



Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER



ISSUE NO. 356

EDITOR-JO MADDEN

APRIL-2004



Emerald City Slickers Awaiting Your Arrival! 2004 RUAEA Convention May 23-30, 2004

The Seattle Center:

The Center has loads of attractions such as the Pacific Science Center with IMAX Theatre, the famous Space Needle with its observation deck and rotating restaurant, originally built in 1962 for the World's Fair. Within the Seattle Center is the Experience Music Project. The building itself is something else. This is part of your Tour 8 on Thurs., May 27. The Experience Music Project is presenting *Beatlemania! America Meets the Beatles, 1964, which celebrates the 40th anniversary of the Beatles' first arrival in the USA.*

Pike Place Market:

Located just above the water front, this is always a top attraction. You will find every kind of fresh food, fresh herbs, fresh & dried flower stalls. You will see fresh fish flying through the air at the fish market every time a fish is sold. Buy a fish and ship it home! You will not be able to resist the handicrafts & souvenirs. There is always something good to eat at the market. Unique & interesting items can be found on every corner. The market is lively, very popular & terrific for people watching.

Bainbridge Island:

Take the Washington State Ferry to Bainbridge Island, one of the many islands around Seattle where many folks live & commute to the city for work. This is only a 30-minute ride each way. You can walk to the city of Winslow, enjoy the shops & restaurants of this lovely island town. If you're lucky, Mount Rainier will be out in full glory. The Ferry is a perfect spot to view the mountain.

Note: The Prop Wash Party, scheduled for Thurs. at Maxi's has limited space. Make your reservations now!

Lu Gardiner, Publicity Chairman
RUAEA 2004 Convention
barrylu2@msn.com

PHOTO KEEPSAKE

Our official photographer for the Seattle Convention is Rich Surma. Along with taking candid photos during the convention, he will be taking photos of each table at the dinners. Rich will be using Digital Photography allowing him to print the pictures in a short time. The pictures will then be displayed by table grouping for everyone to view. He will then offer the

pictures for sale in an attractive folder for \$5.00, a nice keepsake of your attendance at the Seattle 2004 Convention.

A portion of the proceeds from the sale will go to Captain Al Haynes' daughter, Laurie Haynes Arguello. Laurie has Aplastic Anemia & is in need of a bone marrow transplant. As you all know, Capt. Al Haynes was the pilot of United Airlines Flight 232 on July 19, 1989 when it crash landed in Sioux City. His heroic efforts saved the lives of many people. This is a chance to support him by helping his daughter in her fight for life. This is a wonderful offering by Rich Surma, the people volunteering to help him produce & sell the photos for a cause we all can support. All Rich asks is your smile at the tables & the purchase of this fond keepsake knowing you helped a hero's daughter.

If you are not able to attend the convention & wish to help, go to www.friendsforlauri.com or write to the National Foundation for Transplants on behalf of Laurie Arguello:

NFT for Laurie Arguello
P.O. Box 7781
Covington, WA 98042

THE 2004 SEATTLE CONVENTION **RAFFLES**

The annual Art Raffle, with art objects donated by talented retirees & friends. \$1.00 per ticket or \$5.00 for 7 tickets. Drawing will take place on Sat. afternoon prior to the RUAEA Banquet. The art will be on display the entire convention week.

The 50/50 Raffle will also be offered on a daily basis during the convention week. The first drawing is planned for Wed. using tickets from Sun. through Wed. After that the drawing will take place daily. \$1.00 per ticket, \$5.00 for 7 tickets. Half the proceeds go to the winner.

A Special Raffle for a Douglas DC-3 Authentically Scaled Die-Cast Replica: There will be 12 winners of a DC-3 commemorating Clay Lacey flying in his DC-3 exclusively for our convention. \$1.00 per ticket, \$5.00 for 7 tickets. The winning tickets will be drawn on Sat. just prior to the banquet.

The Prop Wash Party Raffle on Thurs. night at the party, must be present to win. Buckets of Prop Wash & Sky Hooks will be raffled off with a gift in every bucket. We will draw 4 winners, 7:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m., 4 winners at each drawing, 16 prizes. If you wish to be in the raffle, use your Prop Wash Party ticket, write your name on the back of the ticket, pay \$3.00, drop your ticket in the bucket (one ticket per person).

