



Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

WWW.RUEA.ORG



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MAY 2020

Torgy's Travel Tips - May 2020 *Travel During The Coronavirus Pandemic*



Kathie Torgison

Although this newsletter is destined for release in May 2020, I am writing this in late March, cocooned at home. I hope the majority of you are as well. We here in the Seattle area have been keenly attuned to the situation since late February when the first US cases appeared in a rehab facility only 11 miles from downtown. How incredulous it is seeing my friend on the March 30 cover of Time magazine because she was at that facility only for a short post-surgical rehab opportunity and now cannot leave because the virus spread to her room. And this all happened before we flipped the calendar to March. By now, the contagion is coast-to-coast and all of us must do our part to stop its spread by staying home and respecting social distancing regulations. Our health care providers are counting on us to do so or they won't be able to keep up with this pandemic.

I was mulling over all these thoughts (again) as I prepared breakfast this morning. As I reached into the drawer for a spatula, I picked up the small wire whip with the Delft porcelain handle and recalled where I bought that in Holland. The spoon holder on the stove, purchased in Lisbon over 20 years ago, still clearly shows the name of the artist who painted it. The cuckoo clock suddenly announced the hour, another reminder of happy times in Switzerland. Just then, my husband came around the corner holding his prized backscratcher/shoe horn I lovingly bought him in Poland, last year. Every time he uses it, he thanks me!

How about you? What memorable items pop into mind from all of your travels over the years? Do you still have a matchbook from that little restaurant in Paris you ducked into during the rainstorm? How about that gaudy sombrero you actually dragged home from Mexico? Or maybe those 15 collector spoons hanging on a dusty display rack or tucked into a silverware chest? All of these tell a story – a story that only you can tell. Think of all funny little things that have happened on some of your trips. Even the worst trips make good stories!


Exactly 30 years ago, we drove from Budapest to Vienna. There were still ox-drawn carts on the smaller roads in those days and hotels were few and far between, except in large cities. After searching for quite some time, we

Hungarian Noodle Factory



finally found a sign for a small hotel. I spoke to the desk clerk (in German, the only common language between us) only to learn that the last rooms had just been taken. Sensing my fatigue and predicament, the young lady discreetly told me that her friend's mother had room in her home in a nearby village that she sometimes let people stay in. After a quick phone call, the young lady drew me a map and off we drove. By now, it was dark. The village had only 1 light pole and the shutters were closed on the few houses. Our headlights finally illuminated the white apron of a matronly figure waving to us from the middle of the road. We slowly ap-





proached and she opened a pair of massive wooden gates, revealing a large courtyard where she motioned us to park and promptly locked the gates behind us. Speaking to us in Hungarian and using charade-style gestures, we were taken up a dimly lit interior concrete stairway to the 2nd floor, which revealed a narrow hallway with 5 closed doors. We were shown a bathroom containing a small chipped sink, a toilet with 2 pieces of wood as a makeshift seat and a freestanding tub with a handheld shower hose. We smiled and nodded at our hostess who then took us to our room at the other end of the hall. The room was Spartan, but clean. Through a toothless grin, she smiled, rubbed her tummy while pointing at her watch, indicating that breakfast would be at 8AM. Now my husband was very uneasy about the whole situation, beginning with those large wooden gates locking us in. We really didn't know where we were or who we were with. His protective mode kicked in right away when the lock on the room door didn't work. So he slid a chest of drawers across the room to block the door. Finally, we fell asleep in exhaustion.

We awoke at 7AM to brilliant sunshine streaming through the skylight, the only window in our room. After dressing and removing the dresser, we peaked out into the hallway. All was quiet but for a few voices from the floor below. We quietly descended the concrete stairs and the daylight revealed a room containing a long bar with 6 stools, a few small wooden tables and linoleum with many cigarette burns. But in the middle, was another table beautifully set with a white linen tablecloth and a fresh flower in a vase. A moment later, our hostess appeared carrying a jar of just-purchased English marmalade. Between hand gestures and fractured German, we came to understand that this room was the town pub, and the rooms for let were usually for locals. To lodge a foreigner was indeed a big deal – hence the marmalade. Our hostess was actually the owner of a prosperous noodle factory on the ground floor and the large courtyard allowed the delivery trucks to come and go. We were invited, no—actually pulled down the stairs to meet the women workers, amid the racks of drying noodles. We were showered with bags and bags of noodles to take with us. When we got out to our car the owner's son had washed and dried it. And what do you think this adventure cost: Five US dollars. What was it worth: Priceless.

So, while we may not be able to travel for a while, draw on the priceless memories you've made and share them. We're all in this together. Please stay safe. ■

GENERAL NEWS

WWW.RUAEA.ORG

Letter from the President



Don Burbank

Hi Everyone,
First of all, please be careful and follow the procedures established for avoiding the virus.

Bill Corbett and I have spoken about the convention in San Diego. Bill, as you know, is the Vice President of Conventions. With his suggestion and our knowledge of the Coronavirus, I have decided to cancel the convention this September in San Diego.

I want to thank the San Diego chapter for all the work they have done so far. We are planning to hold it in San Diego in 2021. There are many factors that go into making this decision, cost of the hotel to save 400 room nights, banquet rooms, tours, etc., etc.

Secondly, please vote for the officer positions that are open this year. The instructions on how to vote and the candidates for those positions will be in the July Newsletter.

Lastly, please be careful of the virus. Our major concern is that you stay healthy, and happy, and stay home.

I want to see all of you next year. Thank you.

Don Burbank
RUAEA President

Status of the RUAEA Denver Office and DENTK



Effective March 28, 2020 the RUAEA Denver Office at DENTK is temporarily closed due to COVID-19. The Training Center remains open to accomplish a higher than normal level of pilot training frequencies due to major adjustments in scheduling caused by the

COVID-19 virus.

With the closure of the RUAEA Office, adjustments have been made wherein we can continue most of our normal functions, with the help of the local United Fa-

cilities Manager, Graham Smith. Effective 3/31/2020, we began processing Newsletter Membership dues paid by check in the home of Virgil & Martha Gooselaw, with the help of Membership Manager Cas Spokas and Office Secretary Michael Malesardi and his wife Kathy. This function/system will temporally continue until we can return to our office in the DENTK complex.

A down side to this temporary relocation is there will be no one in the office to answer the phone and make a return call to address a phone message left on the recorder. Why - the phones in the Training Center are run on a system paid for by United Airlines and we, RUAEA, are not part of the contract. Therefore to communicate with the Denver Office, use email (ruaea@qwestoffice.net) or US mail, RUAEA, 7401 MLK BLVD, Denver, CO 80207 and understand that you'll get a response, but it may not be immediate.

If you pay your dues by check, continue to mail to RUAEA, 7401 MLK BLVD, Denver, CO 80207 and we encourage everyone that can to pay your dues via credit card, on the RUAEA website at www.ruaea.org. If you have a change of address, you can also use the credit card feature to accomplish it. It will require you to make a \$1.00 contribution to activate the system, but it will really be a help for the folks in the Denver Office.

Please understand that with the current temporary arrangements, our system at times will be slower than normal, but we will do our best to accommodate our members.

Note: When contacting the Denver Office with a dues check, US mail or email please include your file number.

If renewing your membership or changing your address, we recommend using the RUAEA web site at www.ruaea.org. **Note: All address changes or dues submitted either by check or credit card must be received in the Denver Office by the first of the month that you want the change to be effective.**

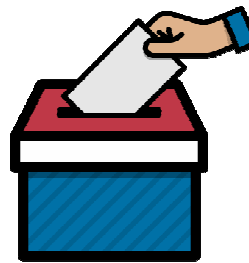
1. Go to www.ruaea.org
2. On left hand side of homepage, click on "Renew Membership"
3. Insert your file number, numbers only, and no letters
4. Enter your last name
5. Review the information and make sure it is correct
6. There is a box you can write a note which may be printed in the newsletter
7. Also check the circle if the billing address is different than the mailing address
8. Check the newsletter option:
 - a. One year membership - \$35 for online and mailed newsletter
 - b. One year membership - \$30 for online newsletter

- c. One year membership - \$30 for mailed newsletter
- d. Contribution
9. Secure checkout
10. Insert credit card information
11. Submit order

If you are only changing your address online:

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

RUAEA Annual Election



RUAEA's By-Laws "Article IX ELECTIONS" provide for an orderly assent to Officer and elected Director Positions. Therefore we have sufficient interest amongst members to fill some vacancies and we will have an election. If you are interested in running for office,

please contact the Nominating Committee, **Virgil Gooselaw** at vgoose@comcast.net, **Sonda Sandstedt** at sdonthego@yahoo.com or **Jim Simon** at jimmy-inc823@gmail.com.

We have to remember that RUAEA is operated by volunteers. Volunteering does require some time but with RUAEA it is time well spent. As a body of retirees we have fond memories of our time spent during our active service with so many great people. We have made life long friendships that we look forward to renewing when we get together. Sometimes we will spend hours just reminiscing about old times – time well spent.

The Election will commence at least 60 days prior to our Convention, but since the Convention has been cancelled due to the COVID-19; we will send the results to the Board of Directors and post them in the October 2020 News Letter. Also, the election ballots will be printed in the July 2020 Newsletter and posted on our website at www.ruaea.org and can be downloaded at your convenience. The completed Ballot can then be mailed to our RUAEA Auditor. The printed ballot will have the mailing address.

Openings are as follows:

1. President

- * **Current** ~ Don Burbank
- * **Candidates** ~ Don Burbank, Tom Cunningham

2. Executive vice president

- * **Current** ~ Tom Cunningham
- * **Candidates** ~ Ruth Morabito, Bill Corbett

3. Vice President Convention

- * **Current** ~ Bill Corbett
- * **Candidate** ~ Hank Gosselin

4. Directors ~ Elected

- * No Current Openings

Virgil Gooselaw - Past President

Financial Advice Available From Alliant C.U.



Malcolm Horn is a financial advisor at Alliant Credit Union. If you have questions, he is available for consultation with credit union members. If he does not have the answers for you, he will be able to direct you to someone who will be able to assist you. He can be reached at: Malcolm Horn, CFP®, Financial Consultant, Alliant Retirement & Investment Services, 200 Union Blvd., Suite 200, Lakewood, CO 80228. O: (773) 462-3669, (C): (720) 249-8050, (F): (773) 462-3669, mhorn@alliantcreditunion.com.

You can also find his information on the important phone number page at the back of the newsletter.

Attention ~ Another RUAEA Scam



RUAEA President **Don Burbank** has once again been targeted in a scam email. Remember RUAEA board members will **not** ask you for money in any form, gift cards, cash, money transfer, etc. If you receive an email from any RUAEA board member requesting assistance for any person or organization, it is a scam.

Do **not** respond to any questionable email. If possible contact your Microsoft support, Apple support etc. and ask if they can track the sender.

Do **not** open any attachments.

Do call the person involved if you have doubts about any email, voicemail, text message.

Remember our board members are listed in the back of every newsletter on the RUAEA contact page. So phone numbers and email addresses are available to many. Anyone who sees that page can send a scam email. Our members are caring, generous people. These thieves are not.

United Daily Pass Travel Update

March 18, 2020



Good Morning Retiree Leaders,
We wanted to share some important news and updates about pass travel and support options at this time. Please share this message with your organization. Thank you for your patience and support.

Important updates on pass travel support

If you're using our pass travel benefits, please be mindful that entry restrictions continue to change around the world (including when returning to the U.S. or visiting other countries). Remember that you will need to follow self-quarantine guidelines before coming back to work if you've traveled to high-risk areas, including Europe, the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Iran. The CDC advises that travelers coming back to the U.S. from these countries should stay home and monitor their health for 14 days after returning to the U.S.

Please visit Flying Together for the latest updates about COVID-19 impacts and reach out to your leader or HR partner if you have any questions. Let's all continue to take care of ourselves and each other!

Need help with your pass travel?

To help stop the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus), government-imposed restrictions have been put in place on travel and everyday life in countries around the world. This is impacting our business in many ways, and it is now affecting the ability of our Employee Travel Center (ETC) to support our employees during their travel, as the ETC call center team is currently not able to get to work and answer employees' phone calls.

The team is working hard to prioritize requests by urgency, and if you need pass travel assistance, we ask that you take advantage of self-service options first, when possible, and submit any other requests through Help Hub.

