



Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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United States Airmail Service

By George Midwin



George Midwin

Although it was a very short flight, the first US Airmail flight took place on September 25, 1911. Flown by aviation pioneer Earle Ovington, flying from Garden City Estates, NY and dropping a mailbag from his plane in Mineola, NY. After more experimental flights were made throughout the next six years, congress came to realize that airmail delivery was feasible and approved funding.

Beginning on May 15, 1918 limited airmail service began, using six Army Air Corps Curtiss Jenny planes and Army pilots. However, less than six months later the Post Office extended contracts for civilian pilots, to fly specially built mail planes. During the next few years, this service



Earle Ovington

primarily was provided for the East Coast. People were not too interested in this service with its additional cost for the little saving over ground delivery times; still the delivery time only improved by just 22 hours over train service only.

In hope this would be more of an interest for citizens to use the service; discussions began to make airmail delivery possible clear across the United States. In 1920, utilizing a system of landing strips from New York to San Francisco, cross country flights began. These flights were limited to daylight only, so planes were off loaded to trains for night transport from one landing field to another.

With no navigation aids, early airmail pilots used landmarks to find their way. Flying long distances, in aircraft that could fail at any time was a challenge, particularly when encountering inclement weather. Still it was necessary to find a way to get the mail de-





livered more quickly. The idea of night flying was the only way to ensure faster delivery than the train. In 1921, four planes, two from San Francisco and two from New York were to fly round the clock. Two planes were halted by storms, one crashed killing the pilot, but one succeeded making the trip in just over 33 hours.

As a result of the test flights, it was proven that mail service round the clock could be possible. However a process needed to be developed to ensure the safety of the pilots. In 1923, the Post Office set about improving the instruments on its planes and installing navigation lighting. To help pilots to find their way at night, a system of lighted airways was to be built spanning the entire country.

During the next six years a series of 1,500 light towers one every 10 miles were constructed from New York to San Francisco. They consisted of a 70 foot long concrete dual pointed arrow painted bright Yellow. Over the center of the arrow a 51 foot tower was constructed with a million power rotating light. At each end of the arrow, were two beacons, which would flash in Morse code a unique locator ID for that tower. A small shed was constructed to house an acetylene gas powered lights in the early days, or generator, where electrical power was not available. On top of the shed was the location ID which was used during the daylight hours. Emergency landing sites were also constructed along the route.

The entire system was supported by personnel. Pilots could fly these routes, from 184 to 486 miles each and make fifteen stops for service and mail across country, making the entire trip in 30 hours. Beginning in 1933, with the improvement in low range radio frequency transmission, the towers began to become obsolete. The majority would ceased operation during the 1940's, with the last one shut down in 1973. If you are interested, a few towers and many more concrete arrows can still be seen today, a number of websites list their locations.

Beginning in 1926, the post office began contracting out airmail delivery. The experienced pilots used by the post office were quickly hired by a vast number of airlines, eager enter into lucrative contracts with the government. Many new airlines were created as a result of privatizing of airmail delivery. All together there were 34 Contract Air Mail (CAM) routes established. The first contract issued was to Varney airlines, predecessor of United Airlines on April 5, 1926 and flown by Leon Cuddeback using a Swallow biplane aircraft. Passenger service around this era was just beginning, so flying mail helped airlines grow and is said to be responsible for the future of airlines in general.

Despite the profits being made flying airmail, airlines began to take advantage. Since they were paid by

the weight they transported, some airlines insisted on having pad-locks on each bag, others were discovered stuffing the bags with 'junk mail', or flying freight as mail. President Hoover in 1930 gave postmaster Brown extraordinary power to fix the system. The program instituted by postmaster Brown, was to simplify the contract process and approved only three airlines to fly airmail for the post office. From the onset, the decision was considered very controversial by the media.

With a new president, Franklin Roosevelt, being elected in 1933, he quickly set up an investigation to look into how the airmail contracts had been established and maintained. The investigation confirmed that process of selecting only three airlines to fly the mail, brought to question the legality and ethics. Just days after a series of hearings concluded that the process must be changed, Roosevelt, canceled all airmail contracts. The Army was given the task to provide airmail service. However, the Army was not equipped for such a task. Pilots had less than 2 years flying experienced, insufficient maintenance personnel positioned across the US and lack of operational supplies, among other issues. After a number of pilot deaths, the Army was forced to reduce the number of routes flown, as well as flying at night. Problems continued and pilot deaths climbed. Roosevelt was faced with public furor and was being forced to make further changes.

At the insistence of Roosevelt, the Air Mail Act was passed by congress in 1934. This returned airmail delivery to the public sector, based on bids. One of the provisions of the act was that no former airlines could be part of the bidding, as well as holding companies. Thus United Airlines, among others, became an independent entity, separated from aircraft manufacture (Boeing), aircraft engines (Pratt & Whitney), for the sole purpose to legally bid and be awarded airmail contracts. As a result, airmail was just another source of income for the airlines, who now focused on increasing passenger numbers. This created the need for new aircraft and passenger improvements.

The first airmail flight carried 9,285 pieces of mail over a route of 525 miles. Today the post office handles over 706 million pieces of mail daily, relying on aircraft for quick and efficient transport of a majority of mail it handles, on routes of thousands of miles.■



GENERAL NEWS

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Letter from the Vice President - Conventions



Hi Folks,

We now have a reservation link for our 2023 Reunion at the Dana Hotel, San Diego. You can scan the attached QR Code, go to <https://bit.ly/3yeRaFe>; or phone 1-800-445-3339. Please mention RUAEA Annual Conference.

Once again, I advise you to register early, to ensure you receive the discounted rate. The rate is \$135.00 per night, which includes 2 free breakfasts per room night, free parking, and waived resort fee. You can reserve a room 3 days prior to the



Convention/Reunion and 3 days post.

Plan your vacation for 2023 in San Diego now. The registration packet for the Reunion will be in our June Newsletter. If you wish to upgrade your room or have a special need, please do so when you register, room types are listed on the reservation website. Again, many sites and activities are available in the wonderful city of San Diego. Hope you can join us this year, September 29th - October 4th.

Hank Gosselin
RUAEA VP Conventions

Corrections



In the March 2023 issue of the Newsletter, UAHF section, we incorrectly stated that the collection of UAL historical items currently in Denver will be transferred to the United Legacy Foundation in Chicago. We apologize for the error and any inconveniences it caused, following is the clarification:

As mentioned in the March newsletter, the bulk of the UAHF Archive items in the "A" basement at the Denver Flight Training Center (DFTC) were temporarily relocated to a remote storage facility nearby as a result of space that is needed for increased training activity. The exceptions to this are the items that were placed in a permanent display at DFTC.

The UAHF Board of Directors is in discussions with the newly formed United Airlines Legacy Foundation and United Airlines, Inc. to acquire the items in storage for transport to Chicago for permanent retention. We will continue to keep you updated on the status.

United Names Oscar the Grouch as First Chief Trash Officer

March 2, 2023



United Airlines today named Sesame Street's Oscar the Grouch as its first Chief Trash Officer as he and the airline celebrate his love of rubbish. United Airlines' new, consumer education campaign is designed to promote the expected benefit of using sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) more broadly.

The new campaign – which features Oscar in more than 30 pieces of original video, digital, social and out-of-home content – follows the iconic character's journey from job listing to c-suite office starring alongside real United employees.

Starting today, people can follow Oscar's journey as he stars in videos alongside real United employees. The integrated campaign includes interactive social-first elements, colorful spreads in Hemispheres® magazine and a unique film series, all of which were created to simplify a complicated topic in an approachable and entertaining way. Creative highlights include:

- ▲ Film Series: Across multiple videos, United highlights Oscar's work in his new role, such as a "BINtro" film showcasing his first day on the job. The film is part of a series that focuses on the

importance of SAF. In an additional 90-second film, United Captain Tomica Adams breaks down how things like waste can help fuel air travel.

- ▲ Out of Home: United's out-of-home content introduces the airline's new hire in a larger-than-life format. The playful imagery features Oscar in aviation settings – from tarmac to onboard. The photos will pique people's interest about how trash could one day help us fly toward a lower carbon future.
- ▲ Digital/Social: Providing surround sound to the campaign, storytelling continues on social channels with bite-size edutainment videos, engaging Instagram Story features, emoji-filled Twitter threads and more to raise awareness of the SAF nitty-gritty. The social campaign will live on owned and paid social and digital channels.

As a part of the collaboration, United Airlines is supporting Sesame Workshop through a donation to the nonprofit educational organization's Welcome Sesame initiative. Sesame Workshop will also be included in United Airlines' Miles on a Mission, where travelers will be able to donate miles to help support its global mission to help children grow smarter stronger and kinder.

"This campaign provided a special opportunity to showcase an iconic Sesame Street character, Oscar the Grouch, celebrating what he loves best – trash," said Jennifer Ahearn, VP, Global Strategic Partnerships & Themed Entertainment, Sesame Workshop. "The amazing collaboration helps United Airlines explain in simpler terms the technology of turning trash into fuel in a fun and engaging manner."

Air Canada and United Airlines to Offer More than 260 Daily Transborder Flights and Two New Routes this Summer February 23, 2023



Air Canada and United Airlines announced today that, through their enhanced transborder joint business agreement, they will offer industry leading capacity and new routes between Canada and the U.S. for summer 2023 – including a new United-operated flight between Washington-Dulles and Calgary and a new Air Canada-operated flight between Washington-Dulles and Vancouver. The carriers have collaboratively optimized their schedules, subject to applicable government and regulatory conditions, and added more flights to provide customers greater connectivity and more flexible flight times,

with over 80 transborder codeshare routes and more than 260 daily flights.

"Through our longstanding partnership with United Airlines, Air Canada has been able to offer customers ever-increasing and significant benefits. This summer, customers will have even greater choice and convenience with our joint summer schedule made possible by our airlines' new enhanced transborder agreement. Together we will offer more than 260 daily departures to the U.S, and new non-stop flights from Vancouver and Calgary to Washington-Dulles," said Mark Galardo, Senior Vice President Network Planning and Revenue Management at Air Canada. "Our coordinated schedules will provide business travelers with the convenience of hourly service and the additional comfort of a business cabin on all flights between Toronto and New York and Chicago, as well as Vancouver and San Francisco."

"We're proud of our continued work with Air Canada to provide customers with even greater transborder connectivity, including adding more flights and new direct service to Calgary and Vancouver from Washington Dulles," said Patrick Quayle, Senior Vice President of Global Network Planning and Alliances at United Airlines. "With schedules designed to give customers more flexibility with timing and more convenient connection options, as well as the ability to enjoy the benefits of both airlines' loyalty programs, our agreement with Air Canada makes United the premier U.S. airline for travel to Canada."

New Non-stop Flights Between Vancouver, Calgary and Washington ~ New, non-stop service between Vancouver and Washington-Dulles will begin June 1 and will be operated with an Air Canada Boeing 737 Max 8. United will also introduce a new, non-stop flight between Calgary and Washington-Dulles on June 2 on an Airbus 319. Air Canada and United will codeshare on these flights, allowing Aeroplan or MileagePlus® members to accumulate and redeem miles. Eligible customers and loyalty plan members will also be able to enjoy benefits including priority check-in, lounge access, priority boarding and other benefits where available.

Transborder Schedule ~ The two carriers will operate more than 260 daily transborder departures in summer 2023, about a 20 percent increase in schedule capacity compared to summer 2022. The schedule will include up to 120 daily departures between the airlines' hub markets, an increase from 101 in summer 2021. Flights will be timed to offer optimized connections at both Air Canada and United's hubs and line stations.

Shuttle-Style Schedule ~ The coordinated schedule will enable both carriers to offer shuttle-style hourly service throughout the day between key Air Canada and United hubs. The airlines will offer 29 daily flights with complementary timings between Toronto and New York/Newark and Chicago, and 11 daily flights between Vancouver and San Francisco.

Enhanced Western Canada Network to the U.S. ~ The airlines' summer schedule also provides increased transborder service between the U.S. and Western Canada. There will be nine daily flights between Vancouver and New York/Newark, Houston and Chicago, and seven flights daily between Los Angeles and Vancouver. A second daily flight will be added between Calgary and both Chicago and Houston, and a second daily flight will also be added from Edmonton to Denver.

Customer Experience ~ Air Canada and United will offer business class seats on every flight between their respective hubs. All eligible customers will be able to enjoy Air Canada's Maple Leaf Lounges and United's lounges, as well as the benefits of the carriers' Aeroplan and MileagePlus® loyalty programs. Additionally, customers will have a wider range of flight options with more than 80 transborder codeshare routes. Overall, customers will be able to connect to over 100 codeshare destinations in the U.S. and 25 of the most popular cities in Canada.