FROM THE PRESIDENT

GENERAL NEWS

I regret I must inform you that Glenn Tilton will not be available to speak at our convention in Seattle, due to a major change in his schedule.

Our speaker will be John P. Tague who now serves as Executive Vice President - Customer for United at company headquarters.

John joined United May 2003 and is responsible for Worldwide Alliance, Marketing, UAL Loyalty Service, Advertising, Sales and Reservations. Prior to joining United, Tague served as President and Chief Executive officer to ATA Holdings Corp., America's 10th largest airline. He is doing some exciting new things to benefit our customers in the areas of marketing and sales. I think convention attendees will find his presentation exciting and informative.

Health Insurance - Since I talked to you last month the bankruptcy court made its selections of who will represent the nonunion, management & salaried retirees in the proceedings before the court on the matter of health care costs for retirees.

The members of the committee that were selected are: Mort Wax, Chick McErlean, Ed DelGenio, Ed Westervelt & Michael Richards. I will give you a short background of each of our representatives:

Mort Wax - holds a B.S. degree in accounting from the University of Illinois. He was manager of several departments during his career with United, Supervisor of Accounting & Manager of General Accounting, Manager of Capital Expenditures. He served RUAEA as chairman of the Audit Committee & four years as Treasurer. Mort retired in 1993.

Chick McErlean - retired attorney from UAL Law Department.

Ed Delgenio - retired attorney, spent his time with labor relations on contracts & system board cases.

Ed Westervelt - retired from EXOHR, primarily involved with contract negotiations & administrations of Flight Attendant contracts, long-time employee of Personnel.

Michael Richards - held several positions with United: Customer Service Representative, IR Rep in the Central Division, Station Manager in Sacramento & Reservations Sales Manager in Seattle.

Four members of our committee have labor relations experience; two are attorneys. The committee has agreed that Chick McErlean will be the chairman.

On Mar. 3 the committee met with the bankruptcy court trustee, was briefed on their responsibilities and the procedure that must be followed during these hearings. The immediate task of the committee is to select and hire legal counsel and thereupon, with assistance, select and hire financial analysts.

Formal commencement of negotiations with all committees and advisors is scheduled for Mar. 11, (but could be delayed a week or so to give us time to select and hire advisors). At that time the company will give an overview of why modifications to retiree medical benefits are necessary for United's reorganization and successful exit from Chapter 11.

The committee's position is that the company's financial material will be scrutinized; all of the attributes of the existing medical benefits plans will be identified, comparability with other company medical plans and outside purchase plans will be evaluated.

Our committee has decided to coordinate its activity with the retired pilots committee, but each committee will be represented by separate counsel, both to eliminate any impression that either group is influenced by the other, also to provide separate evaluation of the company material as well as the identification of different alternatives. Negotiating positions will be identified by the advisors, submitted to the committee for review - then be iterated back to company representatives for further negotiations.

The company's outside counsel indicated they are shooting for an April 30 submittal of a plan to

the bankruptcy judge.

The unions' representatives (IAM-AFA) have had their advisors in place for some time.

Bylaw Change - At the Board of Directors meeting in Seattle on Jan. 28, a motion was made to revise the RUAEA bylaws (Section 3, Associate Members) to allow associate members to vote and to hold office in all RUAEA activities. The motion was approved and you will be asked to vote on this revision at the business meeting at the convention on May 29.

As RUAEA becomes more proactive in retiree issues, I have appointed Tom Goodyear & Gordon Starr to review and rewrite the RUAEA bylaws for your approval. They will start at the top and would appreciate any suggestions you may have.

Jim Fauber
President, RUAEA

FROM THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

How are recent events affecting you?

Since I have retired I realized how certain events affect me. Especially life marker events like grandchildren, great grandchildren, selling the old place, moving to some retirement community, serious illnesses or the death of a family member or dear friend. I have redefined what is important. I view things differently. My priorities change.

Look what has happened over the past 15 months in things that affect us as retirees - the bankruptcy status of United Airlines; changes in our travel privileges; the unknown forthcoming changes in our medical insurance. What are the things we are talking about when we get together with other retirees? What's the content of our e-mails? Our views of United Airlines and its management, our relationships with other retirees and what is important to us in retirement, have been redefined.

