



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



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## 2024 Reunion, September 27 - October 2



**W**e have many events planned for our 2024 San Diego Reunion: In addition to tours to some of San Diego's famous landmarks; we have a Hospitality Room that's always open with tables and snacks, along with a nightly cash bar. This year, the Friendship Night will feature a Western Theme accompanied by a Country Band; plan to wear your western garb and join in on the fun and dancing. Our Banquet Night will have a Broadway theme, there will be no required attire but you could make it into an elegant night if you wish. The evening will feature a full

dinner and back by popular demand; the *American Fly Boys Orchestra* will provide great music for your listening and dancing pleasure.

The Business Meeting where we will present to you the current status of RUAEA as an organization; finances, and items you may have to approve on by voting. Most importantly, our Benefits Panel will again be part of the Reunion agenda. RUAEA is the only UA retirement organization that offers this information panel, sponsored by UAL. The panel includes current UAL employees representing Travel Benefits, HR, Insurance, Cyber Security and other departments that UAL decides to present.

We always have representatives from the Alliant Credit Union, presenting information on their current status, upcoming news, and investment help.

All the presenters will have breakout sessions for your own particular questions or needs. This is one of the primary reasons people attend our Event/Reunion. Please come and participate in the events of your choice; as well as enjoying the camaraderie of your former co-workers and our wonderful host city, San Diego.



*The American Fly Boys*



Last but not least, for planning purpose, I would like to know if anyone would be interested in a 7-day cruise following our Reunion. This cruise is the Royal Caribbean's "Navigator of the Seas", departing Los Angeles on October 4<sup>th</sup>; the itinerary includes Ensenada, Cabo, and Mazatlán. If there is enough interest, I will attempt to get a group rate. You can find more information on [www.royalcaribbean.com](http://www.royalcaribbean.com) and [Cruises.com](http://Cruises.com).

The Reunion ends on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and you could stay an extra night at the Dana at the contracted rate of \$135.00 per night; then fly or bus to LAX on the 4<sup>th</sup>. If you decide to go ahead with this plan, the booking would be on your own; I will get an online and phone number to accomplish this. If you are interested, please contact me as early as possible at (253) 653-5946 or [henrygosselin@comcast.net](mailto:henrygosselin@comcast.net). Also, you can let any RUAEA Board member know if you are interested. ■



*Hank Gosselin* – RUAEA VP Conventions

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### Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter

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

Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to John Chu at [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com) and [ruaeaml@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaeaml@qwestoffice.net). If sent by U.S. Mail, address to 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.*

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## GENERAL NEWS

**WWW.RUAEA.ORG**

### RUAEA Elections



It has been some time since RUEA had an election; the main reason is there have been no candidates. Most recent positions have been filled by appointments. Yes, we would like to have members interested in one of our elected positions.

The Policy & Procedures Manual has recently been updated, making the Executive Board the Election Committee; the Committee is responsible to approve a candidate for election or appointment. The Policy and Procedures Manual contains the Nominee Form used for this purpose.

A prospective candidate must have some basic skills for the respective position. If you have an interest in serving, please contact one of the Board Members to obtain a Nominee Form and provide an explanation of the position you are interested in.

Some of the Board members have been involved with RUEA in several positions for 20 years or more. It is mainly because we want RUEA to survive; we like what we are doing, and we enjoy the camaraderie.

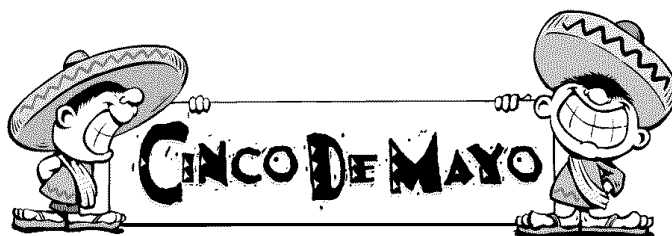
The two main functions RUEA provides are the monthly Newsletter and the Annual Convention or Reunion as it's been called recently. The main objective of the Board is to continue to provide both of these functions to the membership.

In the spirit of full disclosure, I'd like to say that serving on any one of the elected positions takes commitment and dedication. There is a time commitment and meetings, as well as some travels. Again, if you're interested, we can have OJT if you remember On the Job Training. You can give it a try before committing.

We recently have RUPA and ARECA participate in our events; but they remain their own entity and maintain their respective organizations just as we do. We really welcome them as they both have provided support to our recent Reunions.

Hank Gosselin

RUEA VP of Conventions and Past President



## **Managing the Risk of Outliving Your Money**

**By Malcolm Horn, CFP®**



**“What is your greatest retirement fear?”** If you ask some pre-retirees this question, “outliving my money” may be one of the top answers. In fact, 45% of workers say they fear outliving their savings and investments.<sup>1</sup>

**Retirees face greater “longevity risk” today.** The Census Bureau says that Americans typically retire around age 62 for women and 65 for men. Social Security projects that today’s 63-year-olds will live into their mid-eighties, on average. This is a mean life expectancy, so while some of these seniors may pass away earlier, others may live past 90 or 100.<sup>2,3</sup> If your retirement lasts 20, 30, or even 40 years, how well do you think your retirement savings will hold up? What financial steps could you take in your retirement to try and prevent those savings from eroding? As you think ahead, consider the following possibilities and realities.

**How will Social Security work in the future?** For decades, Social Security took in more dollars per year than it paid out. That ongoing surplus – also known as the Social Security Trust Fund – may face funding challenges as early as 2034. Congress may act to address this financing issue before then, but the worry is that future retirees could get slightly less back from Social Security than they put in. It’s critical that pre-retirees estimate the amount of Social Security benefits they are expected to generate in the future.<sup>4</sup>

**Preparing for out-of-pocket health care costs.** You can enroll in Medicare at age 65, but how do you handle the premiums for private health insurance if you retire before then? Striving to work until you are eligible for Medicare makes economic sense and so does setting aside money to pay for health care costs. A healthy couple retiring at age 65 can expect to pay nearly \$315,000 to cover health care expenses in retirement.<sup>5</sup>

**Luck is not a plan, and hope is not a strategy.** Those who are retiring unaware of these factors may risk outliving their money. Creating a strategy may help you better prepare for retirement. My team at Alliant Retirement and Investment Services is here to help you. Find us on [aris.alliantcreditunion.com](http://aris.alliantcreditunion.com) to find a time to meet.

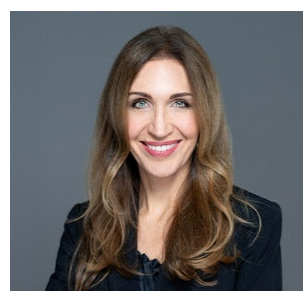
1. TransamericaCenter.org, 2023
2. Forbes.com, October 13, 2022
3. SSA.gov, 2023
4. AARP.org, March 31, 2023
5. Fidelity.com, 2023

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- ▲ Not Credit Union Guaranteed
- ▲ Not Credit Union Deposits or Obligations
- ▲ May lose value

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### **United Airlines Names Michelle Freyre to Board of Directors April 1, 2024**



United Airlines Holdings, Inc. (UAL) announced today that Michelle Freyre is joining its Board of Directors. Freyre currently serves as President, Global Brands, Clinique and Origins, at The Estée Lauder Companies, where she is responsible for guiding the brands’ overall strategic vision and driving global growth.

“Michelle’s extensive experience in business and product strategy will make her an excellent addition to our already strong Board of Directors,” said United CEO Scott Kirby. *“In each of her previous roles, Michelle has deftly balanced modernizing and celebrating the historic brands she has overseen.”*

“We are excited to welcome Michelle to the Board of Directors and look forward to the valuable insight and experience she will bring to *United*,” said Ted



Philip, Chairman of the Board of Directors. *“For the last two decades, Michelle has guided some of the most prominent brands in corporate America and her sophisticated understanding of large brands to serve the needs of customers is valuable experience that will benefit United and our Board of Directors.”*

*“I am honored to join the Board of Directors at United Airlines and contribute my brand-building experience, global perspectives and passion for serving discerning consumers to such an iconic, transformative and prominent brand,”* said Michelle Freyre. *“As someone who is focused on a consumer-centric approach, I admire the elevated experience United Airlines offers to its consumers around the world. Furthermore, I am humbled to have this opportunity to represent my Latina community.”*

Freyre has a proven track record of leading influential brands and has been recognized by Fortune, Bloomberg, and the Association of Latino Professionals For America as one of America’s Most Powerful and Influential Latinas in Business. In her role overseeing Clinique and Origins, Freyre has led brand initiatives to reach new consumers across different generations, while preserving the iconic essence of the brands. Her personable leadership style and commitment to lead with empathy and authenticity fosters an inclusive culture across Clinique, Origins and The Estée Lauder Companies.

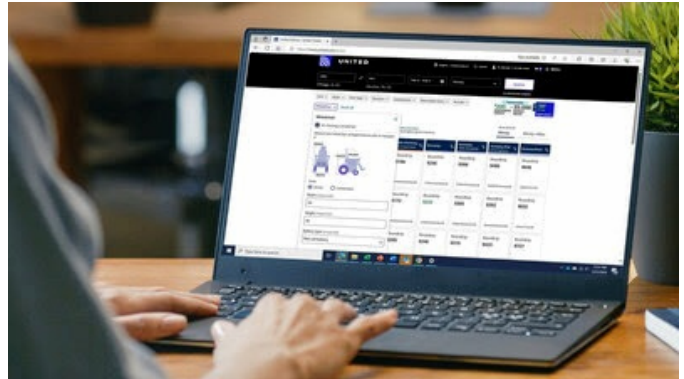
Previously, Freyre spent 20 years at Johnson & Johnson (“J&J”) in various roles across marketing and sales, including as President, U.S. Beauty, J&J Consumer Health Products division. Prior to her service with J&J, Michelle held Brand Marketing positions with other companies including Pepsi-Cola Company. She grew up in Puerto Rico and holds a B.A. from Yale University and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

Michelle will join along with Rosalind Brewer, who was added to the Board earlier this year. After successful tenures, Directors James Kennedy and Carolyn Corvi will not stand for reelection this year.

*“I would like to express my gratitude to Jim and Carolyn for their service on United’s Board of Directors and for their tireless work to help grow United into the best airline in aviation history,”* said United CEO Scott Kirby.



**United Makes It Easier for Customers  
Who Use Wheelchairs to Book Flights  
That Can Accommodate Their Personal Device**  
**March 28, 2024**



United Airlines has launched a new digital tool on its app and [united.com](https://www.united.com) that makes it easier for customers who use wheelchairs to find flights that can best accommodate the specific dimensions of their personal mobility device. The airline also announced that eligible customers may seek a refund of the fare difference if a customer needs to pay more for a flight that can accommodate their wheelchair.

Last year, United and United Express together carried more than 200,000 checked wheelchairs.

In addition to working with the airline’s Accessible Travel Advisory Board, United collaborated with United Spinal Association and Numotion to develop these industry-first initiatives.

*“The more we know about a customer’s device, the more likely their experience will be a good one – from booking and check-in to the flight itself,”* said Linda Jojo, Executive Vice President and Chief Customer Officer for United. *“These new tools and policies also set our employees up for success, especially those working on the ramp or at the gate.”*

*“United Spinal Association appreciates this strong first step toward improving the air travel experience for wheelchair users,”* says Vincenzo Piscopo, Chief Executive Officer and President of United Spinal Association, the largest disability-led membership organization representing our nation’s 5.5 million wheelchair users. *“We look forward to continuing our collaboration with United Airlines to ensure that all wheelchair users can book a flight to their next adventure, business meeting, or visit with family or friends on the flight they choose, trusting they will arrive safely with their equipment intact.”*

*“Numotion is dedicated to supporting the independence of our customers,”* said Mike Swinford, Chief Executive Officer of Numotion, the nation’s largest provider of products and services that help individuals with mobility limitations maximize their health, personal in-

dependence, and actively participate in everyday life. *“United’s new tool is a fantastic development for wheelchair users. By streamlining the flight selection process and ensuring compatibility with specific mobility devices, travelers can focus on enjoying their journeys. We’re proud to partner with United to make air travel more accessible and stress-free.”*

**How It Works:** Customers with a personal wheelchair can visit the United app or [united.com](https://www.united.com) and use the filters on the flight search results page before selecting their flight. After clicking on the wheelchair filter tab near the upper portion of the screen, customers can then enter the specific dimensions of their mobility device. The search results will identify which flight options will accommodate those dimensions and indicate to the customer that their wheelchair fits. The size of aircraft cargo hold doors varies, so some aircraft are better able than others to handle larger motorized wheelchairs.

If a customer is unable to take a preferred flight because their wheelchair will not fit through the aircraft’s cargo door – and takes a United flight with a higher-fare that can accommodate their wheelchair on the same day and between the same origin and destination – the customer may seek a refund of the fare difference.

The wheelchair sizing tool launched as a beta test earlier this month.

**Airport Experience Pilot Program:** United is also testing a new program at George Bush Houston Intercontinental Airport to better accommodate customers in the unlikely event their wheelchair was damaged or delayed while traveling. The pilot program focuses on the timeframe between a customer’s arrival and when United returns the wheelchair or provides an appropriate loaner wheelchair if the original is damaged.

