitments.

**Russ Kennedy** will be having surgery soon and will not be attending until April. Best wishes and prayers go to him.

Every month, we have an ongoing book exchange. The leftover books are donated to Contra Costa County Library book sales. We collect both new and used Christmas cards which **Barbara Cunningham** donates to a local charity. We also collect shampoo and other toiletries you collect on trips; **Diane Griego** donates these items to a wonderful domestic violence organization founded by one of our special UA ramp employees.

### **Calendar:**

**February 5** - Monday, 11:00. Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mt. Diablo Street in Concord.

**March 5** – El Tapatio

**April 2** – Fuddruckers

**May 7** – To be announced

**June 4** - Annual Picnic



## **CALIFORNIA** **NORTHSTATERS**

Chico, California  
Sharon Simonton, Secretary  
P.O. Box 2257  
Paradise, CA 95967  
(530) 872-7992  
[sbsimonton@comcast.net](mailto:sbsimonton@comcast.net)

Ah! The smell of the New Year, 2018, is in the air! We hope everyone had a great holiday and we are so sorry for our fellow retirees on the East Coast with the winter weather. Northstaters had a great Christmas Party/Luncheon. Our November meeting was delayed until December so that we could have a special time with our fellow retirees during this holiday time. It was held at the Italian Cottage in Chico. Nineteen retirees and spouses were in attendance. Lovely decorations were provided by **John & Chris Isbell**, the cake and ice cream was provided by **Kent & Billie Jorgensen**, and the wonderful gift exchange story was provided by **Klarin Odor**. Thank you to everyone for a joyous time.

Some of our retirees are having medical issues and our thoughts are sure with them at this time. We did not have an official meeting but there was a lot of laughter as presents were handed around during Klarin's story. Our favorite retiree, **Charlotte Puryear**, was also in attendance. She had just celebrated her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday. She was such a charming participant in the festivities.

Our next meeting will be held January 24<sup>th</sup> at the Mill Creek Café in Los Molinos. The time will be 11:30 AM.

We hope everyone stays healthy and come join us if you are in the area!

### Calendar:

**January 24** - 11:30 AM, Mill Creek Cafe in Los Molinos.

## **COLORADO**



### **DENVER** **MILE HIGHERS**

Rich & Cleora Conner  
(970) 232-8050  
[richcleora@gmail.com](mailto:richcleora@gmail.com)

Vice President **Gary Trujillo** opened the meeting and reported that **Bob Duensing** is retiring from the correspondent's position and the **Connors** will be taking over the position. Remember to bring aluminum for recycle to provide income to the chapter.

The January breakfast was attended by 36 members. The 50/50 winners who returned their winnings were **Charlie Hassler** (DENMM), **Rich Conner** (DENMM), **Don Rogers** (DENTK), **Yumi Trujillo**, **Wayne Miller** (DENMM), and **Cas Spokas** (DENMM).

The Flight Center Cafeteria (DENTK) has re-opened. **Gary Trujillo** is going to check it out. We must give notification of how many members will attend the breakfast in order for them to have sufficient food. Gary will also check on the parking. We will vote at the next breakfast meeting if we want to return to the DENTK for our breakfast meetings.

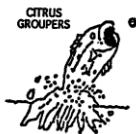
**Al Stutz** passed away December 19, 2017 and his services were held on January 6, 2018.

Our next RUAEA Breakfast Meeting will be held on Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9am at Ted's Place Restaurant in Commerce City. Address: 5271 E. 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Commerce City. Phone: (303) 287-7544. Directions: Go North on Dahlia St. off I-70 to 52<sup>nd</sup> and turn back East to the address. Going West on I-70 exit on Holly St. and take the frontage road to get to Dahlia.

## FLORIDA

### THE CITRUS GROUPERS THE VILLAGES

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



The first Citrus Grouper meeting of the New Year was held at the VKI Japanese Steakhouse in Lake Sumter in The Villages, FL on Thursday, January 25th, 2018. President **Tita Dumagsa** welcomed and wished everyone a very Happy New Year. Member **Elaine Lies** gave a very moving and inspirational New Year's Prayer and Wishes.

Guest speaker Alyson Bowen from the American Heart and American Stroke Association spoke on the symptoms and prevention of cardiovascular diseases such as heart attacks and strokes. CPR was also discussed. It was a very interesting and informative presentation.

**Tita Dumagsa** reported on the very successful Citrus Grouper Christmas Food Drive that was donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. She read the letter of acknowledgment and appreciation from Muriel Gargano the Gratitude Coordinator of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conference of Lady Lake, FL. A Financial Report on all donations and grocery purchases for the Food Drive was also e-mailed to members on December 13.

For the Citrus Grouper "Getting To Know You" Interview Program, the featured Member of the Month was **Elaine Lies**, CHIRR, HDQFF. A reading of her bio as written by member **Richard "Dick" Bligh**, SFOKM, EXOKU, was ably done by its author, **Dick Bligh**, himself. **Elaine Lies'** bio was also published in the Citrus Grouper column in the January 2018 issue of the RUAEA Newsletter.

At age 88 in March, Elaine is such an inspiration and role model with all the good works she does in her community, her Church and with the Citrus Grouper that someone half her age would feel daunting. She is always so helpful and supportive and a "go to" person in the many groups she is a member of, especially, the Citrus Grouper. As a volunteer of the "Angels on Call" in her Del Webb Community, she always gets a call every day from a neighbor who may need a ride to the grocery, shopping, doctor's and hospital visits, etc. She drives to all the meetings wherever they may be. Her late Mom always said Elaine was born with a "helping spoon" in her mouth! The Citrus Grouper is indeed so blessed to have Elaine as a member.

The February Member of the Month under this same Program will be member **Terri Davis**, DENCS, DENTQ, SFOCS, SFORR, CLERR. **Terri Davis** has begged off from having her bio published in the RUAEA Newsletter so only the reading of her bio will be done at the February Meeting.

Instead, **Charles "Charlie" Cochran**'s bio, EXODD, will be published in the February, 2018 issue of the RUAEA Newsletter. His interview and bio were done by **Dick Bligh**. The reading of his bio will be done at the March Meeting.

Bio of **Charles "Charlie" Cochran**, EXODD ~ Charlie was born and raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He attended Salem College in Salem, West Virginia for two years. After leaving college, Charlie worked for a while in Denver and returned to the Pittsburgh area to work at a VA research facility. The job was with the animals used for the research and after a few years he found that he still missed Denver. By this time Charlie had met and married Eileen and was looking to settle in.

Encouraged by his father, Charlie & Eileen moved to Denver and while seeking employment he interviewed with United and was hired in May, 1961. His position was as Flight Movement Estimator at DENDD. After some time, United moved much of that operation to Chicago, first at the airport and later to the Executive Office complex (EXO). Charlie and Eileen transferred to the Chicago area and lived there until retirement. Once licensed, Charlie worked as a dispatcher for most of his career as he "loved the job." During his working years, he also was a volunteer fireman in three different suburban communities in the area, and for a while, was a Paramedic as well. He retired from United Airlines in May of 2001 after 40 years of service.

Once retired after less than two years they moved to the Villages in Florida since they had been scouting the area as early as 1999. Their big passion and most time-consuming interest is in traveling in general and historical teaching concerning the Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804-1806. They own an Itasca Motor home (6.5 MPG) and travel up to 4 months a year. This has enabled them to volunteer at Ft. Mandan, ND and Fort Clatsop near Astoria, OR; teaching about the Lewis and Clark trek and about Native Americans of that era.



Both Charlie & Eileen have enjoyed an active and fulfilling retirement and are active members of the Citrus Groupers.

The Nominating Committee gave an update on their efforts to put together a slate of candidates for the scheduled elections at the next meeting on February 22. The meeting will be at the Chefs of Napoli Restaurant, 9811 N. US 301, Wildwood, FL, (352) 399-6825. Newcomers welcomed!

The guest speaker for this meeting will be Ms. Betty Cunningham, from the Medicare SHINE Program. SHINE means "Serving Health Insurance Needs Of Elders". Presentation Topics: Discussions will include Drug Coverage, Medicaid, Medicare Advantage, Medigap Plans and Understanding Medicare.



### **SAND'DABS**

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

Beautiful blue skies were overhead, but the cold temperatures (for Daytona) kept our group at only 9 today. **Penny Logan** couldn't make it as she just had eye surgery yesterday. **Lillian & Steve Moddle** were unable to leave North Carolina due to the road conditions and other members were still on vacation. **Bud Gammill** was able to come but we missed his wife **Karen** who has been in the hospital for 9 days. We wish all the folks speedy recoveries or speedy safe returns to our area. We also heard from **Juanita Karten Ritt & Ken Carpenter** who say they are settled in Mountain Home, Arkansas. They love their new home but plan to return to our area in February for a visit and will attend our meeting.

Our only celebration today was for **Dick Coughlin** who started with United 51 years ago this month! I'll bet it seems like yesterday. Inspired by his anniversary celebration, Dick was in rare form with his humor today. He had us all rolling in the aisles!