Self-service options:

- ◆ Add or edit pass rider information in our Dependent Management System (DMS)
- ◆ Book and manage travel in eRES
- ◆ Add, change or remove pass riders through our DMS
- ◆ Purchase tickets using myUADiscount
- ◆ Review policies and procedures in the Travel section on Flying Together

Types of requests that the Employee Travel team **will** prioritize:

- ❖ Ticketing assistance (for travel that can't be ticketed in employeeRES)
- ❖ eRES system issues
- ❖ Company Business offline travel (COBUS)

❖ Emergency travel

Services we're currently **not** able to provide or prioritize:

- ★ Phone support
- ★ Chat bot function
- ★ Help with nonessential business travel
- ★ Non-urgent pass rider or buddy change requests

We're sorry for any delayed responses and appreciate your patience. We're committed to helping all of our United team members navigate these difficult times. Thank you,

Brittany and the Employee Travel team

Disinfecting aircraft using electrostatic sprayers

March 26, 2020



United Airlines is now using electrostatic sprayers filled with high-grade disinfectant to clean widebody aircraft arriving from international destinations at EWR, with plans to distribute more sprayers to other hubs as soon as possible.

When sprayed in the aircraft cabins, lavatories, galleys and crew rest areas, the disinfectant quickly adheres to hard and soft surfaces, as well as areas that traditional trigger sprayers or cloth wipes cannot reach. The disinfectant being used, which is registered by the Environmental Protection Agency, has demonstrated the ability to kill a number of bacteria and viruses, including coronaviruses.

The product is safe and has been used to clean United's fleet for many years. The only difference now is that UAL is distributing it throughout the aircraft using the electrostatic sprayers as an added level of protection against communicable disease.

Over the past few weeks, United has convened stakeholders from its Operations Policy and Support group, Airport Operations, Flight Ops, Inflight Services, Catering, Tech Ops and Safety, among others. Those team members have worked together in performing safety risk assessments on the sprayers, amending our aircraft cleaning and turn procedures, and training employees on how to use the new equipment.

It should take the cabin cleaning crews approximately 15-20 minutes to spray a widebody aircraft. That will be done only after customers and flight crew members have deplaned. Once the spraying is complete and the sprayers are taken off the aircraft, Catering, Tech Ops and Cabin Cleaning and Provisioning teams can begin their normal aircraft turn tasks.

This is an additional step on top of the cleaning process United currently has in place, which includes a thorough wipe down of all touch-points (lavatories, gal-

leys, tray tables, window shades and armrests) using a high-grade disinfectant and multi-purpose cleaner.

Finding the right spaces for the right aircraft

March 26, 2020



Schedule reductions require United to locate secure places to temporarily store aircraft while keeping the fleet safe and compliant on all required maintenance so they can be quickly returned to the skies when they are needed again.

Cargo charters keeping United's planes flying

March 23, 2020



While recent schedule reductions have left United with a surplus of parked aircraft, the company is putting a portion of its grounded Boeing 777 and 787 fleet to good use flying dedicated cargo routes.

Presently, United is operating 40 such flights a week from domestic hubs to key international destinations, and will continue to seek opportunities to increase that number.

Keeping the global supply chain moving and getting goods, particularly critical goods, like medical supplies, into the hands of the businesses and people who need them most is of vital importance right now. United owes a debt of thanks to a number of its work groups, including Cargo, Ramp Service, Airport Ops, Flight Ops, Catering and Tech Ops, not to mention the men and women in the Network Operations Center, for making this happen.

"Connecting products to people around the world is the United Cargo mission," said Cargo VP Jan Krems. "That role has never been more crucial than during the current crisis. Our team is working around the clock to provide innovative solutions for our customers and keep our business going. It was inspiring to see the United team come together to get these flights full and in the air to support our cargo customers and the global community." As always, United's employees' health and well-being remain the top priority, along with that of customers. The company is taking extra precautions to limit the possibility that someone working one of these flights might be exposed to COVID-19. Additionally, United is continually monitoring entry and exit restrictions around the world.

**KOA employees making masks
for local healthcare workers**
April 2, 2020



With fewer passengers flying right now, employees at KOA (Kona, Hawaii) are making the most of their downtime by helping supply the state's healthcare workers with much-needed medical masks and mask covers.

Using sheets of donated fabric from a local linen manufacturer, the group has already hand cut more than 2,000 washable, reusable covers for N95 masks, which protect against COVID-19, and hundreds more standard masks for use around patients who aren't experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

Retiree Linda Hayes has been taking the masks and covers from the airport and delivering them to a friend of hers whose quilting group is sewing elastic bands and ribbon ties onto them. The finished products are then being sent to the Hamakua Health Center and the North Hawaii Community Hospital.

The need for medical masks has never been greater, nor has the supply chain for those items been more hampered, than it is presently. Grass-roots efforts like these are enabling our healthcare professional on the front lines to continue safely caring for patients battling COVID-19.

"Pretty much everyone here has been great about doing different parts, whether it's tracing patterns or cutting or sewing, and our boss Charlene [Goo, KOA General Manager] has been super supportive," said KOA Ramp Service Employee Melanie Hervert, who has been heavily involved in producing the masks. *"It helps us pass the time and makes us feel useful, like we're helping in some way."*

United cargo moves crucial medical component
March 31, 2020



UNITED

In the midst of mobilizing United's cargo operations, the teams at EWR and JAX (Jacksonville) stepped in to assist Roche Diagnostics with transporting a vital component for an instrument being used for COVID-19 testing.

The component was stuck at EWR en route to the Mayo Clinic in Florida after another airline's flights were cancelled. A Roche employee contacted United asking for help and, within a few hours, United's teams had the piece loaded onto a JAX-bound aircraft, with arrangements in place to deliver it to the customer.

Roche thanked United for the quick work, saying the shipped item will allow the Mayo Clinic in Florida to process hundreds of COVID-19 tests per day. Mayo Clinic Laboratories has been on the front lines of increasing testing capacity to expedite caring for patients at this critical time and working to ease the burden felt at test processing laboratories in a growing number of areas.

Thank you to everyone at EWR and JAX who was involved in this critical operation.

Writers Column ~ Aviation Pioneer
By George Midwin



John J. Montgomery

When one thinks about the history of aviation, one name comes to mind above all others, as the pioneers, or inventors of the airplane, the Wright brothers. However, one American who preceded the Wrights first flight by twenty years, is much less known. That person was John J. Montgomery. His efforts beginning in 1884 lead to the understanding of airflow and lateral control. However, the lack of documented accounts of his initial flights, have left much doubt as to giving him credit for being the true pioneer of the first flight in the US.

Born in 1858 in Yuba City, California, one of 8 children to parents who came to California during the Gold rush. At an early age his curiosity leads him to evaluate how and why things functioned as they did. He took a deep interest in kites and was especially fascinated with the "flying top". This was a simple wooden toy, with a propeller attached to a stick and when spun rapidly through the hands would fly up. At the age of eleven, he was witness to the first controllable lighter than air dirigible and built a small-scale model. When hot air balloons began carrying people, his interest in manned flight took off.

John graduated with a Master degree from St. Ignatius College in San Francisco, receiving public acknowledgement for his unusual aptitude in science and his faith in the visionary field of aeronautics. He worked for a short time in his family's business, until his father closed the business and moved to Otay in San Diego to ranch. When he wasn't needed on the ranch, John would study birds in exhausting detail. He also developed an understanding of forces on wings, by observations and actual wind tunnel studies. After a couple failed attempts at building an 'ornithopter' (a machine with flapping wings), John began his focus on gliding.

Those around the globe at the time, those who had been seeking an understanding of flight, believed that a flat surface would provide sufficient lift for flight. However, Montgomery's in depth study of birds led him to believe that mimicking the curved surface of a bird's wing would be the key to creating lift. With the assistance of his father, they were able to bend wood by steaming it to a desired curvature. With the assistance of his sisters, they sewed unbleached cloth to the wood frame and brushed it with linseed oil. The completed wing measured 20 feet long and had a width of 4½ feet. A semicircular tail was attached and the entire structure weighed a total of 40 lbs.

Having faced the ridicule from his neighbors after the failure of his ornithopter, he decided that the flight of his glider would be done without any neighbors in attendance. So with only his brother, they strapped the glider to a hay wagon and road to a place John had previously selected on the Otay Mesa. From the top of the hill, John climbed onto the glider and with a little run and jump, started gliding. He estimates that he had traveled about 600 yards, but what stood out the most, was his ability to have some control over the glider direction by shifting his weight. That first flight, April 1884, was only witnessed by his younger brother. No photographers, no news media, no neighbors and not even his father, present.

After his initial success of flight, Montgomery continued his research on birds and built small scale models to prove his theories. His focus was on control and incorporated designs which would permit the pilot to maneuver the glider. Through a variety of experiments he was able to design what is known today the aileron. This device, located on outmost portion of the trailing edge of the wing, was connected via cables to just behind the glider seat. As the rider leaned from one side to the other, he could manipulate the devices. This permitted the rider with limited directional control, which was effective in combating the effects of wind gusts.

In 1897 John accepted a teaching position at Santa Clara College in California, teaching aerodynamics. He quickly developed a following as he continued his research on lighter than air craft. In 1903 hot air balloonists were appearing more and more common. This gave John the idea of launching his glider from higher altitudes than hillsides could provide. In 1904, with Daniel Maloney, who had performed stunts from balloons, sitting in a glider, attached to an unmanned hot air balloon, released himself at an altitude above 2,000 feet and successfully controlled the glider back to earth. This attracted attention throughout the US and in Europe. This led to a milestone in aviation, when John Montgomery's glider, with Daniel Maloney in the seat, was released from a balloon at 4,000 feet. As it descended, Daniel performed a series of maneuvers and made a soft landing, in full view of hundreds of spectators and the media.

The great earthquake of 1906 in San Francisco, curtailed John's experiments until 1911, when he began his work again in San Jose, Calif. He was effective in devising a system which provided much improved control of his gliders. Along this time he also was planning on adding a motor. He completed 50 successful glider flights from a hillside in the Evergreen area. During an attempt to land at low speed, the glider encountered turbulence, crashed, killing John.

There may be many reasons for the obscurity associated with John Montgomery, among them may be the

trial by the heirs of Montgomery against the proprietary claims of the Wright Brothers in 1920. This created much ill will which has lasted to this date. Perhaps someday, scholars will agree that John J. Montgomery was the true pioneer of aviation in the US.

Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter



Francis Domaratius

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

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

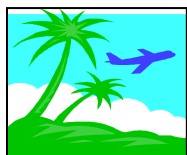
Please note that all submitted articles are subject to editing and approval by the Newsletter Manager. Once they are published in the RUEA Newsletter, they become the property of RUEA. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me. My contact information is listed in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

Francis Domaratius - Newsletter Manager
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LOCAL NEWS

ALABAMA



GULF COAST (ALABAMA / FLORIDA)

George Atteberry
gwatteberry@cs.com

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

SWEET HOME ALABAMA

Joe E. Jones, Ret. ORDFO
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Our Birmingham group met March 9th at the Fish Market Restaurant with the following members in attendance: **Ken Yeager, Bobby & Jean Cox, Herb & Carol Wilbanks, Jim & Donna Gooch, and Joe & Jane Jones.**

Birthday wishes to **Ken Yeager** and **Beverly Yeager** in February and **Gay Fowler** and **Zoe Glass** in March. A 48 year anniversary for **Joe & Jane Jones**. Also we send Get-Well thoughts to **Beverly Yeager** and **Zoe Glass** and hope they are feeling much better.

Beverly Yeager won the 50/50 drawing.

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

ARIZONA



PHOENIX AZURES

Mike Richards
Azures Past President
Claudia Richards
Azures Past Membership Secretary
lgamfr62@gmail.com

There is no report this month from the Phoenix Azures chapter of RUAEA. We meet for Breakfast on the second Wednesday of every month at Tivoli Gardens. Anyone in town is welcome. Please call **Sherry Muoio** in advance, if you wish to join us, (623) 572-4828.



PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S

Liz Tollefsen
tedtolle@aol.com

Things are now different here in Arizona and all over the world since the coronavirus pandemic came. We all are feeling the effects from it; anywhere you live. We all hope that this virus will really slow down and our lives will be somewhat back to normal soon. This affects everyone in some way or another. We hope they will find a cure real soon. We not only have to think about us, our families, neighbors and friends, but, we also need to help others, who are a lot worse off than we are.

As the result of this virus, our members in our Re-United's Chapter, are not meeting for our normal breakfast once a month at the Black Bear Diner in Gilbert until further notice. We also had to cancel our annual picnic that was set for April 2, which is normally our last meeting before people move back to their other homes for the summer. We will all miss our get-togethers, and hope it won't be long before we're somewhat back to "normal".

