



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



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APRIL 2014

## RUAEA Convention 2014



*San Diego - America's Finest City!*

**O**ur best Convention ever will be held in America's Finest City, San Diego.

We will be staying at the beautiful Town and Country Resort Hotel which is centrally located in the heart of Mission Valley. It is next to River Walk Golf Course and Fashion Valley Mall with shopping and restaurants within walking distance from the hotel. The San Diego Trolley is our primary mass transit system which provides access to our city and outlying areas extending all the way to the Border.

There is so much to see here. Balboa Park is twelve hundred acres of park and seventeen museums, including the Air and Space Museum, the Zoo, the Old Globe Theatre and Spanish Village a beautiful walk through Art Galleries showing many local artists exhibiting in all mediums.

You also have our busy, exciting waterfront to explore. Visit the USS Midway that has been with us since 2004 and has 29 restored aircrafts from WWII to Desert Storm. Just a short walk along the Embarcadero, our Maritime Museum awaits you with our tall ships, The Star of India and the California which is the tall ship of the state of California.

If you have visited San Diego in the past or if this is going to be your first time, get ready for a travel experience to remember.

Now is the time to get out your calendar and mark down the dates, October 1<sup>st</sup> thru the 4<sup>th</sup>, and begin thinking about your travel plans. We will have further information in the June issue of RUAEA.

We look forward to having you join us in America's Finest City.

Barbara Drews  
Publicity Chair  
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# GENERAL NEWS

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

## Letter From The President

**Hi Folks,**



Most of you have seen many airlines go out of business, merge, and go bankrupt. The most recognizable part of these airlines was their logos. **Marvin Berryman** has created a marvelous mural depicting many of these logos. It was on the back cover of the February newsletter. He has taken a further step and has some history that goes with each logo. Your Newsletter Managers are planning on placing these logos with the history associated with them in future Newsletter as fillers. Take a look at them; see if you recognize them, after all it is the genealogy of our industry.

We recently held our RUAEA Board Meeting at the “Town and Country Resort” in San Diego, the site of our 2014 Convention. I can’t say enough about the facility. The grounds are gorgeous, and kept well manicured. The restaurants are wonderful, with great food. There are 3 pools on the grounds along with many areas to relax and enjoy the surroundings. The rooms in the towers and the lovely and quaint bungalows are wonderful. Please plan on attending. I know you will enjoy it. You are also close to the many attractions in the area. You can walk to a large shopping mall just across a bridge from the resort. There will more information to follow in the Newsletter and on the website.

On a sad note, I am sorry to inform you of the passing of our Treasurer, **Tony Seidl**. He was a kind, generous person who served RUAEA well, taking care of our finances through several years. We will all miss him. Tony lived a very full, active life which you can read about in the Letters Section of this Newsletter.

**Hank Gosselin**  
**President – RUAEA**

## Future Events – You Are Invited



- **UAL Retiree Golf Tournament** – May 5-7<sup>th</sup>, 2014, in Mesquite, NV. For more information, contact **Paul Levan**, (702) 345-2987, [p7b4@aol.com](mailto:p7b4@aol.com).
- **Northwoods Loonies** – May 6-9<sup>th</sup>, 2014, in Baraboo, Wisconsin. For more information, contact **Bob & Carol Faust**, [carbob7@hotmail.com](mailto:carbob7@hotmail.com).
- **United/Continental Picnic** – Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014, in Denver, CO, at Wings Over The Rockies Air & Space Museum. For more information, contact **Tom**

**Goodyear**, [tagoodyear@aol.com](mailto:tagoodyear@aol.com).

- **Sierra Roundup Picnic** – Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Sand Harbor, Lake Tahoe. For more information, contact **John Zoboli**, (775) 856-2044, [johnzoboli@aol.com](mailto:johnzoboli@aol.com).
- **United Maintenance Get-Together** - August 19, 20, 21, 22, in Minden, NV. All are welcome. For more information, contact Darlene at [imthemama57@msn.com](mailto:imthemama57@msn.com).
- **RUAEA Convention** in San Diego, CA, registration starts September 30<sup>th</sup>, activities, October 1-4<sup>th</sup>. For more information, see convention article or contact **Barbara Drews**, Publicity Chairperson, [sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com](mailto:sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com).

## Renewed focus on carry-on compliance began March 1



For several months, UAL has provided the tools, training and technology necessary to raise customers’ awareness of its carry-on baggage requirements. United also educated customers on its policy.

Along with updates to [united.com](http://united.com), MileagePlus members have received emails detailing our policy. United recently launched an email called “Over, Under, Checked”, to reinforce its baggage policy before customers arrive at the gate.

The message has been simple:

- ✓ **Over:** One carry-on item that fits in the overhead bin (no larger than 9 x 14 x 22 inches including handles and wheels)
- ✓ **Under:** One personal item that fits under the seat in front of you, such as a laptop case or other small item (no larger than 9 x 10 x 17 inches)
- ✓ **Checked:** Any oversized or extra items that do not comply with the over/under guidelines

United can ensure smoother boarding and fairness to those in later boarding groups by assisting customers with non-compliant bags before they reach the gate, which will ease the strain on customers and employees.

### **RAFA Travel Benefits Committee, compiled by Kirk Moore**

*We thank **Kirk Moore**, Chairperson, RAFA Travel Benefits Committee for sharing this information*

**IE11 Alert on Flying Together homepage removed** ~ Some users of Internet Explorer 11 get weekly “auto-updates” from Microsoft. If you use IE11 and can no longer access parts of Flying Together (employeeRES, My Info), call the IT Service Desk for assistance 800-255-5801. Corporate Communications has removed the ALERT message on Flying Together that used to guide users in configuring IE to be compatible with Flying Together.

**My info in “All About Me” = 403 Forbidden for retirees** ~ Retirees who click on the “My Info” link in “All About Me” will be faced with a “403 Forbidden notice”. The “My Info” link is for active employees only. Don’t despair; retiree information is in the “Your Benefits Resources-YBR” link in All About Me, under Benefits. Once in YBR, go to “Your Profile” at the top of the page and click on “Personal Information” to see and edit your information. To effect a name change, however, you must call the Benefits Service Center: 800-651-1007.

**Tell your survivors about pass travel!** ~ Read the Survivor Pass Travel policy! When you die, your surviving spouse/domestic partner will get passes until re-married or re-partnered (boarding at SA1P for 30 days then SA2R). Dependent children can fly until age 26, parents fly for 3 years, and Enrolled Friends for 90 days (children, parents, EFs will board @ SA4P).

Survivors should call the Benefits Svc Center 800-651-1007 to report a retiree’s death then email [etc@united.com](mailto:etc@united.com) to confirm their pass travel “privileges” and to get instructions on listing. The “Survivor Pass Travel” policy is under Travel Policies (in the left panel) of the Travel page on Flying Together.

**Form 1099-MISC Box 7 vs. Box 3** ~ Tax filing information for retirees who received a 1099-MISC from United for pass travel. If you did not receive a 1099-MISC from United, you may ignore this article.

**Using box 7 instead of box 3 will cost retirees more in taxes:** Like last year, United has placed retirees’ imputed income from pass travel in Box 7 “non-employee compensation” on 1099-MISC forms. Box 7 is normally used for vendors/contractors who accrue income by *performing a service* for United and it usually triggers the need to fill out a Schedule C and pay self-employment *and* Social Security taxes in addition to regular federal/state taxes. Retirees are ... retired, we do not “perform a service” for United and should not have to pay those additional SE or SS taxes or even fill out a Schedule C, right?

Unfortunately, **United Airlines will not change how it files nor will it amend the 1099-MISC forms.** I emailed Chris Kenny, United’s VP & Controller. He replied, “*Our reading of the IRS rules requires this be reported in box 7. The pass travel benefit retirees receive is in exchange for the service they provided when they were active employees and is not tied to the current year.*”. On the other hand, Mr. Kenny also stated: “*I checked with our internal tax department and they indicated that there is no clear IRS official ruling on this matter.*”

So, I called the IRS Help Line (800-829-1040, opt 1, 2, 2, 4, 1), asked for a “1099-MISC specialist” and waited approximately 60 minutes on hold. The agent could not find any ruling in the tax code about box 7 or box 3 for retirees. The agent agreed that retirees do not “perform services” for United so they should not have to fill out a Schedule C. **The agent then suggested retirees declare pass travel imputed income as if it was listed in box 3: Put it on line #21 of form 1040 and write “retired employee benefit” on the dotted line.** The IRS Help Line agent said that “could possibly” trigger an audit, but, in that unlikely event, retirees should explain they did not “provide a service” to United during the tax period, therefore the income should be in box 3, not box 7.

I have spoken to several retirees and they tell me:

1. When income is reported in box 7, **some tax software programs** will ask the user questions, then move it to box 3 and place the income on line 21 of form 1040.
2. **CPAs** agree retirees’ pass travel imputed income *should* be in box 3.

3. Conservative CPAs may advise clients to leave it in box 7 and pay the extra tax to avoid the possibility of an audit. Other CPAs advise box 3 with a note saying United is using the wrong box.

**Bottom line: Retirees should consult with their CPA or the IRS to determine the best method of declaring pass travel imputed income on their IRS tax returns.**

**For more info, read the Imputed Taxes section:** [http://www.rafa-cwa.org/RAFA/TB\\_Cost\\_of\\_Travel.html](http://www.rafa-cwa.org/RAFA/TB_Cost_of_Travel.html)

**Pass Travel Report info: read #4:** [http://www.rafa-cwa.org/RAFA/TB\\_Update\\_January11.html](http://www.rafa-cwa.org/RAFA/TB_Update_January11.html)

### Traveling on OA's

We are very close to becoming paperless when traveling on OA's, next one on the list is Southwest (WN). **Please note this is a totally different process.**

Starting February 10<sup>th</sup>, eligible co-workers and retirees will purchase eTickets for themselves and/or their eligible pass riders to travel on WN by calling the United Pass Line (UPL). The UPL desk will list and e-ticket the pass riders on WN flights. This is a temporary solution while we work toward a self-service online solution.

Eligible co-workers and retirees will call 866-FLY-EPAS (359-3727) when dialing within the United States, or 713-324-PASS (7277) when dialing from an international location. Select the option of "Other Airline Employee" and you will be connected to an agent. You will be advised of the \$25 booking service fee (BSF), however for WN eTickets the BSF will be temporarily waived. Payments for WN eTickets will be pre-paid with a valid credit card/debit card.

**Refunds:** To request a refund of an existing paper ticket, the refund request form and instructions can be found on the Travel tab > Travel Programs > Other Airline/Interline Travel > Refunds (at the bottom of the page).

### Correction To Feb. 2014 Ask The Pharmacist



One of our members was unsuccessful when she tried to enroll in the My Medicine Cabinet on the Smartphone app. She was not able to obtain assistance to do so. Our Express Scripts contact investigated for us and her response follows.

*There are some aspects of the Mobile App that aren't available to members, depending on the type of prescription drug coverage/plan design the patient has. I wasn't aware of the limitation in our system. Due to a slight variation of the plan coverage, some members will have access to all aspects of the Mobile App and some will not.*

*I apologize for providing you an article that wasn't applicable to your entire population. Our folks are aware of the limitation and at this time aren't actively pursuing any changes at this time.*

Please note the RUAEA website, [RUAEA.org](http://RUAEA.org) also does not support smartphones at this time. [RUAEA.org](http://RUAEA.org) is available on some tablets such as the iPad.

### Ask The Pharmacist - Safe Medication Delivery in Frigid Temps



Many cities across the country are enduring record-breaking frigid temperatures. This bitter cold has prompted school closings, warnings of dangerous travel conditions and new vernacular such as polar vortex.

During these cold winter months, Express Scripts' Home Delivery Pharmacy takes specific precautions to ensure the safe delivery of medications.

**Anticipating Weather Patterns** ~ Some medications such as insulin, many specialty medications, hydrocortisone and various other creams and gels require temperature controls.

For every medication shipment that leaves our pharmacy, we use advanced technology that takes into account the acceptable temperature range for each medication, as well as the entire forecasted weather patterns that the medication will pass through along its journey from our pharmacy to the patient's hands.

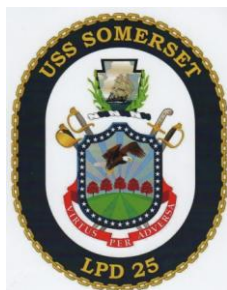
**Special Packaging** ~ For those medications that require it, Express Scripts' package them in temperature-protective coolers with warming gel packs to ensure that the medications stay within a safe temperature range - even if the package is sitting outside for several hours after delivery. In some cases of extreme cold, we may use 12 to 16 gel packs in a single package.



***Commitment to Medication Safety*** ~ At Express Scripts, we are focused on ensuring the integrity of the medication we ship. And our temperature technology is just one example of how we're making the use of prescription drugs safer for the tens of millions of Americans we serve.

Even with these precautions, if a patient is concerned that her medication has been damaged, he/she can call our pharmacists and request that we send a replacement.

### **Flight 93 Memorial Chapel by Frank Eggles**



Over 7,000 visitors, including 12 members of the Philadelphia Independents attended the commissioning of the USS Somerset in Philadelphia on Saturday, March 1, 2014.

As this important ship was originally scheduled to go to Baltimore, we give thanks to Senators Edward Casey and Pat Toomey from Pennsylvania on their successful efforts to bring it to Philadelphia. The Somerset honors the passengers and crew of United Flight 93 and is named for the Pennsylvania County where Flight 93 crashed.

The commanding officer, Thomas L. Dearborn officially accepted command of the USS Somerset following the commissioning and 20 gun salute. At that time, two large metal doors opened on the side of the ship displaying large landing crafts supported by large cranes for easy lowering them to the water. The bow stem, the leading edge as the ship moves through the water was cast from tons of steel from the crash site. In addition to the officers, there are 360 sailors and Marines, 699 troops can be accommodated.

The ship has a 24 bed ward, two operating rooms and two dental operating rooms. Displayed on the top deck was a new tilt rotor MV22 Osprey.

Those attending the commissioning received a color magazine containing the names of the passengers and crew of Flight 93. In addition, names and pictures were listed on the bulkhead inside the ship. There was also a large 93 Memorial flag displayed.

We also received a red zip lunch bag complete with lots of goodies, complements of WaWa and Sheets. USS Somerset will be based out of San Diego, California. For further information go to the website [ussomersetcommissioning.org](http://ussomersetcommissioning.org).

To donate to the Chapel, make check payable to United Airlines Flight 93 Memorial Chapel and mail to Frank Eggles, 3405 West Chester Pike, B307, Newtown Square, PA 19073-4252.

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



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

Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to [ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net), please copy Francis Domaratius at [ruaenewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaenewsletter@surewest.net) and John Chu at [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com) or by FAX. FAX number is (303) 780-5667. If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd, Denver, CO 80207-2433. Please allow for postal delay. We cannot extend the deadline!

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

**Francis Domaratius**  
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# LOCAL NEWS

## ALABAMA



### GULF COAST CHAPTER

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Our group met on Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, at the Pensacola Yacht Club in Pensacola, FL. We enjoy meeting there on the water with such great views. 17 members attended again this month and we had another couple join our group. Those attending were: **Bill & Ann Delavan, Bob & Carol Dorsey, John & Myrl Eisinger, Conrad Hamilton, Bill Hayden, Bob & Bev Heinrich, Rick & Carol Herrick, Norm & Jeanne Reinoehl, Bob & Yvonne Schwartz,** and **Ed Southworth**. Missing again this month were **Park & Billie Learned** as Park continues with his stroke recovery, **George & Denny Atteberry** who are back in Indiana until April, **Ray & My Owens** are in Viet Nam until June and **Steve Wilkey & Annie Kirkpatrick Wilkey** who were with their son at a school event. We missed our treasurer, **Barbara Serra**, who is recovering from a serious bite from her cat. We pray she will have a speedy recovery.

We are so happy to welcome new members, **Bob & Carol Dorsey**, to our Chapter. Bob flew with Pan Am until 1986 when UAL bought the Pacific Route and he joined United. They live in Milton, FL and their friends, **Bill & Ann Delavan** invited them to our group and they knew some of our other members. We are thrilled to have them as part of our Chapter.

**Bob Schwartz**, President, called our meeting to order at 1:00PM, after we finished another one of the Club's fantastic buffet lunches. The Club's manager told us beginning next month we will no longer have the buffet but will order from their menu. We are anxious to see what offerings we will have. **Bill Hayden & Bob Schwartz** sold raffle tickets. Bob had our new member, **Carol Dorsey**, draw the winning ticket, which was **Carol Herrick**. Congratulations, Carol!

The Agenda and Minutes were emailed to everyone and due to the injury to our treasurer's hand, there was no financial report. Barbara called and told us the balance on hand.

Our only March birthday is **Carol Herrick** (1<sup>st</sup>). Our April birthdays are **Park Learned** (1<sup>st</sup>), and Rick Herrick (30<sup>th</sup>). Happy Birthday to you three!

Bob read two emails from **Don Nellans**, our Florida Regional Director, regarding our AETNA insurance and the purchasing of etickets. Bob had emailed the info to everyone but discussion was held on these items of interest.

