



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



ISSUE NO. 546

FEBRUARY 2020

## 2019 Denver Convention Memories



*Sharon & Chuck Cole, Shirley Brown, Jim Sommerfield*



*Marianne Zahnle  
Tour director*



*Standing: Larry Schubert,  
Jim Williams  
Sitting: Sheryl Schubert,  
Karen Williams*



*Mike Smith, Katherine Smith, Corky  
Peterson, Mary Hill*

# GENERAL NEWS

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

## Past Presidents of RUAEA



February is the month in which we remember our United States Presidents. We think it appropriate to remember RUAEA Past Presidents.

**Tom Plunkett 1975 – 1977\***

**Charles Field 1977 – 1979\***

**Charlie Urbach 1979 – 1981\***

**Pate Hutchens 1981 – 1983\***

**Ralph Hoffmaster 1983 – 1986\***

**Vance Harmon 1986 – 10/2/86\*(#)**

**(#) deceased – V.P. Lewis Long became Pres. 10/3/86**

**Lewis Long 1986 – 1988\***

**Elizabeth Ashton 1988 – 1990 \***

**William Moore 1990 – 1992 \***

**Jim Doty 1992 – 1994\***

**Ed Piper 1994 – 1996\***

**Howard Pollard 1996 – 1998 \***

**Zelma Kibler 1998 – 2000 \***

**Frank Murdock 2000 – 2002 \***

**Jim Fauber 2002 – 2004**

**Marlin Lade 2004 – 2006\***

**Mort Wax 2006 – 2008 \***

**Ron Robertson 2008 – 2010**

**Ron Bertacini 2010 – 2012**

**Hank Gosselin 2012 – 2016**

**Virgil Gooselaw 2016 – 2018**

**(\*) Deceased Past Presidents**

## Save The Date - RUAEA Convention San Diego



As many of you already know, the RUAEA convention will be held this year in San Diego. We will have much more information in upcoming issues. We just want to make sure you all have the dates saved.

The convention hotel will be the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Hotel Circle.

Registration starts September 22

Hospitality and tours start on September 23

Business meeting - September 25 with the hospitality party the evening of September 25

Last day for tours is September 26

Banquet is the evening of September 26

The convention rate of \$129.00 plus tax, will be available from September 20 until September 26, 2020.

The rate includes breakfast.

Parking will be discounted to four dollars per night for anyone who wishes to drive.

We look forward to being in San Diego again and seeing you all.

## Pass Travel for Retirees (1/8/2020)



### Boarding priority

#### **Q. How is my company service date determined?**

A. Company service date is determined according to your active years of service.

#### **Q. Will I be offered a seat in United First, Business or Polaris Business if I booked in economy and on the day of departure economy class is full?**

A. We recommend to book in the aircraft service desired. The pass rider will be asked if they want to take a seat in United First, Business or Polaris Business. If the pass rider accepts the seat in, applicable service charge fees will apply.

#### **Q. How early can I check in online for a flight?**

A. You can check in as early as 24 hours before your scheduled flight.

#### **Q. Will management employees have a higher boarding priority than other employees?**

A. No.

### "Board Dates" for Retirees and Early-Out Participants

#### **Q. What is a Board Date?**

A. Your board date is a calculation of completed days, months and years of service to the company subtracted from your travel date. Retirees and early-out participants have a board date in a day, month and year format. If two retirees have the same board date, their Pass Riders are cleared for the flight based upon time of check in.

#### **Q. Where do I calculate my new board date for a flight?**

A. employeeRES is programmed to calculate your board date during the booking process. For a flight in the future, you may use the board date calculator located in employeeRES > Quick Links > Employee Profile. The board date calculator will show the board date for travel on the specific day entered.

$(\text{Years of service} \times 365 \text{ days}) + (\text{Months} \times 30 \text{ days}) + \text{days} = \text{total number of days}$

#### **Example #1:**

Employee has 34 years, 6 months and 5 days of company service.

$(34 \text{ years} \times 365 \text{ days}) + (6 \text{ months} \times 30) + 5 \text{ days} = 12,595 \text{ days}$

For a flight date of August 31, 2013, 12,595 days prior to August 31, 2013 is March 8, 1979.

The employee's board date for a flight on August 31, 2013 would be March 8, 1979.

#### **Example #2:**

Employee has 12 years, 4 months and 5 days of company service.

$(12 \text{ years} \times 365 \text{ days}) + (4 \text{ months} \times 30) + 5 \text{ days} = 4,505 \text{ days}$

For a flight date of July 1, 2013, 4,505 days prior to July 1, 2013 is February 26, 2000.

The employee's board date for a flight on July 1, 2013 would be February 26, 2000.

#### **Q. If I am booking a future ticket, what will my board date be?**

A. Your board date – your years, months and days of service with the company subtracted from the flight date – is calculated for the day you travel. After you complete a booking in employeeRES, your name will appear on the Pass Rider list in boarding priority order, in a day-month-year format (example: 29Jun1978).

The Pass Rider list will show all Pass Riders in boarding priority order with the month, day and year they are to be cleared for the flight.

Note: Your board date is calculated against the actual travel date so will be different on your outbound trip and your return trip. To check your board date for a flight in the future, use the board date calculator located in employeeRES > Quick Links > Employee Profile.

#### **Q. Why does my retiree or early-out board date change every time I fly?**

A. Your board date is based on the completed years, months and days of company service and on the actual date of your travel. This way, we may equitably serve our retirees and early-out participants based on their completed company service time in the proper company seniority order.

## No Local RUAEA chapter In Your Area?



We have been hearing from RUAEA members in Texas, stating that there are no local chapters in Texas. The RUAEA newsletter is mailed to many RUAEA members in Texas. So retirees are there and wishing to get together. We have members in all 50 states, but unfortunately no local chapters in many of those states.

The RUAEA board members would like to help you get together. The first step would be



to contact us. Send us an email at [ruaenewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaenewsletter@surewest.net) or call us at (916) 789-0422 (if we don't answer the phone, please leave a message).

Please state your name and contact information. Would you like to start a local chapter, or perhaps just have a one time reunion? Our local chapters frequently have members who travel great distances because they wish to meet with their fellow retirees. RUAEA has team members very familiar with providing support and assistance to retirees wishing to get together.

This does not apply only to Texas members. If any United retirees would be interested in contacting fellow retirees, give us a call or an email. We'd love to hear from you.

### **United Airlines Puts Jet Lag to Rest with Timeshifter App Partnership**



United Airlines customers now have a new, scientific way to battle jet lag through a first-of-its-kind partnership with Timeshifter®, an app that outlines the best time to see and avoid light, sleep and enjoy caffeine to adjust quickly to a new time zone.

All MileagePlus members receive access to a free Timeshifter jet lag plan and Premier 1K members receive a complimentary subscription with unlimited plans. The app is targeted at customers flying across three or more time zones and will be a helpful tool for them to manage their jet lag as they travel throughout United's global route network.

*"We want to do everything we can to help improve the experience of traveling across time zones, whether it's a business trip to Tel Aviv or a vacation to Tahiti, our customers should arrive feeling fresh and ready to hit the ground running,"* said Vice President of Loyalty and President of MileagePlus, Luc Bondar. *"Timeshifter takes all the guesswork out of avoiding jet lag and instead uses science and algorithms to design a customized, step-by-step trip across time zones. I was a believer the first time I used the app and I think our customers will love it too."*

Timeshifter was developed by top researchers in sleep and circadian neuroscience and is aimed at customers crossing three or more time zones. The app uses an algorithm to customize plans for customers based on a number of factors including normal sleep pattern, flight details and individual preferences, creating a personalized jet lag alleviation plan. Each plan includes:

- Instructions for when travelers should prioritize exposure to bright light or avoid it.
- A sleep and napping schedule based on his or her own sleep preferences.
- A plan to optimize caffeine intake for alertness and sleep.
- Optional timing for taking melatonin, should travelers choose to do so.

MileagePlus members will receive a free jet lag plan for a flight plan of their choosing in addition to the complimentary trial Timeshifter offers customers for a total of two free flight plans. MileagePlus Premier 1K members will be able to sign up for complimentary annual subscriptions for unlimited access to jet lag plans when they travel. Individual plans for the app retail at \$9.99 for a round trip plan and yearly memberships are \$24.99.

### **Direct Flights Between San Francisco and Dublin**



*"Dublin and the Silicon Valley are two regions synonymous with big tech,"* said Patrick Quayle, United's Vice President of International Network. *"Many global tech companies have a major footprint in both regions, and they need a carrier with an extensive worldwide network to help conveniently connect their business. As the only U.S. airline to serve Ireland from the West Coast, United is uniquely suited to provide the connectivity these companies and economies need to continue thriving."*

United will operate its new San Francisco-Dublin daily nonstop flights with the fuel-efficient Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner. With the launch of this new service, United will have more daily business class seats between Dublin and the U.S. this summer than any other domestic airline.

The proposed flight schedule beginning June 5, 2020 (subject to government approval) utilizing Boeing 787-8 aircraft:

- Daily flight 852 departing SFO at 3:55PM, arriving DUB at 9:45AM +1
- Daily flight 853 departing DUB at 11:50AM, arriving SFO at 2:20PM

United in Ireland ~ United has proudly served Ireland for more than two decades. With the addition of San Francisco, the airline will offer customers direct flights to Dublin from four of its hubs, including Chicago O'Hare, Washington Dulles and Newark / New York.

### **BAM! Electronic routine task cards pass live test**



United Airlines hit another milestone in its Base Airframe Modernization (BAM) project. Teams worked the first live aircraft with electronic task (eTask) cards.

This United First seat modification, on a/c 4043, turned out to be the quickest ever performed - nine shifts instead of the previous standard, 10. eTask supported the SSR team in reaching their goal while simultaneously training 75 new users and piloting this new digital way of working. Well done!

BAM reduces hard-copy paperwork and non-value-added tasks. "With eTask now part of United Tech, along with Non-Routines and

manuals, I no longer have to go back to a desktop throughout the day," one lead technician commented during the a/c 4043 modifications.

### **MAJ and KWA to require measles vaccination proof**



The Ministry of Health and Human Services in the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) issued a [travel advisory](#) effective December 10 due to current measles outbreaks in an attempt to avoid introducing the measles to the Islands. According to the ministry, RMI is highly susceptible to measles introduction.

As a result, non-RMI citizens entering RMI, including our stations of MAJ (Majuro) and KWA (Kwajalein), who are born after 1957 and at least 6 months old, must show a signed vaccination certificate from a doctor upon entry to RMI. Failure to comply will result in entry refusal. This includes crew members. This certificate must be in its original form (no copies).

RMI Citizens and Foreign Residents who do not have evidence of up-to-date measles vaccination or evidence of measles infection in the past will be required to undergo strict home quarantine for 14 days and will be required to be vaccinated.

We are working to inform crews of the changes, and we intend to issue a travel waiver for customers traveling to and from MAJ and KWA effective for travel beginning December 10. We will be reaching out to customers on those flights to alert them.

### **So Simple From Sheryl**



Sheryl Schubert

Is the cold, snowy weather or gloomy gray days getting you down? Would you enjoy a wonderful soup with a loaf of warm French bread? I have just what you need.

If you do not want to make the meatballs, Italian meatballs can be purchased in a bag in the frozen food section. Use the entire bag.

#### **Meatball Soup**

*Homemade meat balls:*

- 1½ pounds ground beef
- 1 egg, slightly beaten
- 3 tablespoons water
- ½ cup dry bread crumbs
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup chopped parsley (I use dry parsley vs. fresh)

2 tablespoon oil

(If using frozen meatballs skip to the following directions.)

*Soup:*

2 cups water  
 1 can (10½ oz.) condensed beef broth, undiluted  
 1 can (1 lb. 12 oz. Italian seasoned tomatoes, undrained and chopped)  
 1 envelope dry onion soup mix  
 1 cup sliced carrots  
 ½ cup chopped celery  
 ¼ cup chopped parsley  
 ¼ teaspoon black pepper  
 ¼ teaspoon dried oregano  
 ¼ teaspoon dried basil leaves  
 1 bay leaf

If you are making your own meatballs, combine beef, egg, water, bread crumbs, salt and parsley. Mix lightly and shape into small meatballs. In large pot, heat oil and brown meat balls on all sides.

