



Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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The Wings of Legacy: A United Airlines Story By Hank Gosselin - RUAEA VP - Conventions

The roar of jet engines has always been a part of the Goodyear family's life, echoing through the skies above and beneath the surface of every family gathering. Three generations, bound by the same love for aviation, began their journey with United Airlines in a way that would last for more than a century, in fact 105 years.

It all began with **Murl Goodyear**, who, in 1928, took his first job at United Airlines when it was still known as United Aircraft & Transport Corporation. Murl's dream of flying was not realized in the cockpit, but on the ground, where he worked tirelessly as a mechanic, ensuring the planes ran smoothly and safely.

Tom Goodyear followed his father's footsteps and also had a career with United Airlines; he spent 40 years working as a Zone Controller, responsible for ramp operations. After retirement, Tom became very active in RUAEA; he also served as President of the United Airlines Historical Foundation. UAHF's mission was collecting and archiving United Airlines memorabilia; Tom directed a team of volunteers that operated out of the Denver Flight Training Center, sharing a large space with RUAEA. For a number of years under Tom's leadership, UAHF participated at RUAEA Annual Conventions, having displays of UAHF historical items, from past uniforms, flight schedules, menus, etc. The goal was to educate Convention attendees of United Airlines history and to solicit membership and donations for this worthy cause. (*See the UAHF displays at Denver Flight Training Center on the back cover.*)

Tom Goodyear's son, **Paul Goodyear**, also had a career with United Airlines in Aircraft Maintenance and is now retired. Paul's family also work for United Airlines, Paul chronicled the Goodyear family's career with United in the General News Section of this Newsletter. The acorn doesn't fall far from the tree as Paul has taken over from Tom as President of UAHF. Paul is also very active in RUAEA as President of the Denver Chapter, the Mile Highers; Paul has volunteered to help with RUAEA's Golden Jubilee set for September 2025. At this year's Reunion, a Tour of the United Airlines Flight Training Center is being planned; where a number of UAFH collections are on permanent display. At our Golden Jubilee Reunion, there will also be a UAHF display for your viewing, and information on how to join or donate (memorabilia or money). The attached image shows a view of Flight Training Center from the our Reunion/Convention Hotel.



sense of pride they feel when they look up and see the planes with the iconic United Airlines logo soaring above the clouds. For the Goodyear family, aviation is more than a career; it's their heritage, and their wings will always carry them home.

I know many of you have spent many years at United in your respective careers; I myself retired after 40 years in aircraft maintenance. I started in New York, when it was called Idlewild, working on DC-6 and DC-7 aircraft. I retired in Seattle and have been very proud of my career working for United Airlines. With that said, we would like to hear your stories; please send them on to our Newsletter Manager **John Chu** at johnqchu@hotmail.com. ■

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

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

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

John Chu - Newsletter Manager
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GENERAL NEWS

WWW.RUAEA.ORG

Letter From The President



Ruth Morabito

Hello to all,
Just a quick note as the RUAEA Executive Board is just wrapping up the 2025 Spring Board meeting. I'm pleased to announce that **Linda Fessel** has accepted the appointment as Treasurer, her bio will be published in next month's newsletter, but in short Linda brings an in-depth accounting experience and wealth of talents to the team. Join me in welcoming Linda to the RUAEA family; and we thank her for accepting the challenge of this post. That being said, I want to thank **Chris Johnston** for his time, energy and contributions during his Treasurer tenure as well as assisting in the transition as we go forward.

The 2025 Golden Jubilee is coming together with **Hank Gosselin** leading the way, keep an eye out in the newsletter, RUAEA.org website and RUAEA Facebook page for updates! Thank you, Hank, for your dedication to the RUAEA family and leading the way on this event!

Ruth Morabito
RUAEA President

The Goodyear Family History with United Airlines By Paul Goodyear

The Goodyear history with UAL started in Plymouth, Indiana in 1926, when a barnstormer, Billy Mitchel (WWI Ace, was having trouble with his aircraft engine. My grandfather **Murl Goodyear** and his brother **Waldo Goodyear**, both working as truck mechanics at the local dairy, were referred to Billy Mitchel as the best mechanics in town. After the repairs were made to Billy's aircraft, he recommended that they should seek a new career in aviation and Chicago is the place to start.

In 1927, Waldo took the suggestion and went to Chicago to start his career in aviation with the new airline National Air Transport (NAT). After a year with NAT, he moved on to another Air carrier (Grey Goose) due to a nepotism rule at NAT so his brother Murl could start his career as an aviation mechanic; both brothers worked at NAT together for 2 days.

On October 1928, Murl (nick name Goodey) started



his lifelong career with NAT who merged with 3 other airlines (Boeing Air Transport, Pacific Air Transport and Varney Airlines) to form United airlines in 1931. In the mid-thirties, he became an aircraft maintenance instructor. In 1946, Murl moved to New York City at LaGuardia airport as Station Maintenance Manager.

In 1949, he moved to Denver in a new position as OPB Western Division Station Maintenance Support Manager. When OPB was centralized in Chicago in 1962, he moved back to Chicago (EXO) and retired after 37 years of service in 1965.



In 1953, Murl's son Thomas (Tom) started his long career with UAL as a ramp service man. Later in his life, he moved up to a ramp lead, ramp supervisor,

load planer and retired after 40 years in 1993 as a Zone Planner.

(Left picture shows Murl and his wife holding son Tom in front of the first United Airlines' DC-3).

In 1984, Tom's son, Paul, who was working for the original Frontier airlines as an aircraft mechanic, changed airlines and became the third generation with UAL. Paul hired on as a line aircraft mechanic at Denver's Stapleton airport. Paul retired from UAL with almost 38 years in 2022.

Paul married a UAL customer service agent, **Karen Wells**, in 1998. Karen hired on with UAL in Dayton, Ohio in 1978 and transferred to Denver in 1986. Karen retired with 42 years in 2020.

(Attached picture shows Paul and his family (Karen, Lauren and Sam) in a 767 engine inlet cowl.

Tom's daughter, Amy, started with United in 1985 as a customer service agent and transferred to Colorado Springs; she left the company in 2006 with 21 years of service when United closed the station to UAL employees and contracted out their positions to Sky West. Amy married a Customer Service Agent, **Michael Bruchs**. Mike started his career with UAL in Dayton, Ohio on the same day as **Karen Goodyear**. He was a Customer Service Agent in UAL stations, Dayton, San Francisco, Monterey, Denver and Colorado Springs. Mike retired with almost 36 years of service in 2014.

Tom's son Drew hired on with UAL in 1986 as an aircraft cleaner in Denver. Soon after being hired, he transferred to ramp service. In 1991, after 5 years at UAL, Drew went on to pursue a new career in water technology.

Paul & Karen's son, started his career with UAL in 2021 as a ground equipment technician in Denver and plans on making it a lifelong career; he loves his job.

The Goodyear family has been with United Airlines since 1927, with 224 years of service.

Ways to Stay Confident in Retirement By Malcolm Horn, CFP®



Today's retirees are living longer than ever before and experiencing retirement in new ways. Gone are the days when people worked 50 years for the same employer, retired on a predictable pension, and settled down into a quiet lifestyle. Today's retirees are more active—they're traveling the world, learning new skills, and redefining what creates a retirement community.^{1, 2}

Staying financially confident in retirement involves careful planning, smart financial decisions, and ongoing management of your resources. Here are some strate-

gies to help you maintain financial confidence during your golden years.

Calculate Your Actual Costs ~ If you don't identify your actual retirement costs, you risk leaving yourself without the necessary income to cover your expenses. Consider what you need from the following areas:

- ❖ **Basic Living Expenses:** Calculate your expected monthly expenses for housing, utilities, groceries, transportation, and insurance.
- ❖ **Healthcare Costs:** Factor in Medicare premiums, out-of-pocket medical expenses, and long-term care insurance.
- ❖ **Lifestyle Expenses:** Consider your desired lifestyle, including travel, hobbies, dining out, and entertainment.

Unexpected Expenses: Set aside a cushion for emergencies or unforeseen expenses.

Forecast Income ~ On the plus side, you should determine your retirement income sources, and work with a trusted financial professional to help you identify your income needs.

- ❖ **Social Security Benefits:** Estimate your monthly benefits using the Social Security Administration's online tools.
- ❖ **Pension Plans and Annuities:** Include any pension income from former employers or existing annuities.
- ❖ **Retirement Savings:** Calculate your withdrawals from 401(k), IRA, and other retirement accounts.
- ❖ **Part-time Work or Hobbies:** If you plan to work part-time during retirement, estimate your potential earnings.

Calculate the gap by subtracting your annual retirement income from your annual retirement expenses to find the shortfall, and use the 4% rule: multiply the shortfall by 25 to estimate the total amount of retirement savings needed (based on the 4% withdrawal rule).

Stay Informed About Financial Matters

- ▲ **Education:** Continuously educate yourself about financial topics relevant to retirees, such as changes in tax laws, healthcare costs, and investment strategies.
- ▲ **Consult Professionals:** Seek advice from financial consultants, tax professionals, and estate planners to make informed decisions. My team of Financial Consultants and I are available to help with guidance: aris.alliantcreditunion.com.

¹ BusinessInsider.com, September 19, 2022

² SeniorLiving.org, July 27, 2023

The information in this material is not intended as tax or legal advice. It may not be used for the purpose of avoiding any federal tax penalties. Please consult legal or tax professionals for specific information re-

garding your individual situation.

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United Installs Starlink on First Regional Aircraft **March 7, 2025**



United today announced it installed Starlink on its first regional aircraft and unveiled details of the process to underscore the technical operations benefits associated with the equipment, including size and weight as well as the ease of install and maintenance.

The airline expects to outfit 40+ regional aircraft each month beginning in May through the end of 2025 – average Starlink install time is about 8 hours, excluding any de-installation of existing equipment, testing or aircraft modification, approximately 10 times faster than installing non-Starlink equipment.

Earlier this year, the airline said it plans to outfit its two-cabin regional fleet by the end of the year. Ultimately, United will add Starlink to its entire fleet.

