



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



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## *The Writers' Column ~ Brookings Bombing*

*By George Midwin*



Most Americans are aware of the bombing of Pearl Harbor during World War II and the military actions far out in the Pacific. However, few people realize how close some of that action actually came to the continental United States. Within minutes of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, a Japanese submarine sank an American commercial ship just off the coast of Washington State. Other US ships would suffer a similar fate in Oregon and California as the war continued. Among the number of Japanese submarines assigned to the West coast of the US, was the I-25. This particular sub was equipped with the capability to launch an aircraft, which was re-

sponsible for the only bombing of the continental United States during the war. This is a unique story about that incident and the pilot involved.

As early as WWI, Germany developed a submarine that could launch a reconnaissance aircraft, but had to remain surfaced while carrying the plane. The British experimented with the idea around that time as well, but were not successful. In 1922, the US briefly studied the notion, but never continued with it. France and Japan looked at the possibility, with France giving up the idea in 1929. Japan continued their efforts and by 1941 had built submarines with a hangar and air powered launch ramp, for a small aircraft. The plane was a Kugisho E14Y1, with a 36 ft fabric covered wing and 28 ft length metal fuselage. Powered by a radial engine and was capable of carrying a pilot and navigator a little over 90 MPH. It was designed to be disassembled to fit in the small hangar and could be reassembled in as little as 55 minutes. It was then launched on a catapult on the front of the sub. The plane equipped with floats, would then land next to the sub to be hoisted aboard, disassembled, placed in the water tight hangar so the sub could then disappear below the sea.



The pilot of the plane carried on the I-25 was Nobuo Fujita. After gaining much experience with the aircraft in the Pacific flying reconnaissance missions, he presented the idea to his Naval superiors to convert the plane to a bomber and use it on mainland America. Although the idea was accepted, it was decided that the bombs would be incendiary type and used to start forest fires. The idea would be that the entire West coast could be set ablaze. The Kugisho E14Y1 was modified, but could only carry two of these 170 lb bombs.

After waiting 7 days in foul weather, 20 miles off the West coast, the I-25 launched Fujita and his navigator, in the early morning of September 9, 1942. The plane flew just North of Brookings, Oregon at about 2,500 feet. As they crossed over the forest, observers in a lookout tower, partially shrouded in fog, heard the plane and then spotted it as it circled and returned in a Westerly direction, a few minutes later. They did not clearly identify the plane, but reported at 0624 it was a small seaplane. Fujita was headed back and recovered by the sub. An Army Air Corps plane on routine patrol spotted the sub just after it submerged and dropped two depth charges, reporting that one had hit the sub. That was not the case.

At 1220 smoke was sighted in the forest by the observers and a team was dispatched. They reported that there were several very small fires, which were quickly extinguished. Upon further investigation they discovered numerous metal fragments and what appeared to be the nose cone of a bomb. The next day additional personnel dispatched discovered Japanese writing on the nose cone and delivered it and the fragments to the Army post close by Brookings. Although two bombs were dropped only one exploded, the other has never been discovered.

With the presumption by the Japanese that the bombing was a success, the I-25 was sent back to Oregon 20 days later for a second attempt. This time Fujita flew about 9 miles North of the first site and was spotted by

## Writer's Column continued ...

two different lookout stations. It was 0520 and they could not clearly identify the aircraft. Fujita dropped the two bombs and returned to the sub without issue. Two hours later smoke was seen. By the time teams were in the general area of the smoke, they could not locate a fire (possibly due to the wet ground) or any bombs. Extensive search by the Army over the next 9 days purportedly discovered the bomb(s), however no definitive documentation exists and was probably kept secret. It wasn't until a year later that the second bombing even became public. Twenty years later, the Brookings Jaycees wanting to promote international goodwill, came up with the idea to invite pilot Fujita to come to the US. This created quite a stir among some of the citizens in Brookings. However, this opposition was quelled after the local newspaper published an article on a disabled veteran who said that Fujita was just doing his job and that he could forgive him. The state department gave their approval and once president John F Kennedy gave his approval; the visit was planned. The Jaycees raised the necessary funds to pay for the entire trip.



Fujita arrived on May 24, 1962 and was greeted by the largest crowd since President Nixon visited Oregon. Everywhere he went he was greeted with open arms and treated like a visiting dignitary. Fujita donated his 400-year-old samurai sword to the city of Brookings. This would be the “start of a beautiful friendship”. He would visit Brookings three more times, making donations to organizations and hosting students on a trip in Japan. In 1970, the US Forest Department located the exact spot of the initial bomb site, 13 miles by rough forest road and a 1-mile hike through the forest. A permanent memorial was constructed there. In an elaborate ceremony, Fujita planted a Cherry tree at the site, later becoming named an Oregon Heritage Tree. In October 1998 Fujita passed away, his daughter fulfilled his request and buried a portion of his ashes at the site. I personally have visited this site.

## GENERAL NEWS

### Letter from the President



Hi Everyone,

I hope you are all doing well. I have been good and staying home most of the time.

I would appreciate it if the Chapter Presidents would notify us if any of our members have had any troubles with Covid-19. I certainly hope not and that we all make it through this with all of us healthy.

The airline is struggling with all of this and I won't bore you with all the rumors. We will have to see what comes out after it's over. I am not communicating with UAL a lot due to most offices are closed. We still plan on voting for officers after July so please vote for the person of your choice. We have a few people wanting to change positions so you need to decide if they are worthy of that change. Finally, we have more than one person running for those positions. Please stay a safe distance from those you don't know and away from some you do.

**Don Burbank**  
**RUAEA President**

### **From the RUAEA Newsletter Staff**



Due to COVID-19, the news is constantly changing. Please note the dates on our articles regarding United Airlines. By the time you receive the printed version of the newsletter, the news is weeks, if not a month old. Please refer to Flying Together and your local news for current updates.

Also due to the virus, the printed version, which previously reached our members about two weeks after the online version was available, is now taking three weeks or more to reach you. While we are keeping to our usual schedule, our printer, mailer, and the United States

Post Office are all dealing with challenges.

On a positive note, we extend a big “Thank You” to our correspondents. We asked them not to be deterred by the lack of a breakfast/luncheon/meeting. And they were not. Please read your Local News to hear what other retirees are doing at this difficult time. Read memories of retirees and former events, enjoy some laughs and read interesting history in the writer’s column.

### **From ETC, Friday, May 1, 2020**



**UNITED**

Good Morning Retiree Leaders,

We wanted to share some important news and updates about pass travel and expanded face mask requirements that were featured in the United Daily. Please share this message with your organization.

Here is the full story:

#### **Expanding our face mask requirements:**

We announced last week that flight attendants are required to wear face coverings or masks while on duty. Effective May 4, we’re expanding that mandate to include all our employees on board.

This will include front-line employees like pilots (outside the flight deck), customer service representatives, catering and ramp employees while aboard the aircraft, as well as any United employees traveling for business or pass traveling. This requirement will be reflected in our pass rider dress code policy.

Face coverings will also be mandatory for all United passengers starting May 4, and we will provide masks to passengers for free. Employees and their eligible pass riders should come prepared with their own face covering or mask.

These mitigation measures align with the CDC guidelines and are the latest steps in our broader efforts to help ensure a safe environment for our customers and our employees.

Read more about all the things we are doing on the United Hub and Flying Together, and be on the lookout for any InTheKnow communications on policy and procedure changes.

Thank you for being part of the United Family,

### **Update: New changes to aircraft boarding and seating** **April 28, 2020**



Recently, we announced new, temporary changes to our policies for aircraft seating and boarding for all scheduled United and United Express flights. These changes officially begin April 28, and we expect to keep them in place through May 31. We will continue to evaluate how to best proceed given the fluidity of the current situation.

In addition to the changes recently announced, starting April 28, we are making the following, temporary adjustment to our boarding process:

- ➔ Changing our customer boarding experience to align with back-to-front boarding process. Our customer service representatives will announce boarding by rows from back to front, calling five rows at a time. Boarding groups will not be referenced for boarding. Pre-boarding groups, which include our military, families with small children, customers with disabilities and Global Services and 1K customers, will continue without change.

Operational employees should refer to their department communications for additional information about any policy and procedure changes.

To review the other changes announced last week, please see below.



### **New changes to aircraft seating (April 22, 2020)**

By the end of April, we expect to implement additional, temporary changes to our policies on all United and United Express flights for seating throughout the entire aircraft, as well as adjust the boarding process. The new changes include:

- ➔ Restricting advanced seat selection for adjacent seats in all cabins. This includes middle seats where available, and alternating window and aisle seats when seats are in pairs.
- ➔ Boarding fewer customers at a time to allow for more distance during the boarding process.
- ➔ Processing Complimentary Premier Upgrades at the departure gate in priority order.

These changes are in addition to other actions that we have already taken to help keep you and our customers safe. These include:

- ➔ Blocked crew rest, jumpseat-adjacent seats and aft galley seats.
- ➔ Customer service representatives proactively reseating customers where possible.
- ➔ Enhanced seating automation to optimize available seats and distance customers on separate reservations.
- ➔ Additional pre-travel communications for our customers where they can revisit seat maps and select a seat with open nearby seats.

These changes enable more social distancing options for customers and working crews. There are no resulting changes to our pass travel policies. Pass riders will continue to be cleared in boarding priority order.

We will continue to follow CDC guidance and closely monitor and adapt as the coronavirus pandemic evolves. To review and stay updated on our news related to COVID-19, please continue to check our [COVID-19 microsite](#).

### **Retooling to produce a hot commodity**

**April 27, 2020**



Earlier this month, we introduced you to the San Francisco Maintenance Center (SFMC) team who has been working hard to produce hand sanitizer to supply our United workforce company wide.

*“At this point, we’ve made 800 gallons of hand sanitizer,”* said Technical Operations Chemist Timothy Tong. *“I’m handing it out like Halloween candy,”* added Technical Operations Senior Engineer George Skoufos.

We paid SFMC a visit to capture the team’s great work and to hear from some of the brains behind the idea. The team was also recently featured in an article by [SFGate](#).

Like many of our locations, the San Francisco Maintenance Center has been working to provide hand sanitizer for the nearly 3,000 employees who work there. Unlike other locations, however, the huge base has the resources, equipment and expertise – including chemists and chemical engineers – to produce sanitizer for use throughout United.

The Engine Shop’s Remanufacturing department this week produced its first of what will be many large batches of alcohol-based hand sanitizer – some distributed in spray bottles and some used to replenish dispensers in common areas, at the base and other United locations. Before long, SFMC will be producing batches on a regular basis and making the product available at all United locations.

The biggest hurdle right now, said Machining, Plating and Welding Senior Manager George Skoufos, is procuring certain ingredients and spray bottles. Thousands of those are on order and expected next week. *“Supplies are still in very high demand, but fortunately we were able to procure and take delivery of enough chemicals and containers to get started,”* he said.

The progression from idea to finished product took just one work week. Base leadership was aware that Remanufacturing and Chemical Engineering recently conducted an experiment earlier this year and determined that, yes, they could make sanitizer. We also worked with Legal to get United registered with the FDA as a new manufacturer of hand sanitizer.

After the initial test sample produced by Process Engineer Adam Crews, Chemist Timothy Tong tested and proved the sample to specifications in the lab. Supply and Demand Analyst Victoria Balog and Precision Plater David Lee have been instrumental in locating and ordering essential chemicals and supplies. Plate Shop Supervisor Ed Guenley had Solution Maintenance Technicians Shaun Heeley, Christopher Cloud and Mariano

Recinos produce the first large batch, packaged into 24-ounce spray bottles and added to empty wall dispensers. Small, individual-use bottles will also be provided for employees.

### **More space for our growing payload**

**May 1, 2020**



This week, we received approval from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to begin using in-cabin storage areas, including overhead bins and closets, to carry cargo on select flights.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, we've seen a significant uptick in cargo demand, resulting in the need for additional space on our aircraft to move that freight. After receiving approval from the FAA, we are planning to load a portion of shipments in the passenger cabins of Boeing 777 and 787 aircraft that we're using for cargo-only flights once policies and procedures are completed. We plan to begin these cargo-in-the-cabin flights in the coming weeks. If demand

continues to grow at the present rate, we'll explore the possibility of doing this on additional flights as well

*"We send our sincere thanks to the FAA for working with our team to enable the transport of more critical goods on United's cargo-only flights," said Cargo VP Jan Krems. "By loading existing cabin storage with cargo and mail, we will move even more critical medical equipment, PPE, and other vital shipments the world needs to manage through the pandemic."*

Delivering critical goods into the hands of the businesses and people who need them most is extremely important right now. To keep supply chains moving, we began operating cargo-only flights on March 19. Since then, we've flown more than 800 segments, transporting more than 31 million pounds of cargo.