United is currently testing specialized, adjustable Permobil cushions for loaner wheelchairs at its Houston hub that better match the customer’s needs and improve comfort and stability. The airline is also reimbursing customers for transportation expenses should they choose to wait at a location other than the airport.

**United’s Commitment to Accessibility:** United has made several product and policy changes recently to improve the experience for people with disabilities:

- Providing ramp agents new mobile technology that indicates when a wheelchair is on a flight to ensure they are prepared to receive and load it. The technology also inhibits ramp agents from closing out a flight until they acknowledge that they’ve loaded all wheelchairs.
- In August, United became the first U.S. airline to add Braille to aircraft interiors, helping millions of travelers with visual disabilities more easily navigate the cabin independently. United expects to outfit its entire mainline fleet with Braille by the end of 2026.

- The United mobile app was recently redesigned to make it easier to use for people with visual disabilities with increased color contrast, more space between graphics and reordering how information is displayed and announced to better integrate with the screen reader technologies like VoiceOver and TalkBack.
- United’s latest Inflight Seatback Entertainment screens offer a wide range of accessible features such as closed captioning, text-to-speech controls, magnification, explore-by-touch capabilities, audio-described movies, and adjustable and high-contrast text and color correction. As part of United Next, the airline’s historic growth plan, the carrier expects to take delivery of about 700 new narrow and widebody aircraft by the end of 2033, all of which will include the latest in seatback screen entertainment options.
- Through Bridge, United’s Business Resource Group for people of all abilities, employees help create a workplace environment where all can strive to achieve their maximum potential and support our commitment to being an ally for customers with disabilities.

For the eighth-straight year, United was recognized as a Best Place to Work for Disability Inclusion and earned a top score on the Disability Equality Index benchmarking tool, a joint initiative of the American Association of People with Disabilities and Disability:IN, to advance the inclusion of people with disabilities.

### **United Becomes First Airline to Add New, Larger Overhead Bins to Embraer E175 Aircraft** **March 26, 2024**



United Airlines announced today that it is installing new, larger overhead bins on its Skywest operated Embraer E175 fleet that will provide more room for passengers’ roll aboard carry-on bags. These new bins will be available on 50 aircraft with a 76-seat configuration by the end of this year. United may expand the E175 larger overhead bins offering to more than 150 aircraft by the end of 2026.

United is the first airline to offer these larger overhead bins on E175 airplanes and estimates this move will nearly eliminate the need for one million annual passengers to gate-check bags on more than 150,000 E175 flights.

United is enhancing the passenger experience by adding larger overhead bins on the Embraer E175 fleet to increase customer convenience and improve operational efficiency. The new bins will accommodate up to an extra 29 carry-on bags on the regional jets, which is an 80 percent increase in space.

*“Customer sentiment for the new overhead bins and signature interiors has been extremely positive. By helping to eliminate the need to gate check bags, we are seeing an increase in gate and boarding satisfaction,”* said Linda Jojo, United’s chief customer officer. *“This is just the latest way we’re working to create an industry-leading experience for all our customers – whether they’re on an international or regional flight.”*

United now has more than 200 mainline aircraft outfitted with bins large enough to fit every passenger’s carry-on bag and is in the process of retrofitting its domestic narrowbody fleet. The new overhead bins in the regional fleet will provide a seamless connecting experience for customers. Every E175 aircraft outfitted with these overhead bins will also have braille and tactile placards that enhance accessibility, part of a larger initiative the airline announced in 2023.

United Airlines and United Express operate an average of more than 4,000 flights a day to over 350 airports across 6 continents. SkyWest is the world’s largest E175 operator and flies more than 700 daily departures to more than 140 destinations as United Express. In 2023, United became the world’s largest carrier as measured by seat-miles, carrying more than 150 million passengers.

### **United Makes it Easier to Share Award Miles with Family and Friends** **March 21, 2024**



Just in time for summer travel planning, United today launched MileagePlus miles pooling – a new way for MileagePlus members to contribute and combine their miles into a joint account. Available on

[United.com](https://www.united.com), groups of up to five members can now share and redeem miles in one linked account. United allows any MileagePlus member – whether relatives or close friends – to be in a pool with other members. United is the first and only major U.S. airline to offer this feature.

*“We’re always looking for new ways to provide the most value to all of our loyalty members and are proud to be the first major U.S. airline to allow our members to pool their miles with their loved ones and friends,”*

said Luc Bondar, Chief Operating Officer of MileagePlus. *“MileagePlus miles pooling further reinforces United’s position as the leader in family and group travel and gives our members more flexibility to use their miles while making it easier to connect to the destinations and moments that matter most, with the people that matter most.”*

As 81% of parents report intent to travel with their children in the next year and nearly 60% report concern about travel affordability, according to a 2023 U.S. Family Travel Survey conducted by the Family Travel Association, the introduction of MileagePlus miles pooling aims to make travel even easier for families or groups looking to get away; even the youngest family members can contribute as there’s no minimum age to become a MileagePlus member.

MileagePlus miles pooling is now available to all MileagePlus members by logging in to their account on [United.com](https://www.united.com). For those not already MileagePlus members, the program is free to join.

**How MileagePlus miles pooling works** ~ Any MileagePlus member over 18 years old can become the pool leader and create a pool for free when logged in to their account on [United.com](https://www.united.com).

- Pool leaders can invite up to four of their family, friends, or close travel companions of any age to join the pool if they have an active MileagePlus account. There is no minimum age to join MileagePlus.
- When logged in to their MileagePlus account on [United.com](https://www.united.com), members will be instructed on how to contribute miles to the group pool as well as how to redeem pooled miles for award flights on United and United Express.
- There are no limits to the number of miles that may be contributed to an active miles pool.
- Pooled miles can be used when booking a ticket on [United.com](https://www.united.com) or in the United mobile app.

For example, if a group of friends is planning an upcoming summer getaway and each friend has their own individual MileagePlus accounts with their respective number of miles, they can combine all, or a select amount of their personal miles into one central ‘pool’ that can be used to purchase flights and offset the cost of ticket prices.

Contributing miles to a MileagePlus miles pool will not affect an individual member’s Premier® status. Only members who travel on a ticket using pooled miles will earn any eligible Premier qualifying points (PQP), not the member who contributed them. Members cannot pool PQP, Premier qualifying flights (PQF), PlusPoints, or TravelBank cash.

The MileagePlus program provides the most ways to earn and use miles of any other U.S. airline. Members earn miles that never expire with every flight pur-



chased, through spending on the United Family of Cards from Chase, by making purchases on MileagePlus Shopping<sup>SM</sup> and more. Members can opt to fully cover a trip with their MileagePlus miles or use a combination of money and miles to save on the out-of-pocket cost of their next flight\*\*.

\*\*MileagePlus miles pooling is excluded from money and miles at this time.

### **United Raises Miles for Girls Scouts of the USA to Help Inspire the Next Generation of Leaders**

**March 11, 2024**



United will match the first one million miles raised for GSUSA through Miles on a Mission<sup>SM</sup>, United's leading fundraising and crowdsourcing program, giving MileagePlus mem-

bers a chance to use their miles for good. Travel is an essential part of many Girl Scouts' journeys as they are encouraged to explore, make global connections and cultivate skills they can use for the rest of their lives. More than 59,000 Girl Scouts traveled either domestically or internationally in 2023, with many troops funding their own adventures with money earned through the Girl Scout Cookie Program<sup>®</sup>.

*"We are honored to be the featured partner for United's Miles on a Mission program this month," said Wendy Lou, Chief Revenue Officer and Head of Membership, GSUSA. "As we come to a close on our 2024 cookie season and many are figuring out creative ways to use their cookie proceeds, including travel, we hope this program can help them take their travel dreams even farther."*

Since 2022, United Airlines has supported GSUSA in its mission. Through the partnership, GSUSA created resources for both volunteers and council staff to deliver STEM programs and broaden the variety of educational opportunities for Girl Scouts.

According to GSUSA research, girls who participate in Girl Scout STEM programs are more confident in their math and science abilities and show more interest in STEM subjects and careers.

*"At United, we believe that aviation can help connect people and unite the world," said Helon Hammond, VP of Global Learning, People and Community Impact for United. "We are proud to support Girl Scouts of the USA to ensure that members have access and are encouraged to explore and continue learning through travel. We hope to inspire young leaders to continue*

*learning through travel and pursuing careers in aviation."*

Visit [united.com/donate](https://united.com/donate) to learn more about how you can donate miles to Girl Scouts of the USA and become a MileagePlus member for free. Members can donate their miles to GSUSA until April 12.

To volunteer, join or donate, visit [girlscouts.org](https://girlscouts.org).

### **Torgy's Travel Tips – May 2024** **Travel Surprises Good and Bad**



By now we're all aware of the myriad aircraft "anomalies" like door plugs, falling tires and runway incursions. But in addition to these, several travel related events made the news recently which piqued my curiosity. Of course, you can always come across the weird and unbelievable "click bait" headlines when you find yourself going down the rab-

bit hole of trivia while mindlessly surfing the web. But a couple of recent international cruise irregularities prompted me to research further into these cases so that you, my fellow travelers, might benefit. Read on for the interesting facts.

The MSC ship Armonia recently departed Brazil on a positioning voyage to Barcelona, Spain. Before embarkation in Brazil, MSC agents inspected all embarking passenger's passports for proper documentation, including 69 Bolivian citizens whose passports contained a visa necessary to enter Spain. (Spain is one of 29 countries in Europe belonging to the "Schengen Agreement" which allows travelers to cross borders between member countries without passport checks, but some nationalities cannot enter any Schengen country without a visa. Bolivia is one such country.)

Early on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Armonia arrived at its destination, Barcelona. According to Reuters News, the Armonia was allowed to dock but all 1500 passengers were confined to the ship by immigration authorities for 30+ hours and the ships' onward journey to Rome was cancelled. It was discovered that the 69 Bolivian passports contained bogus visas. Spanish Immigration authorities indicated that intensive investigation was necessary as there is mounting concern that the marketing of bogus visas for travel via cruise ships to Europe may be the newest migration scam.

According to [Cruise critic.com](https://cruise critic.com), MSC offered a charter flight to Rome for the new passengers whose cruise out of Barcelona was cancelled. Those who were not allowed to disembark till April 3<sup>rd</sup> were responsible for their own rebooking costs.

The next item of cruising interest concerns the age-old risk of taking a shore excursion and subsequently missing the ship's departure. The NCL Norwegian Dawn, which anchored offshore and used tender boats to dispatch passengers to/from the day-long port call in São Tomé, an African island near the equator, left behind eight passengers March 27<sup>th</sup>.

The group's privately booked shore excursion operator notified the ship's port agent that they would be late getting back to the port. The last tender service had ended but the ship was still at anchor in the bay and the local Coast Guard offered to transport the group, pending approval from Norwegian Dawn's captain. However, ships' departure protocols were already underway, and the late passengers were denied boarding and subject to the "contract of carriage" as stated on their tickets. The ship had already delivered the passports of the "late 8" to the ship's agent at the wharf.

The group was instructed to meet the ship in Banjul, Gambia, the next port of call. But the ship ended up not docking in Banjul due to high waves and unsafe conditions. Eventually, the passengers made their way to Dakar, Senegal, traveling through 7 countries in 48 hours, and were then allowed to reboard. Only some of these folks had credit cards on them and only a few had any cash. Language, documentation, and money were in short supply. According to reports on NBC's Today show, the group all credited the helpful and generous people in both port cities with their successful rendezvous.

So, what can we learn from these two incidents?

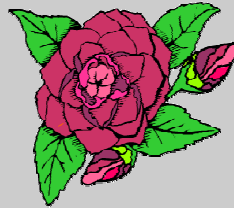
- Control what you can: Read the fine print on your reservation/ticket/receipt, research reviews of the companies you do business with, be prepared for changes (be they weather or political) and buy travel insurance.
- Reduce your risk: Consult US State Department Travel Advisories, book your flight arrival at least a day before your cruise or tour departs, and keep copies of your passport and credit cards (front & back) separate from your baggage.
- Have a back-up plan: Think before you travel, what if ... and plan accordingly!

And taking my own advice, I recently booked a UA flight from Dublin to Chicago. As I was reading about the check-in process, I discovered that US Immigration & Customs procedures are performed in Ireland before flights depart for the US!

That means that you need to arrive at Dublin airport earlier than usual and also; you can walk right off your flight and proceed directly to baggage claim or to your connecting flight. (This scenario applies to flights leaving Shannon, Ireland as well, according to Customs and Border Patrol.) Good surprise!■

## LOCAL NEWS

### ALABAMA



#### **SWEET HOME ALABAMA**

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

### ARIZONA



#### **PHOENIX RE-UNITEDS**

Matalynne Wandel  
Correspondent  
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There is no report this month from the Phoenix Re-United's Chapter of RUAEA.



#### **TUCSON ROADRUNNER**

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

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





## CALIFORNIA



### CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS

Chico, California  
Sharon Simonton, Secretary  
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Spring has sprung in the Northstate, however, rain seems to be in our weather pattern this month. Hopefully we will have a great summer and the fire season will be kept to a minimum.