“Our ability to roll-out this innovative service with unprecedented speed and scale is a direct result of the advanced equipment, technology and team of experts at United,” said United’s VP of Digital Technology, Grant Milstead. *“Starlink has been a terrific partner – our combined spirit of innovation and collaboration will enable us to hit our goal of more than 300 regional aircraft installations before the end of this year.”*

Starlink stands to not only unlock an incredible on-board experience for United customers – the fastest Wi-Fi in the sky, for free, and new onboard entertainment options – but also enables a more streamlined install, maintenance and overall operation:

- ▲ Faster install, means less down time: United is taking each plane out of service for just 4 days to de-install existing equipment, install Starlink, run tests and close-up the aircraft parts opened during the install, versus an average 10+ days for other inflight providers.
- ▲ Streamlined equipment: The entire Starlink installation kit weighs 85 pounds, compared to other inflight provider kits that can weigh up to 300 pounds, and is electronically steered with no moving parts, making it easier to transport and install and requiring less maintenance.
- ▲ Simple install: Streamlined equipment means a simpler install. Once an aircraft is taken out of service for the install, the existing Wi-Fi is uninstalled. Then the Starlink equipment is installed, including an internal reinforcement structure, external antenna and main cabin wireless access points and power supply. Finally, the team runs system checks before and after closing the interior.
- ▲ More fuel-efficient: Starlink's 85 pound footprint on the aircraft means the aircraft requires less fuel to operate than with other inflight providers.
- ▲ Weather-proofed: Weather on the ground doesn't hinder connectivity thanks to a weather-proofed inter-satellite laser link technology that allows satellites to communicate to each other and the ground reliably.
- ▲ More reliable: Starlink-equipped aircraft will constantly switch between Starlink's world's largest, low-earth orbit constellation of satellites to ensure the best coverage and most reliable Wi-Fi onboard.

United also confirms that customers onboard Starlink-equipped regional aircraft can expect Wi-Fi speeds up to 250 megabits per second (Mbps), which is 50 times faster than current regional aircraft speeds.

Starlink access will be free for all MileagePlus® customers and include game-changing inflight entertainment experiences like streaming services, shopping, gaming and more. Membership to MileagePlus is also free and people can sign-up now at united.com/starlink.

United Opens Grab-and-Go Club in Houston **February 25, 2025**



United today opened its newest United Club Fly location at George Bush Intercontinental Airport, designed for travelers who want a convenient option to pick up a snack, beverage

or barista-made coffee as they head to their flight. At United Club Fly in Houston, travelers can experience:

- ❖ Seamless, self-scan entry with their boarding pass at automated entry gates.
- ❖ Selection of premium food and beverage for the on-the-go traveler, including fresh-squeezed orange juice, warmed pastries, wraps, salads, sandwiches and more.
- ❖ Barista-crafted, personalized coffee beverages from the club's full-service coffee bar, helping customers skip long lines at airport coffee shops.
- ❖ Self-service beverage counter with a reusable water bottle refilling station and other favorite nonalcoholic beverages, including soft drinks, iced tea and more.
- ❖ Space City inspired design that celebrates the Houston area.

"We're bringing elevated convenience to Houston with the opening of our second Club Fly location," said Alexander Dorow, Head of United's Club and Lounge Program. "Designed for on-the-go United Club members, Club Fly offers a club experience that matches the ways travelers' needs have evolved, especially when they're pressed for time. Not all customers travel the same way and that encourages us to constantly look at new opportunities to add value to our club program and support travelers throughout their entire journey."

United was the first U.S. airline to debut a grab-and-go club concept with the opening of its first location in Denver in 2022. More than 300,000 travelers have visited Club Fly since it opened in Denver, and they've enjoyed the convenience, refreshment selection and barista-made drinks, especially during short layovers. This club format reflects the airline's ongoing commitment to launch new innovations that support different customer needs during their travel journeys.

More than half of customers at IAH are connecting passengers, and the grab-and-go club will improve the customer experience for on-the-go travelers who are pressed for time and want to quickly recharge and refuel before their flight. Located on the south side of Terminal B, United Club Fly features a modern design that reflects Houston. The Space City inspired club features seasonal coffee bar highlights, such as Lavender Matcha Latte and Blueberry Acai "Galaxy" Latte.

United Club members and travelers in premium cabins flying internationally will have access to United Club Fly.

The opening of United Club Fly in Houston is part of the airline's growth plans in Houston that include a \$2.6 billion renovation and expansion of Terminal B, a new United Club location and an Early Bag Storage facility (EBS). It also marks the airline's latest investment in its network of clubs and lounges. Since 2022, United

has opened or renovated a total of eight United Club locations across its system. In 2025, the airline will open expanded Polaris Lounges in Chicago and Newark. Also in 2025, United will reopen a renovated and expanded club in Denver's B West Terminal, which will complete its plan to redesign every United Club at DEN. Internationally, United plans to reopen the United Club in Hong Kong. In 2026, United will open a new United Club in San Francisco and its largest-ever United Club in Houston.

For more information on United Club locations and how to visit, go to united.com/unitedclub.

United Sustainable Flight Fund Invests in Heirloom to Scale Direct Air Capture **February 25, 2025**



United today announced that the UAV Sustainable Flight Fund has made an investment in direct air capture (DAC) company Heirloom, adding Heirloom's measurable, quantifiable carbon reduction

technology to its already robust portfolio of decarbonization strategies. The Fund also entered into an agreement for the right to purchase up to 500,000 tons of carbon dioxide removal (CDR) to be delivered for the production of sustainable aviation fuel or permanently stored underground.

Heirloom's already-proven and scalable technology accelerates the natural power of limestone to capture CO₂ directly from the air – making it potentially one of the lowest cost pathways for removing carbon dioxide.

“Carbon capture is one of our country's fastest growing, energy enabling pathways,” said Andrew Chang, head of United Airlines Ventures. *“At UAV, our primary focus is finding solutions for decarbonization that are profitable. Heirloom's technology aligns directly with this objective, offering a scalable and commercially viable approach and complements United's commitment to net zero by 2050.”*

“We are incredibly proud to welcome the United Sustainable Flight Fund as an investor and to work with them to scale our DAC technology,” said Shashank Samala, CEO of Heirloom. *“By utilizing DAC as a dual-pronged tool that can both greatly reduce CO₂ emission from aviation fuel and remove residual emissions, we are charting a true path to Net Zero aviation.”*

Heirloom marks United's third carbon capture investment but the first in a company commercializing direct air capture technology. DAC is one of two main forms of carbon capture utilization and storage, along with point source capture. Unlike point source capture which captures CO₂ from a specific emitting source,

like a power plant, DAC removes atmospheric CO₂.

UAV Sustainable Flight Fund ~ The UAV Sustainable Flight FundSM is a first-of-its-kind investment vehicle designed to leverage support from cross-industry businesses in order to support start-ups focused on decarbonizing air travel. The fund is comprised of more than \$200 million in investment commitments from United and corporate partners including: Air Canada, Air New Zealand, Aircastle (a Marubeni & Mizuho Leasing Company), American Express Global Business Travel, Aviation Capital Group, Boeing, Boston Consulting Group, Embraer, GE Aerospace, Google, Groupe ADP, Hawaiian Airlines, HIS, Honeywell, JetBlue Ventures, Natixis Corporate & Investment Banking, Safran Corporate Ventures, and Technip Energies, among others. For more information about the fund, please visit the United Airlines Ventures website.

About Heirloom ~ Since its founding in 2020, Heirloom has become one of the world's leading DAC companies. In 2023, Heirloom began operating North America's first commercial DAC facility in Tracy, California. Heirloom is part of the team building Project Cypress — a Department of Energy supported DAC Hub, which is eligible for up to \$600 million in government funding, and which will bring large-scale carbon removal to Louisiana and create nearly 1,000 new jobs.

YOLO, Fly SOLO: United Airlines Shares How Travelers Can Treat Themselves **Ahead of National Plan a Solo Vacation Day** **February 13, 2025**



This love-filled February, solo travel is on the rise and United is sharing travel hacks, popular destinations and app features to empower adventurers to get ready for National Plan a Solo Vacation Day on

March 1 with the ultimate travel mantra: YOLO (You Only Live Once), Fly SOLO.

Google searches for “solo travel” skyrocketed 223% in the past decade and solo fliers took 5% more trips with United in 2024 compared to 2023.

“We know our customers want to make memories all over the world and our goal is to help them do this as easily as possible - whether they're traveling with a companion or flying solo,” said David Kinzelman, Chief Customer Officer for United. *“When you travel with United, you have access to more unique international destinations than any other U.S. airline and the self-service features in our app mean you can explore a new city with confidence knowing that no matter where you are in the world, United has your back.”*

According to United data:

- Solo travel spikes from January to May, and again from September to November;
- Those most likely to go it alone are Gen Z (approximately 70% fly solo), followed by Millennials at 65% and 57% of Boomers;
- Solo travelers also aren't intimidated to fly somewhere new or far from home – the most popular destinations for solo travelers include far-flung international destinations like China, Korea, Brazil, India and Nigeria. And as the world's largest airline*, United flies to nearly 70 destinations around the world no other major U.S. carrier flies.

United Makes Adventuring on Your Own Easy ~

United gives solo passengers the confidence to take off on their own, whether that's through the airline's tailored recommendations, real-time communications in the United app or its onboard experience.

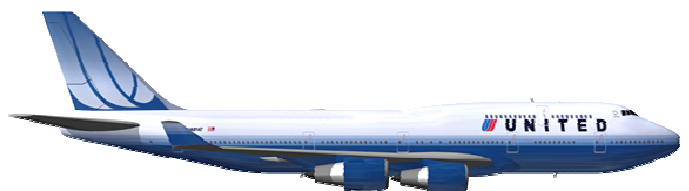
- ▲ **Personalized wayfinding** – Customers can receive customized day-of instructions to navigate certain airports with United's Terminal Guide – from finding the most ideal airport entrance to getting to the gate.
- ▲ **Juggle travel details single-handedly with ease** – The juggle is real for solo travelers, but using the Live Activities for iPhone allows customers to get live, personalized flight notifications, all without opening the United app. Similarly, with Live Activities on Apple Watch, customers can access important flight information right from their wrist.
- ▲ **Share your preference for the ideal seat** – Whether you like gazing out the window, sitting aisle-side, the United app Seat Map feature has your back. Just click "Choose Seat Preference" to indicate your ideal seat. If a more preferred seat opens before departure, the app will move you automatically.
- ▲ **Ask GenAI for destination recommendations** – Hemispheres®, United's digital inflight magazine, now offers an AI-powered trip planning feature for every destination the airline offers covers. Get recommendations for where to eat, where to stay, what to do, and more. Choose "Explore with GenAI".
- ▲ **Explore using our search by map** – Travelers can use an interactive destinations map to compare and shop for flights based on departure city, budget and even travel interests like beaches, national parks, hiking and more.
- ▲ **Connection Saver** – Making a love connection or flight connection this February should be the last thing any traveler is stressing about. We know flying solo can be freeing but missing a

connecting flight can be stressful, which is why United's Connection Saver can help take away that worry and helped save more than 725,000 customer missed connections in 2024.

- ▲ **More places, more miles and more adventures** – With United's free to join Mileage-Plus® program members can earn miles that never expire and book international trips starting at just 20,000 miles each way. They can also take advantage of Money+Miles where members are able to apply as little as 1,000 miles toward a ticket.