We also were notified that the 2020 RUAEA Convention has been cancelled, which was to be held in late September this year in San Diego, due to the spread of the covid-19 virus. RUAEA plans on doing the 2021 Convention in San Diego. Once all the details are worked out for next year, the info will be posted on-line to all members. RUAEA mentioned that in the meantime, everyone stay safe and healthy.

We had a nice turn-out for our March 11th luncheon at the Stone & Barrel Restaurant at the Oakwood Country Club in Sun Lakes. There were 29 of us there. It was so nice seeing a few people whom we haven't seen for awhile; **Nancy Luby, Barb Paymaster, Pam Gerstung, and Carol Hinkle**. We hope they continue to come to our lunches or breakfasts when we are back to normal. We heard **JoAnn Fearing** has been ill and we wish her well real soon.

Jennifer & Chuck Strohmaier, who were the hosts for this St. Patrick theme luncheon, did a wonderful job. The decorations on the tables were really nice. Jennifer even donated a set of placemats (one side had a St. Patrick theme, and the other side had an Easter theme). Everyone enjoyed the food and all the conversations. Thanks Jennifer & Chuck for making this luncheon very special!

This month, we are highlighting a couple, who both worked for United Airlines, and are members of our Re-United's Chapter, **John & Joann Griffin**. They have been very active members of our chapter, and are currently our Treasurer & Membership Chairman.

John & Joann first met during the summer of 1972 when Joann started with United Airlines. John had been hired in 1970 as a summer temp while he went to college. They both worked at the Narrow Body Flight Kitchen in Chicago (ORDHN). John's title was Food Service Clerk (FSC), a non-union job and Joann's was a Food Service Assistant (FSA) in the union. This was during the time that the airlines actually fed you on domestic flights for free!

Two years later in 1974, Joann also became a Food Service Clerk. As clerks, they were able to work different shifts and departments; Liquor, Shipping & Receiving, Manpower at the kitchen, or as a Standby Food Clerk at the field.

Standby Food was located behind two big black double doors on the E concourse next to gate E3 at O'Hare in old Terminal 2. Standby Foods was a fun job. They went from flight to flight at departure time to make sure the Flight Attendants had enough meals or snacks, ice, soda, or whatever they thought they needed. Back then flight loads fluctuated greatly so they were a cost saving department for United.

It was a great place to work where they had a lot of fun and interaction with gate agents and flight attendants. John & Joann met and made lots of friends who they still see today. John & Joann got married on December 19, 1983. Joann had one son from a previous marriage and now they have 3 grandchildren and enjoy being with them.

In 1983, there was a rumor circulating that all the flight kitchens, system wide, were going to be sold. United wanted to get out of the food service business and focus on the airline. These were the days of outsourcing. Thankfully, their supervisors advised them to look for other positions within the company; otherwise they would have to work for the new vendor, whoever that was going to be. John & Joann both had over 11 years with UAL and didn't want to leave United so Joann put in a transfer for reservations at CHIRR and John opted for the ramp at O'Hare, ORDCG. Joann transferred in 1984 and John got his transfer to the ramp in 1986. All the flight kitchens were finally sold in 1993.

In 1987, the huge, fancy, brand new Terminal 1 was opening at ORD with the flashy, musical underground walkways between B & C concourses for United. It was opening that summer, so Joann put in a transfer for Customer Service at ORDCS and since John was already on the ramp, they were able to work the same shift and carpool to work together. Joann worked in several different areas at ORDCS. Joann started as a Gate agent and eventually got to work in the Special Service Center for Wheelchairs and unaccompanied minors. She also worked in the Control Center which was the main operations hub for United at O'Hare.

They moved to Crystal Lake, IL in 1990 so they had about an hour commute to ORD every day. Carpooling with each other or other employees was crucial, especially in the winter with all the ice and snow that the Chicago area gets. Finally, Joann got tired of getting up at 3:00AM in the morning to go to the airport every day, so she decided to put in a transfer for Aircraft Routing at OPBOP at WHQ or the old EXO North building. It was another Control Center but for the whole system not just ORD. Her job was to manage a fleet of aircraft 737s, 727s, 320s or the Widebody fleet for its mandatory FAA maintenance checks. The FAA levied huge fines on United if an aircraft went overtime for its checks. It was a challenging and interesting job, but after a few years later, right before the 2nd bankruptcy ended, Joann turned 55 and said "OK, time to retire". She had 33 years and 6 months.

John worked the ramp in a lot different departments, too. He was a food runner until the kitchens were sold, put in for a Lead Ramp Serviceman for a while and then he was a Fueller for many years. During the first bankruptcy, United was still contracting out different departments to save money, and pare down employees. The aircraft cleaners were the first to go and then fueling got eliminated, too. After that he worked mostly relief where he could be assigned just about anywhere; Airfreight, deicing, city runner, gates or wherever he was needed.

So after 2 labor strikes, 1 layoff in 1979, 2 bankruptcies, ESOP, 9/11, a broken rib from falling on ice at 5:00 am on the ramp; (6 weeks off with all his sick time) and then the merger with Continental, John decided it was time to retire too. He stuck it out until 2012 when he was turning 60. He had 39 years and 4 months; plus a buyout! Yay!

They sold their Illinois house in 2012, and moved to Wisconsin to be near John's family. Most of Joann's family was still in Illinois; so not very far away and Wisconsin was a refreshing change. Joann's parents had a condo in Fountain of the Sun, so they often visited in Arizona, and really liked it. After Joann's parents passed away, they bought the condo and later they bought a house in Fountain of the Sun in Mesa. They are happily snow birding between Wisconsin and Arizona and loving every minute of it! They're enjoying their retirement; take cruises, go fishing and boating in the summer and fall. In the winter and spring, they party with friends and John plays pickle ball. They have been members of the Arizona Re-United's Chapter since 2013, and currently John is Treasurer, and Joann is the Membership Chairman. So, if you know of anyone retiring soon to sunny Arizona, in the Phoenix area, please come and join a great group of folks, the Re-United's! Membership is only \$5 a year and you can contact us at (815) 404-7979. Have a Happy Retirement!

We have the following Birthdays in May ~ **Bill Betz, Oscar Aguilar, John Griffin, Joann Griffin and Kathy Brigante**. Happy Birthday and Best Wishes Always! We have two couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversaries, **Bob & Valerie Forsberg** and **Fred & Ginny Rockenhauser**. It's 50 years for the Rockenhausers. Congratulations!

Holidays coming up are: May 10, Mother's Day and May 25, Memorial Day. Be sure & celebrate those special days! We will notify our members when we will definitely be meeting once again! In the meantime, enjoy your summer!



TALL PINES

There is no report this month from the Tall Pines chapter of RUAEA. Just a reminder to all, our meetings have been changed to the second Tuesday of the month - same time/same place, Lone Spur Café, 11 o'clock.

TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

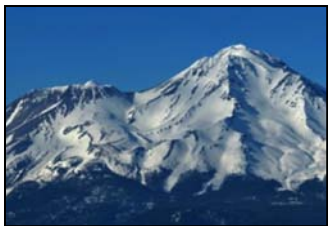
Pat Sommer Di Lallo, Treasurer
14740 N. Palmwood Dr.
Oro Valley, AZ 85755
(520) 825-7370
rpdgarlic41@comcast.net



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 rpdgarlic41@comcast.net or call either **Pat Di Lallo** (520) 825-7370 or **Sandy Lawyer** (847) 826-2640 for information. We look forward to seeing you.

CALIFORNIA



CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS

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

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

CENTRAL COASTERS

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



We had no meeting in March, and it is probably a good thing since the Corona Virus has kept everyone at home. So far the Central Coast has a few reported illnesses. I've been out around our area and I noticed walkers less than 6 feet apart and enjoying themselves as if there was nothing wrong. As for us it's best to stay in and not socialize until this blows over.

I just received word that the SAN convention has been cancelled. I'm sure many of us are disappointed but it's not worth it if the safety of our members may be compromised.

The Central Coasters decided to cancel our April meeting. Our next meeting is scheduled for June and we will see how things are going by then.

As for now we are staying at home and lucky for me we have a daughter living nearby that gets our provisions. We live in a 55 year and older community and it is good to see how cautious our neighbors are. We have a very nice club house and pool that are both closed for now. Our residents do walk a lot but maintain the 6 foot separation and so far we have had no report of any illness. We used to have a very busy calendar with several activities we attended, but now there is nothing listed. I've never seen such an empty calendar before. I remember WW2 with all the restrictions but nothing like this.

Let's hope next month will be a lot better and we all stay healthy.



DESERT SUNBIRDS

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

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





EAST BAY DIABLOS

Contra Costa County
Jan Soderstrom
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San Ramon, CA 94583
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Janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com

Due to the Coronavirus Shelter In Place order, our meeting on April 6 was cancelled. How wonderful it will be to see everyone again when we are past this horrible pandemic.

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

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

- ✓ Monday, May 4 at 11:00. — Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mt. Diablo Street in Concord. We order from a set menu. Lunch includes soup or salad, choice of entrée, beverage, and choice of ice cream for dessert.
- ✓ Monday, June 1 at 11:00.—Annual Summer Picnic at Diane Griego's home. This fun meeting is a catered lunch from Back Forty Texas BBQ and requires an RSVP. The deadline to RSVP will be announced later. The club provides water and soft drinks. Members are invited to bring beer or wine if they choose. We enjoy delicious chicken and ribs, potato salad, green salad and baked beans. Dessert is ice cream and a pretty cake decorated with a United theme

Every month, we have an ongoing book exchange. The leftover books are donated to Contra Costa County Library book sales. We collect both new and used Christmas cards which **Barbara Cunningham** donates to a local special ed teacher who uses them in his classroom. He has told Barbara he can use "all he can get." If you have cards you'd like to donate, please contact

Barbara at tbcunningham43@gmail.com or (925) 846-8123 for more info. We also collect shampoo and other toiletries you collect on trips; **Diane Griego** donates these items to a wonderful domestic violence organization founded by one of our special UA ramp employees. Thanks to **Cheryl Kincaid** who brings items for this organization to almost every meeting.

GOLDEN GATERS

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



What to do ... What to do ...

"All's Quiet on the Western Front." President Vera has set aside her duck clarion as the Canada Goose has flown "South of the Border." Her Bored - Art has painted "Pictures at an Exhibition," "The 3 Caballeros – Pete is still cooped up, frying up some Jimmy Dean sausage is "Big John," and Gene is lacing up his "Blue Suede Shoes." Harriet is not out riding her chariot; "B" is "Homeward Bound" and is Underwood in her "She Shed." In our thoughts and hope that Jim is enjoying some Goodwine! Ginger is predicting "Stormy Weather" so she is "Singin' in the Rain with her "Umbrella from Cherbourg."

"Wake up Lil Suzie" - it's time for "Breakfast at Tiffanys." Maybe I'll have "Eggs with Pope B ..." no "Green Eggs and Ham" for me. I'll put on some Pancake make-up and go out to see some "Blue Skies." I'm off as "These Boots were made for Walkin." There's "Sweet Caroline" whistling for "Lassie to Come Home." and "Peggy Sue - who won't Get Married!" "Ain't that a Shame!" She can play Checkers with Chubby! Or Dominos with Fats!

Just walked by the "Blue Lagoon" and saw Nessie (you know she spends her "Summertime" here where the livin' is easy.) There is no "River of No Return" around here so that must be "Where the Crawdads Sing." Nessie is keeping an eye out for "Baby Shark" - guess where she lives - yup, in the "Shark Tank". I know that she is surely "Finding Nemo" and will definitely scare away "The Creature from the Black Lagoon." She might be "Surfin USA" which is "Down by the Boardwalk." She is not "Standin' on the Corner in Winslow, AZ" or on her "Beach Blanket as they fled to Babylon" - there is no "Cool, Clear Water" in those "Far Away Places."

It's "High Noon" and time for some brunch with "The Brady Bunch." Howsa' about some pizza from "Little Caesars" or some KFC from the Colonel? Time for my nap, perhaps I'll "Dream of Jeannie" as I lay my

head down on "My Pillow." Then there is Flo - she's gotta go! She is not in "Good Hands" with this State.

Until further notice, here are the next few months:

- ❖ March – St. Paddy ran away with the Corned Beef. (Did he drink Green Beer and got the Virus?)
- ❖ April 27 – Too many Showers – our meeting place is closed until further notice
- ❖ May 18 – Note the date change – we could possibly dance around the May Pole, who knows?
- ❖ June 22 – Maybe we'll be "Busting out all over," – hope so ... stay tuned!