The Northstaters had a great luncheon/meeting on March 27<sup>th</sup>. It was held at El Guayacan Mexican Restaurant in Chico. It was one of our first times to have lunch at a Mexican Restaurant and it was delicious. Everyone was quite happy with their meals and service.

**Merritt Odor**, our President, welcomed everyone and we had 12 members and spouses plus two guests. **Carl & Grace Franke** brought **Judith Ulrich** and **Vreny Grundherr** brought **Denny Jenks**.

Merritt wanted to know if there were any birthdays or anniversaries. **Vincent Neidlinger** celebrated his birthday in March as well as **Katherine Eslinger** and **Dick Hooning**. **Bill Simonton** will be celebrating his birthday in April.

Merritt reminded everyone about dues being due for 2024. We had a great time listening to a couple of stories that Merritt told about a lawyer and then about a fisherman. These stories always make us laugh.

On a very sad note, **Sharon Simonton** shared that one of our members, **Linda Delaney**, has passed away a week earlier. **Linda & John Delaney** were such vibrant members of our group. They both were inspectors in the SFO Maintenance Department. Linda had a short illness and our hearts go out to John and his family. Sharon passed around a card to be sent to John and we certainly will keep them both in our hearts.

The winner of the 50/50 raffle was **Katie Innocenti** and the lunch certificate was won by **Shari Pitt**.

A discussion took place concerning our next lunch site which will be held May 15<sup>th</sup>. It was decided we would go back to Vittles and Sharon volunteered to make arrangements.

### Calendar:

**May 15** - Wednesday, Vittles Restaurant in Anderson. 11:30 AM and if you are in the area hope to see you there.



### CENTRAL COASTERS

Avila Beach, CA  
Al Rybar  
The Residence IV  
347 Calle Lupita  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
[papawow@charter.net](mailto:papawow@charter.net)

There was no meeting this month so there isn't any news. We will be meeting every other month.

Our life in an Assisted Living facility has become some routine. My wife and I couldn't be taken care of any better. I read where Princess Kate is still recovering in the UK and is attended by two Filipinos. They said how well she is being cared for and I can believe it.

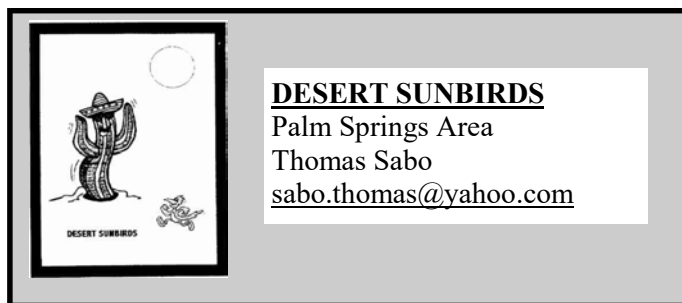
It seems like one day is just like the last. We notice no difference between weekends and holidays. Birthdays and anniversaries are just another day to us.

We moved here so my wife would have 24 hour coverage. Now she is being taken care of and doing well, but I can't say the same for me. I had a pace-maker installed and since I didn't notice any change or difference in my getting around, I did lose my balance a couple of times and even ended up on the floor. I didn't hurt myself, but my daughters called the doctor to make sure my pace-maker was not at fault. It was doing what it was supposed to do and I was told that I had to adjust to it and not the other way around. So I have to slow down and make sure I don't have any dizziness or lightheadiness. The care-givers here keep tabs on me so I don't take two steps without them by my side.

Along with living as we are, a little rain must fall. Our local Electrical Co. needed to work on some power lines so they turned off our electricity from 8AM until noon. So when the power came on, I didn't have the Internet until 10AM the next day.

Lucky for us we are able to have visitors, so between daughters that check on us each day, our old friends have made a point of stopping by. Please note the change of address and phone number.

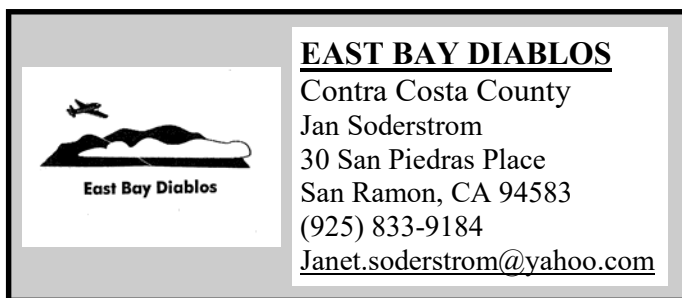




**DESERT SUNBIRDS**  
Palm Springs Area  
Thomas Sabo  
[sabo.thomas@yahoo.com](mailto:sabo.thomas@yahoo.com)

There is no report this month from the Desert Sunbirds chapter of RUAEA.

We try to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month; if you are visiting the Palm Springs area, we would love to have you join us. Email [sabo.thomas@yahoo.com](mailto:sabo.thomas@yahoo.com) for details.



**EAST BAY DIABLOS**  
Contra Costa County  
Jan Soderstrom  
30 San Piedras Place  
San Ramon, CA 94583  
(925) 833-9184  
[Janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:Janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com)

Happy May to everyone from the East Bay Diablos! This year is just racing by. Hard to believe that summer is just around the corner.

As I write this on April 7, excitement about the total solar eclipse on April 8 is building. I envy those of you who are in the path of this rare and incredible event. While there can be between two and five solar eclipses every year, total eclipses only happen about once every 18 months or so. A particular spot on Earth witnesses a total solar eclipse only once in 400 years. The 2024 solar eclipse will be the most watched solar eclipse in history due to the many large cities it'll pass through. According to NASA, about 31.6 million people live in the path of totality, the area where the moon will fully block out the sun. Also, it'll be the last total solar eclipse across the United States for 20 years. The total eclipse, during which the moon passes between Earth and the sun and blocks the face of the sun, will enter the country in Texas before passing through Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. The eclipse will begin in Mexico at about 11:07 a.m. PDT, Monday, April 8 before crossing into Texas at 1:27 p.m. CDT. It will end in Maine at 3:35 p.m. EDT.

If you are going to attend our meetings, you must RSVP prior to the meeting. I have put the dates of our upcoming meetings and the RSVP deadlines below.

Once again, we are changing the time and location of our meetings. Going forward, all of our meetings will start at 11:30 vs. the previous time of 11:00. We will continue to go to The Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord every other month. We like The Old Spaghetti Factory because they have both a regular and a senior menu with reduced portions and soup or salad, ice cream and beverage included. They also reserve a room for us. We are going to switch from Rocco's in Walnut Creek to Fuddrucker's in Concord the other months. We used to go there and liked it very much. For whatever reason, Rocco's did not have heat on the last two times we were there, and everyone was miserable.

At every meeting, we have a raffle for money and door prizes. We pay two dollars for three tickets. The door prizes are whatever people are inspired to bring. We average about 14 people at our meetings throughout the year, but virtually all our members come to our summer picnic meeting which is a catered BBQ luncheon; and to our December meeting at Zio Fraedo's. Social hour starts at 11:30 and our meal is typically served an hour later.

Our April meeting was held on Monday, April 1 at Rocco's Ristorante Pizzeria in Walnut Creek—no fooling! We had 12 members in attendance: **Tracey Blanchard, Rich & Georgia Bouska** and guest, **Nancy Boyle, Barb Cunningham, Diane Griego, Tom Johnson, Russ & Glenda Kennedy, Russ Schleske** and **Jan Soderstrom**. Our president **Russ Kennedy** started the meeting by leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Georgia Bouska's** guest and **Jan Soderstrom** won the raffle money.

In the April 2021 newsletter, I wrote about the amazing rescue of more than 2000 sea turtles by the residents of San Padre Island Texas. In mid February 2021, a rare cold front from the Arctic caused temperatures in Texas to plunge into the teens. When the water dips below 50 degrees Fahrenheit, sea turtles' heart rates slow, rendering them paralyzed but conscious. This is known as a cold-stun event.

Across the state, more than 7,000 cold-stunned turtles were recorded. This is the largest cold-stunning event documented in the United States since the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) started keeping records in 1980. The whole town sprang into action to rescue turtles from the ocean and beaches and then transport them to Sea Turtle Inc. and the town's convention center.

About 500 of them were on tarps at the rescue center. They filled every foot of floor space, including in the gift shop. Another 4,400—mostly green, Kemp's Ridley, and loggerhead sea turtles—were at the island's convention center. *"We had at least one and a half football fields' worth of turtles in the building."*

The following weekend, Sea Turtle Inc. announced

on Facebook that they had successfully released over 2,200 turtles into the now-warmed waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Although only half of the turtles survived and were released, it was considered a very successful rescue.

Every fall and early winter, hundreds of cold-stunned sea turtles also wash up on the beaches of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, due to rapidly cooling water temperatures and wind patterns. Many turtles cannot escape the hook-like area of Cape Cod Bay. Although the number of turtles is much smaller than the San Padre Island event, the rescue operation is just as heartwarming.

The majority of the turtles were picked up in the winter months of 2023 in New England after washing onto shore.

The turtles then spent several months in facilities in the Northeast, where caretakers gradually warmed them up and tracked their health, ensuring that they did not develop any secondary infections, such as pneumonia. The turtles also underwent courses of antibiotics, fluid therapy and were provided with optimal nutrition.

The turtle experts picked Jekyll Island, Georgia, as the release location because ocean waters at any point north are not yet warm enough for the turtles. The region is also likely where these turtles would be in their migration route.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Turtles Fly Too, a nonprofit that pairs volunteer pilots with conservationists, coordinated efforts to transport all of the turtles to Georgia via plane. After landing, the 33 Kemp's Ridley sea turtles and one green sea turtle were then driven to the beach for release.

Source: ABC News, April 4, 2024. Julia Jacobo. "Dozens of Rehabilitated Turtles Return to the Ocean in Largest Release on Record."

**Barbara Cunningham** is collecting both new and used Christmas cards. She donates them to a local special education teacher who uses them in his classroom. He has told Barbara he can use "all the cards he can get." The students make gift cards which they sell at the school fundraiser. If you have cards you'd like to donate, please contact Barbara at (925) 846-8123 or [barbjc1943@gmail.com](mailto:barbjc1943@gmail.com) for more info, or just mail them to her directly at 3556 Touriga, Pleasanton, CA 94566-6931. Note: This is a new email for her. This teacher needs just the cards, no envelopes. The money they raise is for special outings like field trips and other enrichment activities for the special needs students.

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

especially vulnerable to food insecurity — almost 30% need help.

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

I am so grateful for the kindness of all the RUAEA members who are helping me with this project. I have been turning in coupons every month since May 2022, and on April 6<sup>th</sup>, I turned in a whopping 2235 coupons! Thank you so much to the members in my local RUAEA chapter and to members from all over the country who are sending coupons. All the coupon cutters are telling me that they are not getting coupons like they used to. It's really bad in the SF Bay Area and I'm glad that other areas of the country are still able to send coupons. If it weren't for the RUAEA folks from all over the country sending me coupons, my chapter would have very few coupons. This month I received coupons from **Rosalie Betschart** in OR, **Mary Brennan** in MN, **Marilyn Carle** in IL, **Sharon Dunham** in IL, **Barrie Hooley** in FL, **Marcella Kern** in NJ, **Margie Klaus** in NV, **Carol Koslosky** in NY, **Betty Ogburn** in NJ, **Sheryl Schubert** in CO, **Jim Taylor** in FL, **Norm Wilkinson** in IL and **Gilbert Wojtal** in AZ. I would also like to thank **Diane Griego**, **Tom Johnson**, **Glenda Kennedy** and **Russ Schleske** in my East Bay Diablos chapter for bringing coupons to our meetings.

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

- ▲ Monday, May 6 at 11:30. — Fuddruckers, 1975 Diamond Blvd, Concord in the Willows Shopping Center. Social hour starts at 11:30 and we will eat around 12:30. We order from the regular menu and have separate checks. Must RSVP to **Jan Soderstrom** at [janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com) or (925) 833-9184 by Thursday, May 2.
- ▲ Monday, June 3 at 11:00 — This is typically our summer BBQ meeting. Location to be de-



terminated. We will either meet at a local BBQ restaurant or have a catered BBQ lunch at a member's home. Please contact **Jan Soderstrom** at [janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com) or (925) 833-9184 for more information.

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



#### **GOLDEN GATERS**

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

Did you get pranked? Happy April Fools' day plus. Your author took off for a vacation in Europe and **John Garis** took over for me and became El Presidente and Treasurer (we need volunteers to do some of these "jobs" as holding down two or three positions becomes burdensome at times!) From what I hear, he did a sterling job, kept some of you laughing and had a successful raffle and drawing. John gave his financial report and noted that our account is gradually gaining momentum. Thanks y'all!