### **Changes to voluntary denied boarding and downgrade compensation**

**May 01, 2020**



As we continue to meet these unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 crisis, we are evaluating all aspects of our business to ensure we are well positioned to recover when demand returns. This means we have to be more aggressive than ever before in controlling our business so that when demand does return, we have the ability to bounce back quickly.

We're currently operating in an environment where travel demand is essentially zero, and have already taken many steps to decrease spending, including: minimizing our operating expenses, slashing our flying schedule by 90%, freezing hiring, offering voluntary leave programs, and reducing executive salaries by 50%.

With the unforeseen and unusual results of pulling down our schedule by 90% and cutting international routes that serve some stations only a few times a week, we have created some tough situations for our employees. We continue to do our best to take aggressive actions to manage the impact of the worst financial crisis our company has ever faced in hopes that we can help better position United when travel demand returns.

As we look across our business, we've discovered that some policies that made sense in a pre-COVID-19 world no longer do so within the current operating environment, whether that's due to low travel demand or because existing policies impact far fewer customers.

That's why, beginning May 1, we are reducing the maximum Electronic Travel Certificate (ETC)/Miles equivalent amount of compensation we offer customers in the event of a voluntary denied boarding from \$10,000 to \$2,500; and from \$10,000 to \$1,500 in the event of a downgrade. The escalation and solicitation processes, and fare difference policy for downgrades, will stay the same.

In addition, the DOT-mandated compensation for involuntary denied boardings will not change and the new ETC/Miles equivalent will be capped at \$2,500 ETC. These compensation amounts continue to be higher than what the DOT currently requires for involuntary denied boardings. DOT policy for involuntary denied boarding compensation is 4x the one-way fare but no more than \$1,350. With our cap of a \$2,500 ETC, we're still 85% higher than the DOT requirement.

Overall, we've seen the number of denied boardings dramatically decrease over the last several years, with a very small number of customers eligible for voluntary denied boarding compensation.

Airport Operations Customer Service Representatives and Contact Center agents should refer to their department communications for additional information about the policy and procedure changes.

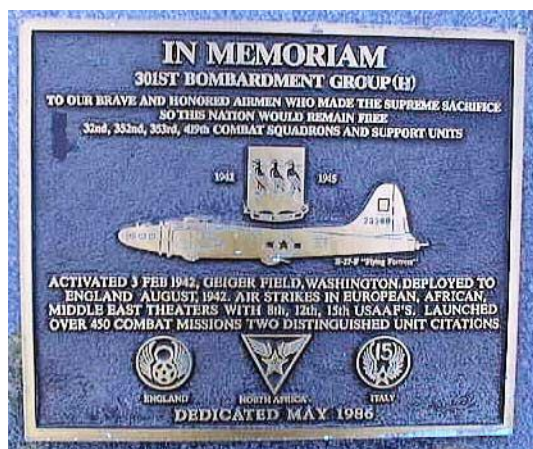
While very few customers receive the maximum amount of compensation, every dollar counts in this environment.

We will continue to monitor this ever-changing situation and share additional adjustments to policies and procedures as needed to manage our costs during this crisis.

## **The Writers' Column ~ 301<sup>st</sup> Bomber Group Reunion**

**By Marty Etler**

**April 26, 2015, Fairlawn New Jersey**



The 301<sup>st</sup> bomber group held reunions every two years from 1982 to 2006. One of our reunions was in Dayton, Ohio, and as I remember it, we had quite a big turnout for that occasion. I always looked forward to these conventions because it was a time to reminisce with some of my old Army buddies. With veterans of any kind, especially the military, when you have a proximity to danger, you form a bond with all those who shared those dangers with you. You can talk to your family and your friends about your experiences, but it is never the same when you share it with your comrades and come out okay. At our conventions, we always had a memorabilia room set aside where all our members could bring their many artifacts that were picked up by them while in service. This room was usually very busy with lots of people coming in and browsing, but it was always a good place to

sit down and have a good conversation. On this particular occasion, I happened to run into a former member of our bomb group who told me that he retired from the Air Force in the late 70's. When he told me he was a former pilot on the SR 71, my ears picked right up; this is one of the fastest aircraft ever built and holds the speed record from flying from Los Angeles to New York in about an hour and a half. This plane was usually used mostly for intelligence gathering.

He said he often flew at over 100,000 feet and mapped Russia, China, North Africa and the Middle East all in a days work. While we talked for quite a while, and to me it was a very interesting conversation. Just when you think you know a lot, you find out how much you don't know.



While there I also took a good look around at the many things that were on display that our members had brought in. One thing caught my eye; it looked like an old fashion comic book. I picked it up and looked at the date of publication which was 1943. It was produced by the Walt Disney company for the Boeing B-17 bomber. Apparently someone in the Army air forces thought it would be worthwhile to use Walt Disney cartoon characters to illustrate on how to fly a B-17. This comic book pamphlet as I remember was about 25 or 30 pages. In retrospect if you brought a new car today and looked into the glove compartment, you will see information about 2 inches high, on how to drive the car with its automatic equipment

and to listen to its satellite radio. One has to wonder if we had iPads during World War II would our victory have come any sooner!

The programs for these conventions were really straightforward, you got there on a Thursday and looked for your old friends, Friday and Saturday were dedicated to dinners and tours, on Sunday we had a breakfast, then an invocation and then departure. However on this particular Thursday, Violet and I was sitting at a table with some people when one of the attendees came up to us and asked if he could sit down with us, and of course I said yes. As we began to talk I could see that he was an old Army veteran of the Army Air Forces, and with a lot of experience. He was looking for a friend of his who said he was going to meet him here in Dayton. He told me his name and I said I'm sure he's here because I saw his name on the list of those people who are presently here now and as we talked he told me the story.

As the allied armies drove the Germans out of Italy in 1943 the Army air forces moved their heavy bombers closer to the southern part of Europe and one of those groups was the 301<sup>st</sup>. That group consisted of B-17s with



four squadrons, 352, 353, 32 and the 419<sup>th</sup>. They finally wound up being based out of Foggia airport right near Rome in Italy. Part of their missions was to destroy the Romanian oilfields at Ploiesti. This was vital because it cut off the fuel supply to the Germans. On one of their missions coming back from Romania and flying over the Austrian Tyrol they were shot down by anti-aircraft fire which severely damaged their aircraft. They got down to about 2000 feet, and the pilot gave orders for everyone to bail out. While he jumped out of the back, he could see some of his guys go out the front. However one of the parachutes did not open. While he and his mates were captured by the Austrians and subsequently imprisoned he did not know what happened to the rest of the crew that bailed out in front especially the one whose chute did not open. He later found out that it was his good friend the radio operator. Apparently he fell into the trees and into the heavy snowfall on the mountains and had survived. He along with the rest of the crew were captured by the Austrians and sent to a different prison camp. After the war all of these men were repatriated, and that included his friend. Although they hadn't seen each other for all these many years they still kept in touch with Christmas cards and phone calls but then decided that they would meet here at this reunion in Dayton.

As we were talking he looked over at the table right next to us and there was his friend that he had shared this great element of danger and whom he hadn't seen in over 40 years. They saw each other and came together within a few feet they hugged each other and there were tears flowing freely. His friend the radio operator had his whole family there and he was introduced to all. I can tell you that there was not a dry eye in all the tables around us and that included Violet and me. There is a never ending spirit amongst soldiers that never dies and as the old adage goes "old soldiers never die, they just fade away"

### So Simple From Sheryl



Sheryl Schubert

Dear Friends,

We are thinking of all our RUAEA friends and hoping that you are all doing as well as can be expected during this difficult time. Hopefully we will reach our "new normal" soon.

Hope you will enjoy this recipe. It is easy and you should be able to find all the ingredients without any problem. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, your family and friends.

#### Hamburger Casserole

1½ pound ground beef  
1 cup chopped celery  
1 medium onion, chopped

1 large can sliced mushrooms with ½ the juice  
1 can mushroom soup, undiluted  
1 can cream of celery soup, undiluted  
1 large can Chinese noodles

Brown beef, celery and onions. Mix ingredients together and put in a 13 x 9 pan and top with Chinese noodles. Bake one hour.

You can make half of the recipe. Unfortunately this does not freeze well as the noodles become soggy.

Hope you enjoy.

### 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 Domaratus at [ruaenewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaenewsletter@surewest.net), John Chu at [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com) and [ruaeaml@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaeaml@qwestoffice.net). If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd, Denver, CO 80207-2433. Please allow for postal delay. We cannot extend the deadline!

*Please note that all submitted articles are subject to editing and approval by the*



Francis Domaratus

*Newsletter Manager.* Once they are published in the RUAEA Newsletter, they become the property of RUAEA. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me. My contact information is listed in the Newsletter.

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## LOCAL NEWS

### ALABAMA



#### **GULF COAST** **(ALABAMA / FLORIDA)**

George Atteberry  
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There is no report this month from the Gulf Coast chapter of RUAEA.

#### **SWEET HOME ALABAMA**

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There is no report this month from the Sweet Home Alabama chapter of RUAEA.

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

### ARIZONA



#### **PHOENIX AZURES**

Mike Richards  
Azures Past President  
Claudia Richards  
Azures Past Membership Secretary  
[lgamfr62@gmail.com](mailto:lgamfr62@gmail.com)

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

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



## **PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S**

Liz Tollefsen  
[tedtolle@aol.com](mailto:tedtolle@aol.com)



As the song goes, “*June is Busting Out All Over*”, I guess that’s a true saying in some ways as the COVID-19 virus has spread all over, and many changes have been made in our lives and all over the world as a result of this virus. We hope for a cure real soon!

June is always a special month to celebrate graduations, weddings, and Father’s Day, but this year, things will not be the same. Let’s try and think positive and look forward to better things ahead. Enjoy the flowers, cactus, and colorful plants especially this time of the year. They are always so pretty. Take a drive to enjoy the scenery.

Our Re-United Chapter will not be meeting for our normal breakfast on the fourth Friday of the month at the Black Bear Diner in Gilbert for awhile, but, when things get better, we will let you know when we will be meeting again. We always enjoy being together, so hopefully, things will work out real soon!

A reminder that the Denver RUAEA Office is temporarily closed, so if you are renewing your membership or changing your address, go to the RUAEA web site at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org). Be sure and use your file number.

I contacted our members recently to get some experiences that might have happened to them while working at United Airlines that might be of interest for other retirees to read about and got a few replies, which I felt were interesting and others might enjoy reading about also.

**Bill Betz**, PHXOZ, Retired, worked the ramp in Phoenix as a Service Director. One day, as the temperature reached 122 degrees, he got a call from OPS. The tower said we had a 737 on the runway and it was stuck. So, he went by himself to the runway with a tow bar, push-back tractor, and a headset. He contacted the Captain who advised him that he could not power out of the hole. Actually, the tarmac sunk in at the nose gear, so Bill hooked up the tow bar and tractor, made sure the brakes were off, and rocked the plane back and over a little, as not to go over the crevice it had made. Then, he disconnected all the equipment, and advised the crew he would salute off, and then get out of the way. The flight took off without incident and the airport closed the south runway until they fixed the crevice. As Bill says this happened on a “dry heat” day of 122 degrees!

**Dakota Morris-Terry** was first hired in 08/1969 for SFORR. When they had a period of furlough in 1971 or 1972, she was furloughed and shortly after that, was married, and later had a son in mid 1972. In July 1972, Dakota took a position at SFO Airport in the FSD (Friendship Service Director) department. She was there until 1973, when her husband got orders to a new duty station in Yokohama, Japan, which was going to be a long period of time. Dakota and her son were excited to be able to join him. She requested to return to furlough, which was granted. Though her furlough would end a year later, and before that year period, she resigned as their time in Japan was for more than one year. Dakota was rehired by UAL for LAXRR 2/1984. In 1985, she transferred to HNLRR, and from there, went to HNLTO, then transferred to IADTO, where she worked at Tyson’s Corner; transferred to DENTO, and finally came to PHXTO in 1994. She really moved around while working for United, but I am sure she made a lot of lasting friendships along the way. She’s proud of her career at UAL.