Building on a Long-Standing Partnership ~ In July 2022, Air Canada and United announced a joint business agreement for the Canada-U.S. transborder market, building on their long-standing partnership that will give more flight options and better flight schedules to customers traveling between the two countries (coordination subject to regulatory conditions). Air Canada and United are also founding members of Star Alliance and a transatlantic joint business agreement with the Lufthansa Group.

In 2019, the U.S.-Canada transborder market was the second largest international passenger air transportation market in the world and the largest international market for both Canada and the U.S., as measured by seats.

**United and Virgin Australia to Celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride
on Flight from San Francisco to Sydney
February 22, 2023**



United Airlines is partnering with Virgin Australia to connect U.S. travelers to the world's largest celebration of Pride in Sydney with a special flight staffed entirely by members and allies of the LGBTQ+ community. Departing on Wednesday, February 22 from San Francisco International Airport, the festivities will kick off with a celebration at the gate, continue with giveaways and activities onboard the flight and culminate with a welcome party upon arrival in Sydney. While Virgin Australia has offered special domestic flights in Australia for Pride since 2021, this is the first time United is joining this effort. Additionally, United made a \$25,000 donation to the Trevor Project to support their mission of helping LGBTQ young people.

"As a proud ally of the LGBTQ+ community and the leading carrier from the U.S. to Australia, United is thrilled to join the party and help people celebrate the upcoming Pride events in Sydney," said Lori Augustine, Vice President of Operations for United in San Francisco. "At United, we recognize, embrace and celebrate the differences that make our customers and employees unique. We're committed to creating an inclusive work environment while supporting the diverse communities we serve. Our Pride Flight is yet another example of how at United, Good Leads the Way."

"Virgin Australia launched our initial Pride Flight in the middle of the pandemic and fast forward to today, we have flights all over Australia, and our very first international Pride Flight from San Francisco with our wonderful partner, United Airlines," said Jayne Hrdlicka, CEO for Virgin Australia Group. "It's so important that we use our voice to promote diversity and inclusion in the communities in which we live, work and fly. Our partnership with United Airlines is incredibly important and it's so wonderful to witness the collaboration between the airlines, and the joy we have brought our guests in spreading pride right across the Pacific and throughout Australia."

United has an ongoing commitment to LGBTQ+ equality, including a proud history of firsts. United was the first U.S. airline to fully recognize domestic partnerships in 1999 and was the first U.S. airline to offer non-binary gender options throughout all its booking channels in 2019. Also in 2019, the airline became the first public company to be inducted into Pride Live's Stonewall Ambassador program in recognition of the airline's commitment to LGBTQ+ equality. Through EQUAL, the airline's LGBTQ+ Business Resource Group, more

than 4,500 members work together to advocate on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community, working with members and leaders companywide to develop ways to deliver resources, education and advocacy.

United continues to be committed to inclusion and supporting employees to be their full selves at work, which is why in 2021, the airline updated its appearance standards, moving away from gender-specific guidance and allowing customer-facing employees to represent themselves authentically through visible tattoos, nose piercings, hair, make-up, nails and more.

United is the Bay Area's global airline, with more flights to more destinations around the world than any other airline in Northern California. United operates more than 200 daily departures from San Francisco International Airport, taking customers to more than 100 destinations around the globe, including the most international service with flights to 26 different international cities.

United is the country's leading carrier to Australia and operates flights to three destinations in Australia through SFO including Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. United provides more service to Australia than ever before and offers more seats from the U.S. to Australia than any other airline.

United's partnership with Virgin Australia gives customers new connecting options to Australia's most popular destinations, and MileagePlus® members have the ability to earn and redeem miles/points across both airlines' networks.

United Rallies Businesses and Consumers with New, First-of-its-Kind
\$100+ Million Sustainable Flight Fund
February 21, 2023

In an effort to rally businesses and consumers, United today launched the United Airlines Ventures Sustainable Flight Fund, a first-of-its-kind investment vehicle designed to support start-ups focused on decarbonizing air travel by accelerating the research, production and technologies associated with sustainable aviation fuel (SAF).

The fund starts with more than \$100 million in investments from United and its inaugural partners** Air Canada, Boeing, GE Aerospace, JPMorgan Chase, and Honeywell. Through the fund, these and potentially additional corporate participants will invest alongside United in SAF technology and production start-ups identified by United. In the past two years alone, United Airlines Ventures has invested in start-ups such as Cemvita, Dimensional Energy, and NEXT Renewable Fuels.

And in a first among U.S. airlines, anyone who buys a ticket on the United website or app now has the option to contribute to supplement United's investment in the fund. The first 10,000 people who choose to contribute will each receive 500 MileagePlus Miles as a thank-you.

SAF is an alternative to conventional jet fuel that, on a lifecycle basis, reduces greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with air travel compared to conventional jet fuel alone. SAF, which currently must be blended with conventional jet fuel to meet regulatory requirements for use within the aircraft, is being made from used cooking oil and agricultural waste, and, in the future, could be made from other feedstocks including household trash or forest waste. To date, United has invested in the future production of over three billion gallons of SAF - the most of any airline in the world.***

"Solving climate change is doable but it requires hard work and real leadership," said United CEO Scott Kirby. "This fund is unique. It's not about offsets or things that are just greenwashing. Instead, we're creating a system that drives investment to build a new industry around sustainable aviation fuel, essentially from scratch. That's the only way we can actually decarbonize aviation."

UAV Sustainable Flight Fund ~ The UAV Sustainable Flight Fund is open to investment by corporations across industries and the fund will prioritize investment in new technology, advanced fuel sources and proven producers, all in an effort to scale the supply of SAF. Partners of the fund also have the potential to gain preferential access to environmental attributes associated with United's supply of SAF. Companies interested in joining the fund can visit united.com/ventures.

United has already made investments in or signed purchase agreements with companies using a variety of ingredients and technologies to produce SAF, including feedstocks like ethanol, animal byproducts, forestry and crop waste, and municipal waste, as well as early-stage, promising technologies like synthetic biology and power to liquids. United Airlines Ventures will move selected existing SAF investments to establish the UAV Sustainable Flight Fund portfolio.

Consumer Awareness and Call to Action ~ United is also educating consumers about their air travel carbon footprint and giving them the option to take action.

Starting today on United.com and the United app, United becomes the first U.S. airline to show customers an estimate of each flight's carbon footprint in their search. Green shading will indicate a lower-carbon option on a per economy seat passenger basis in a customer's chosen itinerary. A flight's carbon footprint is measured in kg CO₂e (kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent) and United's estimates, which could differ from actual flight emissions, are based on aircraft type, flying time, seat capacity and the number of people and cargo on a given flight.

And consumers who book travel through United for travel within or from the U.S. will now see an option to contribute to supplement United's investment in the UAV Sustainable Flight Fund before check-out. Customers have the choice to contribute \$1, \$3.50 or \$7.00.****

The default option for customer contributions is set at \$3.50 to illustrate the potential impact of customer action at scale: If the 152 million people who flew on United in 2022 each contributed just \$3.50 to the UAV Sustainable Flight Fund, that would be enough to design and build a SAF refinery capable of producing as much as 40 million gallons of alternative fuel annually.*****

The Federal Government Recognizes the Value of SAF ~ The 2022 Inflation Reduction Act includes the largest governmental climate change investments in U.S. history - a new blender's tax credit specifically for SAF along with other critical incentives for clean energy and carbon capture – that will help spur an increase in SAF infrastructure and supply while lowering costs for SAF consumers.

The U.S. military currently uses nearly five billion gallons of jet fuel annually and the Department of Defense will use a jet fuel blend containing at least 10% SAF by 2028 because of the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act.

And according to the U.S. Department of Energy, the country's vast feedstock resources are enough to meet the projected SAF demand of the entire U.S. aviation industry.

United's Commitment to Net Zero Emissions by 2050 ~ United aims to be 100% green by reducing its GHG emissions 100% by 2050, without relying on traditional carbon offsets. In addition to the UAV Sustainable Flight Fund, United has launched a SAF purchasing program called the Eco-Skies Alliance and established a venture fund – United Airlines Ventures - to identify and invest in companies and technologies that can decarbonize air travel. These strategic investments include carbon capture, hydrogen-electric engines, electric regional aircraft, and air taxis.

United Makes It Easier for Families to Sit Together **February 20, 2023**

United today announced an improved family seating policy that makes it easier than ever for children under 12-years old to sit next to an adult in their party for free - including customers who purchase Basic Economy tickets.

United's new policy is made possible through a series of investments in a new seat map feature that dynamically finds available adjacent seats at the time of booking. The online seat engine first reviews all available free Economy seats and then opens complimentary upgrades to available Preferred Seats, if needed.

Customers traveling with children under 12 will start to see more adjacent seat options immediately and the complete policy change will go into effect in early March.

In instances when adjacent seats are not available prior to travel - due to things like last minute bookings, full flights or unscheduled aircraft changes – United's new policy also lets customers switch for free to a flight to the same destination with adjacent seat availability in the same cabin. Customers also won't be charged if there is a difference in fare price between the original and new flight.

"In an era where more families are working in a hybrid environment, they're traveling more often – and they're flying United," said Linda Jojo, Chief Customer Officer for United. "We're focused on delivering a great experience for our younger passengers and their parents and know it often starts with the right seat. We look forward to rolling out more family-friendly features this year."

Many airlines try and use a more manual process to seat families together that can include blocking random seats or asking agents to facilitate seat swaps at the gate. Those circumstances often result in more stress and a longer boarding process for everyone.

Today's announcement reflects the investments United has made in its technology and tools. Since last summer, the airline has worked to improve its ability to seat families together more easily by optimizing the airline's seat engine to prioritize families who did not have seats assigned before their day of travel and prioritize adjacent seating for families during schedule changes, aircraft swaps or irregular operations.

United Polaris®, United First Class® and Economy Plus® seats remain separate products and are excluded from this family seating policy change.

So Simple From Sheryl



This is a recipe used at a Clipped Wings Summer Party and everyone enjoyed it very much. My family is especially fond of it when we have soup, chili, etc. It does have a rich, buttery flavor.

Corn Spoonbread:

- 1 (8½ ounce) package corn muffin mix. I use Jiffy
- 1 (8¼ ounce) can cream style corn
- 1 (8¾ ounce) can sweet whole kernel corn, drained
- 1 (8 ounce) container sour cream
- ½ cup butter or margarine, melted
- 2 large eggs

Stir together all ingredients and pour into a lightly greased 11x7 inch baking dish. Bake at 350 for 35 minutes or until golden.

Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter

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

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

John Chu
Newsletter Manager
johnqchu@hotmail.com

LOCAL NEWS

ALABAMA



SWEET HOME ALABAMA

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

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

ARIZONA

PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S

Matalynne Wandel
Phoenix, AZ
Correspondent
matalynne@hotmail.com



We had 28 people attend our February breakfast, it's great getting together with retirees in the Phoenix area; plenty of good conversation and laughs. Please invite retirees you know in the PHX area to attend our breakfasts.

Next breakfast will be on April 28, same place: Black Bear Diner, 1890 E. Baseline Rd. in Gilbert. We have a private dining room to the left as you enter the restaurant. If you are planning to attend, please let **Dakota Morris-Terry** know a few days in advance. You can email her at dctdmt03@cox.net or text her at (602) 920-7785.

April Birthdays ~ Ron Paluch, Dot Kuspis, Chuck Strohmaier and Orland Baldwin.

April Anniversaries ~ Olga & Arthur Aguilar and Bill & Shirley Eaton.

Until next time, stay healthy and safe!

Calendar:

April 28 – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner in Gilbert.

TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Pat Sommer Di Lallo, Treasurer
14740 N. Palmwood Dr.
Oro Valley, AZ 85755
(520) 825-7370
rpddgarlic41@comcast.net



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

If you would like to attend our luncheons, you can e-mail **Pat Sommer Di Lallo** at rpddgarlic41@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



There is no report this month from the California NorthStaters chapter of RUAEA.

Calendar:

March 15 - Wednesday, 11:30 AM, Vittles Restaurant in Anderson.



CENTRAL COASTERS

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

This has been a quiet month for our members. There was a luncheon at the Santa Maria Airport; they always have a nice menu and a view of the airport makes for an entertaining lunch. **Esther Bartlett** is quite the artist, as I've said before, and she has her art work exhibited there.

I don't know if any of our members keep up with the goings on with the airline industries, but from what I see and read I'm glad I did all my flying years ago when we were all UAL employees. It was enjoyable using our passes when they meant something and not put at the bottom of the boarding lists.