To make soup, combine ingredients in same pan. Bring to boil. I simmer about 2 hours to enhance flavor. This freezes well. I always double the recipe as it is one of our favorite soups and then I'll have soup in the freezer for those days I don't have time to cook.

I know this looks like a long recipe, but it really is not because many ingredients are seasonings.

You won't regret making this. It is a hit with our family and our friends. It can be made a day ahead for dinner or the big football game.

### **Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter**



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

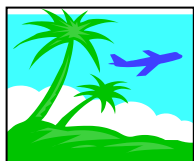
Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to Francis Domaratius at [ruaenewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaenewsletter@surewest.net), John Chu at [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com) and [ruaeal@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaeal@qwestoffice.net). If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401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

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

**Francis Domaratius**  
**Newsletter Manager**  
[ruaenewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaenewsletter@surewest.net)

## **LOCAL NEWS**

### **ALABAMA**



**GULF COAST**  
**(ALABAMA / FLORIDA)**  
 George Atteberry  
[gwatteberry@cs.com](mailto:gwatteberry@cs.com)

We had our gathering at Nick's Boat House in town at Pensacola, due to the base restriction. The next meeting in February will be at McGuire's, a favorite hang out in town. The Cubi Club at the Naval Aviation Museum on base at NAS should be ready to take our group in March.

Those joining us at Nick's were President **Conrad Hamilton, John & Myrl Eisinger** (wheel chair bound due to surgery), **Ray & Mai Owens** (back from a bout with the flu), and **Bill Hayden** leaving early to pick up

his daughter at the airport. **Rich Hurst** came early, joined later by his working spouse **Maureen** (she is a docent at the museum). It was nice to see **Bill & Ann Delavan**, along with our token USO volunteer **Kim Ray** (she is very engaged since her career as a UAL flight attendant). **Ed Southworth** made the gathering, after a golfing vacation in South Florida with his old Fraternity Brothers.

**Rita Toucher** assisted in the 50/50 drawing, and guess who won (**George Atteberry**). **Desneige** counted her husbands winnings and stashed it away, never to be seen again.

**Jeanne Reinoehl** gathered the consensus to meet at McGuire's in February and Norm approved. We missed **Barbara Serra**, and **Jessie Arnold**; and hope to see them soon.

We meet on the first Monday of the month starting at 11 AM. Come on out as we only have fun, no politics or dirty jokes allowed.

### SWEET HOME ALABAMA

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



Our Birmingham chapter met on December 9<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Joe & Jane Jones** in Clanton. Attending were **Jim & Donna Gooch**, **Herb & Carol Wilbanks**, **Bobby & Jean Cox**, **Ken & Beverly Yeager**, **Travis & Zoe Glass**, **David & Teresa Mendum**, **Joe & Gloria Singleton**, guests Dr. **Kent Johns** and **Belva Johns**, and **Joe & Jane Jones**.

Birthday wishes to **Teresa Mendum**, **Jim Gooch** and **Marie Duncan** in November, and **Herb Wilbanks**, **Bobby Cox** and **Travis Glass** in December. Happy Anniversary to **Jim & Donna Gooch** in December.

**Teresa Mendum** was the winner of our 50/50 drawing and various door prizes were won by other members.

Our next meeting will be the second Monday in March at 11:30 at a Birmingham restaurant, and more information will be provided by **Beverly Yeager** at (256) 775-1711. Please join us if you are in the Birmingham area.

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)



We hope the New Year has started out fine for each of our members, and will continue to be a good year for many years to come. Our chapter has a lot of things planned for the next several months, so we hope everyone will mark their calendars and will attend every event. This is a wonderful time to be in Arizona, and many



visitors travel here at this time. We're hoping that anyone who worked for United or Continental at any time and are 55 years and older, might join us at one of our breakfasts or luncheons we have in the coming months, also any guests you may be hosting. We meet for breakfast on the fourth Friday of every month and luncheons at various places the host or hostess picks out during the months of January, February, and March, and end with our annual picnic usually the first week in April. We're back doing luncheons starting in October. We have a great group of loyal members. Why not make it a point to join us?

One of our members, **Bob Forsberg**, had a second operation on his heart on December 4<sup>th</sup>, and we are so glad to hear it was successful! We are always glad to hear good news, especially about our Re-United members. We're looking forward to seeing him and Valerie back with us.

Our January 9<sup>th</sup> luncheon at the Claim Jumper on W. Baseline Rd in Tempe was hosted by Dakota. We will have more information on that next month.

Our breakfast on December 20<sup>th</sup> had 25 members attend. Good number of people since it was close to Christmas with so many things going on. We were reminded about the luncheon at the Claim Jumper as well as our Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup> luncheon/musical at the Silver Star Theater, 5247 E. Brown Rd., in Mesa with the Rhythm Cats. This is a matinee performance, with the doors open at 11:00AM, buffet starting at 11:30 a.m., and the show begins at 1:30 p.m. Perfect place to celebrate Valentine's Day with your Sweetheart! This is hosted by **John & JoAnn Griffin**. The price is \$39 each. Please make your check payable to **John Griffin** and mail it to him at 759 S. 76<sup>th</sup> Place, Mesa, AZ 85208. He needs the final count and payment no later than January 31<sup>st</sup>. This is a great place to enjoy a luncheon as well as the entertainment of the Rhythm Cats! Our kind of music.

At our breakfast, we passed an envelope around to give to Sal, our waiter, as a Christmas gift from our Re-United group, as he works hard to please us with all of our choices of food. We will continue to meet for breakfast at the Black Bear Diner during 2020.

If you haven't paid your \$5 per person dues yet, please get busy and do so right away, as we need to do our Membership Directory and want to be sure every one is included, along with any changes in your address, e-mail, or phone number. Please give or mail your dues money to **John** or **JoAnn Griffin**, 759 S. 76<sup>th</sup> Place, Mesa, AZ 85208. Thanks for your help!

Looking at my calendar; I never realized there are so many Holidays in February: Groundhog Day (2/2), Lincoln's Birthday (2/12), Valentine's Day (2/14), President's Day (2/17), Washington's Birthday (2/22), and Mardi Gras (2/25). What a great month!

We have the following birthdays in February of our members/spouses: **Pauline Montoya, Ted Tollefsen, Bill Norwood, Dillon Terry, and Darlene Foster**. Happy Birthday to all! We have one couple celebrating their Wedding Anniversary and that is **John & Judy McFarland**. Happy Anniversary to you both!

#### Calendar:

**February 14** – Silver Star Music Theater, 5247 E. Brown Rd., Mesa. Doors open at 11:00AM, buffet at 11:30AM, and show at 1:30PM, hosted by the Griffins. For further information, contact them by phone at (608) 613-0090, or (815) 404-7979. Need final count and money by January 31<sup>st</sup>.

**February 28** – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline Rd. in Gilbert, starting at 9:15AM. Please let our Vice President **Peg Snowdall** know by phone at (480) 396-3317, or by e-mail at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net), if you will be attending, so she can notify the restaurant how many to plan for, by February 26.

**March** – Luncheon, to be hosted by **Jennifer Strohmaier**, more information will be forthcoming.

**March 27** – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner in Gilbert, starting at 9:15AM.

**April** – Annual Picnic



#### TALL PINES

Joe Tomasic  
604 Mockingbird Court  
Prescott, AZ 86301  
(928) 717-1550  
[anjo2736@cablone.net](mailto:anjo2736@cablone.net)

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

Just a reminder to all, our meetings have been changed to the second Tuesday of the month - same time/same place, Lone Spur Café, 11 o'clock.



### TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Pat Sommer Di Lallo, Treasurer  
14740 N. Palmwood Dr.  
Oro Valley, AZ 85755  
(520) 825-7370  
[rpdgarlic41@comcast.net](mailto:rpdgarlic41@comcast.net)



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

Chico, California  
Sharon Simonton, Secretary  
P.O. Box 2257  
Paradise, CA 95967  
(530) 990-0936  
[sbsimonton@comcast.net](mailto:sbsimonton@comcast.net)



The Northstaters celebrated Christmas with a great party on December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Simontons' home. Christmas decorations, great food and lively conversation helped with the celebration. We had 19 people including spouses at the luncheon. We also had a great cookie exchange. **Billie Jorgensen** wrote a very creative story for a game that we played as we exchanged gifts. We had lots of laughs and fun.

The New Year is now here. I cannot believe we are into a new decade. Our group is going strong thanks to our leader **Merritt Odor**. We have had some sad losses this last year. Our friends **Walter Grundherr** and **John Isbell** passed away in 2019, Wonderful people, and they will be truly missed.

Our next meeting will be held at the Mill Creek Cafe in Los Molinos on Wednesday, January 22, at 11:30 AM.

The Northstaters would like to reach out to any new retirees that are in the Northstate area to give us a call. We love to share our group with new members.

We would like to wish all of our fellow retirees a very Happy New Year. Stay safe and healthy!

#### Calendar:

**January 22** - Wednesday, at 11:30 AM Mill Creek Cafe, Los Molinos CA. Come and Join Us!

#### CENTRAL COASTERS



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

Our last meeting for 2019 was held on December 11 at **Bob & Marcia Stanger**'s home. Bob is quite the cook and prepared a very delicious lunch. Those attending were **Bob & Esther Bartlett**, **Mike & Bridget Zoldak**, **Joan Schaefer**, **Al & Marilyn Rybar**, and of course **Bob & Marcia Stanger**. **John Wessel** was in Brussels when he injured himself and needed help to get around and also to get on and off airplanes until he got home. We'll get more information from him at our next meeting.

Our meeting was a short one and President **Mike Zoldak** said that there were only 200 attending the DEN convention and since the next convention will be in SAN he might attend.

We then had a gift exchange that is always a lot of fun. We then decided on our 2020 dates and hosts. They are as follows:

- ✓ February 19 - **Bob & Esther Bartlett**
- ✓ April 15 - **Mike & Bridget Zoldak**
- ✓ June 17 - **Bob & Marcia Stanger**
- ✓ August 19 - **Al & Marilyn Rybar**
- ✓ October 21 - **Mike & Bridget Zoldak**
- ✓ December 16 - **Bob & Marica Stanger**

Our wish is for all to have a safe healthy New Year!

### **DESERT SUNBIRDS**

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



**Patty Sica**, with assistance from **Kathy Wilson**, **Gay Traber**, and **Carole Paquin**, hosted the Sunbirds' Christmas Luncheon at the Monterey Country Club in Palm Desert. Thirty nine members (including New Members **Larry Talbot** and wife **Suzie**), were joined by four guests: **Loni Peterson**, **Nikki Campbell-Smith**, **Mary Franklin**, and **Tom Wheaton**. The four just named were the guests of **Marge Lenz**, **Mark Kaplan & Al Beuchel**, **Maureen Williams**, and **Doreen Roberts**, respectively.

As usual, **Carole Paquin** headed up our collection of gifts for the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission kids. A big "Thank You" to Carole for her taking on this work every year.

**Kathy Wilson** made beautiful center pieces for our 8 tables; these were included in our raffle. Things were happening so fast that I was not able to get everyone's name that won a prize. This is what I did get: **Tom Sabo** was the Birthday Winner; bottles of wine were won by **Molly Carnes**, **Werner Brunken**, and **Bill Schultz**; the Center Pieces (mentioned above) were won by **Larry Talbot**, **Sheryll Waiss**, **Sandy Sereno**, **Marji Lamas**, and others whose names I failed to get!

There were four winners in the 50/50 drawing, \$50 each (a lot of tickets were sold). The winners were **Judy Ford**, **Loni Peterson**, **Norm Burnett**, and **Marji Lamas**.

Last item! Only two Anniversaries celebrated in the last three months of the year. So, Congratulations to **Bill & Lia Schultz**; and **Marji & Chuck Lamas**! That's all!

### **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)



Happy New Year everyone! Our first meeting of 2020 was held on January 6 at The Old Spaghetti Factory Restaurant in Concord with 18 members in attendance. Social hour started at 11:00 and lunch was served at noon. **Jan Soderstrom** and **Wilma Leather** acted as cashiers and **Joe Leather** handled the raffle. We missed **Tracey Blanchard** who was in Hawaii; **Bobbie McPheeters** who was having a new fridge delivered; and **Tom Johnson** who had a medical appt. Can't compete with Hawaii, deliverymen, or doctors!