Both Bill and Dakota are active members of our Re-United’s Chapter. We all enjoy hearing about where they worked at United Air Lines and their experiences. Thanks for sharing this info!

We have the following birthdays in June: **Jay Hartough, Valerie Fosberg, Natasha Schmidt, and Liz Tollefsen**. Happy Birthday to all of you! The following couples have Wedding Anniversaries: **Barb & Paul Paymaster, Kris & Rosemarie Schaeffer, and Molly & Bill Norwood**. It’s the Norwoods’ “60<sup>th</sup>” Anniversary! Happy Anniversary to each couple!

## TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Pat Sommer Di Lallo, Treasurer  
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We are the Tucson Roadrunners, an active chapter. We meet for lunch at various Tucson restaurants on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month except in November and December, when it is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday. All retirees are welcome to join us.

If you would like to attend our luncheons, you can e-mail **Pat Sommer Di Lallo** at [rpdgarlic41@comcast.net](mailto:rpdgarlic41@comcast.net) or call either **Pat Di Lallo** (520) 825-7370 or **Sandy Lawyer** (847) 826-2640 for information.

We look forward to seeing you.

## CALIFORNIA

### CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS

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During the time that everyone is at home, I would like to share some creative things that the members of the Northstaters have been doing.

**Gaylen** and his wife **Katherine Eslinger** have a part time home in Moss Beach, CA and also in Redding, CA. While in Moss Beach, they have been hiking many trails trying to get more than 20 miles in each week. Of course they are doing stay at home projects and Katherine is working on her Cello lessons and one of her favorite pastimes of reading.

**Vincent & Kay Neidlinger** who live in Redding, CA have been involved with daily spiritual events through EWTN. Kay is doing a lot of reading and returning to crocheting, sewing and crafts. Vincent has been very busy putting in new sod and lots of gardening.

I found out a little but more about one of our members, **Bob Brand**. He is an avid photographer and has postponed a couple of road trips which he had planned. He is spending his time at home going through the thousands of images he has taken since going digital in 2007. He is editing the best ones for posting on Facebook or Flickr and for submitting into competitions at the Chico Camera Club.

**Carl & Grace Franke** who live in Chico, and said they are doing lots of cleaning and cooking. Also, Grace has been making fabric masks for the last three weeks. She said that finding the elastic for the masks was harder to find than toilet paper. She came up with the idea of elastic head bands in pretty colors. By cutting each headband in half, it was the perfect length for 2 mask straps. She has given them to friends, neighbors and college students in Chico.

**Katie & John Innocenti**, who also live in Chico have been busy on their patio and enjoying their flowers blooming. Katie worked for a Ravel Company and was laid off as she said was expected. She now has a chance to do a lot of cooking and baking that she has not had a chance to do in a while.

**Vreny Grundherr** spends her time doing drawing with color pencils like cards, which she is able to sell at the yearly Bazaar in Lake California area where she lives. Vreny is quite a walker and enjoys walking everyday with another Northstater member, **Chris Isbell** and Chris's dog, Charlie while keeping the 6 ft distance. She is an avid weeder and loves to get them by the "roots".

**Kent & Billie Jorgensen** have been spending their time at their wonderful house in Lake Almanor. Kent has been able to go fishing and is involved with the Ham Radio group through Zoom. Billie is enjoying the beautiful nature that surrounds them and says they did virtual Easter service at 2 different churches in their "jammies".

**Merritt & Klaren Odor** who are located in Chico have been staying close to home as all of us have. Klaren is feeling better and Merritt loves to go to his shop and work on his beautiful 1953 Ford Truck. It is pretty close to being finished except for the upholstery. Lots of purging of stuff in the Odor household. He did resign from the Corvette Club since several of his closest friends have moved out of California.

**Bill & Sharon Simonton** from Paradise, CA are still trying to put their 2 acres back together after the fire. Bill has been doing a tremendous amount of yard work, working on building fences and putting a shed together. Sharon has been busy trying to train their new puppy, Mocha, who is a handful. Sharon realizes she is older and a puppy is a lot of work especially a headstrong one. She is a busy little girl! Their granddaughter, Courtney, has been able to spend some time with them. She is 19 years of age and quite the student debater. Fun conversations have been had by all.

Many of our other members have also been busy with their lives at home.

That is all for now. Everyone has shared the same theme that we want everyone to be safe, healthy and stay the course. We are lucky in the Northstate Area. We have had very little cases of the virus and are blessed with better numbers than most. Hopefully, we can all get back to our lives and meet our friends again. Best to all!

#### Calendar:

Next meeting, time and place TBD

#### **CENTRAL COASTERS**



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

This is no surprise, but our meetings have been cancelled until further notice. I'm sure all other chapters are doing the same thing by staying home and wearing face masks when outside. Even RUAEA'S office in DENTK has been disrupted and thanks to Veronica's e-mail, there are ways to contact them if necessary.

I haven't heard from any of our members except from our president, **Mike Zoldak**, in the form of e-mail jokes. He has sent me several airline stories that I hadn't seen before and I enjoy them especially those before the Jet Age.

Before going to work for UAL, my first airline job was with EAL after finishing Airline School in Kansas City, MO. One of the times I will always remember, was meeting and shaking hands with Eddie Rickenbacker. He was the president of EAL and flew all over since he enjoyed flying and meeting the pilots. When he came into operations, he made a point of meeting those on duty. I knew who he was but never about his life until I read it in his biography. I was told that you never called him Mister, but always Captain. It was my honor to address him as Captain the only time I met him. This is when I worked at MDW, before ORD, where the operations department was involved in all phases of the airline.

My second airline was with NWA, also at MDW. My job was in communications and one night I was talking to a flight from DTW to MSP. The pilot called in with an emergency and requested from dispatch for approval to divert to MDW. Of course this was approved and I asked ATC for the radio frequency he should use. His emergency was that he lost an engine. The aircraft was a Boeing Stratocruiser and was known for engine problems. When he arrived at MDW and parked outside the hangar, he wasn't kidding about losing an engine. It had fallen off over Lake Michigan somewhere. Apparently the engine got so rough it came loose from the wing. The Captain came into the radio room and asked to use our long line phone to dispatch. Since this was late at night and no one was around I took him to the Manager's office to use the phone so he could have some privacy. Needless to say he was quite shaken and relieved that he landed safely and all his passengers were safe.

While working at MDW for 10 years at Capital, I have some fond memories of the flight crews, operation personnel, ticket agents, and mechanics. That was when airline management was in charge before the hotel people took over.

I have so many more stories that I got involved with or heard of. I'm glad that I was able to spend that time when it was fun and very rewarding.



I stumbled into an internet movie regarding Capital Airlines when it started until being merged with UAL. I still remember the Constellation, DC4, and DC3. I flew several times in them and my most memorable time was flying in the Connie and joining the "Mile High Club". Times like that are hard to forget.

So until next month, stay safe and healthy.

### **DESERT SUNBIRDS**

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



Due to the Coronavirus and stay at home order, our March and April luncheons were cancelled. We have no reports for this month.

### **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)

Our May meeting, scheduled for Monday, May 4, was cancelled due to the Coronavirus shelter in place. Our group has been staying in touch via email. **Carol Parks** started the ball rolling with an email to everyone, asking for an update. We respond with "Reply All" to keep the chain going.

**Nancy Boyle** gave us a list of books she has read recently with her book club: The Paris Orphan, Educated, Where the Crawdads Sing, Tangled Vines, State of Wonder and Before We Were Yours.

**Ken Price** has shared a memory of SFOMB. During the 1960's and until this day United Airlines performed Maintenance Services for other airlines at SFOMB. This was especially true with the DC-8's as United could complete an Overhaul in five Dock Days and two on the Ramp. This was unheard of in the industry. There were several airlines who came to SFOMB with many more problems than the standard United DC-8's so it was a challenge to get them in and out on time. From bullet holes from flights into Viet Nam to the results of hauling horses to South America to weird paint schemes, the maintenance folks in SFOOV (Plane Overhaul) grumbled about the condition of some aircraft but would buckle down and get the job done time and time again.

These maintenance services were not limited to DC-8 aircraft, many small to large aircraft - Arnold Palmer's Lear Jet to People Express 747's - all made visits plus everything from engines, landing gear, interiors and components were handled for years and even a few times where the Accident Recovery Crew went out to recover a customer aircraft and sometimes repair on site. Some of these aircraft services were moved to Oakland when World Airways vacated their hanger and United took up residence. All in all it was an interesting time and few outside of SFOMB personnel were aware of this activity.

**Ken Price** also shared this humorous story. *"I have adjusted to the new necessary House Arrest and am amazed how spoiled I was when things were normal. I have only driven my car once in six weeks but I have a Scooter so do get around with it. Every couple of days I ride it to a nearby park. I am blessed to have two daughters who check on me daily and bring me food and whatever else I may need. On Monday I rode over to Target to pick up some food stuffs. I took my face mask and hand sanitizer. (The ride to Target was an escape attempt). When I told the Sheriff and her Deputy, AKA the daughters, I am now restricted."*

**Tracey Blanchard** has been meeting her sister once a week for a "distanced" walk. She's keeping busy with reading, cooking and good TV programs. Tracey and her neighbors have a wine club and they meet regularly to socialize and try new wines. They still meet occasionally – outside, and have dubbed their meetings "Sip & Shout SIP" (for shelter in place). With about 10 people all 6' apart, there is more yelling than talking!

**Jan Soderstrom** is finding online jigsaw puzzles very addictive. [www.jigzone.com](http://www.jigzone.com) has hundreds of free puzzles with every theme imaginable.

## **GOLDEN GATERS**

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



President **Vera Kina** (she being a retired Nurse) has been keeping her finger on the pulse and status of our meeting place – the William Walker Recreational building in Foster City is closed until further notice. The Coronavirus has closed most everything down here in the Bay Area. The May meeting is cancelled. Vera has asked that you contact us at the end of May to verify if we can start meeting again.

Until further notice, here are the next few months:

- ❖ June 22 – Call Vera at (650) 574-7766 or Ginger (see above email/phone number)
- ❖ July 27 - Watch this column – if June is a “go” we will go forward
- ❖ Aug 24 - TBA (To be advised)

Most everyone is staying healthy we have, however, bid a fond farewell to two of our members. **Pam Russell** passed away last month. She was first to sign up for any and all trips we made – she really enjoyed traveling. **Les Carscadden**, a very long time member (back in the day at the Mainliner Club in San Mateo where attendance ran into the hundreds, good parties and fun times.) Our condolences go out to their families – know that you are in our thoughts. If someone needs some TLC, please let Ginger know so that she can send out a card. Any travel trips have been postponed.

We, as a group, are those “at risk” and have been asked to stay home, wear masks, use caution when shopping, keep your distance, wash your hands (for 20 seconds, sing Happy Birthday twice, recite the alphabet backwards (you will have water-logged hands if you can’t do this quickly!) get at least 4000-5000 steps in daily,) stay in touch with loved ones. If you need help – **ask** – there are helping hands ready to come to your aid. Call a friend, open one of your “junk drawers” and use one of those items that you just had to have (the melon baller, the loose tea spoon that had a lid on it so that you could dunk the spoon into the cup of boiling water, those 5 sets of measuring spoons that are scattered all over the bottom of the drawer, the zester, one of those 3 scissors that will cut through the chicken bones in a flash – you know what I mean.) Be intimidated by your children (those now old adults) that you never make a pie from scratch – so you are forced to go out and find the lard or Crisco to make that perfect crust (1 Cup of flour, 1/3 cup of lard, dash of salt and just enough water to hold it together, combine, roll out - best ever, flaky crust!) – you could even share it with them (if they are nice!)

We are all in this together – tell someone you love them, make amends if needed, forgive and go forward, send a “miss you” card, abide by those easy “rules” we have been asked to do and do it with a smile for this, too, will pass - mostly remember that “We are Fam-i-lee” and together United We Stand!

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



## **HANGTOWN MINERS**

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

Greetings! Long time no see ~ or talk ~ or laugh with ~ or hug! So, how are all of you doing? Have lots of projects you’re getting done? Challenging jigsaw puzzles? Spouses still talking to one another and having fun? You know, I was visiting (with “social distancing”) with a friend the other day and tried to explain that, when you’re retired, this is all pretty much the way life is everyday! Well, except for the dashes to the stores and the eating out, but, not all that different; at least for Bill and myself.