Yvonne, our secretary, passed out new membership directories to those who had been unable to print them out and to those without a computer (Yes, we do have 3 without computers!)

Discussion followed regarding the survey and many other subjects and stories. All of us really enjoy when different ones begin telling us of events that happened during their time at United. We have pilots, flight attendants, mechanics, customer service reps and even one IT person, so there are enough stories to be told probably for the life of our group!

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Pensacola Yacht Club. We meet on the third Tuesday of each month and we encourage you to join us if you are in our area. If you live in our area (Panama Beach, FL-East to Mississippi border-West), please come join us at our new location.

### Calendar:

**March 18** -11:30 AM

**April 15** - This date may change

## SWEET HOME ALABAMA

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The Birmingham retirees met at the historic Bright Star in Bessemer for our monthly luncheon meeting. This restaurant was opened in 1907, making it the oldest restaurant in Alabama still in operation. Those attending were **Herb & Carol Wilbanks** and guest **Jonlyn McCuan, Bill Preston, Joe Duncan, Jesslyn Arnold, Bobby & Jean Cox**, and **Joe Jones**. Several members were sick and unable to attend. We wish them a speedy recovery and hope to see them in March.

**Bobby Cox** read a card sent by **Beverly Yeager** expressing her thanks for the orchid given to her by **Charlotte Gibson** in memory of Beverly's mother who passed away recently.

**Joe Duncan** gave everyone a baseball cap from his son Scott who now lives and works in Colorado.

We meet every second Monday for a lunch at 11:30 and would welcome any and all United retirees and their family. Call **Joe Jones**, (205) 646-3825 or **Bobby Cox**, (205) 833-0655 for more information.

## ARIZONA



### PHOENIX AZURES

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Arrowhead Country Club proved to be a wonderful venue with delicious and abundant/per person servings and I know we'll remember that in the future as one of our monthly luncheon meeting places. We had almost 40 people in attendance and everyone seemed to enjoy our "annual white elephant" sale hosted by **Carol Liltz** with the help of **Rose Barry** and **Vivian Klick** acting as our money changers. This is always a fun time and brings in extra \$\$\$ into the Azures "kitty" for fund contributions i.e. Fantasy Flight.

We are looking forward to the All-Arizona luncheon at the Casa Grande Holiday Inn on March 20. The reservations are coming in as we get closer to the event and we're hopeful of getting good representation from all the Arizona chapters. I will report on attendance, food, prizes, etc. in the next newsletter.

Our March 8 luncheon was held at Pebblecreek Country Club in the Tuscany clubhouse down the hall from the Renaissance Theatre. We planned to have 24 interested attendees as of this writing. Hopefully, we'll get a few more. We will report on the luncheon in the next newsletter.

The next Azures luncheon will be held at Abuelo's Restaurant, 16092 North Arrowhead Fountain Center Road, Peoria, AZ 85382, (623) 878-8282 (off 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenue just south of Bell Road and across from the ballparks). We will be reserving the patio area as it will give us a little more privacy for our meeting. This will be an "individual check" luncheon and we will be ordering off the menu. Hopefully, we will have better-than-average attendance as this is the last luncheon of the season.

Unfortunately, our Azures membership has been dwindling in the last few years, whether it's the distance, age, food prices, interest, or whatever. We will be looking to the members via a survey soon and welcome ideas for ways of expanding our participation. Two of the Board members have been in place for a few years now, way longer than most chapters and, in January, we lost a Board member. We have tried to get more interest and more members by offering new meeting/luncheon sites, but to no avail. This year, we have signed up a few more members, but some of our long-time members are no longer participating. So, our hands go up in surrender and we need to ask our members for their help and opinions.

On a happier note, we had 18 members/friends attend the last (2/25/14) breakfast at Coco's in Sun City on 98<sup>th</sup> and Bell Road. **Keith Steffen, Lonna Fischer** (DENRR) and **Laura Coats** (DENRR) joined the usual breakfasters. And, friends of **LB & Pat Neal** came from Huntley, IL (and who could blame them since the weather there has been awful) to join them also.

Congratulations to our April birthdays and congratulations to **A.D. & Lynn Cline** (4/26) and **Laura & Jim Ehas** (4/28) on their wedding anniversaries.

#### Calendar:

Breakfasts at Coco's, 98<sup>th</sup> and Bell Rd., Sun City, AZ at 0800: **April 8** and **April 22**. Please call **Sherry Muoio** by the Monday night before for reservations, (623) 572-4828.

**April 12** – Abuelo's Restaurant, 16092 North Arrowhead Fountain Center Road, Peoria, AX 85382, (623) 878-8282

#### PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S

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Happy Easter! Even though Easter falls later this month and the Spring weather hasn't reached a lot of areas in the United States; we have been very fortunate here in Arizona with beautiful warm, sunny weather. This is a wonderful time of the year to visit our area. So, if you are 55 years or older and have worked for United Airlines or Continental Airlines at any time, please take the time to check our Re-United's Chapter out. We meet for breakfast on the fourth Friday of each month at the Black Bear Diner in Gilbert, AZ all year round. This month, we're having our annual picnic at the Crescent Run Park in Mesa, which is our last luncheon-type get-together until next October. If you would be interested in attending this month's picnic or breakfast, please contact our President, **Shirley Claggett** at (480) 354-7610 or by email at [indind75@yahoo.com](mailto:indind75@yahoo.com). You can also contact our Vice-President, **Peg Snowdall** at (480) 396-3317, or at her email at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net).

We had 39 people at our February 13 Luncheon at Monti's Steakhouse in Tempe. This was originally set up by **Donna Pedone**; but due to the death of her husband **Ron, Jim & Kathy Brigante** took over the reservations and helped set up our private room for the luncheon. The food was excellent, as well as the service. It was nice to see former members, **Bob & Sharon Treasure**, once again. We also had Jean Ogden, Branch Manager of Alliant Credit Union join us. Their office is right across the street from the restaurant. Our President, **Shirley Claggett** wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day. She brought up the E-Ticket system that United and Southwest Airlines are trying to put together; just like we have for the other airlines for pass riders. The \$25 service fee to talk to a real person is waived until further notice. Also, if you have unused Southwest paper ticket, this cannot be used anymore and you will need to have it refunded. The All-Arizona Luncheon is March 20<sup>th</sup> in Casa Grande and hosted by the Phoenix Azures. Asking for a raise of your hands if you planned on attending the All-Arizona Luncheon, we came up with 30 people planning on attending. The speaker was Carolyn Johnson, who spoke about health issues and preventions for our age group. Thanks goes out to the **Brigantes** for filling in as host and hostess for this luncheon.

At our February 28<sup>th</sup> Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner in Gilbert, we had 32 people attending. We really filled up the room! Our President, **Shirley Claggett**, again discussed the new system for Southwest tickets for pass riders. Our Sheriff responsible for collecting fees for not wearing your name tag, was able to find one person without their name tag. Since no one volunteered to be an officer in our Re-United chapter, the present officers will continue as follows: President ~ **Shirley Claggett**; Vice President ~ **Peg Snowdall**; Treasurer ~ **Rita Zarek**; Secretary ~ **Elizabeth Tollefsen**; Sheriff ~ **Jay Hartough** and **Ted Higley**; Sun Shine Person ~ **Tony Ribeiro**; and Historian ~ **Ginny Rockenhauser**. An excellent group!

The All-Arizona Luncheon, sponsored by the Azures, will be reported on next month.

Our past President, **Jim Brigante**, had hip surgery early in March, and may have the other hip done shortly. Please keep **Jim** in your thoughts and prayers. Get-well cards can be sent to him at 8700 E. Mountain View Rd. #1106, Scottsdale, AZ 85248.

We have the following Birthdays in April: **Dot Kuspis** (4/1), **Ron Paluch** (4/1), **Lynn Hubbard** (4/12), **Chuck Strohmaier** (4/16), **Orland Baldwin** (4/20), and **Duri Arquisch** (4/27). Happy Birthday to you! Those couples having Wedding Anniversaries this month are: **Olga & Oscar Aguilar** (4/7/84); **Jan & Don Eiken** (4/20/57, and **Judy & Steve Stricker** (4/23). Happy Anniversary to all the couples!

#### Calendar:

**April 10** – Annual Picnic at Crescent Run Park, 8500 E. Southern Avenue in Mesa, starting at 11:00 a.m., with lunch being served at 12:00 noon. The charge will be determined at a later date. For further information and to make your reservation, please contact **Shirley Claggett** or **Ron Paluch** at (480) 354-7610. Shirley's email address is [Indind75@yahoo.com](mailto:Indind75@yahoo.com).



**April 25** – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 East Baseline Rd. in Gilbert, starting at 9:15 a.m. Contact **Peg Snowdall** with your reservation by Wednesday, April 23 at (480) 396-3317, or by email at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net).



### **TUCSON ROADRUNNERS**

Tucson, Arizona  
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[bennaj@wa-net.com](mailto:bennaj@wa-net.com)

Our February 20<sup>th</sup> luncheon, hosted by **Claire Byle**, was held at Mimi's by the Tucson Mall. We had 30 members in attendance, but we missed our honorary member, **Ann Borucki**, **Sandy Lawyer's** mother. It is with regret that we report her passing. She will be missed.

It appears that our idea of having activities outside our normal luncheons is going into the action phase. A suggested outing to the mirror lab at the University of Arizona was greeted with approval. By a show of hands, over half of the group would attend.

It was brought up that most of the attendees at today's luncheon worked for United at stations other than Tucson. There was not a nucleus of retired Tucson employees. It was suggested that a notice of the Roadrunners existence be placed in neighborhood publications.

We also discussed that if a person had worry-free-refills with Express Scripts in 2013, they may not automatically have that option in 2014. Call Express Scripts if you are running low on a prescription and you have not received notification that your RX is being refilled.

Winners of the 50/25/25 were **Barbara Johnson** and **John Bennatts**. We thank Claire for hosting this luncheon.

April Birthdays ~ A single birthday in April, **Gordon Starr** (4/19).

#### **Calendar:**

**March 20** - All AZ Luncheon in Casa Grande, hosted by the Phoenix Azures

**April 17** – 11:00AM at Giuseppe's Ristorante Italiano, located just north of Radasill on Oracle in the Casa Blanca shopping Center behind Putneys. Hosted by **Pat Carera**. Pat would prefer contact for reservations by phone at (520) 797-0243 over email at [pattiwes21@gmail.com](mailto:pattiwes21@gmail.com). Please RSVP before April 14.

**May 22** – Teresa's Mosaic Café, 2455 N Silverbell (where you were when the space shuttle did a fly over), hosted by **Loretta & Wayne Norman**, (520) 743-4300, [iamsewbusy@msn.com](mailto:iamsewbusy@msn.com).

### **CALIFORNIA**

#### **CENTRAL COASTERS**

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



Our Chapter met on February 19<sup>th</sup> at the River Grill at Alisal. There were 13 of us in attendance. The luncheon was hosted by **Esther & Bob Bartlett** with very nice table treats. Bob did not attend due to a cold.

It was good to see some of our members who were absent from the last meeting. **Peter Schaefer** was hospitalized before our December meeting. Peter is still waiting for his back surgery until his health improves. He has been waiting a long time with no date for this surgery. **Eleanor Cunningham** was absent last time, but she and **Jack** attended this time. **Bob Wagner** lost his wife in January and he came to our meeting. Bob thanked those who sent cards and prayers. This meant a lot to him. Bob was one of the original Central Coasters who was very important in organizing our Chapter. He still is a very important member of our Chapter and we are all grateful that he will continue without his beloved Pat.

We were going to have a new member join us. **John Kessel** called me a few weeks ago about joining our Chapter. He was to be at our meeting, but had to cancel due to his wife being sick. Hopefully he will be joining us soon.

We were told by **Esther Bartlett** about a car accident she and Bob got into in Santa Maria. They were making a left turn on the arrow, when a car ran the light and slammed into them. The driver said she got distracted by sneezing and didn't see their car. Esther said that if it wasn't for the airbags, she would not be here. They had to remove her using the Jaws of Life, and then removing the side door. Bob was not injured, but Esther has a stiff neck and she has to be very careful when turning her head from side to side. This was such a dramatic accident that it made the local TV news. I saw that news program, but didn't realize it was the Bartletts that were involved. Their car was totaled and they had to buy a new one. They are one lucky couple.

Our President, **Mike Zoldak**, opened our meeting. His concern was the number of years our board members could serve. We voted on changing the bylaws from a 2 year term to 4 years. A vote was taken and the 4 year term just barely passed. Mike will now be President until 2016, unless someone else wants the job. The rest of the Board Members will also be on for 4 years. Mike & Bridget took a trip to Madison, WI (MSN) in January and said that it was a bit cold. Several degrees below freezing all the time they were there. They were able to fly into ORD and then pickup a flight to MSN. Their flight showed several open seats until another airline cancelled and most of the passengers routed on Mike's flight. Their flight to MSN was also cancelled and they were forced to take a bus instead. It was a 3 hour ride, but they finally got there.

Mike received word from SFOMB that several maintenance shops will be closing and 105 mechanics will be reassigned. One of the shops was the Tire Shop. It was always considered one of the most important shops at the Base. More than once I had to depend on them to help me get a part needed to satisfy an "AOG" problem. I just read that Management found a more economical way by moving the tire shop to outside vendors.

Our Treasurer, **Marcia Stanger**, said that she received letters of "Thanks" from the Toys 4 Tots Christmas donations by the Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo chapters.

Our next chapter meeting will on April 16<sup>th</sup> hosted by **John & Barbara Stilwell** and **Bob Wagner**.



#### **DESERT SUNBIRDS**

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

The Desert Sunbirds' February Luncheon was held at Sammy G's Tuscan Grill in Palm Springs and hosted by **Brad Zittel**; forty four Sunbirds and guests enjoyed selecting from five entrée choices, and suffice it to say, no one went home hungry.

Lots of visitors and guests this month ~ **Hal Klobe**, as if he didn't have enough to do, and **Donna** attended the Luncheon to among other things, promote the San Diego Convention. Hal is President of the Re-Lax-ers, Southern California Regional Director, is Co-Chairing the Convention, and became a member of the Desert Sunbirds. How does he find the time? They brought two friends to the Luncheon, **Peter & Barbara Schuster**. **Carol Hinsby** (LAXSW Retired) was the guest of **Sandy Sereno**. Two long-time friends, **Kathy Graham** and **Betty Morgan Bryan** (both with LAXCS for many years) graced our Luncheon with their presence. Lastly, our host, Brad, brought a guest, **Keith Coleman**, retired (LAXSW?). Keith promptly paid his dues and joined the Sunbirds.

**Dede Utzinger** is again running the W. A. Patterson Open Golf Tournament. I believe it's the 55<sup>th</sup> year, and Dede has been running it for something like 40 of those years. It's on May 5<sup>th</sup> at the California Country Club. Contact Dede at [word2go@aol.com](mailto:word2go@aol.com) for details.

Congratulations to **Tony & Lynda Davis**, celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

On the sick list with Gall Bladder surgery is **Maureen Williams**. She had missed the January Luncheon, but at that time we only knew that she was sick. We look forward to seeing you back at the Luncheons real soon, Maureen.

The Birthday Winner was **Louie Horvath**. **Vern Behnke** took home \$50.00 and **Kathy Wilson** \$35.00 in the 50/50 drawing. Our host, Brad, added a few items to the drawing: **Maureen Schultz** won two tickets to a local concert; **Betty Bryan** and **Al Beuchel** won bottles of Champagne, and two mystery gifts, which apparently

will remain a mystery, were won by **Robb Bohart** and **Carole Paquin**. Lastly, **Ron Napier** added two tickets to a concert featuring a singing group called Sine Nomine of Cuba.

Calendar:

**April 9** – Hosted by **Carole Paquin**

**May 14** – Hosted by **Jerry & Sheryll Waiss**

### **GOLD DIGGERS**

Sacramento, CA

Colleen Esola, Secretary

12801 Fair Oaks Blvd. #446

Citrus Heights, CA 95610

(916) 735-5497

[colleenesola@comcast.net](mailto:colleenesola@comcast.net)

### **SACRAMENTO**



The Sacramento Gold Diggers met on February 26 at Fat's Asian Bistro in Roseville. This was hosted by **Hank & Rose Wikstad**. This was our yearly Past Presidents' Luncheon and also celebrating our 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Wikstads provided a lovely cake to celebrate our Past Presidents. We had 43 Gold Diggers attending and 2 guests, **Ed & Shirley VanDerzyl**. They also became members of Gold Diggers. Our Chapter President, **Orville Harshbarger**, welcomed those attending. The members thanked the Wikstads for hosting.

The Past Presidents who attended the luncheon were introduced: 2000 ~ **Ronnie King**, 2002 ~ **Ken Norton**, 2005 - **Harold & Colleen Esola**, 2006 - **Harold & Colleen Esola**, 2008 ~ **Bob Fulkerson**, 2010- **Ken Norton**, 2012 – **Terry Greenacre**.

Officers Reports:

*President* ~ **Orville Harshbarger** introduced our new members, **Ed & Shirley VanDerzyl**. He asked Ed to give us a little bio from working at United. Orville asked us if we wanted to leave our September date as planned since it was close to the RUAEA convention. Yes, was the reply from everyone.