We become very critical and outspoken about the company and its management. We complain about the pass service charges. It's the medical insurance - where we don't know the outcome - that we really become agitated, denouncing the company, castigating Glenn Tilton and rallying our fellow retirees in the cause. This is a very normal reaction on our part in these areas that affect us and threaten our well being. (Jim's letter in this issue

discusses the process currently going on in our negotiation with the company.)

As we participate in RUAEA activities - local chapters and the national organization - we view the purpose and function of RUAEA changing. Frank Murdock mentioned to me that it's very evident that RUAEA, in the past has been a great social organization, with very few serious challenges. In looking into the future, all that has changed - from an easy-going friendly organization to one where many problems have to be resolved.

As your elected Officers and Directors of RUAEA, we are doing the best we know how, representing you and your interests in these matters. We have met with Glenn Tilton five times over the past year discussing these issues; we have established RUAEA representation in WHQ; we are actively involved in the medical insurance negotiations; we are trying to keep you informed through the newsletter, Website, response to your e-mails, letters & meeting with you. Our focus is to keep things positive, channel our efforts and energies in productive ways, and achieve the most equitable solutions possible for our retirees, while assuring that in the process we don't provide any more impetus to "killing the goose that laid the golden egg" than already exists. We need your support in this.

In the annual business meeting in the SEA convention, one item of new business will be the changing role of RUAEA - to be an advocate of retiree interests and concerns. Important are your views on this matter, that they are expressed and reflected in the meeting. When the vote is taken, assure that your vote counts. (This alone is a compelling reason to attend the convention.) This will have major implications of the future of RUAEA.

Marlin Lade
Executive Vice President

RUAEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING **January 28, 2004**

RUAEA will become more proactive in retirees issues and best interests.

The Financial Statements for the 4th quarter and year 2003 were distributed and reported to the Board. Audit for 2003 was completed satisfactorily.

RUAEA is financially solvent.

Progress report for the Seattle Convention of 2004 was given. Future convention site details were reported.

Motion made and carried to present at the May 29, 2004 Annual Business Meeting revisions to the RUAEA bylaws to allow Associate Members to vote and hold office. The addition of four newly appointed positions to the RUAEA organization which are a Denver Office Co-Manager, a Liaison with WHQ & two RUAEA Website Managers.

The slate of candidates for election was presented to the Board as well as a sample of the ballot, which will appear in the April Newsletter.

Over 10,200 Newsletters are now being mailed. The RUAEA Denver office now has an e-mail address that you can use for change of address, membership records, articles and items to be published in the Newsletter. ruaea@aol.com.

A reminder that the member's survivor will receive free Newsletters for two months after the death of a member, then must sign up for RUAEA membership to continue to receive the Newsletter.

Motion made and carried to accept Spectrum Data (RUAEA website developer) one year contract effective April 3, 2004 for \$6,900 to be paid quarterly.

Regional directors attended the Board meeting and turned in chapter reports for their respective regions.

We urge all of you to attend the Seattle convention.

Helen Cauwels
Secretary - RUAEA

BYLAW CHANGE

Present bylaw: Section 3 - Associate Members

Widows or widowers of Regular or Life Members may become Associate Members by paying the required dues. In addition, a spouse of a deceased retired employee, who was not a Regular or Life Member, may become an Associate Member by paying the required dues. A spouse of a deceased employee who at the time of death was eligible for retirement may also become an Associate Member by paying required dues. Exceptions may be approved by the Board of Directors. Associate Members shall enjoy the same privileges as

Regular Members except that they may not vote or hold office in the Association. They may continue membership if they remarry.

New bylaw to read: Section 3 - Associate Members
Widows or widowers of Regular or Life Members may become Associate Members by paying the required dues. In addition, a spouse of a deceased retired employee, who was not a Regular or Life Member, may become an Associate Member by paying the required dues. A spouse of a deceased employee who at the time of death was eligible for retirement may also become an Associate Member by paying required dues. Exceptions may be approved by the Board of Directors. Associate Members shall enjoy the same privileges as Regular Members. They may vote and hold National office in all activities of the Association. They may continue membership if they remarry.