Your officers have “talked it over”, and it has been decided that the Hangtown Miners will take another month off. We want to say Thank You to **Roy & Dawn Martin** for planning to host in April and let **J.R. &**

**Rosemary Heier** know that they won't need to make arrangements for May. As this situation runs its course, we will see what June will look like for our luncheon.

Do want to send out Congratulations to the three couples celebrating their anniversaries this month: **Bill & Linda Dinette; Bill & Jane Gibson** and **Roy & Dawn Martin**.

**Tom Kenny**, being the amazing Treasurer that he is, has sent me the statement for April. Other than receiving annual dues checks from Avallone, Boyle and D'Amico, (thank you) there were no deposits since we did not hold our monthly raffle. Our three charities have received and deposited their checks. There are still 7 members who have not sent in their annual dues of \$10.00! So, if you're not sure if you did so or just "forgot", you can check with **Tom Kenny**, (530) 626-5660 or email [tck46@flash.net](mailto:tck46@flash.net) to be sure whether or not you have done so. If not, please send a check for \$10.00 made out to: Hangtown Miners and mail it to **Tom Kenny**, 3481 Parleys Canyon; Placerville, CA 95667.

So, since we won't be getting together for another month, please let us know how you're doing. Since we are a group made up of friends, we sure want to be kept up on how things are in your world.

Take care, stay safe and healthy and try to stay out of trouble - trouble makers, you know who you are!

### **REDWOOD EMPIRE** **RETIREES**

Santa Rosa, California  
Mary Wilson, Secretary  
3623 Aaron Dr.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
[marywilson333@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marywilson333@sbcglobal.net)



There is no report this month from the Redwood Empire Retirees chapter of RUAEA.



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

Although the Resans group has not gotten together for our monthly breakfast, we have been keeping in touch by phone and emails.

In April we had a Check-In where everyone sent in an email about how and what they were doing in their time at home. If I didn't hear from anyone, I called for a chat. The results were positive and most are enjoying neighborhood walks, time in their yards and reading. There are also some crossword and jigsaw puzzles going on. With no time restraints they are more enjoyable than they have been in the past.

**Peter Wronetzki** is not only shut in, he has to deal with a redo of his apartment due a flood from the floor above him that leaked down through and into his unit. He has to endure drywall being torn out and bare walls and all moving at a snail's pace as only so many workers are allowed in his place at a time. If that isn't enough, Peter lives on the border of Balboa Park and all the Parks are closed. He is restricted in his walks also. He remains in good spirits.

There is one Birthday in June and that is **Keith Newman**. We wish him a Very Special Happy Birthday! The good news is that it may be the one and only time he will ever have a birthday in quarantine!

This month Resans is having a Quarantine Recipe exchange. We have all had to be creative in our meal planning as there are many ingredients we are used to cooking with that are not currently available. This is bringing out a creative streak we may not have been aware of. We are thinking of making a cookbook as a memory for all of us to show how creative we were.

Until next month, remember that even apart we are all in this together.

At this time there is no information about our next monthly Breakfast. Worry not, we will be back ...

### **Calendar:**

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



## **SACRAMENTO GOLD DIGGERS**

Sacramento, CA  
Laverne Haubl  
Secretary  
[lhaubl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lhaubl@sbcglobal.net)



The Gold Diggers will not meet in April or May 2020. **Sonda Sandstedt** is hoping you are all staying safe and positive during this challenging time. Our RUAEA organization is still meeting electronically and board members are willing to help with any issues we can.

Although the convention in San Diego has been postponed until next year, we will be holding our election of officers this year as planned. Updates will be in our RUAEA newsletter along with other timely info so it's more important than ever to keep your membership up to date. And reading the info from the company on flying together is another way to stay up to date on how and what UAL is doing to come through this pandemic in the best possible shape.

I'd love to hear how creatively you're passing time until we can take to the friendly skies again. Please text or email if you like. I'm still unpacking boxes from my move and working in this beautiful sunshine yard. I keep in touch with my family and friends by Zoom and Facetime and am catching up on my reading. Until we meet again be safe and sane.

New 2020 Airport Codes and Popular Spring Break Destinations:

LVG - Living room, PAT - Patio, KIT - Kitchen, BAL - Balcony, BTH - Bathroom, OFC - Office, MBR - Master Bath, BKY - Backyard, BDM - Bedroom, BMT - Basement. Enjoy your trip!

*History repeats itself. Came across this poem written in 1869, reprint during the 1919 Pandemic.*



### **This is Timeless....**

And people stayed at home  
And read books  
And listened  
And they rested  
And did exercises  
And made art and played  
And learned new ways of being  
And stopped and listened  
More deeply  
Someone meditated, someone prayed  
Someone met their shadow  
And people began to think differently  
And people healed.  
And in the absence of people who  
Lived in ignorant ways  
Dangerous, meaningless and heartless,  
The earth also began to heal  
And when the danger ended and  
People found themselves  
They grieved for the dead  
And made new choices  
And dreamed of new visions  
And created new ways of living  
And completely healed the earth  
Just as they were healed.



## **SAN JOAQUINERS**

Rosie Walls  
(209) 984-5672  
[jawrmw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jawrmw@sbcglobal.net)

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

If there is anyone who would like to join us at one of our luncheons, please call our president **Steve Foster** at (209) 328-1210 and he will answer all your questions and welcome you to our luncheon. Hope to see you there.

## **SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY**

San Jose, CA

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

George Midwin

1879 Foxworthy Ave.

San Jose, CA 95124

[midwin5u@hotmail.com](mailto:midwin5u@hotmail.com)

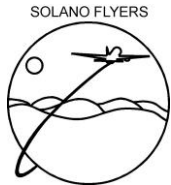


From the President of the South Bay RUAEA Chapter ~ **Chuck Clayborn:**

For many members, we find ourselves in a daunting situation. For some of us this is similar to challenges that we have faced in the past. For others this is very new. All of us, however, have one thing we can look forward to, that is that we have survived past situations and we as a membership and country will survive this one.

Since we will not be meeting for awhile, this chapter report will go on hiatus until we can once again meet in a safe and healthy manner. Although we all miss our weekly and quarterly get-togethers, we certainly will be together not too far in the future.

Until then I wish you all continued health and maintaining a safe environment. Please keep in contact with us via phone or e-mail.



## **SOLANO FLYERS**

Allan Pochop

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Vacaville, CA 95687

(707) 447-4980

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

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

## **COLORADO**

### **DENVER**

#### **MILE HIGHERS**

Rich & Cleora Conner

(980) 660-7040

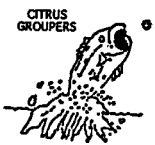
[richcleora@gmail.com](mailto:richcleora@gmail.com)



There is no report this month from the Denver Mile Highers chapter of RUAEA.

Our next RUAEA breakfast meeting will be Saturday, June 6<sup>th</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 GROUPEERS**

#### **THE VILLAGES**

Julius "Joe" DiStaso

(352) 775-8201

(941) 661-2215

[wopahofl@comcast.net](mailto:wopahofl@comcast.net)

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

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



### **THE ORLANDO REAL McCOYS**

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

Staying home and mostly isolated from everyone is sad and depressing and lonely, huh. Must admit that it's a bit easier when the days are mostly warm and sunny and the nights are mild! Lucky us who live in Florida - - right!

So a few simple messages I've received over the past 7 weeks (oh my gosh, and by the time you read this, it'll be more like .... 11 weeks ☹)

- ☺ How do you get a baby astronaut to go to sleep? Rocket!
- ☺ The Pillsbury Dough Boy died yesterday of a yeast infection and trauma from repeated pokes in the belly. He was 71. Buried in a lightly greased coffin. Celebrities at the grave included Mrs. Butterworth and Hungry Jack and the site was piled high with flours. Aunt Jemima, during the eulogy, lovingly described Doughboy as a man who never knew how much he was kneaded. He was crusty and flaky at times, but was considered a positive roll model for millions. Survived by wife, Play Dough, 3 kids, John Dough, Jane Dough and Dosey Dough, plus one in the oven. Funeral was held at 3:50 for about 20 minutes.
- ☺ Night 1 of no sports: My wife & I just had an hour long conversation. She's really nice, apparently she works in the medical field. Also, TV's are black when they are off.
- ☺ That moment when you're worried about the elderly and realize **you** are the elderly.
- ☺ They said a mask and gloves were enough to go to the grocery store. They lied - everyone else had clothes on.

Enjoy the smiles and chuckles and stay safe ... for your grandchildren's sake.

### **SW PELICANS DROP-INS**

Margie Burg, Correspondent  
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Fort Myers, FL 33908  
(239) 400-2544  
[burgmarge@aol.com](mailto:burgmarge@aol.com)



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

### **THE SAND DOLLARS**

Bradenton, FL  
Judy Macklin,  
840 Bird Bay Dr. W., #202  
Venice, FL 34285  
(941) 214-0252  
[judymacklin13@gmail.com](mailto:judymacklin13@gmail.com)



Due to the Coronavirus restrictions, The Sand Dollars did not meet for their usual May luncheon, which would have been the last meeting of the 2019/2020 season. In normal years we start meeting again in October, but we will of course have to see if this is possible this year. However thanks to **Ginger Hyde**, we have the following information on our members.

**Shirley & Bob Adams** are following all the rules and staying home except for a weekly grocery store visit. Shirley's hip surgery is healing well though it is putting restrictions on her for the time being. **Alice D'Souza** had to cancel both her toe and knee surgery and is waiting for a rescheduled date. Meantime she has been making face masks, but ran out of elastic so she headed to Joanne's Fabrics. As she arrived there, the police were closing the store to the public. **Paul & Shelly Grossman** have been doing video senior exercises and Killer Scrabble. Their daughter set up a Zoom session for the family at Easter which included their son and his



wife in Japan, and grandsons in San Diego and Long Island. They all had such a good time, and are singing the praises of this new creation, Zoom.

**Skip & Cindy Irwin** are looking forward to returning to Ohio for the summer. Skip has been having home therapy for the shoulder surgery he had back in March, which was more difficult than he had expected. **Bill & Inge Phillips** were met with a challenge when Bill had an 82% blockage in his carotid artery. He had surgery but Inge was not allowed to visit or be with him before or after the surgery. Fortunately he is now home and doing well.

As for the rest of our retirees, there are of course no lovely travel stories to tell, and we all anxiously await news of travel restrictions being cancelled and passengers again flocking to make reservations on United Airlines.

For information on our group, please call **Ginger Hyde** at (941) 360-6671, or email her at: ASDIP920@aol.com.



### **TAMPA BAY CHAPTER**

Trinity, FL  
Janis Lindstrom, Acting Secretary  
587 Waterford Circle W.  
Tarpon Springs, FL 34688  
(727) 934-1862  
[LindeKatz@aol.com](mailto:LindeKatz@aol.com)

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

### **TREASURE COAST**

Stuart, FL  
Mary Kay Wetherington  
(561) 345-6373  
[mwether7044@att.net](mailto:mwether7044@att.net)



Due to our inability to have our regular meetings at this time, our member input is limited at best. I did email all of our members requesting an update on their status but only heard from a few of them. Given our locations and age group, it is safe to say no one is traveling or even getting out much. An occasional trip to the grocery or pharmacy donned in mask and gloves has become our new normal. Most of us have not been released into Phase 1. Even Phase 1 is restrictive as is Phase 2. I think we'll be "hunkered down" for some time. Many have compared this time to our hurricane pre and post. At least now we have AC, television and internet. We can do this.

President **Al Popek** responded with his and **Janice's** update. *"It's a beautiful day out there in our back yard. We have been enjoying it and our front porch during this confinement. One day while Janice was doing the wash and getting ready to put it in the dryer, I suggested that she hold off. Being bored, I went out to the garage and located an old clothes line and pins and told her I would put it up and hang up the clothes. It gave me something to do and an opportunity to enjoy the fresh air. Now I hang up the wash each time. The last time I hung up wash was when I was in the Navy in boot camp and we didn't have the luxury of clothes pins and had to use pieces of cord! Seems many of our family and friends liked the idea and ordered clotheslines. Our cat, Chester can't believe we are home all the time and now is following us around like a dog. Don't know what he's going to do when we are back to normal".* Al's suggestion for Happy Hour: At 5:00 (that's PM), put a cocktail in each room in your house. Then you can go "Bar Hopping" from room to room! Al & Janice wish everyone system wide healthy and safe days ahead.