After lunch, we held our raffle. **Jack Smith** won the money. We had a nice selection of extra prizes for our raffle - the ever present wine, candy, cookies and even an assortment of body butters from Trader Joe's.

**Tom Cunningham** asked for our feedback on the newsletter because that is often the "hook" that brings in new members. What is the information we find most useful and what else would we like to see in the newsletter? RUAEA is looking for ways to increase membership at both the national and local level, and also encourage attendance at the local chapter meetings. **Rich Bouska** suggested that we tell a white lie and say that

we have free booze! Ha Ha! Seriously, though, our two newest members joined because a former coworker invited them to a meeting.

Our member **Rich Bouska** is also a member of RUPA (Retired United Pilots Association). Rich is responsible for organizing their cruise each year. Rich wants to spread the word that everyone is welcome, not just RUPA members. He says “the more the merrier” (and the larger the group, the larger the discount). (I went on the 2016 RUPA cruise from Boston to Montreal and had a wonderful time. A very welcoming and personable group I’d love to travel with again). Here are the salient facts: It’s a 14-day cruise on Holland America, departing June 29, 2020 from, and returning to, Vancouver. You will see the Inside Passage, Ketchikan, Tracy Arm Fjord, Haines, Icy Strait Point, Inian Islands, Anchorage, Homer, Valdez, Hubbard Glacier, Juneau, and Misty Fjords. For more information, please contact **Rich Bouska** directly at [rbouska1@comcast.net](mailto:rbouska1@comcast.net) or (925) 443-4339.

And now for a short PSA from me. Please check your heating pad and make sure it has an auto shut off feature. If it doesn’t, throw it out and get one that does. I learned the hard way just how dangerous heating pads can be if left on the body too long. On November 7, I fell asleep on my heating pad, and by morning I had a second degree burn on my back. The next evening the blisters broke, and the following day I was in Urgent Care. Between November 7 and January 3, I had a total of 17 wound care appointments. The burn was treated with bacitracin cream the first six visits, and then they used Medihoney the last 11 visits. The wound care nurse swears by this over the counter product. She used Derma Sciences Medihoney Wound & Burn Dressing #31515 (not the gel or paste). Your pharmacist could order it for you and I think Amazon carries it as well.

Upcoming Meetings: Please join us! Our meetings are the first Monday of the month and we meet all 12 months of the year. Thanks to Diane Griego for arranging the location of all our meetings. She spends a lot of time finding restaurants with private rooms, and negotiating prices and menus for our prix fixe meals.

- ✓ Monday, February 3 at 11:00— Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mt. Diablo Street in Concord. We order from a set menu. Lunch includes soup or salad, choice of entrée, beverage, and choice of ice cream for dessert.
- ✓ Monday, March 2 at 11:00. — Golden Corral Buffet and Grill, 2050 Diamond Blvd in Concord. We are trying a new place this month. This is an all-you-can-eat buffet and they offer a senior discount.

Every month, we have an ongoing book exchange. The leftover books are donated to Contra Costa County Library book sales. We collect both new and used Christmas cards which **Barbara Cunningham** donates to a local special ed teacher who uses them in his classroom. He has told Barbara he can use “all he can get.” If you have cards you’d like to donate, please contact Barbara at [tbcunningham43@gmail.com](mailto:tbcunningham43@gmail.com) or (925) 846-8123 for more info. We also collect shampoo and other toiletries you collect on trips; **Diane Griego** donates these items to a wonderful domestic violence organization founded by one of our special UA ramp employees. Thanks to **Cheryl Kincaid** who brings items for this organization to almost every meeting.

## **GOLDEN GATERS**

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



**\*\*\* An Ode To 2019 \*\*\***

**Holiday menu for our December Lunch.**

**Art & Linda Barrett, Bert Niedermaier, John Bogdanoff** joined us for Brunch.

**Prawns with Pasta, Rainbow Trout, Fish & Chips and even a Crab Louie.**

**Pete & Kathy Cooper, Harriet Kunze, Gene & Carol Walter,** what a meal, no one said Phooey!

**Years’ end saw Jim & Helen Goodwine, Jan Pietrzyk, and Emily Turner** usher in the Year of the Rat.

**Noshing on Salmon, Mahi Mahi Sliders, Cioppino with Crab,**

**Ella Mae & Bob Donovan, Bill & Diane Heinrich AND Barbara Underhill** declared the meal just Fab!

**Walter & Vera Kina and Ginger Dahlberg** welcomed guest **Freddie Angeles** and the UAL trio from SJC

**George Midwin** (Western Region Honcho,) **Ben & Cheri Scales.**

**Y’all come visit us and join in the fun ... just don’t sit there and stew,**



Even some trips, just to name a few—"Dancing with the Stars,"Safari West and a Cruise or two.  
Au Revoir to our beloved Beach Blanket Babylon, their last curtain fell,  
Remain healthy, win the Lottery, and a big hug from all the **Golden Gaters'**, we wish you well!!

Food for Thought:

- ✓ January 27 – BYOBL and Bingo
- ✓ February 24 –Catered Chinese Cuisine Lunch
- ✓ March 23 – St. Paddys' Corned Beef/Cabbage (Board provides) members bring side dishes.

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

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

What a wonderful time of the year! So full of time to share with family and friends, such beautiful lights, sounds, colors and a time when we look forward to celebrating with those we love. I know, I know, we have become more about "what to buy" and "what to wear", but I am hearing more and more from people I talk to, that people are feeling more of the spirit of the season – like we had when we were kids. Just being together with friends we can joke and laugh with, enjoying each other again. Well, our December luncheon was certainly a day when we all seemed to be full of that spirit! 34 of our members were able to enjoy the delicious lunch provided which included Cornish Hens and braised beef with really yummy scalloped potatoes, green beans, salad and plenty of chocolate for dessert! There was enough for seconds for those who still had room!

I would like to say "Thank You" to **Bill Dinette** for finding a caterer and following thru with getting everything set up for us. A "Thank You" was extended to me for putting together the table decorations and the little snowmen for everyone.

We were able to have all of 2020's months covered for hosting – thank goodness and you. Bill did ask if anyone had an anniversary, **J.R. & Rosemary Heier** tied the knot in December – Congratulations! I believe we had a couple folks with birthdays this month but I wasn't taking notes since we "don't have a meeting" so didn't get the names! But, Happy Birthday to you!

Once again our members showed their generous side and filled two tables with Toys and Food for local families. You all Rock! I am sure you made a big difference in many lives.

**John Muir** has arranged with Fernando's for our January luncheon. Always good food and service – you don't want to miss out. Please note that I will be keeping count of how many will attend.

Now, I want to thank each and every one of you for being so wonderful. You all give of yourselves even when you may not be feeling too great; you look out for each other; you help others – yup, you're pretty darn great!

Enjoy your Christmas and/or Hanukkah and when you celebrate the New Year – please be safe while you're having fun.

Until next year ...

**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)

The New Year is well on its way and I hope everyone had a great Holiday Season.

Our Retiree Christmas Lunch was a great success with 48 in attendance and all had a great time and lots of conversation. We welcome a new retiree, **Judy Falwell**. She is a recent retiree and former CO. She has a great smile and we are looking forward to getting to know her in the months to come.

The second time around is a winner. I finally met with **Bruce Shropshire** and we had a good time talking about the old times and the new. He had some good, positive thoughts about the future of United which was good to hear. Bruce is still working in ORDCS and hopes to join the retiree family in the next two to three years.

**Arlene Roberts** is in Hospice care and she keeps telling her caregivers that a white van with United Airlines painted on the side is going to come and get her and take her home.

**Betty Tomaino** spent the Holidays with her family in Anchorage and we look forward to seeing her at our next breakfast.

Our February Birthdays are **Louis Semon** and **Paul Zadrozny**. Best wishes for a great 2020 and many more.

We are having a rainy winter in San Diego but we still have a record number of visitors. Don't let that slow you down, we will extend our warm and dry welcome to you!

#### **Calendar:**

**February 6** – Breakfast at Pt. Loma Café, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA. 92106-2394, (619) 226-0255.

**March 5** - Breakfast at Pt Loma Café

### **SACRAMENTO** **GOLD DIGGERS**

Sacramento, CA  
Marji Gabert-Milam  
Secretary  
(916) 300-6570 (C)

#### **SACRAMENTO**



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



### **SAN JOAQUINERS**

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

Well, here I am one more time for 2019, even though you will be reading this in 2020. Wow, time is flying by faster and faster. Hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and we want to wish you a very Happy and Healthy New Year. Hope Santa was good to each and every one of you.

There were 26 members and guests at our annual Christmas Party and we all had a fun time. We had an ornament exchange and a great menu to choose from at Firenze's Italian Restaurant in Oakdale.

Last month I said that the chapter report would be my last one for the year but ...

We do not meet in January but we will be meeting on February 13 at Latif's Restaurant in Turlock, 111 North Golden Boulevard. So if there is anyone who would like to join us, 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)



Our annual Christmas luncheon was attended by 74 members and their guests. A lavish buffet was provided with ample food for everyone. Throughout the event we had an excellent band playing Christmas songs as well as old favorites, everyone enjoyed them and we will consider having them again. A large selection of gifts were bid on, which helps us maintain our treasury and provided for future events. All the home made and baked cakes, pies, cookies and fudge, provided by our members, created a bidding frenzy, which helped boost sales. Those in attendance collectively brought a large amount of toys for tots. A great time was held by all.

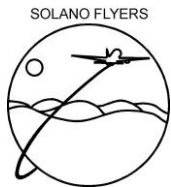
**Cheri Scales**, having planned a very successful Christmas luncheon, was once again called upon to plan our spring luncheon. Search is underway to locate a new restaurant that we can all enjoy. This is becoming ever increasingly difficult, considering the escalation of rents pushing costs higher and higher. Some of our favorite places are no longer in business due to rising rents.

Our wishes go out to our historian, **Vern Snyder**, who continues to improve from health issues. We all miss him and his wife, our sunshine lady, **Maureen Snyder**, who has been constantly at his side. **Tony Urso**, for the most part has recovered from his health issue and continues to become very active in daily activities and attending meetings.

Our new president, **Chuck Clayborn**, is off to a good start and is excited to provide local places for our members to participate in. He has compiled quite a list of attractions and places of interest to visit, just as soon as the weather permits.

Travel plans for most members are tabled for the near future; however, some are planning for their cruise or flights overseas as spring gets closer. Great trips to the Northern Lights region above Sweden, St. Petersburg, Russia and of course the RUAEA convention in San Diego later this year.

We meet every Friday beginning at 0800, at the IHOP restaurant, on the corner of Miller Ave and Bollinger Rd in San Jose, not far from highway 85. Everyone is invited to join us.



## SOLANO FLYERS

Allan Pochop

119 Carlsbad Circle

Vacaville, CA 95687

(707) 447-4980

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

Well the Flyers wish everyone a Merry Christmas! Whoa ... pull up Rudolph, by the time this report is read, Christmas of 2019 will be but memories. Alright RUAEA, hold this message until December 2020.

President Poolos called the meeting to order with the following in attendance: **Bill & Joanne Blizzard, McKinley Nelson, Frank Uhl, Constantino Poolos, Allan Pochop, James Ellison, Richard Cox, Pad & Eileen Gardner**, and **Diosnel & Luci Perez**, at Rauls Stripper Cafe, homey little restaurant, with excellent food like Grandma used to make ... when she's not drinking.

As January 2020 is the time for our annual membership dues and chapter officers election, the chapter was going to purchase lunch; four restaurants were solicited to submit a 2-3 entrées with beverage fixed price, and one check with gratuity but so far, no response? The MAA presented a theory that our group was too disruptive, plus our attendance at those restaurants causes loss of silverware?

VP **Allan Pochop** suggested that the chapter 50/50 be changed to 75/25 or 80/20, the suggestion was voted down. He also suggested that the VP position become a salaried position, it was also voted down; the VP then suggested that his lunch be subsidized with chapter funds, it was voted down.