Financial tips and news from your credit union

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Enter for a chance to win a \$100 gift card!

The Credit Union has a long history of high membership satisfaction & great value. Why not share the Credit Union secret with your loved ones?

If you are a member, your relatives also are welcome to join. Your family members will experience the same benefits of Credit Union membership you enjoy - expert advice, low loan rates, high savings dividends and excellent member service.

Refer your family members to join; you'll both be entered in our monthly Family Member Referral drawing for a chance to win a \$100 gift card - one for you and one for your family member. Simply have your relative complete a Credit Union Membership Enrollment Agreement with attached Family Member Referral Entry Form, mail it back to us with the minimum initial deposit.

There are more reasons than ever to refer your family to join the Credit Union today.

Current Promotions and News:

- We continue to provide one of the highest savings dividends in the country.
- We've lowered our loan rates - now offering great everyday rates on vehicle and RV loans, other consumer loans, mortgages, home equity loans & lines of credit.
- We offer members great deals and promotions. For example...Until April 15, 2004, we are partnering with Enterprise Car Sales to offer low financing & below Kelley Blue Book pricing on four popular vehicles - Dodge Grand Caravan SE, Mitsubishi Galant ES, Chevy Malibu & Ford Focus LX.
- We've introduced a new and improved online Auto Center, a great resource for step-by-step car buying.
- We've enhanced the Financial Education section on our website through the BALANCE Financial Fitness program.
- We opened a new public access Service Center with free parking at the United Washington Dulles Reservations Center, 22800 Davis Dr., Sterling, VA.

We thank you for your support and look forward to serving your family members.

For more information on complete Family Member Referral Program terms and conditions and to obtain a Membership Enrollment Agreement with attached Family Member Referral Entry Form, visit the Credit Union's website at www.alliantcreditunion.org, stop by your local Service Center, or call us at 800-328-1935 or TDD/TTY 773-462-2300 (Mon.-Fri., 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Central Time).

NONSTOP SERVICE BETWEEN CHICAGO & HONOLULU

United is reinstating its daily nonstop service between Chicago O'Hare International Airport & Honolulu effective June 3, 2004.

Flights will be daily between CHI & HNL with Boeing 777 aircraft configured with 36 seats in First & 312 seats in Economy. Flight 001 will leave CHI at 10:15 a.m. & arrive in HNL at 13:45. The return flight #002 will depart HNL 16:25, arrive CHI 05:15 a.m.

The new CHI service will complement United's existing service to HWI from its other hubs in LAX, SFO & DEN. With 24 daily, nonstop flights from 3 hub cities in the U.S. to 4 Hawaiian Islands -- Oahu, Maui, Hawaii & Kauai -- United offers the most flights between the mainland & HWI.

United has been serving Hawaii since 1947.

NONSTOP SERVICE TO BERMUDA

United will launch nonstop, Sat. service for the summer season to Hamilton, Bermuda (BDA), from CHI O'Hare International Airport (ORD), on May 1, 2004, through Sept. 11, 2004, initiating the only nonstop flight in the market.

The new service will use Airbus A320s with 138 seats, configured with 12 seats in United First & 126 seats in United Economy. The southbound flight will depart CHI each Sat. at 8:00 a.m., arrive Bermuda 13:29. The return flight will depart BDA Sat. afternoon 14:29 & arrive ORD at 16:15.

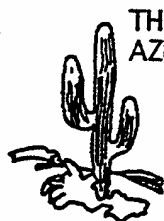
NEWSLETTER CORRESPONDENTS: Chapter reports for May are due in DEN by Tue., April 6, June reports by 5/6, July reports by 6/4. Reports may be sent by FAX. FAX number is 303-780-5667 - Attention: Jo Madden. Please list name of chapter at top of each page. If sent by U.S. Mail please address to Jo Madden, RUAEA Newsletter Editor, 7401 E. MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433. Allow for postal delays.

SPECIAL NOTICE: During the RUAEA Convention in Seattle the Chapter Correspondents Breakfast will be held on Fri., May 28, 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. in the Cascade #10 Room. All correspondents are invited to attend the event. If our regular correspondent cannot attend, please appoint an alternate. It is necessary for you to RSVP to me prior to the Convention as we MUST give an accurate count of attendees. Please drop me a note, FAX or postcard no later than May 20. We will have a check-in sheet at the door. If we do not receive a definite RSVP from you we will NOT be able to serve you breakfast. Thank you for your cooperation. See you in Seattle.