For my personal circumstances, I am concerned for my children. My daughter is a Critical Care nurse dealing with Covid first-hand. My oldest son works in the oil industry and we all know what is happening there. My youngest son works in the major construction industry in South Florida. All of his projects are on hold for the duration. I'm sure many of you are also concerned for your children and grandchildren as well. Three of my grandchildren were scheduled to graduate in May, one from college in Aeronautical Engineering, one from high school with an acceptance to college and one in OT assistant training. All have been cancelled. I would have loved to attend their ceremonies. I had also planned to fly to Dallas the end of May for my niece's wedding. They have postponed it until November. "De-cluttering" is on my weekly calendar. I thank [Target.com](http://Target.com) for getting me my essentials. Oddly enough, I have time for reading now!

I have heard from **Joyce Smith** who normally would have returned to Long Island by now but is stuck in Florida until who knows when. She wrote, "*I have had 14 meals and 6 naps and it's still today*"!

**Frances D'Amico** was unable to fly out to New Jersey. She was fortunate that her son, equipped with mask and gloves, drove down to Florida and brought her back to his home in North Carolina. She feels like a privileged guest enjoying confinement in a resort setting.

**Jim & Janet Hanley**, prior to the traveling bans, took a trip to Rome in February to celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They flew into Milan where they were met by customs agents wearing masks who took their temperature and picture. During their whole trip, even a train excursion to Rome, that was the only time they were stopped. At the Sacred Heart Basilica in Rome, they celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> by exchanging vows during Mass. They flew back to EWR on February 24<sup>th</sup> and did not have their temperature taken at either airport. We are so glad you were able to make the trip and stayed well.

A Big "Thank You" to **Bob Langevin** for keeping us updated and in stitches with his daily emails. We certainly appreciate the effort.

Those celebrating birthdays in June include **Janice Popek, Ron Brodis, Fran D'Amico** and **Mardele**. Celebrating anniversaries are **Frank & Jane Wise** and **Arnie & Dee Lakso**.

Everyone in The Treasure Coast Chapter wishes all of you the Best of Health. We look forward to the day we will be out of quarantine and able to resume our monthly meetings.

## HAWAII



### HONOLULU MENEHUNES

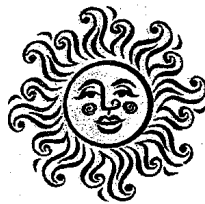
Patricia Thomson, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 1709  
Honolulu, HI 96806-1709  
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[HNLRUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNLRUA@gmail.com)

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 190726  
Hawi, HI 96719  
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Aloha from The Big Island! Pau Hana Kupuna is a very old RUAEA group which has become moribund. I would love to hear from anyone who would like to help me get things going again ... lunch meetings, potlucks, good times, and more. If you are interested, please send your email address to [annmedve@icloud.com](mailto:annmedve@icloud.com) and/or call **Ann Medve** at (808) 889-1636.

## IDAHO



### BOISE GEMS

Shirley Dempsey  
[brandyjake@cablone.net](mailto:brandyjake@cablone.net)

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

The next scheduled meeting is in June 2020. Hopefully, by then we will have our meeting.

## ILLINOIS

### CHICAGO SKYLINERS

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

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

Jan Gawenda

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June—Well, here we are again, but now we're wearing masks and gloves. I hope we can enjoy the lovely June weather, behave ourselves and continue to live in good health. You're all keeping busy, right? I've had doctor's visits, both on the phone and in the office. It's nice they are accommodating us that way. There's no chance of picking up little germies and getting sick on the phone. I enjoy the part of not dressing to visit the doctor, from the waist down. June has some special days, D-Day on the 6<sup>th</sup>, Flag Day on the 14<sup>th</sup>, the longest day, summer begins, the 20<sup>th</sup>, Father's Day, the 21<sup>st</sup>, Hug your cat on the 4<sup>th</sup>, Chocolate Éclair Day, the 22<sup>nd</sup>, Beauticians Day on the 26<sup>th</sup>, hope they're opened, Hug Day, the 29<sup>th</sup>, and Meteor Day, on the 30<sup>th</sup>. June, the sixth month, half the year is over! Yikes!

I asked a few friends about their careers with United. Here are some of their answers. Enjoy! Our Email Administrator was the first to answer, **Toni Van Kampen** started at United in 1983, in EXOKC, as a programmer analyst. Her first trip was a day trip to DCA, with her son, Sean. The return trip was full, so they took a cab from there to BWI, she hardly had enough cash to cover it. When they got to ORD, Toni called a friend to bring cash to the airport so she could get her car out of the parking lot. On another trip, she and her son sat across the aisle from Mr. T. They were told he didn't do autographs. However, her son was dying to talk to him. So on the way to baggage claim, Toni let him say, 'Hi'. Mr. T called him, 'Little Man', and he was thrilled! Darryl & Toni have a son and two daughters, and two grandchildren.

Here's our chapter's Vice President, **Virginia Monaco's** reply. She started October 1973, in Chicago Reservations, making \$4.00/hour (part time) working 6pm to 11pm. Virginia's first trip was a familiarization on Delta. She flew into MIA, then Mackie Airlines to Cape Eleuthera. As they arrived, Burt Reynolds was leaving (Damn). She traveled with Nancy Kraft, Phyllis Singer and Lillian Schulman. They went on a fishing boat with Nancy and Phyllis. Virginia caught a barracuda, reeled him in with help. He was taller than she was and almost bit her toes off. She still has the picture of herself and that ugly fish. In all of her years of travel, she has never been bumped off of a flight. Virg considers herself very lucky. She retired October 31, 2001 from ORDCS. She says, 'I had a wonderful time working for United, even though I was furloughed three times. I learned so much, met many wonderful people that I'm proud to call my friends, and traveled all over the world. To me, United was the best and I loved the many jobs I worked. I grew up working for United'.

Our next responder is **Delphine Perry**, she started in 1974, at ORDHK, as a Food Service Assistant. She doesn't remember her starting pay, but said it wasn't enough. (We all say that) Delphine's first trip was to Ft. Lauderdale, to visit her daughter. She met the following celebrities on various trips: Roy Rogers, Loretta Lynn, Debbie Reynolds, Larry Holmes, Don Ho, Charro, George Benson, Ernie Banks, Joe Morgan, Former Vice President Walter Mondale, Danny Thomas, Henry Winkler, Jessie Jackson, Gary Hart, Rod Stewart, Bruce Jenner (before he became Kaitlin), Linda Thompson, William "Refrigerator" Perry, Muhammad Ali, and Ivanka Trump. Her husband, Bill, added that she was kissed by Don Ho, sang Feliz Navidad on stage with Charro, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, got to call Mondale, 'Fritz', and got a 20-minute personal tour by Roy Rogers, of his museum in Victorville, CA. Wow Delphine, you've been busy! She has four children, twelve grandchildren, eighteen great grandchildren, and three great-great grandchildren.



Our next party heard from is **Harvey Bruning**, starting in ORDMM, December of 1961, as a Radio and Electric (R&E) mechanic. Later he became an Airframe and Powerplant lead (A&P). Harvey's first trip was to New York to see his family. A few years later, he had an interesting business trip to SFO. The F/A asked him to help her with an unruly male customer who had too much to drink. On another trip to HNL, the entertainment system was inoperable; he was able to fix it. He was rewarded with as much meat, ice cream and beverages as he wanted, in First Class. He said, 'Those were the days'. They were! He also met Ronald Reagan while working on his charter. Harvey met his wife, Eileen, while going to school at the Great Lakes Naval Station. They married 60 years ago this November. They have one daughter, and two grandchildren. One is a government meteorologist in Juneau, AK, and the other is still in a Wisconsin college.

**Joan Teister**, one of our chapter's Board Members, started in April, of 1990, in ORDHK, and ORDHN, ORDHM, CHIBD, EXOXO, Tickets by mail, and EXODT. She comes from a long line of UAL'ers. Her mom started in 1961, did refunds and payroll, manually! Her brother, **Jerry Tipperreiter**, was in ORDKA. She, her husband, Joe, Jerry, and his friend Pam, travel together whenever and wherever possible. Joan and Joe's son, Keith is an A320 pilot. Their daughter Kim is a travel agent, so they're still a Travelin' Family. Joan says they have always felt lucky to be a real United family.

Then we have **John Witkowski**, commonly known as 'Ski', one of a kind. Started in ORDMM, June, 1967, as an A&P mechanic. His starting salary was \$3.58 an hour, and he still has his UG100, signed by **Duane Buckmaster**. His first trip was to SFO with another new-hire, **Harold Bielat**. They stayed at the San Franciscan Hotel, even rented a VW Beetle. One night, about 2 A.M., they stopped at a small restaurant for a snack. While sitting at the counter, they heard gunshots right outside the door, someone was shot, next came ambulances and police. After that, they went to safer places, the hippie/strip/nightclub district. Back in the 70's, Ski, and his wife, Pam, went to a UAL bowling tournament in SFO with his friends **John Dover**, **Rich Henkel**, and their wives. They decided to visit LAS for a few nights. When it was time to get home, they checked flights for ORD, they found one with a few seats opened; they listed, and hoped for the best. They checked in, were told it would be tight. After sitting down, they noticed two young ladies having a lengthy conversation with the gate agent. They then sat behind Ski, and said they were worried about their low seniority, 'but the agent said he'd help them'. Boarding starts, the six get on. Yeay! After settling in, the agent comes to Ski and says, 'grab your bags, you need to get off'. On the jet way, he sees the two ladies getting on in his place. Oops. Ski explodes, using powerful language at the agent, 'I'll never get back, flights are full for almost a week'. Along comes a CS supervisor, says, 'Come with me to my office'. He proceeds to chew out Ski for yelling at the gate agent, Ski tells him, 'you are wrong about the seniority issue'. The supervisor says, 'we'll look at the standby coupons, point at the ones that have less time'. Ski points at them; boom, sure enough, it's the two dollies, with years less seniority. The supervisor suggests Ski calm down while he does magic on his computer. Soon he hands Ski two boarding passes for the next flight, and a meal voucher for the restaurant, since the next flight is hours away. He says to get on board with the paying passengers, sit down and stay there. Yes, Sir! While Ski was in the office, Pam was playing the slots, and won a \$100 jackpot. Many years later, he had to have five bypass surgeries, maybe from all that cussing! They have one daughter, Jennifer, two dogs and two cats, plus, three grand horses, one grand dog, two grand cats, and one grand Guinea hen.

From our friend, **Ginny Vlach**, she started in April 1975, EXOPS, as a secretary, then transferred to EXOMI, as an interline travel rep, she wrote tickets for business trips, and for 'Special People', stars, politicians, etc. Her first trip was to LAX to see a Rams football game. Ginny married Frank, her high school sweetheart from Broad Ripple High in IND. He was stationed at Schofield Barracks in HNL, and Ginny worked in the Canadian Pacific Airlines ticket office. While on the beach one day, they bumped into Dan Dailey, he talked with them, had his ukulele, and was very gracious. They also sat next to Jeanne Crain at the Hawaiian Village restaurant. Ginny & Frank have two sons, four grandchildren, two great grandsons, and five furry great grandchildren. Benjie is her favorite and she babysits her often.

Our **Fred Seibert**, started May of 1966, at ORDMM as an A&P mechanic. His first trip was with his wife, Diane, on their honeymoon to HNL. He met several famous people, Dan Walker, former Illinois governor, while he had coffee in our terminal, also Muhammad Ali sitting at our gate, and Willie Nelson on the jet way. Fred worked the Bears charters and once took Walter Peyton back to his car to get a forgotten briefcase. Fred misses our breakfasts and hopes to see everybody very soon.