**Dick Coughlin** also gave a great UAL report. Lots going on! 2017 was a good year for aviation safety and for United. We added more 737's as well as 777's. There were new uniforms, new routes and United was named as one of the best places to work.

**Ed Martin** related how he recently flew on the 787-9 and noticed how much better the air quality was with its new circulation system. It creates an altitude a couple thousand feet lower than on other planes. He said he felt much more rested after that flight. That's something to look forward to as technology improves!

### **Calendar:**

**February 1** - 11:30 - Red Lobster, 3162 S. Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach, FL

**March 1** - Same as above

### **THE SAND DOLLARS**

Bradenton, FL  
Judy Macklin,  
840 Bird Bay Dr. W., #202  
Venice, FL 34285  
(941) 214-0252  
[bjmacklin@comcast.net](mailto:bjmacklin@comcast.net)



This is a very brief report due to the fact that your reporter was making use of her UA passes over the holidays – and is happy to say that, yes, it is still possible to travel standby during holiday times. You just need to pick the right days/times to make the attempt!

The Sand Dollars had a fabulous Christmas Luncheon at the beautiful University Park Country Club in Sarasota. Once again **Ginger Hyde** found the perfect location for us, and the special Christmas menu was exceptionally good. We welcomed **Susan Skovronek**, a friend of **Alice D'Souza**. **Becky & Bruce Toter** joined us once again. Bruce is a Flight Officer out of Newark. **Lisa & Bob Young** were traveling so they were unable to attend. **Vince & Norma Malena** were traveling to Ohio. **Alice Parker**, along with **Sandy & Doug Horuczi**, were sick. We missed **George & Jeannie Soudal**, along with **Gretchen & Dick Bulin** plus others

who unfortunately were unable to attend this luncheon. It was nice to have **Ted & Liz Mavis** joining us and we hope to see more of them this season.

The news from **Betty Woods-White** is improving, her husband did not need to have any additional eye surgery, so they were able to take their planned Caribbean cruise over the holiday. We wish him continued improving health in the New Year.

As is our tradition, we had a White Elephant exchange which was great fun, and we all went home with interesting gifts.

**Vince Malena's** name was pulled for the attendance, but as he was not present another \$5.00 will be added to the pot. The **Ruckers** won the 1<sup>st</sup> prize for the 50/50, the **Toters** won 2<sup>nd</sup> place and the **Grossmans** won 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

Anniversary congratulations for January go to **Joanne & Russ Wasser** (28 years), **Bill & Inge Phillips** (24 years), and **Bruce & Becky Toter** who celebrated their 14<sup>th</sup> on the 25<sup>th</sup>. January birthday wishes were sent to **Suzan Goodson**. Birthday wishes for February go to **Cindy Irwin** (on the 5<sup>th</sup>), **Michael Hyde** (8<sup>th</sup>), **Bill Phillips** (19<sup>th</sup>), **Becky Toter** (20<sup>th</sup>), **Alice Parker** (23<sup>rd</sup>) and **Bob Frye** (27<sup>th</sup>).

We always welcome visiting retirees or any who are thinking of moving to our area. For information call **Ginger Hyde** at (941) 360-6671, or email her at [drjekyl.hyde@aol.com](mailto:drjekyl.hyde@aol.com).

*... The trouble with the rat race is that even if you win, you're still a rat.*

### **TREASURE COAST**

Stuart, FL

Mary Kay Wetherington

8849 Egret Isle Point

Lake Worth, FL 33467

(561) 345-6373

[mwether7044@att.net](mailto:mwether7044@att.net)



A beautiful holiday celebration took place at The Twisted Tuna in Port Salerno on December 11<sup>th</sup> with 23 members and one guest in attendance. **Bob Langevin** brought a friend, Sandy, with him. We were treated to an awesome buffet which included appetizers, entrées, dessert and coffee with Happy Hour prices for adult beverages. Members brought unisex gifts for the always hilarious gift exchange and Toys For Tots. Every year our members are more than generous with their contributions. The association sends their heartfelt Thank You to all of you!

It was a cool enough day that we Floridians could don some "winter attire". The raffle gifts were plentiful this year with many recipients: **Barbara Dodenhoff**, **Diane Brodis**, **Vicky Snyder**, **Jane Kerr**, **Truman Barker**, **Bob Langevin**, **Diane Liebisch**, and **Carolyn**. The 50/50 was won by **Bob Langevin's** friend, Sandy. The progressive will roll-over once again since **Jim Moorehead** was not in attendance to accept his winnings.

Our newest member, **Betsy Damon** celebrated her birthday on December 24<sup>th</sup>. Best Wishes go out to her and a big welcome to our chapter.

**Al & Janice Popek** planned a lovely Christmas dinner this year for 18 family members and guests. Everyone was excited for the celebration. Much to everyone's dismay, the power went out and they were unable to finish cooking. Fortunately, one of the guests could refrigerate the food at their house. So, for Christmas they enjoyed appetizers and snacks. Christmas continued the next day with no issues. That's one way to have the holiday last longer! These are memories they won't soon forget.

Our January meeting was held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> with 15 members in attendance. It was an extremely cold day by Florida standards. Some of our members experienced near freezing temps. Turning on the heat down here doesn't happen often.

**Millie Rossi** is visiting her son and his family in Korea for a month. Many other members were fortunate to be with their families as well.

A discussion was held about Social Security and Medicare. There seems to be a lot of confusion this year about how the deposits are figured. Just when we thought we had it figured out!

Yearly dues are due and the new roster is being compiled. If you have not yet paid yours but want to be included, you need to get a check off to Treasurer **Diane Liebisch**. Make your check out to her and get it into the mail as soon as possible. If you are no longer able to be a member, please let someone know.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming picnic. It will be held on March 6<sup>th</sup> at Dubois Park in Jupiter. More details will follow and a sign-up sheet will be available at the February meeting. This is a fun event that we look forward to every year.

The 50/50 was won by **Bob Langevin**. **Carolyn Lindgren** won the raffle prize and hubby, **David Lindgren** won the Progressive.

In January we have one celebration: **Al & Janice Popek** will celebrate their anniversary on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Our deepest sympathies go out to **Jane Kerr** whose brother passed away on New Year's Eve.

Calendar:

**February 6** - Luncheon/Meeting at Duffy's South Stuart 12:30 P.M.

**March 6** - Picnic at Dubois Park, Jupiter, 12 noon

**April 3** - Luncheon/Meeting at Duffy's South Stuart 12:30 P.M.

**HAWAII**

**HONOLULU MENEHUNES**

Patricia Thomson, Treasurer

P.O. Box 1709

Honolulu, HI 96806-1709

(808) 946-7847

[HNLRUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNLRUA@gmail.com)



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

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



**PAU HANA KUPUNA**

(Hawaii, The Big Island)

Ann Eaton Medve

P. O. Box 126

Kapa'au, HI 96755-0126

(808) 889-1636

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

**IDAHO**

**BOISE GEMS**

Carol Adams

2630 W. Inglewood Rd

Boise, Idaho 83705

(208) 344-6897

[dadams208@aol.com](mailto:dadams208@aol.com)



Our Christmas meeting was once again held at Jakers in nearby Meridian. Food was brought to be given to our Idaho Food Bank. Following is shared information from those attending:

**Rick & Shirley Dempsey** were at home for Thanksgiving, and plan also for Christmas to be here. In their words, *"Then off to Hawaii (cruise 18 days). Back in February and then back to California until the grandkids have enough of us."*

**Denny Snyder:** Still flying (However, recently the weather has not been good for flying).

**Bob & Palmer Sarnoff** went on the Orient Express for Palmer's birthday, Venice to Paris. *"Unfortunately, no murders so Hercule Poirot did not attend."*

**Bud & Pat Peters** shared a fabulous Thanksgiving dinner with the **Dempseys**.



**Joe & Joan Varady** spent Thanksgiving in Riggins, Idaho, on the Salmon River near the Frank Church Wilderness, extremely beautiful!

**Holbrook & Evelyn Maslen** had recently returned from Italy and are planning to visit Australia in January. He has been working on a few airplanes and old cars. *“Ready for the ski season to begin, got 60 days last year.”*

**David & Pam Crosby**, newcomers to our group, retired this year (2017) with UAL after 33 years in Denver, Colorado. *“Loving Boise, less the horrid winter last year. Never want to see that again!”* Dave is staying busy riding his road bike, 100-120 miles a week. He has joined a local bike club. They are sending you all wishes for a Happy New Year.

We, **David & Carol Adams**, enjoyed a wonderful cruise on the Eurodam in the fall (why not extend our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration as long as possible?). We went through the Panama Canal and enjoyed a week at Disney World (never too old for that!).