Jo Madden
Newsletter Editor

ARIZONA

LOCAL NEWS



PHOENIX AZURES

Zita Wessa
3369 N. Snead Dr.
Goodyear, AZ 85338
AZWESSA@aol.com

Our Feb. luncheon at Faylene's was very successful with 50 people attending. Pres., Bob Lutzinger, gave very informative news regarding what is happening regarding benefits. He talked about a committee being formed by the bankruptcy court. A Pebble Creek resident, Chick McErlean, Jr. has been selected to serve on the committee so hopefully, we can get some input from him within the next couple of months. The reduction in benefits & the increase in cost have retirees very concerned as many are on fixed incomes & feel they have worked hard for these benefits through reductions & negotiations. Hopefully, we can be kept informed on what is going on.

Guests at our luncheon were Don & Sandy Kramlick, guests of LB & Pat Neal; Carl & Joan Eckers from WI, guests of Alan & Zita Wessa; Enza Scarso brought her brother Joe.

Chuck Sharpe, who had eye surgery & Ken Horst looked good after their surgeries. I hear Sally Illingworth had back surgery. We extend our best to her. Joan Aaronson is struggling with her accident but hopefully she will soon be enjoying better health. Our thoughts are with you, Joan. Dottie Quick is having eye problems. Good luck, Dottie.

Vi Mumaugh has a new address - 19303 New Traditions Rd., Sun City West, AZ - she has the same phone number.

Bob, our Pres., would like to encourage as many as possible to attend the convention in SEA this year.

Calendar

Apr. 3 - "Grill Your Own" Luncheon at Luke Air Force Base.

Apr. 13 - Breakfast at Coco's

Apr. 27 - Breakfast at Coco's

PHOENIX METRO

RE-UNITED

Carole Hinkle
9514 E. Rocky Lake Dr.
Sun Lakes, AZ 85248
CABH597@msn.com



The Feb. luncheon had 45 happy & healthy attendees. We all enjoyed German hospitality at the European Bistro. Due to an oversight, we had 3 informative & entertaining speakers at this luncheon. No old or new business was discussed, so we could move on with our guests.

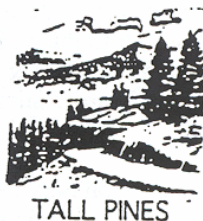
Our first speaker was Oscar Carrera from the United Blood Services. He spoke about the National Bone Marrow Donor program which focuses on extending & improving life through innovative stem cell therapies. Our own Jerry Gola had donated her stem cells several years ago & saved the life of a 1 ½-year-old little boy. Though most retirees are above the "60 year" age limit for donations, he explained that the age bar could be raised at any time, also emphasized the importance for donors, hoping we would pass this information on to family & friends and urge them to become a donor. This program has helped to facilitate more than 140 transplants per month, saving the lives of thousands of people since its inception. If you know of anyone who would consider being a donor, please contact Oscar at 602-242-5459.

Our next speakers were from AXA Advisors, Thomas Minyard & Adam Kaplan. AXA is a financial planning organization; the gentlemen were kind enough to share current market trends, and to point out that every one of us should have a financial planner. After the huge downturn of the market over the last several years & losses most of us suffered, they explained how to avoid these losses in the future, also how to realize, through a planner, the most potential for growth with what we have left! Bottom line is, unless you are REALLY, REALLY smart...a financial planner, certified CPA, or someone in the financial field should be consulted to hold on to the few dollars we have left. Then we will have enough to pay for our passes plus the hefty hike in insurance that United needs to come out of bankruptcy.

Our 50/50 raffle was sorely missed, as Skip & Carol Ward took off to Detroit with the tickets in their pockets! Just as well, as Jim Zarek was at this

luncheon; he would have won anyway! By the time you read this, we will have celebrated the All Arizona lunch in Casa Grande...but mark your calendars for April 15...After you have mailed in your IRS forms, come on over to the ReUnited picnic at Red Mountain Park. Please remember to pay Fred Rockenhauser, our Treas., your \$5.00 dues for 2004. This keeps you on the mailing list & in the ReUnited phone book so we can all contact each other as to future happenings we plan.