Tips from the pros: United's Employees ~ United employees are also passionate about flying solo. As employees, the world is truly at their fingertips, and many have become solo-travel experts. In a recent survey, employees identified Japan as their favorite solo destination. Here are some of their top tips:

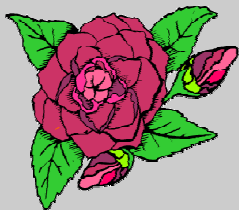
- ★ **Safety First** – Be aware of your surroundings, research the destination ahead of time and avoid areas that are unsafe and consider sharing your location with family and friends back home.
- ★ **Be open minded** – Read about the local history prior to your arrival and learn basic customs and greetings.
- ★ **Plan ahead but be flexible** – Create a plan with what you want to see, eat and do at your destination, but always leave extra time in case you want to try something different.
- ★ **Soak it all in** – Solo travelling is a great way to reflect on life and grow as a person.
- ★ **Download apps before your trip** – Save on international data by researching and downloading any apps you need before you leave home. Don't forget the United app!■



Get the Newsletter HCT off the press! Sign up to receive the Newsletter on the Web today - It's updated 2-3 weeks before the paper Newsletter is mailed. Also an added benefit to receiving the Newsletter on the Web is that back issues can be accessed. To sign up for the Web, go to www.ruaea.org and follow the instructions.

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

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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 3rd Thursday of every month except in November and December, when it is the 2nd Thursday. All retirees are welcome to join us.

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

We look forward to seeing you.

CALIFORNIA

CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS



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

Our next meeting/luncheon will be held on Wednesday, March 26th at 11:30 AM. We will be headed to the lovely town of Orland which is in between Chico and Redding. We will be going to Farwood Bar and Grill and enjoying a lovely lunch. Come join us if you are in the area.

Calendar:

March 26 - Wednesday, 11:30 AM, Bar and Grill, 705 5th St. Orland, CA.



CENTRAL COASTERS

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There is no report this month from the Central Coasters chapter of RUAEA.



DESERT SUNBIRDS

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





EAST BAY DIABLOS
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Happy Easter to everyone from the East Bay Diablos group! As I write this on March 7, for once, the weather here is not wild and crazy—just normal spring weather with rainy days intermingled with sunny or cloudy days.

Our group holds in person monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month all year long. The restaurants are still dealing with staff shortages, so we have to give them a count beforehand for our meetings. If you are going to attend our meetings, you must RSVP prior to the meeting. I have put the dates of our upcoming meetings and the RSVP deadlines below. We alternate between the Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord and the Lazy Dog Restaurant in Concord. 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 went to the Lazy Dog for the first time last September. Everyone enjoyed it so that is now our other “go to” restaurant. We average about 14 people at our meetings throughout the year, but more members come to our summer picnic meeting, which is a catered BBQ luncheon at a member’s home. Social hour starts at 11:30 and our meal is typically served around 12:15.

Our president **Russ Kennedy** starts our meetings by leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. 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.

Our March meeting was held on March 3 at the Lazy Dog Restaurant in Concord with 11 members and guests in attendance: **Barbara Cunningham, Diane Griego, Russ & Glenda Kennedy, Joe & Wilma Leather** and daughter **Linda Collett** from Boise, **Russell Schleske, Jack & Judi Smith** and **Jan Soderstrom**. We were missing some of our regulars for various reasons. **Tracey Blanchard** was still soaking up the sun and Vitamin D in Maui. We missed **Carol Parks** who started physical therapy that day for vertigo issues. She is very hopeful that this will finally resolve the problem. **Tom Johnson** is always the first to RSVP for our luncheons, and never misses a meeting, so I was surprised when I didn’t hear from him in February. When I didn’t hear from him for the March luncheon, I reached out to him. I talked to him on March 6, and

come to find out, he took a horrible fall in late January and ended up in the hospital. He is now out of the hospital and in a care facility. At our luncheon, I passed around a Get Well card and will send it to him when I find out what facility he’s in. Lesson learned: When people don’t RSVP by our deadline, I send out a reminder email to RSVP. If they don’t respond I just been assuming they aren’t coming. But now I am going to follow up with *another* email asking if they are OK. Between **Barb Cunningham**’s daughter Missy, who fell down the escalator at SFO, and **Tom Johnson** falling in January, it’s a reminder that falls are probably the most dangerous thing we senior citizens face.

Russ Schleske and **Linda Collett** conducted the raffle. Russ collected the money and Linda called out the winning numbers. Russ’ ticket was the first one drawn and he won a whopping \$16.00. Subsequent winners chose from wine, Tupperware containers, an apron and coffee mugs. **Barb Cunningham** brought Mardi Gras style green necklaces for everyone to wear to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day.

Sadly, we went all through Covid and never lost any members. Then in February, we lost two members within four days of each other. On February 7, **Joe McGhee** passed away, and on February 11, **Ed von Emster** passed away. **Diane Griego, Carol Parks, Nancy Boyle** and **Jan Soderstrom** went to the funeral for Joe on February 26 at Christ the King Church in Pleasant Hill, CA. We did not hear about the service for Ed until two days before, at New Harbor Church in Benicia, CA on March 1. They were live streaming the service but I don’t know if anyone was able to do that. The notices for Joe and Ed should be in the “obits” section of this newsletter.

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 for more information, or mail them to her directly at 1782 Calle Del Rey, Livermore, CA 94551-3985. 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. Barb told me that she just delivered a trunk full of cards to the school. She met the lady who helps cut up the cards for the students to use, as they are not allowed to have scissors for safety reasons. As I mentioned in a previous newsletter, Barb has seen some of the gift cards and they really are pretty

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.

I would like to renew my request to have you cut out coupons and mail them to me at 30 San Piedras Place, San Ramon, CA 94583-3018. One thing we can all agree on is that the cost of groceries has skyrocketed in the last year or so. 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—food, nonfood, baby and pet; and both current and expired. 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. However, please send me coupons at least every other month so the troops have a longer time to use them. Please help me spread the word about this worthwhile project. The number of coupons in the newspapers has dropped dramatically so the only way we can maintain our level of support is if more people send me coupons. Ask your friends and neighbors, and the people at your RUAEA meetings, to send me coupons as well.

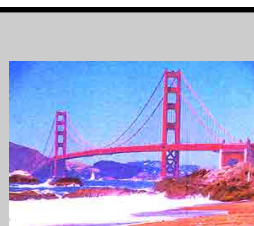
I am so grateful for the kindness of all the RUAEA members who are helping me with this project. I have been turning in coupons every month since May 2022. On March 1, I turned in 1139 coupons! Thank you so much to the members in my local RUAEA chapter and to members from all over the country who are sending coupons. If it weren't for the RUAEA folks sending me coupons, my chapter would have very few coupons. This month I received coupons from **Rosalie Betschart** in OR, **Mary Brennan** in MN, **Ginger Dahlberg** in CA, **Francis Domaratius** in CA, **Barrie Hooley** in FL, **Glenda Kennedy** in CA, **Marcella Kern** in NJ, **Margie Klaus** in NV, **Carol Koslosky** in NY, **Betty Ogburn** in NJ, **Russell Schleske** in CA, **Sue Sealey** in CO, **Jim Taylor** in FL, and **Gilbert Wojtal** in AZ.

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

- ▲ Monday, April 7 at 11:30. The Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mount Diablo Street, Concord. Social hour starts at 11:30 and we eat around 12:30. Separate checks. Must RSVP to **Jan Soderstrom** at janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com or (925) 833-9184 by Friday, March 28.
- ▲ Monday, May 5 at 11:30. Lazy Dog Restaurant, 1961 Diamond Blvd in the Willows Shopping Center, Concord. Social hour starts at 11:30 and we eat around 12:30. Separate checks. Must RSVP to **Jan Soderstrom** at

janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com or (925) 833-9184 by Friday, May 2.

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

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

Come join us if you are in town, all United and Continental retirees are welcome - we meet on the 4th Monday of the month at 10:00am in the Wind Room at the Foster City Library, corner of Hillsdale Blvd., and Shell Blvd, 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

Are all of you enjoying this early Spring weather? Don't get suckered in just yet – we have about 3 more weeks until Spring officially arrives (March 20th) and even though the clocks turn back in 10 days (March 9th), Ash Wednesday is in 6 days (March 5th) with Easter on Sunday, April 20th, we need to be ready for some more Winter weather. Hopefully, that means some more rain – you know, here in California, we always need/want rain. But, I'll happily take and enjoy these moderate days.

That said, about 31 of the Hangtown Miners were able to get together at Bennett's Restaurant in Rocklin this month. I don't recall being at this establishment before, so was eager to check it out. Well, once again, we all enjoyed delicious food with great service. **Rudy Blazius** gave **Chuck & Peggy Trebnik** a hearty "Thank You" for setting this up for us. We were honored to have three guests this month; **Jim Simon** from the Gold Diggers group joined us; Rudy and Cindy brought **Ernest Hellewell** and **Diane Wilson**. Welcome to all of you! No one claimed a birthday in February. But, we do have 4 couples who tied the knot – Congratulations to

Jerry & Dolores Avallone, Oscar & Joyce Olivera, Bill & Pati Kenney (theirs is on the 14th) and to **Irv & Sherrie Wolfram** who are married 70 years! Moving right along ...

President ~ Rudy had his “report” incorporated into the rest of the minutes. Rudy, I don’t think we say this to you enough – Thank You for doing such a great job as the Hangtown Miners president.

Vice President ~ **JR Heier**, who is also most appreciated, said he didn’t have a report today, but later in the meeting he did have some advice he wants you all to hear. You may not be aware of it – or perhaps that you may have the problem – and that is that sleep apnea is a very real and frequent reason for heart trouble. Please, get checked – doing so might just help you to not have to deal with heart problems in the future. Often we don’t associate one problem with another, but all the parts in our bodies need to work together in order to work the best for us. Many years ago JR had colon cancer. He is okay now, but he decided to share the important info with others at UAL. He is so glad he did as many took the advice and had themselves checked. For some, the early detection saved them.

Please, I know how easy it is to “put your head in the sand” and not follow thru when we have something that is “just not right”. We don’t want to be called a hypochondriac. We don’t want to have to deal with whatever a problem may turn out to be ... but, when something is caught and addressed at an early(er) stage, it can make a huge difference in the outcome. Don’t wait – it’s not worth it.

Secretary ~ Must be a trend here, because **Jane Gibson** also did not have a report, though, she asked everyone to correct the roster that was sent to them. Please add a “n” to the email address so that it reads: cpotrebnik@comcast.net.