#### Calendar:

**February 7** - 1:00--2:30, Casa del Matador at the Village in Meridian

### ILLINOIS

#### CHICAGO SKYLINERS

[www.chicagoskyliners.org](http://www.chicagoskyliners.org)

[Chicagomainliner.com](http://Chicagomainliner.com)

Jan Gawenda

920 Ridge Sq. #208

Elk Grove, IL 60007-4196

(847) 437-7073

[jawenda@gmail.com](mailto:jawenda@gmail.com)



February—Love, Love, Love, All you Need is Love, Love me Tender, She Loves You, I'll be Loving you Always, How Deep is Your Love, Love is like a Bottle of Gin, or What's Love got to do With it? You can take your pick of a song depending on what your relationship is right now with someone. This is the month of flowers, candy, and hearts, broken or otherwise. We hope for a love comparable to 'Casablanca', 'Gone With the Wind', or 'The Notebook', but sometimes end up with a tragic story ending like, 'Wuthering Heights'. Wherever you fall, enjoy the day. Hope you have wine, woman and song, or a jug of wine, a loaf of bread, and thou. Please tell me we're not too old to hope for love, whether it's with a female, male or a furry friend, who will love us with unconditional love.

Over in PyeongChang, South Korea, we will have the XXXIII 2018 Winter Olympics, from February 9<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup>. I love the Winter Sports; figure skating, any kind of skiing, and speed skating. The opening and closing ceremonies are always fascinating to watch. All of those people with stunning costumes and dancing. Hoping our young men and women do very well and 'bring home the gold'. United is the official airline of the US Olympic Committee, and Team USA. We have employees participating in the free skiing, snowboarding, the luge, speed skating, figure skating Olympics, and a sled hockey player in the Paralympics. Go USA!

In the Chicago area, McDonald's is in the news. The Museum in Des Plaines, a replica of Ray Kroc's first restaurant, was torn down in December. It was closed in 2008 because of chronic flooding. No visitors were allowed in, but they could peek through the windows at the original grills, fryers, milkshake mixers and other memorabilia on display. The company removed items and will preserve anything of historical value. The original restaurant in Des Plaines was the ninth McDonald's in the country. Now they have 36,000 restaurants around the world. Our other McDonald's making news is the one downtown between Ontario, Ohio, LaSalle and Clark, called the Rock and Roll McD's. It won't reopen until this spring, and will have a completely new theme, which they are keeping secret. They will have self-order kiosks, table service and solar panels on the roof. All the original mementos belonged to the owner, Nick Karavites, and will be stored. I'm sure the Beatle statues will be safely tucked away somewhere. We went to this location in 1964, after the Beatles concert. Their program said, 'There are 10 locations in Chicago'. Ha! Now there are 10 within a three-mile radius. I just hope the new look isn't the same as most have been modernized. They look like prisons with that awful putty color and are square boxes. With progress comes ugly. Ugh!

The Northside breakfast had 10 people attending. Perhaps they were foraging for the winter, with snow and freezing temps in the forecast. It sounds like this is going to be a cold winter. Well, the atmosphere at the breakfast is always warm and cozy. **Rich Maionchi**, EXOKF, has two cruises on the horizon, one to the

Caribbean in January, and one to the Mexican Riviera in February. **Jerry Tipperreiter**, ORDKF, and Pam, drove to Florida visiting an old friend from his youth. They picked up fresh pecans in Georgia on their way back. They were delicious! In December, they drove to Shipshewana, IN, to hear the Texas Tenors. He's going to need a new car with all that traveling. But they are having great road trips. Also in December, they had a family brunch with children, aunts and uncles. Jerry, his sister, **Joan Teister**, ORDHN, and her husband, Joe, went to a Mannheim Steamroller's concert. Here's a perfect example of retirees getting out and having fun.

Our Southside Revelers on 'almost' New Year's Eve, numbered only seven people. Must have been the cold weather and being pooped from unwrapping Christmas presents. Our raffle winners were **Bob Pearson**, **Scotty Ward** (twice) and **Bill Brookins**. Gifts were won at least twice by everybody attending, **Gwen & Bill Brookins**, **Scotty Ward**, **Agnes & Bob Pearson**, **Tom Hurley**, and **Jan Gawenda**. Sometimes it's good that not too many show up.

We've always heard the two sure things in life are death and taxes. No exceptions this year, but with a little change. The IRS will begin accepting tax returns on January 29<sup>th</sup>. The deadline will be April 17. Tax professionals will accept returns before then, but will not send them in until after the 29<sup>th</sup>. The IRS set this date to ensure the security and readiness of the processing systems and to assess the potential impact of tax legislation on 2017 tax returns. They remind us to keep our prior tax returns for at least three years. When I took a tax course many years ago, H&R Block told us to save them for seven years, or until death. They must've changed their rules...

Our friends that Flew West last month include, **Dave Wilcoxon**, ORDOO/EUGOZ, **Richard Gerk**, ORDCS/OO/OPBOP, **Walt Little**, ORDMM (in 2012), **Ron Reisenleiter**, CHIRR, **Frank Olivera**, husband of the late **Rita**, CHIRR, **Randy Shotwell**, ORDCS/PSPCS, **Ron Koltartz**, ORDMM, **Al Stutz**, ORDMM/DENMM, **Rosemary Forfar**, ORDHN, **Carol Ryan**, ORDSW, Capt. **Thor Solberg**, ORDFO, **Maria Rybarczyk**, mother of **Andrew**, ORDCG. Also, **Pat O'Shaugnessy**, a very kind man who worked in CLE, SEA, ORDCG and OPBOP. Also gone from our world are, Dick Engberg, Keely Smith, *Sound of Music's* Heather Menzies-Urich, writers, Sue Grafton and Clifford Irving, astronauts John Young and Bruce McCandless, and Illinois' own, Jerry Van Dyke.

Fourth Quarter Postage Fund Donors: **Jackie Anderson**, **Joan Anderson**, **Marlene Anderson**, **Muriel Bergsma**, **Jay Boberek**, **Barb Bresnahan**, **Bill Brookins**, **Dee Cappitelli**, **Karen Carney**, **Irene Carroll**, **Helen Cauwels**, **Walt Chornomaz**, **Bill Corbett**, **Rich DelBoccio**, **Walt Fink**, **Bill Hamilton**, **Ted Jung**, **Lynn Kalweit**, **Lorraine Karpen**, **Ed Keifer**, **Virginia Kondraros**, **Phyllis Kordecki**, **John Kozlik**, **Jim Kulik**, **LaVerne Lundquist**, **Lillian Mallstrom**, **Terri Martin**, **Al McGarrity**, **Ed Meyer**, **Nancy Meyer**, **Virginia Monaco**, **Pat Muha**, **Larry Parker**, **Gary Peck**, **Ann Pepper**, **Ray Potsic**, **Modesta Sailer**, **Marsha Sealock-Weber**, **Nalini Shah**, **Stephanie Simpson**, **Jim Sommerfield**, **Richard Southon**, **Corrine Strobel**, **Mary Szczech**, **Kay Towns**, **Jim Vlazny**, **Don Wagner**, **Sophie Wajda**, **Sue Zuccarello**.

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#### Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Elly's Restaurant, 8:30 A.M., 372 E. Golf Rd., Arlington Heights, IL (**February 14**). Second Wednesday of the month.

Southside Breakfast - Jedi's Restaurant, 9:30 A.M., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn. (**February 27**). Last Tuesday of the month.

IAM Lodge 1487 Luncheon, Lodge Office, 11:00, 50 W. Oakton St., DesPlaines, (**February 1**) Chinese Lunch, \$5. Yearly dues of \$10 must be paid. First Thursday of the month

**Spring Luncheon** - Cotillion Restaurant, 360 Creekside Dr. Palatine. Tuesday, (**March 20**) 11:00 Cocktails, 12:00 Lunch

## MASSACHUSETTS

### NOR'EASTERS

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



#### Submitted by Irene Kimball

The Nor'Easter Christmas party was held on December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Danversport Yacht Club with 34 in attendance. Food & service were good, as always. It was great seeing **Norm Hudon, Abe & Jean Lincoln**, as well as **Don Latter** who was joined by his wife, **Kathy**.

The 50/50 drawings were won by **Jackie Aurigemma, Sue DePippo** and **Carole Montalto**. An extra large bottle of wine went to **Sarah Pitt-Wooll**.

In other news, annual membership renewals have been sent. The **Montalos** are contemplating wintering in Kissimmee, FL. **Joan Simard** was recently blessed with a 6<sup>th</sup> grandchild, a girl! **Dick Vee**, who suffered a stroke recently, is still in rehab and doing well. Would imagine he's a terror in his wheelchair! No update yet on **Oscar Bauerle**, but **Charlie Enos** is out of the hospital.

On December 7<sup>th</sup>, several Nor'Easters joined some airport employees for breakfast at Red's Kitchen to say "Hi & Merry Christmas" to **Joan Twing**, one of our Florida members. She decided she'd had enough sunshine for a while and wanted to be reminded why she moved to Florida. Our Saturday snow should have fulfilled that desire! It was good to see Joan and hear about her new life and how much she's enjoying it. She rode out the hurricane with no problem. She lives in Palm Coast and loves to have visitors.

**Mary & Paul Ward** went on Royal Caribbean's Allure of the Seas for their 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with five other couples whom they've known for over 50 years. A fine time was had by all.