50/50 winner was the VP, **Allan Pochop**, WTH? There were additional gifts provided: 2 loaves of Zookenny(?) squash & pineapple bread, donated by **Pad & Eileen Gardner**, they had previously brought this at past Christmas drawings, and of course the VP knew how good this is from his previous winning of this delicious bread so he managed to win another loaf? WTH? One can only wonder what it will take for the Solano Flyers to vote this arrogant person out of office; hopefully we will find out in January.



The VP then donated a blank check to the winner for the next ticket drawing, with the request that the winner write in the amount of \$100 or less. The ticket winner was **Frank Uhl** but as Frank examined the check, he discovered that it was nothing but a blank check paper stock.

## COLORADO

### DENVER MILE HIGHERS

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



**Don Burbank** opened our meeting with 30 members in attendance and he reminded us to bring aluminum for recycle so we don't pay dues.

**John Horner** and **Clayton Smith** passed away.

We sang Happy Birthday to **Tom Goodyear**, **Paul Miller** and **Walt Hansen**.

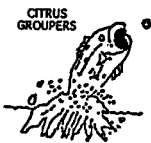
**John Weakland** (Denver Operations Manager) is in the hospital getting treatment for leukemia. He is not able to have visitors. Cards can be sent to: 7442 S. Queensburg St., Aurora, CO 80016.

50/50 winners: **Cas Spokas**, **Ray Shoults**, **Ken Dressel** (2x), **Jim Spate**, and **Don Rogers**.

Our next RUAEA breakfast meeting will be Saturday, February 1<sup>st</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 Grouper chapter of RUAEA.

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

### SAND"DABS"

Daytona Beach, FL  
Gloria Marcantoni  
(904) 940-9908  
[ddmgm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ddmgm@sbcglobal.net)



There is no report this month from the Sand"Dabs" chapter of RUAEA.

### Calendar:

**January 9** – 11:30 – Red Lobster, 3162 S. Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach, FL

**February** – 11:30 – Same as above



**THE ORLANDO**  
**REAL McCOYS**

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

What a wonderful gathering for our Christmas Luncheon, held this year at Maggiano's Little Italy! A private room, beautiful Xmas Tree, tables with poinsettias, along with a yummy family-style buffet of Italian appetizers, entrees and tasty desserts. Who came and had their pictures taken by Photographer Elaine in front of the tree? Pres. **Ernie** and First Lady **Cheryl Vosges**, V-Pres **Ken Michels & Shelby**, Treasurer **Charlotte & Ted LeGrand**, Secretary **Elaine Tillman-Mannella**, All of whom were unanimously re-elected to another term ☺ Surprise ... And, **Al & Lois Fields**, **Jim Mummah**, **Mack Chandler**, **Tom & Peg Cannata**, **Connie Lenard**, **Loretta Finn**, **Judy Kenzig**, **Patti & Monte Clark**, **Linda Agnello & Bob Olsen**, **Geneva Romine-Brenton & David**, **Diane Lewis**, **Stan & Barb Halterman**, **Cliff Hill & Jerry**, **Bob & Sandy Duszynski**, **John & Barbara Wiseman**, **Eric & Marie Dodson**, **Jim & Jo Feeney**, **Dee Francis**, **Angel & Julia Montalvo**, and **Al & Joanne Mollet**! **Gene Hall & Eleanor** wished all a Merry Christmas from "Sweet Home Alabama"!

Pres. Ernie took a moment to say how important all our friendships are and remind us of the UAL folks we have lost just in 2019: **Gary Mills**, **Elaine McGinn**, **Phyllis Brennan**, **Mac McGinty**, **Dan Holly**, **Tex Ritter** and **Park Learned** & in 2018, **Ron Adair**, **Ron Totterdale**, **Endel Vann**, and **Janie Phillips** (apologies for any I may have missed.) Every month we hear of knee/hip replacements, pacemakers, lung issues, cataracts, falls & rehab, cancer treatments, blood clots and hospital stays. I'm sure I left some stuff out, but you get the message. Let's keep all in our prayers –maybe just a general "prayer blanket" would do it!

Christmas donations of \$300 each were made to Hospice of the Comforter, VA Sunshine Rehab, and Russell House! Thanks to our Treasurer **Charlotte LeGrand** for maneuvering the money so that we could do all that **and** help subsidize our members' wonderful Xmas dinner!

Moving right into our January 2020 meeting ~ A chatty group of 31 gathered to honor the flag and have a great lunch ... and pay their 2020 annual dues! President Ernie welcomed back **Rich & Cathy Llewellyn**, **Dan Raciak** and a special thank-goodness-you're-back to **Jim Hernandez** whom **Pat saved** once again with a crazy fast drive to the ER in December.

January Birthday Balloons to **Jim Mummah**, **Diane Lewis**, **Tom Cannata** and **Barb Fitak**! Our loving couple is **Joe & Barbara Fitak** with 37 years to celebrate! Congrats to you both!

Our February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting will be our annual collection for the Children's Home here in Orlando. Let's fill up **Al Fields'** SUV with our donations.

The Real McCoys meet the first Tuesday of every month at the Golden Corral on So. Semoran Blvd. Mark your calendar and join us – you'll be glad you did!

**SW PELICANS DROP-INS**

Margie Burg, Correspondent  
15791 Prentiss Pointe Circle #102  
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)



Once again the Sand Dollars celebrated their Christmas Luncheon at the University Park Country Club in Sarasota, FL. We had 21 members attending, and the beautiful decorations and excellent lunch menus gave us a perfect setting for the party.

After **Ginger Hyde** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, she welcomed back some more of our snowbird members, including **Doug & Sandy Horuczi**, **Ted & Liz Mavis**, as well as **Paul & Shelly Grossman** who we missed the last two months as they had other commitments. Paul & Shelly celebrated their 58<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, so our congratulations were extended to both of them. We were also glad to welcome **Kathy Frait** from ORD. **Nancy Gibbs**, **Alice D'Souza** and **Alice Parker** each have some continuing health issues so weren't able to attend this luncheon, but we look forward to seeing all three next month.

It was with great sadness that **Ginger Hyde** announced that **Gretchen Bulin** passed away on November 28<sup>th</sup> shortly after having surgery for a collapsed lung. She will be greatly missed by the Sand Dollars group and our condolences are sent to her family. Gretchen's husband Richard had passed away suddenly in January 2018.

Our world travelers, **Bob & Lisa Young** are back in home territory visiting family in Chicago. **Bill & Inge Phillips** are still on their Viking Cruise which they boarded in Santiago, Chile, and will disembark in Los Angeles. They have celebrated their 24<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on board. **Doug & Sandy Horuczi** have just returned from their Country Western Cruise, hobnobbing with some great artists and musicians, but they were not yet willing to give us a demonstration of the music they learned — maybe next month? **Jim & Shirley Razmus** have returned from their fabulous Celebrity Cruise, tracing family roots in some areas, and sailing from Southampton, England up the North Sea, around the northern tip of Denmark, into the Baltic, visiting Copenhagen, Stockholm, Helsinki Finland, St. Petersburg Russia, and the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. In Germany, they visited Rostock, the location of the Heinkel Flugzeugwerke aircraft factory that was so heavily targeted during WW11. What a fascinating cruise for Jim & Shirley to take — and they both came home with a particular admiration for Estonia and its people, whom they found to be delightful!

While discussing vacations and travel, the subject of standby and myUADiscount fares came up. These fares seem to be incredibly high - \$500 or \$600 for TPA-ROC one way is one example. Where is **Kirk Moore** when we need him?

The attendance drawing of \$10 was won by **Liz Mavis**, and the 50/50 prizes were: 1<sup>st</sup> - **Michael Hyde**, 2<sup>nd</sup> - **Harvey Ruckers**, 3<sup>rd</sup> - **Kathy Frait**. We then got down to the real fun part — our Christmas White Elephant Gift Exchange. The White Elephant type gifts, in Christmas wrapping, were displayed on a special Gift Table. As each person was called in random order, they went up, selected a gift, then opened it while everyone watched. Then the next person could choose to either take the gift just opened, take a gift previously opened, or choose a gift still on the Gift Table. The fun started when a beautiful yard-long box of German cookies was opened, and many succeeding people claimed that gift, only to have it taken from them also! After all the great gifts had been opened, each of us was given a lovely poinsettia. This was definitely a Christmas party to be remembered all year long.



## 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)

The Tampa Bay Chapter had their Christmas Luncheon on December 11<sup>th</sup> at the Outback located in Trinity, FL. We had 17 members and friends in attendance; everyone enjoyed themselves and had a great time. All were wished Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!



On January 6, we met at IHOP with 11 members in attendance. We started 2020 saying the Pledge to Allegiance. There were no member birthdays or Anniversaries.

**Jon Wilkinson** became a Great Grandfather on January 4<sup>th</sup>, this little boy will be the 4<sup>th</sup>, very proud Great Grand Parents.

There were no minutes from the Christmas Luncheon, the Treasurer gave report. Dues will be \$5 per person.

It was asked if anyone traveled over the holidays, No one did and we talked about what we did over the Holidays. We discussed what was happening with UAL, Medical and airline info in general.

Meeting was adjourned and lunch was served.

After lunch, we held the 50/50 and Beverly invited us back to see her Christmas Village. Thank you Beverly for sharing your Christmas decorations with us.

#### Calendar:

**February 3** – IHOP, 10:30

**March 2** – IHOP, 10:30

#### **TREASURE COAST**

Stuart, FL

Mary Kay Wetherington

(561) 345-6373

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



Our fabulous Holiday Celebration was held on December 10<sup>th</sup> at The Twisted Tuna in Port Salerno with 18 members in attendance. Many were unable to attend due to illness. All of the attendees brought gifts for “Toys For Tots” and a unisex wrapped gift for the exchange. We, for a little variety, switched up how the exchange would take place. It was a lot of fun. We were treated to a great buffet and cocktails and had a chance to catch up with everyone’s news and travel adventures and plans. The 50/50 and The Progressive were both won by **Sharon Kirk**. The many raffle gifts were won by **Bob Langevin, Sharon Kirk, Diane Brodis, Joyce Smith, Carolyn Lindgren, Gene Student, Barbara Dodenhoff, Dave Damon, “Dinos” Xifaras, Diane Liebisch** and **Mary Kay Wetherington**. Thank You to President, **Al Popek & Janice Popek** for providing and wrapping all of them. The chapter provided centerpieces and candy-filled festive containers for everyone to take home. Everyone looked fantastic in their holiday attire. Treasurer **Carolyn Lindgren** took wonderful pictures with a real camera. She had them printed so they could be distributed at the January meeting. Thank you from all of us.

The January 7th meeting was held at Duffy’s in South Stuart with 16 members in attendance. President **Al Popek** opened the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance. He hoped everyone had a delightful Christmas and New Year’s Eve. Many shared the fun and joy they had with family and friends.

A discussion was held about the venue for next year’s party. Many different places were discussed. It was decided that it would be held in the afternoon again. Suggestions should be emailed to **Al Popek**.

Our new medical/prescription plan was talked about at length. Some misconceptions were expressed and hopefully resolved. Out of pocket expenses were debated. Many members have already activated their Silver Sneakers accounts and are excited to utilize this benefit. Once everyone has explored the program further, another discussion will take place next month. It’s wonderful to have so many minds helping each other.

In lieu of two picnics this year, March & October, it was proposed that we book a short cruise to the Bahamas as a group. Two members have done the research on it and are excited at the prospect. If you have any input or want further information on the subject, contact Al Popek.

There wasn’t much traveling taking place in December due to the holiday activities. **Paul & Diane Liebisch** are on a cruise this month. **Janice & Al Popek** drove to Ocala over the holidays to visit their son. **David & Carolyn Lindgren** will be driving over to The Villages to attend the local RUAEA meeting there.

Our resident jokesters, **Jim Hanley** and **Al Popek** shared some great ones with us. 50/50 was won by **Sharon Kirk**. The Progressive will roll-over since **Tom Odom** wasn’t in attendance to accept.

There are no birthdays in January. Congratulations to **Al & Janice Popek** celebrating their wedding anniversary in January. Well wishes to **Sandy Ruggiero** for a speedy recovery.