Treasurer ~ **Tom Kenny**, we just could not ask for a better person to be our Treasurer! Since the bank statement does not come before our meeting, Tom is going by the January statement. This is a good number especially considering that we have a large expenditure in December. So, at that time, we only had 18 out of 38 members who had not paid their annual dues yet. After collecting from those present, that percentage reduced. I want to caution those of you who have not sent in their \$15.00 dues yet, to please do so sooner rather than later. If your name is on this list, please send your check made out to Hangtown Miners to **Tom Kenny**; 3481 Parleys Canyon; Placerville, CA 95757. Still looking for a number of members to renew your membership. If you have already sent in your dues, just disregard this reminder, or, if you’re not sure, give Tom a call to check, (530) 626-5660. Keep in mind that the dues amount goes up to \$20.00 if we don’t receive it by the end of March. You won’t be dropped then, but it will cost

\$5.00 more. If we don’t hear from you by the end of June, then we will have to take you off the roster, you won’t be getting these fabulous minutes with all this information inside either! We sure don’t want to loose you so, please, get this taken care of quickly!

As you looked thru the pictures at the meeting, you see two extra – those are from the trip taken by Tom and Rudy to the Sacramento City College Aircraft Maintenance Technician Program to deliver the tools donated this year. The tools were about \$3,000 in value. We talked about whether or not it is practical to continue with this project. We are making a big difference in these young people’s lives, but our pool of retired mechanics has diminished quite a lot. We do, however, have a couple sources that could bring in a good amount. So, it was decided to keep with the project for 2025, see how things pan out. This is our 5th year – Tom and his helpers give a huge amount of time for this. After tools are donated – once they are in Tom’s hands – they are examined, thoroughly cleaned, categorized, given a value, receipts made out and sent to the person who donated them. They’re stored (in the Kenny garage – thank you for your patience, Suzanne) until they will be delivered. Our group has donated \$\$\$ to help with filling in tools that we are missing on the list whenever possible. Kudos to you for all you are doing to give the up and coming mechanics a good start in a very honorable profession.

Sunshine ~ **Suzanne Kenny**, representing us with grace, is trying to keep up on our group and make sure everyone is doing well. Suzanne reports that she has sent cards to **JR Heier** who underwent heart surgery just a week+ ago, but is here today and looking good. Update on **Linda Dinette**: Linda is (finally) home. She doesn’t need the neck brace any longer but does need to use a walker. As happens with folks who are a bit older, any fall or illness can set us back. She was beginning to have some cognitive problems before the fall and has been set back a bit. Kevin lives there at the house with Linda and is doing his best to take care of her. **Angie Dellinger** suggested that he check with the VA and see if there is any way they could help out with some care coming in to help – worth a try!

Old Business ~ Well, the Annual Dues has already been covered – don’t forget to pay if you’re on that list! Rudy asked about the annual United Airlines Retired Mechanics Reunion that is held in Minden, NV. The dates for 2025 are September 16, 17, 18. The barbecue will be on Wednesday, September 17. Jane has sent out an information email already and will be following up with another next month. If you are not getting this email and would like to know what’s going on, let me know and I will be sure to add you to my emailing list. Also, if you know of someone who would like to go but isn’t on said list, either forward the email on to them, or

get their email address to me so I can include them.

New Business ~ How about a little “general” information to ponder! As I’m looking over Rudy’s notes – the airline business goes thru a lot of changes! TWA merged into American Airlines 2001; Pan American bought National Airlines in 1980 but then sold its Pacific Division to UAL in 1985 only to have to, in 1991, ceasing its business, selling off more divisions; Braniff Airlines too over Mid-Continent Airlines in 1952, merged with UAL in 1961 and operated until 1982; Allegheny Airlines acquired Mohawk Airlines in 1972 then there was a whole lot of merges that happened; Texas International Airlines merged into Continental Airlines in 1981, after even more merges they merged with our United Airlines in 2010 – this was to be a merger of equals but Continental’s management took control on UAL; Delta Airlines merged with Northeast Airlines in 1972 then with Western Airlines and then Northwest Airlines and they also picked up much of the assets of Pan American in 1991 including the Atlantic routes; Eastern Airlines would go out of business in 1991 and Continental would pick up many of its assets and employees; then you have Pacific Airlines, Bonanza Airlines and West Coast Airlines all merging into Air West Airlines as well as others. Holy cow – isn’t it amazing that while most of you were still working at United Airlines it was able to remain United Airlines!

So, Rudy wanted to give us a little “History Lesson” today: At our age bracket we have all heard someone use the expression; “*You gotta be shitting me.*” Few Americans know the origin or the historical significance of that phrase. It can all be traced back to George Washington and the very founding of this nation. When he was crossing the Delaware River on December 25th, 1776, it was cold, foggy, and rough waters, and nasty weather. He had 33 men in his boat, and he assigned Corporal Peters to get up on the bow of the boat with a lantern to help navigate. Unfortunately, the man was swept overboard. They searched and searched to no avail. Finally, they reach the opposite shore exhausted and cold. They spotted a distant farmhouse and headed that way. Turns out it was a brothel. George knocks on the door and the Madam answers. He said: “*I am George Washington, and my men are in need of comfort and warmth.*” She said: “*Well, you have come to the right place. How many men do you have?*” He said: “*32 without Peters.*” She Said: “*You gotta be shitting me.*” So, there you have it folks. An American History lesson that they never taught us in our 6th grade history class. (All of the above facts can be verified at OBS News.com as the are the leader in fact checking and truthful broadcasting.)

And with everyone groaning and laughing, Rudy brought our February meeting to a close. JR took over and pulled **Peggy Trebnik**’s ticket for the donator’s

prize. Thank you for these great prizes you brought: **Heier** – wine; **Bell/Nielsen** – German Sausage; **Kenney** – stadium cushion with blanket; **Gibson** – garden herbs and blanket; **Trebnik** - “Milk Chocolate, The Perfect Man” as well as the table decorations - **Kenny** – Valentine Candy; **Garland** – wine; **Blazius** – vase.

In March we will be having lunch at Chicago Fire in Folsom. Check it out and let JR & Rosemary know that you will be coming. These minutes are getting out a bit late(r) – I have been knee deep in changing around my sewing room – and we are in a short(er) month, so, I’ll send out another reminder next week because our RSVP date is just a week away!!!

Take care, have fun, laugh daily, hug often – life is good!



It’s going to be a great day! I am looking out at sunshine and blue skies ... although it is cold, I still feel invigorated. Perhaps because I went for a walk in 45 degree weather!

There is a lot of valuable information in the March Newsletter. Check out the updates on insurance, how to request a refund for a prepaid ticket (credit card) ticket on United/United Express. Also the deadline for the REAL ID is coming real soon and what we all need to know about the UK ETA program.

The RUAEA Reunion will be held in Denver this year and the date is September 27th through October 1st at the Holiday Inn East in Denver. Be sure to mark this on your calendar and make plans to attend, they even welcome volunteers if you want to become involved and connect with everyone.

Farid Zamani and **Suzanne Georgi** celebrated birthdays in April, may they have a month filled with sunshine and a great year!

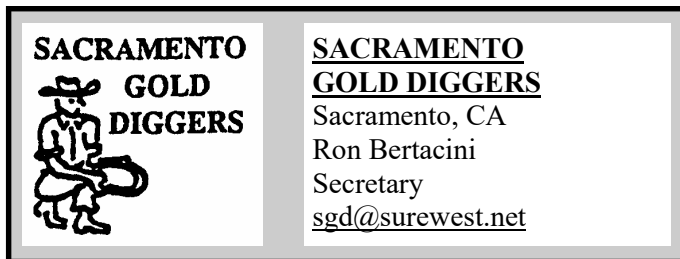
Did you know that dandelion has leaves rich in vitamins and may boost health in other ways? It is in need of more rigorous study before the medical field will accept it into their practice. There are more than 2,500 species of dandelions and taraxacum is the most studied so far. Fifty four studies have found that it has protective properties including an immune booster, a diuretic, inflammatory treatment and a potential aid for diabetes. If you want to incorporate fresh dandelions in your diet, try bringing some young plants in from your garden and add them to you salads. They are very high in potas-

sium, vitamins C and K. This will avoid the high price of buying pharmaceuticals from industries who don't want to go to the expense of studying and marketing a product that everyone can grow in their yard?

Calendar:

April 10 - Spring Fling Luncheon, Thursday, at the Tequila Factory in Old Town.

May 1 - Breakfast at the Pt Loma Cafe, San Diego; 10:00AM. If you are going to be in town, send me an RSVP and we would love to have you visit us!



The Gold Diggers met at Lucille's Smokehouse BBQ to celebrate Past Presidents month. There were twenty-two in attendance including six Past Presidents. It was nice for the Past Presidents; the chapter paid for their lunch in appreciation for their service; we got great service from Sophie. After everyone enjoyed their lunch, President **Francis Domaratius** started the meeting. Francis thanked all for attending and thanked **Jim Simon** for making the arrangements.



Past Gold Diggers Presidents in picture: Standing ~ **Dave Garland, Jim Simon, Ron Bertacini.** Sitting ~ **Francis Domaratius, Ed Rheam, Frank Dellinger.**

VP **Barbara Bertacini** announced that the March meeting would be at the Café del Lago in Granite Bay and for April, we will be meeting at Bennet's Westside Grill in Rocklin.

Secretary **Ron Bertacini** reported the wedding anniversaries for February: **Marge & Jack Raynor** with 61 years and **Sherrie & Irv Wolfram** with 70 years; unfor-

tunately, **Sherrie & Irv** were unable to attend. Ron also mentioned that this would have been **Sidnee & Jack McKinney's** 59th. Ron had a few flyers available for the group, one for the hotel information for RUAEA Reunion at the end of September in Denver. He encouraged anyone thinking of attending to make their hotel reservation soon. One of the other flyers was about Pilot Ground School at the Lincoln Airport starting in March and lastly, some pictures of the new China for Premium Service on United.

Sunshine Lady **Angie Dellinger** had nothing to report which is always good news.

Treasurer **Robin Garland** reported that the chapter is solvent and that she would take care of the Past Presidents' meals.

Francis gave us a bit of history for February 26th: 1951, James Jones published "From Here to Eternity" a book about the military in Hawaii in 1941 and would later become a classic movie. In 1932, on this date, Johnny Cash country music icon was born.