**Sarah Pitt-Wooll** is in the process of driving south to get some warmth. Brave woman is heading on her own from Maine to Florida and back. We've been enjoying her check-ins on Facebook along the way. Some of our UA Florida residents will be playing host to her. She'll need that bottle of wine she won after that long trip!

Nor'Easters are wishing a Happy, Healthy New Year to all!

## MICHIGAN



### GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Gwen Dyc-Schwendenmann  
(248) 667-9258  
[bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net)

**Jeen Kobb** hosted our January luncheon in memory of her mother, **Marie Cook**, who always hosted the January get-together. It was held at Cowley's Irish Pub in Farmington, Michigan. The wicked Arctic winds didn't hold back eight hardy retirees from attending. They were **Bill & Camille Wade, Marlene Heaney, Joan Robinson, Lynn Manzi, Patty Gates, Gwen Schwendenmann** and our hostess, **Jeen Kobb**. As many of you know, Marie was more than fond of snowmen. Jeen honored that obsession by making ginger snap dunkers and had them packaged in darling snowmen bags. Well done, Jeen.

Wishing all a new year filled with love, health and happiness.

## MINNESOTA

### NORTHERN LITES

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



The December lunch/meeting was called off due to forecasted snow and slippery conditions. Fortunately, as of early January when this was submitted, I'd heard nothing from **anyone**! That's a good thing, right?

Lunch at 11:15 a.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:kcornish6031@msn.com)



What a great party we had on December 5<sup>th</sup> at Anthony's Steakhouse, hosted by **Ev & Shirley Payton**. We counted 54 retirees in attendance on a perfect day, with delicious food and entertainment. The cost was partially subsidized by the chapter so the overall price was very modest.

**Kim Eames** serenaded us with Christmas music and a few oldies. She has a great voice and very pleasing delivery. She is a member of the Merry Makers entertainment group and knew quite a few United retirees.

We were so happy to see some people that we had not seen in a very long time including **Mary Jane Bruining, Elaine & Jim Schriber, Lorraine Stanfield, Ralph Westad, Andy Vassios, Dorothy Glover, Myrtis Olds, Vicki Hinkleman, Sena Jensen, Stella Mason, Peggy & Kenny Casebeer** and **David Cromling**. It's so good to see so many long lost faces. We were also missing some usual faces. We missed you. We were entertained by our long traditional Bingo game called by **Tony Sortino**. It's always fun to harass the caller and struggle to get to the prizes before anyone else. A very good time was had by all.

This year we delivered poinsettias to four of our members who do not get around as much as they would like to. They were **Mel Harrison, Melvina Brazys, Van VanHouten** and **Roger & Carol Jensen**.

I had read in the RUAEA Newsletter that one of our retirees who lives in Florida, **Bob Faust**, had been having some health issues so Keith called Kathy to see how things were going. He found out that Bob has had a very difficult few months and currently is in a rehabilitation center in Ocala and is receiving dialysis three times a week. He had been hospitalized for more than a month and will need quite a bit of rehabilitation before returning home. He would love to have cards, calls or visits to help time go faster. His address is, Health South Rehab Center, 2275 SW 22<sup>nd</sup> Lane, Ocala, FL 34471, (352) 282-4000.

January Birthdays ~ **Sharon Farrell** (2), **Carol Jensen** (4), **Joy Whisinnand** (4), **Stella Mason** (5), **David Cromling** (5), **Frank Sesto** (9), **Jackie Sortino** (17), **Jim Schreiber** (20), **Charlie Cheloha** (24), **Carol Cheloha** (25), **Melvina Brazys** (25), **Amy Meyer** (29), and **Dick Weak** (31). Wow, that's a big month of birthdays.

### Calendar:

**February 6** - TBD

**March 6** - TBD

**April 3** - Longhorn Bar and Grill, hosted by **Betsy Anderson**



## NEVADA



### LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

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

The Silverliners held their regular Luncheon meeting at Giuseppe's Italian Grill with 48 members and guest in attendance. The guest at the luncheon was a friend of our member **Mary Chandler**, her name is **Georgeann Auer**, retired from ORD, and prior to the end of the meeting she became a member of the Silverliners. The meeting started off with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurer **Jeannie Rolland** gave the membership the financial report for our Chapter which was well received. Jeannie also mentioned that the dues for 2018 are now due. Secretary **Don Rutkowski** thanked **Jeannie Rolland** and **Eleanor Vasko** for their efforts to arrange the seating and the menu for this Luncheon, their efforts paid off nicely.

Sunshine Lady **Eleanor Vasko** went over the 6 members December Birthdays and Anniversaries. She also mentioned members that were home with the flu and could not make it. The meeting after lunch was very subdued and quiet. The floor was opened up for questions or complaints and most items were minor in nature. We presented the staff of Giuseppe's Italian Grill a small monetary Christmas gift and a Big Thank You for taking care of us the past year with great service and food.

Just before closing, we had our 50/50 drawing plus we also raffled off many wrapped Christmas gift items placed on the gift table by the membership. We also had a table set up for nonperishable food items that will be given to the local Las Vegas Helping Hands Food Bank that ensure many seniors have at least a good meal daily. The luncheon/meeting was closed and the Board members wished everyone to be safe driving home and a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The next luncheon will be on February 8.

The Silverliners hold our meetings on the second Thursday of every even month. The meetings are held at Giuseppe's Italian Grill at 6065 Durango Road, Las Vegas, NV 89113. If you are in Las Vegas and/or planning a trip here you are more than welcome to come to our meeting and visit with our members, you may even know or worked with one of them. Email **Don Rutkowski** at [geodon1192@gmail.com](mailto:geodon1192@gmail.com) or call him at (702) 300-4038. We will be glad to see you.

### RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

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



There were 37 members and guests at our Christmas Luncheon at Tamarack Junction. Once again, the casino did a great job with the decorations and service. The weather also cooperated this year and no one had to ski in (thank you Mother Nature). There were lots of special gifts. **Kathy Robinson** was kind enough to source a few gift cards for local eateries that are always welcome. Everyone was dressed in their holiday attire and looked so nice.

**Gary & Lillian Wendland** attended our Christmas luncheon. Gary had been a foreman in the Engine Shop at the MOC. They are spending some time in Gardnerville, while also residing in Oregon.

We collected \$115 for the Food Bank which always needs help during the holidays. The chapter received a nice thank you card from the Food Bank for the contribution.

Our Annual Picnic has been discontinued. If someone would like to volunteer to set up a replacement activity for August or September, please let us know. The remaining picnic supplies were donated to the Reno Gospel Mission just prior to Thanksgiving.

**Sonda Sandstedt**, our new RUAEA Regional Director, attended the luncheon. She introduced herself to everyone and said she enjoyed the gathering. She had arrived via train from Sacramento.

December birthdays were celebrated by **Nancy Scaife, Herb Klemm, Lynda Klemm, Bill Royal, Larry Leusing, Christa Knutson and Pam Wight.**

**Ann Batty** was the lucky winner of the 50/50.

2018 chapter dues are now due. Please make checks payable to the Sierra Roundup and mail to **Kathy Robinson.**

## 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](mailto:vietler@verizon.net)

The Garden Staters meeting opened with a flag salute by President **Frank Worzocha**, and then a moment of silence for all those members of our chapter, who have passed on. It was a somber moment, however, on a lighter side, we had quite an attendance, 60 in all. Some came as far as California, and North Carolina, and I can tell you that our room was abuzz with a lot of talk.

Some of those who were there; **Lena & Dick Confer**, they were spearheading the toys for tots drive, in the spirit of **Jerry Confer** who was a former Marine, and one of our past members. Also, it was good to see **Ev Eaton**, who brought six of his family members all the way from North Carolina. There was **Al D'mico** and his wife **Terry**, **Joe Hegner**, **Bob Pruchnic**, **Louise Keleher**, **Freddie Lanspurg** and his daughter **Patty**, **Al Asciukiewicz**, and **Janet Kair** from Los Angeles, also my good friend and neighbor **Queenie Veloso**.

We not only had a great lunch, but there were lots of door prizes that were given out, and there was a large collection of toys that were to be distributed to the needy. We also had the members of the IAM local 914 there. That included **Rich Crieghton**, **Bill Gula**, and **Bill Imbeba**. **Bill Gula** told us that the IAM local is establishing a retiree coordinator, **Adelino Henriques**, I know he will be welcome at our meetings.

**John Murphy** won the 50/50, and our next meeting will be at Snuffy's, on Wednesday, January 31, 2018.

\*\*\*\*\* From the great prophet Leroy "*quality is not an act, it's a habit*".

## NEW YORK

### BUFFALO CHIPS

Jerry Stevens  
130 Countryside Lane  
Williamsville, NY 14221-1308  
(716) 688-4613  
[jerstel30@msn.com](mailto:jerstel30@msn.com)



**BUFFALO CHIPS**

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 26 Chips met for our Christmas Luncheon at Russell's Steaks, Chops and More. Menu consisted of a choice of, Sliced Tenderloin, Chicken Marsala or Poached Salmon with most choosing the Sliced Tenderloin.