#### Calendar:

**February 4** - Luncheon/Meeting, Duffy’s South Stuart, 12:30

**March** - To Be Determined

**April 7** - Luncheon/Meeting, Duffy's South Stuart, 12:30

## GEORGIA



**DIXIE FLYERS**

### DIXIE FLYERS

Metro Atlanta Georgia  
Ron Heider  
195 Evergreen Terrace, Rm 414  
Stockbridge, GA 30281  
(470) 878-6132

There is no report this month from the Dixie Flyers chapter of RUAEA.  
Come to the Broadway Diner in Fayetteville, Georgia the first Wednesday of each month at 2PM.

## HAWAII



### HONOLULU MENEHUNES

Patricia Thomson, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 1709  
Honolulu, HI 96806-1709  
(808) 946-7847  
[HNLRLUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNLRLUA@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 [HNLRLUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNLRLUA@gmail.com) and we will email you the details.

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

### PAU HANA KUPUNA

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



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

## IDAHO



### BOISE GEMS

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

Happy New Year to all from the Boise Gems!

**Shirley & Rick Dempsey** are planning our next luncheon meeting in February. Our members will be notified by email of the details for this meeting once we have it all planned.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the luncheon. In the meantime, your assignment is to stay healthy during this winter season.

## ILLINOIS

### CHICAGO SKYLINERS

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

[Chicagomainliner.com](mailto:Chicagomainliner.com)

Jan Gawenda

(847) 437-7073

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



February—The month of Hearts, Big, Broken, or Sweet. Remember those candy hearts that we had in our Ute? Cute little sayings, Be Mine, I Love You, My Bear, Hug Me. Today, they might be different. If men wrote them, they might be, Game on TV, Nice Legs, R U 18? Can You Cook? Don't Call Me, Stop Talking, Get Me a Beer. If women wrote them, they might be, R U Listening?, U snore, Do U Have Gas?, Not 2Nite, You'll Do, Tweet Me, Pick up Your Socks. My, times have changed. Then we'd give those little cards to our classmates, picking the cutest one for the boy or girl we liked the most. It's also Heart Month, Black History Month, Spunky Old Broads Month, and An Affair to Remember Month, right ladies? This is the 61<sup>st</sup> anniversary that Buddy Holly, Richie Valens and the Big Bopper died. Super Bowl, President's Day, Ash Wednesday, Margarita Day, and the big one, Leap Year Day! They used to say it was an extra day to catch a man. Now it's an extra day for politicians and Robo callers to bother us. This year Groundhog Day will be 0202 2020. If you're familiar with military time, or Greenwich Time, every night this year at 8:20, it's 2020 2020. How about that?

Our Northside breakfast only had about 17 people, it snowed, but **Dennis Zachara** was there after a long absence, bad weather didn't scare him away!

The Southside breakfast had 12 retirees; we met earlier in the month because our normal date was New Year's Eve. **Bill Corbett** let us know the RUA EA Convention will be in San Diego from September 22-26, at the Crown Plaza Hotel. Mark your calendar, SAN is always fun to visit. **Marge Schmit**, **Bill Corbett**, and **Gwen Brookins** won the raffle. Next month's get together will be the regular day, February 25.

The ORDMM breakfast attracted a few faces we haven't seen for a while. **Jim Hall** had a stroke, so was MIA, but feeling and looking very well. Also, **Don Matker**, **Ron Pryor**, **Cas Paprocki**, and **John DeGrange**, returned.

The IAM Lodge 1487 had their Hot Dog Lunch for their members. Many thanks to those who brought sides, desserts, and the ladies and gents who setup and served the food. February is a Chinese lunch, or bring your own. Don't forget your \$10 yearly dues are owed now, by mail or at a meeting.

Conversations at all meetings included holiday gatherings, visiting with relatives, the joy of seeing the children's eyes looking at Christmas lights and decorations for the first time. At this age, we can't get away from talking about all surgeries on our knees, ankles, cataracts, cancer, and some unmentionables. We wish you all a healthy 2020, and no confusion with our new Medicare Advantage Plan, or medications. Life is confusing enough!

Sad news for anybody going downtown to do touristy things, the Chicago Trolley and Double Decker Company has closed its doors. There was no reason given, just, 'we're closing'. It was a fun, hop-on, hop-off service. The People Mover, the little shuttle train that takes you from the parking lots to the terminals, has been out since early 2019, it's still out, with no estimated return to service date. A bus still takes you from terminal to terminal, and to the lots. Not many things are working here, but the taxes are going up! Don't get me started with Illinois taxes! One piece of good news for you people out in the Northwest suburbs. I'll take you back to a time of easier living, the days of yesteryear, I'll just say, 'Charlottes'. Remember their pizza and sandwiches? Well, they have come back, now they are, 'Remember Charlottes', on Northwest Highway, in Barrington. Can you taste the sausage and sauce, smell the pepperoni? I just had to pass that on for all of you pizza aficionados. Life is good again, see you there.

Since February is the month of Luuv, we have the anniversaries of some of our members this year. The winners with over 60, are **Eleanor & Gene Vegeais** (67), **Diana & Norm Wilkinson** (67), **Shirley & Phil Elliott** (63), **Marvin & Marlene Anderson** (62), **Pat & LB Neal** (62), **Vince & JoAnn Giannini** (62), **Pat & Bob Kalicki** (62), **Liz & Ted Tollefsen** (62), **Doris & Clyde Johnson** (61), **Deanna & Dick Hoppel** (61), **Lois & Elmer Koldoff** (60), **Eileen & Harvey Bruning** (60), **Carolyn & Frank Disanto** (59), **Betty & Bob Gruitch** (59), **Joyce & John Kozlik** (59), **Nancy & Ed Naranjo** (59), **Carol & Charlie Lewis** (58), **Ellen &**



Ken Thiede (58), Judy & Paul Temple (57), Ruth & John Schnittker (56), Joe & Joan Teister (56), Marianna & Rich Bulanda (55), Jean & Bob Smietanski (55), Bonnie & Ed Meyer (54), Judy & Dave Stoves (54), Don & Marcie Moller (53), Linda & Dick Kolloff (53), Agnes & Frank Wenig (53), Toni & Pierre Lupori (52), Diane & Fred Seibert (52), Ricki & Paul Nordmeyer (52), Roger & Ann Harris (52), Judy & Carlton Hibbert (52), Tressie & Orville Fluharty (51), Pam & John Witkowski (50), Jeanna & Dennis Kellerman (50), Maryann & Al McGarrity (50), Bob & Carol Faust (47), Jan & Walt Fink (42), Bill & Delphine Perry (40), Elena & Cesar Guerra (39), Barb & Bob Larson (38), Ken & Muriel Bergsma (37), Paul & Marsha Sealock-Weber (29), Sue & Boris Spitz (27), Larry & Mary Alice Parker (24), Marty & Rich DelBoccio (23), Delores & Dennis Zachara (20), Sue & Bart Kendall (17), Kathy & Bill Corbett (13), Sherry & Charlie Parker (8). Wow, Congratulations to all! True love, no matter how many years. Thanks to all who answered. One of my friends that answered gave me the most beautiful responses I've ever heard. He said I could repeat it, anonymously, which I happily agreed. This is the second marriage for both. See what you think. Shakespeare? Robert Browning?

Jan, You asked how long we have been married? I'd have to answer, Forever. There are truly some instances when "Forever" really seems like a short span of time. Having a partner who has had your back for as long as you can remember and who has always made coming home one of life's great pleasures; four wonderful "children" all well into their 50's, and some of the seven most absolutely perfect Grandchildren approaching the age at which we were actually married, is a perfect example of why I chose "Forever".

Friends that have flown West last month include **Richard Lux**, ORDCG, **Joseph D'Aurora**, ORDFO, **Bob Leeper**, husband of **Mardel Leeper**, and **Erma Richardson**, CHIRR, **Nelson Wong**, EXOKE, **Jean Frye**, ORDSW, **Don Wilson**, ORDMM/CG/MK/EXOTH. Personalities that have also left us are, Rene Auberjonois, Dannie Aiello, Don Imus, Sue Lyon, Jerry Herman, Don Larsen (NY Yankees), Carroll Spinney (Big Bird), Lee Mendelson (Snoopy), Joseph Segel (QVC), Phillip McKeon, Richard Hatcher (Gary Mayor), Emanuel Ungaro, Jack Sheldon, Edward Aschoff (ESPN), Tommy Hancock, and David Stern(NBA).

A new year is God's way of saying, one more time, go make a difference, touch a heart, encourage a mind, inspire a soul, and enjoy the day. Let's do it!

#### Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Elly's Restaurant, 8:30 A.M., 372 E. Golf Rd., Arlington Heights, IL (**February 12**). Second Wednesday of the month.

Southside Breakfast - Jedi's Restaurant, 9:30 A.M., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn. (**February 25**). Last Tuesday of the month.

IAM Lodge 1487 - 50 W. Oakton, Des Plaines, (**February 6**), 11:00 A.M. First Thursday of the month.

RUPA Lunch - Golf Club of Illinois, 1575 Edgewood Dr., Algonquin, (**January 14**), 11:00 Cocktails, Lunch 12:00 lunch

**March 16** - Skyliner's Spring Lunch - The Belvedere, 1170 W. Devon Ave., Elk Grove, Tuesday, 11:00 cocktails, 12:00 lunch.

### INDIANA



#### INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN

Frank N. Ingegno

(317) 428-7741

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



The RUAEA Indy Racers chapter December meeting was held on Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. This meeting was also our annual Christmas lunch celebration. It was held at Maggiano's Little Italy restaurant. In attendance were **Hannelore Brabo**, **Bob & Ruth Duffy**, **Myrtle Duty**, **Jim Gibson**, **Frank & Susanne Ingegno**, **Chris Johnston**, **Frank & Rita Prinz**, **Charles Theiss** and daughter **Amy**, **Dimple Riheal**, **Barb & Bill Stout**. Those

in attendance can be seen in the attached photo.

Business discussed:

1. Possible group outings for 2020 were discussed. It was decided that the March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting will be superseded by an outing to Beef and Boards dinner theater to see the play "Saturday Night Fever".
2. By vote of the members present, the January and February chapter meetings were changed from canceled to optional dependent upon favorable weather/driving conditions.
3. 50/50 winner was **Jim Gibson**.
4. Round Robin gift exchange took place with all participants receiving a Christmas gift from fellow chapter members.

The next RUAEA Indy Racers chapter meeting will be held on Tuesday January 14<sup>th</sup> (weather permitting) at Emmy's Pancake House and Grill, 7508 Beechwood Center Road, Avon, IN 46123, (317) 272-7200.

Our future RUAEA Indy Racers chapter meetings schedule for 2020 is:

- February 11, at Emmy's (weather permitting)
- March 11, at Emmy's
- April 7, at Emmy's
- May 12, at Emmy's
- June 9, 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)



There is no report this month from the Nor'Easter chapter of RUAEA.

## MICHIGAN



### GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

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

What a wonderful way to start off the New Year and new decade. Eight former UA DTWRR retirees met for lunch in Milford, MI Friday, January 4 at the Lei Ting restaurant. Our special guest was **Sharon Jacob** who joined us for the afternoon; many thanks to her daughter, Lisa, who brought her. **Jeen Kobb** (Marie Cook's daughter) hosted the event and baked one of Marie's favorite cookies, 'dream cakes'; delicious! She also paid homage to Marie's love of snowmen by serving the cakes in snowmen bags. What a nice touch! Others in attendance were **Marlene Heaney, Patty Gates, Camille Wade, Carol Shaffner** and yours truly.

It was good talking to **Janet Mertz** on her recent birthday. She was formerly from DTWRR and SEARR. She and her husband, Jerry, are now retired and living 'back home' in Pennsylvania.

Our very best wishes to **Carol Shaffner** who will be having surgery soon. You can send cards to her at 4172 Bridgeview Lane, Canton, MI 48033.

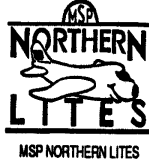
Please remember those of our DTWRR family who are in need of encouragement and prayers.

Thought for the month: *"There are moments in life when you miss someone so much that you just want to pick them from your dreams and hug them for real."* Peanuts, Charles Schulz.

## MINNESOTA

### NORTHERN LITES

Connie Glattly  
(218) 372-3973  
[crglattly@frontiernet.net](mailto:crglattly@frontiernet.net)



The December lunch/meeting was lightly attended because of ... uh..., huh. The weather and driving was decent for December in MN & WI. Don't know why! The **Lyle Gunderson's** & **Al Kilian's** are excused because of ill health, **Mike Cunningham**, ditto. But how come there were only nine of us?