There were some other significant events occurring on February 26th, the following are a list of some of those happenings. 1904, the United States and Panama sign a treaty to start work on the Panama Canal. 1906, Upton Sinclair publishes The Jungle a book about the dark side of the food industry. The book prompted the Pure Food and Drug Act and Meat Inspection Act later that year. 1910, the Boy Scouts of America was founded by William Boyce. 1917, The Zimmerman Telegram is revealed to the public influencing public opinion for the U.S. to enter WWI, the Zimmerman Telegram was from Germany to Mexico offering military aid if the U.S. entered the war and that Germany would help Mexico get back Texas, Arizona and New Mexico. The telegram was intercepted by British agents. 1919, the Grand Canyon National Park is established by Congress. 1949, the first non-stop flight around the world was conducted by the US Air Force. 1951, the 22nd Amendment is ratified; the amendment restricts a president to two terms. 1952, the United Kingdom announces they have successfully developed an atomic bomb. 1955, the first ejection from a supersonic plane, George Smith ejects from a F-100 Super Sabre flying at Mach 1.05 and survives. 1971, the United Nations establishes Earth Day. 1972, President Richard Nixon visits China. 1991, President George H.W. Bush declares the Gulf War has ended.

There was only one birthday for February, **Jack Raynor** ... we made him roll the dice to get his extra reward.





SAN JOAQUINERS

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

Submitted by Bob Scoble,

The San Joaquiners gathered for lunch in Oakdale to begin 2025. We met at Huckleberry's Restaurant on February 13th. Being the first meeting of the new year, everyone just enjoyed catching up with their friends and sharing activities over the holidays, we had 12 members in attendance. **Bob & Pat Scoble** shared their Panama Canal cruise including the travel experience, on board ship life and ports of call.

We celebrated Anniversaries and Birthdays for January and February: **Joann Nesja** and **Mary Brown** had birthdays in January; **Don Nesja**, **Bob Scoble** and **Steve Foster** celebrated birthday in February. **Steve & Jacquie Foster** and **Hans & Ingrid Weber** celebrated their anniversaries in February. Congratulations to all!

Keeping in touch ~ Joann was able to contact Rosie in Carson; Rosie is doing well. We were unable to contact Rudy but will keep trying. They are both missed by our members.

The big news was that Hans & Ingrid had moved to Southern California and would no longer be with the San Joaquiners. We wish them well and will miss them both.

The chapter did end the year with a small positive balance in our bank account. We had a discussion about donations to charities. In prior years, we were able to donate to four or five local food banks in counties where our members lived. This year everyone supported the idea of donating to an organization that would support United employees impacted by the LA fire disaster. We decided to donate to the United Airlines Employees Relief Fund. We hope this donation finds its way to those in need.

Our next meeting is March 13th, hosted by **Don & Joann Nesja**. Don & Joann have reserved a place for us at El Torrero's Mexican Restaurant, 11968 Hwy 88, Jackson, Calif. Please let them know if you will be joining us; (209) 295 2104, e-mail at jodon-nesja@volcano.net. Or you can call me, **Bob Scoble**, (209) 626 5308 and leave a message.



SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

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



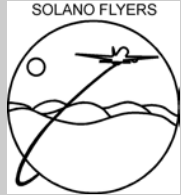
Despite not having anyone taking on the position of President, we had a very large number of members attending our March gathering. There were 23 people that showed up at The Bill of Fare restaurant for a breakfast, or for some lunch meal. The venue was kind enough to give us the entire patio area for our group, and as it was, there were few tables left open.

Chuck Clayborn was back in town from Arizona and joined us, putting aside finishing up his move. Missing was long time member **Cheri Scales** and we wish her well. **Ben Scales**, her husband, reports that she is being cared for at an excellent facility in Willow Glen. Best wishes also go out to **Greg Caster** who is having challenging health issues. I have no idea who coined the phrase the "golden years", but for some of us who fit into that so called category, we don't see so much of the gold.

Just a reminder to mark your calendar for Monday, June 9, for our annual Vasona Park picnic. We have reserved the same site that we have always used in the past. I will work as best I can to keep the costs as low as possible, considering the high costs of everything these days. As we get closer to the date, I will send out more info and sign ups.



FLORIDA



SOLANO FLYERS
Larry Jackson
President
(707) 624-0030
larry-cindy@comcast.net

Submitted by Allan Pochop, apochop@aol.com.

The Solano Flyers met on February 18 at the Black Bear Restaurant in Vacaville. In attendance were Treasurer **Joanne Blizzard**, **Bill Blizzard**, **Frank Uhl**, **Rudy Arsaga**, **Chauncy Blaine**, **Eileen & Pad Gardner**, **Stewart McCale** and son **Stewart McCale, Jr.**, **Bob Ritchie**, and **Allan Pochop**.

There was no birthday or anniversary.

Winner of the 50/50 was **Rudy Arsaga**.

Next month's luncheon will be on March 19th at Murillo's Restaurant, 1501 E. Monte Vista, Vacaville.

When marriage becomes illegal, only outlaws will have in-laws.

COLORADO



**DENVER
MILE HIGHERS**
Rich & Cleora Conner
(970) 660-7040
richeleora@gmail.com

RUAEA Executive Board joined us for lunch and spoke about the 50th Reunion this September. We still need volunteers for the event. The 2025 Reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn on Quebec Street, across from the United Airlines Flight Training Center.

RUAEA VP of Conventions, **Hank Gosselin**, talked about the theme of each night, starting with a Western Night on Monday, Colorado Country Night on Tuesday, and the Banquet on Wednesday night, as well as tours currently being planned, including a tour of the Flight Training Center.

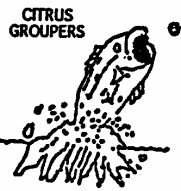
Our 50/50 winners are **Gene Sibley (2x)**, **Ron Bertacini**, **Matt & Bonnie Ohr (2x)**, **Bob Omid**, and **Mike Dusak**.

Ray Shoults will celebrate his 90th birthday in May.

Our next meeting is April 3rd at Tedz Place in Commerce City at 11:00 AM. We hope to see you there, bring a friend. Address: 5271 E. 52nd Ave., Commerce City, (303) 287-7544.

Easter





**THE CITRUS GROUPEES
THE VILLAGES**
Julius "Joe" DiStaso
(941) 661-2215
wopahofl@gmail.com

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.



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

President **Al Fields** opened the meeting and we all stood for the "Pledge". He welcomed everyone who braved the 64 degree weather to join us!

Our Treasurer, Linda, was ill today, so Secretary **Elaine Tillman-Mannella** reported that we are solvent. She read a very nice "Thank You" letter from Russell Home for Atypical Children that we received for our annual Christmas donation. The Russell Home has been around for 70 years, operating strictly on donations from organizations in Orlando.

Al asked for updates on our "needing plenty of prayers" members and we heard reports on **Ernie Vosses**, **Diane Lewis**, **Janie Houston**, **Peg Cannata** and **Julia Montalvo**. Keep those prayers coming everyone - please.


Picnic plans were updated and President Al has reserved our pavilion at Cypress Grove for April 1st. No Foolin'!

Not to be outdone, Elaine shared a couple of laughs we remembered from COVID days:

- ☺ I still can't believe people's survival instinct told them to grab TP ...
- ☺ If I had only known in March it would be my last time in a restaurant, I would've ordered dessert ...
- ☺ When does Season 2 of 2020 start? **I do not like Season 1 ...**
- ☺ At the store there was a Big X to stand on. I've

seen too many Road Runner cartoons to fall for that!

Huge Congrats to **Al & Lois Fields** celebrating 60 years on March 17th! Happy St. Paddy's Day too!



SW PELICANS DROP-INS
Ray Jensen
(239) 634-2054
rmmjensen@msn.com

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



TAMPA BAY CHAPTER
Trinity, FL
Janis Lindstrom, Acting Secretary
587 Waterford Circle W.
Tarpon Springs, FL 34688
(727) 934-1862
lindekatz@aol.com

Five members attended our meeting on March 3, the low turnout was due to some of our members having medical issues. We hope they get better soon; we miss them. Our meeting was a social one, we discussed about UAL and happenings in our lives. We ordered breakfast and enjoyed ourselves.

We wished everyone - Fat Tuesday, Ash Wednesday & St Pat's Day. Happy Spring!

Calendar:

April 7 - IHOP, 10:30

May 5 - IHOP, 10:30




TREASURE COAST
Stuart, FL
Mary Kay Wetherington
8849 Egret Isle Point
Lake Worth, Florida 33467
(772) 240-2354
mwether700@gmail.com

I'm sorry to say that the Treasure Coast Chapter has no report this month. I hope that one of these days we'll be able to resume our meetings. We have lost many members and many more are struggling with issues that keep them homebound.

We will keep you updated in the future.

IDAHO



BOISE GEMS
Shirley Dempsey
rickshirley.dempsey@gmail.com

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

ILLINOIS



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

April—Spring is here, according to the calendar and the moon, stars and sun. Ok, we made it so far, eight months to go! How's it going so far? All those doctor tests come out ok? Still walking and talking and able to take nourishment? Fabulous, let's keep moving. Some days are not so easy, but pushing and keeping your eyes on the prize helps. What's the prize? Staying alive and able to see these little grand babies and friends. Forever is shorter than before. Hope you all remembered to move your clocks forward on March 9th, otherwise, you are in deep trouble for appointments and parties. Did you remember your carbon monoxide alert thingy? Also very important, it's so great to stay lighter later, isn't it? Makes you want to sing or some other form of happiness. Your tummy is mixed up, too, not knowing when to eat. My poor cat, Katharine Hepburn, thinks she's getting fed an hour earlier, they don't now about CDT and CST. Aren't they ever going to keep it one time? Congress talks about it all the time, but there's a hold up of some kind. I guess we'll wait. We are going to have a beautiful April and May, enjoy the sun, reasonable weather and fun with everyone. Right? Righto!

Well, this month we have a Pink Moon, named after the early springtime wildflower called moss pink. The moon will not be pink, just the regular golden hue when viewed in he night sky. It will be seen April 12th at about 7:22 P.M. This is called a 'micromoon', it's the opposite of a Supermoon. It just means it's at the farthest point of Earth; it's about 252,225 miles from Earth. Don't worry, you'll still see it. Did you see the seven planets all lined up in the sky last month? Since that won't happen again until 2040, I went out at 5:30 to see this exhibition. There were winds about 45 miles an

hour that night. I stayed out for just a short time and went back in. Hope nobody saw the stupid gray haired old lady with her walker trying to not get blown away looking through binoculars to see seven planets and the moon. Sometimes I surprise even myself. Duh! And after all of that anticipation for weeks, I only saw three planets, and the moon wasn't out yet. At least not where I was standing.

The flowers of April are daisies and sweet peas, both with such cute little petals. They look so innocent and loving, but it's said the sweet pea is toxic to humans and animals. So be careful where you plant them or keep a bouquet in your house.