I know that I would be unable to stand in lines, waiting to check in, as I've seen at most airports. It seems every day, on the news, that there has been some disruption on flights by unruly passengers. I know that delayed or cancelled flights can get people upset and after a few refreshments they lose all caring and take it out on agents and crews. It seems that the good old days are gone forever.

And finally, this might be a repeat ~ In English, there is no female word for pilot; actress yes, but pilotess no.

DESERT SUNBIRDS

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



The Sunbirds met on March 8 for lunch at Denny's in Thousand Palms, hosted by **Doreen Roberts**. Our next lunch is planned for April 12.

We've had an unusually cold and rainy winter but spring is finally here.

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

EAST BAY DIABLOS

Contra Costa County
Jan Soderstrom
30 San Piedras Place
San Ramon, CA 94583
(925) 833-9184
Janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com



Happy Easter to everyone from the East Bay Diablos group! As I write this on March 7, the San Francisco Bay Area is awaiting another atmospheric river but it should be nothing like the series of storms we had in January. In Southern California, people living in the San Bernardino Mountains have been snowed in and trapped in their homes for about a week. Fire crews are going door to door to rescue people, but in the most remote areas, some residents may not be rescued for another week. Wow!

Our group holds in person monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month all year long. The restaurants are still dealing with staff shortages, so we have to give them a count beforehand for our meetings. If you are going to attend our meetings, you must RSVP prior to the meeting. I have put the dates of our upcoming meetings and the RSVP deadlines below. Going forward we will be alternating between The Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord and Black Bear Diner in Walnut Creek. We like The Old Spaghetti Factory because they have both a regular and a senior menu with reduced portions and soup or salad, ice cream and coffee included. They also reserve a room for us. We also like Black Bear Diner because it offers a wide selection of both breakfast and lunch choices. However, they don't take reservations and will not hold a long

table for us in the back room. So now we now have a plan. The night before our meeting, I email our count to everyone. The first person there puts our name in for our group to reduce the wait time and so far it has worked out well.

At every meeting, we have two raffles, one for money and one for door prizes. We pay two dollars for three tickets and the winner gets a portion of the money collected. The door prizes are whatever people are inspired to bring. We average about 14 people at our meetings throughout the year, but virtually all our members come to our June meeting which is a catered BBQ luncheon; and to our December meeting at Zio Fraedo's. Social hour starts at 11:00 and our meal is typically served at noon.

Our March luncheon was held on March 6 at The Black Bear Diner in Walnut Creek with 10 members in attendance. This was our first meeting without our president **Tom Cunningham** who passed away on February 9 following a stroke. We are all devastated at losing such a kind man who obviously cared deeply about all of us and RUAEA. As I told his wife Barbara, I will never forget how welcoming Tom & Barbara were when I started coming to the East Bay Diablos meetings. Tom & Barbara were married for 58 years and anyone who has lost a spouse knows what she is going through right now. Barb wasn't ready to come to our March meeting alone, but she hopes to come in April. We will welcome her back with open arms and lots of hugs.

Our regulars in attendance were **Rich & Georgia Bouska, Nancy Boyle, Tom Johnson, Russ & Glenda Kennedy, Joe & Wilma Leather, Carol Parks, and Jan Soderstrom**. We missed a lot of members this month: **Tracey Blanchard, Barb Cunningham, Diane Griego, Arnold Hansen, Jr., Joe & Margaret McGhee, Russ Schleske, Jack & Judi Smith. Sue & Ed VonEmster and Poldi vonMuhlfeld. Russ Kennedy** conducted the raffle and **Rich Bouska** won the money. We only had one bottle of wine in the raffle which was won by **Jan Soderstrom**. In honor of St. Patrick's Day, green was the color theme of the day.

None of the people sitting near me at lunch had redeemed their Alliant Visa Rewards Program points, so I suspect a lot of you out in RUAEA Land haven't either. I really encourage everyone to check the bottom of your Alliant Visa statement for both the number of points and their expiration date. For every dollar you charge, you get one reward point, and at times there are also double points for certain stores. You then redeem your points and get 1% back in cash, merchandise, event tickets, gift cards or travel. It is very simple to redeem your points online. Follow the instructions at the bottom of your Visa statement to get into your Rewards account. You can redeem all of your points at one time or a partial amount. For a cash reward, you have it deposited to either an Alliant checking or savings account.

Another owl story ~ Many of you will remember the heartwarming saga of Rocky, the tiny Saw-whet Owl that was discovered by workers setting up the 75-foot Norway Spruce in Rockefeller Center in November 2020. She most likely hitched a ride from upstate New York but she could also have flown into the tree during its 170-mile ride from Oneonta to New York City. Saw-whet owls are tiny, about the size of a robin. As such they are prey to larger birds like Great Horned Owls, Barred Owls, and diurnal raptors like Northern Goshawks, so they spend the bulk of their day in cavities or dense vegetation for safety. Rocky might have been hiding all the way from Oneonta or ended up in the tree during transportation and stayed in place as if there were predators around. When rescued, she hadn't had food or water for several days. She was cared for at a rehabilitation facility for a few days and then successfully released back into the wild from upstate New York.

Now another owl has captured the hearts of New Yorkers. On February 2nd, zookeepers at the Central Park Zoo discovered that vandals had cut the stainless steel mesh on the enclosure for Flaco, a Eurasian eagle-owl, one of the larger owl species with a wingspan of up to 79 inches. The bird's name in Spanish means "skinny," and it seemed he was in danger of living up to his name in the early days of his escape because he hadn't been seen eating. For two weeks, Flaco flew from treetop to treetop, eluding capture and amassing legions of fans worried about his ability to survive alone in the big city. With a collective sigh of relief, the answer was a resounding no: It appears Flaco has regained his killer instincts and is becoming an old hand at swooping down from his lofty perch to feed on the park's bounty of rats. Recovering Flaco has proven difficult, especially since he has been very successful at hunting. One birdwatcher quipped that Flaco's name should now be changed to Gordo, which means fat in Spanish. Most recently, zoo officials tried to lure Flaco with bait and recordings of eagle-owl calls. He showed some interest but didn't fall for the ruse. Flaco has made his rounds of upper Manhattan but hasn't strayed too far from the park. He flew to the nearby shopping hub of Fifth Avenue, where police officers tried to catch him and failed. He captivated audiences wherever he went, including a visit to Central Park's skating rink. Twitter has been aflutter with sightings, and the hashtag #freeflaco, as well as an online petition to keep him free, soon took flight. As a result, zoo officials announced that they were suspending recovery operations, at least for now, but will keep a close eye on the owl's health. The main concern is that Flaco might consume rodents that have been poisoned. *"We are going to continue monitoring Flaco and his activities and to be prepared to resume recovery efforts if he shows any sign of difficulty or distress."* Source:

AP, February 18, 2023.

Notre Dame Cathedral Restoration update ~ On April 15, 2019, the world watched in horror as this famous landmark was heavily devastated by fire. At the time, French president Emanuel Macron vowed to have restoration completed in time for the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris. That goal was always ambitious, and became even more so after pandemic lockdown restrictions meant work ground to a halt for much of 2020. It took two years just to stabilize and reinforce the structure—which was at risk of collapse—before reconstruction could begin in earnest. The cathedral’s iconic spire collapsed in the blaze, and has been a major focus of the reconstruction. The plan is to rebuild the cathedral identically, including the spire. Architect Philippe Villeneuve is supervising the reconstruction. *“The return of the spire in Paris’ sky will in my opinion be the symbol that we are winning the battle of Notre Dame,”* stated General Jean-Louis Georgelin, the army general in charge of the restoration project.

The reopening of the cathedral itself, with the reconstructed spire, has now been delayed to December 2024 and some work will continue into 2025. A team of 1,000 people are currently at work on the cathedral, using period-appropriate materials and techniques to faithfully rebuild the structure. That includes a stone vaulted ceiling—not modern-day concrete—and the wooden timbers of “The Forest,” as the attic is known, which is being reconstructed from 1000 150-year-old trees.

In the interim, visitors to Notre Dame still have things to see. Notre Dame’s parvis — the public square outside the cathedral — has been open to visitors since May 2020, as well as the cathedral’s crypt. The footbridge was reopened to pedestrians and cyclists in September 2022. And on March 6, a free exhibition called “Notre-Dame de Paris: At the heart of the construction site” opened to visitors. The exhibition is staged in an underground space in the forecourt of the cathedral. A display of charred roof timbers and lead ornaments melted by the intense heat of the blaze illustrate the devastating effects of the fire. The rest of the show gives viewers a glimpse into the ongoing work to reopen the cathedral and celebrates the expertise and skills of the workers. Stained glass windows and other artworks from the cathedral are on view alongside a scale model of Notre Dame, as well as part of the church’s massive pipe organ. The instrument needed to be disassembled and cleaned; putting the 8,000 pipes back together is expected to take a full year. The reconstruction of the gothic cathedral will largely return it to how it once looked, but the grounds are getting a more drastic makeover. Last year, landscape architect Bureau Bas Smets was selected to redevelop the cathedral’s surroundings with an enlarged square behind the cathedral, a new park, an underground walkway, a welcome center, and an archaeological museum. Sources: <https://news.artnet.com/art-world/notre-dame-reopening-delayed-exhibition-reconstruction-2266468>, <https://www.travelandleisure.com/notre-dame-cathedral-paris-2024-opening-7229008>.

Barbara Cunningham is collecting both new and used Christmas cards. She donates them to a local special education teacher who uses them in his classroom. He has told Barbara he can use “all the cards he can get.” The students make gift cards which they sell at the school fundraiser. If you have cards you’d like to donate, please contact Barbara at (925) 846-8123 or tbcunningham43@gmail.com for more info, or just mail them to her directly at 3556 Touriga, Pleasanton, CA 94566-6931. This teacher needs just the cards, no envelopes. At our January meeting, Barbara showed us some of the gift cards the students create. We passed them around and they really are beautiful. The money they raise is for special outings like field trips and other enrichment activities for the special needs students. Thanks again to everyone who is helping Barbara with this project.

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

I would like to ask all of you to cut out coupons and mail them to me at 30 San Piedras Place, San Ramon, CA 94583-3018. This is such an easy thing to do to support our troops. For the price of a first class stamp, you can get about 90 coupons in an envelope. The coupons have to say “Manufacturer’s Coupon”. If they come in a strip, could you please cut them into separate coupons. The collected coupons are then distributed to overseas military personnel for use in their commissaries. The commissaries honor them for six months after the published expiration date so expired coupons can be sent too. In my area, the coupons come in Tuesday’s mail along with the supermarket ads, and then in the Sunday paper. Unfortunately, manufacturers are cutting back on the coupons they are issuing, especially on food items, just when people need help the most. So anything we can send to the troops is greatly appreciated. I get so excited when I get a coupon for eggs! I am so grateful for the kindness of all the RUAEA members who are helping me with this project. On March 6th, I turned in 1847 coupons to my coupon chairperson. This is due to members in my local chapter as well as members all over the country. Thank you all!

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

- ▲ Monday, April 3 at 11:00. Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mt. Diablo Street in Concord. We order from the regular menu and have separate checks. Must RSVP to **Jan Soderstrom** at janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com or (925) 833-9184 by Thursday, March 30.
- ▲ Monday, May 1 at 11:00. —Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mt. Diablo Street in Concord. We order from the regular menu and have separate checks. Must RSVP to **Jan Soderstrom** at janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com or (925) 833-9184 by Thursday, April 27. All of the men in our group are veterans. Because Memorial Day falls in May, we are hoping to have a very special ceremony to honor our veterans. Everyone is asked to wear patriotic colors; more information to follow. We are having our meeting at this restaurant because we can have a reserved room. If the special ceremony cannot be held this month, we will meet at Black Bear Diner.

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

GOLDEN GATERS

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



Six weeks more of winter weather – that takes us up to March 16th - Punxsutawney Phil crawled back into his cozy home and sent the country major weather problems. Thanks P. Phil – our reservoirs are full and we hope some of that water (severe wind, floods, rain, more rain, thunder and lightning, haven't seen the locust yet) is filling the aquifers as they send us our drinking water. The snow is still coming down in the Tahoe area and skiing is fantastic. Road closures and chains are required in many places. Not to fear though, March 17th and we can break out the green beer, find that pot-of-gold and hope that the little green men stay out of our way! Spring will have sprung and flowers galore.

Vera Kina, our intrepid President, took out her duck horn and honked the meeting to order. After the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, moments of silence to remember our First Responders, Medical teams, and the people of Ukraine – our group of 20 settled down. 2024 may bring a new meeting place for our group as the Recreational Center is going to be renovated here in Foster City. The IAM group in Burlingame has graciously said we could use their facility – our thanks to **Jerry Marsala** for talking to the powers that be at the Union Hall. We will keep everyone advised of our plans.