*Vice President* ~ **Phil Frank** gave us a luncheon update for this year. We need hosts for May, June, and January of next year. Next month's luncheon will be at Strings in Auburn hosted by the **McPeaks**. On April 30<sup>th</sup>, we will be going to Tahoe Joe's in Roseville, hosted by **Harold & Colleen Esola**.

*Secretary* ~ **Colleen Esola** read the anniversaries for February. Those 50 years and over: **Philip & Ann Frank** (62 years); **Glenn & Alice McPeak** (64 years); **Irv & Sherrie Wolfram** (59 years); **Dick & Velma Carol** (56 years); and **Jack & Marge Raynor** (50 years).

*Treasurer* ~ **Judie King** was not in attendance today.

*Sunshine* ~ **Alice McPeak** was not aware of anyone who was sick.

*Historian* ~ **Stephanie Norton** has nothing to report

*Roster Chairman* ~ **Jack Raynor** mentioned that a new roster will be out next month.

*RUAEA Director of Northern California & Nevada* ~ **John Zoboli** was not with us today.

*Past President of RUAEA* ~ **Ron Bertacini** was not with us today.

Don't forget to pay your dues, \$10.00 per family, make payable to Gold Diggers and send to: **Judie King**, 11886 Heather Lane, Grass Valley, CA 95949.

### **HANGTOWN MINERS**

Jane Gibson

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



February, ah, the month of "love"! Well, there was plenty of good food to love at our monthly luncheon/meeting. **Rudy & Cindy Blazius** made arrangements for us to meet at Mimi's Cafe in Folsom. We had a great turnout - almost 40 members getting together. You know, I made an observation; there never seems to be any shortage of conversation, laughter and warm friendships - life is good! A resounding "Thank You" to Rudy & Cindy.

*President* ~ No one owned up to having a birthday this month. However, following the "love" theme, we have four couples celebrating their anniversaries this month. Check out these wonderful numbers: **Bob &**

**Dorean Ames** (66 years); **Joe & Jeannette D'Amico** (49 years); **Bill & Pati Kenney** (23 years); **Irv & Sherrie Wolfram** (59 years). Congratulations to you all!

We want to welcome back **Reva Gordon** who has recently returned to the area. She came to Mimi's but did not stay for lunch. We look forward to seeing her each month.

*Vice President* ~ **Bill Dinette** stepped forward with some handy information regarding moving and taxes. Bill & Linda moved to the area a couple years ago. Last year, they had a "change of address" on file with the Post Office and thus received all their tax info. But this year that forwarding information was not on file and they did not receive any notices from either MetLife or the PBGC. What happened? Well, you need to be sure that each of these companies has your new address so they can send you your IRS Form 1099-R. They don't get that info from your auto deposit. For MetLife, it is easy to accomplish that only after you get an agent via a phone call to help you. Their website, [Metlife.com](http://Metlife.com), is confusing and hard to find which department you need. After you find the department you are seeking, you can get a phone number. Of course when you call that number all agents will be busy helping other customers. Stay on the line or you will lose your place, even though the line appears to be dead (no sound) someone will eventually answer and help you out. Here is a direct number for United retiree pensions benefits. It is: 1-800-638-5656, again, if they put you on hold stay on the line! MetLife will send you any documents you need after they are satisfied you are who you say you are! They will not allow you to print copies via the computer.

For the PBGC, it's fast and easy to update your profile through MyPBA. You need to set up a MyPBA account. Setting up an account is fast, free and easy; log on through their website [www.pbgc.gov/using:mypba](http://www.pbgc.gov/using:mypba). MyPBA is available to us 24 hours a day, seven days a week and our online transactions are safe and confidential. We can change our address, sign up for direct deposit, designate your beneficiary, print out your IRS Form 1099-R, change federal withholdings, view your payment info and more. One other thing, we might want to consider is to send the PBGC a copy of a durable Power of Attorney. At some point, we may want or need someone we trust to deal with the PBGC on our behalf. A durable power of attorney authorizes another person to act for us even if we become mentally or physically incapacitated. The PBGC will not transact any business with anyone other than the employee unless they have a durable power of attorney on file. You can send a clear legible copy to PBGC/Benefits Administration and Payment Department. P.O. Box 151750, Alexandria, VA 22315-1750.

For those of us who do not like dealing with computers and wish not to set up a MyPBA account, no worries, we can call PBGC customer service Monday - Friday 8:00am to 7:00pm ET. That number is 1-800-400-7242.

*Secretary* ~ **Jane Gibson** did not have anything new to report.

*Treasurer* ~ **Tom Kenny** received "Thank You" letters from Snowline Hospice and El Dorado County Health and Human Services Agency. These are two of the four programs we gave a \$200.00 donation to this year. Now that Tom has conquered the IRS and we have our "official" non-profit status, he has contacted the California offices to see what he/we need to do to have our non-profit status on record with them. So far there doesn't seem to be any fee to pay (!) and Tom thinks he may hear from them by our next meeting. Our checking balance stands at \$1,095.79.

Since **Thom Biro** was not able to attend, **Tom Kenny** brought Lady Bugs for everyone. Thom works at a power plant near Rock Creek and it seems to be where the little red ladies congregate each year. Thom put the bugs into baggies for us to take home and put into our gardens. If you have some of them, be sure to put them out at night when it's cooler. We have been enjoying these little critters from Thom for a few years now. We do see more ladybugs in our garden, but feel that our neighbors are really getting the benefits as well. Thanks, Thom.

*Sunshine* ~ Everyone seems to be doing okay. For those of you who know **Geneva & Al Lockwood**, they are doing well. Geneva has Parkinson's and Al has the beginnings of Alzheimer's.

*Historian* ~ Lynda has begun a new album for 2014 for Hangtown Miners. She brings the albums to the meetings. If you have not browsed through them yet, take a moment to do so – they're great!

*Old Business* ~ The beginning of each year is dues time for the Hangtown Miners. Many members have paid the \$10.00 already, but there's still a few of you who need to send in or bring the dues to the next meeting. Please send your dues to **Tom Kenny**. Make your check out to Hangtown Miners and send it to 3481 Parleys Canyon Road, Placerville, CA 95667.

*New Business* ~ Topics covered were Aetna, Pass Travel, FedEx discount and items in the General News section of the RUAEA Newsletter.

Pilar shared some of her frustration with us! She wanted to suspend her medical coverage temporarily. She wanted to have a written letter stating this. After many attempts to get said letter, she is getting fed up. Does

anyone know how to proceed? Jeannette said that they have suspended their coverage for a few years. What happens is that when it is open enrollment time, you fill in the no coverage and it is in effect for the year. Each year you do the same.

**Dan Ouchi** reports that Southwest is now charging a % of the highest rate! They're trying to get it on the lowest.

Rudy reminded us to go to the website; [farecast.com](http://farecast.com) if you want to fly positive space. They give good rates and show a comparison of several airline fares so you can choose which one you want to use.

Rudy reminded us that our next luncheon will be on March 10<sup>th</sup> at 36 Handles and is hosted by **Carolyn Woolston** and **Suzanne & Tom Kenny**. He closed our meeting and the Drawing Of Opportunity began.

The **Somplacks** won the donators prize. Those who donated were: **Dinette** - Wine & multi meter; **Blazius** - wine; **Kenny** - wine & wine candle; **Biro** - ladybugs; **Lima** - basket; **Dellinger** - wine; **D'Amico** - 2014 calendar; **Gibson** - plants & jelly; **Kenney** - cheese platter with goodies; **Hyde** - fragrance diffuser; **Buschman** - wine; **Akin** - eggs; **Czapkay** - garden art; **Fitzpatrick** - wine; **Somplack** - wine; **Ames** - cook book; **Ouchi** - lotion; **Kozelka** - homemade wine. A big "Thank You" for your generous donations!

## **REDWOOD EMPIRE** **RETIREES**

Santa Rosa, California

Mary Wilson, Secretary

434 Decanter Circle

Windsor, CA 95492

[marywilson333@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marywilson333@sbcglobal.net)



Our February luncheon was on the 13<sup>th</sup>, one day before Valentine's Day at the Quail Inn in Oakmont. The hosts were **George & Lois Schwind**, who had the tables decorated in a cute Valentine's theme. There were 35 members, and 4 guests attending: **Jan Baty**, daughter of **Helen Furber**, **Nina Matlock**, guest of **Charlie Anderson**, **Clem Shanahan** and **Lee Trevelyn**, guests of **Barney & Claire Hagen**. **Jan Baty** has now officially joined the Redwood Retirees as a member; a guest no more!

VP **Larry Wilson** led us in a moment of silence for **Marji Matchinegg**, who recently passed away. A memorial service was held on February 19<sup>th</sup> at the Oakmont East Recreational Room, to celebrate her life. We were also told of the recent passing of **Tim Staples**, one of our members. He and his wife Kathy used to join us at the Armstrong Woods BBQ, and the Christmas luncheons each year. They were very involved with the St. Vincent de Paul foundation. A condolences card was sent from our chapter to Kathy.

The Treasurer's report, brought by **Oscar Chambers** reveals that the General Account is in good shape and the Charity Fund as well. Please remember to bring a small donation for the Charity box at our next luncheon. Hopefully, we are all caught up on our dues for this year, which looks like a bright year together!

The birthdays and anniversaries were announced by Sunshine Lady **Verda Burr** and of course, a good joke to share. The birthdays were: **Larry Wilson**, **Don Davis**, **Andy Citara**, **Ron Huhn**, **Diane Quinn**, and **Madalyn Schmidt**. VP **Larry Wilson** won the free birthday drawing; (I don't think it was rigged!). The 3 anniversaries being celebrated this month are **Jerome & Barbara Underhill** (40 yrs.), **Lou & Sheila Legnitto** (40 yrs.), and **Brandon & Pat Maus** (57 yrs.), for a total of 137 yrs (46 yrs. avg.). Congratulations to all!

**Barney Hagen** brought us news from the UAL/Continental Website, [FlyingTogether.com](http://FlyingTogether.com). He says there is improved navigation possible to get to the desired pages. There is a 20% discount when purchasing a ticket on the Employees page; there is a charge if you need to change plans and switch flights. There were other details, but I haven't visited the site yet; Larry does our listing, and purchasing a full ticket when necessary. Check it out!

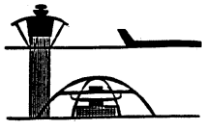
RUAEA Western Region Director, **Roger Casterline**, updated us on the RUAEA convention on October 1-4 in San Diego, CA regarding hotel reservations rates, which will include a breakfast buffet. Registration starts soon; we will be informed in the coming newsletter.

Lastly, Verda says that the Armstrong Woods BBQ this year will be \$18.00, and there will be a parking discount for seniors of only \$7.00. A deposit has been sent to reserve the space for us.

The raffle prizes of wine and the Valentine's teddy bear decorations were well appreciated by all who participated!

The March luncheon will be held at the La Gare restaurant on March 13<sup>th</sup>, hosted by **Jan Blackburn** and **Valerie Hulsey**. See you all then!





### **Re-LAX-ers**

Los Angeles  
Donna Klobe  
4058 Alla Rd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90066  
(310) 306-7415  
[haldonna@verizon.net](mailto:haldonna@verizon.net)

Our February luncheon was at our favorite place, the Proud Bird Restaurant. Everyone filled their plates with their favorite food and enjoyed every bite. I think I spotted a new plane on display, a beautiful bi-wing plane I had not seen before. We were happy to welcome two guests. **Dick Pendleton** brought his son **David**, who is a pilot. David enjoyed taking many photos of the famed restaurant and its collection of airplanes from the past. Our other guest was **Kay Bewick**, a friend of **Sylvia Allen**. We welcome them and hope they will return.

Missing friends that we'd like to send good wishes to: **Barbara Smith**, **Lois Hamilton**, **Sandy Ortiz**, **Al Tschirhart** and **Rowe Prideaux**. **Kappy Bettencourt** could not attend due to problems with COPD. She hopes to attend in April. **John Daley** is having problems with falling; so Drs will not release him to go home. Sorry John, we'll reschedule our welcome home party until later.

Recovery from the extensive back surgery kept **Ester Horompoly** at home. She will have a long recovery period. She said her Dr. told her, "drink, eat and rest". We send our love and good wishes to her, 7455 West 91 St., Los Angeles, CA 90045.

**Roger Dunworth** told me he's not looking forward to kidney stone removal. Our sympathy and wishes that all will go well.

**Carl Delia** called to let us know they'd be missing the luncheon due to surgery that his wife **Barbara** had scheduled. Send good wishes to; 23041 Posada Dr. Valencia, CA 91354.

We had an extra dessert presented to us in observance of Valentines Day! **Gary Baesel** provided each table with a tasty chocolate bar. What a sweetheart!

**Barbara & Peter Schuster** have been traveling and entertaining many friends and guests over the holidays; and now are planning two new trips to fill up the month. Hal and I are lucky to join them on a trip to Palm Springs to attend the Desert Sunbirds Luncheon.

While in Palm Springs we learned that **Maureen Williams** had gall bladder surgery and is recovering at home. Send cheery notes to; 9757 Valencia Dr., Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240.

A friendly note from **Phyllis Easley** from Pennsylvania advised they are still covered in snow and sub-zero weather at times. She's happy they have down-sized to a comfy 3-bedroom home and looking forward to coming to San Diego for the RUAEA Convention.

### **Calendar:**

**April 4** - The Proud Bird

### **RESANS**

San Diego, CA  
Barbara Drews  
5642 Amaya Drive #99  
La Mesa, CA. 91942  
[sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com](mailto:sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com)



We welcomed four new retirees to our breakfast this morning, **Carol & Mike Figimoto**, **Farid Zamani** and **Tom Prewitt**. Mike worked in Denver, Tom in SANCS and Farid is one of our new Continental retirees.

**Donna & Hal Klobe** joined us from Los Angeles, gave us an update on the convention and how we are progressing.

**Al Soderberg** and **Elliott Schwartz** are our March birthdays and Elliott won the 50/50 for an even better birthday.

We had thirty eight for breakfast this morning, the largest number ever for breakfast. I talked with the manager about bringing in more tables and an extra server as our numbers are continuously growing.

The time and place of the Spring Fling Lunch, Fiddler's Green on Shelter Island was met with enthusiasm. The restaurant is not usually open for lunch, only special occasions and we are the special occasion. We will

have the restaurant to ourselves and they have an excellent lunch menu. Invitations will be out in the next couple of weeks.

Calendar:

**April 3** - Our monthly breakfast at the Pt. Loma Café, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA. 92106 -2394. Phone (619) 226-0255

**April 17** - Spring Fling, Fiddler's Green Restaurant, 2760 Shelter Island Drive, San Diego, CA 92106



**GOLDEN GATERS**

SFO – Bay Area

Patricia Niland

(415) 377-6030

[Patricia39@RocketMail.com](mailto:Patricia39@RocketMail.com)

President **Jerome Underhill** opened the meeting on Monday, February 24. Membership Secretary **Barbara Underhill** reminded us many members have not paid 2014 dues, a postcard reminder will go out. For a mere \$10.00 you can keep in touch even when you are not able to attend the meeting. We want to keep in touch with you! We had awesome raffle prizes this month, including SF Giants tickets, compliments of **Helen & Jim Goodwine** and various beverages to supply your liquor cabinet, wink-wink. Lift a glass to congratulate to **Ann & Jack Gardner** on their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary!

Travel Coordinator **Ginger Dahlberg** said she still has a few places left on the Death Valley trip March 24-28. May 22<sup>nd</sup>, a trip is planned to the Charles Shultz Museum. And stay tuned for much, much more!

Leave your lunch home this month; March 31<sup>st</sup> meeting will feature a catered Chinese Lunch organized by **Vera Kina**.

Entertainment was provided by Harpist Angel Simmons. Treasurer **Art Barrett** describes it best: *“Softly through the air, harp’s music fare. I crunch my lunch apple to Ginger Dahlberg’s ear. A streak of light draws me to its site. Light rays being refracted by small waves, puffed up by a light wind. If you come to a meeting you might see the twinkling lights in Foster City’s Lagoon. If you can’t, continue to seek His light for your soul, to draw you near!”*

Check us out!

Calendar:

**March 31** - 11am - 2pm. \*Please note exception: March meeting is the 5<sup>th</sup> Monday

If any of you are visiting the SFO area and are here during our monthly meetings, please join us – we’d love to see you. We meet on the fourth Monday of the month at the William Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd. (Shell Blvd and East Hillsdale Blvd.), Foster City, CA 94404

Mail should be sent to: UAL-SFO Bay Area Retirees, P.O. Box 4788, Foster City, CA 94404.

**SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY**

San Jose, CA

Merle Sweet

486 Barto Street

Santa Clara, CA 95051

[sweetmerle@comcast.net](mailto:sweetmerle@comcast.net)



The SFO/SJC South Bay RUAEA chapter meets each Friday morning at Holder’s Country Kitchen on DeAnza Blvd., Cupertino which affords us the opportunity to enjoy some social interaction over a nice breakfast.