April starts off with calling us all Fools. We'll have to prove them wrong. It's Alcohol Awareness month, Beaver, Parkinson, Oral Cancer, Head and Neck Cancer and Autism Awareness, Defeat Diabetes, (Yes), Frog, Humor, Garden, Kite, Licorice, Social Security, Tulip, and Straw Hat Month. Remember that perfume that only came out in the spring through summer by Faberge, Straw Hat. My aunt Gen wore that, so I wore it; had to be classy like her. Holidays in April are of course Easter on the 20th, Dyngus Day the 21st, Passover begins on the 12th, Palm Sunday on the 13th, Earth Day the 22nd, Take you daughter and son to work day, is on the 24th; that's to show them how hard we worked at United and to help them decide what they want to do when they grow up. If they don't find the perfect occupation, they'll never leave home and live in your basement forever until you die, then they'll move upstairs and live off your pension and 401K. Aren't you lucky your children are over 50, and they have to worry about their children.

Great news, the Banyan tree in Lahaina is flourishing and has a lot of green leaves coming out of it. Isn't that wonderful? It went through so much damage last year, we thought it would never recover, but it has. The town is rebuilding too. The beautiful people of Hawaii are strong and are anxious to get their state back to its former beauty.

The Northside breakfast had six, even with bad weather, **Dave Dunham, Dona Nefczyk, Jerry Tipperreiter, Paul & Marsha-Sealock Weber, and Deb Jaret.**

The ORDMM mechanics that came were, **Rich Protsman, Don Kramlich, Jim Vitte, Dean Hackenberg, Frank Wenig, Jim Kraft, Cas Paprocki, Fred Seibert, Ron Geibel, Bob Palm, Harry Kargenian, and Cas Paprocki.** Next month will be our fabulous server Ruthie's 19th anniversary with Maxfield's. Try to make it in so we can raise our coffee cups to her in thanks of remembering what we order every month. Thank God, she remembers! She's put up with us for a looonnnng time!

The Maintenance foreman's breakfast didn't have

very many, only five regulars, **Tom Abraham, Bob Smietanski, Glenn Hill, Bart & Sue Kendall.** The Kendalls are taking a course with their local police department for Senior Citizens Police Academy. They spend time with the Chief, a tour of the department, from lockup, to 911 center, traffic and patrol division. They'll also be doing a four hour ride-along with an officer, whoooh! That sounds interesting, doesn't it? Doubt they'll arrest any Senior citizens. Glenn and Tom will be traveling next month out of the country, I'm envious. At all of the gatherings, there was a lot of discussion about the airline incidences. It hits us all when even one has a tragedy; the mechanics wonder if this was a problem that they could have averted, if they saw a problem. But most of the latest were more pilot or ATC problems. We'll find out eventually, it's just sad to lose even one life.

The IAM 1487 had a Chinese New Year luncheon with about 70 attendees. The restaurant they get the food from gives a very generous portion, and it's good! The April lunch will be on April 3rd, and be a Meet'n'Greet. A letter will go out to explain who will be asked to bring food according to your last name. They will also start a sign up sheet for their Cinco de Mayo lunch on May 1. The buffet lunch will be \$6.00; also very good food. Ole'!

The city of Itasca has decided to cancel their beautiful 4th of July fireworks display this year. Apparently, there will be construction at the east entrance of the Hamilton Lakes Park and the city is concerned for safety and security of the residences and visitors. Itasca is going to spend the money saved in other events for the city. This is the biggest and best display in Northern Illinois. Hopefully, next year the fireworks will be back.

The Skyliners Club is still working on scheduling a luncheon in the next few months. Sorry for the delay, we've had a few interruptions, but it's coming. It'll be worth the wait. Promise.

Our coworkers that flew West month include: **William Grippe, ORDJL, Robbie Roberson, ORDMM, Captain Warren Parthen, ORDFO, Ramon Martinez, ORDSW, from ORDCG Ramp, Charles McComb, Jeff Hachmeister, lead, George Jones, Marco Watkins, (move team), John Aultman, Walt Duval, Harold Jones (IAM Chairman), Jimmy Connor, ORD SOC.** Also the wives of OPBOP workers, **Diana March Wilkinson, wife of Norman Wilkinson, and Doris Johnson, wife of Clyde Johnson.**

Also gone from our world, actors, Gene Hackman and wife, Betsy Arakuwa (French Connection), James Haughton (Young and the Restless), William Bassett (Days of our Lives), sports Dick Jauron, Bears coach, businessman Ken Rosenthal, founder of Panera, singers, Jerry Butler (Impressions and Cook County Commis-

sioner), Angie Stone R&B (Wish I Didn't Miss You), Robert Flack (Killing me Softly with his Song), Tommy Hunt (The Flamingos), Robert John (The Lion Sleeps Tonight), Carl Dean, Dolly Parton's husband, Clint Hill, Secret Service Agent who leaped into JFK's car in Dallas, to protect Jackie and the Johnsons after the assassination in 1963, animator Jerry Eisenberg (The Flintstones), and Hurricane, 15, American Secret Service dog.

More good news, the eagles had their three eaglets in Big Bear, California. May they be ok and live a long uplifting life. I've been following them on FaceBook. It's such a joy and encouragement to see the mom and dad, Jackie and Shadow, take turns sitting on them, keeping them warm in the snow and cold. You just can't help smile while watching the mom and dad, chirping at each other, then alternating sitting on the eggs. It's just so cute to see nature in full bloom and not have to listen to the state of the world, and truthfully, not caring. The eagles mate for life, you can hear them chirping, as if humans were talking, 'Move over, I need more food, take my place while I get exercise and 'fluff'. Just watching you can learn about human nature, two or four legs or feathers instead of skin. You can tell I've been moved by all this. We should learn from the animals, talk to each other, follow your mate, protect them. I'd love to be a bird, fly around, see the world, stay away from danger, but sweep into the river, pick up a fish for lunch, then maybe a small animal for dinner. Sounds gross, I guess, but we do have to eat, don't we? We eat cows, lambs and fish. But I won't eat the bugs. Ugh, I can't imagine ever being that hungry.

Have a beautiful and healthy month.

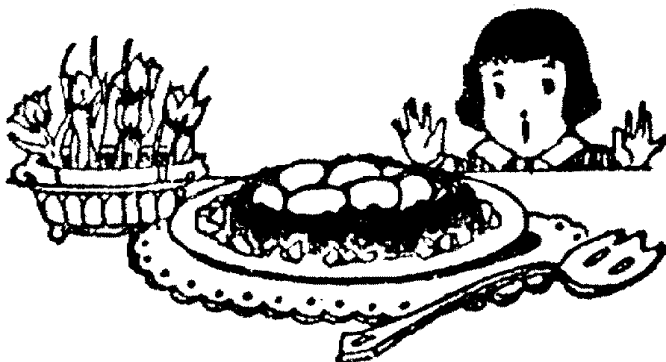
Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Rose Garden Restaurant, 9:00AM, 800 E. Higgins Rd., corner of Higgins and Scott St., Elk Grove, (**April 10**), second Thursday of the month.

IAM 1487 Lunch - 1487 Lodge, 11:00 A.M., 50 W Oakton St, Des Plaines (**April 3**) First Thursday.

ORDMM Breakfast - Maxfield's, 9:00AM, Plum Grove & Schaumburg Rds. (**April 17**). Third Thursday.

RUPA Lunch - Nick's Pizza, 11:00 AM, 856 Pyott Rd., Crystal Lake (**May 13**).



INDIANA



INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN
Frank N. Ingegno
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figenius@sbcglobal.net

The Indy Racers chapter had its monthly meeting on February 11th. In attendance were **Bob Duty, Frank Ingegno, Allan Miller, Ron Bretherick, Simon Jahner** and **Ralph Barnett**. We also had 4 guests attend for lunch and all to meet, **Mike Herskemal** (INDAF), **James Hart** (INDAF), **Brian O'Rourke** (INDAF) and **Mike Cutler** (INDAF). It was good to see some new faces; we're hopeful they will continue to attend. A larger number of members will allow for a greater number of activities. No business was discussed at this meeting.

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 2nd 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:

- **April 8** at Emmy's
- **May 13** at Emmy's
- **June 10** at Emmy's

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

MASSACHUSETTS



NOR'EASTERS

New England
Dick Vee Vecchione
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NH4Vee@aol.com

We are still planning on a luncheon meeting, now schedule for May.

I've contacted **Frank DeStefano, Marcia Kilpatrick** and **Helmut Umbley**; I also left many phone messages for other members. So far, the response has been great; we should have a good meeting.

MICHIGAN



GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES
Detroit, MI
Gwen Dyc-Schwendenmann
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We just received word that **Beverly Boykin** (retired DTWRR) passed away. Visitation will be on Wednesday, March 12 from 3PM – 8PM with family hour on Thursday, March 13 at 9:30 am at the O.H. Pye Funeral Home, 17600 Plymouth Rd, Detroit, MI. Condolences may be sent via website at <http://www.pyefuneralhome.com>.

We're also informed that **Maggie Pringle**, DTWRR retiree, passed away recently. There will be a Celebration of Life on Saturday, March 15, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at the Greenfield Presbyterian Church in Berkley, MI.

Please keep all our United family in prayer and positive thoughts.

Thought for the month: *"Don't count the days. Make the days count."* ~ Muhammad Ali

NEBRASKA



OMAHA GOLDENEARS
Jan Cornish
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Omaha, NE 68164
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kcornish6031@msn.com

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

NEVADA



LAS VEGAS
SILVER LINERS
Arlene McCroy
apolloguy@aol.com

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

The Silverliners extend an invitation to all Nevada UA/CO retirees to join us. For more information, please contact either **Arlene McCroy**, apolloguys@aol.com or **Mary Chandler**, honolulumary06@yahoo.com.



RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP
Pat Zoboli
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Reno, NV 89502
(775) 856-2044
zobolilady@aol.com

There were 9 members at our February 10th meeting at The Black Bear Diner.

The Annual Maintenance Reunion at the Carson Valley Inn in Minden, NV will be September 16, 17 and 18. The picnic is on Wednesday, September 17. Barring any weather issues, John and I plan to attend. We can email you the information if you wish. The Inn offers package rates for both the Inn and the Motel.

Plans are progressing for the RUAEA 2025 Reunion at the Holiday Inn in Denver from September 27 to October 2. John and I plan to attend and hope others do too.

I passed around an email from the City of Reno with a list of various senior activities. I have attended several Android phone classes and this week John and I will attend a free light lunch at the National Automobile Museum as part of this program. If you go to Carson-Now.org, you can find activities for all ages in the Carson City area.

The February birthdays are **Donna Reid** and **Bill Perkins**. The 50/50 was won by **John Roe**. Heart shaped strawberry crème filled chocolates were provided by the chapter.