It was good to see that **Barbara Underhill** has been able to take off from her job at the Voting Precinct. A busy job and kudos to Barbara for giving up her "retirement" time to help out and count those ballots. She has been doing this for many years and I am sure she is greatly appreciated. It really is necessary to get out there and vote ... this is a right you have and hope that you get out there and do your duty each election. Our sister county, Santa Clara, is a prime example of how important it is to vote. The position of Mayor was up for election ... three top winners were running for the position. One candidate secured his spot and there was a tie for the second place (each candidate had 30,249 votes – this boggles the mind when you think about it) and it has been decided that all 3 will be on the ballot for that position in November. This is a rare situation and will be interesting to see the final results. Because of the cost of recounting, and printing, etc., etc., it was deemed OK to have all 3 on the ballot. (The monetary figures for re-doing the vote were humongous and wiser minds decided not to do a re-run. We need more of those kinds of thinkers!) Our thanks to Barbara for also being Secretary Pro-Tem and providing the minutes for me.

Here are the meeting and luncheon dates for the next few months:

- April 22 – 10:00am short Board Meeting,

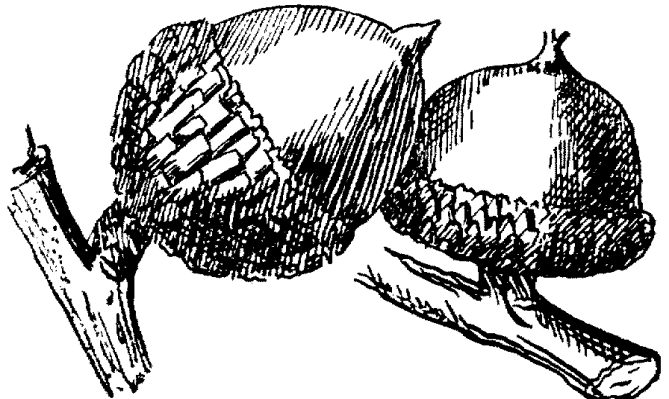
10:30am Members social time – Sponsored by **Ginger Dahlberg**. Lunch at Jack's Restaurant located in San Mateo (1750 El Camino Real) located in the Borel Shopping Center, El Camino and Highway 92. Let Ginger know if you plan to come along, (650) 224-1865, as she needs to let the staff know that we will be there.

- May 20 – May 27th is a National Holiday, Memorial Day, and the Rec. Center will be closed. A vote was taken and we will meet one week earlier – so note the change and mark your calendars! Will advise what we will be doing – perhaps sandwiches from Safeway and enjoy the picnic tables outside by the Rec. Center. WWW predicts good weather!
- June 24 - 10:00am short Board Meeting, 10:30am Members social time, the rest TBA (come to the Meeting and find out and see what you might be missing!)

Looks like no one was born, had an anniversary, and all stayed well and saw 15 or so members show up for our monthly meeting. **Carol Slater** (our Historian and a few other jobs) did not have a report but did comment on the Boeing Executives being fired. We seem to be getting lots of Press time these days, not very encouraging but better times are coming.

The raffle was a success – adding to their 401k plans, **Al Durr** and **Gary Chong** pocketed much moola while members took home some nice raffle items: **Gary Chong**, **Ellen Chong** (she won twice and needed a large bag to carry all that money and goodies home,) **Pat Ortega**, **Frank Minnick**, **Linda Kasarda**, and **Bill & Diane Heinrich**. Thank you John, Barbara and Carol for holding down the Fort while I was away. (I'll give you a run-down next month on my trip.)

Come join us if you are in town, all United and Continental retirees are welcome - we meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at 10:00am 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 **Ginger Dahlberg**, 821 Magellan Lane, Foster City, CA 94404.





## **HANGTOWN MINERS**

Placerville, CA

Jane Gibson

Secretary

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

Greetings to all of you!

March – a month of changes; we “spring ahead” at the beginning of it and deal with an hour less sleep! Then the middle of the month, we celebrate St. Patrick’s Day and wear green so we won’t get pinched! Two days after that we herald in the first day of Spring – spring equinox! The month gets closed out with Easter! Phew, this is a busy month this year.

Of course, one of the best days was on the 13<sup>th</sup> when we Miners got together at 36 Handles Restaurant to dine, talk, laugh. This is a nice place and I would go there again, but, I don’t think they were prepared (even though we gave them a number of attendees) for our 34 eager/hungry members. But, eventually, we all got our meals (which were delicious) and had plenty of time to visit with each other. **Rudy Blazius** extended our gratitude to **Diana Bell** and **Duncan Nielsen** for making the luncheon arrangements for us – Thank You! We didn’t have any guests! However, we had three ladies with a March birthday present – **Dawn Martin**, **Cindy Blazius** and **Linda Dinette**. Happy Birthday! Plus, **Dave & Robin Garland** and **Kerry Kozelka & Ann Barton** celebrate anniversaries in March. Congratulations!

**President ~ Rudy Blazius** pursued the quest for more information regarding burial at a National Veterans Cemetery. Rudy went to the VA in Vacaville. It turns out that if you go on Tuesday or Thursday, you can “just walk in” but be prepared to wait! Monday, Wednesday, and Friday require an appointment. Now, we talked about getting your name “on a list”. This isn’t exactly what happens, but kind of! What you need to do is find out what your benefits really are so you can plan ahead. So, did you know: \*You must make an official request to Veterans Affairs to receive traditional benefits like a marker or headstone? \*VA benefits do not cover all the funeral or cremation arrangements of honorably discharged veterans? There is a one time payout. \*You must meet eligibility requirements to be buried in a VA national cemetery. Put in for an Eligibility status form. Visit [VetsBurialBenefits.com](http://VetsBurialBenefits.com) for more information. You served your country, don’t miss the benefits that you earned.

**Vice President ~ J.R. Heier** was not present today.

**Treasurer ~ Tom Kenny** hopped up to give us an accounting for our finances. Our checking is looking strong. Tom shared with us that he met with the Sacramento “Gold Diggers” last month. He described the

tooling program that our group has been working on with the Placerville Airport EAA group 512 chapter for the past couple of years. Reception was good at their meeting and he had two members, at that time, indicate they have tools to donate. So, he will be working with the Gold Digger’s president to arrange for tooling/tool box pick up in the next couple of weeks. Tom also has a new 277 piece socket and ratchet set along with a new five pliers package and a separate set of Craftsman universal sockets, five beehive rivet gun springs to fit the 401 straight shank rivet sets, (these are for the most recent winners who did not get the springs in time for the drawing); plus some miscellaneous items that he will take over at any time.

**Secretary ~ Jane Gibson** did not have a report to share except to say “Thank You” to **Chuck & Peggy Trebnik** for taking on the luncheon hosting for November. That just leaves a “hole” in June. If there’s any way you can cover hosting for this month, please let me know so we will be able to get together in June.

**Sunshine ~ Suzanne Kenny** was able to join us today. She recently had knee surgery and has recovered well; still a bit tender, but so much better. Glad you’re feeling better, Suzie.

**Old Business ~** Not too much to cover here. But, we do need/want to keep everyone updated on our membership dues and a few members we still need to hear from. We would love for all of you to continue as Hangtown Miners, so please send your dues in right away. If we get past the end of March, the dues will go up to \$20. So, make a check out to Hangtown Miners and mail it to **Tom Kenny**; 3481 Parleys Canyon, Placerville, CA 95667. If you would, please let me know if you do not wish to continue as members so we can keep our roster up to date.

There will be an email coming to you soon regarding the 2024 Retired UAL Mechanics Reunion in Minden, NV. This lively get together will be on September 17, 18, 19, 2024. If you don’t receive the info, let me know so I can get it to you. My email list is still wacky and I don’t necessarily have a name to correspond with the email address I may have! And, there are 6 that just won’t “go”. If you know of a retiree who would like the info, give them my email address!

**New Business ~** Nothing to share under “New”.

That about does it for this meeting, Rudy closed things up with this little funny:

*“Realized I had to use the bathroom, got up and walked across the house, to the pantry, couldn’t remember why I was in the pantry. Remembered I had to use the bathroom. Walked across the house to the bathroom. Sitting on the throne I remembered why I went to the pantry ... Toilet Paper!”*

Rudy then handed the “mic” over to **Judy Fitzpatrick** who is covering for **J. R. Duncan** to pitch in

with the ticket draw and calling out the numbers. **Peggy Trebnik** won the donator's prize. Thanks to all who brought items for the raffle: **Fitzpatrick** – cheese plates; **Wolfram** – Reeses; **Kenney** – wine plaques; **Kenny** – Lava Cap Sangiovese; **Kozelka/Barton** – small metal garden sign; **Trebnik** – Guinness Beer; **Di-nette** – toilet mug; **Blazius** – jewelry & accessory bag; **Dellinger** – Flower; **Garland** – cookies; **Gibson** – bird house.

Our April luncheon is hosted by **Roy & Dawn Martin** at Casa Los Abuelos in Placerville.

That's it for now. Stay healthy, safe, happy!



In spite of the rain, wind and hail, we had seventeen retirees present for our monthly breakfast.

**Bill Krefft** was released from Acute Care and is now back home where he will continue to get therapy.

**Peggy Van Sickle** has moved back home to Iowa where she is with her family. She will be living in a Senior Care Residence but she will be close to her daughter.

**Sherry Powell** is on her way to Munich to see Adele's concert. The round trip and the stay in Munich was less than buying a ticket locally.

**Greg Krok** won the 50/50 raffle this month.

There are a few birthdays this month: **Nancy Brock** will celebrate 90 years on May 6<sup>th</sup>. **Barbara Drews** will celebrate her birthday on May 9<sup>th</sup>, and **Robert Taylor**'s birthday is on May 13<sup>th</sup>.

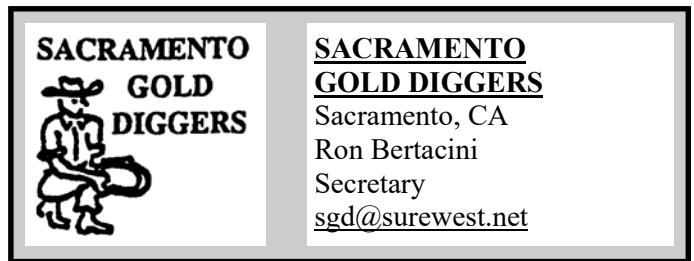
We are thinking positive for our wonderful California sunshine for our Reunion, September 27 – October 2. Many activities are in the works for a great time at the Dana Hotel as well as tours. You will receive the booking and tour information in the June RUAEA Newsletter.

#### Calendar:

**May 2** - Retiree breakfast, Pt Loma Cafe, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego. Please email me if you will be attending as the Café needs a number of attendees for staffing purposes. We would love to have you join us.

**June 12** – Spring/Summer Fling Luncheon at the Tequila Factory. Great Mexican food, it's fiesta time.

**September 27 - October 2** - Retired United Airlines Employees Reunion.



The Sacramento Gold Diggers met on March 27<sup>th</sup> at Denny's in Roseville. There were 16 members and a guest from the Chicago area, **Linda Lance**. It was nice to see Linda who many of us had met at the RUAEA Reunion in San Diego last fall. After a nice lunch, President **Jim Simon** called our meeting to order by introducing Linda and thanking Paul, the manager and server for our group. VP **Barbara Bertacini** advised that next month we will be meeting at BJ's Restaurant at 1200 Roseville Parkway in Roseville on Wednesday April 24<sup>th</sup>. Secretary **Ron Bertacini** reported that the anniversaries for March were for **Shirley & Ed Vanderzyl** with 59 years and **Robin & Dave Garland** with 24 years. Treasurer **Robin Garland** again announced that the chapter was solvent. Sunshine Lady **Angie Dellinger** reported sunshine with no bad news. Historian **Francis Domaratius** mentioned that we are all making history. Robin also reported nothing new on the Roster and that we currently have 35 paid members. Regional Director **Dave Garland** polled the attendees as to who were planning on attending this year's RUAEA Reunion and almost all indicated they were planning to attend.

**Francis Domaratius** related some very interesting information as he had recently had to renew his California driver's license. Typically, we have to take the test using a computer in which each question has a time limit for making an answer which can sometimes be challenging. Through a friend, he found that as a senior you can request a paper test which allows you to take your time in choosing what you think is the correct answer. Good to know as this can relieve some anxiety with having to choose an answer in a matter of seconds. Personally, I can relate, having to retake the test a few times last fall.

President Jim asked the members to think how best to use some of the funds in our treasury, have a fifty-fifty raffle, make a charitable donation or subsidize more chapter's luncheons as we have done many times in the past. Let Jim or any of the other officers know what you would like to see us do as we do have some extra funds and we keep adding with each month's raffle.

Since no members had a birthday in March there was no birthday roll off. Jim then gave us a few historical events on March 27<sup>th</sup> ... 1850 San Diego – the first European settlement in present day California was in-



corporated as a city. 1968 Yuri Gagarin – First man to enter space on April 12, 1961 died on this date at the age of 34 years, he was born March 9, 1934 and finally in 1969 entertainer Mariah Carey was born. 27 March 1977: The deadliest accident in the history of aviation occurred when two Boeing 747 airliners collided on the runway on the island of Tenerife in the Canary Islands. 583 people died. A terrorist incident at Gran Canaria International Airport (LPA) on the island of Gran Canaria resulted in the airport being closed for flight operations. This forced many trans-Atlantic airliners to divert to the smaller Los Rodeos Airport (TFN) on Tenerife. The ramp and taxiways at Los Rodeos were congested and refuelers were overwhelmed by the increased traffic, which led to many delays.