See y'all in April..



TALL PINES

Ann Tomasic
604 Mockingbird Court
Prescott, AZ 86301-5735
(928) 717-1550

Area Director, Gordon Starr, joined the Tall Pines members for our Feb. luncheon. His topics were in regard to the Arizona Luncheon on Mar. 18 in Casa Grande, also the SEA Convention. Thanks so much Gordon for making the trip from Tucson, also the information. We had 13 members present - Don Larson looked a little lonely as his lovely wife, Vi, is visiting her sister in FL.

We are changing our luncheon location from Coco's to the "Plaza Café" located on Gurley directly across from our beautiful town square. The time remains the same - 11:00 a.m. - 4th Tues. of the month. We have reserved the Plaza Café for April & May. June will be our annual potluck, July a picnic at one of our parks in the Prescott area; Aug. will be a barbecue at the Tomasics'.

Patti & Norm Pearson want to alert all of their friends that they are alive & well, enjoying their retirement.

TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Donna Kuehn
10200 E. Hawk Hill Ln.
Tucson, AZ 85749
(520) 749-2449



On Feb. 12, 42 Roadrunners enjoyed our annual trip to the Gaslight Theater. As always, it was a fun-filled evening with many laughs.

At this time we are getting ready for the All Arizona luncheon which is being hosted by our chapter this year.

Calendar

Apr. 15 - The Rodeo Museum and lunch

May 20 - Picnic at Patagonia Lake.

ARKANSAS



"THE NATURALS"

Ken Skare
127 Emperado Way
Hot Springs Vlg., AR 71909
(501) 915-0559
golf4ken@ipa.net

On Feb. 22 The Naturals met at the Red Lobster restaurant in Hot Springs with 13 Naturals present & 2 guests of Bob & Jo Piggot from Branson, MO. A short business meeting was held before dinner. Evelyn Nilson was nominated & elected to replace me as Pres. I am sure Evelyn will do a great job.

It has been a pleasure for me to have been the Pres. of such a great group of people for the past 2 years. It also has been fun doing these reports every-other-month, but with this report that is over. Evelyn will be doing this from now on. Ciao.

CALIFORNIA

Pismo Beach

CENTRAL COASTERS

Wilma Sandy
223 Perry St.
Milpitas, CA 95035-5711
(408) 262-1548



Garver & Wilma Sandy hosted the Feb. luncheon at the Apple Farm Restaurant in San Luis Obispo with 37 members & guests present. The South Bay chapter members that came to be with us were Gene & LaDonna Eggert, Dwayne & Anna Howze, Tony & Sally Urso, Vic & Elaine Kristen, Jack & Jean Jenkins, Alice Rostorilla & Lois White. Other guests were retiree John Baer, his wife Rebecca; and Bob & Marcia Stanger brought his mother, Isabel.

We were saddened to announce the death of long-time member, Art Price; we give our sympathy & condolences to his wife, Josephine (2336 Wood Duck Lane, Paso Robles, CA 93446). Burt Stokes came without Marjorie who was not feeling well. Ted & Collene Wilson were unable to

attend as Ted was having some health problems. Betty Rupp reported that her granddaughter, Arica Lubin, who is a frequent guest, has been very ill. We wish all better health. Jack & Eleanor Cunningham were out of town but have made preparations for the Apr. 21 luncheon to be held at the Elephant Bar & Grill in Goleta. Details will be in the flyer. John Stilwell is still compiling an e-mail list for the chapter. If you have not already done so, please send John your e-mail address at Stilwellpismo@charter.net.

For chapter info contact president Al Rybar (805) 595-2532

Calendar

Apr. 21 - Luncheon hosted by Jack & Eleanor Cunningham (805) 967-8478.