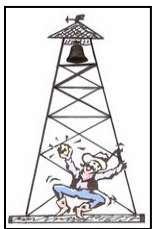
Ha – you thought I was done? Well ... It's almost time for "Dinner with Andre" or maybe a Vodka Quarantini ("Shakened, not stirred, with two bleu cheese stuffed olives) with "A Gentleman from Moscow," a Steak ala Diane, or a Mac with some Cheese, all of this cooked by Chef Boyardee! We can Bake Alaska or have a Crepe with Suzette. Crab Cioppino anyone? – I remember that wonderful Executive Chef Wolfsheimer – he, who never gave out his recipes (well, guess again, he gave it to me!)

The "Red, Red Robins" were seen bobbin' along past the Pyracantha bush and eating the berries –egads, they've gone "Psycho," – Look - "One just flew over the Cuckoos' Nest!"

The "Moon has gone over Miami" as Fred "Taps" his way across the stage ... "Day is done ... Gone the Sun" (this always make me cry.)

"Happy Trails to You ... 'til we meet again." Most sincerely, Aloha from Awapuhi.

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

Secretary

tired-dogs@comcast.net

Did you order the Corn Beef & Cabbage? Well, it is the month for the Irish. **Tom & Suzanne Kenny** certainly know how and what that means! Green, green and some more green. Our meals were enjoyed at the Forester in Camino this month, it is a warm and cozy place for all (30) Miners to visit, laugh and enjoy delicious food. President **Bill Dinette** gave the **Kennys** a

hearty "Thank You" for all of us. It seems we had some birthdays this month – for those present – **Dawn Martin, Cindy Blazius, Linda Dinette** and **JR Heier**; we wished Happy Birthday. Anniversaries found **Kerry Kozelka** and **Ann Barton** celebrating 27 years together. I do see that **Dave & Robin Garland** celebrate 20 years. So, a rousing Happy Anniversary to you all! **Dale Pope** accompanied his mother, Doe, today; always good to see him. Dale isn't "old enough" to retire yet, but is dealing with a foot injury that is keeping him off work for the time being.

President ~ **Bill Dinette** covered items of general interests to the group.

Vice President ~ **Rudy Blazius** did not have a report for this month.

Treasurer ~ **Tom Kenny** was able to join us today, it's always good when he can come to the luncheon. \$675 in checks were mailed out to the three charities we voted for last month: El Dorado County Senior Legal Services, the (local) Boys and Girls Club, and the Share Closet should have received our checks. Tom also reports that of our 40 members, 29 have paid their dues for 2020. Those who haven't sent in their dues yet, please do so right away. If you're not sure whether you already sent it or not, you can contact **Tom Kenny** at (530) 626-5660 or tck46@flash.net. Better yet, just send your check for \$10.00, made out to Hangtown Miners and send to **Tom Kenny**, 3481 Parleys Canyon, Placerville, CA 95667. You know, where else can you get all this information, great get-togethers, time with friends, opportunity to meet new friends for less than \$1.00 a month? And, when you come to the December luncheon, the chapter pays for part of your meal and you (essentially) get it back! So, please follow thru right away and get your dues sent to Tom.

Secretary ~ **Jane Gibson** reminded everyone that if they want/need a new badge, please let her know so she can order it for you. The last time we had an order, the cost (all inclusive) was \$10.00 each. Jane shared a note from **Joe & Jeanette D'Amico**, our Hawaiian members! "*We are doing quite well here in Hawaii. Both of us are healthy and like it a lot here. The house is pretty much settled, but we are still unpacking boxes. The yard needs a lot more landscaping as Joe does not do gardening and I am a bit limited in how much I can do. It is hard to find competent workers and we are "howlies" and from California with lots of money, so they think. We are not planning any trips back to the mainland in the near future. I am hoping that we will make it back in December to spend Christmas with our son Doug and family, who live in Pleasanton. Please give our regards and love to all the Miners' luncheon/meeting tomorrow. Aloha! Joe & Jeanette*". I think I speak for all of us when I say we're glad to hear from you and miss you!

Jane also passed around the Celebration of Life

booklet for **Joe Cleary**. Bill, myself and **Tom Boyle** attended. Very nice get together with many stories that had everyone laughing – for those of you who knew Joe, you understand!

Sunshine ~ **Suzanne Kenny** shared that Rudy let her know that **Dorean Ames** had a slight stroke recently. She is doing okay now. Keep well, Dorean. Keeping an eye on **Tom Kenny** who is also doing much better. Suzanne read a note from **Bob & Carol White**: *“We won’t make it (to the luncheon). My Bob was in the hospital 4 times from February 28th – March 5th. His Alzheimer’s and effects of his cancer treatment in 1994 are catching up with him. (But all 16 patients before him with the same rare cancer lived no more than 2 years. Bob’s got 26 years!) He’s home now, but weak. We will be receiving in-home care/help from Eskaton. If I ever have a serious health issue ... I hope and pray I’ll be as sweet as my Bob ... Feel free to share with the group if you wish to. Have fun! Carol & Bob White”* We are so sorry to hear about Bob’s health problems – if there’s anything we can do to help you out, please let us know. Suzanne also shared that she will be undergoing cataract surgery – tomorrow! Heal quickly, Suzie.

Historian ~ **Pati Kenney** brought our chapter books which were set out on the pool table for everyone to browse thru and enjoy. Last month **Bill Dinette** discovered some old drawings which he passed along to Pati who found there were already copies in our book. Bill got those back and will see if there is a place where they will be welcome – maybe the United Historical group. Pati asked that our members look through our books, and at those pictures in particular, and if you have any experiences with the types of planes, please write up a little “story” about your experience with that plane. It would be a great addition to our memories.

New Business ~ We discussed the information regarding the Coronavirus. Since our meeting, a lot has changed. We are now instructed to “shelter in place” - stay home! Take care everyone!

Old Business ~ **Thom Biro** brought the catalog for our shirts. These are high quality shirts that come in a couple styles and many colors. They are embroidered with our nifty “Hangtown Miner” logo and, they’re reasonable too. Don’t miss out. So, our old topic about the life insurance came up again! If you haven’t done so yet – give the UAL benefits a call and ask if you qualify. Should you get a **yes**, ask them to send you a letter of confirmation. However, if you are told **no**, don’t give up – some guys have called 3 times before they got someone who gave them a yes answer. You can also contact our RUAEA Regional Director, **Sonda Sandstedt** and give her your employment information and she said she will pass that info along to a person she knows will follow through for you. Sonda’s contact info: (530) 210-5644 or sdonthego@yahoo.com.

Contributions ~ **Angie & Frank Dellinger** are volunteers at Sacramento International Airport. I don’t know if I got all of this correct, but they recently had a “surprise” test at the airport so they could get their necessary badge. Well, there was no warning or prep for this test! When they didn’t pass, they were able to watch a video, which filled in the “gaps” and they passed just fine.

For those of you who know/knew **Tiffin Molinex**, he fell and broke a hip. He’s doing better – lives in Texas now.

Also, we learned that **Jack Walls** is dealing with esophageal cancer. To both these men, our well wishes go out to you.

Bill closed our meeting with some light hearted things.

Our meeting came to a close. Rudy pulled the tickets for the donators and I didn’t write down who won! Congrats to the winner! Thanks to all who brought items for our raffle: **Kenney** – picture frame; **Fitzpatrick** - ?????; **Kenny** – table decorations; **Bell** – Irish wreath; **Biro** – Vino; **Heier** – cross body purse; **Martin** – Mystery gift; **Gibson** – handsoap; **Kozelka** – dog sign; **Dinette** – wine; **Wolfram** – gourde.

Normally I would be sending the information about our April luncheon and meeting. But as you already know, we have canceled our April get together. Given the circumstances with this virus and the shut downs in place, your officers felt it is a better choice. The first thing is for everyone to be safe and stay healthy. That said, please follow the guidelines in force.

If any of you have anything you want to communicate to our members, please let me know and I will pass it along.

REDWOOD EMPIRE RETIREES

Santa Rosa, California
Mary Wilson, Secretary
3623 Aaron Dr.
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
marywilson333@sbcglobal.net



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





RESANS

San Diego, CA
Barbara Drews
5642 Amaya Drive #99
La Mesa, CA. 91942
sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com

By the time you read this, you will have heard that our 2020 RUAEA Convention has been cancelled due to the Corona Virus. We will work hard to have a great one for you in 2021. With lots of time to prepare for it, we will make it extra special.

Louis Semon was traveling in France and Spain when the virus hit. He immediately headed for home and then self-quarantined for fifteen days. He is doing well and like all of us, he is still staying home and glad to be here.

Our May Birthdays are **Barbara Drews, Robert Taylor** and **Ray Wood**. We wish them a special day and a good year to come.

Pauline Reynaud is our featured Bio for this month ~ *I lived in New York in my young days and Temporary positions were the way to go. I was married with two young babies and a husband who thought I should be a full time wife and mother. I yearned for the excitement of staying in the workforce so that is where Temporary Job assignments came into my life. I called on my mother who helped me with the babies and off I went to work. Not saying it was easy, but good to be a working mom.*

*I held many short term jobs from working at ABC Studios on a Soap Opera set (One Life to Live), the Opera Arts, Lawyers offices, Home Private Secretary and a Travel Agency. While at the Travel Agency, I met **Bob McKay** who was a United Airlines Sales Representative. He convinced me that UA could use my expertise and that I should come to work for them. Little did I know that conversation would get me hired by UA. When I interviewed I had a choice of being a Flight Attendant or a Reservation Agent. I chose Reservations as I would be able to be home with my family. On June 5, 1972, I was in training at JFK Training Center and then I joined the Reservation Office in Manhattan. I worked in Special Services which handled calls from United Elite and Executive Travelers (a cushy job but we were always monitored to make sure we were handling these customers well). It was a good mix of great people working together.*

Approximately two years later I was assigned to the City Ticket Offices as a relief agent, this included the large office in Brooklyn, New York. This office incorporated all the airlines and United represented all of them. I was still a Reservation Agent so after my assignment at the ticket offices I joined the Rockleigh New Jersey RES office. After a year at Rockleigh, I interviewed for

a position at LGA and became a Customer Service Representative.

It was then that my journey to different stations began. I had temporary assignments at ONT (Ontario, CA), LAXCS and TDY in the HNL ticket office and then to SANCS (San Diego). In San Diego, I was assigned many jobs. Executive Service Concierge for the 100,000 milers and Premiers. This also included high profile executives and people from the movie industry. I also worked the Ticket Counter, Gates, Baggage Service and the Red Carpet Room. I am not forgetting my contribution to the San Diego Times Magazine "YUDHFME", You Didn't Hear it From Me.

My life as a Customer Service Agent has been rewarding. The people I worked with and also the people I met in high places, helped make me the person I have become. I am now retired but still relish and revel in the Good Ole Days.

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

Calendar:

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

SACRAMENTO GOLD DIGGERS

Sacramento, CA
Laverne Haubl
Secretary
lhaubl@sbcglobal.net



Due to the Coronavirus, our April 29 and May 27 meetings have been canceled.

Hopefully, we won't have to cancel too many more but we will continue to take it one month at a time.



SAN JOAQUINERS

Rosie Walls
(209) 984-5672
jawrmw@sbcglobal.net

I haven't had an article to submit for awhile. Jack and I have missed several luncheon meetings due to medical appointments. We have missed seeing everyone and hope to attend our next meeting in May. By the time you read this article, we hopefully will be on the road to recovery.

Our chapter president **Steve Foster** has been kind enough to cover for me and prepare the minutes and send them off to me from each meeting so I want to give you all an update of what is happening in our chapter. Thank you Steve for your help!

Our meeting in February was held at Latif Cafe in Turlock, hosted by **Bobby & Eleanor Wood** and in March the meeting was held at El Torrero Mexican Restaurant in Jackson and was hosted by **Don & JoAnn Nesja**. We have great news to pass on to all and that is **Hans Weber** and **Ingrid** got married on Valentine's Day, February 14, 2020. Congratulations to both of them! **Sandy Brooks** is recovering from her second knee replacement she had on February 26th and she is going through physical therapy. **Bobby Brooks** will be having a procedure for prostate cancer at a later date, no date has been set as yet.

Sad news, **Guy Hoffman** passed away at his home on March 8, 2020. As of now, there are no services scheduled for our area. There may be a service at a later date back East where his sister and brother reside.