Two new members joined us, **Earl Wheeler**, recently retired from Dulles Ramp Service. Earl was a long time Buffalo employee moving to Dulles when the station work force was contracted out a few years ago. **Rick Hull**, worked for United while completing law school and retiring early to become a lawyer. He now spends his time at Tronolone & Surgalla, PC. Rick's father Charlie was a long time Buffalo employee. We welcome both to the group.

**Dave & Carol Owczarczak** were vacationing on the east coast of Florida during the recent hurricane. The area they were in came under the Mandatory Evacuation Order so they joined friends in the Villages on the west side of Florida only to have the hurricane follow them. They sat out the second visit and all turned out well. Some days you can't win for losing.

Business was forgotten for the day and all spent time catching up on the last 3 months. A moment of silent prayer was held for the three most recent departures from our group, **Rita Demski**, wife of **Henry (Hank) Dempski**; **Norman Schaefer**; and **Donna Stevens**, my wife.

Our next meeting is planned for March and expected to be at Erie Community College North, with the Culinary Class, planning and serving our lunch. Date will be forth coming as soon as the school returns from their Christmas Break.



### **NEW YORK METROS**

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

Our Christmas luncheon was held in a larger room at the Davenport Press. It was beautifully decorated with a fireplace ablaze and 54 in attendance, including 10 or so of those newly christened “Rein Dears”. It was lovely, food was good and the entertainment was a spectacular “8”. Thanks to the lovely trio, **Emma**, **Una**, and **Cassie**, joined by that famous, baritone **Nick**.

We did a few familiar carols before dessert and then a professional singer, Carson Baker, a Rein Dear did “O Holy Night”. We’ll see you in 2018, Carson.

Emma won first prize in the 50/50 drawing, \$50. **Frank Ferrara**’s friend, Judy won second, \$30, Frank himself won 3<sup>rd</sup>, but gave it back. **Ed Pozzi** won twice but gave one back, and **Harold Koch** won the final \$10.

I thank **George Riggi** for gracing our table, I got to hear more of his harrowing tale in Las Vegas. He and his wife were evacuated from the nightclub they were in, via underground, to the ballroom of the Hilton, until the strip was searched. Glad he made it home OK.

I am very grateful to have been awarded the **Artie Shepherd** award for my service to the Metros. How they put up with me, I don’t know. They should see me laboring away at this old manual typewriter. I remember Artie from decades ago at LaGuardia. If I remember correctly, some of his artwork was displayed on the concourse to the gates at LGA. Such a nice guy. Thanks for all the work he did establishing the Metros.

And thanks to **Veronica Domaratius**, who has to edit this letter for RUAEA. I enclose an aspirin and prescription for new glasses, Veronica. Happy New Year! We’ll get through half of winter before we meet again. I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas. Peace, good health and happiness in 2018.

### **Calendar:**

**February 7** - Meeting at the Davenport Press

## **OHIO**

### **OHIO BUCKEYES**

[www.ualohiobuckeyes.com](http://www.ualohiobuckeyes.com)

Dolly Taucher  
8301 Lorraine Drive  
Strongsville, OH 44149  
[Dollyta1040@yahoo.com](mailto:Dollyta1040@yahoo.com)



This month I am pinch hitting for our Secretary, **Judy McKnight**. On December 6<sup>th</sup>, we had gathered at the Diamond Event Center in Brunswick for our Christmas party. President **Dolly Taucher** announced that this being our Christmas Party, the events will be in a different order. All pertinent information first, then we eat, and then we “Party”.

Our first Newsletter for 2018 has the schedule of events from February thru August, and was available on a separate table along with the name badges. 2018 Dues are due in January, and almost half of our members have already paid. You may see **Bernie Garrah** (Treasurer) or **Dolly Taucher** (President) to pay your dues. Please pay with a check payable to “Ohio Buckeyes Chapter”. If not, please attach a note with your name to the cash.

**Dave Robinson** (CLERR) is one of our “Life Members” (that means he has been a member since the creation of the Ohio Buckeyes Chapter) passed away on November 24<sup>th</sup> at the young age of 91. Dave and his wife Emily were such a sweet couple (Emily passed away 6 years ago).

**Lillian Schabel** is still recuperating from a fall in her yard, in which she injured her hip. And there are others. Everyone has something going on in their life, so please keep all members in your prayers. God is listening.

“Grace” was said by member **Sue Broderick**, which included a moment of silence in remembrance of the attack on Pearl Harbor. I must say, Sue really said everything so beautifully. This was followed by a sumptuous lunch.

After lunch: Dolly finished the meeting: We had a wonderful 71 people in attendance. We thanked our hosts **Dave & Marie Placko** for setting up this fabulous Christmas luncheon. We also gave a special Thank You to Kevin (the owner of the party center) for the wonderful meal, service, and decorations.

We then welcomed new member **Al Kicen**. We also had guests: **Pete Kitzmiller**, and **Michelle Kabicek** (daughter of **Al Kicen**). And guess what? They both also joined our chapter. Wow! 3 new members. That gives us a total of 22 new members in 2017.

**Nancy Cleary, Mary Merleno, Elda Custer, and Lois Walter** were unable to attend, but wanted to wish all a “Merry Christmas”.

Next, it was time to “Party”. We had 4 members in attendance with December Birthdays, **Bobbie Jefferson, Carole Mullen, Steve Pytel, and Carol Seifried**. Yes, of course we did sing “the song” to them.

**Dave Placko** then conducted our 50/50 drawing, and the winners were **Jacki Craig, Tom Hamlin, and Cathy Pytel**. That was followed by the drawing for our Christmas \$\$\$ envelopes, which is always a big hit. So, if you want to actually see all the fun we had, just go online to [www.ualohiobuckeyes.org](http://www.ualohiobuckeyes.org) and click on the “past meetings” tab. Then choose the month you want to view. Finally, just sit back and enjoy.

Then was the big surprise for all the new members ~ We then heard the jingling of sleigh bells, and what to our wondering eyes did appear, but ... “**Santa Claus**”. He spoke a few words (to our group), and went straight to his work, visiting each table (to ask what they wanted for Christmas), then turned with a jerk. And laying his finger aside of his nose, he gave a nod, and “Poof”, he was gone.

#### Calendar:

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

**March 7** - Weymouth Country Club

**April 4** - Mahle’s Restaurant

### OREGON



#### OREGON DEW-ER’S

Portland

Terry Hotchkin

20201 NE 179<sup>th</sup> Court

Battle Ground, WA 98604

(360) 687-3465

[tthotchkin@gmail.com](mailto:tthotchkin@gmail.com)

We had 62 join us for lunch in December, most dressed in Christmas finery, as well as one visitor, **Tony DaSilva**’s son Eric, and two new members. It was delightful to add **Liz Fatooh Colman** and **Joe Barnes** to our roster. Before our lunch, we were entertained by the Park Rose High School Debonaires Chorale Ensemble, led by Lesley Ann Brossert. This has become a much anticipated annual tradition at our December meeting. It is such a treat to enjoy their blended voices and exceptional harmonies.

After lunch we started our meeting with the election of some new officers. **Terry Hotchkin** will serve as President and **Paul Russell** as Vice President for 2018 and 2019. The rest of the slate of officers is in place to serve through 2018.

At the conclusion of our meeting we had drawings for some spectacular prizes. For many years, member **Craig Strand** has contributed a variety of his amazing photography, matted and ready for framing, but he has been unable to join us at meetings for quite some time. What a treat it was to have him there as we gifted some of his fine art. We also had some of member **Harold Miller**’s remarkable woodworking projects to dispense, as well as a selection of wine and beer, and a variety of gift cards. Almost every couple in attendance left with a gift. Lots of fun for everyone!

Fortunately, we do not have any illnesses or deaths to report this month!

Anniversaries ~ None in attendance.

Birthdays ~ **Mary Lou Falbo**.

Drawing Winners ~ Lunch/Door Prize - **Ron Vriens**, Men’s Birthday – None, Women’s Birthday - **Mary Lou Falbo**, 50/50 - **Margaret Borbely**.



### Calendar:

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

**February 14** – Social Happy Valentine's!

**March 14** - Social

### OUR CLUB

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



There is no chapter report for this issue of the Newsletter, please look for our update in the March issue of the RUAEA Newsletter.

### PENNSYLVANIA

#### PITTSBURGH

#### PIT-STOPPERS

Paul & Betty Musko  
21 Sunridge Dr.  
Coraopolis, PA 15108  
[Lesuex4@comcast.net](mailto:Lesuex4@comcast.net)



Warm wishes for a Happy and Healthy 2018 New Year to our RUAEA friends! Wow - We are looking forward to definitely warm weather for many of us who now are having icy cold and snow, -1 degree, in Pittsburgh (yes). We have to be sharing special times with our friends indoors and at more luncheon gatherings! Also, for some people who are on the East Coast, we heard they are having inclement weather. It is also so sad for the California area with terrible fires destroying many beautiful homes.