Thank you, **Dave Garland**, our Vice President, for conducting one of our recent meetings since our President, **Dave Walb & Nancy** were in Las Vegas. No sooner are Dave & Nancy home than they will be off for a trip to Australia and New Zealand. In addition, **Dave Garland** will be going to Zimbabwe with Valley Church, working for three weeks at a camp for orphans. Good for you Dave. You make us proud! **Who** will conduct our meetings with both our President and our Vice President out of the country? Fortunately we have three former Presidents in reserve (**Sam Cramb**, **Alex Klaus**, and **Tony Urso**)!

Conversations include hearing about other peoples’ travels ~ **Ann & Keith Olthof** enjoyed a trip to Cambodia and Viet Nam, **Karen & Bob Devlin** went on a cruise to Mexico, **Rosemarie & Bill Reichard** went

to southern California to visit family and took their grandchildren to the “Happiest Place on Earth” (I think it is called Disneyland.) Rosemarie & Bill also enjoyed Wine Tasting in Paso Robles on their way back up the coast. **Lynn Buchholz** spent a couple of days in San Francisco with a friend, enjoying some favorite “tourist spots” such as Pier 39, walk-away cocktails (shrimp and crab) at Fisherman’s Wharf and Cable Cars.

**Maureen Snyder**, our Sunshine Chairwoman, will be replaced for a month by **Zelma Kibler** because Maureen is scheduled for knee surgery. **Vern Snyder**, take good care of Maureen!

**Russ Currier** celebrated a birthday (89<sup>th</sup>) in February. Hope it was a good one!

**Ben Scales** went to an interesting estate sale of a retired Pan American Pilot, and scored some rather “nifty” items to add to his extensive collection of industry memorabilia!

**Roger Casterline**, our Western Region Director, keeps us apprised of Industry News, as well as the local change in “Retiree Parking Privileges” at the Maintenance Base. Roger attended a RUAEA Director’s Meeting in San Diego at the site of the RUAEA October Convention site. He brought back a brochure and had positive things to report. Roger also shared that the recent unfortunate United Air Lines (UAL) computer problems, which meant that he was able to make his flight to Hawaii to visit the RUAEA groups in that state because revenue passengers were unable to check in for their flights.

It is with great sadness that we report the loss of a member of our group, **Anton Leopold (Tony) Seidl**. He had only recently been diagnosed with lymphoma. **Newsletter Manager Note:** *Please read the fascinating story about Tony’s life in the “Letters” section of this Newsletter, written by his family.*

On-going events: **Alice Rostirolla** has taken the lead in organizing a Book Exchange at our weekly meetings. **Harry Willever** collects various items, such as toiletries, paperback books, and recent magazines to be donated to the Veterans’ Hospital in Palo Alto.

#### Calendar:

Every Friday – 8:00 am Breakfast at Holder’s Country Inn, DeAnza Blvd., Cupertino (across from Home Depot)  
9:00 am Meeting

**June 17** - Annual Picnic at Vasona Park in Los Gatos

**October 1** - October 4th - RUAEA 2014 Convention in San Diego

**December 9** - Holiday Luncheon at Mariani’s Restaurant in Santa Clara



#### **SAN JOAQUINERS**

Stockton, California

Barbara Edkin

1616 Sapphire Dr

Livingston, CA 95334-9486

(209) 394-1770

[aedkin@gvni.com](mailto:aedkin@gvni.com)

Following our annual “dark” January, our February meeting was held at the Good Friends Chinese Restaurant in Valley Springs and hosted by **Bob & Sandy Brooks**. We began with a “social hour”, followed by a luscious all you can eat buffet. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, we acknowledged the death of members **Regina Weber** and **Don Temple**.

Treasurer **Rudy Reyna** submitted a written report as he was home caring for **Elma** who had a hip replacement. He reported all bills paid and a positive balance in the bank. As of the meeting, he reported 40 paid members.

**Rosie Wells** had her hip replaced at the end of January, but she was bounding around at the meeting as if nothing had happened. We are hoping for the same results for Elma. **Eve Oberg** is back in a convalescent hospital and would appreciate cards; contact **Bob** or **Sandy Brooks** for her address.

Birthdays for those attending were **Fred Verbaere**, **Barbara Edkin**, **Guy Huffman** and **Don Nesja**. Anniversaries for those attending were **Ace & Barbara Edkin**, **Max & Chris Fountain** and **Guy & Nancy Hoffman**.

We closed our meeting until the next meeting, March 13, hosted by **Don & Jo Ann Nesja**, “somewhere in/near Jackson”.

We would like to issue an open invitation to anyone living/visiting in our area to join us. We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month, but, since we meet at various places, you can call our president, **Bob Brooks**, (209) 772-9814, for meeting information.

## **EAST BAY DIABLOS**

Contra Costa County  
Diane Griego  
1634 Nuala Street  
Concord, CA 94518  
(925) 676-6097  
[diangriego@aol.com](mailto:diangriego@aol.com)



Our February meeting was slightly smaller than usual with only 22 in attendance. Our senior member **Lou Kinkead** turned 91 as well as celebrating his 69<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. His daughter, Cheryl, supplied a delicious sheet cake in his honor. **Pat McEnaney** was unable to attend as she is taking **Frank** to another Doctor's visit after his fall last month. **Trudy Engeldinger** was returning from HNL. Hope they are both back next month.

Many thanks to **Carol Parks** for the Valentine Candy and for donating two beautiful Valentine arrangements for our 50/50. The cash was won by **Joe McGhee** and the door prizes were won by **Barbara Cunningham** and **Tom Johnson**.

After this week's announcement about United's downsizing our operations in Cleveland, **Tom Johnson** told a story about growing up near the Cleveland airport and how he and his friends were able to go on the ramp and board aircraft many years ago. **Susan Brekle**, the daughter of **Howard & Jo Payne**, was a welcome guest this month. She has accumulated many miles with United on trips to Europe and Hawaii.

**Cheryl Kinkade** has volunteered to accept gently used clothing and household items at our next meeting for the Hospice of the East Bay in Walnut Creek. She will bring your tax deductible receipts to fill out. **Nancy Boyle** and Cheryl presented more information about our ongoing donations to local charities. We received a most gracious thank you from the George Mark Children's house which was read to the group. **Rich Bouska**, our Treasurer, mentioned that the website [www.charitynavigator.com](http://www.charitynavigator.com) is an excellent resource for giving.

Finally, 2014 represents the 16<sup>th</sup> year our chapter has been active and we are always ready to welcome new members (or visitors) from both United and Continental who live anywhere in the East Bay of Northern California to join us for lunch the second Monday of every month with the exception of July.

We spent some time discussing a change of venue and introduced the following:

- ➔ April 14 - We will be at Zio Fredo Restaurant, 611 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill
- ➔ May 12 - We will be at El Tapatio Restaurant, 40 Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill.
- ➔ June 9 - We will be at the Griego home for our annual picnic, 1634 Nuala St., Concord
- ➔ No meeting in July.

We have an ongoing book and magazine exchange as well as new or used greeting cards. The leftover books are donated to the Contra Costa Library for their book sales and the magazines are donated to various hospitals. **Barbara Cunningham** has kindly offered to accept and distribute the cards.

### Calendar:

**April 14**

**May 12**

**June 9 - Picnic**

SOLANO FLYERS



### **SOLANO FLYERS**

Vacaville, CA  
Allan Pochop  
119 Carlsbad Circle  
Vacaville, CA 95687  
(707) 447-4980  
[apochop@aol.com](mailto:apochop@aol.com)

At our February meeting at the Benicia Grill in Fairfield, we find **Robert & Michiko Allen, Harold & Barbara Mitchell, Frank Uhl, Rich & Mary Dabbert, Bob Zweighardt, Louis Pell, Rudolph Arsaga, Bob Ritche, John Francis, Pad & Eileen Gardner, Bill & JoAnne Blizzard, James Ellison, Robert Ewald, Allan & Peggy Pochop, Stewart McCale, Jack Hornfischer, and Coustantino Poolos.**

Our annual chapter dues are \$5 per person, payable first of year. For 2014, we have 34 paid members; perhaps others will join our merry group in the coming months. Name tags for members, paid by chapter funds, will be available for our March meeting.

The drawing of our 50/50 netted \$50.50 for **Pad Gardner**. A second ticket drawing for a custom wine bottle table light, manufactured/donated by **Robert Allen**, was won by **Frank Uhl**.

Reminder of Museums in the area:

Aircraft & artifacts, at the Travis Air Force Base, in Fairfield, as the museum is located on the military base, there is not public access. Two ways of entry: The museum has a shuttle van that will come out to the main gate and shuttle people to the museum. Other option, escort by military retiree, reservist, or active duty person.

Mare Island shipyard, 1854-1996, Vallejo, CA. Over 500 ships were built at the ship yard; submarines were the major product. The island facilities are open to the public. The museum has many artifacts from early ships, to nuclear submarines.

Museum ship open for public viewing is a WW2 LCS, (landing craft support). Number 102. This is the sole survivor of 130 of this class ship built. These ships were built for close shore fire support; they provided more firepower per ton than any ship in the Navy. Open for tour T-T-S-day, 10-4PM

## COLORADO

### DENVER MILE HIGHERS

Sharon Burbank  
(303) 955 8345  
[Rae1087@comcast.net](mailto:Rae1087@comcast.net)



#### *Submitted by Tom Goodyear:*

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, we gathered at United's Flight Training Center for our monthly breakfast. We meet the first Saturday of each month. We have had a low turnout these first three months of 2014 due to the weather. We have had quite a winter here in the Denver area. Our next breakfast is Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am. We would love to see you there.

We are sad to announce that **Irving Lee Kline** of DENMM passed away February 15 in Denver.

**Tom Goodyear** explained the Pass Travel Report. If you would like to obtain a copy of your Pass Travel Report, log on to Flying Together. On the home page, you need to click on the Travel tab. From there, you are going to click on the words, My Info/All About Me, which is located on the left hand side of this page. On this next page you need to look for the words, Pass Travel Report. Click on this and it will take you to your Pass Travel Report. From here you can print it out.

Mark your calendars for the Annual Spring Luncheon, Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. This year, it will be held at Cinzetti's Italian Market Restaurant; 281 West 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue, in Northglenn. The cost is \$15.00 per person. This includes an Italian Buffet, your choice of coffee, tea or soft drink and gratuity. There will be gluten free pasta available. Cocktail and social hour will start at 11:30. Please make checks payable to: RUAEA, Denver Chapter and include your name and the names of your guests. Mail this to **Harriet Ahr**, 4576 Hooker Street, Denver, CO 80211. Please have this post marked by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Another date to save is August 13<sup>th</sup>, we will have our annual CO/UA picnic at Wings Over the Rockies.

I want to thank **Harriet** and **Sharon Ahr** for all their hard work on the new Denver Chapter Retiree Directories. This is very much appreciated by everyone. Also thanks to **Doris Hall** for the Owl Refrigerator Magnets, they are adorable.

As you know, our local chapter of RUAEA has chosen not collect dues. Instead, we have decided to collect aluminum and have 50/50 drawings each time we get together. The money earned from the aluminum and the drawings helps to offset the cost of our luncheons and to buy the fun door prizes. Each time you buy a ticket, you have the opportunity to win half of all the money collected. Many times the winners return their winnings back to the chapter, a big thank you to each and every one of you. We could just collect money, but a drawing is so much more fun. Don't you think?

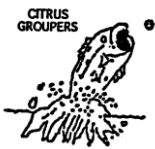
As always, don't forget to bring the aluminum cans you have been saving. Keep in mind we can accept all types of aluminum. This includes cans, foil, pie plates, etc. Please bring them to the Saturday morning breakfast and just put them in the back of Tom Goodyear's truck.



### Calendar:

Our next RUAEA breakfast meeting will be at the United Flight Training Center, on **April 5<sup>th</sup>**. The entrance is located on 35<sup>th</sup> Ave, just East of Quebec. Don't forget the aluminum.

## FLORIDA



### CITRUS GROUPEERS

The Villages, FL  
Ralph Brick  
[brickralph@cox.net](mailto:brickralph@cox.net)

The Citrus Groupers met on February 27 at the Legacy Restaurant, located in The Villages at The Nancy Lopez Country Club. Ten members braved the cool weather to be in attendance. After another great luncheon, the meeting was called to order by President **Ralph Brick**.

The attendees confirmed **Joan Brandonisio** as the Treasurer for this year. The Secretary position is still open, but one of our members is considering this nomination. Additionally, **Claus Brinnitzer** will continue as the VP. Note: Joan collected dues for 2014.

We talked about and looked for ways for more UAL retirees to join and attend our monthly meetings. We will be sending an Invitation/Announcement of our next meeting to UAL retirees that have an address in The Villages. Additionally, we will call retirees in several nearby communities to look for responses.

Information about the new way for retirees to purchase tickets on Southwest was discussed, and copies of the original email notification were passed around.

Meeting was closed with the next meeting scheduled for March 27 at the Nancy Lopez Golf Course Legacy Restaurant, at 1130.

If you need information about the Citrus Groupers/The Villages, FL, you may contact **Ralph Brick** at [brickralph@cox.net](mailto:brickralph@cox.net), and/or (352) 219-0289.

### SAND“DABS”

Daytona Beach, FL  
Gloria Marcantoni  
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St. Augustine, FL 32092  
(904) 940-9908  
[ddmgm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ddmgm@sbcglobal.net)



We had another great turnout for our meeting, 20 people! This included 2 guests: **David & Marian Wickersham**. They are a retired pilot/flight attendant team currently living in Illinois but in the process of building a house in Florida. We hope to see them as permanent members once they get settled. We also hope others from “up north” will head south after experiencing this past winter. Everyone is welcome!

Since our last meeting, we were saddened to hear of the death of our member **Nelson Funkhouser**. His wife, **HoneyLou** was able to attend March's meeting and we were grateful to share our condolences with her in person. We honored him with a moment of silence. Nelson lived an amazing life and will be missed by many.

Our President **Dick Coughlin** gave us an update of things happening at UAL. Included were briefings regarding the carry-on baggage compliance, UAL and AFA reaching an agreement to avoid furloughs, 787 battery update, our new eco-friendly cup, and the addition of extra winglets to achieve a 2% fuel savings. Also another reminder to contact Aetna to initiate the automatic relay of claims to them after Medicare pays their portion. We discussed the Primary Friend category, were told the 787 will operate from Los Angeles to Melbourne, and there will be a new route from Newark to Santiago in the Dominican Republic. My favorite story though, that he related took place in China. On February 6, in Henan province, more than 2,000 delayed passengers stormed check-in counters, smashing computers and equipment, in response to the airport's five hour long shutdown because of snow. Thank goodness our passengers are more patient! Along those lines UAL has seen 22,500 flight cancellations already in 2014!

Our 50/50 drawing winner was **Herb Gardner** and we had 1 other drawing for a beautiful calla lily. Our guest **David Wickersham** was the lucky winner of the floral piece.

We sang Happy Birthday to **Barbara (Bobbie) Rieck** and she proudly blew out her candle. **Penny Logan** celebrated her 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with UAL this month. Congratulations to both ladies! We had others to celebrate but they were unable to attend.

**Penny Logan** gave a treasurer's report and then we opened the floor for "commercials." **Herb Gardner** reminded us of the New Smyrna Beach Balloon and Skyfest taking place March 28-30. If you would like more information check out: [balloonandskyfest.com](http://balloonandskyfest.com). **Dick Coughlin** told us about [Pandora.com](http://Pandora.com), a website great for listening to music. **Steve Moddle** reported that his trip to Navy Seal Museum in Fort Pierce, FL was well worth the drive. The museum is beautiful and is operated on donations only. **Gloria Marcantoni** related that with the help of **Don Nellans**, Florida Regional Director for RUAEA, she is investigating starting a Jacksonville/First Coast chapter. For information you can contact her directly, her address is at the top this report.

Calendar:

**April 3** - 11:30 - Red Lobster, 3162 S. Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach, FL

**May 1** - (same time and location)



**THE ORLANDO**  
**REAL MCCOYS**

Elaine Tillman-Mannella  
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Orlando, FL 32835  
(407) 523-6983  
[emt6250@yahoo.com](mailto:emt6250@yahoo.com)

Well, this correspondent missed a very lively meeting, but can still report the goings on! "We have our vays ...!" Our chapter welcomed a couple newly retired guys from MCOCG and their wives – **Dan & Maralene Raciak** and **Jim & Marion Elzy**! It's nice to know that our invitations to join us (given at their well-attended retirement party at the Miller's Ale House last month) were accepted and both Dan and Jim joined our Real McCoys chapter on the spot. There were more surprises too – **Carol Woods** was warmly welcomed back after many prayers offered on her behalf **are working!** Carol brought still-employed MCOCS agent **Mona Imbach!** Surprise #2 – **Ben & Marilyn Bogucki**, long-time retired MCOCG folks and their guest, **Ray Karr** came for lunch, no doubt to congratulate Dan & Jim and see all of us! Welcome!

The Pledge of Allegiance, with the flag held by **Ernie Vosges**, started our meeting. Pres Rich then welcomed all our members, both new and old. We received a nice thank you from the Children's Home for our donations last month and a beautiful card and sentiments from **Joan Gaydos** for our chapters' support, both for our prayers and our sympathy on Lou's passing in November 2013.