President **Steve Foster** brought up the Annual UAL Reunion which is held at the Carson Valley Inn in Minden, Nevada. The reunion this year is cancelled due to the COVID-19 virus.

The San Joaquiners will **not** be meeting in April due to the continuing concern of the Coronavirus. Please take care of yourselves during this pandemic. I'm sure we are all concerned about the virus and want to take precautions and be safe.

Our next luncheon meeting will be held on May 14th at Good Friends Chinese Restaurant, my favorite, located at 9 California Street in Valley Springs. The luncheon will be hosted by **Bobby & Sandy Brooks**.

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

SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

San Jose, CA
www.southbayruaea.org
 George Midwin
 1879 Foxworthy Ave.
 San Jose, CA 95124
midwin5u@hotmail.com



Our first meeting of the month saw 17 members in attendance. Our second meeting had 11 members present. With the on going concern over the virus, it was decided to cancel all future meetings until we have passed this pandemic. We were pleased to see both **Dave & Robin Garland**, who just returned from driving up from San Diego after having attended the RUAEA board meeting. The members in attendance wished the both of them a happy anniversary.

Keith & Ann Olthof were another couple who also celebrated an anniversary this month, although just a few more years than Dave & Robin.

Irene Lloyd who we have not seen in a while, had a birthday this month and members wished her a happy birthday in absentia. **Cheri Scales**, who had spent so much time preparing our spring luncheon to take place in March, had to scrap all her work. At the present time we have not as of yet canceled our summer picnic at Vasona scheduled for June. Since the park will provide a full refund on our deposit with just a few days notice, the decision on this event may wait until we get a bit closer to the June date.

Our thoughts and prayers are with our historian, **Vern Snyder**. Vern has been beset with health issues, but has maintained a positive attitude throughout his ordeal. Members have been in contact with his lovely wife, **Maureen Snyder**, which has been at his side the entire time.

With all the current issues surrounding shelter in place, it will be some time before our group can get back together once again. In the mean time I wish you all continued good health and stay safe.

All meetings have been canceled until, further notice. We will communicate with all members when our next meeting will be held and invite any RUAEA members to attend.

SOLANO FLYERS
 Allan Pochop
 119 Carlsbad Circle
 Vacaville, CA 95687
 (707) 447-4980
apochop@aol.com

The Solano flyers did not have a meeting on March 18, we will see how this Virus is locking down America. Next month, plan on April 15th luncheon at Raul's Striper Cafe, Fairfield. Be safe, be well!

COLORADO

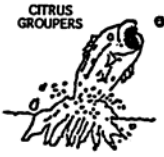
DENVER
MILE HIGHERS
 Rich & Cleora Conner
 (980) 660-7040
richcleora@gmail.com



Due to the Coronavirus and stay at home order, our April breakfast was canceled. We are hoping to have our May 2nd breakfast. Please stay safe and well.

Our next RUAEA breakfast meeting will be Saturday, May 2nd at 9am at Ted's Place Restaurant in Commerce City. Address: 5271 E. 52nd Ave, Commerce City. Phone: (303) 287-7544. Directions: Go North on Dahlia St. off I-70 to 52nd and turn back East to the address. Going West on I-70 exit on Holly St. and take the frontage road to get to Dahlia.

FLORIDA



THE CITRUS GROUPERS THE VILLAGES

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 rca-pozzi@rocketmail.com.

SAND"DABS"

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



The Sand"Dabs" has been in existence for many years and has been a great place to meet up with other retirees to share stories and information. Unfortunately our membership has been dwindling so this is a good time to close the door on this chapter. Thanks to all the members that made this a great organization. Special thanks to **Dick Coughlin** and **Steve Moddle** who provided the leadership that kept us coming back. Even though we won't have an official monthly meeting we still plan to meet occasionally at Friendship Luncheons. There won't be any minutes from these luncheons, just good food and conversation. Contact **Gloria Marcantoni** at the above email if you'd like to know more information.

Our first Friendship Luncheon will be June 4th, 11:30 at the Red Lobster, 3162 S. Atlantic Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL. We hope to see all of you there!



THE ORLANDO REAL McCOYS

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

There is no report this month from the Orlando Real McCOys chapter of RUAEA.

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

SW PELICANS DROP-INS

Margie Burg, Correspondent
15791 Prentiss Pointe Circle #102
Fort Myers, FL 33908
(239) 400-2544
burgmarge@aol.com



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

THE SAND DOLLARS

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



The Sand Dollars regret to announce that, due to the Coronavirus epidemic, we were unable to hold an April meeting and we do not expect to meet in May, which is normally our last meeting of the season.

We did meet in March at the Glory Days Grill in Bradenton with 16 members in attendance, we began our meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. There was then much discussion of the Corona virus and all its ramifications. Many of our members' future travel plans have had to be put on hold, and there is concern for one of our members, **Maria Santangelo**, who is on a "Harmony of the Seas" Cruise in the Caribbean. We hope she will be able to disembark without trouble. **Michael & Ginger Hyde** have had to cancel a planned cruise out of Venice, Italy. **Jim & Shirley Razmus** did manage a short cruise, taking the boat from Fort Myers to Key West. As they said, it sure beats driving all the way down to the Keys.

We also discussed the new Aetna Health Plan, and though it is still early in the year, trends do seem to be showing that it will cost us more than the former plan. **Ginger Hyde** reported that **Shirley & Bob Adams** were absent as Shirley has just had hip surgery to correct a problem with her former hip replacement. She is now recovering well and we wish her a successful and full recovery. **Vince & Norma Malena** elected not to attend because of concern for Norma's immune system after having chemo treatments. **Skip Irwin** has had his shoulder surgery and is now going through physical therapy, and **Alice D'Souza** is about to start her long series of surgeries. We wish both of them the best possible outcomes and complete recoveries.

The attendance drawing was won by **Alice Parker**, who was not present so the money will go back into the pot. The 50/50 prizes went to: 1st - **Judy Macklin**, 2nd - **Michael Hyde**, 3rd - **Jim Razmus**.

After some continued discussion of the Corona virus



situation, it was agreed that we would not schedule meetings in April or May, bringing us to the end of our "season". **Ginger Hyde** hopes she can start setting up meetings again in October, and wished everyone a safe and healthy summer.

Our normal schedule has the Sand Dollars meeting on the second Thursday of the month, October through May, and we welcome any new retirees or visiting retirees. For information call **Ginger Hyde** at (941) 360-6671, or email her at asdip920@aol.com.

... England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool ...

TAMPA BAY CHAPTER

Trinity, FL

Janis Lindstrom, Acting Secretary

587 Waterford Circle W.

Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

(727) 934-1862

LindeKatz@aol.com



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

Calendar:

May 4 - IHOP 10:30



TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL

Mary Kay Wetherington

(561) 345-6373

mwether7044@att.net

Due to illness, I wasn't able to attend the March 10th meeting. Thank you to President **Al Popek** for forwarding this information to me.

Because our long-awaited casino cruise was cancelled, it was decided that a March meeting would be held after all. 21 members had planned to attend but because of illness only 16 were able to be present. Among them were two of our "snowbirds" who we don't get to see often enough, **Fran D'Amico** and **Joyce Smith**. It was great seeing them back.

After a couple of cocktails and a filling lunch, President **Al Popek** brought the meeting to order with The Pledge Of Allegiance and a moment of silence for those who have passed away in our country from Covid-19.

Al received a note from **Dee & Arnie Lakso** sharing that they are on the mend and hope to join us soon. They miss being with everyone. We miss them as well.

Bob Langevin and **Sandy Ruggiero** told us about their recent trip to Las Vegas where they attended a fantastic Blake Shelton concert. **Pattie Connell** and **Tom Odom** recently returned from Los Angeles where they attended a reunion. **Janice & Al Popek** not long ago

were in Ocala, Florida for their son's birthday. I don't guess we'll be having anyone travel for awhile. Most of our members travel frequently and love cruising.

Jim & Janet Hanley called Al with some useful information. Since most of us are homebound, there is a service that will come to your house and draw blood. They are called Apex Laboratory Inc., (561) 279-1852 or 800-973-6691. This service is covered by Aetna.

Once again, the hot topic was the Aetna co-pays and how different doctors handle our new cards differently.

Vice President **Bob Langevin** and **David Damon** entertained everyone with some great jokes.

The 50/50 was won by **Bob Langevin**. The Progressive will roll over since winner **Jane Wise** was not in attendance to accept.

April birthdays include **Paul Liebisch**, **Carolyn Lindgren** and **Barbara Dodenhoff**.

May birthdays include **Fran Student**, **Jerry Zadar**, **David Lindgren** and **Tom Odom**.

Al wished all of our members and the entire United family safe and healthy days ahead and a Happy Easter & Passover. Due to Covid-19, all meetings are cancelled until further notice.

GEORGIA



DIXIE FLYERS

Metro Atlanta Georgia

Ron Heider

195 Evergreen Terrace, Rm 414

Stockbridge, GA 30281

(470) 878-6132

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of **Ron Heider**, the correspondent for the Dixie Flyers. Ron called us the seventh of every month to dictate the chapter report.

We enjoyed talking with him and felt he was a good friend, although we never met in person; he is greatly missed.

We extend our condolences his family and friends in the Dixie Flyers chapter.



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
brandyjake@cablone.net

Our meeting for April was cancelled to the Shelter in Place order. The next scheduled meeting is in June 2020. Hopefully, by then we will have our meeting.

Please everyone stay safe and Shelter in Place so that we can all get back to our routines.



ILLINOIS

CHICAGO SKYLINERS

www.chicagoskyliners.org
Chicagomainliner.com
Jan Gawenda
(847) 437-7073
jawenda@gmail.com



May - What a year we've had this month! Holy Cow, I still can't believe what this world is going through, and it doesn't look like it's going to end quickly. I hope you're all doing as suggested, staying home, keeping clean, and being extra careful with family, friends, and even strangers. Last month at this time, when I wrote my report, I don't think we realized how serious this would get. Unfortunately, we are all in this lovely age group that the press is calling 'elderly'. What? Elderly? Me? When did that happen? So, my friends, please take care of yourself, I don't want to lose any of my buddies, from Florida to Seattle, then down to San Diego and back east to Maine. Even I stayed home for five days, that's unheard of! Those of you that have contracted this disease, we are all so sad for you. Please take care, do as you're told, and we'll pray for your speedy recovery.

Let's see what's happening in May, pretty little May. It's National Barbeque, Bike, Blood Pressure, Hamburger, Salad, Pacific Islander and Older American's Month. Stop with the old people again! Most of us are very young thinking individuals, we can't help our bodies don't know that! All those noises we make when we get up could be put to music. We'd make the Top 40's, right along with, 'In the Mood', or 'Neck Bone Connected to the Shoulder bone, Connected to the Ulna, etc.', but it's not humerus. Starting off May is May Day, Mother Goose, Kentucky Derby, Star Wars, Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, Eat what you Want, Dance Like a Chicken, Armed Forces, Memorial Day (Thanks Soldiers), and Tap Dance Day. Will we celebrate them? No, but they're wacky enough for us to get out a little smile. **Charlie Lewis** can't figure out where I find these. Just for you, Charlie! We need a smile right now. I miss seeing the people in our breakfast groups. Now's the time to see if your friends need some food, medicine, or even an adult beverage. Maybe we just need to call, see how they're doing, and let them know that somebody cares. We could cheer up those who are feeling the effects of isolation and unable to get to the store, but so many now deliver groceries, meds, etc. Heck, **Ken Thiede** told me even Binny's delivers. We're not allowed to go to the beauty shop, church, dog groomers, funerals, visit the sick, or even to see our new great grandchild. That's so sad, stick with it another month, you'll be free again. Perhaps you're the one that

needs to make the call, let your friends know that you need a laugh or some comfort. To those of you who have contracted this disease, we are all so sad for you, please do your best to get well. We're in this together, that's the slogan these days. I'm feeling great, hope it stays that way. Stiff upper lip, folks!

Moving on, we got in a few gatherings before the Shelter in Place order went in. The Northside breakfast had a dozen people; **Bill Bergner** came back after an absence. Good to see you, Bill, he was just busy, not sick. **Bob Kalicki** announced he and **Pat** welcomed another great grandchild, Ian James. Bob & Pat met at the University of Utah, fell in love, and married 62 years ago. They had four children, 13 grandchildren, and now 10 great grandchildren. To me, Bob & Pat are one of the more loving and happily married couples that I know. Congratulations, many more years, and many more GG children! Also celebrating this month are **Toni & Darryl Van Kampen** with 35 years of wedded bliss. Wishing you many more years and fabulously interesting trips.