There was no meeting, per se. We just sat around and visited; and talked about the ones who weren't there. It was delightful!

One sad note to report ~ our old friend, **Nick "Nicky Northern" Schultz** passed away in early December at the age of 92. I can still see him, with his mustache, mischievous grin and rambling gait, walking through MSP concourses or greeting customers at the check-in counter. His wife, **Barb**, would love to hear from his friends ~ 7035 Lonsdale Blvd., Lonsdale, MN 55046.

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



The Silverliners held their regular Luncheon meeting at Giuseppe's Italian Grill with 38 members and guests in attendance. We had 2 guests, Larry & Bernice who are representatives from the Local organization "Helping Hands". The purpose of Helping Hands is to provide help and support to frail and low-income Seniors in the Las Vegas Valley. The meeting started off with the Pledge of Allegiance after which our lunch was served.

After lunch, Larry gave the membership a presentation on what Helping Hands Pantry does for the Community. They were established in 1998 to provide assistance to seniors in different ways. The group today supports over 750 seniors by providing free rides to Medical appointments and Pharmacy medicine pick-ups. They help in minor home repairs and supply supplemental food to help balance the senior's nutrition and paper products for kitchen and bathroom. The Organization survives on grants and donations from around the Community and Corporations. So, our Members were asked to bring in items on a list of things that Helping Hands needs to keep going. Our membership went overboard again and opened up their wallets and their hearts and filled up a large table and the area around the table, the Reps were over whelmed by our generosity and

thanked us for our support and the delicious lunch.

Treasurer **Jeannie Rolland** gave the membership the financial report for our Chapter which was well received. Jeannie also mentioned that she has had a very bad past couple of months and spent weeks in the hospital but is getting better each day now and was happy to be at the Luncheon. Secretary **Don Rutkowski** thanked **Jeannie Rolland** and **Eleanor Vasko** for their efforts arranging the seating, the menu and sweet treats for this and every Luncheon, their efforts pay off nicely.

Sunshine Lady **Eleanor Vasko** went over the Members November and Decembers Birthdays and Anniversaries. At this time, we presented our servers, Maria & Mia with a Christmas card with a little extra in it for their great service and support during the year.

Just before closing the Luncheon we had our 50/50 drawing for 3 cash prizes. Working the 50/50 drawing this Luncheon was **John Albert** and his friend Greg. The regular members that work the drawing, my wife, Georgia was at home recuperating from knee surgery and Vice President **Mary Chandler** was on a PBS European Tour with hopes of meeting the Pope. We then had a random drawing for the many secret Santa gifts on the front table and everyone went home with a gift and a smile. **Don Rutkowski** also mentioned that he and his wife Georgia volunteer at Ronald McDonald House Charities here in Las Vegas and collect the pop top tabs on soda, beer and other drink cans for the Charity. They ask that you save them and bring them in to a meeting or send them to the Rutkowski at 8517 Lynhurst Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89134 so they can turn them in to help support RMHC.

The Luncheon / Meeting was closed and the Board members wished everyone to be safe driving home. The next Luncheon will be on February 13.

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

There were 25 members and guests at our Christmas Luncheon at Tamarack Junction. The weather mostly cooperated this year and no one had to ski in (thank you Mother Nature). However, due to snow coming down in certain parts of the area the previous day, 2 individuals were unable to attend. There were lots of special gifts. Everyone was dressed in their holiday attire and looked so nice.

We collected \$46 for the Food Bank which always needs help during the holidays.

We regret to inform everyone that **Ray Knudson** has passed away. He died peacefully in his sleep. Services were on December 13<sup>th</sup>. He had retired from the MOC.

The calendar for the 2020 Sierra Roundup meetings has been confirmed with the Black Bear Diner. We are once again meeting there on the second Monday of each month starting at 11:30 am. The exceptions are September (expected to be Murietta's again this year, more later) and December (Christmas luncheon at Tamarack Junction). The Christmas Luncheon date for 2020 is Monday, December 7, 2020.

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

**Lou Roston**, a guest of **Kathy Robinson**, was the lucky winner of the 50/50. Other winners were: **Marti Dean; Mary Withers** (twice); **Kathy Robinson** (twice); **Ellen Langston; Bonnie Royal; Ruth Faley** (twice); **Pat Zoboli; Dottie Robbins; Bill Royal; Barbara Leusing; Lynda Klemm; Donna Reid** (twice); **June Roe;** and **Lou Roston** (twice).

Our next meeting will be January 13 at the Black Bear Diner at 11:30 a.m.



## NEW JERSEY

### THE GARDEN STATERS

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



The Gardenstaters luncheon opened with a flag salute by our Pres. **Frank Warzocha**. A Moment of silence was held for **Jean Flynn**'s daughter Pat who passed away two months ago, also for **Peggy Ginoccio**, wife of **Ray Ginnoccio** who worked at EWR building and maintenance.

Local 914 was well represented by **Bill Imbima**, **Bill Gula**, and **Rich Creighton**. They brought us up-to-date on the ever-expanding United personnel. It's hard to believe that local 914, now has over 4000 members. That number should give you some idea at the size of the operations at Newark.

Our members brought in lots of items for "Toys for Tots" as the table that was holding them was overflowing. I'm sure **Jerry Confer** would approve.

**Joanne Whitman** won the 50/50. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at Snuffy's in Scotch Plains.

\*\*\*\*\* From the great prophet Leroy: *"Recall it as often as you wish, a happy memory never wears out."*

## NEW YORK

### BUFFALO CHIPS

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



**BUFFALO CHIPS**

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

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

### NEW YORK METROS

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



NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

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

## NORTHWOODS

### NORTHWOODS

#### LOONIES

Clyde Johnson  
(906) 341-3130  
[Cejdcj@charter.net](mailto:Cejdcj@charter.net)



Greetings to all of our RUAEA friends across the system, especially those who have been associated with the Northwoods Loonies before.

Having received a phone call from **Jan Gawenda** of Chicago Skyliners fame last night, and at her suggestion, I sit here to write to all UAL retirees, recapping and inviting you to do what we did years ago. Start your own chapter if you are somewhere off the beaten path. It's surprising how many of us there are, not

particularly close to one of the established chapters, as our name suggests. Also, those who do belong to current chapters might enjoy dual citizenship in more than one, just to have a little different destination occasionally. It's amazing how many interesting cities of interest one can find in and around the smaller towns of our Midwest.

Around 1996, (e-gads, that's 24 years ago,) my wife Doris and I found ourselves up here in God's country, (after 6 days He sat here on the shore of Indian Lake where our home is, and said, "It is good.")

We put a letter in the RUAEA Newsletter inviting any interested retirees to come to our house for a get-together and potentially start a group to meet once or twice a year. At that first meeting the eight of us pretty much set the tone for the next twenty years of the chapter's active life. We would have anywhere from fifteen to thirty people at our get-together, and one time there were fifty-one of us. Following are a few of the decisions we made:

- Anyone who came to one of our meetings would be a Loonie for life.
- We would meet twice a year in the spring and in the fall.
- The meetings would usually consist of arriving at the site on Tuesday evening and going to a restaurant together, have Wednesday and Thursday for sight-seeing, and depart Friday morning after breakfast together. We would have a "business meeting" usually on Thursday evening after dinner.
- There would be no chapter dues. (RUAEA tied us together by virtue of the chapter reports, so your association dues are money well spent in keeping us in touch with old workmates.)
- At the business meeting it would be decided who would host the next meeting. Somebody would usually volunteer (some of them more than once over the years.) Whoever hosted would send letters and/or emails to the membership with plans for the meeting and ask for an expected head count and arrange for the area's best hotel rate they could get. When booking a group, we could usually get a break on the cost. Then the hosts would come up with some good restaurants in the area and make arrangements there. Also, they would look for some places of interest for the Loonies to visit. The membership would book their own rooms.
- Other than travel expenses, room and meals, the only cost would be for whatever the hosts or members brought in for our get-together times, usually in the evening after the day's adventures. The membership would share the cost for these items.
- After a meeting the hosts would write a report for the Newsletter about what had transpired at the events and meeting, and what the plans were for the next meeting and the date.
- There was no need for officers since there was no treasury involved and the hosts were in charge from the time they volunteered until the end of the next meeting. No need for President, Secretary or Treasurer. The host was all of them for only one meeting at a time.

When all this started, we knew very few of the people who showed up at the meetings, but over the years we spent many comfortable hours among our new friends getting to know each other's lives and families through conversations, and finding out where each other worked and lived.

Early on I mentioned dual citizenship in more than one chapter. In this twice-a-year chapter we ended up with many people from the Chicago, Minneapolis and Detroit chapters, not to mention having members from as far away as Arkansas, Colorado and California by virtue of some of our folks moving out to those locations.

About a year ago, our Midwest Director **Jackie Monilaw** called me to see if I would be interested in having a Loonies reunion sometime. I told her it sounded like a good idea. But then fate stepped in, and for several reasons, not the least of which were passing health problems (hip replacement, four heart stent implants and arthritis,) we were unable to accomplish the task. I guess what I'm asking is, would any of our members from the past be able and willing to tackle setting up a reunion? Or maybe somebody fresh(er) from the corporate battle world? If so, give me a call or an email. We'd love to hear from you.

## OHIO

### OHIO BUCKEYES

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

Judy McKnight



We had our December Christmas Luncheon at "Williams on the Lake". It's a place we've used before as they always have it decorated very nice for the Christmas holiday. They always have a very nice buffet and it's

always good. President **Dolly Taucher** announced that before we ate, we'll get our pertinent information first, then we eat, and then we "party". Grace was said by **Susan Broderick**.

Dolly had the envelopes on the table up front with our Newsletter and our 2020 calendar of events from February thru August 2020, and was U.S. mailed to all not in attendance.

Our dues (still \$5 per person / \$10 per couple) are due in January, please pay with a check made Payable to "Ohio Buckeyes Chapter". All payments for dues are to be mailed to Treasurer **Bernie Garrah** as you will see in your newsletter. Dolly announced that if you want to pay today, please wait till after our meeting. When paying with cash, please attach a note with your name and the year you are paying for.

Many of our members were dealing with health issues ~ **Steve Pytel** had knee replacement; at his followup appointment he was told that he had a broken leg which required surgery. That seems to be the way it works, you no sooner get one thing taken care of when something sneaks up behind you. So now Steve is in the recovery stage and expects to be released the day after our party. **Frank Osborn** has trouble with his eyes so he has stopped driving. **Janet Osborn** has trouble with her legs and for now is in a nursing home. Pretty much the only place some of us go to is for medical appointments. **Marian & Tom Sturgeon** are still dealing with health issues. **Barb Vauls** says that she is starting to feel better. **Tom Heidecker** called saying that his wife, **Peg** had chemo treatment for cancer. But upon completion something else popped up, so now she is recovering from surgery.

When we hear that a member is ill, at our next luncheon we have everyone sign the cards, and then we send the cards to the members. Our members respond back to us with a huge "Thank You". They just love looking at all of the signed names which tells them that they are not alone, and that we are praying for them.

We had a moment of silence in remembrance of the attack on Pearl Harbor 78 years ago. In just 3 weeks we will be celebrating Christmas. We must remember it is the celebration of the birth of "Jesus Christ".

We had our 50/50 drawing conducted by **Bernie Garrah, John Kercel, and John Taucher**. Our three winners were **Bernie Garrah, Kathy Kilbane, and George Oncu**. Dolly announced we had 61 people in attendance. A special "Thank you" to Williams on the Lake for the wonderful meal, service and decorations. Dolly had a door prize drawing of our annual Christmas envelopes. A few of the envelopes had a \$10 bill enclosed, and the rest had a \$5 bill in them. That was very nice.

On July 1, we will have a luncheon cruise on Cleveland's "Nautica Queen". Your cost is \$26.00 (less than at the 2018 Convention). If you are interested, please send in your payment early (this secures your reservation). Seating will fill up fast. Please send by May 15<sup>th</sup> or earlier. Any questions, please contact Dolly. You will have a fun time.