**Big** Anniversary Congratulations to **Richard & Gloria Armistead**, celebrating 61 years. **Al & Lois Fields** on 49 years, and to **Ken & Shelby Michels** 15 years of wedded bliss! And gosh, all the gals look soooo young! What's your secret?

Birthday Balloons to **Don Ulman**, **Ken Michels**, and **Bobbi Gay!**

The annual April Picnic will be held on April 1<sup>st</sup> - No foolin'! Cypress Grove Park is the place as in years' past. Bring a dish to share and your appetite. Gates open at 11am. Plan to eat at 12Noon. Join us!

Prayers of healing and strength for all our members and families.

Calendar:

First Tuesday of every month, Luncheon/Meeting at 1:30pm - Golden Corral on So. Semoran Blvd

**April 1** - Picnic 11am Cypress Grove Park

**May 6** - Luncheon/Meeting at 1:00pm - Golden Corral on So Semoran Blvd

**SW FLORIDA**  
**PELICAN DROP-INS**

Fort Myers, FL  
Margie Burg  
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Fort Myers, FL 33908  
(239) 400-2544  
[burgmarge@aol.com](mailto:burgmarge@aol.com)



The meeting was held March 7 at Fletcher's Grille & Spirits in Cape Coral. Attending were: **Rosemary Blake, Bill & Margie Burg, Ed & Judy Clarke, Gary & Janice Crittenden, John Dainus, Mary Hennemann, Nancy Kopp, Ramona Marshall, Tony & Darlene Novak, Paul & Ingrid Olson, Jerry & Sandy Pryde, Sally Sciple, Mel & Linda Volz, and Aves Wallis.**

We were also fortunate to have visitors: **Chris & Shary Johnston**, who are President and corresponding secretary of the Indy Racers, **Gary & Jody Duggins**. Gary is still employed as a pilot for United, and **Elena Rotondi**, a prospective member of our chapter.

**Judy Clarke** gave an amusing program of Irish "Truths & Blarney". Everybody enjoyed the Irish jokes, and there were a lot of laughs. Judy wouldn't take credit for the jokes or the (lack of) Irish accent.

President **Bill Burg** conducted the 50/50 raffle. **John Dainus** won the cash amount of \$35. The balance of wine, nuts, and candy was won by various people. Quite a few had their tickets pulled the second time but declined to take another prize.

**Calendar**

Luncheon meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of October – April at Fletcher's Grille & Spirits, Cape Coral

Breakfast at Perkins Restaurant, North Fort Myers, June - September

For more information call or email Newsletter editor **Marge Burg**, Cell# (941) 286-3152 or [burgmarge@aol.com](mailto:burgmarge@aol.com)



**TAMPA BAY**

Audrey Kutilek  
1334 Camelot Ct.  
Palm Harbor, FL 34684  
[audgolf@aol.com](mailto:audgolf@aol.com)

Our March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by our president, **Beverly Alderdice**. Minutes were read, corrected, and approved. The treasurer's report was given by **Lillian Sawyer**. **Terri Breslin**, our sunshine gal, reminded us to keep her informed, so she could send out a card to anyone who needed a little sunshine.

Two birthdays this month: **Jon Wilkerson** (3/10), his wife is taking him to Puerto Rico. **Beverly Alderdice** (3/22).

It was nice to see **Janice & George Urban** at the meeting. We haven't seen them for a while. **Terry Smith** also joined us. We hope that he will continue to attend our meetings.

**Mary Judd** was the only one who did any traveling. She visited family in Virginia and was lucky to do her flying in between snow storms.

**Jim Hottel** reminded us about the April 7 picnic and that **Lillian Sawyer** is the one collecting the money. If you have not as yet signed up for the picnic, give Jim a call, (352) 597-4483. The \$6 check can be sent to Lillian, 2601 Greendale Ct., Palm Harbor, FL 34684. To get to Shelter 4 at Anderson Park, take the first right turn after you get into the park, then take the next right turn, the shelter is on the right.

**Gaby Harris** from LegalShield was our guest speaker. She spoke about identity theft. Her talk served as a reminder about the many ways strangers can obtain our personal information. We cannot be too careful! The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

**Calendar:**

**April 7** – Meeting, 11:00 a.m. at Anderson Park. Food served at noon.

## TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL

M. Jane Kerr

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Port St. Lucie, FL 34953

(772) 343-0709

[jane Kerr13@att.net](mailto:jane Kerr13@att.net)



With 26 members and 2 outstanding guests, **Don & Mary Nellans**, and an exceptional day, what more could you ask! After we all had our delicious lunch, President **Al Popek** brought down the hefty meat tenderizer to bring the meeting to order. Don & Mary had heard of the meat tenderizer and they now saw it first hand, what a kick they got out of it. Needless to say, when the meeting came to order hot topics pursued.

As usual, Express Scripts, Employee Res and Flying Together were hot topics. **Al Popek** passed out a copy of step by step procedures for getting into Employee Res.

**Don Nellans** gave a short speech and also advised us that Flying Together will be having a Retiree Page.

Our plans for the picnic in May are coming along and final info will be advised at the April Meeting. It will be held at Dubois Park since we found the facilities the best and easiest for everyone.

Sunday, March 9 we started Daylight Savings Time and just where does the time go?

I wonder how many will be fooled on April 1, but just remember and it is not a joke, we will have our Luncheon Meeting so look for **Bob Langevin** and his reminders.

**Diane Brodis** won the 50/50 and **Dinos Xifaras** won the Progressive.

For the members who are under the weather, we hope you will get well soon and come back to our Luncheon Meetings. For those who are travelling, good luck and happy landings.

For our March Birthdays ~ **Bob Langevin** (3/16), **Jim Morehead** (3/27). Happy Birthday! There are no Anniversaries.

Remember the clock is ticking so Laugh, Love and Live. Tell all those dear to you that you Love them, don't assume they know.

### Calendar:

**April 1** - 1230PM Luncheon/Meeting, Wahoo's Stuart, Remember this is April Fool's Day, There will be a meeting!

**May 6** - Picnic at Dubois Part - NO Luncheon/Meeting at Wahoo's

**June 3** - Wahoo's Luncheon/Meeting, 1230PM, Stuart, FL

## GEORGIA



**DIXIE FLYERS**

### DIXIE FLYERS

Metro Atlanta Georgia

Ron Heider

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McDonough GA. 30252

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[heider.ronald@yahoo.com](mailto:heider.ronald@yahoo.com)

### *Submitted by Janice Carter (daughter of Ronald Heider)*

The Dixie Flyers met Wednesday, March 5, for lunch. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Fred Cron** and Blessing of our meal by **Don "Zot" Shelley** who just returned from TPA, attending the funeral service of **Frank George**, former Lead RSM at ATL and TPA. Besides **Shelley**, were **Wattles**, **Baily**, **Hammer**, **Clare Balas**, and **Terry Smith**. A sympathy card and money collected were to be sent to the widow.

Our chapter president **Bill Elk** had correspondence in regard to UAL ~ 22,500 flights were cancelled due to snow and airport closure making projected quarterly loss to \$1.46 from \$.62. Since 2010, a reduction in flight attendants of combined airlines has taken place. April 1<sup>st</sup> is the cross over date when the offer will expire and most likely, more flight attendants jobs will be eliminated. Six UAL pilots who flew for CO have sued ALPA of breaching contract, claiming they were ranked lower than UAL pilots. Our 757 and 747 are being phased out of service in favor of 787 and 737-900 planes.

**Fred Cron**, assisted by **Frank Russy**, collected \$39.00 in 50/50 raffle. Our newcomer **Sybill Voss** won and donated her winnings to battered women in distress local shelter. Some of our flyers also contributed items of feminine needs, boxes of cereal, soaps, etc.

**Gary Tuttle's** birthday was acknowledged by a cake, candles, and waitresses singing the birthday song.

Other March Birthdays ~ **Mary Lou Ryabik** (3/11), **Diane Balas** (3/7), **Ron Heider** (3/15), **Sandy Lis** (3/17), and **Judy Elk** (3/22).

Shelly's annual TPA and ATL picnic reunion will be Saturday, April 12, at his Ponderosa in Locust Grove. Locals please bring a plate, dessert or beverage as well as your chairs. **Jesse Hicks** from TN is already planning the 200 mile drive. Hopefully, **Don Piatt**, former ATL and MSY, will attend while recuperating from knee surgery. Like the old Dixie saying "*Ya-all come ya hear!*"

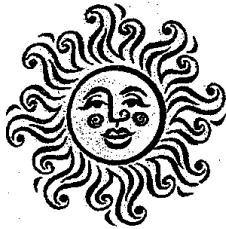
## HAWAII

### HONOLULU MENEHUNES

Patricia Thomson, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 1709  
Honolulu, HI 96806-1709  
(808) 946-7847  
[HNLRTUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNLRTUA@gmail.com)



Aloha! The Honolulu Menehunes is an active chapter and we meet regularly for lunch. If you are interested in joining us, send your email address to [HNLRTUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNLRTUA@gmail.com) and we will email you the details. All retirees are welcome to join us. We look forward to seeing you in Our Little Corner of the World.



### PAU HANA KUPUNA

(Hawaii, The Big Island)  
Ann Eaton Medve  
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(808) 889-1636  
[annmedve@aol.com](mailto:annmedve@aol.com)

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

## IDAHO



### BOISE GEMS

Carol Adams  
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[dadams208@aol.com](mailto:dadams208@aol.com)

I can hardly believe that it's time to write this article already! The month seems to whiz by.

I can report that it looks more like spring than winter at this writing! It was so good to have **Bill & Eve Estensen** with us again at our February meeting. They will soon enjoy a mini-vacation with their daughter in Denver. **Denny Snyder** has shoveled snow, and I'm sure he wasn't the only one! **Charles & Shirley Perkins**, and also **Louise Duvall** wrote "Think spring!"

**Marilyn Taylor** is anticipating a visit from her Portland daughter **Sharon** soon. **Gloria Hubbert**, an avid traveler, was leaving for a 14-day Azamara cruise on a 700-passenger ship. The itinerary, you ask? LA to Costa Rica with stops in Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and El Salvador.

Others who joined us for lunch were **Bud & Pat Peters**, **Ileen Bunce**, **David & Carol Adams**, and **Marlene Croghan**. Speaking of Marlene, her family hosted a wonderful celebration March 1<sup>st</sup> to honor her on



her (milestone) birthday! How we love her! Very early in David's UAL career (35 years, all in Boise), he was trained in load planning operations by Marlene.

Calendar:

**April 8** - Change in our regular meeting place. We will meet at the Warhawk Air Museum in Nampa to eat and then visit the museum.

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO SKYLINERS

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

[Chicagomainliner.com](http://Chicagomainliner.com)

Jan Gawenda

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



Our Northside breakfast brought back some people who were "frozen" in their homes for two months. About 40 people enjoyed breakfast at Elly's. **Al LaRoche**, EXORA, was in Florida with his son and family, keeping warm and enjoying the sun. **Marsha Sealock-Weber**, EXOKF, was back after settling her father's affairs. He died late last year. Not too much traveling going on with the group. With thousands of flights cancelled with winter, we're too nervous about going to ORD and not getting out. People are still discussing the travel survey and our switch to Aetna. Many questions and concerns, but, as my nephew says, "It is, what it is". Nothing we can do about it.

At the ORDMM breakfasts, **Bob Zeier** came for the first time. **Don Burbank** from ORDMM/DENMM, visited the Manager's breakfast. **Jackie Anderson** returned from her knee surgery. Last month, **Jack Lampe**, ORDCG/FF, stopped by. It's always good to see an old/new face or two. Speaking of **Don Burbank**, he's working very hard to get more people to join RUAEA. Without members, we will disappear. It's up to us to keep this organization alive. We have to talk to our recent and long-time retirees, encourage them to join. Considering our new CON-U owners, we are not getting the info as we once did. RUAEA will be starting Email Blasts, announcing changes to UAL, policies, and other important information that RUAEA would like to get out immediately. So, it's very important that DEN has your correct Email address. DEN's address is [ruaea.org](http://ruaea.org) if you'd like to update/add/verify your address, getting ready for the blasts. Now that we can join and renew our membership online, it's even easier than before. No stamps, no check-writing, no looking for the DEN address. Nuthin'! Just do it! You'll thank me. RUAEA is having their annual convention in SAN this Oct. Think about going; it's a lot of fun. Seeing old friends is only part of the entertainment. Get out of the house, stay young!

At the Southside breakfast, 18 people came back in from the cold, including **Betty Doran** and **Mary Brandt**. **Rudi Maki**, EXORA, celebrated his 54<sup>th</sup> anniversary with UAL, bringing a box of chocolates. **Marge Schmitt**, also brought treats in the form of chocolate dollars for us all. Thank you, you sweet people. Our raffle was won by **Marge Schmitt**, **Rudy Maki**, **Al Broderson** and **Jan Gawenda**. We miss **Javier & Carmen Chavez**, who haven't been with us for awhile. Both have been under the weather. Get well soon, we'd like to see your smiling faces again. **Bill Brookins** is celebrating his birthday March 27<sup>th</sup>. Many, many more, Bill, stay well.



Our obituary list isn't as long as last month, thank God. Our amazing Mr. **Hal Weary** died February 14, at the age of 105. He came to our luncheons, walked in, no cane, or walker, talked with everyone, a very active and congenial person. He worked in Revenue Accounting for 32 years. He logged in over 10,000 hours as a volunteer at the Mt. Prospect Library. They named a room in his honor. Cards can be sent to his daughter, **Marlys** at 15 S. Pine St. Apt 404, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056. Another passing is, **Reginald Jurewicz**, from EXOAU, who started in 1946. His address is, 1719 Verde Dr. Mt. Prospect, IL 60056. **David Barker**, from ORDCG, passed away in January. His address is 884 Shorewood Dr., Bartlett, IL 60103. **Robert Pitts**, Ramp Supervisor, ORDCG, died March 1. His address is 2305 Sigwalt St., Rolling Meadows, IL. 60008. **Michael Gavurnik**, ORDCG, died suddenly in February. **Barbara Elscott**, CHIRR, passed away from cancer. Her address is 7420 Grand Ave., Apt 203, Downers Grove, IL. 60516. **Joanne Calabrese's** mother, **Daphne**, passed

away in February. Joanne's address is 1351 Lorraine Place, Schaumburg, IL 60173. Joann was manager of ORDCS. Another parent that passed was **Ernest Williams, Sr.**, father of **Ernest Jr.**, ORDCG. As you know by now, if I have an address, I will list it. Goodbye also to more people from our youth, Shirley Temple, Phil Everly and Pete Seeger. More happy memories, but thank God for old movies and old records.

On a happier note, the Charles Taylor Award will be given to six mechanics from ORDMM, on April 15. They are, **Glenn Hill, Dick LaBarge, Andy Lekki, Willy Quinones, Jerry Tarkowski, and Paul Temple**. Charles Taylor was the first aviation mechanic in powered flight. He designed and built the engine used by the Wright Brothers. To be considered you must have worked for a minimum of 30-50 years in aviation maintenance, which includes, as a mechanic, in manufacturing, in the government, or as an inspector. Congratulations gentlemen! Oh, their wives will also win a small lapel pin for their contribution. Yes!

Thank you for all your responses to my article last month about "Love among the Ruins". I was touched that it affected as many people as it did. So, let's go and add some joy into our lives. As Mame Dennis said, "*Life is a banquet and most poor suckers are starving to death.*" Dwell in possibility.

#### Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Elly's Restaurant, 8:30 A.M., 372 E. Golf Rd., Arlington Heights, IL. (**April 9**). Second Wednesday of the month.

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

### INDIANA



#### INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN  
Wanda Bryce, Correspondent  
6801 Stanley Rd.  
Camby, IN 46113  
(317) 821-8862

As many residents in the Midwest states are aware, the polar express is still frigidly dipping into the area. A decision was made to cancel our February meeting due to the inclement weather and in the interest of safety for our members. Our regular meeting will return in March at Emmy's. Will warm weather ever arrive?

There are those of our membership who have taken detours away from the weather by snow birding. **Chris & Shary Johnston** together with Chris's mother headed to Fort Myers Florida late in January. Plans originally were to leave soon after our January meeting. But, Chris ended up in the hospital the day before our meeting, and his doctor would not release him to travel until later in January. When speaking to him, I inquired if he had been playing golf. He said he was just taking it easy. His mom, however, was enjoying the pool area thoroughly.

**Eli & Bud Barnett** journeyed to California to visit family and then continued on a two-week cruise.

**Dimple Rihel** and I did go to Las Vegas. One of the activities we enjoyed was an evening of "Legends". Upon arriving and finding a light house for the show, Dimple inquired if we could have closer seating and were given seats next to the runway of the stage. The highlight of the evening for us was "Elvis" as he played to Dimple giving her a kiss on the cheek and his scarf closing with the "call me" hand motion. It was a fun night and Dimple considered it a belated birthday treat.

A number of members have had it with the cold weather and are heading permanently to a warmer climate. We have learned that **Ron & Cheri Innis** have purchased a home in Arizona and may be leaving in April. And, just recently, **Tom & Jane Lane** sold their home and will be moving to New Brunswick GA. We will certainly miss them all.