RUAEA'S Christmas Luncheon was held in December with 25 members and friends in attendance at JW Hall's, we had a great time gathering. We had a special guest, **Wilda Squires**, from Boston, who served as an Instructor for the initial inflight crews on the new B747, which was thought of as Queen of the Skies. It was nice to see **Wilda Squires**, **Lorraine Keith**, and **Julie McConough**! Our beautiful ladies, **Joann Juth**, our RUAEA Advisor, **Treatie Karwoski**, and National Secretary, **Mary Jane Stewart** keeping all of us informed about RUAEA!

**Gwen Detwiler** had a triple heart bypass and repair of her valves on December 5, she is doing very well and recovering quickly. Gwen is the spouse of **David Detwiler**, Maintenance Supervisor, Chicago, who served as Arts & Crafts Chair, on our 2008 RUAEA Pittsburgh Convention Committee. Cards can be sent to 284 Kelly Road, Connellsville, PA 15425. Dave is still working as Greeter at the Flight 93 site.

Our deepest Sympathy to the families of **Donald "Cass" Castelveter**, 86 of Kennedy Twp. Cass passed peacefully surrounded by his family on December 29, 2017. He was a beloved husband for 65 years for Justine, and had four sons, Mark, Dale, Todd, and Donn and eight grandchildren. Donald worked in Catering & Food Service, Pittsburgh, for 25 years with United Airlines. Also, he was a Korean War veteran and served 8 years in the U.S. Coast Guard Aviation. He will be sadly missed and forever in our hearts.

Also our deepest Sympathy to the families of **John P. Chicots**, age 93 who passed away, January 1, 2018. He was the Father of **Bill Chicots**, Customer Service in Pittsburgh, husband of the late **Clara Prentice Chicots**. He was a Veteran of World War II, serving in the Army Air Corps.

May you have enough happiness to keep you alert, enough trials to keep you strong, enough sorrow to keep you human, enough hope to keep you happy, enough failure to keep you humble, enough success to keep you passionate, enough friends to keep you smiling, enough wealth to meet your needs, enough enthusiasm to look busy, enough determination to make each day a little better and "passionate."

Wishing all of our RUAEA friends to be well. We look forward to seeing you, be happy and safe! Report on our Steelers and Penguins in our next newsletter! (Yah)

## WASHINGTON

### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle, WA  
Gay Liesse  
104 South 296<sup>th</sup> Place  
Federal Way, WA 98003-3626  
[gllesse@aol.com](mailto:gllesse@aol.com)



We Emerald City Slickers look forward to our first meeting of 2018 at our regular meeting place, Angelo's Ristorante in Burien, the second Tuesday of January, which will be history by the time you read this. We look forward to catching up with each other's holiday activities, events and travels and to hearing about future plans.

President **Ken Storey** will conduct the meeting after **Bonnie Frey** has collected 2018 dues (\$10) and luncheon payments and **Noreen Krawczyk** has coordinated entrée reservations with color-coded sticky notes – the grand scheme for restaurant staff to deliver the right choice to each attendee. **Richard Devereux** will have peddled 50/50 raffle tickets in the lobby.

**Mary Ann Andersen** will take her secretary's minutes and **Gay Liesse** will scribble her own notes for her next column. Vice President **Phyllis Bowman**, having already seen to the production of the January Contrails (edited by her friend **Vicki Shumaker**), will bring the chapter's contribution of door prize wine (always a favorite) to mix with contributions from members and will conduct the door prize and 50/50 drawings. As membership chair, Phyllis also keeps track of birthdays and anniversaries.

Others who will have spent time making the meeting a success before the fact are Phyllis' Contrails mailing crew that includes **Betty Paul**, and **Tom Holford** and **Dolores Steger**, who take e-mail and telephone reservations, respectively, between publication of our chapter newsletter and the deadline for reporting to Noreen, who contacts the restaurant with final details. Remember that "It takes a village ..." and we appreciate each and every one of our villagers.

**Ken Liesse**, son of **Ed & Gay Liesse**, will conduct a mostly-Q&A session following the nearby tragic AMTRAK accident that occurred in December. Ken has about 28 years of experience as a former UAL ramp serviceman (CG at SFO and SEA) and is a qualified railroad engineer and conductor with the Northwest Railway Museum in Snoqualmie. As a "rampie," Ken also has experience with airplane operations and can use that to compare train operations with flying, if such questions arise. Any of you who know the Liesse men, know that they are railroad oriented in spite of working for United Airlines!

Emerald City Slickers **Fred & Bonnie Frey** were caught visiting The Arizona ReUnited's, as they appeared on the back cover of the January issue. Other familiar faces there were **Shirley Claggett**, Re-United's president, and **Ron Paluch**, the world's biggest Chicago Cubs fan, who spend cool summers with our chapter in the Pacific Northwest.

**Theo & Merry Sluys**, formerly very active with the Emerald City Slickers, have been "down south" for several years and recently have moved to Buckeye, Arizona.

We have learned of the April 2017 death of **Jean Fleagle**. Jean had retired in 1984, after spending most of her nearly 38 years with United at SEARR. Early in her career, she had worked in NYCRR. She had been accepted by the Julliard School in 1945 with the aim of becoming an opera singer, though she gave up a musical career due to lack of work on Broadway. Jean and her late husband, Dick, who also worked for UAL and passed away in 2014, had lived in the Eastside area of the Seattle region before moving to an adult family home in Totem Lake in 2013.

Having had time to recuperate from the fall and winter holidays, we remind you now to remember your sweethearts with flowers and chocolates. Or maybe a winter trip to the tropics? Besides being cold, February is another month for wearing red. Happy Valentine's Day from the Pacific Northwest!

#### Calendar:

**February 13** – Luncheon meeting at Angelo's

**March 13** – Luncheon meeting at Angelo's

**April 10** – Luncheon meeting at Angelo's

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

### THE DULLES LOUNGERS



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

The highlight of our year, here in Dulles World, was our December luncheon. The gathering was the largest December group in years. Everyone came festively dressed and ready for the camaraderie that the holidays promise. We had our usual cookie exchange and, as always, our members produced a smorgasbord of beautiful cookies of all shapes and flavors. There were even cookies whose recipe originated in Sweden. One tray of goodies was decorated with a Christmas tree, a menorah, and other symbols of the many holidays that are celebrated in this short period of time.

A special thanks goes to **Marie Libby** for having made and donated two beautiful afghans. They were raffled off and the proceeds of \$72 went to the Sunshine Committee to offset the costs of cards and stamps.

Each month we have a 50/50 raffle drawing. The chapter's half in December always goes to our excellent wait staff at the Golden Corral. Our winner was Capt. **EK Williams** who generously gave his half of the prize to the servers as well.

Our chapter members donated a total of \$1,400 to the United We Care fund. This charity has raised and dispersed over 8 million dollars this year as a result of three hurricanes and an earthquake in 2017. Thanks to all who contributed.

**Kerrie Schneider** always leads our group in Christmas carols in December. This year we were so happy to also be joined by **Angela Knight**. Angela worked in United's Red Carpet Room for over 10 years until her great talent as an Opera singer led her to stardom. She is now an ordained minister and uses her great gift to raise money for many different charities. Usually I help Kerrie lead the carols but in the presence of two great singers, I thought it wise to lip sync this year. The enthusiasm was overwhelming. Kerrie and Angela are born entertainers and brought such great energy to the crowd. A Great time was had by everyone!

Don't forget, we meet on the second Wednesday of every month at 11:30 at the Golden Corral in Manassas, VA. We would love for you to join us.

## NATIONAL

### CLIPPED WINGS

Karen Williams  
CW Vice President  
P O Box 161  
Highland, MD 20777  
[cwkarenwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:cwkarenwilliams@gmail.com)



To start us off with the good news about February - Of course there's Valentine's Day where we share the love but it's also a little-known fact that February 22<sup>nd</sup> is National Margarita Day so don't forget to celebrate!

I also have even better news to share about our Clipped Wings DTW Chapter. This small but dynamic chapter with a very caring membership has reached out in support of Haven in Oakland County, Michigan. Haven is a domestic abuse treatment center that empowers survivors through advocacy and social change. Their facility has helped domestic violence and sexual assault victims escape abuse and create safer lives. They provide comprehensive and culturally sensitive services to children, adult survivors and their families. DTW CW Chapter supports Haven both with their time and financial donations.

If you are a current or former UAL/CO flight attendant and would like to carry on your airline friendships in addition to enriching your lives by sharing kindness with others, such as DTW is doing, please contact us via our website at [www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org](http://www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org) for information about our 29 chapters located across the USA. Many of our chapters are reaching out in amazing ways in addition to supporting our main philanthropy which is the Special Olympics Organization both at the state and national levels.

We all have ability. The difference is in how we use it. Hope to see you soon at a Clipped Wings gathering!