I will be sending an updated members list with the mailing of the minutes.

Our next meeting will be on March 10 at 11:00 am at the Black Bear Diner on Virginia St. See you there.

Daylight Saving is March 9; this may be the last time we have to do this in Nevada if a proposed law is passed.



NEW JERSEY



THE GARDEN STATERS

Newark, New Jersey
Marty Etler
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Mahwah, NJ 07430
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MartyEtler@Outlook.com

Another stroll down memory lane from Marty Etler:

A story without words: I grew up in Paterson, New Jersey; not far from the Morlot Avenue bridge that connects Fairlawn to Paterson. One day I was down by the bridge just to see if anything was going on, and there I saw a dozen people holding on to the rail looking down on the concrete pier on the Fairlawn side.

As I looked over, I saw a produce basket, one with wire handles, lying on the pier with four little puppies crying and trying to get out. Evidently, somebody left them there to drown but changed their mind, and the puppies were still left in a dangerous position.

Then I saw one man walk away from the crowd down to the river to the Fairlawn side of the riverbank, he took off his overcoat, as it was cold, and waded into the river to rescue those little pups, a giant step to humanity. That should be the end of the story, however, I saw another man walked to the end of the bridge and get something out of his car, walked toward the person who just saved the pups and he was plenty wet. The man opened up a beautiful warm blanket and placed it over the rescuer's shoulder as they both walked to their cars.

I didn't understand it but I think there is an unbroken bond between human beings and dogs. Call it what you want, but just watch their tails wag when they are being petted by human beings warms your heart.

NEW YORK



NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

NEW YORK METROS

Donna Feingold
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djf509@aol.com

At our luncheon this month, we welcomed two new members; **John Gensinger** from the MM department at LGA/JFK as an A&P mechanic; he retired in August 2024 and **Albert Nicro** from the MM department at JF/LGA as an AMT; he retired in November 2024.

Celebrating Anniversaries are **Kathy & Anthony Statuto** and **Gail & Harvey Block**.

Happy Birthday to **Joyce O'Donnell**, **Joe Falcon**, **John Green**, **Cassie Manelski**, **Patrick Hannon**, **Patricia Harben**, **Kathy Statuto**, **Diane Talochino**, **Susan Fleming**, **Lester Darmstadt**, and **Anthony Statuto**.

50/50 winners were Emma, Donna, and Al.

Calendar:

April 2 – Meeting.

OHIO



OHIO BUCKEYES

Cleveland, OH
Susan Broderick
President
broderickual62@aol.com

The Ohio Buckeye Chapter will be getting together on March 12th at Sullys Restaurant and Pub in Medina, Ohio. We are expecting 29 attendees, but you will have to wait for next month's report to see who attended and who won the 50/50.

We wish everyone well and have a great St. Patrick's Day. Celebrate and have a snappy good Irish time.

We are trying to get everything in order and have great places to enjoy the balance of the year.

Erin Go Bragh!

OREGON



OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland
Terry Hotchkin
tthotchkin@gmail.com

We had another great turnout for our luncheon in February; although the day was moved due to some unseasonably snow in our area. Even so, 26 folks were able to join us. It was lovely to have guest **PJ Bird**. There was no one in attendance celebrating a February birthday or anniversary. **Emily Newberry** won the door prize for a free lunch and **Steve Borbely** won the 50/50 drawing.

And now for a little humor, with some philosophy thrown in occasionally, to make your day pass with a little more fun!

☺ I hired a kid to paint my porch. When he came

back to get paid, he said, "By the way, that was a BMW, not a Porsche."

- ☺ Margarita: a cold, delicious, and refreshing alternative to hating everyone.
- ☺ Once you reach a certain age, life is just a delicate balance of trying to stay awake and trying to fall asleep, while slowly getting worse at both.
- ☺ I ate a box of thin mints. Did not get thinner. I don't think they work.
- ☺ My neighbors complained about me groaning too loud having sex in the morning ... it only they knew I'm just trying to put my socks on!
- ☺ Turns out, if you lose a sock in the dryer, it comes back to life as a Tupperware lid that doesn't fit any of your containers.
- ☺ A charcuterie board is basically an adult lunchable where you swap the Capri Sun for wine.
- ☺ I like to refer to myself as a free spirit because it sounds classier than out of control.
- ☺ It may look like I'm doing nothing ... but in my head I'm quite busy.
- ☺ I really want to take a vacation, but it costs at least 7 eggs.
- ☺ The second half of your life begins when you accept the fact that margaritas and tacos taste better than being skinny.
- ☺ I may not be Wonder Woman, but I can do things that make you wonder!
- ☺ My dog accidentally ate a whole bag of scrabble tiles so I took him to the Vet ... no word yet.
- ☺ What's it called when a cow spies on you? A steak-out!
- ☺ My yelling at a squirrel to get out of the road so it's not squished by a car is probably the same feeling my guardian angel has watching me live my life.
- ☺ It is with you feet that you move ... but it is with you heart that you dance.
- ☺ On most mornings, I like to wake up slowly and sit on the couch having coffee for 27 hours.
- ☺ The first computer dates back to Adam and Eve. It was an Apple with limited memory ... just one byte then everything crashed.
- ☺ My first blessing of the day, I woke up!
- ☺ A sweater I bought was picking up static electricity, so I returned it to the store ... they gave me another one free of charge (groan).
- ☺ I don't do drugs or drink. At my age, I get the same effect just standing up too fast!
- ☺ Dear Mother Nature, get back on you meds, have a glass of wine, and start thinking warm happy thoughts.
- ☺ When you are stressed, you eat ice cream, cake,

chocolate and sweets. Why? Because "stressed" spelled backwards is "desserts".

- ☺ I like flaws and am most comfortable around those people who accept and embrace their flaws. I myself am made up entirely of flaws, stitched together with good intentions.
- ☺ Coffee: Because you can't drink bacon!
- ☺ As I get older, I don't really sleep anymore. It's more of a doze between pee breaks.
- ☺ I have two unwritten rules. 1. 2. .
- ☺ What do you call a typo on a headstone? A grave mistake.
- ☺ Too old for Snapchat, too young for Life Alert.
- ☺ I believe my house is haunted. Every time I look in the mirror, a crazy old lady stands in front of me so I can't see my reflection.
- ☺ Waiter: How do you like your steak, sir? Sir: Like winning an argument with my wife. Waiter: Rare it is.
- ☺ With how crazy the world is, it is easy to forget we can still choose love.
- ☺ It's all fun and games until your oversized shirts start fitting.
- ☺ Remember the twenty extra years you added to your life through clean, healthy living? Well these are them.
- ☺ You don't stop having fun when you get old. You get old when you stop having fun.
- ☺ A true friend is someone who thinks you're a good egg even though she knows you are slightly cracked.
- ☺ I was always taught to respect my elders. But the older I get, the harder they are to find.
- ☺ How to dress for cold weather: 1) Put pajamas back on, 2) Get back in bed.
- ☺ Oh honey, I'm not old! I'm in the prime of my life ... somewhere between the young and the restless and the old and the senseless.
- ☺ Guess who I bumped into on my way to get my glasses fixed? Everybody
- ☺ My wife complains I don't buy her flowers, but to be honest ... I never knew she sold flowers.
- ☺ Why do cows have hooves instead of feet? Because they lactose!
- ☺ Today I'm doing nothing because I started doing it yesterday and I wasn't finished and I'm no quitter.

Until next month!


Calendar:

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

March 13

2nd Thursday of every month.

PENNSYLVANIA



THE INDEPENDENTS
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We still haven't had our meeting this year. It won't be until April 7th, we're looking forward to seeing our friends and hearing about their winter. It's been an unusually cold and windy one.

Hope all of you are doing well. We enjoy reading each issue of the RUAEA Newsletter.

Oh yes! I'm sure you know by now that our Philadelphia Eagles won the Super bowl. It was of course the talk of the town.

To everyone be safe, see you next month.


WASHINGTON



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

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

WASHINGTON, D.C.



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

Submitted by Carl Alford, President


So far, 2025 has been a bit of a challenge for The Dulles Loungers. As reported last month, our January meeting was canceled due to snow. Being situated in the Mid-Atlantic means we never know what the weather will bring, but significant snowstorms are rare. Therefore, imagine our surprise when the biggest February snowfall in 10 years forced us to cancel another

meeting. As I write this, the day of our next meeting, March 12th, is expected to be an unseasonably high 74 degrees; we're keeping our fingers crossed hoping it stays that way.

Barring those extremely rare snow events and our summer break, we meet 11:30am at the Golden Corral in Manassas on the second Wednesday of each month. We'd be delighted to have you join us!

Mari is currently recovering well from back surgery. We're happily sharing Correspondent duty.

NATIONAL



CLIPPED WINGS
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Tax Season: Navigating the Skies of Deductions

As we settle into the 2025 New Year, tax season is once again upon us. For those of us who spent our careers soaring the skies with United Airlines, the complexities of tax filing remain a familiar topic. Even in retirement, understanding the nuances of tax regulations can be beneficial, especially when advising family and friends still working the line.

During our time aloft, countless midnight conversations revolved around the intricacies of filing tax returns. We shared strategies, deductions, and those "insider tips" that seemed unique to our profession. The discussions were as varied as our routes, reflecting the diverse pay levels and hours worked.

Understanding the Basics: The Standard Deduction ~ Let's begin with a fundamental aspect: The standard deduction. For the 2024 tax year (filed in 2025), the standard deduction amounts are:

- • Single: \$14,600
- • Married Filing Jointly: \$29,200
- • Head of Household: \$21,900

These figures are crucial for determining your taxable income. Remember, the standard deduction is adjusted annually, so it's always wise to confirm the latest figures from the IRS.

The Unique Challenges of Flight Attendant Taxes ~ For those still active in the skies, tax preparation can be particularly challenging. Flight attendants often encounter unique situations that require specialized knowledge:

- ▲ Per Diem: Understanding how per diem payments are handled is essential.
- ▲ Unreimbursed Expenses: Many flight atten-

dants incur unreimbursed expenses for items like luggage, uniforms, and other work-related necessities.

- ▲ Domicile and State Taxes: Depending on your domicile, state tax implications can vary significantly.
- ▲ International Travel: International travel can add complexities regarding foreign tax credits and other related issues.

Seeking Expert Guidance ~ It's no secret that many flight attendants and pilots have developed expertise in filing taxes for their colleagues. These "tax specialists" have garnered a dedicated following, offering invaluable assistance to those navigating the complexities of their returns. If you have family members or friends still flying, recommending these specialists can be a great resource. While everyone's tax filing status is different always check with a tax professional before filing.