Los Rodeos Airport has only one runway, Runway 12/30, with a parallel taxiway and four short taxiways joining the two. Pan American World Airways' Flight 1736, a Boeing 747-121, FAA registration number N736PA, named Clipper Victor<sup>1</sup> was ready for takeoff with 380 passengers and crew, but had to "back taxi" on Runway 12 ("One-Two") because the parallel taxiway was jammed with airplanes. The airliner proceeded east-southeast, intending to exit the runway to the parallel taxiway after passing by the congestion around the terminal.

Also on the runway was KLM Flight 4805, a Boeing 747-206B, PH-BUF, named Rijn ("Rhine"). The KLM jumbo jet had 248 passengers and crew members on board. Flight 4805 had back-taxed for the entire length of Runway 12, then made a 180° turn to align itself with Runway 30, the "active" runway.

Weather at the time of the accident was IFR, with low clouds and fog. Visibility on the runway was restricted to about 1,000 feet (305 meters). Takeoff rules required a minimum of 2,300 feet (701 meters). What happened next was a misunderstanding between the air traffic controllers and the crew of both airliners.

The control tower instructed KLM 4805 to taxi into position on Runway 30 ("Three-Zero") for takeoff, and to hold there for release. The Pan Am airliner was told to taxi off the runway and to report when clear. The tower controllers could not see either airliner because of the fog, and their flight crews could not see each other.

The aircraft commander of the Dutch airliner, that company's Chief Pilot and Chief Flight Instructor, Captain Jacob Veldhuyzen Van Zanten, apparently misunderstood what was occurring and radioed to the tower that he was taking off. He then accelerated.

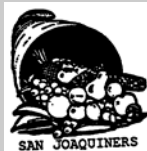
The crew in the Pan Am airliner heard the KLM pilot report that he was taking off, immediately turned left and ran the engines up to full throttle in order to try to get off the runway. With the KLM 747 accelerating through the fog, its flight crew belatedly realized that the other airliner was still ahead of them. Too late to

stop, they applied full power and pulled the nose up trying to takeoff. The tail of their airplane actually dragged over sixty feet (18 meters) on the runway because its extreme nose up angle.

KLM 4805 lifted off about 300 feet (91 meters) from Pan Am 1736, and because of the high angle of attack, its nose wheel actually passed over American airliner's fuselage, but the rest of the Dutch airplane hit at 140 knots (259 kilometers per hour). Clipper Victor was ripped in half, caught fire and exploded. Rijn crashed about 250 yards (229 meters) down the runway, and it also caught fire and exploded.

All 248 people aboard the Royal Dutch Airlines airplane were killed. Miraculously, there were 61 survivors from the Pan Am Clipper, including the co-pilot, but the remaining 335 died.

We ended the meeting with our monthly raffle of donated items from the membership.



### **SAN JOAQUINERS**

Rosie Walls

(209) 984-5672

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

There were no minutes taken during our last meeting. Bob reported that donation checks to designated charities were sent. We did receive a thank you letter from Modesto Salvation Army.

Notable recognitions in March:

Birthdays in March were for **Jack Walls, Rudy Reyna and Bob Brooks.**

Anniversaries in March for **Jack & Rosie Walls.**

Our next Meeting is hosted by **Don & Joann Nesja** at Good Friends Chinese Restaurant in Valley Springs on April 11. Time is the same at 11am when the restaurant opens for lunch.





**SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY**  
 San Jose, CA  
[www.southbayruaea.org](http://www.southbayruaea.org)  
 George Midwin  
 1879 Foxworthy Ave.  
 San Jose, CA 95124  
[midwin5u@hotmail.com](mailto:midwin5u@hotmail.com)



Despite it being the end of a very long week-end holiday, eleven members made it to the March meeting. It was a very nice spring like day and many members may have been out enjoying the brief respite from the rains. Still, all in all, it was nice to visit with each other.

Celebrating birthdays in April are; **Maureen Snyder; Darlene Ikeya & Mary Kaplan**, Happy Birthday!

Anniversaries for April include; **Ben & Cheri Scales; Jay & Charlotte Cacioppo; Bob & Karen Devlin and Leo & Katrina Manou.**

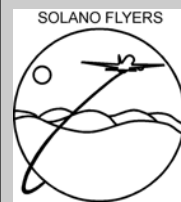
The Senior Safari Walk at Kelly park in San Jose, will begin on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and continue through the summer the last Thursday of the month. This is a free event and a great way to get some steps in, enjoy sunshine as you stroll with fellow members. There are picnic tables throughout the park if you bring a lunch or a small café has items for sale.

Chuck is gearing up for field trips as the weather improves. Although he has scouted a number of sites, if you have some yourself, give him a call.

As we have mentioned, June 12 will be our summer BBQ. To keep costs down, we will set up the entire BBQ ourselves. The cost projection is about \$30 per person and we don't expect it to be over that. It all depends on the number of people that sign and pay up front. We plan tri-tip, maybe some chicken, beans, salad, bread, maybe corn on the cob, watermelon and dessert. Some members have requested to bring items,

such as snacks, dessert, etc. as in the past and that will add to having a nice event. Please consider attending this event in Vasona Park. Any suggestions, please contact Chuck, who will be coming out with a flyer in May.

As a reminder, please plan to attend the annual reunion in San Diego. See the newsletter for details, but just remember this will be the final year at the Dana and the fantastic rate we have been offered. I doubt that future reunions will even come close to this rate, considering the location.



### **SOLANO FLYERS**

Larry Jackson  
 President  
 (707) 624-0030  
[larry-cindy@comcast.net](mailto:larry-cindy@comcast.net)

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

## **COLORADO**



### **DENVER MILE HIGHERS**

Rich & Cleora Conner  
 (970) 660-7040  
[richcleora@gmail.com](mailto:richcleora@gmail.com)

**Paul Goodyear** opened the meeting with the pledge to the flag. Make your hotel reservation for the Reunion early in order to get the lower rate. You can always cancel 48 hours before if you can't attend.

The excursion list will be out soon. They are working on a new program to pay for your friends and family passes.

For the summer picnic, we are still looking for a place to hold it and perhaps hiring a food truck.

Happy birthday to Yumi and Helen. Ray & Helen have been married 66 years, yea! **Tom Goodyear** is in the hospital with pneumonia and is doing better.

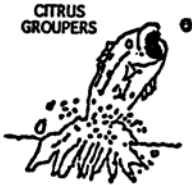
The 50/50 winners were **Ginger Spate, Ray Shoults (2x), Ruth Morabito, Bill Johnson, and Patty Weakland.**

We are getting new members.

A reminder that our monthly luncheon time has changed from 11:30 to 11:00; it is the first Thursday of each month at Ted's Place in Commerce City; the next meeting will be May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Bring a friend and enjoy the companionship of other UAL retirees.



## FLORIDA

	<p><b><u>THE CITRUS GROUPERS</u></b> <b><u>THE VILLAGES</u></b> Julius "Joe" DiStaso (941) 661-2215 <a href="mailto:wopahofl@gmail.com">wopahofl@gmail.com</a></p>
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There is no report this month from the Citrus Groupers chapter of RUAEA.

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

	<p><b><u>THE ORLANDO</u></b> <b><u>REAL McCOYS</u></b> Elaine Tillman-Mannella 7307 Everleigh Court Orlando, FL 32819 (321) 287-4055 <a href="mailto:emt6250@yahoo.com">emt6250@yahoo.com</a></p>
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Beautiful day for a picnic! Thirty Real McCoys gathered at Cypress Grove Park's nice pavilion on the grounds and watched **Mike Sterinsky** and **Monte Clark** cook up burgers and dogs to perfection! Kudos to the chefs, cooks and bakers for a wonderful "spread"! We all ate very well, then tried to stand for the Pledge. ☺

Who stood? We all did! **Ernie & Cheryl Vosges**, **Ted LeGrand III**, **Dan Raciak**, **Mack Chandler**, **Connie Lenard**, **Maureen & Mike Sterinsky**, **Laurie Bork** & guest, **Norma McInnis**, **Diane Lewis**, **Patti & Monte Clark**, **Retta Finn**, **Linda Agnello & Bob Olsen**, **Ted & Charlotte LeGrand**, **Al Fields**, **Dennis Schuster** & guest, **Debbie Skaggs**, **Dick & Cathy Benson**, **Joe & Barb Fitak**, **Joanne & Al Mollet**, **Tom Cannata**, **Eddie DiCicco**, and **Elaine Tillman-Mannella**.

We hadn't seen some of these friends in awhile as they dealt with health issues, etc. so yay to seeing everyone!


Even when we're enjoying the great outdoors, Treasurer Linda still gives her report, and after paying for picnic supplies - we're still solvent! Secretary had no correspondence, so the meeting was really short! Haha!

A special "**Mike Sterinsky Original**" Birthday cake was cut after the singing for **Retta Finn**, who blushed and smiled!

The 50/50 guys, **Tommy C.** and **Dan Raciak**, collected \$132. And the lucky winner of \$66 was none other than the Birthday Gal, Retta! Nice gift to yourself!! ☺

Birthday Songs for Retta (4/10) and Eddie (4/21)! And an Anniversary Celebration of sorts for **Linda Agnello** and **Bob Olsen** on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Huge congrats to you both!

We always remember our UAL family who are in need of our prayers, those we know about and those we don't. Let's lift them up in prayers of comfort and healing. And hope that we will see them again soon. Try to stay out of trouble and eat healthy!

	<p><b><u>SW PELICANS DROP-INS</u></b> Ray Jensen (239) 634-2054 <a href="mailto:rmmjensen@msn.com">rmmjensen@msn.com</a></p>
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There is no report this month from the SW Pelicans Drop-Ins Chapter of RUAEA.

	<p><b><u>TAMPA BAY CHAPTER</u></b> Trinity, FL Janis Lindstrom, Acting Secretary 587 Waterford Circle W. Tarpon Springs, FL 34688 (727) 934-1862 <a href="mailto:lindekatz@aol.com">lindekatz@aol.com</a></p>
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There is no report this month from the Tampa Bay Chapter of RUAEA.

Calendar:

**May 6- IHOP - 10:30.**

	<p><b><u>TREASURE COAST</u></b> Stuart, FL Al Popek President <a href="mailto:ualpbi@att.net">ualpbi@att.net</a></p>
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Our March meeting was canceled.

There will be no meetings scheduled in April or May. The Treasure Coast's next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 12 Noon. Place of meeting to be announced.

We have no Anniversary in May.



The following members will celebrate Birthdays in May: **Fran Student** (5/11), **Joan Palumbo** (5/23), **Jerry Zadar** (5/23), **Dave Lindgren** (5/25), and **Tom Odom** (5/31). Happy Birthday to all!

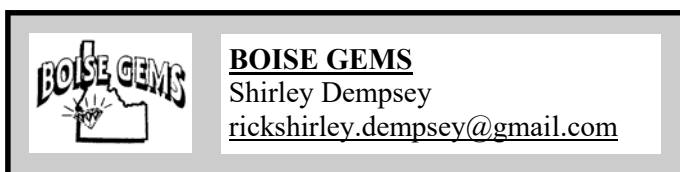
Holidays for May: Cinco De Mayo, Mother's Day, Armed Forces Day, Victoria Day, Memorial Day.

President **Larry Jackson's** wife **Cynthia Jackson** passed away March 11, 2024. A Memorial Service was held in her honor at Trinity Baptist Church on March 19.

Wishing all members safe and healthy.

*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. – Matthew 5:4*

### IDAHO



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

### ILLINOIS



May—Well, four months into 2024, what have you done that's productive? What have you done that was fun and you're proud of? What have you done that made people happy? Do you have any plans for the next eight? Trips? Visiting babies? Losing weight? Losing your car? Losing your mind? So much could happen, and we have no idea! So, better keep your nose clean, and be ready for anything.

We know March can be a real questionable weather month. This year it came in as a lamb and left as a lion. April was a little chilly and lots of rain, the grass and tree buds peaked out of the branches, the ground and those pretty flowers, yellow, pink and white, were so colorful. But May, ahh, May is warmer, more sunshine, flowers, grass, weddings abound, graduations, trips, picking up grandchildren from college, the month is just so happy. May you love the beautiful month of May. If any of you have been reading my column for years, you know how much I love May. Mother's Day, my

mother's birthday, Memorial Day, the gorgeous emerald gemstone, the lily of the valley flower, lilies and violets, no humidity, 'yet', kids out of school, gorgeous flowers, and people are actually smiling! Wow, magical May and joy! You all enjoy your month and the fresh air.

Just a word about the fabulous lunar eclipse that was on April 8<sup>th</sup>. I hope you didn't sit on the corners of Rts. 126 and 59 in Plainfield, IL, too long, after I told you it would happen right there. I'm so embarrassed that I told you the wrong city. In defense, I did read it on Google that's where it would be eclipsing. After I sent my article into the editor, I read that it would be on an arc from Carbondale and Indianapolis. Well, too late to correct my screw-up. I missed it too, wanted to take my nieces and nephew to see this exciting event. I wonder if they'll take back those safety glasses. It doesn't look like there will even be one in North America for the next 50 years. That kind of leaves me out. You too?