## NEW MEMBERS

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

Crowell, Terri, SFOSW, 382 Sunset Avenue, Eastsound, WA 98245  
Dilley, Darrel, DENFO, 20501 WCR 37, LaSalle, CO 80645  
Gonzalez, Lydia, 4831 Porter Road, North Olmsted, OH 44070  
Hanamoto, Dale, 3977 E. Keith Dr., Richmond, IL 60071  
Jil, Pollock, ORDCC, 11407 Quail Hollow Lane, Houston, TX 77024  
Russell, Andrew, SEAFF, 16756 Maplewild Ave., Burien, WA 98166  
Shields, James A., DENTK, 43046 London Dr., Parker, CO 80138  
Skags, Jeanmarie, LASCS, 4494 Pearl Falls Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89014  
Smith, Grant, FO, 1395 W. Bosque Dr., Sahuarita, AZ 85629  
Sweeley, Joe, SFOMP, 7453 S. Flat Ln., Kuna, ID 83634  
Williams, Bruce, 6157 N. Sheridan Road, Apt. 20M, Chicago, IL 60660

## CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Elda F. (Custer) Jeskey, John R. Anders, Kathryn Baran, Gary W. Bartlett, Thomas F. Boyle, Jane L. Boynton, Roy C. Brown, Betty S. Bryant, Frank G. Bullis, Victoriano Castaneda Goytia, Margaret Claeys, Donald E. Clark, Margery Clark, Lawrence W. Larry Coleman, Russell F. Cormier, Ronnie Corning, Barbara L. Creighton, James W. Crouch, John A. Degrange, John J. Deily, Jack H. Domosley, Joan C. Dykema, Shirley M. Elmendorf, Janice F. Foster, Robert A. Frye, Lydia Gonzalez, Gerald M. Gossett, Flora B. Grimminger, Patricia D. Guinn, John F. Haferbecker, Jeanne Y. Betsy Hamblin, James M. Hartley, James Hottel, Allan F. Huber, Lowell E. Johnston, Wiley B. Jones, John T. Kerbaugh, Paul I. Kern, Frances T. Kiyota, Robert M. Kostuk, Kathryn Lapointe, Charles Lewis, Terry P. Lutz, E. Ann Mace, Jeanne M. McCloskey, L. K. McGill, Edward F. McMartin, Huguette B. Meyer, William R. Nibert, Gulshan Noorani, Manuel Ojeda, Patricia Ortega, Renee C. Prost, Ronald E. Pryer, Andy Reid, Norm Reynolds, Erma Louise Richardson, Stephen C. Ryan, Richard John Snyder, Kenneth A. Storey, Joe Sweeley, Linda Tilford, Beth E. Torchin, Eva U. Torres, Emily Turner, Charles L. Westpfahl, Norman W. Wilkinson, Maureen C. Williams.

## OBITUARIES

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

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

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

Obituaries



Retiree – **Brabo, Joseph R.**, on 12/27/2017, INDJJ, husband of Hannelore S. Brabo, 633 Pergola Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46241

Retiree – **Card, Mary C.**, on 1/7/2018, SANOZ, aunt of Mike Card, 2975 Bluegrass Lane, Apt. 1012, Henderson, NV 89074

Retiree – **Gerk, Richard G.**, on 12/11/2017, OPBOP, husband of Linda S. Gerk, 6121 Scott Lane, Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Retiree – **Hatch, Bernice V.**, on 12/3/2017, SEARR, wife of Roscoe B. Hatch (deceased), 21908 49<sup>th</sup> Pl. W., Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

Retiree – **Hollenbach, William E.**, on 12/19/2017, IADRR, husband of Pamalia Hollenbach, 405 Lakewinds Blvd., Inman, SC 29349

Retiree – **Johnson, Curtis G.**, on 11/16/2017, SMFOZ, husband of Carol A. Johnson, 131 Polk Road 676, Mena, AR 71953

Retiree – **Little, Walter B.**, on 8/6/2012, ORDMM, husband of Josephine Gilbert Little (deceased), 917 Union Avenue, Mc Keesport, PA 15132

Retiree – **O'Shaughnessy, Patrick J.**, on 12/10/2017, OPBOP, husband of Berdita Gladine O'Shaughnessy, 1708 Green River Dr., Schaumburg, IL 60194

Retiree – **Reisenleiter, Russell C.**, 9/2/2017, CHIRR, husband of Donald H Park, 2828 N. Cambridge #401, Chicago, IL 60657

Retiree – **Russo, Mitch**, on 6/4/2017, OPBOP, husband of Connie Russo, 500 Stonehaven Avenue, Elk Grove, IL 60007

Retiree – **Sears, Nola W.**, on 11/2017, SEARR, wife of William G. Sears, 5262 W. Castle Pine Way, Highland, UT 84003

Retiree – **Shockey, Paul R.**, on 12/8/2017, BLT, husband of Sue Shockey, 920 Broadford Rd., Mt. Lake Park, MD 21550

Spouse – **Smith, Gertie**, on 10/23/2015, wife of Rod Smith, DENFO, 6626 Moss Ct., Arvada, CO 80007

Retiree – **Stutz, Allen L.**, on 12/19/2017, DENMM, husband of Theda R. Stutz, DENCS, 26359 E. Long Ave., Aurora, CO 80016

Retiree – **Sulgit, Francis (Frank) X.**, on 12/7/2017, SFOLQ, husband of Joyce Sulgit, 1560 Los Montes Drive, Burlingame, CA 94010

Retiree – **Toth, Joseph J.**, on 1/3/2016, SFOMM, husband of Lucille Toth (deceased), 7825 Cranford Lane, Dublin, CA 94568

## 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](mailto:marthagoose@comcast.net)

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

Kathryn Baran, Margaret Claeys, Margery Clark, Jeanne Decherd, Vernon Duley, Betsy Hamblin, Gert Holmbo, Thomas Hurley, Ernestine Manzo, Gordon Olson, Miriam Ubben, Maureen Williams.

**WE HAVE RECEIVED LETTERS FROM:**

*(Although we welcome the statements expressed in the many letters submitted, the comments & opinions*

**Marie Blackwell, 474 Linden Ave., Teaneck, NJ 07666**

To all you hard workers in Denver and throughout the country who keep the newsletter going, I thank you. I read it religiously from cover to cover and it is usually in the middle of the night when I can't sleep. So here I am at 5am reading December's issue and as I turn to the back cover, I see that my membership is about to expire, thus I am sending a check ASAP.

I am still working 2 jobs since I retired in 2005. I love my jobs as they are very flexible, so when I am not working I am traveling. I took 6 trips in the past year. My best one was to South Africa. I went on several safaris, toured Johannesburg, then flew to Cape Town and went to the Cape of Good Hope. It was a trip of a life time.

I still miss my friends from United; we were like family. I try to keep in touch as much as I can. Again, thank you.

**June McManus, 347 Fern St., Twp Washington, NJ 07676**

I apologize for not paying my dues on time. I guess I am having too much fun!

I went to see Bette Midler in "Hello Dolly" twice! The show was terrific. If you are coming into the New York City area during the holidays, try to get tickets. She will be in the show until early January.

Thank you for the wonderful job you do to keep us well informed about our grand United Airlines.

I have been retired for 16 years as of October 2017. It was the best job and I worked with the best people.

Happy and healthy New Year to all!

**Mike Takamatsu, 122 KA Dr., Kula, HI 97690**

Many thanks to the hardworking Newsletter staff for keeping us informed in our little corner of the UAL system.

We thoroughly enjoyed the Las Vegas Convention. Kudos to **Don Rutkowski** and his team for staging a successful convention.

**Notes**

**William Betz**

I enjoy golf, bowling, detailing cars, hanging out with neighbors and friends and going to the gym. I also enjoy being a RUAEA member.

**Yvonne Brustein**

I am very appreciative of all the work that RUAEA does on behalf of retirees. I look forward to and enjoy reading the newsletter every month.

**Frank Bullis**

Frank is enjoying his 19 years of retirement and Marion is at 26 years or retirement. We are not traveling much anymore although we did make a Dublin trip and just got back from Maui. Enjoyed meeting up with people we had worked with at PDXCS.

We do enjoy reading the newsletter to keep up to date.

**William Corbett**

I am the new VP for Conventions. RUAEA does a great job in keeping all members informed on current United topics.

**Terri Crowell**

I retired in 2005 and have been involved with Clipped Wings for 50 yrs. Over the 40 years I worked for UAL, I was based in EWR & SEA before marriage. After marriage, I worked in PDXRR and PDXTR until 1976 when I was officially furloughed for a time. In 1988, thanks to the McDonald case, I was able to return to in-flight where I flew out of ORD, SFO, LAX and finally back to SFO.

**Charles Lewis**

Please excuse my being tardy on paying my dues. I guess this is another example of old age forgetfulness. I do believe this is the 1<sup>st</sup> time in 25 years that I'm late with my dues.

**Jeanne McCloskey**

Love getting our daily news briefs from Dale Harper. He does a great service for the retirees. I'm very happy that we double our enrolled friends next year by having the opportunity to use them January-June and again July-December for two different people. Thank you!

**Rod Smith**

I entered that my wife, Gertie is now deceased. She died two years ago.

I very much appreciate the newsletter. Thank you for all you do to keep us informed.

**Joe Sweeley**

I retired in June 2012. I moved to Idaho July 2016 from LA area and I'm freezing my tail feathers off. I'm looking forward to joining the Boise Gems.