Jun. 16 - TBA



BRAZEN RAISINS-FRESNO

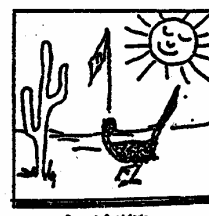
Dick Shryock
39379 Hidden Oak Dr.
Oakhurst, CA 93644-9530
(559) 683-2728

Bob & Ethelda Frost hosted the Brazen Raisins' Feb. meeting & decorated the meeting room in Valentine theme as far as the eye could see! Bud Garcia passed out pop-up calendars from Fresno Yosemite International Airport - cute little things! Ethelda Frost conducted a quiz game which only seasoned citizens could play. The Brazen Raisins welcomed new members Jack & Pamela Hartman; Jack is a retired United pilot. Then the mandatory jokes!

Palm Springs Area

DESERT SUNBIRDS

Submitted by Elaine Aggson
Miriam (Ozzie) Osgood)
44018 Galicia Dr.
Hemet, CA 92544-9106
(909) 927-0067
Ozziejohn@netzon.net



The Fountains at Carlotta was the site of the Sunbirds Feb. meeting hosted by Elizabeth Kratky & assisted by her friend Naomi Stanton. Both are residents of this lovely retirement complex. They arranged for a delicious buffet. Tables were

decorated in a Valentine décor & favors of candy in mugs were donated by the Fountains. Merle Poole was back from IL with his second new hip (smashed first one in a fall) & doing well. He sends thanks for all the cards, notes & e-mails he received. Tom Tischler was back following his foot surgery - still not wearing a shoe but walking better.

We welcomed first-time attendee Bud Gimple. It was our first opportunity to meet Bud although he has been a member for at least 10 years. Bud, a retired UAL Captain, resides in Grand Junction, CO, but has a second home in the desert. This is the first time his time has coincided with our meeting. We're hopeful we can see a lot more of him in the future.

Missing from the meeting were John & Miriam Osgood who were recovering from a very serious automobile accident. Both were in a nursing home for several weeks but are now at home. Miriam suffered neck, back, rib & ankle injuries while John's injuries were less severe. After a year of health problems which included lung cancer surgery, hepatitis A & pneumonia, Miriam was finally back to normal just before the accident. I'm sure John & Miriam would enjoy hearing from their friends around the system. Their address appears at the top of our column as Miriam is our newsletter editor. (Pres. Elaine Aggson is substituting this month.)

To any of you who are vacationing in this area we extend an invitation to join us at any of our meetings.

Calendar

Apr. 17 - Ramona Pageant in Hemet. For tickets call or e-mail Joyce Bossio at 909-925-1008 or jboss10@ivic.net.



SACRAMENTO GOLD DIGGERS

Alice McPeak
P.O. Box 215
Penryn, CA 95663
(916) 663-1906

The 2004 Past Presidents Lunch was held on a blustery day at the Alta Sierra Country Club with 87 members & 3 guests in attendance. The heavy weather kept 21 people home. Kathy McCray

Walker was guest of Harold McCray. Lester Voyce was the guest of George & Darolyn Maker, and Janice Kaiser was guest of Al Kaiser. New member Bob Sample told of his time at United.

After lunch Forester Sinclair, Immediate Past Pres. & host for the lunch, asked the attending Past Presidents to speak about themselves & introduced each with a few facts about the year they were in charge.

Al Kaiser was presented with a certificate which says, "The Members and Officers of the Sacramento Gold Diggers hereby acknowledge profound gratitude and appreciation to Al Kaiser for forming the Sacramento Gold Diggers and being the first president in 1981."

What a great thing Forester did in giving us a nutshell view of our club's history.

Pres. Ron Bertacini showed a Certificate of Appreciation from the Marine Corps Office in Nevada County for our donations for their Toys for Tots Drive.

We had a view of the new United Airlines "Livery" in pictures brought by Tom Biro.

Mail dues to Judy King, 11886 Heather Lane, Grass Valley, CA 95949. (\$5.00 per household) Judy said the Raffle is doing a great job in keeping us solvent.

Sec'y Alice McPeak displayed the new look of the Gold Diggers Gazette. It will be printed & mailed by the Placer Mailing Service.

Sunshine Co-Chairmen Francis & Veronica Domaritus reported that Jim Gilbert had a heart attack & bypass. Orville Harshbarger had hip surgery. A card was sent. He sent a note telling us in airline lingo, that the replacement had "all new parts & no deferred items". Cards were also sent to Zephyr & Wayne O'Kelly and Don Raichle.