On the other hand, it was called to my attention that a recent new RUAEA member, **R. Dallas Eckrote**, retired from INDCS and will be invited to attend our meetings. Information of new retirees, to make them aware of any RUAEA chapters, has been more difficult to obtain since the merger.

Happy birthday! Celebrations for April are: **Mike Matlak** (4/8); **Ralph (Bud) Barnett** (4/21); **Jane Lane** (4/27) and **Tom Lane** (4/28).

#### Calendar:

**April 8** - Emmy's Pancake House & Grill, 7508 Beechwood Center, Avon, IN. Lunch is available from 1:30 P.M. and the business meeting begins at 2:30 P.M.

## MASSACHUSETTS

### NOR'EASTERS

New England  
Dick Vee Vecchione  
107 Bunker Hill Road  
Auburn, NH 03032-3521  
(603) 483-8204  
[NH4Vee@aol.com](mailto:NH4Vee@aol.com)



No meeting, so no meeting news. Our reverse snow birders, **Joan & Ron Twing**, Nor'Easters living in FL and summering in NE, advised they had lots of cold wet weather down south this winter. They will be vacationing in Oahu with a side trip to a national park in Molokai before returning to the North East. Joan advised they got some good prices online, and chose not to travel as pass riders. Well, their rain was a lot better than the serious amounts of snow we've had this winter. My snow blower worked overtime this season.

**Jayne & John Regan**, while vacating in FL, found a wallet in their rental car and mailed it back to its owner. When they returned the car, they learned the wallet belonged to the son of the rental franchise owner, the car's prior renter. For their honesty, he picked up some of their rental cost. Jayne says, "*Honesty pays!*" Back home, she advised there were more bob houses than usual on Lake Winnepesaukee in central NH. A great year for ice fishing, the town of Meredith had a fishing tournament with a \$15K cash prize for the biggest fish. The prize was won by an 11 year old boy. Jayne said it was too cold for her to participate.

**June Alberino's** 90<sup>th</sup> birthday was celebrated by past fellow workers of "Boston Women of Travel", her second career after UAL. Last December, just before selling her home and moving into an independent living community, she fell down stairs and fractured three ribs. This caused her to miss our Christmas luncheon, first time since the chapter inception. However, June says her new living quarters is like living in a 5 star hotel, and loves it. Good for you, June!

**Norman Hudon** spent three weeks vacationing in FL. On his return to NH, he found out **Esther Smith's** husband **Richard** passed away. Norm was back on a plane and off to NC to be with his close friends. Esther was a CS Rep in Boston, and a Nor'Easter before moving south to be near her children/grandchildren. Our prayers are with you Esther.

For the second time in my fifteen years as secretary, I didn't send info for March Newsletter. I rely on members for info, but got none to offer. So, below is statistics for two months. Didn't want to leave anyone out!

March birthdays ~ **Robert Austin, Dorothy Barry, Lee Lyon, Mary Beth McDermott, William Shailor** and **Jimmy Yip**.

April birthdays ~ **William Betters, Thomas Blackwood, Anthony Bosco, Fred Casey, Charles Enos, Peter Fusco, Donald Latter** and **Helmut Umbley**.

March anniversaries ~ **Frederic & Rita Casey** (59 years), **Marcia & David Kilpatrick** (20 years), **Gerald & Margaret Peters** (57 years), and **Lewis & Sylvia Shakley** (51 years).

April anniversaries ~ **Thomas & Carol Dagle** (41 years), **Frank & Janet DeStefano** (46 years), **Charles & Paulette Enos** (22 years), **Mark & Theresa Hutchings** (40 years), **Robert & Jean Lincoln** (47 years), **Richard & Carole Mangino** (43 years), **Andrew & Carol Montalto** (37 years) and **Kenneth & Jacqueline Washburn** (54 years).

### Calendar:

**June 3** - Jimmy's Steer House, Route 1 North, Saugus, MA.

## MICHIGAN



### GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Detroit, Michigan  
Marie Cook  
9588 West Parkway  
Redford, MI 48239-1331  
(313) 534-0065  
[marie-cook@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marie-cook@sbcglobal.net)

We had 11 Escapees gather at Las Palapas Mexican Restaurant in Livonia March 6<sup>th</sup>, hosted by **Joan Robinson**. We welcomed for the first time this year; **Patty Gates** and **Carol Shaffner**.

**Louise & John Toye** write it is cold in FL but no snow ... yet. I would be glad to send her some. It just doesn't seem to stop around here this year and I can't find the switch to turn it off. They recently took an airplane trip and said it was ugly. In the future, they are planning more road trips. It is sad to be hearing this more and more.

Our Love and prayers to **Romanita Jenkins** @ 17471 Garfield, S. T. B5, Redford, MI 48240, who woke up one morning with her right foot hurting. Upon going to the doctor she learned it was broken. I wonder what she was doing during the night.

### Calendar:

First Thursday of month, location varies, please call.

## MINNESOTA

### NORTHERN LITES

Connie Glattly  
82300 Wold Road  
Willow River, MN 55795  
(218) 372-3973  
[crglattly@frontiernet.net](mailto:crglattly@frontiernet.net)



The MSP return to winters of yesteryear continued, causing only 19 steadfast Lites to trek to West St. Paul for lunch & visiting. Many of our group, aside from the usual snowbirds, were off in warmer climes having a respite from the cold. **Rosemary Soltis** and **Jim & Mary Brennan** were enjoying the balmy breezes in Kona, while **Lou & Gordy Olson** stayed on the mainland in the Texas & Arizona regions.

A phone call was placed to **Al & Mary Kilian** to let them know their new phone number works and that they were missed. Unfortunately, El Presidente **Lee Storlie** could only talk to their voicemail since they were out gallivanting around. A similar call was placed to the **Brennans** and he was able to catch them before they'd taken off on their daily power walk.

We were glad to hear the news from **Lee** that the Company is starting new Express service in May from St. Cloud (SCL) to ORD using RJ equipment. Too bad they haven't added service to our other major hub, DEN, from both SCL and Duluth (DLH) so that our Pacific flights might have a chance for more MN business. A sorry note, though, is the 60% reduction of service at CLE. The fate of our active colleagues there is worrisome.

We were happy to hear some positive news about our old pal, **Frank Ehr**, who is now residing independently in Westminster, CO, having much improved health. His address is 5000 W. 75<sup>th</sup> Ave., Westminster, CO 80030-4600.

Unless someone else has a burning desire, **Bud & Jo Ayres** have offered to host the summer picnic this year at a park near their home in River Falls, WI. There are hiking trails, horseshoe pits & many other amenities, including a pavilion in case of inclement weather. They will be exploring all the details of reserving the pavilion for our group, so stay tuned!

We were saddened to hear that our leader, **Lee Storlie**, lost his older brother. Condolences may be sent to him & **Diane** at 11532 River Hills Drive, Burnsville, MN 55337.

Lunch the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 11:15am at The Old Country Buffet, just north of Hwy. 110 and Robert Street in West St. Paul.

## NEBRASKA



### OMAHA GOLDEN'EARS

Marge Edwards  
12727 W. Dodge #132C  
Omaha, NE 68154  
(402) 691-0960

Due to the forecast of possible bad weather coming in on February 4, our luncheon at B&G's was cancelled. To my recollection, this is only the second time we have ever had to cancel a luncheon.

We are happy to have **Dave & Dotty Kotchian**, 34 Sterling Rd., Louisville, KY 40220 join our chapter. **Keith, Gary Procopio** and **Dave** have kept up with each other over the years.

I received a call from **Sena Jensen** recently saying that **Don** will be unable to leave the Elkhorn Nursing facility so he will stay there as a long term patient. They now have a brace on his foot that was broken at Brookestone. I feel so bad for both Don & Sena. You can never plan for situations like they are going through. She has sold their home and will be moving to an apartment at Lakeside Hills in the next couple of weeks.

I had an e-mail from **Barb Soseman** saying the following: *"I was told today, at therapy, that Medicare didn't show I have Aetna as supplemental insurance. I called Aetna and finally reached a rep who says he has taken care of it. They assumed, as did we, that it would be automatic - so others may be having the same problem. He said he has had some calls about it. Probably should alert all our members of this so they are aware. The number to call, in case there is a problem, is on the back of your Aetna Insurance Card."*

Birthdays for the month of March ~ **Marge Edwards** (1<sup>st</sup>); **Betty Hall** (7<sup>th</sup>); **Catherine Rowe** (15<sup>th</sup>); **Don Jensen** (26<sup>th</sup>); **Sena Jensen** (30<sup>th</sup>).

There was quite an article published in the Omaha World-Herald, February 5 about a book written by **Mark Langan**, brother of our own **Tom Langan**. Mark became an Omaha Policeman at the age of 18, the youngest ever to be hired by that department. He retired in 2004 and has since served as the Nebraska Humane Society's Vice President of Field Operations. The book is "Busting Bad Guys" – My True Crime Stories of Bookies, Drug Dealers and Ladies in the Night, and is sold in most book stores. There were 400 in attendance for his book signing. Mark was an Undercover Narcotics Cop. We had Mark speak to our group a few years ago and then he gave us a tour of the Nebraska Humane Society which was of great interest. Their surgical center at the Humane Society is unbelievable and is just like any surgical room in a hospital.

### Calendar:

**April 1** - Elmwood Tower, hosted by **Judy Nekonchuk**

**May 6** - Chili's, hosted by **Lorraine Stanfield** and **Ralph Bichel**, followed by a tour of Rotella's Bakery

**June 3** - Cooper Farm, hosted by **Cary & Toddy Manson**

## NEVADA

### LAS VEGAS

#### SILVER LINERS

Chris Czaplowski  
280 Cottonwood Dr  
Mesquite, NV 89027  
702-346-8877  
[msqchriscz@gmail.com](mailto:msqchriscz@gmail.com)



A wonderful lunch was enjoyed by all 35 members of our chapter. Jean, our lovely hostess and her chef are very patient with us "old-timers" trying to decide what we would like for our next luncheon. **Rosemary Restivo** and **Chris Earl** have come up with a new menu of several great entrées that we can choose from vs. 35 voices from the floor saying what each of them wants.

We've been very happy with Arizona Charlie's as our meeting place. After lunch, **Rosemary Restivo** called the meeting to order, beginning with our Pledge of Allegiance. First order of business was to honor **Baldor Ziel** for his dedicated, and much appreciated, work as our past Secretary. He was presented with a beautiful plaque. Several items were discussed, including membership into RUAEA, and TSA pre-screening.



There were discussions about UAL retirees trying to get back some of our retiree benefits, such as waiving the \$25 service charge for NRPS bookings, return of our BP-6 and seniority listings, etc.

We learned about **Anthony Tricoli's** recent surgery. He is doing better, but will be undergoing further treatments later on this month. He and his lovely wife, **MaryAnn**, were able to attend the wedding of their grandson near Baton Rouge, LA. We'll keep Tony in our prayers.

**Bob Morwick** (LASMM) recently underwent knee replacement surgery. **Marlene** says he is doing OK, but still in a lot of pain. Get well soon, Bob!

**Mike Vasko** will have more work done on his replaced knee; we hope everything will work out better this time. We thank **George Fox** for his dedicated raffle and 50/50 ticket sales; we had a lot of happy winners, including myself! Looking forward to our next luncheon/meeting on April 8 and visiting with all our retiree friends in Las Vegas.

#### Calendar:

Lunch and meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every other month at Arizona Charlie's on Decatur Blvd., 1130 to meet and greet; lunch served at 1200

**June 10**

**August 12**

**October 14**



#### **RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP**

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

There were 18 members and 2 guests at our February meeting. The 2 guests were **George Kelly** and **Charlotte Lancaster**, brother and sister of **Kathy Robinson**. Watch your credit card statements for late charges. The weather back East has considerably slowed mail delivery.

February birthdays were celebrated by **Donna Reid** and **Bill Perkins**. The 50/50 raffle was won by guest **Charlotte Lancaster**, keeping the Robinson winning tradition alive!

Our summer picnic will be on Tuesday, August 19, 2014. More information later.

#### **NEW JERSEY**

#### **THE GARDEN STATERS**

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



Our Garden Staters meeting was canceled on February 26 on account of a predicted snowstorm. Our chapter officers decided to play it on the safe side. However, our meetings will resume on March 26 at Snuffy's in Scotch Plains. Further information will be forthcoming. We would like to welcome a new member to our chapter, **Jean Flynn**, from EWR sales.

I'm sending this story along, from my memory. My wife Vi, and I traveled far and wide. On one of our trips, we were flying to Denver to rent a car from Hertz. After driving all through Colorado, South Dakota and Montana, we were to return the car to Boise, Idaho. From the Black Hills to the Badlands to Mount Rushmore, we finally wound up at the Little Bighorn State Park in Montana. As we entered the road to take us around the battle site, we saw a few buffalo and of course, Vi said she had to take some photos. When we rounded the road we now saw thousands, and they were all over the place. We finally worked our way through to a dry gulch, and saw wild mules, donkeys and jackasses brought in by prospectors looking for gold and, subsequently abandoned. Vi immediately jumped out of the car and said, look at all the nice pictures I can take. I saw one

big jackass coming toward us, and told Vi to get back in the car, which she did. That beast came over and examined us through the window, then came over to the driver side and began to chomp down on the left door all the way down to the left fender. When I had a chance to see what that guy did, you could see a design of teeth marks all the way down to the left fender. Now this was a brand-new Plymouth Barracuda. When we turned the car into Boise, the gal asked me if there was any damage? I broke a smile and said "your car was bitten by a jackass!" She turned her head with a puzzled look and said "what". We went outside to take a look and she said, "Now I've seen everything". But then she went to the other side of the car, and said "too bad he didn't bite the other side". Actually the teeth marks look pretty good. PS. There was no charge for damage.

### NEW YORK



#### GUYS AND DOLLS

Barbara Hill  
155 W 68th St  
New York, NY 10023  
212/799-8061  
[btristan96@aol.com](mailto:btristan96@aol.com)

Due to inclement weather, Guys and Dolls didn't have a February meeting. Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at noon at San Martin.

### NEW YORK METROS

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



March came in like neither a lion nor a lamb, but a polar bear. Would you believe we still have snow on the ground from our February 2<sup>nd</sup> big snowfall? But it's more like a glacier, so frozen you can't even walk on it. However, the sun is getting higher and it's getting warmer.

Our attendance was the smallest I can remember, only 29. President **Ed Pozzi** proposed that come our Christmas luncheon, which draws 100 or so, a portion of the 50/50 will be set aside for a separate drawing with names of only those members who have attended at least six of our monthly meetings over the year. It was proposed and seconded. National RUAEA needs more members, how are we to draw them in?

**Frank Ferrara** showed up looking well after having quadruple heart surgery. **Mike Schroeder** also had heart surgery last December and unfortunately, he and Evelyn did not get to Hawaii for their annual vacation, as reported in our 12/4 report. It was good to see them both at the luncheon. There were no other events to report, so we hope all are well and we'll see you next month.

Seventeen birthdays in March, it's too many to list, don't you think? Except mine, and I guess **Roy Portelli**, or he'll be mad at me. But I'll mention the three that top the longevity list: **John Buters**, **Harold Malesardi** and **Mabel Bittar**, all 1923! Best wishes to you and God Bless! Youngest is **Susan Fleming**, 1949, that shouldn't have kept her from attending my high school graduation that year. There were seven anniversaries as well.

First prize in the 50/50 went to **Paul Cohen** but he was so busy talking, he almost missed the going, going, gone. A bop on the head got his attention. Second prize to **Ed Ellis**.

And last, a gem from **Roy Portelli**. Who is the first Irishman to come out in the spring? That would be Paddy O'Furniture. So get out there with Paddy and have a great St. Patrick's day.

## NORTHWOODS



### NORTHWOOD LOONIES

Bob & Carol Faust  
2400 Mallow Ct #Z2  
Schaumburg, IL 60194  
(847) 903-4521  
[carbob7@hotmail.com](mailto:carbob7@hotmail.com)

The spring get-together of the Loonies will be May 6-9 in Baraboo, WI. We will be staying at the Clarion Hotel. Baraboo was the winter home of the Ringling Bros. Circus and is now home to Circus World Museum. Unfortunately, the circus will not be in town yet, but there will be lots of other interesting things to do and see. Information has been sent to all the Loonies. If you are not currently a member of the Loonies, but would like to come, please get in touch with Bob and Carol as soon as possible. Hotel reservations must be made by April 6. Hope to see everybody there.

## OHIO

### OHIO BUCKEYES

Cleveland  
[www.ualohiobuckeyes.org](http://www.ualohiobuckeyes.org)  
Mary Lou Kuretz  
10027 Priem Road  
Strongsville, OH 44149  
[mlkuretz@aol.com](mailto:mlkuretz@aol.com)



Hello to one and all! It has been a number of years since we have had such a rough winter. The weather seems to have taken its toll on some of our members and this month we have a much smaller group for our luncheon. The total this month was 37 members attending.