**Jay Weimer**

I've been retired for 15 years. The Newsletter keeps me up to date with United information.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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>

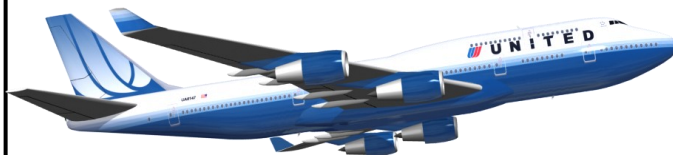
**Medicare Hotline** 1-800-633-4227

## **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)



**PRESIDENT**

Virgil Gooselaw  
(Home) (303) 343-2102  
(Cell) (303) 963-6690  
[vgoose@comcast.net](mailto:vgoose@comcast.net)

**SECRETARY**

Mary Jane Stewart  
(724) 745-8703  
[stewartmaryjane@aol.com](mailto:stewartmaryjane@aol.com)

**TREASURER**

Pam Ziebarth  
[ruaeatreasurer@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaeatreasurer@qwestoffice.net)

**CORPORATE LIAISON**

Ed Tolle  
[hedwardtolle55@gmail.com](mailto:hedwardtolle55@gmail.com)  
(Home) - (224) 848-7207

**EXECUTIVE V.P.**

Jim Simon  
(916) 644-1604  
[jimmvinc823@gmail.com](mailto:jimmvinc823@gmail.com)

**V.P. CONVENTIONS**

Bill Corbett  
(708) 601-5269  
[bcevergreenpark@aol.com](mailto:bcevergreenpark@aol.com)

**PAST PRESIDENT**

Hank Gosselin  
(253) 939-4362  
[henrygosselin@comcast.net](mailto:henrygosselin@comcast.net)

**AIRLINE LIAISON**

Don Burbank  
[don8585@comcast.net](mailto:don8585@comcast.net)  
(Cell) - (303) 495-9941

**DIRECTORS**

Chuck Cole	Arizona Region	(206) 919-2020
	<a href="mailto:cteslc@q.com">cteslc@q.com</a>	
Rosalie Tripicchio	S. Calif. Region	(619) 368-4106
	<a href="mailto:rosalie.tripicchio@gmail.com">rosalie.tripicchio@gmail.com</a>	
Sonda Sandstedt	N. CA/NV Region	(530) 210-5644
	<a href="mailto:sdonthego@yahoo.com">sdonthego@yahoo.com</a>	
Sharon Burbank	Mountain Region	(571) 330-7815
	<a href="mailto:rae1087@comcast.net">rae1087@comcast.net</a>	
Roger Casterline	Western Region	(650) 369-2456
	<a href="mailto:rogathome2@sbcglobal.net">rogathome2@sbcglobal.net</a>	
Tom Cunningham	Northwest Region	(925) 846-8123
	<a href="mailto:tbcunningham3556@gmail.com">tbcunningham3556@gmail.com</a>	
Norma Betters	Northeast Region	(781) 631-7066
	<a href="mailto:betters171@comcast.net">betters171@comcast.net</a>	
Linda Scriven	Southeast Region	(703) 729-8616
	<a href="mailto:ualemp5936@aol.com">ualemp5936@aol.com</a>	
Ray Jensen	Florida Region	(239) 634-2054
	<a href="mailto:rmmjensen@msn.com">rmmjensen@msn.com</a>	
Jackie Monilaw	Midwest Region	(224) 628-4000
	<a href="mailto:jmonilaw@gmail.com">jmonilaw@gmail.com</a>	

**MEMBERSHIP MANAGER** - Cas Spokas

E-Mail [casimir4321@q.com](mailto:casimir4321@q.com)  
HOME (303) 816-1358

**NEWSLETTER MANAGER** - Francis Domaratus**NEWSLETTER EDITOR** - Veronica Domaratus

E-Mail [ruaenewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaenewsletter@surewest.net)  
HOME (916) 789-0422, CELL (916) 521-7236

**WEB MANAGERS** -

Jim Sommerfield  
E-Mail [jsommerfieldual@aol.com](mailto:jsommerfieldual@aol.com)  
(847) 895-8014 - M-F, 9:00AM-5:00PM Central Time

Toni VanKampen  
E-Mail [tonivk@gmail.com](mailto:tonivk@gmail.com)  
(847) 806-1371 - M-F, 9:00AM-5:00PM Central Time

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## United Airlines Historical Foundation

"Preserving the Past,  
Inspiring the Future"



Letters randomly selected from United's Passenger Service Files in 1957. To emphasize the comments printed below we asked typical United employees to pose for the accompanying photos.

*"From the Reservations Clerk down the line your representatives were courteous and polite".* (photo: Agent Kay Hopkins, SLCRS)



*"I can commend UAL Food Service especially".* (photo: Kitchen Steward Helen Stewart & Bertha Smith, PDXPS)



*"From the moment we weighed our baggage, all UAL seemed at our disposal. You have a great organization – from the propeller to the rudder".* (photo: Porter Jim Childs, YIPPS)

*"I made the flight with my two young children. The Stewardesses gave us an amazing amount of individual attention".* (photo: Stewardess Gerry Reilly, SFOSS)



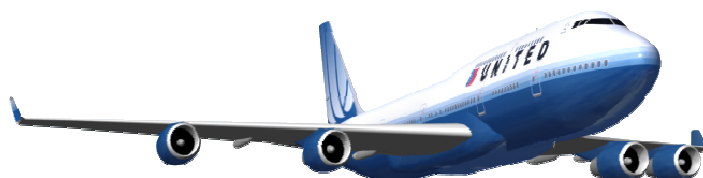
*"Because of the especially fine attitude and consideration given me by UAL employees, I ended this trip with nothing but the highest regard for your company".* (photo: Station Agent J. Baldyga, BDLGS)

*"To say your captain is your top salesman would be an understatement. His running commentary was original and presented warmly".* (photo: Captain E.A. LePenske, SEAFO)

*By Marvin Berryman, DENTK Retired, from the Oct.-Nov. 1957 United Air Lines News*

**Notice: Due to the renovation of the Denver Flight Training Facility (DENTK) the Historical Foundation (UAHF) will NOT be accepting United & Continental Memorabilia donations until further notice.**

**UAHF WILL continue accepting your tax-deductible monetary (\$) contributions which can be mailed to: UAHF, Tom Goodyear; 9341 E. Jewell, Denver, CO 80231. Visit our website at [www.uahf.org](http://www.uahf.org).**



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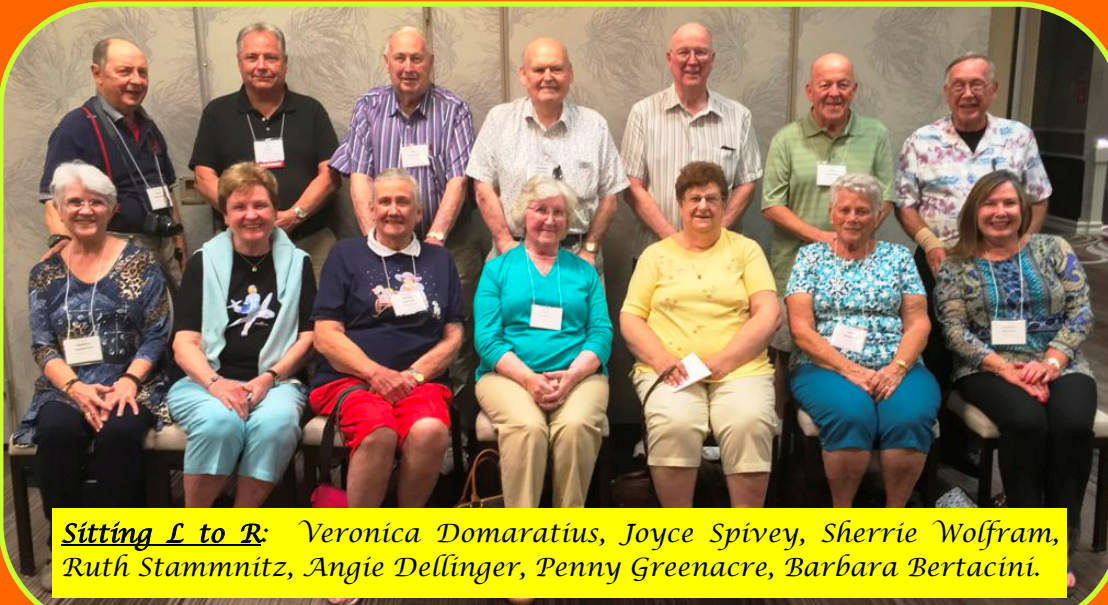


**SACRAMENTO  
GOLD  
DIGGERS**



**Standing:**

Francis Domaratius, Jim Simon, Irv Wolfram, Karl Stammnitz, Frank Dellinger, Terry Greenacre, Ron Bertacini.



**Sitting L to R:** Veronica Domaratius, Joyce Spivey, Sherrie Wolfram, Ruth Stammnitz, Angie Dellinger, Penny Greenacre, Barbara Bertacini.



Donna & Hal Klobe



Deniece Morris  
Martha Gooselaw



Belinda  
Robinson

Dorothy  
Robinson

Velma  
Nash