So, what's going on with United and all its problems? I really don't think any of us like to hear about tires and panels falling out of the sky, fights among passengers, or even overflowing toilets. These have been Boeing aircraft, 737's or 777 was the latest out of Rome to Washington. Poor little Boeing has been having more of their share of problems. The FAA has told them to do some investigating and repairing before they continue making more planes. That puts a strain on us since we have so many of their aircraft. As far as I can see, it's only the Boeing's that have been affected. The A320's have been ok. Since we're not getting the new planes that we ordered, we have to delay the new routes we told you about last month. United is asking its pilots to take time off in May because of the delay. In fact, they may continue the offer into the Summer and even into the Fall. This is not good, is it? The Air Line Pilots Association said the voluntary program is to reduce excess staffing, and not mandatory. We can't have pilots sitting around with no job to do. What does that do to our capability of people flying, with all of the summer travel coming up? Not good at all. It's going to affect all of our customers, including us from doing NRSA flying. Add to that, all of the bad publicity from our technical problems, I've never seen so many incidences in such a short period of time, I'm sure all of you old timers feel the same. I talked to pilots that said some of these smaller incidences happen a lot, but they always check everything out and just kept flying to their destination. So who is telling the press of all these minor problems. Please, nothing is minor at 35,000 feet in the air, I understand, but toilet problems happen often, the flight attendants close the door, and we continue on. Right now we're in the spotlight, everything we do is magnified and criticized. Delta had a few incidences, but it was only mentioned once. If they ask for volunteers, I would think it would only include the 737 pilots.

Asking a pilot from another plane to fly a 737 aircraft isn't possible. They're two different planes, different systems, different everything. Even a 767 pilot can't fly a 737, which brings up another problem. Planes are not interchangeable. Flight attendants can work in any plane, pilots can't. Don't know how they'll work this out. Boeing and United are definitely the Disasters Du Jour. Ground crews do your thing, check those screws and bolts, windows, tires, radios, and wear those glasses if you need to. Pray for everybody to 'getter done' so we can go back to being Number One.

Our Northside Breakfast had a very small group due to bad weather. Included were **Masha Sealock-Weber, Dave Dunham, Jerry Tippewritter, Toni Van Kampen, Elena & Cesar Guerra**. Our waitress, Beckie, missed the rest of the group.

The ORDMM mechanics had a better turnout. **Frank Rainer, Don Kramlich, Rich Protsman, Cas Paprocki, Boris Spitz, Dick Hoppel, Paul Skrudland, Dean Hackenberg, Bob Zeier, Frank Wenig, Jim Kraft, Bill Durr, Walt Chornomaz, Bob Palm, Harry Kargenian**, and our lovely waitress, Ruthie, who remembers everybody's food order.

The May Retired United Pilots Association (RUPA) had a lively group of 53 pilots, wives and friends. Pizza, hamburgers, salads and other epicurean delights were delicious from Nick's in Crystal Lake. There were four deaths last month of their fellow 'fly-guys'. In honor of these great gentleman, the group got up and raised their glasses in their memory. Lots of colorful stories were recalled from their training, flights and lay-over times they shared over the years. What a great idea; very Touching. Our servers, Monica and Lisa, always take care of our needs. Lovely ladies.

The IAM group 1487 had 76 attendees. It was a Brown Bag lunch and two games of Bingo. Two winners took home \$43 each. May's lunch will be a Cinco de Mayo meal. If you haven't signed up and paid, talk to **Mary Alice Parker**, her info is in the Union Member's Handbook. The cost is \$6.00 and there is a choice of chicken, pork and beef.

A few weeks ago, I received a call from **Sandy Piwowarczyk**, she wanted to tell me what was happening to a mutual friend, **Ann Mahoney**, of ORDCS, the Red Carpet Room. Apparently, she has been recuperating from a series of falls (the dangers for us over 70). All in all, Ann had three falls and four surgeries. She's working with a cane now, strong lady.

First, she fell in a restaurant, had a broken femur, along with a broken hipbone, but the screws didn't hold. Then had a problem with the femur and a broken wrist from the next fall. Hope I got it all correct. It sounds awful. She is at home now, her cell number is (847) 867-3199. A few prayers would help her too. She's in pretty good spirits, considering, but that's Ann, she al-

ways had an upbeat demeanor.

Our fellow co-workers that flew West last month are **JD Mayer**, ORDFO, **Mark Edward Archer**, ORDSW, **Charlotte Moore Wilson**, ORDCS, **Jim Karlick, Dick Allen**, EXO Industrial Relations, **Bill Christofferson**, International, **John Hoeksema**, ORDKF, **Mavis Sloan, Jim Sloan's** wife, EXOCG.

Also gone from our world, singers, Eric Carmen, Steve Lawrence, (Eydie Gorme), actors, M Emmett Walsh (Blade Runner), Louis Gossett Jr. (Officer and a Gentleman), Barbara Rush (Young Philadelphians), Jim Flaherty (SNL), sports figures, Peter Angelos, Orioles Owner, Larry Lucchino, Red Sox president, Otis Hellman, Cubs Clubhouse Manager, Retailer, Linda Bean (L. L. Bean), Connecticut Senator Joe Lieberman, And sympathy to the families of the six people that were killed from the Baltimore Key Bridge tragedy.

Last month, there was a man in Oklahoma that was killed by lethal injection for killing two women in 2002. He lost all of his appeals, so was taken to the room for the administering of the injection. The prison official asked the murderer if he had any last words. The prisoner said 'Na, I'm good'.

#### Calendar:


Northside Breakfast - Rose Garden Restaurant, 9:00AM, 800 E. Higgins Rd., corner of Higgins and Scott St., Elk Grove, (**May 9**), second Thursday of the month.

IAM 1487 Lunch, 1487 Lodge, 50 W. Oakton St., Des Plaines, (**May 2**) 11:00AM. First Thursday.

ORDMM Breakfast - Maxfield's, 9:00AM, Plum Grove & Schaumburg Rds. (**May 16**). Third Thursday.

RUPA Lunch - Pizza, 11:00 A.M., 856 Pyott Rd., Crystal Lake, (**July 9**).

### INDIANA

	<p><b><u>INDY RACERS</u></b> Indianapolis, IN Frank N. Ingegno (317) 428-7741 <a href="mailto:figenius@sbcglobal.net">figenius@sbcglobal.net</a></p>
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Our March meeting was held on the 12<sup>th</sup>; those in attendance were **Bob & Myrtle Duty, Ralph Barnett, Allen Miller, Charles Theiss** and son. Plans for our May picnic were discussed; it is scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup>. We will have burgers, dogs and side dishes brought by members. We plan to meet at Washington Township Park; Pickleball courts are available so we expect to play weather permitting.

The RUAEA Indy Racers chapter is always open


for new participants/members. Any United/CO retirees living in the Indianapolis area are welcome to join. Come check us out at one of our monthly meetings. We always enjoy meeting new United friends. Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 12 Noon. Location of our meeting is Emmy's Pancake House and Grill, 7508 Beechwood Center Road, Avon, IN 46123, (317) 272-7200.

Our future meetings schedule:

- **May 14** at Emmy's
- **June 11** at Emmy's
- **July 9** at Emmy's

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

### MASSACHUSETTS

 <p><b>NOR'EASTERS</b></p>	<p><b><u>NOR'EASTERS</u></b>  New England  Dick Vee Vecchione  107 Bunker Hill Road  Auburn, NH 03032-3521  (603) 264-3430  <a href="mailto:NH4Vee@aol.com">NH4Vee@aol.com</a></p>
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There is no report this month from the Nor'Easters chapter of RUAEA.

### MICHIGAN

 <p><b>GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES</b></p>	<p><b><u>GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES</u></b>  Detroit, MI  Gwen Dyc-Schwendenmann  (248) 667-9258  <a href="mailto:bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net">bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net</a></p>
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Welcome Spring!

Even though we have had a mild winter, it is so uplifting to know that spring with its flowers and longer days has arrived; and this year we are looking forward to the total eclipse of the sun, a rare celestial occurrence. Enjoy it all.

Please remember our United family members who are in need of positive thoughts and prayers. Give an old friend a call or send a card. The smiles will light up the world.

Thought for the month: *"Give every day the chance to become the most beautiful day of your life."* ~ Mark Twain

### MINNESOTA


 <p><b>MSP NORTHERN LITES</b></p>	<p><b><u>NORTHERN LITES</u></b>  Minneapolis, MN  Connie Glattly  82300 Wold Road  Willow River, MN 55795  (218) 349-3972  <a href="mailto:crglattly@frontiernet.net">crglattly@frontiernet.net</a></p>
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The members of the MSP Northern Lites have said farewell to the Queen of Sass, **Nel Brawner**. Nel collected her winnings at St. Croix Casino in Danbury, WI and took her last flight.

Sadly, our friend had battled health issues for quite a few years, keeping her from her most favored activities. Travel, fishing, socializing with friends and trying her luck at the slots had to be put to the side but she never complained. That indomitable spirit shone through even in the tough times. She'll be missed.

Condolences may be sent to her niece, Mrs. **Eva Saffert**, 2139 ~ 27<sup>th</sup> St., Rice Lake, WI 54868.

### NEBRASKA

 <p><b>OMAHA GOLDENEARS</b></p>	<p><b><u>OMAHA GOLDENEARS</u></b>  Jan Cornish  4602 N. 134<sup>th</sup> Ave.  Omaha, NE 68164  (402) 619-9927  <a href="mailto:kcornish6031@msn.com">kcornish6031@msn.com</a></p>
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There is no report this month from the Omaha Golden Ears chapter of RUAEA.





## NEVADA



### LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

Arlene McCroy  
[apolloguy@aol.com](mailto:apolloguy@aol.com)

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

If you are in Las Vegas and or planning a trip here you are more than welcome to come to our Luncheons and visit with our members, you may even know or worked with one of them. Email **Mary Chandler** at [honolulmary06@yahoo.com](mailto:honolulmary06@yahoo.com) or **Arlene McCroy** at [apolloguy@aol.com](mailto:apolloguy@aol.com) for information about the next get together Luncheon.



### RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

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

There were 12 members at our March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting at The Black Bear Diner.

Another reminder: The October meeting has been rescheduled from Monday to Tuesday. As Kathy, the Black Bear Manager, pointed out, Monday is a day off for most because of Columbus – or Indigenous Peoples – Day and they get really busy. We are happy to accommodate that request.

The Reno airport is under construction and is a mess on the street level. There are only two entrances to the ticket lobby: one at the south end by Southwest and one at the north end by United. The garage on the street level has had more space blocked for car returns. That is one of the main issues that will be corrected by the time the entire airport revamp is completed sometime in the future.

John and I traveled to PVR for 9 days just prior to Easter Holy Week. We came home on Palm Sunday and it was a good thing; it was starting to get crazy. The weather was a very comfortable 80 – 85 the entire time.

We sent a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary card to **Bill & Donna Perkins** that all present had signed. Thanks go to **Barbara Leusing** for purchasing the card. In addition,

**Larry Leusing**, very graciously, treated everyone in attendance to lunch.

The March birthday celebrant is **Norm Borchers**. The 50/50 was won by **Lynda Klemm**. The small gold bunny rabbits were won by **Kathy Robinson**.

## NEW JERSEY



### THE GARDEN STATERS

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

An old fable with some variations: A young man by the name of Noah, was walking along the Atlantic City Beach, when his eyes suddenly saw an odd looking jug lying in the sand. He picked it up and didn't see any specific writing on it except that it was plugged with a huge cork. He managed to uncork the jug, and coming out of it in full force was a genie. Noah then said, I thought you people lived in a lamp. The genie replied we do, but the last thing I remember I was out on a "wish job", and suddenly there was a huge explosion, and I wind up in this bottle cooped up for 200 years. Anyway, I am out of here the genie said, I got places to go and people to see and I can't waste my time around here.

Hey, wait a minute said Noah, I'm supposed to get three wishes, the genie replied they had a genie convention and decided they were getting so many crazy wishes that they had it turned down to one wish, so go ahead make one.

Noah contemplated and finally said, I would like to see a bridge built between San Francisco and Tokyo. I want three lanes on each side to take care of trains and cars, and a Holiday Inn every hundred miles. And I would like the Bridge to be lit up at night to make it one of the greatest masterpieces of mankind, and I would like it to be finished in one year, and by the way I don't want any tolls.

The genie looked at Noah and couldn't believe what he heard, and said, I've been in this business for a long time, and this is the craziest request by far that I have ever gotten. Where am I going to anchor the supports in the deepest part of the Pacific Ocean? To say nothing of the amount of steel that I would need for the construction, and I don't know where I would get the service for all that lighting that we would need. I am out of here.


Noah said hey wait a minute, I still get a chance to

use one more wish. This better be good said the genie. Noah now looks straight at the genie and says in deep thought, "I wish that I can understand women". The genie in deep reflection said, how many lanes did you want that bridge, and how long did you say I have to finish it?