We had 3 members who were here with birthdays: **Hanna Beish, Bobbie Jefferson, and Carol Mullen**. Okay - Yes! We did sing to them.

We wished everyone a "Merry Christmas" and a "Healthy and Happy New Year"!

January: we do not meet for lunch. The other 11 months in 2020, all luncheons will be held on the first Wednesday of the month.

#### Calendar:

**February 5** - Fuji's, hosted by **John & Dolly Taucher**

**March 4** - Brown Derby Roadhouse, hosted by **Judy & Jeff Spooner**

**April 1** - Mahle's Restaurant, hosted by **Jacki & Gene Craig**

**May 6** - Shale Creek Clubhouse, hosted by **Kathy & Don Elster**

### OREGON



#### OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland  
Terry Hotchkin  
20201 NE 179<sup>th</sup> Court  
Battle Ground, WA 98604  
(360) 687-3465  
[tthotchkin@gmail.com](mailto:tthotchkin@gmail.com)

Our December meeting brought 45 members away from their holiday preparations to join us. We had another delightful lunch, lots of fun conversations, entertainment provided by the Parkrose High School Debonaires Acapella group, and our annual prize giveaways; a fun afternoon for all in attendance.

Once again, we have some sad news to report: **Johni Wilson** suffered a stroke on November 8<sup>th</sup> that has paralyzed her left side. She is now slowly recovering at Marquis rehab center near Adventist Medical Center. Please send get well cards to **Johni Wilson**, 1475 SE 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Portland, OR 97216-2537. **Louise Robillard** and **Ruth Larson** are both ill with the flu; **Ruth Larson** is our Sunshine Lady who sends out “thinking of you” cards to those of our members who may need a word of cheer; **Paul Russell** circulated a get-well card for all who were at the meeting to sign to send to Ruth. **Margaret Borbely** is still experiencing health issues after her recent abdominal surgery.

As usual we followed the “bad news” with some “good news”: **Terry Hotchkin** reported that all her family were able to be present at Terry and Tom’s home for Thanksgiving dinner, which was a most delightful surprise as her son was not expected to be able to make it. **Glen Swanson** also had quite a surprise that day, as he was expecting 4 for dinner and it turned out that 10 people came to share the Thanksgiving dinner, but he reported a happy time was had by all. **Susie Clack**, who suffered a broken hip last month, is being released from rehab and is going home.

*Anniversaries* ~ **Bob & Karen Pfeifer** and **Richard & Chris Householder**.

*Birthdays* ~ **Mary Lou Falbo** and **Richard Householder**.

*Drawing Winners* ~ Lunch/Door Prize - **Rosalie Betschart**; Men’s Birthday - **Richard Householder**; Women’s Birthday - **Mary Lou Falbo**; 50/50 - **Paul Russell**.

#### Calendar:

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

**January 8** – A fun start to a new year.

**February 12** - Guest speaker from Alzheimer’s Association!

**March 11** – Social

#### OUR CLUB

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

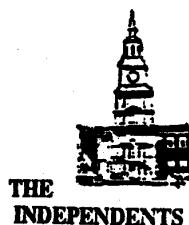


There is no report this month from the OUR Club chapter of RUAEA.

#### 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)



December 9<sup>th</sup> was our last meeting for 2019. We had a sit down luncheon and silent auction. 30 persons attended. Games were enjoyed and we love each others company. Have a good winter, with no snow!

A sad note to report, **Bob Fox** has passed away. Sympathy to family and friends.

See you in March 2020.



**PITTSBURGH**  
**PIT-STOPPERS**

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



I missed the December newsletter due to having a small accident; there is no report for January except for birthdays and anniversaries.

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

January Birthdays ~ **Betty Musko, Betty Tinney, and Bill Chicots.**

**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)



With no chapter meeting in December and this column's being composed before the January meeting, there isn't much to report.

In a nutshell, as we anticipate our first meeting of the New Year on January 14 - as late in a month as a second Tuesday can be - and hearing about the holiday shenanigans of members, let's hit just a few highlights.

Officers for the second half of the 2019-20 meeting year continue, with a couple temporary changes. **Ken Storey** and **Kathie Torgison** share the podium as co-Presidents.

**Phyllis Bowman** continues as our official Vice President, but **John Haferbecker** keeps the office functioning, as Phyllis recuperates from an earlier fall and currently resides in an adult family care home in

Newscastle. Phyllis has generously offered to again financially sponsor publication of Contrails, newsletter of the Emerald City Slickers with her friend **Vicki Shumaker** serving as editor.

As noted above, local legwork for the newsletter and the Vice President's duties as membership chair are coordinated by **John Haferbecker**, as he also fills in as acting secretary.

**Bonnie & Fred Frey** have serious travel plans this year, so **Judy Storey** will take over as chapter treasurer while Bonnie is away. **Noreen Krawczyk** continues her invaluable service as assistant treasurer.

**Virginia Dice** is our Sunshine Lady and **Gay Liesse** writes this column.

Annual chapter dues of \$10 are past due and delinquent names are being removed from the Contrails mailing list. As always, we encourage United and Continental retirees to maintain membership in both the national and local organizations. We'd like to have more retirees from both airlines join us.

Meetings continue to be held the second Tuesday in the months of September through November and January through May. No meetings in December or over the summer months unless a special event is planned.

Angelo's Italian Ristorante in Burien, Washington is the site of regular meetings, offering a choice from 5 entrée items. Meals include salad, bread, entrée, dessert and beverage, with tax and gratuity included and reservations required. Beginning in January 2020, luncheons will cost \$18, up a dollar from previous years.

**Dolores Steger** takes telephone reservations before each meeting – she's a valued asset!

At this point, those of us enrolled in the new Aetna medical insurance PPO plan look forward to enhanced coverage in many areas but are unsure of the changeover from familiar procedures. Time will tell, but we're hopeful of pleasant surprises.

Be sure to remember your sweetheart on Valentine's Day, February 14. Happy Hearts for all!

#### Calendar:

**February 11** – Luncheon meeting at Angelo's

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

**April 14** – Luncheon meeting at Angelo

**May 12** – Luncheon meeting at Angelo's



#### LILAC CITY FLYERS

Sharon Holmes  
5120 N. Riblet View Lane  
Spokane, WA 99212  
(509) 924.4959 (H)  
(509) 953.5088 (C)  
[ghshic@quixnet.net](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 December luncheon was attended by about 40 members. This is fewer guests than we have had in a long while but the weather was bad and, of course, it is a very busy time of year. Nevertheless, it was as festive as any Christmas party anywhere. It was held on December 11, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, as usual and held at the Golden Corral in Manassas, as always. Also, consistent with tradition, our beautiful opera star, **Angela Pregano Knight** and our sweet choir director, **Kerrie Schneider** led our group in singing Christmas carols. It was all such fun, but the best part of all was "The Twelve Days of Christmas". The members

surprised the leaders with their preparedness and ingenuity. **Henry Ayres** was “the partridge in a pear tree” and used a different voice each time it was his turn. **Skip Garczynski** and **Donn Jones** brought their own bells which they proudly rang during their part which, of course, was “five golden rings.” **Ralph Baggett** took his ribbing well each time he forgot to sing his part. He is a good sport and laughed with his many friends. Another great event shared by the Dulles Loungers.

The door prizes consisted of many Christmas items as well as books, candy and cookies. The cookies were baked by **Bob O’Roark** and **Donn Jones**. **Alice Feng** was the lucky winner of our monthly 50/50. The chapter’s portion was presented to our wait staff along with their usual tips.

**Angela Knight** closed the luncheon by singing “Oh Holy Night.” Her voice is magnificent and even brought in customers from the other side of the restaurant for a final applause. Angela is currently writing and producing a musical which will be performed on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the Hylton Performing Arts Center in Manassas, VA. The name of the show is “Queen of the people’s hearts” and is about Diana, princess of Wales. It will be set to an original score. She hopes to give a group rate to United employees. I am looking forward to this and am sure that it will be a sold out performance, so get your tickets early.

**Sandee Eggleston** has been quite ill. She went to the hospital with flu-like symptoms and after being admitted, the doctors found other complications. She is home now and recovering but on December 28, 2019, her brother, **Ernest “Corky” Eggleston, Jr.** passed away at the age of 68. Corky was, like his sister, a retired UAL flight attendant. Condolences can be sent to Sandee at 13600 White Barn Lane in Herndon, VA 20171.

**Peggy Frank** passed away on December 29<sup>th</sup>. She was 90 years old. The members of our chapter have been sending her cards including the most recent one mid-December signed by most members of our group.

**Kerrie Schneider** is the most recent member of the DL to be stricken with the flu. Sending her love for a speedy recovery. Her doctor has given her the necessary meds, and now it is her job to rest and get well.

Our December charity contribution went to United We Care. Stay healthy this year and remember that you get an extra day before you “age up.” Happy Leap year everyone!

Come join us, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at noon at the Golden Corral In Manassas, VA.

## NATIONAL

### CLIPPED WINGS

Peggy Griffin

CW Vice President

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



Hello RUAEA,

February, this is going to be a great month ... Super Bowl Sunday February 2; who will be the next Champions of Football. Is your favorite team still playing, mine is not. This February is a leap year and it has set the mood for a great year: Valentine’s Day is on Friday, great date night, Cinco de Mayo is on Taco Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> of July is on Saturday, Christmas is on Friday, and New Year’s Day starts a 3 day weekend. Thank you, February 29<sup>th</sup>.

Well, I am a day late and a dollar short on giving you some information that I should have sent out before Christmas, but it is never too late to help a charity. Clipped Wings has an *Amazon Smile Account*. There are many of us that shop at Amazon and you can help us out with a click of a button. You, too, can contribute 0.5% to our Philanthropy Fund at **no** additional cost to you ! Here is how you can join:

1. Go to: <https://smile.amazon.com>
2. Check for charitable organizations
3. Search: Clipped Wings
4. Select: Clipped Wings, La Quinta, CA Inc.1963
5. **Very Important:** You will see a long list of Clipped Wings chapter listed (including another) La Quinta listing, *but in order for the funds to go into our National Philanthropy Account, you must select “Clipped Wings LaQuinta, CA Inc, 1963”*

It will **not** cost you anything extra above your purchase. Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to our Fund.

Just a reminder, our Philanthropy Fund is the “Parents Grant for Special Olympics”. This money helps the parents of SO athletes defray the costs for travel to the games. It is very much appreciated by the parents.

Thank you in advance for signing up for the Amazon Smile Account for Clipped Wings.

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!

**Wishing you all blue skies!**

## NEW MEMBERS

The following new members joined RUAEA during the month of **December 2019**:

Labinsky, Sonja L., ORDSW, 455 Lakeview Circle, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Malanaphy, Kevin S., LGAOZ, 10760 Wigwam Rd. Spc. 71, Jamestown, CA 95327

Matelich, Madeline, PHXOX, 9254 East Milagro Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85209

## CONTRIBUTIONS

We appreciated monetary contributions from the following members during the month of **December 2019**:

Barbara J. Anable, Donna J. Badella, Kathryn Baran, Edward T. Barrett, Sina H. Beck, Richard C. Bouska, Thomas F. Boyle, Betty S. Bryant, Werner K. Buck, Ida C. Cummins, John J. Deily, Kevin Dillon, Jack H. Domosley, Vernon R. Duley, Richard W. Ems, William A. Engler, Maura Fallon, Helena M. Ferdinandus, Francis Gibbons, Judy D. Godlove, John F. Haferbecker, Arnold H. Hansen, Shirley A. House, Kenneth Johnson, Lowell E. Johnston, Robert J. Kalicki, Linda L. Keim, Jean M. Kerman, Eldonna Klobe, Joann M. Koester, Arnold E. Lakso, Paul Liebisch, R. M. Rosemary Lump, Terry P. Lutz, Shari L. Mathisen, Dixie L. Mccay, Mandy McClain, Keith Morris, William R. Nibert, Kay E. O'Brien, Kenneth W. Paulson, James Pelletier, Phyllis A. Potsic, Marlene Proch, Ronald E. Pryer, Frank H. Rausch, Jean Reinoehl, Sue Riedl, William Rodenhizer, Kathleen E. Rogers, Eugene R. Rollins, Ronald J. Ross, Stephen C. Ryan, Arno A. Schaetzke, Betty L. Schaetzke, Nalini M. Shah, Josephine N. Shioji, Dennis G. Snell, Carl F. Stengele, Flora M. Stiveson, Kenneth A. Storey, M. Mike Takamatsu, Brandon A. Taylor, Kenneth Thiede, David Thompson, Linda Tilford, Joan J. Velotta, Sophie C. Wajda, Sandra L. Wallestad, Joseph Walp.