Here are dates for our coming meetings:

- March 27 – St. Paddy's Day celebration – Corned Beef sandwiches along with Turkey sandwiches, Chips and some sweets. Cost: Approximately \$10 - \$12 per person. Bring your drinks. **Charlie Bogert** will be telling us of his adventures when he worked in EWR.
- April 24 – BYOBL
- May 22 - TBA

Ginger Dahlberg read the minutes for last month – they were accepted as read. **Peter Cooper** has juggled the books and says we are solvent and in good shape for the coming year. **Barbara Underhill** (with helper Ginger) reported that **Ella Mae Donovan** has been diagnosed with major medical problems and has Hospice care. A card was sent around for members to sign and flowers will be purchased and delivered to her shortly. Keep Bob & Ella Mae in your thoughts and prayers. **Vera Kina, Colleen Wood** and **Shirley Kensinger** all are celebrating their birthdays – lots of candles! Sad news: **Norm Wood** passed away not long ago. There will be a celebration of his life on March 26th at the San Mateo Senior Center on the Alameda de las Pulgas across the street from the San Mateo Rec. Center. 1:30pm – 4:20pm. His wife, **Colleen**, cautioned us that there would be many CHP cars at the event as both Norm & Colleen had been volunteers with that group for over 10 years. Norm worked at the SFO MOC for 24 years as a mechanic and 10 years in the training department for a total of 34 years with UAL. On a happier note ... we welcomed **Kathy Hutt** back into the fold. She had sold her house and moved up into the hinterlands to be closer to her family. Her new address is: 2334 East Brace Drive, Meridian, ID 83642. She is contemplating becoming a farmer(ess) and will grow Tater Tots as Idaho is the potato capital – her recipes will astound you! We also have a new member, **Francie Patchel**. She worked at the SFO Aerodrome in Customer Service – no more having to hear complaints!

The meeting carried on – Foster City has done it again, beaucoup dollars are being spent (once again) to hire a person to get rid of our Canada Geese. These bold, haughty birds know which side their bread is buttered on! Why fly South when the grass is greener here! I wonder how long it will take to realize that they are smarter than we are!

Our raffle winners hit it big - **Frank Minnick** won the big pot of \$15, **Barbara Underhill** won \$10 and the Booby Prize of left-over money went to **Kathy Cooper** (just enough to get a soft drink at MickyDs’.) **Gene Walter**, our stand-in auditor, reported that there was nothing to report. **Carol Slater**, our Historian, gave a great report on the artifact DC-6B propeller – that propeller has seen many miles and places where it was stored and displayed. Last we heard it was in Chicago somewhere. Lots of winners at the raffle table – to name a few ... **Al Durr**, guest **Linda Kasada**, **Dee Peters**, **Kathy Hutt**, **Charlie Bogert**, and most members named above. The meeting was closed and we all jumped into our rickshaws and motored over to Joy Restaurant in Foster City for a delicious Chinese luncheon. (A festive, late New Year celebration.) We found **John Bogdanoff** waiting there as he thought the meeting started at the restaurant at 11am. Chopsticks were optional and the food plentiful and tasty.

The Travel business seems to be picking up – there is still space on the Royal Princess Cruise – no flying as the trip departs SFO, goes to SBA, SAN, Ensenada and back to SFO. April 11 – 16, 2023. Prices have changed and space is limited. Contact Ginger for information if you wish to join us for some fun and laughter. The theme for this cruise is Comedy time. Day trips and some overnight outings are in the works so stay tuned for some good escapes! Smile, stay well, did you find your chocolate Easter Eggs?

Come join us if you are in town, all United and Continental retirees are welcome - we meet on the 4th Monday of the month at 11:00am at the William Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd., (Shell Blvd. and East Hillsdale Blvd.), Blue Bird Room, Foster City, CA 94404. Note: Our mailing address is: UAL-SFO Bay Area Retirees, c/o **Vera Kina**, 203 Emerald Bay Lane, Foster City, CA 94404.



HANGTOWN MINERS

Jane Gibson
Placerville, CA
Secretary
tired-dogs@comcast.net

Hearts! Flowers! February – what a wonderful month. Of course, with St. Valentine’s Day celebrated this month, it just naturally has a lot going for it, but, all that candy and the feel of love isn’t all there is to carry through to the end of the month. We also celebrate our presidents! And we look at all the wonderful people of every sector who have contributed to this great nation, who have invented or discovered things to help our society grow. We truly have a fabulous country to live in – let’s do everything we can to keep it strong and healthy.

Our wonderful president, **Rudy Blazius**, brought our meeting to order and promptly said “Thank You” to **Chuck & Peggy Trebnik** for organizing this delicious luncheon at The Old Spaghetti Factory in Rancho Cordova. Not only did we enjoy their good food, but the restaurant donated, not one, but two gift cards for our raffle! Good people – give them your business!

Now, to the question, “Do we have any guests?”, we do: **Ann Marie**, **Chris Delfino**, and **Julie Bauer**. These great people come to our luncheons on a pretty regular basis, so we kind of think of them as “regulars”, but say “Welcome” always!

Of course the question regarding birthdays was asked and only **Ann Marie** claimed that honor. Now, anniversaries are a different topic! Members who are celebrating this month are **Jerry & Dolores Avallone**; **Bill & Pati Kenney**; **Oscar & Joyce Olivera**; **Irv & Sherrie Wolfram**. Congratulations to you all, and many more!

President ~ Rudy always brings us some info, so keep on reading!

Vice President ~ **JR Heier**, who is, I think, enjoying his position as Vice President, shared that UAL may have a one million dollar penalty for not doing the required safety checks on the 777 fire warning system. We’ll see if there’s more info for you on this topic.

Treasurer ~ **Tom Kenny**, perhaps the best person to be Treasurer ever! He has more “irons in the fire” and he just keeps on going! Tom tells us that of our 39 members, all but 5 have gotten their annual dues turned in for 2023. If you haven’t sent in your annual dues yet, please make out a check to – Hangtown Miners for \$15.00 and send it to **Tom Kenny**, 3481 Parleys Canyon, Placerville, CA 95667. If we don’t receive your dues by the end of March (as in, next month!) your dues will increase to \$20.00! Don’t let that happen! If you’re not

sure if you sent it in already, contact Tom and he will check for you. Tom's contact info: tck46@flash.net or (530) 626-5660.

Next Tom updated us on the "tool collection" that benefits the new students who are going thru the A&P Mechanics program at Sacramento City College. We were able to "fill out" 3 kits that were then donated to 3 students (determined by a lotto style draw) enrolled in the course. The 3 students whose names were drawn were Daniel Tweedy; August Guerrero; Azlan Ahmad – congratulations to you all! It is estimated that the tools donated – tools you gave to help the "next generation" – was valued at around \$4,000.00! I believe I forwarded on to all of you some pictures of the students who are in the program. I asked if UAL is intending to bring back their apprentice program and had a "yes" for an answer. Most all of the airlines, but UAL for sure, are gearing up to hire quite a number of new employees in various fields, mechanics being a big one. As all of our "seasoned" workers are "aging out" of the work force, there is a real need for new talent. We intend to continue to support this project – meaning collecting used tools will be ongoing. I know it isn't practical for those of you who live far away and may be reading this, to ship tools to us – that doesn't make sense – but if you are reasonably close and have tools, particularly A&P mechanic tools, and no longer need them, let us know (see contact info for Tom) and we will put those all those so important tools in with ours and get them where they need to go for the best outcome/help. One comment by Kevin Goehring, Program Professor, was that many of these donated tools have years of experience and if they could talk about the machines they have worked on from DC-3, Lockheed Constellations, DC-7, and Boeing Stratocruisers, radial engine airliners through present fan jet series like the 737MAX and the 787 Dreamliner – oh the stories they could tell! **Carol White** spoke up and shared that she knows that **Bob** would be very happy that his tools are helping others. Thank you to all of you who have already brought items.

Secretary ~ **Jane Gibson** was scribbling furiously to get down all this info, and didn't have anything to report. However, Rudy brought up the Retired United Mechanics Reunion that will be held in Minden again this year. Put on your calendars October 3, 4, 5, 2023. I will be sending out another info letter to those for whom I have email addresses. If you know of someone who used to work as a mechanic for UAL, please share the information with them. Many of the email addresses I have came back so I'm going to need a "word of mouth" method to get the info out to everyone. Also, the RUAEA Convention is scheduled to be at The Dana on Mission Bay in San Diego, September 29 – October 4. It could be possible to attend both!

Sunshine ~ **Suzie Kenny** is a real Sunshine Person. She doesn't just handle this position, she is pure sunshine herself. I guess it would be accurate to say that it's a good thing that she doesn't have anything to report because that should mean that all of you are doing well – right?

Old Business ~ Rudy put out another plea for a host to cover the August luncheon. I am happy to say that the **Akin** Family have said that they will handle this month for us. Thank you!

New Business ~ Our new RUAEA Regional Director is none other than our very own **Dave Garland**! Dave has taken over for **Sonda Sandstedt** who passed away. Dave gave us some more information regarding the RUAEA Convention. Dave has been on the committee that searches for appropriate settings for this convention. He shared some of the difficulties encountered on that search. One concern is that the number of attendees has been dropping. This year RUAEA is joining up with Continental's retirees and the Retired United Pilots Association. Hotels want/need to have certain numbers to make it profitable to give the special rates that bring in people. This year the price will be \$135 and that includes 2 free breakfasts per night. There are several tours that one can enjoy being planned.

Dave shared that his "territory" is quite extensive. He keeps tabs on all of us here on the West Coast, but he also has places like Baltimore, Tennessee, Birmingham, West Chester, WV! Now even though he would (no doubt) love to pop into all these chapters, which isn't practical, he can keep up on them and their needs by email or a phone call which he can do a couple times a year.

For those of you who may have known him, **Jack Sparks** passed away peaceful on January 29, 2023. Jack worked at UAL from 1969 to 1999 as a Mechanic then Inspector in United's Jet Shop. Our condolences to his family.

June McClain let us know that **Jim Ryder** (who passed away) had a Chevy Monte Carlo with 80,000 miles that his family would like to sell (\$4,000). I hope I got that right!

FYI: Rudy shared this info regarding the last 747 from Boeing that was delivered 1/31/23. The first one built was in 1969. 1,574 of these aircraft were built. They were 225 feet long and stood 6 stories high. The upper decks had cocktail lounges and the lower deck had a piano bar! One 747, built for Singapore Airlines, was converted to a 33 room hotel near Stockholm Airport! This makes me think – how many kinds of airplanes did you work on while at United? You all rock!

Okay, I hope I didn't miss anything! Rudy closed our meeting but first he shared a couple of "sayings" he found on some T-shirts that were out front! Hey, you get your material wherever you can! Here it goes:

- ☺ When I was a kid, I wanted to be older ... This crap is not what I expected
- ☺ A little gray hair is a small price to pay for all this wisdom!
- ☺ The best thing about the good old days was that I wasn't good and I wasn't old

JR took over the floor and got our raffle going. Winner of the donator's prize was **Dawn Martin**.

Thank you so much to all of you who brought items for the raffle: **Trebnik** – spa cushion and the table decorations; **Heier** – wine & wine holder; **Fitzpatrick** – candy; **Doe Pope** – basket of goodies; **Dale Pope** – red flashlight; **Blazius** – wine; **Nielsen/Bell** – flash/pot holder; **Kenney** – bath basket, UAL book, tripod bowls; **Guinn** – fleece blanket; **Martin** – Syrah wine/dessert plates; **Kenny** – cookies; **Akin** – eggs; **Gibson** – solar light; Spaghetti Factory – 2 coupons/2 wine & 2 glasses.

Get ready for some good food! **Roy & Dawn Martin** have set us up to go to the Break Room in Cameron Park (Shingle Springs) on Wednesday, March 8th.

Stay warm, stay healthy and stay happy!



RESANS

San Diego, CA

Barbara Drews

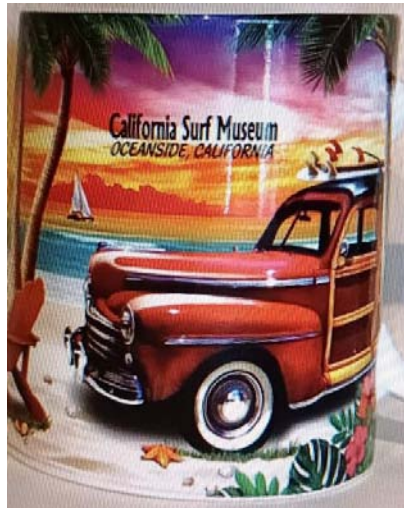
Secretary

sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com

Time is flying along; we have had unusually cold weather and there is a strong tendency to stay in, be warm and read good books.