First we would like to thank our host and hostess for getting all our reservations in and making it so easy for the rest of us. Thank you again **Gene & Jacki Craig** for taking that job for this month's luncheon. Seems like a little job, but when things like the weather start changing the count or needing to refund due to some having to drop out for a variety of reasons. Thanks Again!

Our luncheon this month was great. Buffet with a really nice array of chicken, beef, veggies (mixed) and Veggies (separate), potatoes and a few more items to make sure everyone was satisfied. Prior to our buffet, we watched as the worker set up a tray with wine glasses, cheese, crackers, fruit, etc. Then they came out with a variety of wines and we were informed that this was for us. Mae O Grady (the owner, cook, etc) had set this up for our group because she appreciated that we had come back for a number of years. And considering the weather, business is slow. This is a party center not a restaurant.

As long as we have been going to luncheons, we are repeats at many places, but this was a "first". We have received "discount cards", etc. to pass out at our Christmas parties, and a few other places, but nothing like this. This surprised all of us and it was one of the nicest given to our group just because she appreciated our business.

Our President **Dolly Taucher** had a short meeting. We had two members pass away in February ~ **Frances Howe** - Life Member passed away on February 1<sup>st</sup> and **Robert Straub** - Life Member passed away on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Our condolences to the families!

March Birthday ~ **Frank Osborn** and **Jean Richardson**. Of course we serenaded them! Our Best Wishes go out to all our March members who were unable to attend!

Anniversary ~ We had only one couple, **Vince & Norma Malena** (47 years). Congratulations!

Our 50/50 is still being handled by **Dave & Marie Placko**. Winners were **Marie Placko** and **Jack Preston**. Congratulations! Thank you both again for the great job you do with the 50/50!

### Calendar:

**April 2** - School House, hosted by **Vince & Norma Malena**

**May 7** - Buccis Steakhouse at Crowne, hosted by **Carol Seifred & Barb Vauls**

## OREGON



### OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland  
Barbara M. Heidegger  
13848 NE Milton  
Portland, OR 97230  
(503) 254-5018  
[DuaneBaba1@aol.com](mailto:DuaneBaba1@aol.com)

We always seem to have a large crowd for Valentine's Day and Ice Cream Social. There were a total of 79 at the meeting. We welcomed new members **Pat Dial** and **Marcy & Ken von Husen**. There were several guests. **Mary Lou Falbo** brought her children **Elaine**, **Mark** and **Curtis**, and **Dianna Bellman** was a guest of **Ron Lyall**. We thank **Louise Robillard** for her lovely table decorations each month.

We say goodbye to **Cora Harper** who has moved up to the Seattle area to be closer to her children. Her new address is 23303 58<sup>th</sup> Ave. W, #105, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043. Cora was instrumental in making a lot of the decorations for the PDX convention in '96 and she also donated a number of her paintings each year. I am certain some of you have one of her paintings hanging on a wall in your home. She also made table decorations for many years. We will miss her.

The only person on our sick list this month is **Steve Borbely** who had knee replacement surgery. I understand he is doing great.

Anniversaries for February were **Anna & Harold Miller** (21 years), **Dona & Charlie Stemper** (38 years) and **Grace & Don Phillips** (51 years).

February birthdays were **Betty Alff** (82), **Bob Bauer**, **Elaine Hoek**, **Gene King** and **Irma Larkin**. Betty was the only one to share how many years.

Drawing winners are as follows: Door Prize ~ **Bruce DeFord**, Men's birthday ~ **Gene King**, Women's birthday ~ **Betty Alff** and 50/50 ~ **Pat Ogden**. They all receive a free lunch, so come to a meeting and win a prize.

Our move to the Ramada Inn will be the June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. The hotel has asked for us to park across the street in the College of Construction. The Ramada is located off Columbia Blvd and there is a traffic light at the intersection. It is located on a dead end street but is easy to find. The meeting room is upstairs and there is an elevator for those unable to take the stairs.

### Calendar:

All meetings are scheduled at Colwood Golf Club, 7313 NE Columbia Blvd. in Portland

**May 14** - Good-Bye Colwood

**June 11** - Ramada Inn, 6221 NE 82<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Portland, OR

### OUR CLUB

(Oregon United Retirees)

Grants Pass, OR

Gidget Walcha, Secretary

(541) 474-6414



The Feb. luncheon was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> so we missed the newsletter for the month. So much news was shared, the shocker was **Ida Rogers** going bowling and while turning around to celebrate a strike she fell and broke her hip. That must have been some really exciting bowling Ida, but at our ages you need to tone down all the jumping. Please get well soon and know all of us are thinking about you. I hope your team at least won.

We all missed you at the "Vine" where 16 of us enjoyed our lunch along with wine, coffee and Kailua coffee. Our beloved **Jane Frincke** gave us an update on her home search to be closer to her daughters and grandbabies. We all know she plans on leaving Grants Pass and understand how important family is. We just don't look forward to her leaving us. We have all become friends, we may be a small chapter but we are a close knit group of friends.

For the second month in a row, **Miriam Lindberg** has attended and it is so nice to see her. **Russ Randall** did not make it to this luncheon but **Alberta** was there to update us on both their progress. Our hostess **Laurie**

**Jordan** made a good selection so we could all enjoy Italian food and share stories of the past month. **Marge Calkins** had talked me into joining her choir group "The Serenaders" and what a hoot they all are. We sing at retired living complexes and it is so rewarding; we tried to get new members today but it seems no one in OUR Club can sing. We all can talk a lot but no singers in the group. Our new President, **Ric Walcha** gave us an assignment for the next meeting. We are all bringing pictures of our pets and passing them around to see if anyone can match the pet to the correct owner. Should be a fun time and it will also be our quarterly meeting. Our host will be **Bob & Miriam Lindberg**. Oh my, it was held on March 7<sup>th</sup> so maybe I should submit these notes now or you will miss another month of all our excitement here in Southern Oregon where we have been getting much needed rain and more on the way. Until next time keep smiling and be happy.

Our March quarterly meeting was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> at the Hong Kong Restaurant in Grants Pass. We were all thrilled to see **Ida Rogers** in attendance and doing very well seeing it was only a month ago she had her fall after making that strike. You are amazing Ida.

We lost a member last month who will forever be remembered as "A True Lady". **Mary Crees** passed away and there were 7 of us who attended her memorial service. What stood out during stories of her life was what a full life she had and how she was referred to as "A Lady". She was never seen without full makeup on and dressed up as if she was always going to a fancy party. We will miss you Mary.

We passed around pictures of our pets and then tried to guess what human belonged to which animal. The biggest surprise was the huge cat that **Wayne Widrig** belongs to. It weighs 21 pounds! And from the look on its face you would not want to cross it. No wonder we get along so well, we are all animal lovers.

Our well wishes go out to **Bob Wright, Harry Horne** and **Russ Randall**. We miss you so hurry back. Seeing this was our first quarterly meeting, the new officers found a new respect for our duties. Saying that, I want to thank **Jane Frincke** who over the years has had almost every position several times over, **Alberta Randall** who was the sunniest of any Sunshine Lady I have met and **Neal Appleton**. The jobs are more involved than one would think and the worse part is you can't have conversation with anyone because you have to take notes, in my case anyway. A big thank you also goes out to **Linda Althouse** who without hesitation took over the Sunshine position so, our beloved Alberta could finally enjoy herself. We can never live up to all the three of you have done all these years but we promise to do our best.

Next luncheon will be hosted by **Doe Pope** and held at La Burrito in the Parkway Center on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

## PENNSYLVANIA



### PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

Jeri Juth  
1900 Truman Dr.  
Aliquippa, PA 15001  
[jmjuth@hotmail.com](mailto:jmjuth@hotmail.com)

Happy Easter to one and all! Hopefully, when you read this issue the sun will be shining and the grass will be green. The Pit-Stoppers will welcome spring on March 13<sup>th</sup> at JW Halls. We are hoping for a good turnout. Our NE Director Treatie attended the board meeting in San Diego last month and I'm sure she will have lots to report at the luncheon.

Quite a few March birthdays in our group ~ Best wishes to **Dave Beatty** (3/1), **Dick Brinza** and **Ray Sellers** (3/3), **Treatie Karwoski** (3/15), **Lorraine Keith** and **Mac Seaholm** (3/23) and **Barbara Seaholm** (3/31).

Congratulations to our March wedding anniversaries ~ **Barbara & Mac Seaholm** (3/11), **Bob & Kay Frye** (3/2).

I'm sorry to report the passing of **Kathleen Szalajda**, wife of the late **Victor Szalajda** (PITMM).

It seems that **Jim Webers** surgery was postponed due to some other health related issues. Best of luck Jim. Cards can be sent to Jim c/o 50 Castleview Dr., McKees Rocks, PA 15136.

I spoke to **Ken Wolfe's** family and was informed that Ken is doing well. He received his prosthesis and is at Kane Hospital where he is undergoing therapy. Best wishes can be sent to Ken at 1461 Dormont Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15216.

**Lois Varrenti** is undergoing some tests and will not be able to attend the luncheon. Good luck Lois. Cards can be sent to Lois at 771 Marigold Ct., Bridgeville, PA 15017.

I'll close with a poem my nephew Brett wrote to me many years ago:

*Springtime Springtime it is here  
It's my favorite time of the year  
The sun comes out and the animals play  
It's not time to sit on the couch and lay  
Springtime Springtime is here  
It's my favorite time of the year  
Let's go Bucs.*

## WASHINGTON

### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle, WA  
Gay Liesse  
104 South 296<sup>th</sup> Place  
Federal Way, WA 98003-3626  
[gllesse@aol.com](mailto:gllesse@aol.com)



President **David Jones** was back from his travels to conduct the February 11 meeting of the Emerald City Slickers Seattle, Washington area chapter of RUAEA. Our group meets for a social hour at 11:30 with lunch at 12:00 on the second Tuesdays in the months of January through May and September through November.

A timely reminder: **Local Chapter Dues must be paid by March 11, 2014**, to retain a member's active status. Members in arrears following the March meeting will be removed from both the membership roster and *Contrails* list. Remember that chapter commitments are separate from membership in the RUAEA parent organization, whose newsletter you are reading right now.

This was the second get-together at the chapter's current meeting spot at The Old Spaghetti Factory in Tukwila near Southcenter Mall. We're committed to holding our luncheon meetings at that location through May. It's likely that board members will investigate other venues over the summer hiatus, June through August.

Of the February menu choices offered at the Old Spaghetti Factory, lasagna was the overwhelming favorite. There were a lot of red shirts and jackets in evidence. Now, was that in honor of Valentine's Day later in the week? Or because of the threat of dripping red sauce? Spumoni wins out over vanilla ice cream as the dessert of choice. We're betting that newly-added baked chicken will be the most popular entrée for March. Stay tuned for an update.

Questions and discussion of changes in insurance coverage and company policy popped up, as they do at most meetings. Those with recent experience or special knowledge of the subjects always are a big help to those who feel they are floundering in rough seas. For updated and official information, we encourage local members to join the national RUAEA organization, as well as our local chapter.

Door prize winners included **Phil Andersen, Jim Bernovich, Dave Jones, Noreen Krawczyk, Ed Liesse, John Luke, Anita Malco, Hubert Malco, Betty Paul, Edna Paulson, John Paulson, Rita Reynolds, Ed Rouso, Dwayne Steffes, Dolores Steger, and Jackie Stenger**. If it seems that you're reading the same winning names every month, you're right on. Come on out and join us to give these folks a run for their money. Actually, the door prizes don't even involve an exchange of money – except for lunch. Each person paying for a lunch reservation receives a ticket for the door prize drawing. As numbers are called, winners select their prizes from a selection of donated items.

We apologize for any misspelled names, especially those of guests. Your correspondent tries to keep a record of winners who approach the prize table and verifies that against the list of Secretary **Carol Soffel**, who forwards names to **Vicki Shumaker**, volunteer editor of *Contrails*, the Emerald Slickers' newsletter. Attendees are asked to write their names on the backs of their ticket stubs and therein lies the disconnect. **Gay** doesn't know all the locals, though, after all these years, she's getting better at recognizing the regulars. Often, significant others step up to select the prize or someone hands his/her winning ticket to someone else, confusing the issue. **Carol** has to decipher the chicken-scratching on the backs of tickets to come up with correct names for listing in *Contrails*. Just another of life's little challenges.

**Helen Stanger**, chapter treasurer, once again walked off with the 50/50 prize. Attendance (44 members and guests) was lower than in January, and **Helen's** "take-home pay" was less than usual. Tickets for the 50/50 drawing are available from **Richard Devereux** at the check-in desk before each meeting.

**Dave & Linda Jones** were back after a long driving trip for the birth of their first grandchild "back east." They enjoyed good weather, in spite of the Arctic Vortex, and covered 10,000 miles. **Dave** planned to fly to

Tokyo to watch his son run a marathon there just a few days after the meeting. We're awaiting a report on his experiences at flying space available internationally.

During a number of various long-ago April showers, the following Slickers were born to their proud parents: **Gay Liesse, Gary Maxwell, Betty Paul, Edna Paulson, Marry Sluysm, Theo Sluys, Doris Spence, Sallie Thiessen, and Robert Woods.** **Hubert & Anita Malco** celebrate their very special 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary in April – Congratulations!

Calendar:

**April 9** – Old Spaghetti Factory, Tukwila – 11:30

**May 14** – Old Spaghetti Factory, Tukwila – 11:30

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**DULLES LOUNGERS**

Lucy I. Chatelain  
7208 Van Ness Court  
McLean, VA 22101  
(703) 893-9030  
[LIDA1939@aol.com](mailto:LIDA1939@aol.com)



Greetings from the Nation's Capital!

On a chilly day in February, about 60 members of the Dulles Loungers met for the monthly luncheon at the Golden Corral in Manassas VA.

It was February 12 and the crowd was looking forward to the Valentines drawings, handled by Chapter President **Linda Scriven**. One lucky member was **Ray Knazik** (IADCG) who won the 50/50 and the main door prize! Well done Ray!

January was a good month to get away and this correspondent (IADRR) was lucky enough to enjoy a ten day cruise to St. Thomas, San Juan, Tortola and St. Maarten. The weather was perfect once we sailed past S. Carolina and we enjoyed all the amenities of shipboard life. Also aboard was **Peggy Boettcher** (IADRR) and her friends **Vel & David Faust**.

Our ship was the "Grandeur of the Seas" and there were almost 2000 of us merry makers!

We look forward to doing this all over again in 2015.

Calendar:

**April 9** – 1130AM, Golden Corral Restaurant, 10801 Bulloch Dr., Manassas VA

**NATIONAL**

**CLIPPED WINGS**

Bobbi Black  
National Vice President  
P. O. Box 83  
Mancos, CO 81328-0083  
(970) 560-0203  
[BobbiB203@gmail.com](mailto:BobbiB203@gmail.com)



Nominations for the National Executive Board are underway and we are pleased that some newer members have agreed to run for the offices.

The FOCUS (Future of Clipped Wings – US) committee is in the process of compilation and summary of the responses from the questionnaires sent to all chapters. Review will take place with the Executive Board the end of March and they will prepare the presentation for the National Convention in Washington, DC.

The Flt 93 Chapel is in need of financial support for the overall maintenance, insurance, and utilities. If any member of RUAEA is able to assist Bishop Ramzi with these expenses, or if any member has any ideas on how to assist, please contact: Pat Morris, [pbmoris99@aol.com](mailto:pbmorris99@aol.com).