The genie said you know I can get my guys in Tokyo working on it from there and we can get started from this end; I'm sure we can finish on time. Noah just smiled, and said, listen I'm going home for dinner, and my wife is putting on a couple of beautiful T-bone steaks and will make some French fries to go with that, corn on the cob smothered in butter, and by the way I have a couple of cold beers.

The genie says do you think your wife would mind. Not at all, she would be honored to have you as a guest. As they both walked along the beach, the genie put his arm around Noah and said, Noah this looks like the beginning of a long friendship.

### NEW YORK

 <p><b>BUFFALO CHIPS</b></p>	<p><b><u>BUFFALO CHIPS</u></b>          Jerry Stevens          130 Countryside Lane          Williamsville, NY 14221-1308          (716) 418-6887  <a href="mailto:Jerste130@msn.com">Jerste130@msn.com</a></p>
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There is no report this month from the Buffalo Chips chapter of RUAEA.

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

 <p><small>NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA</small></p>	<p><b><u>NEW YORK METROS</u></b>          Donna Feingold          (516) 679-9152  <a href="mailto:djf509@aol.com">djf509@aol.com</a></p>
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The Metros met for lunch on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at The Davenport Press Restaurant.

President **Ed Pozzi** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and then announced our April birthdays and anniversaries in April.

Happy birthday to **George Riggi**, **Mario Lagasi**, **Suzanne Lagasi**, **MaryAnn Lilly**, and **Susan McElynn**. There is no anniversary in April.


Our 50/50 winners were **Joe Falcon**, **Ed Pozzi**, and **John Klos**.

Law of gravity: Any tool, nut, screw, bolt, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner.

### Calendar:

**May 1** – Our next luncheon at Davenport Press.

### OHIO

	<p><b><u>OHIO BUCKEYES</u></b>          Cleveland, OH  <a href="mailto:ualohbuckeyes@gmail.com">ualohbuckeyes@gmail.com</a></p>
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Here we are, ready for our Ohio "Spring" weather; we sure are ready for it. The only problem is that it just keeps on snowing a little, almost every day.

We had nice weather on March 6<sup>th</sup> for our luncheon at one of our favorite places: The Brown Derby Restaurant in Middleburg Heights. We had 33 members in attendance. The food and service were great; but then it always is. And, in April, we tried a (new to us) restaurant that was highly recommended by many members. The name is "Gino's - Italian Grill & Bar". It was fantastic.

At our April luncheon, and before the meal was served, as usual we said "Grace". This time we had only 23 members in attendance. Our attendance numbers are shrinking. We are getting less than half the number of people that we have had in the past.

Next month, in May, we will be at Mahle's; and again, we will be served a wonderful meal that will be topped off by great service.

After our meal, **Bernie G.** and **John K.** did another great job of conducting our 50/50 raffle drawing. Our winners: #1-**Tom H.** #2- **Mick H.** And last, but not least #3- **Candy K.**

The members also thanked the host, **Sharon G.**, for hosting the luncheon, and everyone that had helped in any way.

April Birthdays ~ **Bernie K.** and **Mary M.** And "Yes"! We did "sing - the - song" to them.

### Calendar:

**May 1** - Mahle's Restaurant, Westlake. Hosted by **Gene & Jacki C.**

**June 5** –Diamond Event Center, Brunswick. Hosted by **Barb & Frank W.**

**July 3** – Shale Creek Golf Club, Medina. Hosted by **John & Dolly T.**



## OREGON



### OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland

Terry Hotchkin

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

Our March meeting menu included no surprises here, Corned beef & Cabbage; lots of positive reviews.

No news again this month. We just enjoy gathering once a month and catching up with other folks; lots of laughter, and great food. What more could anyone want!

And now for a little humor, and a few puns, with a touch of philosophy thrown in, to help your day pass with a little more fun:

- ☺ I always feel the need to check to make sure my garage is locked at night before going to bed because I don't want someone stealing all the stuff that we've been trying to get rid of for years.
- ☺ Hiring! Looking for someone to take care of me financially, full-time only.
- ☺ Due to current food prices, the 5 second rule has been extended to 15 seconds!
- ☺ Alcohol does not make you fat! It makes you lean ... against tables, chairs, floors, walls, and ugly people.
- ☺ I watched a documentary on marijuana last night. That's probably how I'll watch all documentaries from now on.
- ☺ I just ate what I thought was a feta cheese crumble from my salad off of my shirt. Turns out it was deodorant. So, how's your day going?
- ☺ A new study recently found that humans eat more bananas than monkeys. I cannot remember the last time I ate a monkey.
- ☺ Netflix needs to stop asking if I'm still watching and start asking if I moved the laundry to the dryer yet!
- ☺ You're never too old to really hurt yourself trying something new.
- ☺ I had a lot of stuff to do today, but I was reading a really good book ... now I have a lot more stuff to do tomorrow.
- ☺ Time is like a river. You cannot touch the same water twice, because the flow that has passed will never pass again. Enjoy every moment of your life.
- ☺ Finally, my bills are washed, laundry is paid, clothes are baking, and dinner is in the dryer. I've got this!
- ☺ They say with age comes wisdom, so therefore I

don't have wrinkles, I have wise cracks!

- ☺ Trying to think of a tree pun, but I'm stumped.
- ☺ I overheard the pharmacist explaining to new medication to a patient: "This anti-depressant works best if you take it with water lapping near your hammock on a Caribbean beach."
- ☺ Studies show cows produce more milk when farmers talk to them. It's called, "in one ear and out the udder!"
- ☺ I do not drink coffee to wake up. I wake up to drink coffee!
- ☺ I've been thinking about visiting wine country, which is what I call my backyard and a bottle opener.
- ☺ I don't want to say that I'm old and worn out, but I make sure I'm nowhere near the curb on trash day!
- ☺ "I'm going to put this somewhere safe", is an ancient incantation that opens a portal to a random point in another timeline, through which all safely kept things travel, never to be seen again.
- ☺ I've reached the age where I appreciate a nice handrail. Enough said.
- ☺ John is having a very bad day. He tried to button his shirt and the button fell off. He picked up his briefcase and the handle fell off. He went to open the door and the doorknob fell off. Now he is really, really hurting but is afraid to pee.
- ☺ Please don't ride with me if you are going to grab the dash or scream every time we run off the road. It makes me very nervous.
- ☺ To the ladies who gracefully walk around in heels all day, I admire you. To the women who fall over their own feet in flip flops ... you are my soul sisters!
- ☺ I need another time out. Please send me to the beach and do not let me come back until my attitude changes!
- ☺ Some life advice: A great way to protect yourself from the sun is drinking wine in the shade. Follow me for more great hacks.
- ☺ I won't ever admit that my memory is bad, but I will admit that I could hide my own eggs this Easter. Within 30 minutes, I had no clue where they were hidden.
- ☺ I just got a full tank of gas for \$22. Granted it was for my lawn mower, but I am trying to stay positive.
- ☺ Summer is fast approaching. I kind of want to look good in a swimsuit. I kind of want to eat 47 tacos. I'm kind of annoyed that I have to pick only one.
- ☺ Picture Spock talking to a crewmate on the Star Trek Enterprise: Spock, "Are you ok with a

Vulcan helping you?” Crew, “Of course. Why wouldn’t I be?” Spock, “I was afraid you might feel ... alien aided.” Groan!

- ☺ I do what I can to make the world a better place. For example, I’ve had my coffee.
- ☺ Sign seen on a NY street: No horn blowing except for anger!
- ☺ The best thing about being over 60? We did all our stupid stuff before the invention of the internet, so there’s no proof!
- ☺ There are times when you need the silence of animals to recover from humans.
- ☺ A woman goes to the doctor worried about her husband’s temper. The Doctor asks: “What’s the problem? Woman: “I don’t know what to do. Every day my husband seems to lose his temper for no reason. It scares me.” Doctor: “I have a cure for that. When it seems that your husband is getting angry, just take a glass of water and start swishing it in your mouth. Just swish and swish but don’t swallow it until he either leaves the room or calms down.” Two weeks later the woman comes back looking fresh and reborn: “Doctor that was a brilliant idea! Every time my husband started losing it, I swished with water. I swished and swished, and he calmed right down! How does swishing water do that?” Doctor: “The water itself does nothing. It’s keeping your mouth shut that does the trick.” *My apologies to women everywhere but it was time.*
- ☺ It turns out that as you get older you don’t really figure things out. You just don’t have the energy to care anymore.

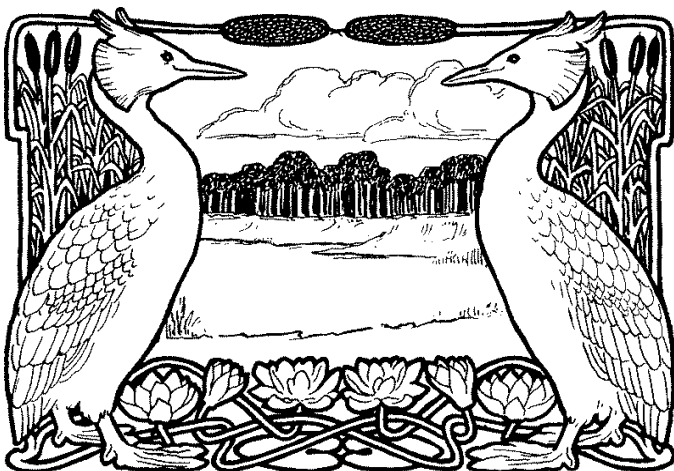
Until next month!

#### Calendar:


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

#### **May 9**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month.



## PENNSYLVANIA


	<p><b><u>THE INDEPENDENTS</u></b>  Philadelphia, PA  Gail Bradley  225 Elm Avenue.  Media, PA 19063-5740.  (610) 358-3498  <a href="mailto:gailbrad@icloud.com">gailbrad@icloud.com</a></p>
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Hi from Philly!

Well today is April 7<sup>th</sup> and we have not had our first luncheon of 2024, so there’s little news for the Newsletter. Our first luncheon of the year is scheduled for tomorrow, April 8<sup>th</sup> and we are looking forward to seeing our former workers and how they are handling our unusual weather. Wind, rain, cold and dampness; that’s unusual for us.

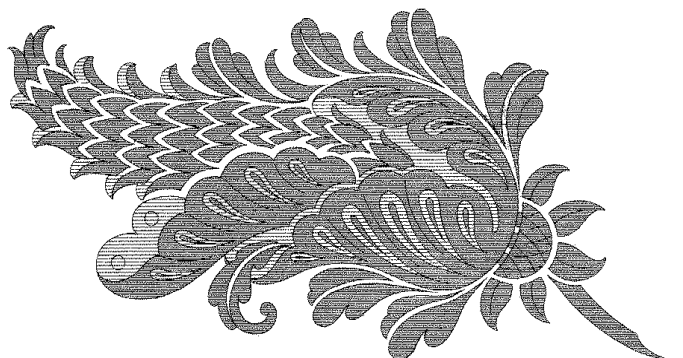
So everyone will be watching the eclipse tomorrow, which is exciting for most of us. I know of several people going to each viewing area. We will be watching it on TV if we can’t see it in person.

Looking forward to our next issue.

	<p><b><u>PITTSBURGH</u></b>  <b><u>PIT-STOPPERS</u></b>  Bill Chicots  2419 Rochester Road  Sewickley, PA. 15143  (412) 352-7375  <a href="mailto:firechief158@gmail.com">firechief158@gmail.com</a></p>
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Although she was not a retiree, we lost **Charlotte Morre-Wilson** on March 13, 2024. Charlotte’s career saw her work at DCARR, PITCS, and ORDCS. Charlotte was well into retirement age, but enjoyed working and was well liked by co-workers and customers alike. Her service was recently held at White Memorial Chapel, Pittsburgh, PA.

*April Birthdays ~ 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](mailto:carolynhartshorn@aol.com)

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

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


## UTAH



**SALT LAKE RETIREES**  
Rich Papworth  
[pappys72@hotmail.com](mailto:pappys72@hotmail.com)

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

## WASHINGTON



**EMERALD CITY SLICKERS**  
Seattle, WA  
Ken Storey  
(206) 244-9026

A reminder that the Emerald City Slickers does not have any meeting planned until our annual summer picnic scheduled for July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at **Kathi Skarbo's** home in Burien, 12 Noon.

We continue to hold the monthly Mechanics meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at Trotter's Restaurant in Auburn, WA, please let **Ken Storey** know if you are planning to attend, (206) 244-9026.

We are looking forward to this year's Reunion in San Diego this year. Hope to see you there.



## WASHINGTON, D.C.



**THE DULLES LOUNGERS**  
Washington, D.C.  
Mari McColl  
Past President  
[marimccoll@aol.com](mailto:marimccoll@aol.com)

February was "Snack Food Month". Who knew? Our esteemed President knew and gifted every member in attendance with a packaged Ding Dong. They were quite tasty and enjoyed to the max by everyone there. It was a decent sized gathering this month; there were 46 members and guests in attendance. It was wonderful to see our numbers come back to the size of membership numbers that we were used to before we got hit with the two-year pandemic era. We are happy to slowly rebuild and reorganize. COVID has definitely not gone away, but most people are vaccinated now and I don't think the virus is as strong as it used to be. I am happy to see that most people have adapted to a new and more "thought out" way of life. Many people now carry their own hand wipes with them and fist bumps have become fairly common practice in place of handshaking and sometime even replace the hug. It is still a group of people with so much in common and so many memories to share. The gifts of our long careers with United Airlines are still with us and just keep on giving. We all had such pride in "our company" and we each walked away with so many stories to share.