Jeff Roach was welcomed as a new member to our group. He drove down from Temecula and gave us two United mugs with the Tulip on them. We passed out tickets and called the lucky numbers who were happy to be the new owners!

We had a large turnout for our Breakfast, about 30 and many from out of the area. One of our retirees, **Sheila Greer**, passed away and she was dearly loved by so many of us. There was a Remembrance/Memorial at the San Diego Water Color Society on Friday night where she was a member; she was a great artist. On Saturday her son had another Remembrance for her in Del Mar; this made it possible for all who remember her to come to either or both remembrances and they also came to join us for Breakfast. Many drove or flew in from out of town and we had an emotional time with our retiree family that many of us haven't seen for years; we had so much to catch up on and share out remembrances and remember Sheila.



I am hoping you are making your travel plans for September and our Reunion/Convention. This month, I will tell you about a San Diego Landmark that is just a short drive from the hotel. For those driving or planning on maybe renting a car, this is a great place to spend and collect additional memories of your time in the "Sunshine City".

The California Surf Museum is less than an hour drive from the Dana, just up the Coast to Oceanside. Founded in 1986, it has been serving tens of thousands of visitors from over 40 nations around the globe. The museum has acquired a permanent collection containing the

history of surfboards and riding the waves. It has museum quality space and has a rare set of archives and collections that have been gathered for more than 30 years comprising one of the world's richest collections of surfing history.

Calendar:

May 4 - Breakfast 10:00AM, Pt. Loma Café, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92106-2394. Joins us if you will be in the area.

**SACRAMENTO
GOLD DIGGERS**

Sacramento, CA
Ron Bertacini
Secretary
sgd@surewest.net



Our Past Presidents' lunch/meeting was held on February 22 at Lucille's BBQ in Rocklin. We had 23 in attendance with seven Past Presidents getting a free lunch. The Past Presidents are **Ed Rheam, Ron Bertacini, Francis Domaratius, Frank Dellinger, Orville Harshbarger, Jim Simon and Dave Garland.**



and wish Jim well for his term.

Last month, **Orville Harshbarger** had volunteered to take over for **Dave Garland** who had taken on a new position of Regional Director for Northern California/Nevada. After considering his decision and health issues with his daughter Julie, he decided to have someone else take the job. **Jim Simon** was about to volunteer when Orville spoke up and was asked to take over for the rest of the year. We thank Dave for his service and for Orville for his good intentions



Jim began the meeting by thanking **Dave & Robin Garland** for hosting and for all those attending. VP **Barbara Bertacini** was absent due to a cold but Ron filled in by letting the group know that the next lunch/meeting will be at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Roseville on Wednesday, March 29th. Move details will be forthcoming. Ron also stated that the **Dellingers** will be hosting April at a place to be named later and that he and Barbara are checking on two to three options for the Holiday lunch/meeting in early December. Ron continued with the Secretary report with three anniversaries for

February, **Sidnee & Jack McKinney** (57 years), **Marge & Jack Raynor** (59 years) and **Sherrie & Irv Wolfram** (68 years). Treasurer **Robin Garland** reported that the chapter is solvent and that everything has been taken care of at the bank with her as Treasurer and **Francis Domaratius** as her backup. Sunshine Lady **Angie Dellinger** reported that **Marji Gabert-Milam** was unable to attend as she had tested positive for Covid. Historian **Stephanie Norton** was unable to attend and had passed on the word that she would no longer be able to continue as the chapter Historian. Jim asked is anyone was interested in taking her place and **Francis Domaratius** volunteered. Jim then called on **Dave Garland**, our Regional Director, who mentioned that he had been involved in a Zoom call with other directors and that on March 2nd, there will be a meeting to finalize plans for the 2023 RUAEA Reunion in San Diego. Dave also mentioned that he had been or will be in contact with the other chapters in his region. Jim also acknowledged **Veronica & Francis Domaratius** for the years of work on the RUAEA Newsletter and that they are still involved in proof reading the RUAEA Newsletter each month.

Jim had a bit of trivia for us. On February 22 in history, 1732 George Washington's birthday, 1879 Frank Winfield Woolworth begins his 5-10 cent store in Utica, New York, 1932 the Purple Heart, a U.S. military decoration originally instituted by George Washington in 1782 to honor bravery in battle, was revived as an award for those wounded or killed in action, 1959 NASCAR held the first Daytona 500 which was won by Lee Petty, and 1997 Cloning of Dolly, a team of British scientists announced the birth of Dolly the sheep, the first clone of an adult mammal.

Jim then had a question for all to think about ... Does this apply to the NFL or NBA:

- 26 accused of spousal abuse
- 7 arrested for fraud
- 19 accused of writing bad checks
- 117 directly or indirectly bankrupted at least two businesses
- 3 have done time for assault

- 71 cannot get a credit card due to their bad credit
- 14 have been arrested on drug related charges
- 8 have been arrested for shop lifting
- 23 currently are defendants in lawsuits
- 84 have been arrested for drunk driving in the last year
- For a total of 380

Is it the NFL or the NBA? Neither ... It's 435 members of Congress

We then had the birthday roll off with three birthdays in February, **Ed Vanderzyl**, **Jack Raynor** and **Jack McKinney**, with **Jack McKinney** getting a few extra dollars.

We ended with our monthly raffle with some nice donated prizes.



SAN JOAQUINERS

Rosie Walls

Secretary

(209) 984-5672

jawrmw@sbcglobal.net

The San Joaquiners gathered together on February 9th at Hucklebees in Oakdale. There were 13 people attending and as always, we had a great time! It's always fun to see friends.

Bob Scoble, President, opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. We had a moment of silence for **Sonda Sandstedt** who once was our Regional Director and attended several of our meetings.

Bob talked about the 2023 RUAEA Reunion which will be held in San Diego from September 29th to October 4th at the Dana Point Hotel. Several of our members are interested but as yet have not made their reservations to attend.

We have 23 paid up members in our chapter. We acquired a new member during our meeting; **Richard Sylvester** heard about our group and today's meeting and joined our group. He knew several of our members from their working days and they all had a good time talking about United Airlines. Welcome Richard!

Our luncheon meetings are always held on the second Thursday of every month. The March meeting is scheduled for March 9th at Good Friends Chinese Restaurant in Valley Springs. The April luncheon meeting will be held on April 13th at a location to be announced at a later date.

If anyone is interested in information about our Chapter, please contact our President, **Bob Scoble**, (209) 626-5308 and he will be happy to give you any information. New members are always welcome to join our friendly group of UAL Retirees.

SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

San Jose, CA

www.southbayruaea.org

George Midwin

1879 Foxworthy Ave.

San Jose, CA 95124

midwin5u@hotmail.com



Snow was falling on the hills around our county, as rain was coming down in the valley. Still some brave thirteen members attended our monthly meeting, presided over by our fearless leader, **Chuck Clayborn**. Unfortunately, the indoor space which we had initially been told we could use, was being occupied by a rather larger group, of women with Red hats. No one was going to go in there and tell them their time was up. So outside our group was relegated. Despite the heaters on full blast, it was cold. At least the tents held up to the rain. Hopefully, the weather won't be a factor at our next month's meeting.

The final details have been worked out with our BBQ vendor for the June 14th picnic at Vasona. We had to commit to a minimum of 50 people. This will bring the individual cost per person to \$38-\$40 each. Unfortunately, we cannot supplement the cost from our treasury, as our funds have been depleted too much as a result of COVID and not having our annual raffle. In this day and age, that's not a bad deal. As you know they provide a heck of a meal and no one goes away without a full stomach. In addition all the goodies individuals contribute, make this a great event. So put it on your calendars and sign up early. We can add people, but we have agreed to 50, so we will have to pay at least the minimum. Those in the Bay Area are also welcomed to join us.

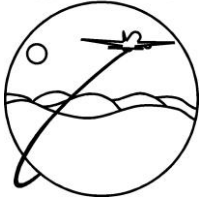
Lots of birthdays this month; **Irene Lloyd; Rosie Reichard; Gayle Moorhead; Mary Lou Rodgers; Paul Fujimori; Hiroko; Jean Jenkins; Kathryn Mazzola and Sally Urso.**

Anniversary wishes went out to **Dave & Robin Garland.**

We are planning a field trip to Hakone Gardens for Spring; it's close to home, easy to get to and an enjoyable place to visit. We haven't had a trip as a group for some time, so stay tuned. We hope to get as many members to participate as possible.

If you would like to join us at one of our meetings, we meet the first Monday of each month at 10:00AM at The Bill of Fare restaurant, 1069 Saratoga Ave., San Jose.

SOLANO FLYERS



SOLANO FLYERS

Allan Pochop
119 Carlsbad Circle
Vacaville, CA 95687
(707) 447-4980
(with robo blocker - have to dial twice)
apochop@aol.com

The Officers who served the Solano Chapters consist of President **Larry Jackson**, Vice President **Allan Pochop**, Treasurer **Jo Anne Blizzard**, Master at Arms **Allan Pochop**, Secretary **Allan Pochop** and Sunshine Person **Dorothy Robinson**.

11 members attended this month's meeting.

50/50 Drawing ~ \$1 / ticket, or \$6 for \$5. You keep one half and deposit the other separated tickets in the ticket roller. The 50/50 is won by **Stuart McCale**.

Birthdays ~ None this month

Anniversaries ~ **Robert Richie**

Our next meeting will be on March 15, in Dixon

COLORADO

DENVER

MILE HIGHERS

Rich & Cleora Conner
(970) 660-7040
richcleora@gmail.com



Vice President **Paul Goodyear** opened our meeting with the pledge to the flag. Paul gave us an update on UAHF.

The 50/50 winners were **Ray Shoults, Gene Sibley, Bonnie Ohr and Yumi Trujillo**.

Our next meeting will be held on April 6th at Ted's Place in Commerce City; come and enjoy the fellowship with fellow retirees and families.

FLORIDA

CITRUS
GROUPERS



THE CITRUS GROUPEERS

THE VILLAGES

Julius "Joe" DiStaso
(352) 775-8201
(941) 661-2215
wopahofl@comcast.net

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

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



THE ORLANDO
REAL McCOYS

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

A noisy crowd of 26 folks stood and joined President **Al Fields** in honoring our Flag with the Pledge of Allegiance. Then we all sat back down, Ha Ha!

Treasurer **Char LeGrand** reported that last month we had 9 membership renewals! And today 2 more retirees joined us ... by paying their dues ☺. We learned today from Secretary Elaine that we lost 2 members in the last few weeks: **Laura Bork**'s husband, **Darrel**, has been in poor health for several years and he passed away on Friday, February 17th. Laura's mother, Nancy, passed away in her sleep on the 28th of February. Laura and daughter Samantha are surely being lifted up in all our prayers for strength and comfort.

John L. Wiseman lost his 2 year valiant battle with cancer on March 1st. A Celebration of John's life will be held on Friday, March 24th at 10AM at the Del Webb Orlando Clubhouse, 500 Del Webb Blvd., Davenport, FL 33837. Barbara's address: 425 Ponte Vedra Road, Davenport, FL. 33837. RIP John!

Joe & Barb Fitak brought a surprise guest, **Jim Schulte** and his wife, **Joan**! Jim was an MCOCG guy, back in the day. He started with UAL in CLE in '61 and worked the Ramp for 30 years ... Wow! ... then was laid off—reported to FLL for a few months until '91 when MCO opened wide its doors! He and Joan met in CLE Hopkins Airport some 53+ years ago, where she worked at the Central National Bank on the concourse. Jim retired in 2000 and soon moved back to CLE ... kinda ☺. They have a condo here, so they joined the Real McCoys! A huge "hot & sunny" welcome to our Ohio Snowbirds!

Joan Gaydos lives in New Smyrna Beach, but always joins the Real McCoys chapter! This year her son, Steve, drove her over and we welcomed her back. For sure. She looks wonderful, by the way!

Conversation was then steered to the Tuesday, April 11th Picnic at Orchard Grove Park, 290 W. Holden Ave. Eating will begin at Noon at the Pavilion after the Pledge and prayers of thanksgiving. Bring a dish to share ... burgers and dogs will be grillin'! All are welcome!

SW PELICANS DROP-INS

Ray Jensen
(239) 888-2744
rmmjensen@msn.com



Our next luncheon is scheduled for March 10th which is past the deadline for the April 2023 Newsletter so we'll cover it in next month's report.

Please check out our luncheon schedule below. All luncheons are held at LYNQ Restaurant, Summerland Rd., Ft. Myers, 11:30AM.