## 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 – **Brinza, Richard A.**, on 8/2/2019, DENMM, husband of Nancy (Williams) Brinza (deceased), 108 Bertley Ridge Dr., Moon TWP, PA 15108

Retiree – **Cottrell, Arthur A.**, on 4/12/2019, LAXLA, husband of Patricia Cottrell, 18814 Fonthill Ave., Torrance, CA 90504

Retiree – **D'Aurora, Joseph R.**, on 11/18/2019, ORDFO, husband of Vicki G. D' Aurora, 306 Wooded Valley Dr., New Albany, IN 47150



Retiree – **Frank, Margaret A. (Peggy)**, on 12/29/2019, IADRR friend of many within United Airlines and without, 2025 Wightman St., Pittsburgh, PA 15217  
Retiree – **Horner, Earl T.**, on 12/21/2019, DENFF, husband of Laura L. Coats, 1250 Richfield St., Aurora, CO 80011  
Spouse – **Leeper, Robert (Bob)**, on 12/20/2019, husband of Mardell L. Leeper, CHIRR, 1092 Aberdeen Ln., Inverness, IL 60067  
Retiree – **Richardson, Erma L.**, on 10/2/2019, CHIRR, wife of Curt A. Rosenberg, 850 Woodlawn St., Hoffman Estates, IL 60169  
Retiree – **Smith, Clayton A.**, on 12/20/2019, DENMM, Husband of Marie (Blair) Smith, 15320 Pless Dr., Brighton, CO 80601  
Retiree – **Wilson, Donald R.**, on 9/2/2019, WHQTH, husband of Doris Wilson, 1344 Pennsylvania Ave., Des Plaines, IL 60018

## Letters & Notes



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

Martha Gooselaw  
Letters/Notes Editor  
7401 MLK Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80207-2433  
[marthagoose@comcast.net](mailto:marthagoose@comcast.net)

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

Barbara Anable, Betty Ballash, Kathryn Baran, Edward Barrett, Gilbert Cano, Gary Church, Kay Crab, John Deily, Phyllis Easley, Blanche Eichorst, William Engler, Dewitt Ferrell, Jr., Judy Godlove, Norman Jukes, Eldonna Klobe, Morris Nelson, Kenneth Paulson, Ron Pryer, Sue Riedl, Kathleen Rogers, Thomas Snyder, Flora Stiverson, James Sullivan, Mike Takamatsu, Barbara Vaults, Joan Velotta, Charlene Williams.

### **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.)*

### **Fred Kremerskotter, 1430 Fallen Leaf Dr., Milpitas, CA 95035**

This year is coming to a close and I am reminded that I have been retired for 28 years, just as many years that I worked for United. Yes, I can still remember my first day on the job those 56 years ago.

I turned 84 a few days ago and still like to go on hikes with friends and my love for travel is still strong.

In May, I traveled to France, cruising by small riverboat from Paris to the Normandy beaches, followed by a post trip to Brittany.

Fast forward to September when I explored Croatia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Slovenia. These were all countries of the former Yugoslavia. My family and I had visited those countries in 1986 while they were still under communist rule. It was refreshing to witness the progress they have made as individual countries.

Presently, I am busy to get my house in order for the holidays. Like in past years, my four grandchildren and their parents are joining me again for Christmas.

As always, I enjoy reading the newsletter and I really do appreciate all the hard work of the staff. A big thank you to all of you!

**Ken Story, 16039 12 Ave. SW, Burien, WA 98166**

Here we are again, time to pay. I am sending a bonus to help pay for the paper copy. I really like reading it that way.

We really had a year. I had left hip replacement and Judy had a cancer removed from her nose.

We did spend the month of October in Europe; great trip to Switzerland, Germany, France, Holland and Belgium. We used British Air on all of the trips by air. Then 15 days on the Rhine and Mosel with Grand Circle River Boats.

I turned 85 on the Rhine River, what a birthday!

*Notes*

**Marvin Berryman**

I continue to be a volunteer at DFC (formerly DENTK) for the United Airlines Historical Foundation and write the monthly history pages for both RUAEA and RUPA. Due to weather in DEN, I got behind on my renewal.

**Thomas Boyle**

Keep up the great work. I have been retired from SFO and OAK maintenance for 20 years.

**Robert Graham**

Many thanks to the RUAEA organization for helping to keep the United family together, and for keeping **Don Burbank** out of trouble.

I enjoy reading the newsletter every month, and save all of Torgy's Travel Tips for future reference. Thanks Kathie.

The last 7 years of retirement has slipped by and we have traveled some each year.

I suppose I am in the minority when I say the current pass policy regarding retirees seems fair to me. I have always felt that company service time was more fair than the starting date for boarding priority and limiting passes, give the employees a fair chance to get back to work.

A shout out to friends in CLE, IAD, DTW, DEN, SFO and Joe in Tall Pines, AZ.

**Linda Keim**

Another year and this one has been "something". In August I fell, broke my pelvis, humerus and ribs. I just got home from rehab and had to go back for surgery of a blocked colon. Ron thought marrying a younger woman would keep him from being a caregiver ... Oh, how wrong he was. But we are all on the mend now and I am certainly being more careful. As they say getting old is not for sissies. As most of us older folks, we recognize fewer names every issue, but keeping up with the latest news is still important.

Thanks for all the work you do and let's all hope for a smoother 2020.

**James Pelletier**

It has been a very busy year. Last year at this time I was in the UNC Chapel Hill Hospital for a stem cell procedure due to Multiple Myeloma, thanks to Agent Orange in Vietnam. So far all is going well! I am looking forward to 20 years retirement come this May. I have missed many Newsletters and hope to catch up with all my friends during the last 33 years at SFO.

Please keep up the great work you do for all of us who use the publication to stay in touch.

Best of Holidays to all and God Bless!

**David Thompson**

Both Beverly and I were UAL employees, MSP, HNL, DEN, FDS, LADCS.

A special thanks to **Barbara Bock** of Aurora, CO for the inspirational message she sent to me after Beverly's passing. Fellow employees are like second family as we spend so much time together.

**Wayne Wallusiak**

I would like to hear more about member experiences with the new Aetna retiree insurance plan that steals our Medicare and how to combat it.

## **LIST OF IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS ON THE NEXT PAGE**

# Important Phone Numbers



*Updated 7/2017*

## **United Airlines Benefits Center (Central Time)**

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

## **United Employee Service Center**

1-877-825-3729, [esc@united.com](mailto:esc@united.com) (email)

1-847-825-3729 - International Use

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

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

## **Employee Travel Center**

1-877-825-3729, [ETC@united.com](mailto:ETC@united.com) (email)

## **Flying Together Help Desk**

1-800-255-5801

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

**Aetna** 1-800-334-0110

**BC/BS** 1-800-535-9825

**PBGC** - for all retiree pension questions

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

## **Social Security Administration**

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

## **Alliant Credit Union**

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

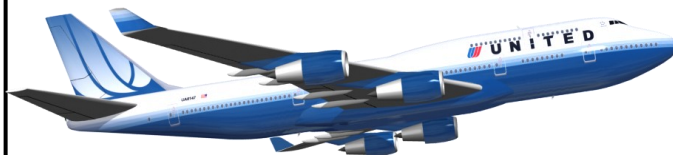
**Medicare Hotline** 1-800-633-4227

## **CVS/Caremark (Pharmacy)**

1-844-635-3401

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

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



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**TREASURER**  
Chris Johnston  
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Position Open

**SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE HEAD**  
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**NEWSLETTER EDITOR** - Veronica Domaratius  
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HOME (916) 789-0422, CELL (916) 521-7236

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# United Airlines Historical Foundation



"Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future"

United Air Lines Modification Center (Reprinted from "Flying Magazine" July 1944, Vol. 35, No. 1, pp. 52-54, 114 & 118) - Part 3 of 3

While waiting for construction to be completed, two outdoor production lines, illuminated at night with large flood lights, were set up. The first plane moved into the new hangars early in September. In August, 1943, ground was broken for another building to include a hangar, warehouse and garage, all under one roof. The new structure was to be 160 feet deep, 400 feet long, 55 feet high and equipped with a two-story lean-to 400 feet long and 80 feet deep.

While these improvements were being made, B-17Es and Fs flowed through United's "temporary" setup in a steady stream. From April, 1942, to September of the same year, the output of modified planes averaged 30 per month. October began to show benefits of the new hangar space, with production that month having stepped up to a monthly average of 60, which was continued until January, 1943. During the first month of 1943, 111 planes rolled down the runways. Production was so increased that, for the first six months of that year, an average of six planes daily left Cheyenne on their way to combat areas. This average was increased for the last six months of 1943.

The reason for modifying so many planes should be explained. Airplane production today is on an assembly-line basis. Reports for desired changes frequently are received from combat zones and plane manufacturers can't revamp assembly lines and still keep up with production schedules. Furthermore, planes being built today are destined to go to all parts of the globe. Some need winterizing, some equatorial equipment. Mass production is a highly standardized procedure. Consequently, it saves time to have modification centers make last-minute changes according to special combat or geographical needs. Many of the earlier modifications made at Cheyenne have long since been adopted and are being installed at the airplane factories. Parts and blueprints made by United have been sent to all companies manufacturing the Forts.

Planes sent to Cheyenne after June, 1942 needed different and frequently more complicated changes than did previous arrivals. Some of the major modifications included cheek-gun installations on either side of the

plane's nose, construction of a monocoque gun mount for .50-caliber machine guns, installation of "chin" gun turrets, and revamping of entire tail turret assemblies. Not all the orders for modification came from the AAF. Occasionally, employees make valuable suggestions. The monocoque gun mount was the result of engineering ingenuity of WW Erickson, a member of United's supervisory staff at Cheyenne.

Another suggestion, which since has proved a boon to aerial gunners, was made by members of the "Jack the Ripper" bomber crew returned from combat. They complained that use of their inter-communicating microphones had necessitated the removal of one hand from the gun controls in order to push the switch button on the mike. Sometimes this happened during critical moments of an air battle. United engineers rebuilt the mike control switch, placing in on the machine-gun grip. This device now is used on most airplane machine guns. All the gunner has to do to switch on his mike is to slip his thumb to the side of the gun grip.

Production at Cheyenne steadily increased; the personnel roster grew longer. In March, 1942, United had 625 employees at work in its maintenance base. These employees were, at that time, devoting 25 percent of their time to modification.

By the middle of April, 1942, the company started hiring additional personnel. Some of United's crack traffic salesmen were transferred from key cities to Cheyenne to help put over the job. They "beat the bushes," recruiting cowpunchers, tractor operators, farmers, high school and college graduates, garage mechanics, stenographers, beauticians, teachers and clerks from nearby towns and cities. By July, between 400 and 500 skilled and semi-skilled people were doing nothing but modification work. By the time a norm was attained in the spring of 1943, the company had over 1,600 modification workers.

Of these new employees, more than 50 percent were women. They were put to work as sheet-metal fabricators, drill and punch press operators, riveters, and at other mechanical operations. Their average age is about 26 years while the average age of men at the center is considerably higher, and a goodly proportion of the workers have husbands, sons or daughters in the armed services, some of them flying the Fortresses modified at Cheyenne.

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***RUAEA Board Meeting ~ Denver, September 2019***

***L to R - Standing:*** Bill Corbett, Rosalie Tripicchio, Cas Spokas, Tom Cunningham, Don Burbank, Dave Garland, Tom Goodyear, Michael Malesardi, Jim Sommerfield, Chris Johnston, Sonda Sandstedt. ***Sitting second row:*** Chuck Cole, Virgil Gooselaw, John Taucher, Dolly Taucher, Jackie Monilaw. ***Sitting first row:*** Ruth Morabito, Mary Jane Stewart, Ron Bertacini, Pam Ziebarth, Hank Gosselin. ***On the floor:*** Francis & Veronica Domaratius