**Norm Wilkinson** started at MDW in October of 1955, making \$270 a month, in a training program to become a passenger agent. At the end of the training, he made a mind-blowing \$280 a month. He was happy in his job, with William Patterson as president, and his future was rosy. In 1955, MDW was the largest airport in the World! We had Executive flights to SFO and LAX, plus the Men Only flight to LGA complete with cigars and slippers. As the busiest airport, we had many 'names' come through, and he met quite a few, most were

very nice people. One of his most memorable recollections was dealing with a woman who was a denied boarding on a flight. She was an official with the FAA, and one of the loudest, maddest people he ever encountered. Norm spent over an hour trying to placate her, but she kept saying she was going to have his job (which about then she would've been welcome to). After he escorted her to her next flight, he was sure all of his hard work was for naught. As it turned out, she wrote the nicest 'orchid letter' that he ever received in seven years as an agent. Good advice to all, keep trying to do your best. Norm and his wife, Diana, had a son and three daughters; they in turn produced nine grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. They were stationed in East Ocean View, VA while in the Navy, and always had cats. Now they just have one, Puff, who will be 20 in June. She has made sure her humans are properly trained. His favorite saying is 'dogs have masters, cats have staff'.

Some of you will remember our next fella, **Clyde Johnson**, the man who started our Northwest Loonies some 20 years ago. It started out as a dinner among friends, and ended up a large group of retirees from many states meeting twice a year for fun and frolic in the upper Midwest. Clyde started at MDW, 1954 in the Dispatch/Weather department. His starting salary was \$250 a month. His first trip was to Moline to see school friends. Doris & Clyde had four children, six grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

One last person, **Nancy Naranjo**, started in 1956, as a teletype operator at SFO communications, making \$248 a month. Her first trip pass was used to Hawaii with her roommate. Then they used the actual weights of the passengers for load planning! They flew on a DC7 that took four hours. She could see the Coast Guard ship positioned mid-way in case they ditched, very scary. She met her husband, Ed in SFO. She said this cute ramp serviceman kept knocking on their office window. They were married in 1961, transferred to EXO later, to OPBSP and OPBOP. Nancy said they were blessed with three daughters and eight grandchildren.

I love the fact that all of these people have kept in touch, even after 60 years. What a joy and compliment! Hope it's another 10 at least. Thank you all for your input, some interesting stories.

Our friends that flew West last month include **Helen Bottalla**, WHQWS, **Donald Jones**, CHIDD, and a close friend of ours, **Hank Mueller**, ORDMM, Line Lead, a great gentleman. He had a boisterous laugh you could hear across the hangar, and had a great sense of humor. His wife died about two years ago, I know he was anxious to join her. Also gone from our world are Brian Dennehy, Shirley Knight, Harold Reid (Statler Brothers), Hank Steinbrenner (NY Yankees), Don Shula, NFL coach, three Cubs Jim Bolger, Glenn Beckert, and Jim Frye, Greg Zanis (cross builder), Bobby Lewis (Tossin' and Turnin'), and Sam Lloyd (Scrubs).

May your troubles be less, may your blessings be more, and may nothing but happiness come through your door.

We'll have to wait to hear from our governor as to when we can have our breakfasts and lunches returned into our lives. **Toni Van Kampen** will send out an Email Blast if restaurants open in June.

#### Calendar:

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

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

IAM Lodge 1487 - 50 W. Oakton, Des Plaines, (**June ?**), 11:00 A.M. First Thursday of the month.

**Canceled** - Skyliner's Summer Lunch. No decision has been made on the Fall Luncheon at this time.

### INDIANA



#### INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN

Frank N. Ingegno

(317) 428-7741

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

The RUAEA Indy Racers chapter March, April and May meetings were canceled due to the Coronavirus restrictions. As a result, there is no news to report.

Our June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting will occur only if the Coronavirus restrictions are lifted.

We wish all to stay safe and take all precautions to stay healthy.

We also wish United Airlines and all UA employees the strength to persevere thru these trying times.

Dependent upon the Coronavirus restrictions being lifted, our next RUAEA Indy Racers chapter meeting will be held on Tuesday June 9<sup>th</sup>, at Emmy's Pancake House and Grill, 7508 Beechwood Center Road, Avon, IN 46123.

Our future meetings schedule for 2020 is (conditional on Coronavirus precautions):

- June 9, at Emmy's
- July 7, at Emmy's
- August 11, at Emmy's
- September 8, at Emmy's
- October 7, at Emmy's

If you are in the Indianapolis area during any of our meetings, please consider joining us. The lunch and conversation are both excellent. For more information please contact **Frank Ingegno**, [figenius@sbcglobal.net](mailto:figenius@sbcglobal.net).

## MASSACHUSETTS

### NOR'EASTERS

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



Greetings to all! It's **Dick Vee** again, trying my hand at the newsletter a second time. I've been home alone for sometime because of the Coronavirus, as I'm sure most of you have. I have been keeping in touch with many friends and relatives via phone; a good way to keep up, especially with the elderly.

Recently, I got an unexpected phone call from a retired United employee I haven't heard from since 1988, when we both transferred from Boston, he to Florida, me to Manchester, **Tommy Cannata**. Over the years, I've read about Tommy's exploits in his RUAEA chapter, the Real McCoys, MCO, but never contacted him. It was a real pleasure to talk to Tommy!

I recently got a call from **Ted Capellos** in California, also a retired United employee. He and his sister-in-law got the virus and recently, both got cured. Two of the lucky ones!

I spoke to **Marie Giordino Dwyer**, retired BOSTO, on Easter Sunday. She said it's the first time she's ever been alone on a holiday, with the exception of her dog for company. Like myself, due to the virus.

Reported last month, **Jayne & John Regan** sold their home and moved into an apartment. Jayne said she was so happy to get rid of the burden of owning a home. Also, because of the virus, the hospital put off her hip replacement until ? Also, I missed reporting her May birthday. Sorry Jayne!

Likewise, **Norman Hudon's** hip replacement surgery was canceled. He's also homebound and limping. His sister and some neighbors have been doing his shopping. Norm said we'll all be glad when this is over.

**Mark Bonnells** is furloughed from his position until early June. Mark and his wife **Janet** bought a 1924 craftsman style bungalow, now he has time to work on it. Janet is still working for the VNA for physical therapy. Be safe Janet!

June's birthdays ~ **June Alberino**, **Susie Dolgin**, **Marie Dwyer**, **Barbara McFarland**, **Anthony Postale Jr.** and **Dick Vee**.

June's anniversaries: ~ **Pat & Bob Austin** (46 years), **Irene & Robert Kimball** (35), **Gerald & Margaret Peters** (64), **Jayne & John Regan** (28), and **Helmut & Patricia Unbley** (55).

### Calendar:

All events canceled until ?

## MICHIGAN



### GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

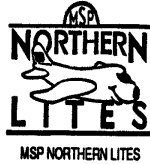
Gwen Dyc-Schwendenmann  
(248) 667-9258  
[bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net)

There is no report this month from the Great Lakes Escapees chapter of RUAEA.

## MINNESOTA

### NORTHERN LITES

Connie Glattly  
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Willow River, MN 55795  
(218) 349-3972  
[crglattly@frontiernet.net](mailto:crglattly@frontiernet.net)



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

Lunch and meeting at 11:00 a.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at The Golden Corral, 3000 White Bear Ave., Maplewood, MN. (Directions: I-694 to Exit 50, south 2 short blocks to a strip mall on the left, next to Aldi's Market.)

## NEBRASKA

### OMAHA GOLDENEARS

Jan Cornish  
(402) 571-6031  
[kcornish6031@msn.com](mailto:kcornish6031@msn.com)



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

## NEVADA

### LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

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



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

The Silverliners hold their 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  
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Reno, NV 89502  
(775) 856-2044  
[zobolilady@aol.com](mailto:zobolilady@aol.com)

The Sierra Roundup did not hold a May meeting. The state of Nevada continues to be in lock down mode until May 15. We hope to meet again on June 8. Therefore, there will be no newsletter this month.

### **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)



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

### **NEW YORK**

#### **BUFFALO CHIPS**

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



**BUFFALO CHIPS**

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

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

#### **NEW YORK METROS**

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



NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

Greetings from the New York Metros.  
Because of the virus, we are masked,  
When out in public we are asked:  
"Who Are You?"

This isolation is getting to me. I miss the casinos, so I buy more scratch-off lottery tickets. I had a \$5 one with four numbers to match. I matched all four for \$20. Then I scratched off the bonus square. Had I matched even one of those numbers, I would have won the whole card payout of—ta da - \$1 million!

Something I'll always remember was the flyover by the Blue Angels and the Thunderbirds, twelve all together, to honor our health care workers and volunteers. I knew it was planned for Tuesday, but I forgot, so I was in my kitchen when I heard this tremendous roar, sudden, like an explosion. I raced outside, realizing then what it was, only to see the contrails directly, and I mean **directly**, over my condo. I'm surprised my windows are still intact. Many neighbors were outside marveling at the display, but I wanted to cry, to think I missed the sight in its entirety. What a gift to New York and New Jersey!

Neighbors are good to each other, offering food pickup, but I tell them I'm okay while Bombay Sapphire and ice cream last. Bottoms up, everyone! Be well!

## OHIO

### OHIO BUCKEYES

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

Judy McKnight

Secretary

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



Well this has been a quiet month, we have cancelled our luncheons for April, May, June, and August for sure, because of the Coronavirus. About 2 months ago we had spoken with Nautica about our cruise in July (on Lake Erie). They suggested, and we agreed to wait because it was so early. Yes, that's our Nautica Queen, one of our 2018 RUAEA Convention tours. We have called to postpone this year's cruise until July, 2021 as previously agreed. Both, the Nautica Queen and the "Chalet" in Strongsville have agreed to transfer our deposit to next year. The Chalet is scheduled for August 4, 2021.

It is very hard to make the decision that needs to be made. Notes and emails have been received from many members. They state that they will miss being at our luncheons and seeing everyone. They then continue to say that they understand, agree, and appreciate the officer's decision to place their health first, before any luncheon. Frankly, there was no contest as to what needed to be done. We appreciate, respect, and honor our members like family. And we pledge to them that 2021 will be one-heck-of-a "**fun**" year.

Hope everyone has been cautious when venturing out. I know I have. Let's all of us keep all our family and friends in our prayers. We Ohio Buckeyes know that "God" does listen.

## OREGON

### OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland

Terry Hotchkin

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Battle Ground, WA 98604

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



The Portland Dew-er's chapter canceled its March meeting, just to be cautious, and since then, all meetings have been canceled, and will be until further notice. We will wait for the medical experts to give the all clear before resuming. In the meantime, we are hunkering down, staying socially distanced, and sharing funnies whenever possible. We share some of them with you now:

- ☺ Until further notice the days of the week are now called this day, that day, another day, some day, yesterday, today and the next day!
- ☺ Just asked a 6-year-old if he understands why there is no school. He said, "Yes, because they are out of toilet paper."
- ☺ On the bright side, I am no longer calling this shelter-in-place. I am an artist-in-residence.
- ☺ After years of wanting to thoroughly clean my house but lacking the time, I have now discovered that wasn't the reason.
- ☺ Coronavirus has turned us all into dogs. We roam the house all day looking for food. We're told "no" if we get too close to strangers and we get really excited about car rides.
- ☺ If you thought toilet paper was crazy ... just wait until 300 million people all want a haircut appointment.
- ☺ 2020 is a unique Leap Year. It has 29 days in February, 300 days in March and 5 years in April.
- ☺ Wearing a mask inside your home is now highly recommended. Not so much to prevent COVID-19 but to stop eating.
- ☺ If you keep a glass of wine in each hand, you can't accidentally touch your face.
- ☺ Kinda' starting to understand why dogs are so excited when people come home and try to run out of the house when the door opens.
- ☺ Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands?

☺ You think it's bad now? In 20 years our country will be run by people home schooled by day drinkers

...

☺ Whoever owes you money, go to their house now, they should be home.

And our parting thoughts: Also highly contagious is – Kindness, Patience, Love, Enthusiasm, and a Positive Attitude. Don't wait to catch it from others, be the carrier!

Calendar:

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

**May 13** - Social

**PENNSYLVANIA**

**THE INDEPENDENTS**

Philadelphia, PA

Joyce W. Lindenmuth

Wesley Enhanced Living

100 Halcyon Dr., Room C-107

Media, PA 19063

(610) 521-2291

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



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

**PITTSBURGH**

**PIT-STOPPERS**

Bill Chicots

2419 Rochester Road

Sewickley, PA. 15143

(412) 352-7375

[firechief158@gmail.com](mailto:firechief158@gmail.com)



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

**TENNESSEE**

**TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS**

Carolyn Hartshorn

5957 Warrenpark Lane

Knoxville, TN 37912

Home (865) 951-1198

Cell (303) 886-9537

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



There is no report this month from the Tennessee Rocky Tops chapter of RUAEA.