Calendar:

April 14 – Luncheon

May 13 – Luncheon

THE SAND DOLLARS

Bradenton, FL
Ginger Hyde
asdip920@aol.com



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



TAMPA BAY CHAPTER

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

Our March 6 meeting was held at IHOP in Trinity, FL with 8 members in attendance; we started our meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. We welcomed a new member, newly retired **Kevin Gardei**. We are very happy to have him join our chapter.

March Birthdays ~ **Jon Wilkinson**, still playing soft ball - good for him.

Noemi informed us about **Peggy Manue** who is currently at a rehab facility.

In our laid back meeting, we talked about UAL, traveling and of course, the upcoming picnic. A signup sheet was passed around for members to indicate what they are bringing. The Picnic will be held on April 3, at A. L Anderson Park, 39699 US Highway 19, Tarpon Springs, FL. Shelter # 4, 11AM. Please bring your own beverages, chicken will be provided. If you can come early to help set up that would be very helpful. See you there!

Breakfast/lunch was served and all had a good time.

Calendar:

April 3 – Picnic, Anderson Park, Shelter #4 in Tarpon Springs, 11AM

May 1 – IHOP - 10:30

June 5 – IHOP - 10:30

TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL
Al Popek
President
ualpbi@att.net



There is no report this month from the Treasure Coast chapter of RUAEA.

HAWAII

HONOLULU MENEHUNES

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

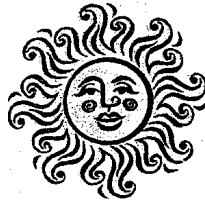


Aloha! The Honolulu Menehunes is an active chapter and we meet for lunch at various Honolulu restaurants on the 3rd Thursday of February, June, and September. All retirees are welcome to join us. If you are planning to be in Honolulu and would like to attend, just send your email address to HNLRUA@gmail.com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

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

PAU HANA KUPUNA

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



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

IDAHO



BOISE GEMS

Shirley Dempsey
rickshirley.dempsey@gmail.com

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

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO SKYLINERS

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



April—Avril in French, Abril in Spanish and Portugal, April in German, Aprilius in Greek, Kwiecien in Polish, Shiatsu in Japanese, Bab.la in Danish, and Aprile in Italian. Put them all together, they say, pretty month, warmer, flowers blooming, rain, tornadoes and love is in the air, too. Christian Easter is on April 9, Orthodox Easter is on the 16th. Tax Day is on the 18th, (the 15th is a holiday in Washington D.C., so we get three more days to send them in). Let's not forget the best day, April Fools Day, started a long time ago, during Roman days they called it the Festival of Hilaria, where jokes and pranks were played on April 1. It's also called National Burrito Day, and Atheist Day, the 5th is Deep Dish Pizza Day. April 10th is Dyngus Day, is a fun Polish holiday. It's like St. Patrick's Day, but it has a Polish slant to sit. You can be Polish all day. Hoja Hoja! Then we have Sorry Charlie, National Beer, National Pet, Scrabble, Titanic Remembrance, Mushroom, Jelly Bean, Penguin, and Husband Appreciation Day. Take your pick and enjoy! Scrabble Day reminds me of a joke. Two friends meet, and Bob says to Jerry, 'Hey, you look pretty tired today, you OK? Jerry says, 'My new puppy ate a box of Scrabble tiles, had to take him to the vet, and I was up all night with him.' Bob says, 'That's terrible, is he OK?' Jerry says, 'No word yet'.

The flowers for April are daisies and sweet peas, what beautiful blooms for the beginning of Spring. Daisy comes from the Old English term, 'daes eage', meaning day's eye, referring to how it opens at dawn and closes at night. Sweet peas symbolize blissful pleasure, fertility and motherhood. They make your home very fragrant. Flowers plant a seed in my head.

The gem is the diamond, they were first found in India, where they were gathered in rivers and streams. Can you believe they were that plentiful in the fourth century BC. Now they search and dig

for them in many countries, most in the Southern Hemisphere. That's where Tiffany's finds those beauties.

April's full moon is on the 6th, the Lyrid meteor showers will peak on the 22nd, they should be visible to us early in the morning. Speaking of the moon, did you hear the European Space Agency is trying to figure out what time zone the moon should be in. Really? Right now, lunar missions use the Earth-based time zone of the nation managing the mission. Having a lunar time zone would create easier communication standards and navigations for nations going to the moon, and a planned global satellite navigation system on the lunar surface might make moon missions even more common.

The Northside breakfast had only four members, account of bad weather, **Joan Teister, Jim Sommerfield, Deb Jared, and Dave Dunham.**

The ORDMM Foremen had eight, in spite of the weather, **Tom Abraham, Bob Smietanski, Glenn Hill, Stan Chmieliwicz, Sue & Bart Kendall, and Jackie Anderson.** The parking lot was so full at Elly's, Jackie had to drive around until she found a parking space. By the time she got there, the others were ready to leave. The ORDMM mechanics included, **Frank Wenig, Jim Kraft, Fred Seibert, Bob Palm, Hank Kargenian, Paul Skrudland, Rich Protsman, Dick Hoppel, Ron Geibel, Bud Lowe, Pierre Lupori, Cas Paprocki, Don Kramlich, and Bill Durr.**

The IAM 1487 had 76 retirees attend their meeting. There was an election of officers, **Dave Roderick** is still president, **Karen Carney** is the new Vice President, **Susan Adams** will remain Treasurer, and **Mary Alice Parker** will stay as Secretary. Their lunch was a Meet-n-Eat. Next month's meet will be on April 6, and a Hot Dog day. Dave presented several members with a pin and certificate reflecting their longevity as a continuing IAMAW member in good standing. They are **Dan Carnduff, Ken Muddamalle, Gerry Rzeszutko, and Paul Skrudland.** After the meeting they gave retirement watches to **Dale & Ray Wiatrowski.**

Speaking of ORD, starting last month, passengers arriving at the International terminal (Terminal 5) who want to use a ride share like Uber or Lyft to get a ride home, you need to transfer to Terminal Two using the Airport Transit System (ATS), that's the little shuttle train between terminals and the parking lot, or walk. Terminal 5 also services flights from Southwest and Delta. Sooo, Terminal 2 is the only place you can get the ride share from now on.

Would you believe these were Top Ten songs 60 years ago? That's like 1963. Puff the Magic Dragon, Love me Do, My Boyfriend's Back, It's my Party, Devil in Disguise, Surfin' USA, One Fine Day, Walk Like a Man, Wipeout, Surf City, Louie, Louie, He's so Fine, Sukiyaki, Another Saturday Night. Hard to believe these are now Golden Oldies, listen to them all the time. But, I guess I am a Golden Oldie.

I heard from some of our co-workers this month. **Mila Walker**, from Food Service standby foods told me she and her daughter went to Spain for ten days. They visited family and friends and did a little sightseeing, too. I think I mentioned that she moved to Dallas and is living with her daughter and family. She had been sick, its so good to hear she's better and traveling again. Also talked with **Doris & Clyde Johnson** in Michigan, and **Diana & Norm Wilkinson** in Elgin. Both men worked in OPBOP years ago and are enjoying retirement. They all said hello and wish everyone good health to enjoy our happiness.

Something happened to my laptop yesterday. It just wouldn't work, screen was black, nothing helped. I'm not a computer genius, so I had to go to Apple and they did tests. I was there for over three hours. What a mess. The bad part was I was late sending my report to the Editor. Thank heavens I have a very understanding editor, John and his staff. I'm going to keep him, hope he keeps me! I'll tell more stories next month.

Our friends that Flew West last month are, Captain **Jim Boyer**, ORDFO, **Donna Perry**, CHISS, **Margaret Fasone**, Cargo Sales, **Jorge Griva**, ORDMM/ORDPV, **Ben Agana**, EXOHK, **Lodene Spanola**, EXOPO, **Derek Klein**, ORDCG, **Joan Howe**, ORDSW, a double death, **Claude Stratton** and his wife, **Theresa**, she died on January 3, he died on the 30th. Sad for their family, but they are reunited.

Also gone from our world are, actors Raquel Welch (One Million Years B.C.), Stella Stevens (Natty Professor), Richard Belzer (Law and Order), Tom Sizemore (Saving Private Ryan), Ted

Donaldson (Father Knows Best), Austin Majors (NYPD Blue, Sipowicz' son), guitarist, Gary Rossington (from Lynyrd Skinner band), businessman, David Oreck (vacuums), award winning composer Burt Bacharach (Raindrops Keep Falling on my Head), Producer, Walter Mirisch (In the Heat of the Night), David Wills, former sportscaster for the White Sox, and the thousands of people killed in the Turkey-Syria earthquake. What a tragedy for so many family and survivors.

A smile - is a sign of joy. A hug - is a sign of love. A laugh - is a sign of happiness. And a friend like me? - Well, that's just a sign of good taste! We'll be friends until I'm senile. Then we'll be new friends.

Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Rose Garden Restaurant, 9:00AM, 111 E. Higgins Rd., Elk Grove (**April 13**). Second Thursday of the month.

IAM 1487 Lunch, 1487 Lodge, 50 W. Oakton St., Des Plaines, (**April 6**) 11:00AM. First Thursday.

ORDMM Breakfast - Maxfield's, 9:00AM, Plum Grove & Schaumburg Rds. (**April 20**). Third Thursday.

INDIANA



INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN
Frank N. Ingegno
(317) 428-7741
figenius@sbcglobal.net

Our most recent chapter meeting was attended by **Bob & Myrtle Duty, Frank Ingegno, Alan Miller** and **Charles Theiss** along with his son Anthony. No new business was discussed.

The RUAEA Indy Racers chapter is always open for new participants. Any United/CO retirees living in the Indianapolis area are welcome to join. Come check us out at one of our monthly meetings. We also welcome visitors. When visiting Indy, consider joining us at one of our meetings for lunch and conversation. We always enjoy meeting new United friends.

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

Our future meetings schedule:

- **March 14** at Emmy's
- **April 11** at Emmy's
- **May 9** at Emmy's
- **June 13** at Emmy's

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

MASSACHUSETTS

NOR'EASTERS

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



I'm sorry to report the sad news that **William (Bill) Vanderwal** passed on to the Friendly Skies, on February 8, 2023. I've known Bill for over 50 years working at Boston's Logan Airport, and worked very close with him at the Nor'Easter chapter for the past 24 years. Bill took on being Chapter Treasurer the same time I became Chapter Secretary. We did everything involving every luncheon up to the very last meeting.

As the number of members declined, Bill took on duties as Chapter Vice President and Treasurer and I became the Nor'Easter President and Secretary, as no one was willing to do either. As it stands now, I am the

only officer left. Needless to say, if I join Bill in the Friendly Skies, the Nor'Easters will cease to exist. However, I plan on working to the end!

Bill was a good friend to all and will be really missed.

MICHIGAN



GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

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

Thought for the month: *"Start by doing what's necessary; then do what is possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."* ~ St Francis of Assisi.

Have a beautiful spring!

NEBRASKA



OMAHA GOLDENEARS

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

Twenty nine of us gathered at Cascio's Steakhouse for our first luncheon of the year. It was a bright sunny day and a perfect introduction to spring. We are all itching to move on from winter. The food was very good as was the service.

We voted to meet every other month rather than monthly as we had been and to move back to Tuesdays, which had been the norm since our chapter began. The 50/50 winners were **Emery Dickenson** and **Mary McGuire**; each received \$17.00.

We were sad to hear that **Elaine Schreiber** had passed away; she was the wife of **Jim Schreiber**.

Our next meeting will be on May 2nd at 11:30am at the Golden Corral at 72nd and Crown Point Ave.; hosted by **Ev & Shirley Payton**.

We wish you all health and happiness!

NEVADA

LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

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



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

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



RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

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

There were 14 members at our February 13 Luncheon at the Black Bear Diner.

Reservations for this year – 2023 – have been secured at the Black Bear Diner for the second Monday of each month. This excludes the month of December, which likely will once again be at the Peppermill Resort & Casino at Biscotti's; details likely to come about mid-year.

February birthdays were celebrated by **Donna Reid** and **Bill Perkins**. The Chapter provided Valentines cookies as a treat. They were not the same quality as those that Bill used to provide for us. We do miss you, Bill! The 50/50 winner was won by **Allen Robbins** as well as the chocolate candy. His Valentine's Day gift is taken care of!

An article about Christmas in Provence written by **Barbara Leusing** was shared with all (this was published in the RUAEA March 2023 Newsletter).

We also received a thank you letter from the Food Bank of Northern Nevada for our donation.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 13 at Black Bear Diner at 11:00 am.

NEW JERSEY

THE GARDEN STATERS

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



Since our chapter won't be meeting until March 29th; here is another quick story:

One day when I came into work, my chief said we have a DC-6 down in Bradley field Connecticut. He told me and my partner to get some parts, take the pickup truck and head up there right away to fix it.