The IAM did have their Lunch Outing for St. Patrick's Day at Peggy Kinnane's, in Arlington Heights, 35 attended. **Larry & Mary Alice Parker** won the prize for the most unique 'Wearin' of the Green outfits'. **Dennis Zachara** won the new Attendance Incentive Raffle; it's an incentive for attendees to sign in. Some-time people are so anxious to sit with their friends; they forget to sign into the book.

The IAM, Southside, and ORDMM breakfasts were canceled for May, possibly June. In addition, our tours of Reservations and the Credit union were put on hold for a while. Our Spring luncheon went on with a reduced amount of people, but the food was good, the entertainer, Vito Zatto was very funny. Our Summer luncheon will be postponed until this Covid-19 is over, we'll just wait and see how it all plays out. **Bill Corbett**, VP of RUAEA Conventions, announced the September Convention in SAN, has been suspended for this year. The 2021 convention will be held in SAN, details will be announced later.

We have two new members of the Chicago Skyliners, **Debra Jaret**, ORDKG, and **Mary Barry**, ORDCS. Welcome ladies, hope to see you at our next event, whenever that might be!

Since we need some happy times, I'm going to pass on a few airline stories. Some of these are 50 years old, you might have heard them. A rather large lady came to Denver for a flight to Fresno. She gave the agent her bag; he marked down the code on the claim ticket for Fresno, which is FAT. She started screaming and crying, 'How dare you put down that I'm fat! How can you be so insensitive? Now everyone will know that the bag belongs to me'! He had to tell her that it was the three-letter code for Fresno Air Terminal. While we're on

codes, a man came to ORD, started yelling at the agent about something, who knows? He and his family were going to Hawaii, HNL, for a two-week vacation. He wanted to make sure everything was perfect, wanted seats together, etc. Yelling at an agent before you even got on the plane ain't the way to go. He insulted that UAL agent so badly; he made the baggage claim ticket out for HLN, Helen, Montana. Oops! Then there's the very old one of the female agent at ORD that was trying to rebook a planeload of passengers after a storm. The line was a mile long. A very disgruntled man tired of waiting, thinking a lot of himself, broke the line and said to the agent, 'I have a first class ticket, you should take care of me first! Do you know who I am?' the agent picked up her microphone and said, 'Ladies and gentlemen, we have a man at gate 9 who doesn't know who he is. Would you please come up, see if you know him, and tell him who he is.' The passengers in line started snickering and giggling. He was furious, he leaned over to her and said, 'Funny, go f--- yourself.' Without skipping a beat, she said, 'Sorry sir, you'll have to wait in line for that, too.' Gate agents have all the fun. Another arrogant passenger was giving a male agent at ORD a hard time, he wanting to be upgraded to a certain seat in first class, telling him other things, very pushy, being a jerk. The agent looked at this man's ticket, noticed the company name. He said, 'Oh, you work for ABC Company?' the jerk said, 'It's on the ticket, can't you read? What is United hiring these days?' So, the agent picked up the phone, dialed some numbers, and said, 'Hi dad, do you know Joe Schmo? Uh huh, yes, he's standing here at ORD, acting rather abusive to me, he wants this, and this, and that, then he called me dumb. Uh huh, sure. Mr. Schmo, Mr. President of your company would like to talk to you.' Mr. Schmo was beat red, took the phone, very quietly said, 'Yes, ok, uh huh, now? All right, I'll do that, sir.' He looked at the agent, said that his ticket wasn't good anymore, he had just been fired. Mr. Jerk asked if he could buy a ticket with his own credit card. He had to find another way home. Lesson learned, make sure whom you're talking to before you make a fool of yourself. Ahh, always liked that story. On the other side of the spectrum, **Norm Wilkinson** tells of a 100,000 miler down at Midway who was like a part of the staff. If it got busy, he'd be behind the counter checking bags! This is an odd one from **Virginia Monaco**, a Jewish Rabbi wanted to pay for his ticket at ORD with a blank check that had no info on it except the routing and account number, no name, address, bank name, plus, he had no ID on him to verify anything. He didn't understand what the problem was. The supervisor asked all kind of questions, with no good answers. Finally, she said, 'Rabbi, maybe you'll understand this, your check just isn't Kosher'. That he understood!

Let's move on to Reservations, CHIRR. A few odd ones come to mind. In the 60's, a couple came to Chicago from LAX for a family event, on an excursion fare, based on a round trip. The man died while here. His wife, of course, very upset, wanted to go home, and bury her husband. She asked how the transportation would work for him; say the ticket was \$200, she thought she'd pay half, the other half would go to the cargo fee. Our agent explained that excursion ticket rules were based on a round trip. The fare to Chicago was normally \$150, so the lady would only get \$50 back. She would have to pay the remainder for his shipping. The poor woman was frantic, she had no money, didn't want to ask her children. She thought about it for a while, came up with a solution. She wanted to put him in a wheel chair, let him on the flight first, in the rear of the plane so nobody would see him, then put a plastic bag on him, so no one would be offended or notice him. Ahhh, no, we can't do that, ma'am. I'm sure she found the money somehow. If you worked afternoons or midnights, you could always count on heavy breathers, asking you to keep talking. Huh, what? Oohhh, ok, I understand. Click, they were cut off ... A lot of that occurred on weekends. Hope these little vignettes cheered you up a bit, and you thought public contact was so much fun!

Our donors for our various funds include, Postage Fund: **Kathy Loftus, Marlene Anderson, Bob Chance, Grace Witt, Lillian Mallstrom, Donna Wade, Gilberto Romero, Dianne Thompson, Kay Towns, Ted Jung, Bob Bugos, Joan Teister, Don Carl, Sue Zuccarello, Bill Hamilton, Linda Kim, Pat Muha, Virginia Monaco, Larry Parker, Ann Pepper, Modesta Sailer, Helen Cauwels, Jackie Anderson, Marsha Sealock-Weber, Lynn Hagele, Dee Capitelli, Anna Wozniak.** Website: **Marlene Anderson, Bob Chance, Jim Sommeffeld, Lillian Mallstrom, Diane Webb, Delphine Perry, Ken Thiede, Dianne Thompson, Ginny Vlach, Ted Jung, Bob Bugos, Joan Teister, Sue Zuccarello, Bill Hamilton, Linda Kirn, Pat Muha, Toni Van Kampen, Virginia Monaco, Larry Parker, Modesta Sailer, Marlene Stanek, Terri Martin, Marsha Sealock-Weber, Dee Capitelli.** Entertainment Fund: **John Kozlik, Marlene Anderson, Bob Chance, Gene Hinnners, Jim Sommerfield, Lillian Mallstrom, Diane Webb, Gilberto Romero, Dianne Thompson, Ginny Vlach, Ted Jung, Bob Bugos, Joan Teister, Bob Kalicki, Bill Hamilton, Linda Kirn, Pat Muha, Toni Van Kampen, Virginia Monaco, Renee Jackus, Modesta Sailer, Peggy Maromaty, Terri Martin, Frank Rainer, Marsha Sealock-Weber, Jerry Tipperreiter, JoAnn Giannini, Lynn Hagele, Dee Capitelli, Anna Wozniak.**

Friends that flew West last month were, **James Hartigan**, former president and CEO of UAL in the

80's. He was instrumental in acquiring Pan Am, and oversaw the development of our first computerized reservation system. **Dick Arnold**, ORDHH, supervisor, manager and vice president of the ORD kitchens, **Nancy Herschberger**, ORDFB/BM, Capt **Gary Salman**, and **Mary Peterson**, wife of **Glen**, ORDFO, 'Mimi' **Lynne Sierra**, wife of **Rick**, ORDMM, **Carol Nanna**, ORDSC, **Cathy Matteson**, ORD/PITIT, she passed in 2019, **Elroy Hilbert**, he passed in 2016. Also gone from our world include, Lyle Waggoner, Curley Neal (Globetrotters), Joseph Lowery, John Callahan, Joe Diffie, John Prine, Ellis Marsalis, Adam Schlesinger (songwriter), White Sox announcer, Ed Farmer, Max Van Sydow, Honor Blackman, Stuart Whitman, Terrence McNally (playwright), David Schramm (Wings), Chicago pastor, Lucius Hall, Victor Skrebneski (photographer), and two more great singers joining that heavenly choir, Bill Withers and Kenny Rogers, an enormous loss.

Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Elly's Restaurant, 8:30 A.M., 372 E. Golf Rd., Arlington Heights, IL (**May 13**). Second Wednesday of the month.

Southside Breakfast - Jedi's Restaurant, 9:30 A.M., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn. (**May 26**). Last Tuesday of the month.

IAM Lodge 1487 - 50 W. Oakton, Des Plaines, (**June 4**), 11:00 A.M. First Thursday of the month.

RUPA Lunch - Golf Club of Illinois, 11:00 cocktails, 12:00 Lunch; 1575 Edgewood Drv, Algonquin, Tuesday, (**May 12**)

June 16 - Skyliner's Summer Lunch. The Avalon, 11:00 cocktails, 12:00 Lunch, 1905 Higgins Rd., Elk Grove, Tuesday.

INDIANA



INDY RACERS

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

The RUAEA Indy Racers chapter March and April meetings are canceled due to coronavirus precautions. As a result, there is no news to report.

Our May 12th meeting will occur only if the coronavirus social distancing restrictions are lifted. We wish all to stay safe and take all precautions to stay healthy.

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

Dependent upon social distancing restrictions being

lifted, our next RUAEA Indy Racers chapter meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 12th at Emmy's Pancake House and Grill, 7508 Beechwood Center Road, Avon, IN 46123. If in the area please consider joining us.

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

- May 12, at Emmy's
- June 9, at Emmy's
- July 7, at Emmy's
- August 11, at Emmy's
- September 8, at Emmy's

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

MASSACHUSETTS

NOR'EASTERS

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



Greetings all! It's **Dick Vee**, I have not been writing since my stroke on November 23, 2017. I'm no longer typing 85 words a minute, but one finger hunt and peck. No one wants to step up and take the officers positions to keep the Nor'Easters going. **Carleen Eddy** was President for 17 years. **Bill Vanderwal** is the Treasurer for 20 years and still counting. I was secretary for 18, until my stroke. Bill and I are trying something new to keep the chapter going, Nor'Easter Light.

We are cutting the dues 50% and only holding two meetings a year, Spring and Christmas. We are putting out requests for a little assistance occasionally from members. We'll let you know how it works out.

No meeting, so no meeting news. However, I did get some info from our members: **Mercedes Hersom** enjoyed her 65th class reunion, especially meeting with old dear friends. Despite the high number, Merce says she's feeling a lot younger!

Nothing much goes on in Vermont, says **Mary Beth McDermot**. But her husband, **Staley**, has given her a surprise gift for her birthday, a trip to New York City. The best part for her is tickets to see Hamilton. Enjoy Beth!

Sara Pitt-Wooll is planning to go to Cyprus in May. She will spend a week with the family that lives there. She needs the vacation as she holds down two jobs after UAL retirement.

Jayne & John Regan returned from two months in Florida and downsized to a senior community in Bed-

ford, New Hampshire. Downsizing was a lot of work, but they love their new home. Sad news, in April, Jayne had a hip replacement. Hang in Jayne.

Joan Twing, living close to northern Florida, says this has been the mildest winter. Early March proved beach weather, unusual. Her son and future daughter-in-law vacationed with her; she is looking forward to her son's wedding in four months.

Old is when a sexy babe or hunk catches your fancy and your pacemaker opens the garage door!

May's birthdays ~ **John Dellelo**, **Peggy Dellelo**, **Ron Heiseler**, **Joan Meister**, **Patty Flanagan Mix**, **Andy Montalyo**, **Jayne Regan** and **Lewis Shakley**.

May's anniversaries ~ **Bib & Susan DePippo** (36 years), **Mary Beth & Staley McDermot** (49), **Thomas & Lilian Snyder** (35) and **Bill & Elaine Vanderwal** (50).

Calendar:

May 5 - Tuesday, Jevelli's, East Boston, Massachusetts

MICHIGAN

GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

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



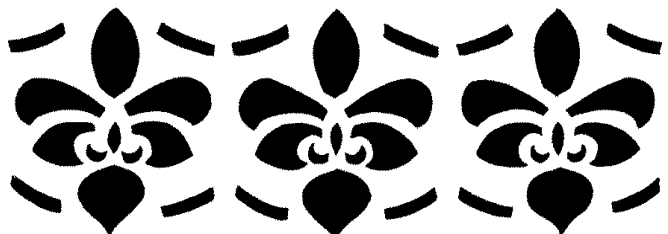
Our DTWRR family is mourning the death of retiree **Sandi Cox**. She passed away on March 13. Cards may be sent to her husband, **Don Cox**, 9405 Jackson, St. Helen, MI 48656. Memorial services are to be held at a later date.