Dates to remember:

➔ March 9<sup>th</sup> - Daylight Saving Time Begins (Spring Forward)



- ➔ June 14<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> – Special Olympics – New Jersey – (hosted by Clipped Wings)
- ➔ September 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> – Clipped Wings National Convention – DCA

## NEW MEMBERS

Beatrice, Elaine, 11 Linton Road, Lynn, MA 01904  
 Bobrik, Edward, 15571 W. Amelia Dr., Goodyear, AZ 85395  
 Bowen, Gordon E., SFO, P.O. Box 2201, Homer, AK 99603  
 Brousseau, Christine, 10110 SW Dolce Rd., Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986  
 Fischer, Henry, 2082 Chandleur Drive, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275  
 Goodson-Ahmad, Linda, DENSS, 1351 S. Victor, Aurora, CO 80012  
 Grimaudo, Patricia, CHIRR, 550 West Sandy Ln., Des Plaines, IL 60016  
 Harper, Dale E., SFOLM, 44683 Garden Ct., El Macero, CA 95618  
 Hernandez, Peter P., LAXFO, PO Box 5796, Kingwood, TX 77325  
 Hettema, Cheryl R., LAXSW, 911 Fountain Springs Ln., Colendora, CA 91741  
 Hickman, James, IADRR, 9811 New England Woods Court, Burke, VA 22015  
 Hughes, Ronald L., PDXCS, 728 NW Fremont Street, Camas, WA 98607  
 Larson, Judith, 1131 Hart Rd., Batavia, IL 60510  
 Llewellyn, Lascelles, 33 Lochview Dr., Windsor, CT 06095  
 McConnell, Sieglinde, ORDSW, 1723 Sand Lily, Golden, CO 80401  
 Nesslig, Donald, SFOSH, 545 Sunnymount Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94087  
 Roppelt Mathe, Dale, 33 Queens Way, Hilton Head, SC 29928  
 Saffold, Mary, WHQKA, 1125 Brockton Ct, Aurora, IL 60504  
 Schultz, Sherry, 1654 Winding Willow Drive, Trinity, FL 34655  
 Steven, Foster, SFOMM, 10017 Santa Rosa Ave., San Ramon, CA 94583  
 Tesi, Cathy, TUSOZ, 3902 N. Longfellow Ave, Tucson, AZ 85718  
 Thornton, John F., EWROS, 3338 W. Twain Ct., Anthem, AZ 85086  
 Tobin, Rose E., DTWRR, 200 Devenshire St., Dearborn, MI 48124  
 White, Brenda B., LAXSW, 1102 Sun Ave., Port Neches, TX 77651  
 Wilson, Catherine F., 2408 Raleigh Dr., Lancaster, PA 17601

## CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Kenneth R. Ahern, William F. Alenson, Kyung J. Kay Bae, Thomas H. Barnes, Carolyn N. Baumgartner, Harry A. Benson, Keith Bopp, Diane A. Bowen, Carol A. Burnett, Helen J. Christensen, Norma S. Ciarlariello, Harvey J. Collin, Patricia Conrad, Helen K. Crowley, David J. Curtin, Karla T. Cushing, Alan Davis, Albert P. Demery, Theodore B. Dewing, Jayne Donahue-Regan, Terry R. Doppler, Irene Eitel, Edward L. Ellis, Albert Evaskitis, James E. Fauber, Jean D. Feely, Barbara J. Fleming, Philip Frank, Robert L. Frye, Richard Funk, Clarence J. Gburek, Deane Goldman, Barbara Hanson, Sheila Haskin, James Hickman, John R. Hildebran, Harold D. Hubbard, Ronald J. Huhn, John R. Jarrell, J. W. Jenkins, Susanne Johnson, Marie Kady, Richard T. Kato, Raymond E. Kern, Lyn M. Kerns, Kate G. King, Harold F. Klobe, Vijay K. Kolhatkar, Robert O. Levy, Lascelles Llewellyn, Julie Loosemore, Clarence W. Casey Lowery, Janet I. Lutus, Terry P. Lutz, Donna L. Lynn, Gerald D. MacDowell, William R. Mansur, Anjelina E. Martens, Steven Mayo, Clarence A. McNeil, T. L. McQueen, Jack L. Miller, Kenneth A. Miller, Marilyn J. Morey, George Y. Nakata, Robert M. Newlands, Aiko Pennington, Roy E. Portelli, Algerd J. Rasimas, Cleve Rice, James Rider, Paul J. Rodjom, Joseph F. Schauer, Albert Silva, William Sokoloff, Richard R. Southon, Theresa Sullivan, John P. Teresinski, Debbie Thomas, Carole E. Tye, Carolyn B. Walter, Gary H. Wendland, Brenda B. White, Douglas White, Herbert C. Wilbanks, Karen S. Williams, John T. Williams, George Wittmann, Edward F. Yauch, Beverly A. Yeager.

## OBITUARIES

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

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

In addition, contact information must be included for one sending the information. If the obituary is received hand written and it is not legible, it will not be published until a clear and readable document is received in the Denver Office. The information may be sent by email (preferred) at [ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net), fax 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 – **Andrews, Linda D.**, on 3/1/2014, LAXSW, 2929 Caminito Niguel, San Diego, CA 92117

Retiree – **Bingle, Edmund J.**, on 2/15/2014, SFOED, 39211 Walnut Tr., Fremont, CA 94536

Retiree – **Hoffman, Margaret A. (Peggy)**, on 12/28/2013, DENMD, wife of Mac Hoffman, 13328 Briarwood Dr., Broomfield, CO 80020

Retiree – **Kerns, Jackson**, on 10/26/2013, SFOEG, husband of Sue Kearns, 7558 Newcastle Dr., Cupertino, CA 95014

Retiree – **Koptiuch, Mafalda Miki**, on 12/10/2013, HNLRR, wife of John Koptiuch, 501 A Heritage Village, Southbury, CT 06488

Retiree – **Krasno, Margery J.**, on 2/20/2014, SFOCS, mother of Jennifer Patillo, 1017 Lemos Lane, Fremont, CA 94539

Retiree – **Seidl, Anton L. (Tony)**, on 2/25/2014, SFOEG, husband of Helen Seidl, 18941 Mellon Drive, Saratoga, CA 95070

Retiree – **Staples, Samuel A.**, on 1/25/2014, SFOFO, husband of Katherine Staples, 270 N. Dover Ct., Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Retiree – **Temple, Donald H.**, on 2/8/2014, SFOLX, husband of Joyce Temple, P.O. Box 2819, Arnold, CA 95223

Spouse – **Woehlck, Kenneth A.**, on 2/14/2014, husband of Lily A. Woehlck WHQSV, 516 Orange Dr. #25, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701

Retiree – **Yeager, Robert J.**, on 1/29/2014, PITCG, husband of Tamara J. Yeager, 3532 Lincoln Dr., Camp Hill, PA 17011

Retiree – **Weary, Harold E.**, on 2/14/2014, WEQCP, husband of Irene Weary (Deceased) 15 So. Pine St. #404, Mt Prospect, IL 60056

# LETTERS



**Martha Gooselaw**

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

Martha Gooselaw  
Letters Editor

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

Kenneth Ahern, Bill Alenson, Patricia Artman, Shahan Balian, Thomas Barnes, Dorothy Brechter, John Butera, David Curtin, Carl Dean, Jean Feely, Kathryn Flynn, Anne Gregory, Fred Higgins, Guy Hoffman Jr., Joan Hoffmann, Diana Huffman, Ronald Huhn, Frank Kacer, Henry Kalani, Margaret Keith, Lyn Kerns, Anjelina Martens, Dennis McMahon, Birgit Prior, Carole Rogers, Emily Salvatore, Patty Stanton, Susan Wasson, 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.)*

### **Alan Davis, 1591 Sawpeck Way, Paradise, CA 95969**

All is well here in Paradise. We have had 72 months of summer with great weather every day. It is never cold or hot; no rain or snow for 4 or 5 years. We pray for rain every day but not a drop.

We have great water skiing and fishing every day. Why should we go any place else when we have paradise every day. However, the threat of a fire can keep one up at night. But we can't have every thing.

Thanks for the great paper.

Keep in touch.

### **Elaine Dore, 410 N Barrington Road Apt 38, Wauconda, IL 60084**

We are still in Florida; I guess we're one of the lucky ones, although it's been fairly cold here in Jacksonville.

Several notes of interest: We are great-grandparents (again). One baby was born on January 5<sup>th</sup> and another born on January 9<sup>th</sup>. That makes 6 for us now. Amazingly, the boy was named Oliver Joseph and the girl, Olivia Grace. No, they did not plan it that way. The moms are cousins. Another note of interest pertains to one of our grandsons who is a flight instructor at Deer Valley Airport, in Phoenix. He was at the controls doing touch and go's when there was engine trouble and he crashed. All three persons escaped with only minor injuries. This happened on February 5. I had heard about the crash on the news and did not realize until the next day that our grandson was involved. He was a very fortunate young man.

We will be attending the Cubs spring training in March, complements of our daughter and son-in-law. They are the parents of the above mentioned pilot.

Hope to see all of our Illinois friends when we return to the Chicago area.

**Christina Gallagher, 221 Iron Lake Dr., Exton, PA 19341**

I am the wife of the late Jim Gallagher, an employee of 40 years in PIT.

Thanks to all for a marvelous publication! Your devotion and work have been appreciated, not just today but over many years.

I look forward to the Newsletter each month. I hope you can keep it coming.

Thanks to the old United for many trips around the world. It was a great company. My husband started at United in September of 1945.

Come August of this year, I will be 90 years old. Where did all of the years go?

**John Hildebran, PO Box 191, Moyers, OK 74557**

When I retired in 1981 after 35 years with PCA, then Capital in Erie, PA and UAL in MIA and FLL, I never thought I would still be here for another 33 years.

Thanks to all of you for the monthly newsletter. Sally and I are not computerized yet, so it is the only way we know what is going on in the airline business.

Believe it or not, I still recognize a few names in the Newsletter. For instance, Rick Vehring in AZ, Don Collins in IL, a few in PIT, Jim Morehead and Ann Kenda in FL, and "Dutch" Wagner in FL too whom we stay in touch with quite often.

Thanks again for all your work in keeping all of us old guys informed. And I mean old, I am now 94.

**Pete Loyola, 364 E. Sandy Woods Ln., Midvale, UT 84047**

Because I read in the Newsletter that Richard Snyder will be attending the reunion convention in SAN, I will add my name to the attendee list. SAN was the initiation of Dick's very successful career with the then United Airlines. Because of Dick, SAN stands for what it is today; at my age I forget what Dick told me it stood for. When we meet again in SAN, he can remind me.

Perhaps some of my co-workers from SLC, PHL, HNL and SFO will sign in with the Newsletter and we can arrange to meet at the convention.

My best trip as a retiree was to Northern France visiting the beaches of Normandy and other D-Day invasion sites such as the U.S. Military Cemetery, the towns of Caen, Ste. Mere Eglise and Mont St. Michel. Then it was on to Spain, munching tapas and savory Basque food in San Sebastian. En route to Bilbao and Madrid, we visited the village of Loyola, my kind of town!

In order to keep advance hotel reservations and schedules and to avoid stand-by flights, confusing travel restrictions and unwarranted fees, we flew Delta - first class.

Hope to see you in San Diego. Ole!

**Donna Lynn, 535 Jansen Ave, Essington, PA 19029**

I can't believe a year has passed already, again.

I have enclosed a newsletter clipping about the "Somerset". This picture was of quality that could not be reproduced.

The "Somerset", a Navy warship honoring the crew and passengers of United Airlines Flight 93, which was hijacked on September 11, 2001, and crashed into a field in Somerset County, PA, after passengers attempted to retake control, arrived at Penn's Landing.

The ship went up the river to Philadelphia to be anchored at Penn's Landing. The river is about 5 blocks from my home.

We plan to go to Penn's Landing, which is about 7 miles from here. We will get a tour of the ship. We have already visited the Flight 93 memorial in Somerset.

Other than that, I am waiting for Spring. This winter has been long and cold. I know we are not alone in this though.

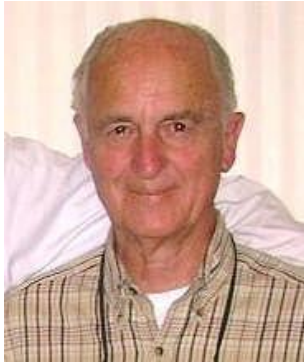
**Janina Pietrzyk, 860 Lomita Ave., Millbrae, CA 94030**

I would like to thank all who are putting this newsletter out for us.

I don't know many of the people who write in. But I miss seeing the names of the friends we once knew. United has been like a family to us.

Since the passing of my husband Witold in 2009, it means the world to me to read the RUAEA newsletter from cover to cover.

## Helen, Francis and Vincent Seidl, 18941 Mellon Drive, Saratoga, CA 95070



**Anton Leopold (Tony) Seidl** succumbed to the ravages of lymphoma at age 84. We will be holding a memorial service on Monday, 3/24/14 at 10:30 am at St Joseph's of Cupertino (<http://www.stjoscup.org/>, 10110 North De Anza Boulevard, Cupertino, CA 95014-2211 USA) with light refreshments to follow in the adjacent social hall. All friends are welcome.

We've lost our beloved patriarch, hero, and best friend, and our lives will never be the same. Tony's story was one of superlatives in overcoming the greatest of adversities, but this final assault proved too much for him. He is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Helen Rose, his two admiring sons Francis and Vincent, his daughters-in-law Kathleen and Nathalie, his devoted grandsons Tony, Fritz, Vince, and Christian, his granddaughter-in-law Shannon, and his infant great-granddaughter Anna Catherine Seidl.

Tony's biography is a one-man illustration of the best that humanity has to offer. From humble origins at the end of World War II as a fourteen-year-old orphan with a mere 8<sup>th</sup> grade education in the most despised nation on the planet, he undertook creating a new life that would have made Horatio Alger proud. He was raised in Munich by his widowed mother, Anna Franziska Seidl, who was taken from him by pneumonia when he was only twelve. His older brother, Franz, was killed in action on the Eastern Front a short time later. Living then with an uncle and aunt (Fritz & Anna Seidl) and enduring daily bombing raids, he became an apprentice tailor while also occupying his time as a member of the bomb disposal squad and the fire department. In early May of 1945, he disembarked from the train transporting him to the Western Front, discarded his new military uniform, and walked home. During the post-war occupation, he taught himself English and won the competition to become the first foreign exchange student in a German delegation sent to the USA in 1949. His sponsor family in Youngstown, Ohio (the Witts) taught him about the states and helped him join the US Air Force, which put him to work in an aircraft support group at Brady Field in Japan during the Korean War. After the war, while stationed at Smyrna AFB, this dashing young man set his sights upon a southern belle (Helen Rose Floersht) at a Knights of Columbus dance in Nashville. After a 9-month courtship, they were married in 1956. He then accepted a job with Capital Airlines in Washington DC, where he also took courses at Georgetown and studied to be a UN translator. When Capital Airlines was absorbed by United Airlines in 1961, Tony brought his wife and two young sons (Francis and Vincent) to Cupertino, where Tony then committed to a daily commute to San Francisco Airport for the next 40 years. He continued to study languages at San Jose State University, adding French and Spanish to his linguistic repertoire, and also obtaining a masters degree in French Literature. At work, he progressed from a mechanic in United's sheet metal shop to become one of the company's world-renowned experts in composites, fasteners, repair procedures, and a host of other engineering disciplines.

After retirement, he worked on various consulting jobs, including Piramoon Engineering on ultra-high-speed composite centrifuges and NASA for the Sofia 747-based Telescope project. Tony continued to participate actively in the Knights of Columbus and Retired United Airlines Employees Association (RUAEA). He was also a tutor to his local grandsons, Tony and Fritz, teaching them both Latin and German, though he confessed to having disliked Latin while in grade school. An avid hiker, he enjoyed exploring the local coastal mountains as much as he had the Alps in his youth. Tony excelled at oil painting and pottery, enjoyed documenting family genealogy and studying world history. He was known at times to go on at great lengths about topics such as why Germans still tell their children that the Swedes will get them if they don't behave (a lingering memory of the 30 Years War) or to explain the continuing importance of the conflict between the Ghibellines and the Guelfs.

Tony's friends and family will miss his encyclopedic knowledge of languages, engineering, history, and everything else, as well as his humor, nurturing attitude, boundless energy, and unwavering commitment to traditional Christian ideals.

**Herb Wilbanks, 8551 Emerald Lake Dr E, Pinson, AL 35126**

The Capital/United merger in 1961 went a whole lot easier than the one with Continental now. We are almost afraid to fly anywhere and get stranded.

We loved the DCA convention; but we missed the one in DEN. We are planning to go to the one in SAN, even if we have to drive.

We appreciate what you guys are doing to keep us advised.

I don't do computers but my young wife does; that is why we do both paper and web.

**George Wittmann, 96 Hawthorne Ave, Colonia, NJ 07067**

I would like to tell a story of how the Newark Chapter of RUAEA was formed. In January of 1994 at the urging of my UAL friends, we formed a RUAEA Chapter in Newark. I talked to someone in Denver and was advised to contact regional Vice President of RUAEA Bob Commerce. He got Liz Volpe to run a sheet of retirees in our area. I contacted the station manager, Debbie Tshirhart and got her to let us meet in an unused room at airfreight. I enlisted several fellow retirees Marty Etler, Fred Landsburgh, Ben Piccano, Al Van Ravensway just to mention a few, to call the list provided. I received several letters from Bob Commerce on how to form the Newark Chapter.

We had our first meeting in March of 1994 and decided to meet each month. We also conducted a naming contest for our chapter. The winner of the contest was Joe Glydon who named us the "Garden Staters".

We tried several restaurants in the area until we struck on Snuffy's Pantagis steak house. We still meet there on the last Wednesday of the month. That was 20 years ago and we still meet on this schedule.

Comment: I think including names in the RUAEA newsletter of attendees at meetings would spur others to come out to see friends mentioned. We are there to socialize!

In the words of one of our former members Richy Moon, "*We all can't be Stars or there would be no one to watch the show*".



**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS ON NEXT PAGE**



# Important Phone Numbers



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

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

## **United Employee Service Center**

1-877-242-0075

[esc@united.com](mailto:esc@united.com) (email)

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

For flight information and to list or change listing  
Password for ePass Line –your birthday, mmddyy  
\$25 fee to create new booking  
1-877-202-0263 (PIN Reset)

## **Employee Travel Center**

1-877-324-5555

[ETC@united.com](mailto:ETC@united.com) (email)

## **Flying Together Help Desk**

1-800-255-5801

<https://united.intranet.ual.com>

## **Aetna** 1-(800)-334-0110

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

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

## **Social Security Administration**

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

## **Alliant Credit Union**

(800) 328-1935 or (773) 462-2000 (24-hours, 7-days-  
a-week except Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day)  
<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

## **Medicare Hotline**

1-800-633-4227