It took us a couple hours but we finally got there and found the plane. We checked the log book to see what the complaint was, we put a brand-new set of spark plugs in and change the distributor, we ran it, and it ran like a top.

We called both Newark and San Francisco line maintenance to let them know that the plane was back in service. Just as we were packing up and about to leave, a Navy A4 D plane comes alongside of us. As a single engine piston plane, but it is a big engine. Frankly I don't know what they use it for. Anyway the pilot gets out and sees us and asks us for some help. Of course we asked what happened, and he said I lost all my hydraulic fluid and now I'm on emergency air for my brakes.

Normally we don't perform any maintenance without being authorized, however, after we agreed, he did show us how the cowling came off on the side of the engine. When we opened it, the whole inside was covered with hydraulic fluid. Sure enough, I saw what the trouble was; it was a broken rubber hose from his hydraulic pump, and easy fix.

However, we still have to clean out that whole accessory compartment. We went up to the base supply where we found a kerosene pump and a rubber hose, and we fixed everything up for him. However, I told him that he has to get refilled with hydraulic fluid.

One thing that they taught me at an aviation school, the Navy uses a blue fluid, and everybody else uses red, and under no conditions do you ever mix them up. You will destroy the system. So I told him to call Pawtuxit, his base in Rhode Island, and tell them to bring the proper fluid.

I told him to get his guys to fill the system, and then run the engine and exercise all the controls, and he would be good to go. He thanked me and my partner and then asked if there is anything he should sign for charges. I said are you Navy or Marines, he said Marines, I said in that case, all our labor was on the house. We wished him well and left, when I got back I told my chief the whole story and he said, "*you did good Ollie*".

NEW YORK

BUFFALO CHIPS

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



BUFFALO CHIPS

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

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



NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

NEW YORK METROS

Donna Feingold
(516) 679-9152
djf509@aol.com

Our March luncheon started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Madeline Klos took a spill so she and **John** stayed home. **George Riggi** is still recovering from surgery. We hope to see them in April.

March Anniversaries ~ **Kathy & Anthony Statuto**, and **Gail & Harvey Block**.

March Birthdays ~ **Joyce O'Donnell**, **Jose Falcon**, **John Green**, **Cassie Manelski**, **Pat Hannon**, **Patricia Harben**, **Len Pascale**, **Kathy Statuto**, **Diane Talochino**, **Susan Fleming**, **Lester Darmstadt**, and **Anthony Statuto**.

Our 50/50 winners were **Emma Nunzo**, **Cassie Manelski**, and **Donna Feingold**.

See you at our next meeting on April 4.

OHIO

OHIO BUCKEYES

Cleveland, OH
ualohbuckeyes@gmail.com



There is no report this month from the Ohio Buckeyes chapter of RUAEA.

Calendar:

April 5 - Simon's, \$21

May 3 - Ruma's, \$24

June 7 - Diamond Event, \$19

July 5 - Shale Creek, \$20

OREGON

OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland
Terry Hotchkin
tthotchkin@gmail.com



In February, we had another small but friendly group and some great food. We are still missing many of your friendly faces and hope to see you sometime soon!

We were advised by **Paul Fatooh** that **Jerry Liston**, retired PDX Ramp Serviceman passed away on February 6th. He advised that Jerry's wife **Sandy** said that a Memorial Service would be held, but a specific date has not been set.

We also learned that **Ron Vriens**, retired Lead Mechanic, passed away on November 28, 2022. He had been diagnosed with Parkinson Disease back in 2014. He is survived by his wife **Laura** and children.

Also, **Len Blodgett** informed us that **Mary Schleining** 91, spouse of retired Ramp Service Supervisor **Rich Schleining** (deceased), passed away on February 19 in Warrenton Oregon.

No more news for this month so enjoy a bit of humor, with a little philosophy thrown in. Enjoy!

- ☺ A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter. "What are you doing", she asked. "Hunting flies", he replied. "Oh, killed any?" she said. "Yep, 3 males, 2 females," came the answer. Intrigued, the wife asked, "How can you tell them apart?" Husband: "3 were on a beer can, 2 were on the phone."
- ☺ Young at heart! Slightly older in other places ...
- ☺ If an old dude ever gives you advice while peeling an apple with a pocket knife and eating pieces right off the blade, you should probably take it!
- ☺ I just did a week worth of cardio after walking into a spider web!
- ☺ I just wanted you to know, I have entered the snapdragon part of my life. Part of me has snapped ... and the rest of me in draggin ...
- ☺ You don't realize how lonely you are until it's the end of the day and you have a bunch of things to talk about, but no one to tell them to.
- ☺ Why do medications always have awful side effects like: "unusual pain", "dizziness", & "weight gain"? Just once I'd like to see side effects like: "thinner thighs", "speedy metabolism", "increased energy", "better sense of humor", "unparalleled sexual appeal", "thicker hair", or "loss of wrinkles".
- ☺ I think it would be great if Wal-Mart added an upper-level observation deck with a full bar!
- ☺ Coffee is the silent victim in our house. It gets mugged every day.
- ☺ Positive thinking: Only 18 weeks until summer!
- ☺ If something good happens, travel to celebrate. If something bad happens, travel to forget. If nothing happens, travel to make something happen.
- ☺ Today I overheard a 2 year old refer to her jacket pockets as "snack holes" and that is what I shall forevermore call them.
- ☺ I need my coffee because sometimes my mouth wakes up long before my brain does.
- ☺ I love to cook with bacon because I can wrap it around anything. Basically, it is the duct tape of food.
- ☺ A balanced diet is ... a chocolate in each hand.
- ☺ Kale is so versatile ... it literally fits into any size trash can!
- ☺ I'm not only wearing grumpy pants today, I have the whole outfit on and socks to match!
- ☺ My husband asked if he had any annoying habits and then got all offended during the PowerPoint presentation.
- ☺ Is it just me, or does it feel like the years 2020, 2021, and 2022 were written by Stephen King and directed by Quentin Tarantino with a Soundtrack by Yoko Ono?
- ☺ If you ride in the car with me at night, you're loyal because I really cannot see in the dark. I'm just winging it honestly.
- ☺ I don't mean to brag, but I finished my 14-day diet in 3 hours and 12 minutes.
- ☺ Whenever I have a problem, I sing. Then I realize that my voice is a lot worse than my problem.
- ☺ I've come to the conclusion that my memory is like an Etch-A-Sketch, I shake my head and forget everything.

Calendar:

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

April 13 - 2nd Thursday of every month.

PENNSYLVANIA

THE INDEPENDENTS

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



Our Independents luncheons will resume on Monday, April 10th. It will be nice to reconnect with our friends.

Happiest birthday to all our latest retirees:

February ~ Pamela Andrés, Angelita Carrero, Dan Doran, Dick Ems, Alan Finegan, and Ella Graves Hammons.

March ~ Margaret Bastin, Shirley Pilgram, and Clement Thompson.

April ~ Gerhard Frey, Shirley Roberts, and Veronica White.

I'm sure you know by now the Philadelphia Eagles did not win the Super Bowl. They had a great run and we're looking forward to another try next year!

Hope you all stay safe. We'll see you again next month.

PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

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



Our very mild January and February weather has Mother Nature's clock out of balance, many spring plants are coming out of winter sleep 4-5 weeks early. Daffodils are up and budding, many trees are budding and ready to bloom.

Jim Weber was recently in the hospital with the flu. While there, a blockage and blood clot were found; Jim has been moved to Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital to recover.

Our hearts go out to **Jack & Betty Tinney** who lost their son John recently. John was a current employee of American Airlines at the Pittsburgh Airport. Jack & Betty have been loyal members of our chapter for many years. Some of you may have worked with Jack as he held several positions in Pittsburgh starting with Capital Airlines on the ramp, ticket counter and finally worked his way up the sales office for United Airlines. If you would like to send a card their address is, 1743 Walnut St., Heidelberg, PA 15106.

We also received word that **Lyn Morrow** (PITCS) recently passed away but have not received any further information.

March Birthdays ~ Dave Beatty, Ray Sellers, Treatie Karwoski, Lorraine Keith, Max Seaholm and Barb Seaholm.

March Anniversaries ~ Bob & Kay Frye and Barb & Max Seaholm.

TENNESSEE

TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS

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



There is no report this month from the Tennessee Rocky Tops chapter of RUAEA.
For Luncheon/Meeting's location, please contact Carolyn at the above phone number.

UTAH

SALT LAKE RETIREES

Rich Papworth
pappys72@hotmail.com



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

WASHINGTON

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle, WA
Kathie Torgison
email4torgy@aol.com



There is no report this month from the Emerald City Slickers chapter of RUAEA.

LILAC CITY FLYERS



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

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

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE DULLES LOUNGERS

Washington, D.C.
Mari McColl
Past President
marimccoll@aol.com



Our February meeting was presided over by our Treasurer **Judy Dunlap**. She did a great job while our President **Carl Alford** was recovering with a case of COVID. Carl assured me that he is now well and planning to attend our March luncheon. **Kate Connelly**, a member and also President of our local Clipped Wings, was also absent for the same all-too-present malady. Kate has also recovered and happy to be back for our next luncheon. Because of COVID, our numbers are down. According to **Kerrie Schneider**, our count was down to 27 for our February gathering. **Mike O'Meara** was the winner of the \$24 50/50 drawing. This was very relevant in that he and his wife, **Faye** come up from their home in Richmond, Virginia almost every month. Since this is a 105 mile drive and gas is quite high these days, I think they deserved that little perk. The door prizes were won by **Judy Eary**, **Mary Beth Collins**, **Dick Libby**, **Hank Heuser**, **Ruth Blackwell** and **Mike O'Meara** (Mike's lucky day.)

We are looking forward to having a guest speaker for our March gathering. Her name is Katy England and she is a Physical Therapist and Coordinator at Fox Rehab. She is qualified to speak on many levels of Rehabilitation but is going to talk mainly regarding CBT (Cognitive Brain Therapy). Six months ago, I had a rather hard fall down my stairs to our recreation room; I had brain bleeds which caused brain damage, mostly in the area of short term memory. I have had a therapist (from Fox) come to my house twice a week for the past 5 months. This has helped me tremendously and in fact, Elizabeth, my CBT therapist, told me today that I am almost ready to handle life again without her. I believe our group will enjoy learning all about how Seniors can learn to live their best lives ever.

Last month, I told you that we were having a silent auction to sell two small paintings donated to our chapter by our very own in-house artist, **Ruth Blackwell**. I was the high bidder on both paintings although **Carl Alford** did try to outbid me on one of them. Actually, Carl's birthday is March 15th and I was wondering what to get him for his birthday. I think he will love his painting, don't you?

Again, sadly, I will close with the news of **William McCay's** (IADMM) passing on February 28th. He had been ill for quite some time. A military graveside service was held on March 6th At Spring Grove Cemetery in Mineral, VA. Condolences can be sent to his wife, **Beverly** and family, to 329 Pinehurst Dr., Gordonsville, VA.

Our luncheons are held the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 11:30 at the Golden Corral Manassas, VA. We invite you all to join us.

NATIONAL

CLIPPED WINGS



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

Spring means wonderful things **blooming** and membership at Clipped Wings is **booming**! As we reported recently we started a chapter in MCO and our membership is growing due to the influx of folks to central FLA! We are thrilled to announce that currently we are beginning to start chapters in GSO, HOU, and TPA! If you



know anyone who is a UAL/CO/United Express former, retired or current Flight Attendant who would like to "continue the connection", please go to our website at www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org or contact me at the email below. We will direct you to the folks working on those "chapters to be".

Clipped Wing's main philanthropy is the Special Olympics and each chapter chooses their own local philanthropy and we are proud of all the good work we do for so many!

NEW MEMBERS

The following new members joined RUAEA during the month of **February 2023**:

Collopy, Diane, ORDSW, 21 Kirstin Dr., Unit 413, Schaumburg, IL 60195
Dunk-Outlaw, Linda, 92-1075 Koio Dr., Apt. D, Kapolei, HI 96707
Krasovec, Frank, DENMM, 9726 Mirabella Pt., Lone Tree, CO 80124
Rings, George, 8269 Skye Blue Street, Las Vegas, NV 89166

CONTRIBUTIONS

We appreciated monetary contributions from the following members during the month of **February 2023**:

William F. Alenson, Amparo A. Arriola, Robert C. Blum, Mary G. Brennan, Albert L. Brose, Lizandro Carmelino, Edward A. Carnes, Anna P. Carroll, Jennifer L. Clark, Elizabeth M. Correia, Joan K. Curtin, Maxine E. Dixon, Your Cause Donation, Philip J. Elliott, Judi Farwell, Cathy J. Gilbert-Silva, Travis E. Glass, Henry Gosselin, Robert J. (Bob) Graham, Barbara Hanson, Ronald L. Heiseler, Joseph P. Hopkins, Susanne Johnson, Agnes J. Jones, John H. Jones, Joann M. Koester, Frank Krasovec, Arnold E. Lakso, E. Tina Lewis, Herlinde Mandala, William R. Mansur, Thomas H. McLean, Jack L. Miller, Mildred L. Monson, Irene Nightingale Nettler, Gary M. Peters, Leota L. Price, Linda A. Rice, Josephine Roller, Martha D. Rudolph, Bernard L. Sandner, Margaret A. Sarsfield, Julie Sawyer, Donna Marie Simpson, James A. Sommerfield, John L. Spach, Michaelinda Trahan, Josef H. Viereckl, Virginia L. Vlach, Richard S. Walcha, Kathleen Warren Wilkin.