Larry Beers' mother, **Nellie Beers**, passed away recently in Ohio. Larry retired from DTWRR.

Olga Soroka, mother of employee **Irene Szuper**, DTWRR and the late **Pat Soroka**, who ran the cafeteria in the reservation office in Dearborn, died on March 24, 2020. A celebration of her life will be held later this year.

Our sympathies to our dear friends. Please remember them and all that are in need of our support, encouragement and prayers.

The retiree luncheons for March and April were cancelled. We will advise when we can start them up again.



MINNESOTA

NORTHERN LITES

Connie Glattly
82300 Wold Road
Willow River, MN 55795
(218) 349-3972
crglatty@frontiernet.net



Yea! Had a little better turnout in March. Maybe my tsk, tsk, tsk-ing and guilt-dumping worked.

We didn't really have a meeting but that's OK. **Bud Ayres** did the raffle and we had lots of visiting, so it was a good time.

Sick List ~ **Fred & Rita Stang** reported that **Mike Cunningham's** doctors have pronounced him cancer-free but his joints gave him so much grief that he had to have a replacement surgery. **Cindy & John White** both landed in the hospital and rehab center for awhile. Latest news from **Janet Meyer** is that Cindy will be home soon, but John cannot, yet. Our friends, **Lyle & Sonja Gunderson** have had a lousy winter ~ successful brain surgery for Lyle followed by some complications afterward which necessitated more surgery. Now we're into the virus isolation and Sonja's at home, Lyle's in the Acute Care unit with no visitors allowed. **Al & Mary Kilian** are muddling along like the rest of us. At their assisted living condo, their meals are delivered. Again, no visitors, even family members.

Mary & Jim Brennan made it back from their annual getaway to Kona just before the chaos started. Although, I must say, getting stranded on the Big Island doesn't sound too bad to me.

No April meeting, of course. Stay safe and healthy, everyone. Call or email me with news.

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

NEBRASKA

OMAHA GOLDENEARS

Jan Cornish
(402) 571-6031
kcornish6031@msn.com



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

NEVADA

LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

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



After much thought and concern for our members, we the Silverliners Board, has determined that we "Cancel the April 9th Luncheon" due to the threat of the Corona virus and its effect on Seniors. Our age group is the most susceptible to this virus with deadly consequences for those that become exposed to it. Treasurer **Jeannie Rolland** and I have worked with the management of Giuseppe's and they understand the nationwide concern for this virus and its effects on this group of Seniors. We will closely monitor the conditions relating to the virus and plan the next Luncheon when the safety of our members is not at risk.

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

RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

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



There were 10 members at our March meeting at The Black Bear Diner.

Barbara Leusing will be checking with Miguel's in South Reno about our September luncheon in May.

March birthdays were celebrated by **Norm Borchers** and **Gary Wendland**. The 50/50 raffle was won by **Lynda Klemm**. The wine was won by **Dottie Robbins**.

A huge "Thank You" to **Kathy Robinson** for hosting the meeting in our absence.

John and I spent 4 days in Capitola and 5 days in Kona. We stayed at Waikoloa, known by the locals as Waikablowa – and I can see why. The trades rivaled our Washoe Zephyr for gust strength. We returned just prior to the shutdown of Nevada.

Our next meeting scheduled for April 13 has been cancelled due to the shelter in place order by Governor Sisalak. We hope to see you on May 11 at The Black Bear Diner on S. Virginia St at 11:30 a.m.

NEW JERSEY

THE GARDEN STATERS

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



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

NEW YORK

BUFFALO CHIPS



BUFFALO CHIPS

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

We had a meeting planned for the 19th of February but before we could really get it going all the attendees cancelled because of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 crisis. We are planning our next meeting for June and will see how that works out.

Stay well and 6 feet away from the world.

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

NEW YORK METROS

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



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



OHIO

OHIO BUCKEYES



www.ualohiobuckeyes.com
Judy McKnight
Secretary
ualohbuckeyes@gmail.com

Our retirees gathered on Wednesday, March 4th to have lunch at the Brown Derby restaurant in Middleburg Hts. We had 51 members that attended. There were 3 cancellations because of health issues. Our hosts were **Judy & Jeff Spooner**. President **Dolly Taucher** led us in saying Grace. It was good to see **Steve Pytel** back after his surgery. Three of our members, **Barb Vauls**, **Cheryl McLin** and **Carol Tymke** are still dealing with illnesses. We have many members dealing with health issues. Please keep them in your prayers.

Rudy & Marie Pivik attended our February 5th luncheon and about 2 weeks later, Marie came down with pneumonia and about 10 days later, on February 28th, 2020 she passed away. Marie had worked for United Airlines for 23 years in the Flight Kitchen. Marie will truly be missed by many.

Our 50/50 drawing was held and the winners were **Candy Kane** and **Mary Lou Mack**.

None of our members had a March Birthday and only one couple, **Vince & Norma Malena** had an Anniversary, celebrating 53 years.

One week after our March luncheon, the Coronavirus had started to hit our country. Our members are our number one priority. The officers made the decision that our chapter would cancel our April and May luncheons. Then we will monitor the progression of the situation before making any additional cancellations or postponement until this fall. Dolly did contact our June through August destinations to discuss the issue with them, and setting up the game plan and possible cancellations or movement into the fall. Any additional cancellations will be decided upon at the appropriated time. I must say that the responses from members to our quick actions were all positive, expressing their appreciation. Although our members love attending our luncheons, their health and safety is more important than any luncheon. Please note that we have cancelled our website. The cost has been increased to more than double. Therefore, if anyone needs to contact us, you may do so by emailing us at the email address above.

We hope that everyone stays in and safe. We pray to "God", to keep everyone safe. And we Ohio Buckeyes know that "He" does hear our prayers.

Calendar:

June 3 – Old Oak Bible Church / Helms Hall, hosted by **Jeff & Judy Spooner**

July 1 – Nautica Queen luncheon cruise, hosted by
George & Nancy Oncu

OREGON

OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland
Terry Hotchkin
20201 NE 179th Court
Battle Ground, WA 98604
(360) 687-3465
tthotchkin@gmail.com



As I assume most of the groups did, we canceled our March meeting and now that the restaurants have been closed during our shelter in place order, our April meeting has also been cancelled, so we have no information for the newsletter.

We hope all of you are staying safe and well and taking the shelter in place orders seriously!

Calendar:

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

May 13 - Social



OUR CLUB

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

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

PENNSYLVANIA

THE INDEPENDENTS

Philadelphia, PA
Joyce W. Lindenmuth
Wesley Enhanced Living
100 Halcyon Dr., Room C-107
Media, PA 19063
(610) 521-2291
joycewildenmuth@gmail.com



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



PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

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

Unfortunately, the March 18th Pit-Stoppers luncheon had to be cancelled due to concerns over the COVID-19 emergency. Our thanks to **Julie McConaghy** for the festive St. Patrick's Day invitations that she created for the luncheon. There were 18 members who had planned to attend but we decided it was better to be safe than sorry.

Treatie Karwoski was surprised and delighted by a recent visitor, **Dennis Kelley**, former PITCS supervisor and MDTOZ & BWIOZ station manager, was visiting from Maryland and stopped by to say hello. The timing was good as the visit took place prior to Treatie's facility going on lockdown. Dennis's daughter **Denise Kelley** was an Account Manager with Apollo/Covia/Galileo group reporting to **Mary Jane Stewart**, Great Lakes Regional Manager.

Bill Chicots reports that he is still leading the volunteer fire company during the COVID-19 emergency and the firefighters under him are strongly practicing social distancing as much as possible; they disinfect themselves and their equipment after each emergency call. He stresses to follow the CDC's, your state and local government recommendations for keeping yourself safe.

April Birthdays ~ **Mary Solamon**, **Mitch Abbas**, and **Dave Detwiler**.

TENNESSEE

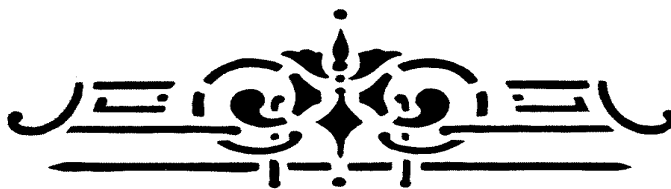
TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS

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



March was the last meeting of the Emerald City Slickers, our Seattle RUAEA chapter, for this meeting year – September-May. Only 19 members braved the threat of illness to attend and the April and May meetings were canceled shortly thereafter, with the entire State of Washington shut down by COVID-19 caused by the novel coronavirus.

Schools are closed until September for Washington students and teachers. As in many other cautious states, seniors will miss their proms and graduation ceremonies, but diplomas will be awarded to those students in good standing. We applaud all the efforts being continued to educate our children electronically and others offering friendship and support.

Prior to lunch, Co-President **Ken Storey** opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Though Ken announced our annual picnic in July, those plans remain in limbo – and in jeopardy - while members follow the progress (and, hopefully, the regress!) of the virus situation. It wouldn't be much fun if we had to sit at the beautiful lakefront property designated as the picnic's location if we had to stay 6 feet away from each other.

As you might have guessed, there was much discussion over the changes to Aetna insurance coverage and the change to PPO status. **Ken Tank** provided information that was followed by comments on the successful or failed experiences by others who dealt with medical billing during the early months of the year. Suggestions for handling prescriptions were printed in the April Con-trails, with specific information on how to obtain or re-fill prescriptions when we're unable to see a doctor.

Without meeting news, let's get back to Member

Highlights, as presented in the chapter newsletter. These mini-biographies are included here only when there isn't much else to report, and your correspondent is almost two years behind!

This month's "victim" is **Kathie Torgison**, well-known to members of the UAL family and author of "Torgy's Travel Tips" that you read right here in the RUAEA Newsletter.

In her own words, Kathie claims that *"the travel bug bit early when, at the age of 2, I climbed the fence and headed up the street to see what was happening in the big world! That urge to travel and learn guided me through my studies at the University of Washington in Seattle and Phillipps Universitat in Marburg, Germany. A Phi Beta Kappa scholar majoring in German and Geography with teaching certification, I intended to share my knowledge in the public school system. But fate intervened, and I was hired as an interpreter by Pan Am in 1973. Two years later, United Airlines lured me to the Friendly Skies where I spent the next 32 years. My first assignment was in SEARR – reservations.*

"United was on the cusp of innovation in the mid '70s introducing computers into the travel agency community ... We worked directly with hardware and software computer technicians ... [and] had to learn all this from scratch. And that's where my future husband, Gary [Torgison] comes into the picture."

(We'll profile Gary in another issue, but here is more of Kathie's story. She writes so beautifully that I had hoped she might be persuaded to take over this column – but others talked her into serving as co-president before I got around to that! Gay)

"I was lucky to be among the first group of instructors assigned to teach travel agents how to use Apollo in the US and Canada. A few years later, UA introduced the product to Europe. I was chosen as part of a 5-member team based in Paris, to provide the technical expertise needed to UA's sales department to sell contracts for Apollo to travel agencies in 11 countries. What a marvelous assignment that was! My apartment was located at 22 Place Vendome, across the plaza from the Ritz Hotel Paris!

... Meanwhile, after a couple of years as instructor for City Ticket Offices, I worked in Sales for a while and then I moved to airport customer service as Senior Instructor of Airport Operations Training reporting to WHQTD, but residing in SEA. Following the merger with Pan Am and subsequent further expansion, international stations from Taiwan to Saigon, Sydney to Shanghai, Dublin to Düsseldorf were my home, as I would spend 3 to 5 weeks at a time teaching new employees the United way of service."

Kathie retired in 2007 and immediately volunteered to staff the UA Retiree Travel Desk in Seattle. Though she and others tried to keep the Travel Desk alive, it was

disbanded by management, after which Kathie and two other retirees offered classes on the Flying Together website in local libraries to help our aging retiree population keep up with emerging ways to use the site for listing and ticketing.

*"In 2013, I assumed the duties previously handled by retiree **Bob Brumfield** in the national RUAEA newsletter by authoring articles 6 times a year."*

Be sure to read Torgy's Travel Tips whenever they appear.