Organizing Your Documents ~ Whether you're advising a loved one or managing your own finances, organization is key. Numerous tax deduction worksheets are available online, providing a structured approach to gathering and organizing documents and receipts. These tools can significantly simplify the tax preparation process for the 2024 Federal Tax return.

Resources and Tips:

- ❖ IRS Website (irs.gov): The official IRS website is an invaluable resource for the latest tax information, forms, and publications.
- ❖ Tax Professionals: Consider consulting a qualified tax professional who specializes in the airline industry.
- ❖ Online Worksheets: Search for "flight attendant tax deduction worksheets" to find helpful organizational tools.

As we reflect on our years with United Airlines, let's continue to support each other and those still flying by sharing our knowledge and experiences. Tax season may be a recurring event, but with the right information and resources, we can all navigate it with greater ease.

Remember, staying informed and organized is the best way to ensure a smooth tax season.

Fly safe, and happy filing!

Check us out: Facebook: [Clipped Wings® Chat Corner](#). www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org. Instagram:



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 **February 2025**:

Lisa Czerwionka, Chicago, IL
Edeltraud I. Deshida, Sedona, AZ
Glenn Dessasau, Sylmar, CA
Joseph Dixon, Gourock, AL
Carmel Hanson, Huntley, IL
Steve Loone, Vacaville, CA
C. Ingrid Plesko, Rosemont, IL
Tammi Thompson, Aurora, CO ■



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 **February 2025**:

Janet Baltas, Lawrence R. Berryhill, Donald D. Boyer, Jennifer L. Clark, Joan K. Curtin, Maxine E. Dixon, Joseph M. Donnelly, Carol M. Dugan, Martin Etler, Linda Goodrich, Henry Gosselin, Mary L. Hydorn, Susanne Johnson, William J. Kinson, Nadine Kramer, Frank Krasovec, E. Tina Lewis, Steve Loone, William R. Mansur, Beverly McAlister, Sharon Miller, Merritt S. Odor, Joseph Palma, Sharlet Pitt, Frank Rausch, Margaret Sarsfield, James A. Sommerfield, Carol Swanson, Michaelinda Trahan, Chuck Wickstrom, Grace A. Witt, and Bernice Yvonne Wright. ■

Thank you

OBITUARIES

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

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

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

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

Retiree - **McGhee, Joseph A.**, on 2/7/2025, SFOPD, husband of Margaret McGhee, 551 Europa Ct., Walnut Creek, CA 94598 ■

John Christopher Allen



Age 79, of Kemah, Texas, passed away in mid-February. A loving brother, son, and uncle, Chris was

born in New York City to Lewis H. Allen Jr. and Barbra (nee Elliott) Allen. Chris was nothing if not self-reliant. An engineer by blood, temperament and training, he daily proved his ability to master tough challenges—from building his own waterfront home, to solo sailing Galveston Bay, to single-handedly rowing numerous challenging shores and rivers, and as a key leader of the Continental Airlines engineering team. He began his work life after graduating from Lehigh University as an electrical engineer for Pan American Airlines in what was then Idlewild Airport (now JFK)—following in his father's footsteps. Soon afterwards, he struck out on his own, moving to Kemah, Texas to work for Texas International Airlines where he was to remain for more than 40 years as that company took over Continental Airlines (and adopted the "proud bird with the golden tail" Continental name) and was ultimately to become part of United Airlines. A proud Texan by the time the United takeover occurred, he became one of many "ex-Cons" (Continental folk) who resisted the corporate pressure to relocate to Chicago. He retired as their Chief Avionics Engineer.

A lifetime aficionado of the music of life, he became an enthusiastic Karaoke personality and billed himself as "Karaoke Star at Numerous Bars" under the name Kemah Sabe. Among his life's passions, his love of the sea dominated. In addition to his daily sailing adventures on Clear Lake and Galveston Bay, his annual vacations took him on sailing adventures to other corners of the world. Chris enjoyed solo travel to warm climates, often in the Caribbean; he especially enjoyed Windjammer Barefoot Cruises where passengers were made honorary deckhands.

Behind Chris's somewhat staid exterior there was always a contagious belly laugh at the ready and a bon vivant who enjoyed simple pleasures, a good meal, a cold can (or two) of Miller Lite, and basking in the sun. He loved his community and enjoyed friendships with many neighbors. Notably, Chris—along with his trusty sidekick "Spuds" (an inflated dog)—was a regular participant in the Clear Lake Annual Christmas Boat Parade and regularly took first prize in the man-powered division in his rowboat "Tonto," which he elaborately decorated for the occasion. Chris, self-described as "Commander of the ship," commanded a full life. Adios, Kemah Sabe ... RIP.

Chris was predeceased by his parents Babs and Lewis Allen and leaves behind a sister, Barbra Espinal of San Francisco, brothers Sandy Allen of Westerly, RI, and Terry Allen of Rockport, MA, and Terry's family: sister-in-law Mary Allen, nephews Nick Allen and Dan Allen, niece Kate Feininger, and six great nephews and two great nieces. A celebration of life will take place in the spring of this year in Kemah. For information, please send an email to: booth-91-dojos@icloud.com. ■

John "Jack" Small



Born April 18, 1934
Died January 7, 2025

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of John Thomas Small (Mililani, Hawaii), who passed away on January 7, 2025 at the age of 90, leaving to mourn family and many friends.

He was predeceased by his adopted father George and his mother Florence Small. He lost his biological father (Elmer) Crawford at the age of two when Crawford crashed his airplane. He is survived by his wife of 70 years Ellen; his brother George; his son Bob (Liane); grandchildren Randy (Lauri) and Kyle; and nieces and nephews.

John, better known as Jack, was born and raised in Ottawa, Illinois. He worked at his father's Phillips 66 Service Station and the glass factory. He married his childhood sweetheart Ellen in 1954. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1956. After completing his military service, he was hired by United Airlines and moved to the Chicago suburbs to be near his O'Hare airport office where he would spend the remainder of his working days. He loved horse racing, the Chicago Bears, White Sox, Blackhawks and the Bulls. He enjoyed swimming, golfing, bowling and playing basketball. In 2017 John and Ellen moved to Mililani, Hawaii to escape the cold winters and join their son Bob, his wife Liane and grandchildren. Always a gentleman, he loved his wife, family and friends. He immensely enjoyed discussing sports, playing poker and eating pie, ice cream, pizza and a good burger or steak. John eagerly read the newspaper every day. He will be fondly remembered and missed.

Services are private. No flowers or donations. ■



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Letters & Notes



We appreciate your letters and notes. Please keep them coming. Send them to:
RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207
-or- johnqchu@hotmail.com.

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

Rosalie Betschart, Joseph M. Donnelly, Marty Etler, Wanda Garofalo, Carl Gruenberg, Marilyn J. Harmon, Linda Johnson, Susanne Johnson, Diana M. Kaiser, Beverly McAlister, William Mansur, Karen L. McNerney, Sharlet Pitt, Margaret A. Sarsfield. Carol Swanson, Helme V. Walter, Grace Witt.

WE HAVE RECEIVED LETTERS FROM:

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

Gilbert R. Cano, 5129 E. Spring St., Long Beach, CA 90808

In the February Newsletter, Issue #606, **Judith Evans** was wondering about station codes or department codes.

I worked at LAXRR (Reservations), and then later transferred to the airport; the code LAXTR was the department. TR stood for Ticketing and Reservation, for those of us who worked at the terminal. It was later changed to LAXCS (Customer Service). Hope this helps.

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

You folks in Denver do such a great job with the

Newsletter. I was glad to hear that the Reunion/Convention will be in Denver this year, I remember the last one when I lived in Denver and I was the Tours Coordinator; we had a great time.

I don't know if I'll be able to get back from Omaha to attend the Reunion.

Merrit S. Odor, 4111 Nord Hwy., Chico, CA 95973

The years are really flying by since my retirement. I have fond memories of my career with United. I do miss a lot of the fine people I worked with.

A big "Thank You" to all of the wonderful volunteers that produce the Newsletter.

Notes

James A. Sommerfield

RUAEA is very important to me as it connects me with many of my United friends across the country, and keeps me informed about changes affecting us retirees and employees.

I love our RUAEA Conventions and Chicago Skyliner's activities. I have been your website Manager since 2003, its inception, and a Board member as well. It has been a pleasure to serve all these years. I wish to thank all of the Board Members for their service as it has been my pleasure to know them all so very well.

Lawrence R. Berryhill

At 93 years old, not much is going on in my life. However I do take the dog on walks and still enjoy going to AARP meetings and out to dinner.

Henry Gosselin

I have been involved with RUAEA since 2000 serving in several position, Convention Chairman Seattle 2004, Convention Assistant to VP Conventions **Bud Hubbard**, VP Conventions, Vice President, President 2 terms, Past President, Advisor, currently VP Conventions; a very wonderful and rewarding roles to date and most importantly, the friendships and camaraderie through the years. Now with RUPA, ARECA and Clipped Wings members participating in the conventions; it's been outstanding. Thanks to all that voted for me over the years and their participation.

Maxine E. Dixon

Thanks for keeping us informed.

Susan Broderick

I am the new President of the Ohio Buckeye Chapter. ■

The Contact Column



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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

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Insurance Questions-see number on back of your insurance card

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



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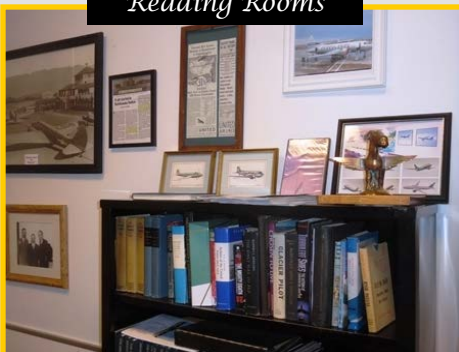
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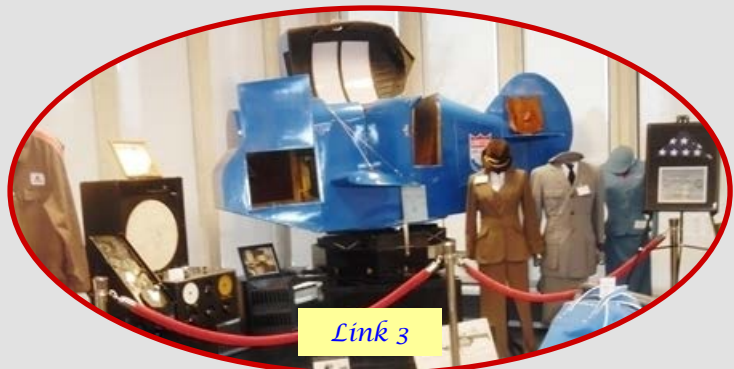
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Logos Mural



Historical Exhibit



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