For Luncheon/Meeting's location, please contact Carolyn at the above phone number.

## UTAH

### SALT LAKE RETIREES

Rich Papworth  
[pappys72@hotmail.com](mailto:pappys72@hotmail.com)



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

## WASHINGTON

### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

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



In mid May, Seattle was still under lockdown with official rules and regulations to minimize the effects of the novel coronavirus. The earliest “release/relief” date was scheduled for May 31. We may have acquired more freedoms just as you’re reading this. According to news media, the “Stay Home, Stay Safe” regimen is paying off in our state, one of the first to invoke quarantine and social-distancing. As most of our members fall under the umbrella category of Older Americans, we appreciate the progress being made – and all those who adhere to the governor’s rules to protect our health.

While awaiting the reopening of more businesses, especially in the personal service industries, we note some interesting hairdos and beards appearing in public. Do you wonder how this might have increased the sales of hair-coloring? Barber shears for the home? We all know that preparing meals at home has forced stores to limit the number of meat products per customer. And perhaps the hoarding of toilet paper is behind us (Pun intended.)

As in the May issue, without meeting news, let’s get back to Member Highlights, as presented in Contrails, the chapter newsletter. These mini-biographies usually are included here when there isn’t much else to report. That surely is the situation again this month.

This month we introduce **Gary Torgison**, personable spouse of our own **Kathie Torgison**, author of “Torgy’s Travel Tips.” Kathie was profiled last month, but you probably don’t know Gary as well.

Because Gary wasn’t the direct subject of a biography in our local newsletter, information on his early beginnings is not available, but Kathie provided information about his career path that led to his retirement from UAL in 2006. Quotations are from Kathie.

*“Gary started his technical training in the Navy. He went on to work for the Burroughs Corporation just as that giant office machine company was beginning the movement from electromechanical to fully computerized office machines. After 10 years experience in this new field, United welcomed Gary’s expertise and he joined the newly-formed SEAKQ team in 1978. His territory and on-call responsibilities covered all corporate UA locations in the northwest as well as travel agencies. He traveled by air and car to resolve urgent computer failures. If a UA airport was “down”, Gary had cockpit authority on UA and write-your-own ticket authority to fly confirmed on other airlines.”*

*“Gary was always the first in his group to arrive each day and [Kathie] had the starting shift in [her] office located next door.”* Kathie made coffee shared by the two groups and Gary went over to help. That was the beginning of their 40-year romance – though neither of them drank coffee!

While Kathie’s UAL assignment moved her to Paris to instruct European airline employees on the new Apollo, *“Gary stayed at SEAKQ until the company outsourced all travel agency computer maintenance to General Electric. After 3 years at GE, he was recalled to UA which required moving to Indianapolis where the new aircraft maintenance base was located.”*

With the millennium approaching, *“Gary was chosen as a member of a select team who inspected and updated every UA computer worldwide before midnight Dec 31, 1999. Shortly thereafter, he was recruited to*

lead a team of contract technicians to convert UA's computer and network communication to the new 'smart technology.' This affected all UA locations. He received Team Player of the Year award for the communications division for that accomplishment."

Two spectacular careers with United Airlines from just one couple produced two popular and respected members of the Emerald City Slickers.

With celebrations canceled all spring, birthdays, anniversaries, St. Patrick's Day, Easter, Mother's Day and countless other events have gone unobserved. We hope you all have found your own ways to mark these milestones. Next up:

Happy Father's Day!

#### Calendar:

Chapter meeting cancelled until September



#### LILAC CITY FLYERS

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

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

#### WASHINGTON, D.C.

#### THE DULLES LOUNGERS

Washington, D.C.

Mari McColl

Past President

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



The attached picture was taken at last years June Luncheon. It has been held for the past 3 years at Barrel Oak Winery in Delaplane, Virginia. It is our end-of-the-year celebration. Our sponsor, Glory Days Grille provides the main entrée, bread and sauces. Our members make the sides and desserts and the chapter comes up with water, ice tea and sodas. Many of us partake of the wine tasting and there is readily available beer, and wine. The wine

Master and beer Master give us short tutorials and long tours. There is also a speaker to keep us updated regarding UAL and Dulles happenings. **Angela Knight** sings "God Bless America". **Bob O'Roark** organizes a mini museum with the help of a few members. Several tables of UAL memorabilia are on display. As you can see, the venue is both child and animal friendly.

The event has been cancelled this year, of course, due to the necessity for social distancing. Writing about it and looking at this picture, though, makes me happy and keeps me positive regarding our future events, when it is safe to once again be together. In fact, I have suggested to **Cathy Gilbert-Silva**, our President, that perhaps, when it is time to re-gather and the winery has reopened, that our first celebration should be what is usually our last event of the year. The end of the pandemic and our once again being together will most definitely be a happy occasion.

Our February luncheon was cancelled because of snow. It was our first cancellation in years but turned out to be the harbinger of things to come. Cathy wisely cancelled the March luncheon at the Golden Corral in Manassas, Virginia because of the COVID 19. Some of us did not get the message. (Not Cathy's fault - we all



had our own excuse for being in the dark.) I was the first to arrive and saw a quite empty restaurant for the first time ever. **Dutch & Kerrie Schneider** arrived and were surprised to see me there. They do not live far from the restaurant and just decided to have a quiet lunch - just the two of them. **Pat Watson** came straight from the doctor and hadn't checked her email but was happy to fill us in on the progress of her broken arm. Last to arrive was **Don Jones**. Don is a long time member of the Loungers and has missed very few of our gatherings. This, sadly, was to be his last.

Don passed away peacefully on April 18<sup>th</sup>. He began his career with Capital in 1956, and during the course of his time at Capital and United he worked the ramp and worked in scheduling. He had a dry sense of humor and often baked cookies for our meetings.

We had a representative from Miracle Ear giving a presentation a couple of years ago. At the end of his speech, the presenter pointed out Don to the group and told us that he was one of his customers. Unfortunately, Don hadn't heard a word he said because he had turned off his hearing aids as he "wanted to eat his lunch in peace."

**Victoria Carroll** is another great loss to our United family. A flight attendant for UAL since 1979, "Vic" spent most of her career at DCASW. She was well loved and will be missed. She is survived by her husband, Art, of Reston, VA and her newly-wed son, Tommy.

Dutch & Kerrie just celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. A lovely party was planned, but in keeping with the times, it had to be cancelled. They shared a lovely day together though, and many of their neighbors came out to the edge of their yard to wish them well and to hand deliver cards, gifts and posters. They received many cards and phone calls and were assured that they are very loved and respected.

Here in Virginia, we, like many, are under a stay-at-home order. It is at times frustrating, but for the most part it is ok. With the invention of telephones and computers we are able to stay in touch. **Hank Heuser** has kept us all laughing over his email memes and Kerrie has kept us all positive with her uplifting emails. Some of our friends have been face-timing and zooming. They had none of these great tools available during the 1820 and 1920 epidemics. I feel most grateful.

In the meantime, my closets and drawers have never been more organized.

## NATIONAL

### CLIPPED WINGS

Peggy Griffin

CW Vice President

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



Hello RUAEA,

Zoom, Zoom, Zoom, Zooom ... Have you been Zooming? No, I am not talking about zooming around in fast cars or rushing about like "Road Runner" in the Arizona desert but communicating with family, friends and businesses. We are having meetings in a way we would have never thought about 6 months ago. The Clipped Wings Family is a very social group and we need to have our "time" with our flying partners. So, we have found Zoom on the computer. It is like "Facetime" but it seems to be better. You can get a large number of people together at the same time and discuss everything that needs to be said in real time. You can actually see the faces of everyone that is on the connection. You get to dress nice from the waist up ... and have your jammie pants be perfectly acceptable for the bottom half.

In fact, the Clipped Wings National Officers met May 5<sup>th</sup> for their Board Zoom Meeting and will soon be meeting again. There is a bit of a learning session to get everything just right but once you have it ... you are in business, truly! In April, we were unable to meet in person because of the quarantine; therefore we had no other option but to find another means.

The LAX Chapter had their Zoom meeting with about 14 people "attending". Well, it really wasn't as much of a meeting as it was a social time with adult beverages. All in the safety of their own homes.

I think that it is important that during times such as this, we need to stay connected with our families and friends and of course social hours.

Clipped Wings will have their PDX Convention in a virtual setting in September. We will attempt to get all the officers, delegates and other interested parties together on the computer ... be it "zoom" or another source. But we will get some business taken care in the safety of our own homes.

Hopefully, we will be able to plan safe outings and gatherings in the near future. I believe that we will learn to cope with a new 'normal' way of socializing.

Be safe out there! Go Zooming ... it will be fun!

If you know any former or current UAL/CAL Flight Attendants that would like more information about Clipped Wings, they can find us at [www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org](http://www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org). We are a fun group!

## NEW MEMBERS

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

Burrell, Elliot J., LASCg, 11096 Newport Ridge Court, Las Vegas, NV 89135  
Chandler, Mack, MCOCg, 2565 Skif Dr., Orlando, FL 32812  
Covert, Laura, 1000 Berganot Trail, Castle Pines, CO 80108  
Johnson, Erik, CHIRr, 625 W. Huntington Commons Rd., Apt. 417, Mount Prospect, IL 60056  
Robbins, Thomas, ORDFf, 1901 Balmoral Ave., Westchester, IL 60154  
Scanlon, Joseph C., OAKUM, 18021 N. Sterling Dr., Surprise, AZ 85374

## CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Beverly Alderdice, Roberta Aono, C. Arguedas, Irma Atanasio, William Bergner, Karl Besteder, John P. Bogdanoff, Steven G. Borbely, Herald D. Bowman, Amelia G. Briones, Robert C. Bryant, Carol A. Burnett, Anthony Caputo, Mack Chandler, Donald S. Chang, Barbara Chapin, Carol A. Colacicco, Margaret A. Colangelo, Raymond Colavita, Ricardo Corpuz, Laura Covert, Douglas A. Cowan, Burton Dietel, Terry R. Doppler, Tanya Y. Duvall-Haubein, David W. Dyer, Eugene R. Eger, Linda Fessel, Mary Florent, John Florent, Wanda Garofalo, Jean A. Gill, Robert K. Gillman, Diane K. Glenn, Harrison W. (Harry) Good, John Grindle, Taketosji Handa, Ludwig Heier, Sylvia A. Hirning, Ronald J. Huhn, Pamela Hussey, Clyde E. Johnson, Raymond E. Kern, Masamizu Kitajima, Jane L. Kitter, Edward Kytta, Harry T. (Tom) Labrow, Salvatore J. Leone, Dale E. McAfee, Jeanne M. McCloskey, Marilyn J. Morey, Carol Newsome, Margaret A. Parry-Buske, Herbert F. Roskamp, William G. Royle, Marshal G. Shepherd, John T. Small, Vernon Snyder, Darlene Spalla, Casimir P. Spokas, Patricia A. Surwall, Susan J. Thornton, Kay A. Towns, Samuel G. Vasicko, Patricia Viering, Sybil E. Voss, Margery Wall, Ronald A. Wallace, Karen K. Wiercioch.

## 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.***

Retiree – **Bottalla, Helen**, on 4/12/2020, WHQWS, wife of Jim Bottalla (deceased), 2420 Cumberland Circle, Long Grove, IL 60047

Retiree – **Bumberger, Walter A.**, on 5/6/2020, DENMM, husband of Elizabeth T. Bumberger, you can send cards to Laura Weil, 1004 S. Olathe St., Aurora, CO 80017

Retiree – **Matte, Sandra J.**, on 3/1/2020, SFOSW, wife of Vadim Matte, 2 Olivia Ct., Frankville, PA 17931

Retiree – **Mueller, Henry O. “Hank”**, on 4/8/2020, ORDMM, husband of Jean L. Mueller (deceased), 1225 Luther Ln., Apt. 131, Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Retiree – **Howson, Robert A.**, on 4/28/2020, SFOFO, husband of Mary E Howson, 171 Trimaran Ct., Foster City, CA 94404

Retiree – **Jones, Donald L.**, on 4/18/2020, CHIDD, husband of Valerie L. Jones (deceased), 12 Four Springs Ln., Amissville, VA 20106

Retiree – **Russell, Ronald B.**, on 4/28/2020, DCARR, husband of Roberta (Bobby) P. Russell, IADRR, 11053 Lucks Rd., Bumpass, VA 23024

Spouse – **Ryden, Vivian F.**, on 5/4/2020, wife of Curtis L. Ryden, DENGQ (deceased), 10894 E. Mexico Ave., Aurora, Co 80012

Retiree – **Williams, Gerald C.**, - Date of passing unknown, PHXOZ, husband of Donna Williams, 2915 Capewood Lane, San Jose, CA, 95132

## Letters & Notes



Hi Members,  
I'm the person who edits the letters/notes you send for the Newsletter. Your letters are of interest to retirees and especially those with whom you once worked, they are greatly appreciated. When you send them, you can make my job easier by making them as legible as possible.