OBITUARIES

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

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

In addition, contact information must be included for one sending the information. If the obituary is received hand written and it is not legible, it will not be published until a clear and readable document is received in the Denver Office. The information may be sent by email (preferred) at ruaea@qwestoffice.net, or US Mail. Sorry, the information will not be accepted over the phone.

Please note that the above policy only applies to death notices submitted to be published in this section of the RUAEA Newsletter.

Retiree – **Cunningham, Tom S.**, on 2/9/2023, SFOTZ, husband of Barbara J. Cunningham, 3556 Touriga Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566

Retiree – **Fasone, Margaret G.**, on 2/21/2023, HDQFR, wife of Ed Fasone (deceased), mother of Jeff Fasone, 8026 SW Yachtmans Dr., Stuart FL 34997

Retiree – **Perry, Donna R.**, on 2/12/2023, CHISS, Donna was well liked and had many friends, 950 E. Wilmette Rd., Unit 220, Palatine, IL 60074

Retiree – **Vriens, Ronald E.**, on 11/28/2022, PDXMM, husband of Laura Vriens, 18101 SE 39th St., Vancouver, WA 98683

Letters & Notes



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

Martha Gooselaw
Letters/Notes Editor
7401 MLK Blvd.
Denver, CO 80207-2433
marthagoose@comcast.net

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

Michelle Abbey, Bill Alenson, Martin Arnold, Marry Brennan, Gayle Swanson, Edward Carnes, Ellen Cooke, Elizabeth Correia, Joan Curtin, Robert Graham, Sharon Holmes, Nicholas Hyland, Marylu Johnson, Agnes Jones, Robert Koch, Larry Knaub, William Mansur, Irene Nightingale Nettler, Steve Pytel, Josephine Roller, Brendalynn Riley, Ann Roseman, Bernard Sandner, Marjorie Sandstrom, Margaret Sarsfield, Joani Sawyer, Donna Marie Simpson, Virginia Vlach, Helme Walter, Sally Welter, Kathleen Wilkin, Grace Witt.

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.)

Chris Czaplewski, 280 Cottonwood Dr., Mesquite, NV 89027

Many compliments to **Don & Georgia Rutkowski**, who have kept the LAS Skyliners Chapter going for so long. Don is the Secretary, but has been acting President and Newsletter Correspondent as well. Between him, Georgia and VP **Mary Chandler**, the chapter has remained active. Don has pleaded for help, with no avail. They now have given up, so the Chapter remains teetering on the edge of extinction. I know many other chapters have the same problem, but I feel Don, Georgia and Mary, deserve some recognition.

On a different issue: If you have money in the Alliant Credit Union, do something with it, either deposit something or withdraw. A UAL retiree who had over \$100 in his account with no activity for several years learned the hard way! His money was turned over to the state.

Gloria Fenderson, 613 New York Rd., Glassboro, NJ 08028

I appreciate the handling of the problem concerning my newsletter, the problem was addressed so quickly and I am so grateful.

Thank you for all that you do.

Carol Lippincott, 13473 Meredith Ave., Omaha, NE 68164

In the fall of 2021, I made the decision to move to Omaha to get closer to family as I am getting older. It was a difficult decision as I lived in the Denver area for 58 years and worked for United 34 of those years. It is hard to leave old friends, but sometimes it is necessary to make a change.

I want to thank all of you who volunteer your time and work on the Newsletter. I look forward to getting the Newsletter and all the information it provides. Keep up the good work.

Mari McColl, 1517 Hiddenbrook Dr., Herndon, VA 20170

Enclosed is my check for my 2023 dues, along with some extra as a donation to help stretch the budget.

Thank you to all of you for all you do. I love RUAEA and I love our little Dulles Loungers.

Everyone does a tremendous job of keeping our members informed and in touch.

Merritt Odor, 4111 Nord Hwy., Chico, CA 95973

A sincere thank you to all of RUAEA officers and volunteers for the job they do.

We are doing pretty well in Northern California; we have been blessed with much needed rain and snow.

Our chapter has shrunk in size since the Pandemic, like many others; however, we have a strong core that is pretty close and remains active, thanks to our wonderful correspondent, Sharon.

It is the beginning of the New Year and today is bright and sunny. I have a couple of bucks in my pocket and paying my dues won out over buying a gallon of gas and a dozen eggs.

Wishing all a Happy New Year.

Ken & Arlene Shabino, 12344 Chippewa Tri., Culver, IN 46511

We still enjoy reading the newsletter, though we hardly see any names we recognize any more.

Ken had 38 years of service with United, he would enjoy hearing from anyone who remembers him. He is currently at: Millers Merry Manor, 730 School St., Culver, IN 46511.

Notes

Thomas H. McLean

I am happy and healthy in retirement. I like RUAEA as it helps to keep us in contact with other retirees.

Linda A. Rice

I had the pleasure of spending 42 years working with wonderful people at United, a company that treated its employees with respect. RUAEA is a nice organization that helps keep the memories alive. Thanks to all who keep this organization going.

Cathy J. Gilbert-Silva

We made a "Little Move" in relation to the story about the "Big Move" to DIA in the March 2023 newsletter; however, it was a big move to us. With the help of hired movers and a Penske Rental, we made the first of three 10 trips from Virginia to close on the house. However, the money for the closing still wasn't posted in my ACU account and no one knew where it was! Hours of phone calls from the cab of the truck and a local Cracker Barrel determined the check was sent to our house in VA instead of ACU.

Thanks to a neighbor who was willing to get under our shed to retrieve the key, go through the stack of mail, find the check, write a letter since the deposit tickets were in the moving truck and overnight the deposit, the check was in the mail.

Barbara Hanson

I've been the UA Archives Consultant in Elk Grove and Chicago since 2012 and since 2021, I've been serving as the President of the United Airlines Legacy Foundation in Chicago.

Albert L. Brose

It's nice to travel again after all the problems that have been going on in the country. Last October, we went on a trip from Vancouver to Alaska and ended up in Hawaii for a week. My bride and I are still doing pretty well, volunteering at the church 2 days a week and working 2 days also.

Here's wishing everyone a wonderful and healthy 2023. And many thanks to the RUAEA volunteers who keep all of us up to date at UAL.

Maxine E. Dixon

RUAEA keeps me in touch with UAL which was a big part of our life.

E. Tina Lewis

I like reading about what is going on with United Airlines. I'm planning my next trip to Honolulu and there are many changes. Thanks for keeping us retirees informed.

John M. Wiser

I worked for United for 36 years, had a great career and retired in 2003 from SFORQ. I am now 86 years old and enjoy reading the RUAEA newsletter.

Joseph P. Hopkins

Our local chapter of RUAEA here in Arizona dissolved several years ago as there was little interest among members to take on leadership roles. But despite that I continue my membership in the national organization to keep up with what is happening both with United and with former co-workers.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS ON THE NEXT PAGE ...

The Contact Column



Updated 11/2021

United Airlines Benefits Center (Central Time)

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

United Employee Service Center

1-877-825-3729

1-847-825-3729 - International Use

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

For flight information and to list or change listing

Password for Pass Line –your birthday, mmddyy

\$25 fee to create new booking

Employee Travel Center

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

United Airlines Technical Service Desk

1-800-255-5801

For Flying Together password assistance

Do not use for pass travel questions

Insurance Questions-see number on back of your insurance card

PBGC - for all retiree pension questions

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

Social Security Administration

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

Alliant Credit Union

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

Malcolm Horn, CFP®, Financial Consultant

Alliant Retirement & Investment Services

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

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

Medicare Hotline 1-800-633-4227

CVS/Caremark (Pharmacy)

1-844-635-3401

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

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

PRESIDENT
Don Burbank
(Cell) - (303) 495-9941
ruaea_Pres@qwestoffice.net

SECRETARY
Mary Jane Stewart
(724) 745-8703
stewartmaryjane@aol.com

TREASURER
Chris Johnston
ruaeatreasurer@qwestoffice.net
(317) 694-4406

AIRLINE LIAISON
Don Burbank
ruaea_Pres@qwestoffice.net
(Cell) - (303) 495-9941

**ASSISTANT TO THE
V.P. CONVENTIONS**
Ron Bertacini
bertacini@surewest.net
(916) 832-5775

DIRECTORS
Position Open

Rosalie Tripicchio S. Calif. East Region (619) 368-4106
rosalie.tripicchio@gmail.com

Position Open

George Midwin NW CA - Hawaii Region (650) 670-2587
midwin5u@hotmail.com

Chuck Cole Northwest Region (206) 919-2020
slc2etc1@gmail.com

Marge Stamm Florida - Georgia Region (630) 220-6406
vmstamm@sbcglobal.net

Jackie Monilaw Midwest Region - Cactus (224) 628-4000
jmonilaw@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP MANAGER - Michael Malesardi
E-Mail ruaea@qwestoffice.net
Phone (303) 780-5022

NEWSLETTER MANAGER - John Chu
E-Mail johnqchu@hotmail.com
(303) 810-6586

LETTERS EDITOR - Martha Gooselaw
E-Mail marthagoose@comcast.net

WEB MANAGERS -

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

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

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EXECUTIVE V.P.
Ruth Morabito
(970) 901-9088
ruaea_VP@qwestoffice.net

V.P. CONVENTIONS
Hank Gosselin
(253) 653-5946
henrygosselin@comcast.net

PAST PRESIDENT
Virgil Gooselaw
(303) 963-6690
vgoose@comcast.net

**SITE SELECTION
COMMITTEE CHAIR**
Dave Garland
dave_garland@yahoo.com
(650) 776-7824

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



INCLUDE FILE NUMBER IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE

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

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

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

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United Airlines
Historical Foundation

"Preserving the Past,
Inspiring the Future"

The Acorn Days

Amazing History of US Aviation - Part 1

Decades before “geeks” and “nerds” altered the world; young pioneers changed the world not with “brick and mortar” but with wood, bailing wire, canvas, and later aluminum. ~ Ray Lahr

Text by **Denham S. Scott** - Reprinted from NAAR (North American Aviation Retirees Bulletin) - Summer 2001

How many of you know that in 1910 the mighty **Martin Marietta Company** got its start in an abandoned Church in Santa Ana, CA? That's where the late **Glenn L. Martin** with his mother Minta Martin, and a mechanic named Roy Beal, built a fragile contraption with which Glenn taught himself to fly. It has often been told how the **Douglas Company** started operations in 1920 by renting the rear of a Barbershop on Pico Boulevard in Los Angeles. The Barbershop is still there. **The Lockheed Company** built its first Vega in 1927 in what is now the Victory Cleaners and Dryers at 1040 Sycamore Avenue in Hollywood.

Claude Ryan, who at 24, held a reserve commission as a flyer, had his hair cut in San Diego one day in 1922. The barber told him how the town aviator was in jail for smuggling Chinese across the border. Claude investigated and stayed on in San Diego to rent the Old Airfield from the city at fifty dollars a month and replace the guy in the “pokey”. He agreed to fly North instead of South.

In 1928, the **Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Company**, **Transcontinental Air Transport (now TWA)** and **the Douglas Company** chipped in enough money to start **North American Aviation**, a holding company. The present company bearing the **Northrop** name came into being in a Small Hotel in Hawthorne. The Hotel was conveniently vacant and available because the police had raided it and found that steady residents were a “passel of money-minded gals” who entertained transitory male guests.

After **Glenn Martin** built his airplane in the Church, he moved to a vacant Apricot Cannery in Santa Ana and built two more. In 1912, he moved to 9th and Los Angeles Streets in downtown Los Angeles. **Glenn Martin** was then running a Three-Ring-Circus. Foremost, he was a Showman who traveled the circuit of County Fairs and Air Meets as an Exhibitionist Aviator; secondly, he was an Airplane Manufacturer. He met his payroll and bought his lumber, linen and bailing wire from the proceeds of his Precision Exhibition Flying. - (To be continued next month).■