In addition to the usual bottles of wine, door prizes included shamrock plants and decorated cookies in honor of St. Patrick's Day. The 50/50 raffle was canceled to avoid handling of cash that, it has been warned, can transmit germs. **Eddy Karr** "got his money back" upon winning the free luncheon for March.

Even if we're all still staying safe from the coronavirus, Happy Mother's Day!

Calendar:

Chapter meeting cancelled until September



LILAC CITY FLYERS

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

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



There is no report this month from the Dulles Loungers chapter of RUAEA.



NATIONAL



CLIPPED WINGS

Peggy Griffin
CW Vice President
cwpeggygriffin@gmail.com

Hello RUAEA,

In the Winter 2020 issue of Clipped Wings Newsletter, our imaginative editor, **Bev Bunn**, asked members to share stories of Mischief, Mistakes, and Mishaps. What a great idea! Boy, was she given a book load of stories. Some of them just leave you shaking your head ... misspoken welcome announcements ... "Welcome to the "shitty of Cigago", and on today's flight we will be serving "snacktails and cocks". Passenger on the wrong flight ... one lady thought it odd that they would fly over the Grand Canyon going from LAX to HNL. Plane was actually going to JFK. Ooops ... So many stories ... and a few where the names were changed to protect the guilty.

April turned out to be a month of decision making ... some hard and other decisions were easy, too easy.

Clipped Wings made the difficult decision to cancel their PDX 2020 Convention until 2022. So much work goes into planning and organizing that it is sad to see all that wonderful effort now put on hold. Thankfully, the hotel is working with us to make that decision easier and more palatable. Even our Executive Board meeting was postponed, we may have to "Facetime" or "Slack" or "Zoom" the meeting.

The easier decisions were to "Stay Home"

Starting in the middle of March all Clipped Wings Chapter meetings were canceled until further notice. That decision was based on the fact that just days after one meeting three members of the CHI-ORD Chapter tested positive for COVID-19. Each person had varying degrees ... one very mild, another was serious but was able to stay home to recuperate and the other was hospitalized for more than 2 weeks fighting for her life. As of this writing, she is recovering and making plans to come home from the hospital. Hooray!

We all are going through this unimaginable time in our history that has brought us closer together, but not physically. Please remember to stay home. If you need to go out, wear a mask, keep your distance and wash your hands. If, you see Toilet Paper, buy it ... it might not be there the next time ...

This virus hit close to me and I want everyone to **stay safe, be safe!**

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

NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME TO RUAEA! We hope you will enjoy the activities and camaraderie. The organization would appreciate hearing from you on your renewal date

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

Barnett, Judy, SFOCE, 670 Cameron Way, Susanville, CA 96130
Dove, Pedro, DENFO, 15756 SW 141 St., Miami, FL 33196
Fossella, Joan, NYCRR, 206 Columbia St., Wood Ridge, NJ 07075
Kennedy, William, SFOPD, 4592 Minnesota Ave., Fair Oaks, CA 95628
Penty, John E., DCASW, 187 Foxhound Run Rd., Aiken, SC 29803
Scaletta, Alfred J., ORDCG, 1430 Braewood Drive, Algonquin, IL 60102
Scaletta, Sandy, 1430 Braewood Drive, Algonquin, IL 60102
Shanklin, Kevin, PHXCS, 1108 West Monte Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85210
Snediker, Nancy M., WHQKO, 26416 S. Lakeside Dr., Sun Lakes, AZ 85248
Weatherby, Joseph, JFKFO, 2263 Northampton Rd., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223■



Get the Newsletter HCJ off the press! Sign up to receive the Newsletter on the Web today - It's updated 2-3 weeks before the paper Newsletter is mailed.

Also an added benefit to receiving the Newsletter on the Web is that back issues can be accessed.

To sign up for the Web, go to www.ruaea.org and follow the instructions.

CONTRIBUTIONS

The association acknowledges contributions to the postal fund from the following members:

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

Jacqueline M. Anderson, Boyd L. Ashcraft, Judy Barnett, Mary G. Brennan, Ralph L. Brick, La Verne M. Burke, Richard E. Cornman, David J. Cranfield, Karla T. Cushing, Richard L. Dean, James Dite, Lewis A. Dunning, Joseph C. Fitak, Steven Foster, C. Sam Geiger, Wanda J. Huber, Joseph Kalata, Lynn Kalweit, Richard T. Kato, Orville J. Keip, Shirley A. Keister, Marcella Kern, Lyn M. Kerns, Nora M. Kocsis, Norma M. Kopel, Janet I. Lutus, Jose L. Martinez, Steven Mayo, Doris L. Munger, Gloria P. Odendhal, Betty J. Opbroek, Richard R. Pendleton, John E. Penty, Dolores N. Pitts, James A. Rotella, Rechie S. Santander, Pamela Sheffield, Jean J. Smith, Lorna J. Smith, Pascal C. Soriano, James C. Spate, Lee Storlie, Carol Suminski, Jackie Szymanski, Roberta R. Tidmore, Mary E. Betty Tomaino, Gayle M. Vancora Charley, Jocelyn Vena, Carolyn B. Walter, Norman Walton, James A. Weber, Jay Weimer, Dolores C. (Dee) Whately, Clarence H. Whitesell, John Whittaker, Carolyn Whitworth, Joseph Wiederholt, Herbert C. Wilbanks, Fred S. Wise.■



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 – **Ahern, Kenneth R.**, on 3/29/2020, BOSCG, husband of Joanne R. Ahern, 14819 Darbbydale Ave., Woodridge, VA 22193

Retiree – **Arnold, Richard “Dick” G.**, on 3/29/2020, ORDHK, husband of Eleanor J. Arnold and M. Joan Arnold (deceased), 501 Kazimour Dr., Lake Barrington, IL 60010

Retiree – **Fairley, Carl W.**, on 2/7/2020, ORDMM, special friend of Okie Petkus, brother of Merle, Morton, Earl and Delores Clark, 338 E. State St., Paxton, IL 60957

Retiree – **Hartigan, James J.**, on 3/28/2020, WHQPO, husband of Ann Hartigan, 3000 Garlands Ln., Unit 3452, Barrington, IL. James was a former United President and CEO. His time with United spanned from 1945 to 1988. James was an accomplished man, overseeing the development of

United's first computerized reservation system and expansion of routes to Asia and the acquisition of Pan-Am's Pacific's routes. He was always looking to the future.

Retiree – **Heider, Ronald J.**, on 3/8/2020, FLLCG, husband of Margaret Heider (deceased), father of Janice Carter, 398 N. Ora Rd., McDonough, GA 30252

Retiree – **Hershberger, Nancy J. “Dragon Lady”**, on 3/18/2020, ORDPV, wife of Daniel E. Hershberger, 2813 S. Briarwood Dr. W., Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Retiree – **Matteson, Catherine “Cathy”**, on 6/30/2019, PITPI, mother of Shelli (James) Geizheiser, Stephan (Susan) Zajacs and Heather Cavallo-DiYanni, Moon Township, PA

Spouse – **Sierra, Mimi Lynne**, on 3/27/2020, wife of Rick Sierra, ORDMM, 605 E. Turner St., Roselle, IL 60172

Spouse – **Wallace, Patricia K.**, on 12/30/2019, wife of Ronald A. Wallace, SFOOX, 296 Shearwater Isle, Foster City, CA 94404



Letters & Notes



Hi members,
I'm the person who edits the letters and notes you send for the Newsletter. Your letters and notes 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 Editor
7401 MLK Blvd.
Denver, CO 80207-2433
marthagoose@comcast.net

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

Mary Brennan, Pamela Celan, Linda Davis, Richard Dean, James Dite, Katryn Flynn, Judith Hart, Jesse Hicks, Shirley Kagel, Victoria Lee, Janet Lutus, Sally Van Cleave Mendralla, Frank Osborn, Joe Saladino, Randy Tidmore, Norman Walton.

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.)

Francis Domaratus, 1972 Somerdale Cir., Roseville, CA 95661

As Veronica and I edit the monthly RUAEA newsletter, I see the names of people that I worked with at United. Sometimes their names appear in the obits. When reading their names my mind wanders to the time when I had worked with these people. I remember when there were difficult problems at hand to solve. Sometimes we had to look at those problems from many different approaches/angles to solve the problem at hand. Sometimes we did not succeed and had to pass it on to the next shift or have it deferred.

After 37 years at United, I met and worked with a great many people because I had the good luck of their friendship while I was in 3 different areas of maintenance and different stages of life. I enjoyed my time in

SFO Maintenance, Line Maintenance and the Radio Shop. I worked as a mechanic and a lead mechanic in those 3 areas. I probably thought that I would see those people again to tell them how great they are but can only think of how great they were, because they are gone and only a memory now.

One of those people was **Bill Copley**. Bill was "E Pluribus Unum". I went with Bill on some of his raids. "Copleys Raiders" was the infamous label that was put on Bill's actions. You would hear "watch out, here comes Copley's Raiders. We went from the line to the maintenance base to find a part to get an aircraft out of town.

I have met one of these people at a RUAEA convention that experienced one of Bill's "raids". He told me that he understands now that Bill's infamous action at that time he experienced it, was now, not infamous at all.

When I was a lead on the line, I used my training with Bill to seek out and try to do the same thing, get an aircraft out of town.

I experienced a great many talented and kind people at United.

While being a member of RUAEA, I have met the same kind of people. I can look back now and can say "the beat goes on".

Martha Mott, 1016 29th St. NW, #168, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

The year of 2019 was not a good one for me, so let's hope 2020 is an improvement.

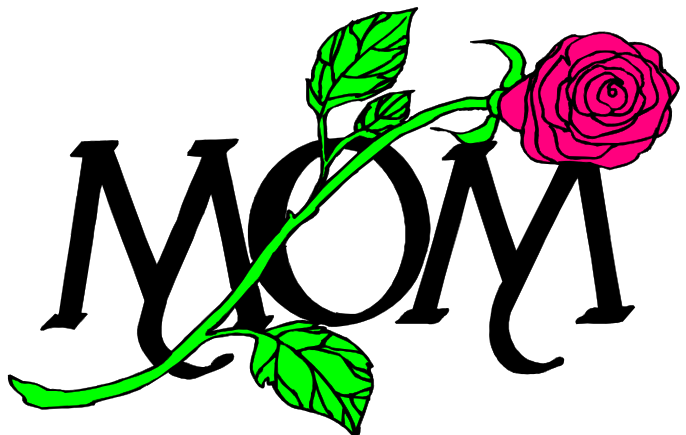
I don't know what is happening at United, if I don't get the newsletter. Thanks to all of you who make the newsletter possible.

Delores Pitts, 2305 Sigwalt St., Rolling Mdws, IL 60008

Sorry to be so late.

My 57 year old special needs daughter and I have both had health issues since October 2019 and still ongoing. Hopefully next year will be a better one.

Keep up the good work.



Notes

Barbara Donneaud

I am now fully retired after 35+ years with UAL and 12 years as a real estate agent. Now I volunteer at my local shelter with the cats every week. I have 3 of my own at home. I enjoy keeping up with my flying partners, even the sad parts. We had the best of it, memories that I cherish.

Lewis Dunning

It is hard to believe that it has been 19 years since I retired and that I will soon reach that big 80 mile stone.

Connie and I are doing well here in the "Big Sky" country of Montana.

Thanks to all who keep the newsletter and RUAEA going.

We hope to see many at the annual convention.

Sam Geiger

In April 1961, I was employed by Capital Airlines, who was then acquired by United Airlines. After working for UAL for 39 years, I retired in Grand Rapids, MI with my wife, Carol.

During those 39 years, we lived in 8 different states plus CA while in the Army.

Richard Householder

I retired 22 years ago but let my membership lapse.

Carol Suminski

I so enjoy keeping up with RUAEA, especially now in these trying times.

United has been a gateway to so many adventures with my husband, Tony (who passed in August 2018). The information from RUAEA keeps me connected.

Gladys Willis

I enjoy living the "Life of Riley". I truly miss one of the best airlines, United.



Important Phone Numbers



Updated 05/2020

United Airlines Benefits Center (Central Time)

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

United Employee Service Center

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

1-847-825-3729 - International Use

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

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

Employee Travel Center

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

Flying Together Help Desk

1-800-255-5801

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

Aetna Medicare Advantage 1-866-246-8088

BC/BS 1-800-535-9825

PBGC - for all retiree pension questions

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

Social Security Administration

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

Alliant Credit Union

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

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)

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