Martha Gooselaw  
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[marthagoose@comcast.net](mailto:marthagoose@comcast.net)

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

Josephine Arguedas, Diana Bell, Steven Borbely, Elizabeth Boris, Amelai Briones, Margaret Buske, Margaret Cotangelo, Vicki Derrough, John Domalik, Julie Felix. Wanda Garofalo, Leo Grish, Patricia Guerin, Pamela Hassey, Tanya Duvall-Haubein, Joseph Hegner, Joyce Hendricks, Ron Huhn, Thomas Hurley, Diane Johnston, Helen King, John Kercel, Augusto Laranjeira, Merrill Liebensberger, James Mansfield, Arlene Montalbano, Nedra Morgan, Cas Mroz, Richard Papp, Gary Peck, Janina Pietrzyk, Mary Lou Roder, Herb Rosskamp, Vernon Snyder, Jan Thompson, Susan Thornton.

**WE HAVE RECEIVED LETTERS FROM:**

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

**Beverly Alderdice, 3517 Sarazen Dr., New Port Richey, FL 34655**

I have been retired for 23 years now. And can't believe it!

I still keep in touch with many of my UAL friends. I feel blessed.

Thanks for all you do to keep us connected.

**Robert Bledsoe, 20762 N. 265<sup>th</sup> Dr., Buckeye, AZ 85396**

Thank you for the reminder. I have been so busy whacking the Covid-19 virus, I lost track of time. The virus is everywhere and I have gone through a couple of batteries in my electric swatter.

Thanks for the newsletter; I appreciate your dedicated work.

**Judith Ford, 82380 Live Oak Canyon Dr., Indio, Ca 92201**

Every thing here in the desert is okay.

I live with my daughter now. I am 81 and had some health problems, so she has me on lockdown. I ride along, she goes grocery shopping and I stay in the car. I am glad to just watch the action.

This too will pass; we must stay strong, keep healthy and keep our distance from each other. We all wear masks here when we go walking.

**Judy Walker Hubbard, 1334 Laurenwood Way, Highlands Ranch, CO 80129**

In September, I will be retired 18 years. While I rarely see names I recognize, the RUAEA newsletter keeps me connected. I am always eager to receive my copy of the monthly newsletter to feel I am still a part of the United Family.

My deepest appreciation to all who work to keep this going, especially with the updated news to keep us abreast of the current changes.

**Kathleen Towns, 19619 Edgebrook Ln., Tinley Park, IL 60487**

Time for dues and postage, also for a big "thank you" to all that work hard to keep us informed.

I have been retired from CHIRR after 30 years. I have great memories and wonderful friends.

Blessings to all.

**Notes**

**Robert Bryant**

I retired in March of 1996. We have lived the dream on our 40 acre parcel in Nevada City. We have a fantastic view of the Coastal Mountain range.

I will be turning 80 this year and we are now looking forward to a smaller place within a gated community.

We are ready to do some traveling. I hope that the Covid situation ends soon!

**Mack Chandler**

I am living in MCO and enjoying life with the Real McCoys.

**John Florent**

I am looking forward to traveling.

**Gary Frosch**

We lived the lake life in Maine for 20 years. We have now moved to a Senior Community still in Maine.

**Jan Gawenda**

It is so wonderful to be able to keep in touch with friends from long ago.

Thanks, RUAEA, stay strong.

**Alan Huber**

Thanks so much for keeping us all up to date on pass changes and wonderful friends.

**Barbara Kaczmarek**

I hope you all are staying healthy. A **big** thank you to the crew that keeps us informed each month. You are a treasure!

**Harry T. Labrow**

Life is good along the Colorado River here in Bullhead, AZ.

We bought a summer home in Monroe, Utah. We love riding our ATV's in the mountains there and the people are very nice.

**Melinda Lerg**

Thanks for the reminder to renew.

**Georgann Marx**

I took the voluntary separation from UAL.

**Dale McAfee**

I just celebrated 24 years of retirement and my wife and I will be celebrating our 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in May 2020.

Our health is good and we are hoping to last through the pandemic.

**Jeanne McCloskey**

I pray every day that this Corona virus leaves us soon.

It is scary to watch people dying. It is also scary to see our company and that of others not being able to bring in revenue.

I hope UAL recoups at the end of the virus.

We are well and hope everyone else is too!

**Donald Nellans**

I am glad to continue my RUAEA membership.

I anxiously await each month's newsletter to stay current on retiree issues and to keep track of fellow retirees and friends.

**Carol Newsome**

On January 8, 2019, Larry Newsome took a special final flight to Heaven!

Our family had the opportunity (mostly in order to keep his Ramp Service job) of living in lots of UAL cities, CLT, ATL, ORD, DEN, HNL, DCA, IAD, MCO, FLL and MCO.

With 4 kids, it often was more than adventure.

We were married for 52 years.

I am excited to get up to date information from RUAEA.

**Theodore Tollefsen**

I messed up not renewing my membership; completely forgot. I wondered why I didn't receive the April issue and the May.

**Sam Vasicko**

I drove our 1938 Ford Street Rod to Yuma, AZ for a car show. It was a 2000-mile round trip back through Alamogordo, NM to visit a daughter.

I love the newsletter that keeps us in touch with UAL friends and family.

**Maury Wilson**

Thanks for the renewal notice.

I enjoy getting the monthly newsletter and especially seeing the names of friends and employees that I once worked with.



# 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>

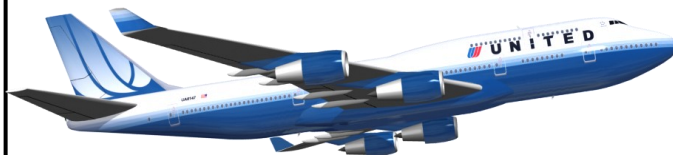
**Medicare Hotline** 1-800-633-4227

## **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)



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

You now have four ways to renew your RUEA membership or donate to the Newsletter postal fund. The credit card option is available online at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org). Mail your check to RUEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433.



**INCLUDE FILE NUMBER IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE**

For all Membership & Newsletter Circulation issues, please contact Membership Secretary:  
**Michael Malesardi .**  
Phone Number: (303) 780-5022  
-or-  
RUEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433  
Email: [ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net)

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

*Additional \$5.00 per year for both paper and Web deliveries. Note that this option is not available for Life Members.*  
Applications can be obtained via email, US mail or from [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org). Send your dues to RUEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433. Or, pay your dues online with credit cards (Visa, MC, Discover Card) at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org).

If it's time to renew your Membership, your Newsletter may contain one of the following Red Messages:

**"IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP."  
"DISREGARD THIS MESSAGE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID".**

**"YOUR MEMBERSHIP WILL EXPIRE UNLESS YOUR DUES ARE RECEIVED."  
"PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR DUES PAYMENT AT THIS TIME."  
"DISREGARD THIS NOTTICE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID."**





## United Airlines Historical Foundation

"Preserving the Past,  
Inspiring the Future"



**United began service to Boston and Hartford on May 1, 1945.** Mrs. George S. Patton, Jr. christened "The New Englander" which inaugurated service out of Boston and Hartford. Mrs. Patton, wife of the U.S. Third Army's General, used waters of the Atlantic, Pacific and Great Lakes for the christening. In doing so, she followed the example of her mother who christened the first locomotive connecting the East and West via the Northern Route.

*By Marvin Berryman DENTK Retired.*

**Notice:** We are accepting donations of **United & Continental** Memorabilia - Please mail them and/or your tax-deductible (\$) contributions to: **UAHF, Tom Goodyear, 7401 Martin Luther King Blvd., Denver, CO 80207.** Visit our website at [www.uahf.org](http://www.uahf.org).





**Figure 4**

9. Next select the Newsletter Option (**Figure 5**). By clicking on the down arrow on the right of the box *Please Select*. Then from that drop down box that appears, please select one of the following by clicking on the particular selection you want. Click one of the following:

- ❖ One year membership - \$35 for online and mailed newsletter
- ❖ One year membership - \$30 for online newsletter
- ❖ One year membership - \$30 for mailed newsletter
- ❖ Contribution

**Figure 5**

Continue to  
Step 10 On  
Next Column

10. Then secure your checkout by clicking on the Bar which says *Secure Checkout* (**Figure 6**).

**Figure 6**

11. Enter your credit or debit card information (**Figure 7**).

12. Click on *Submit Order* (**Figure 7**).

**Figure 7**

**The following applies if you are only changing your address information:**

1. Follow the above procedure until you review your address, then put in the new address (**Figure 4**).
2. Make sure to check the box if the billing address for your credit card is different than the address just inserted (**Figure 4**).
3. Choose contribution, and make a contribution of at least one dollar (**Figure 5**).
4. When prompted, fill in the address to which your credit card bill is sent.
5. Submit your order, which is required to change your address information.

*RUAEA thanks you for using this procedure to become a New Member, renew your Membership or change your mailing address!*

## Check your mailing label for Renewal Information

### \$30 Domestic Subscription

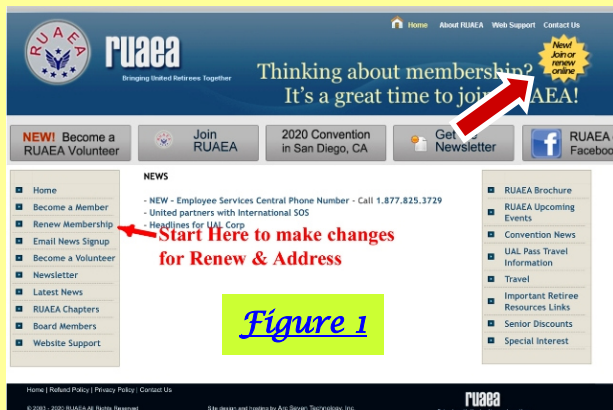
You now have four ways to renew your RUEA membership or donate to the Newsletter postal fund. The credit card option is available online at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org). Mail your check to RUEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433.



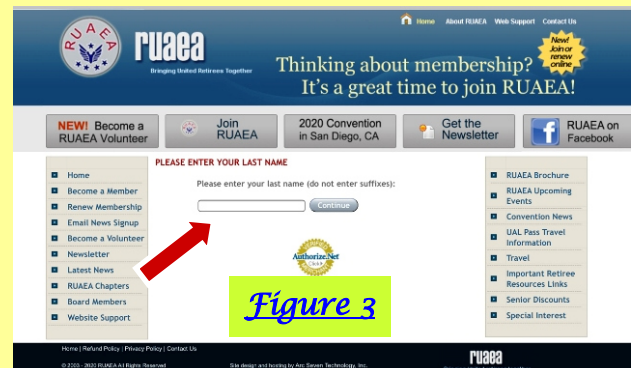
## Website Procedure for becoming RUEA Member, renewing Membership, or changing Mailing Address

**Note: All Membership Renewals and Address Revisions must be made by the first day of the month.**

1. Using your computer. From your browser type in [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org) and press enter.
2. On left hand side of the homepage, either click on the function *Renew Membership* (**Figure 1**).
3. Or click on the *New Join* or *Renew Online* yellow icon located on the top Banner on the home page of the website (**Figure 1**).



4. Insert your file number, numbers only, no letters, then select the appropriate option for Retired from United or Continental and click on the circle to the left of the appropriate option. Then click on continue (**Figure 2**).
5. Enter your last name (do not enter suffixes) (**Figure 3**):



6. Review the information and make sure it is correct then click on continue (**Figure 4**).
7. There is a box where you can write a note which may be printed in the newsletter (**Figure 4**).
8. Also check the box if the billing address is different than the mailing address. Then click on continue (**Figure 4**).

Continue with  
Figure 4  
on Page 31