United gave us all a real sense of belonging and our enthusiasm has carried through into our joyful retirements. We all miss our former employment, but being the type of people that it took to be in those careers, we have continued to live exciting and interesting lives for many years post United years.



Our friend and former historian, **Bob O'Roark**, has an outstanding number of UAL memorabilia. He read in this bulletin that they needed a model of the DC8-

stretch to complete their collection for our own museum. He brought his to the February luncheon so that we could each get one last glimpse of it before he sent this one off as his gift to UAL. Below is a picture of this little beauty which sat out, for all to admire during the entirety of our hours long gathering. (Our business meeting is usually only about 20 minutes but most of us stay and socialize for an hour or so longer.)

It was great to see **E. K. Williams** (DCAFO) and his devoted wife, **Betty**, return to our folds. These were two of our most reliable members that seemed to have gone AWOL during the COVID era. Hopefully, they are back for good. Also, **Henry Ayers** (our devoted coordinator in DCA Inflight office), and his lovely bride, **Ina**, have returned after a self-protective absence. There are many others that I will tell you about in a future publication. So happy to see so many old and new faces again.

**Alice Feng**, who still actively runs our United Manliner Club at Dulles, won and donated back her earnings from our monthly 50/50. We are grateful for her generosity of the full \$29 winnings. If ever I win our 50/50 drawing, I wonder if I will be so giving and generous as Alice.? Hmmmm, I guess we will find out (if it ever occurs).

Two of our visitors were **Sandy Bateman** and **Dave Bryce**. We enjoyed their time with us and hope to see them again in the near future.

**Kerrie Schneider** brought to the attention of our members that a new charge will be appearing on our credit card receipts for the cost that companies are incurring when you use your credit card to honor your payment of their product. Some are charging only the increase in this fee. Some are passing along any variation of that expense. New York City has passed a law forbidding this practice and other cities and states are following suit. We may need to keep an eye on this new trend.

Our next luncheon is scheduled for March 13<sup>th</sup>. It is **always** the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. It is also always at the Golden Corral in Manassas Virginia. The manager and staff at this restaurant has always been very accommodating to our membership and make our visits as pleasant as they can. We have our own private area and rather than getting upset when we become too loud or rowdy, they join in with us. It is hospitality at its finest. Join us if you can. We will be celebrating St. Paddy's Day in grand style.



## NATIONAL



### CLIPPED WINGS

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

Do you want to improve **your** quality of life? **Volunteer!** April is National Volunteer month. Volunteerism is a basic expression of human relationships. Volunteering can be good for your mind and body. It provides a sense of purpose and can bring fulfillment to your life. Since most of us are retired, we all have many valuable assets to bring into a volunteer position. Check out your local community and find a place where you can share some of your talents and expertise with those who could benefit greatly from your skill set. Find an opportunity that matches your interests and/or goals or try something totally different. Volunteering should feel rewarding and hopefully be fun as well! Some of my favorite people in my life I have met through my volunteering opportunities!

Clipped Wings is an amazing volunteer organization. Are you interested in finding out more about Clipped Wings? If you know someone who might be interested in "continuing the connection", we would be happy to connect you with a local Clipped Wings Chapter. We are former, retired, and current flight attendants from United, United Express, Pan Am and Continental. Just an FYI, since 1968 Clipped Wings has donated over \$13,000,000.00 and over 65 years of volunteering hours. Each chapter has their own local philanthropic charities and our National philanthropy is Special Olympic Parent Grants. We can be found on our Website at [unitedclippedwingsinc.org](https://unitedclippedwingsinc.org), Facebook at Clipped Wings® Chat Corner and on Instagram our handle is clippedwingsual.■



## Clipped Wings®

UNITED AIRLINES STEWARDESS ALUMNAE AND FLIGHT ATTENDANTS, INC.  
A NON-PROFIT 501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION




<https://unitedclippedwingsinc.org>

Referred by:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen Denker, National Vice President  
[kdenkerus@gmail.com](mailto:kdenkerus@gmail.com)



## 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 2024**:

Leroy DeCamara, Vancouver, WA  
Bob Glzauskis, Kenosha, WI  
Lynn Hayden, Richmond, TX  
Tom Healy, Centennial, CO  
Karla Kent-Lonergan, Charleston, SC  
Mary Morse, Palo Alto, CA  
Illana Petro, Oldsmar, FL  
Toni C. Taylor, Greenville, NC  
Robert Zuber, Aurora, CO■



*Get the Newsletter HOT 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](http://www.ruaea.org) and follow the instructions.*

**INCLUDE FILE NUMBER IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE**

**For all Membership & Newsletter Circulation issues, please contact Membership Manager: Michael Malesardi.**

**Phone Number: (303) 780-5022**

**-or-**

**RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433**

**Email: [ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net)**

## 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 2024**:

Karl Besteder, Joseph M. Boberek, Mary G. Brennan, Albert L. Brose, Dennis F. Carroll, Leroy DeCamara, Erwin Garzaro, Linda Goodrich, Henry Gosselin, Susan Greubel, Carol E. Hatton, Claude F. Jenkins, Richard T. Kato, Mary Morse, Dawn Murphy, Irene Nightingale Nettler, Joseph Palma, Marlene Proch, Renee C. Prost, Anne Rosenstein, Vivien Rotella, Rechie S. Santander, Christina Scott, Luvonne Stewart, Jackie Szymanski, Toni C. Taylor, Maria Wisniewski, John Witkowski, and Robert M. Yesko.■





# OBITUARIES

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

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

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

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

Retiree – **Boynton, Jane L.**, DOD Unknown, HNLCS, No known next of kin, 629 Hahaione Pl., Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

Retiree – **Carmelino, Lizandro Ignacio**, on 1/26/2024, SFOMM, husband of Carmen Carmelino, 161 Canterbury Avenue, Daly City, CA 94015

Retiree – **Deily, John J.**, on 2/4/2024, EWRMM, husband of Kathleen E Deily, 142 Oakland Ave., Somerset, NJ 08873

Retiree – **Jeffery Kevin B.**, on 3/12/2024, JFKFO, husband of Carole (Freeman) Jeffery, 39 S. Lookout Mt. Rd., Golden, CO 80401

Retiree – **Gburek, Clarence J.**, 5/19/2023, ORDFF, husband of Audrey Gburek, 1605 Deerpass Rd., Marengo, IL 60152

Retiree – **Gray, Stephen**, on 8/18/2023, Last Station Worked Unknown, husband of Annabelle Gray, 1200 Mira Mar Ave., Ste 91, Medford, OR 97504. Stephen was 102 years old when he passed.

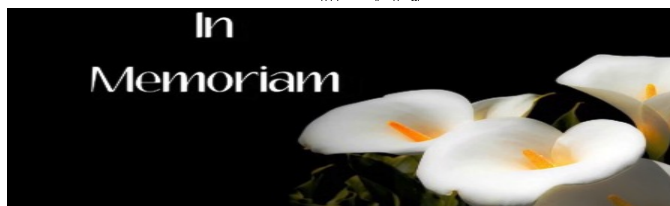
Retiree – **Hoeksema, John E. Sr.**, on 4/3/2024, WHQKT, husband of Judy Hoeksema, 212 W. County Drive, Bartlett, IL 60103

Spouse – **Kobler, Lorraine**, on 2/13/2024, wife of Alfred Kobler, EXOGO (deceased), mother of Barbara Butow, WHQKB, Nicholas Kobler, ORDPV, mother in law of Dave Butow, ORDJL, 13308 Oak Farm Lane, Huntersville, NC 28078

Retiree – **Leising, Elaine**, on 2/24/2024, MKECS, mother of two sons, Jeffrey Leising and Michael Leising, 2105 S. Parkside Dr., New Berlin, WI 53151

Retiree – **Teter, Helen C.**, on 3/11/2024, WHQSW, wife of David K. Teter, WHQAS (deceased), and mother of two daughters, Caroline J. Teter and Catherine, M. Teter Zapata, 2929 Sunnyside Dr., D260, Rockford, IL 61114

Retiree – **Wong, Angelo R.**, on 10/12/2023, SFOJC, brother of Miguel, uncle of Aida Wong Gamba, Julie Wong and a host of other friends and family, 324 Avalon Dr., San Francisco, CA 94080■





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

### Notes

#### My Funny one for this time:

A Third Grader's Essay On What a Grandparent is:  
*"A grandmother is a lady who has no children of her own, so she likes other peoples' little girls and boys. A grandfather is a man grandmother; he goes on walks with the boys and talks about fishing and things like that."*

#### Karla Kent-Lonergan

Hello! I took the VSL - A program in 2021. Looking forward to joining RUAEA! When you say station code, do you mean ORD where I was based before I left? Haha!

#### Marlene Proch

Thank you for the reminder letter. Also, thanks to everyone for putting the newsletter together each month.

#### William N. Gordius

I retired in 2008 and am living the good life in Granite Falls, Washington. I haven't traveled on United since 2009 and anxious to get back on the Nonrev trail.

#### Irene Nightingale Nettler

I so wish that the RUAEA Reunion would be held on the East Coast sometime. Traveling from Montpelier, Vermont is not easy. We are the smallest state capital and I enjoy living here. My husband, Gideon, made the decision it was Vermont or Italy. So happy I am in Vermont.

#### Maria Wisniewski

I love United! I worked for United for 44 years and am missing all the great friends I made there!

#### Jay Weimer

I worked as an AP-RE mechanic at LGAMM, CLEMM, PHLMM, PITMM. I've been retired 21 years; my career with UAL was the best job I ever had.

#### Anne Rosenstein

I had a great job, fantastic times. I met lifetime friends and I met my husband through Pan Am / United.

#### Rechie S. Santander

A big "Thanks" for all you do for the Newsletter. I am enjoying retirement, family and friends. Thanks for the due reminder.

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

John Bogdanoff, Elizabeth Byrne, Dianne Calderwood, Leslie Doughty, Rose Dougherty, Trudy Engeldinger, Leonard Haubl, George Horiuchi, Nick Hyland, Gilbert Johnson, Jacqueline Engel King, Kate King, Jack Miller, Victoria Lee, William Mansur, Leslie McAllister, Donna Marie Simpson, Michael Thilges, Libby Timchak, Donald Watts, Judy Ann Wika, and Fred Wise.

#### **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.)*

#### **Maxine Dixon, 14691 Grandview Dr., Moreno Valley, CA 92555**

My husband was an employee for United for 34 years.

I still feel like I am a part of the United family.

Thank you for all of the information and work you provide for all of us.

#### **Bernard Sandner, 1106 S. Belmont Ave., Arlington Hts, IL 60005**

Another year and time to renew!

Thank you for all your hard work. I look forward to the Newsletter each month; and so does my wife.



### **Maria L. Pollack**

RUAEA has been great for renewing friendship with my former coworkers. If it were not for RUAEA, these friendships may not have been re-established as well as forming new friendships.

### **Karl Besteder**

I just love the RUAEA Newsletter, especially the travel tips even though I am not flying very much.■



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## The Contact Column



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

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

### **United Employee Service Center**

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

1-847-825-3729 - International Use

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

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

### **Employee Travel Center**

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

### **United Airlines Technical Service Desk**

**1-800-255-5801**

For Flying Together password assistance

*\*Do not use for pass travel questions\**

### **Insurance Questions-see number on back of your insurance card**

### **PBGC - for all retiree pension questions**

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

### **Social Security Administration**

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

### **Alliant Credit Union**

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

Malcolm Horn, CFP®, Financial Consultant

Alliant Retirement & Investment Services

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

(F) (773) 462-3669, [mhorn@alliantcreditunion.com](mailto:mhorn@alliantcreditunion.com)

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

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

1-844-635-3401

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

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

**PRESIDENT**  
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## United Airlines Historical Foundation

"Preserving the Past,  
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"United first flew the "Friend Ship" livery in 1971. This design proudly flies again, chosen by United co-workers to celebrate our 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary." "While the airline and our industry have greatly changed through the years, one thing remains the same: We're honored to have you as our customer."

**Note:** While there is some disagreement on the choice of an "Airbus" over a "Boeing", I believe it was because no Boeing planes were in the "ready-to-paint" stage and this Airbus was available.

*We'd like to inform you that we are again requesting donations to the United Airlines Historical Foundation. The Historical Exhibit is located on the first floor in Room A-104 of the Denver Flight Training Center in Denver. We volunteers are at the Exhibit every Friday. This is the day all new First Officers get their wings and also includes Captain upgrades. They are there with their families and other guests. We are able to give them a thorough tour of the artifacts including an Audio-Visual Room and a Library. - We are a 501 (c) (3) organization. All donations can be sent to: United Airlines Historical Foundation; 7401 E. Martin Luther King Blvd.; Room A-104; Denver, CO 80207*

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While the airline and our industry have greatly changed through the years, one thing remains the same: we're honored to have you as our customer.

**85 years**  
1926-2011  
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