Francis & Veronica are working on an e-mail notification plan. He said 90% of the Gold Diggers are on the Internet.

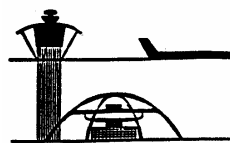
The Esolas had to leave early so Ken & Stephanie Norton conducted the raffle. There were many prizes; the "Old Hands" did a smooth job.

Calendar

Apr. 28 - Lunch in Auburn at Lou LaBontes. Hosts: The Strouds & Sinclairs

REDWOOD EMPIRE **RETIREES**

Clare Hagen
749 Montclair Dr.
Santa Rosa, CA 95409-2865
(707) 538-0959



ReLAXers - Los Angeles

Barbara Smith
13721 El Dorado Dr., #20-H
Seal Beach, CA 90740
(562) 430-4886
bjsLAXtours@aol.com

The Feb. meeting of the Redwood Empire Retirees was held on the 12th at the Quail Inn in Oakmont. It was a beautiful sunny day - spring is in the air. There were 69 members & guests present.

V.P. Naomi Tolf opened the meeting with the sad news that Pres. Ron Huhn had suffered a heart attack this morning & was in Petaluma Valley Hospital. There was no news at this time on Ron's condition. Naomi asked that we keep Ron in our prayers.

Special thanks were extended to our hosts Matty & Marge Matschinegg, also co-hosts George & Lois Schwind and Grover & Janice Blackburn.

Guests were Al & Barbara Reuter and Kathy Housh, guests of Howard Dickinson; John Bauer, guest of Matty & Marge Matschinegg.

We are in need of volunteers to host luncheons; Sept. is open. We have a core group of restaurants that we work with; they know our requirements. Decorations are optional. Treas. Nick Van Kruining reports that all is well with our finances.

Message from the Treasurer: Dues are due Jan. 1 of each year. Membership is \$4.00 single, \$8.00 per couple, per year. Anyone whose dues are not paid by April 1 will be removed from the mailing & no longer considered a member of the Redwood Empire Retirees. Checks payable to Nick Van Kruining; send to 857 Glen Miller Dr., Windsor, CA 95492.

Sunshine Lady Verda Burr amused us with her jokes. There were 17 birthdays; winner of the luncheon was Andy Citara. We had 7 anniversaries for a total of 200 years.

Rosie & Zelma Rosenthal are moving to LAS; this was their last meeting with us. Best wishes to them in their new home. Welcome to our new members, George & Jan Kramm.

Cards were sent to Gene Eggert, Hiroko Robbins, Les & Joyce Carey, Lucy Koenig and Pete Bilsich. Bob Lea passed away Jan. 28 while on a South American cruise.

Thought for the Day: *Life is precious, help someone enjoy it more.*

Let's start out with DUES. Dues notices were sent with the Christmas party notices. You may have overlooked them. Reminders will be made with the next meeting notice mailing. If you receive a reminder and have not paid by the following notice, your name will be deleted from the roster for regular notices. Please check your checkbook registers. Did you send \$5 to ReLAXers for 2004 dues? If not, please send it now (but not twice - extra payments just go as postage, not for next year.) Payable to ReLAXers; mail to JoAnn Briggs, 21303 Legend Av., Carson, CA 90245.

Good item this month is that Jo Ann Briggs and John & Anne Daley with a bunch of others will be on a terrific 17 days cruise from FL to the Azores, Spain, Portugal, ending in Scandinavia with many ports in between. I believe there are about 10 or 12 altogether. It should be a fun time.

And a few not quite so good - Condolences to Sheryl Waiss (1908 Vanderbilt, Unit E, Redondo Beach 90277) whose mom died early in Jan. having reached the wonderful age of 93.

Also to sisters Gloria Rogers (1905 Grant Av., Redondo Beach 90278) & Martha Vander Linden (19629 S. Sequoia Av., Cerritos, CA 90703) whose mom died - I'm not sure of the date.

Lou Gawenda fell & ended up in the hospital again. Let's hope by the time we read this she'll be home again on steady feet, also that she'll be able to join us Apr. 15.

On Jan. 18, there was a dedication ceremony for a park bench & tree which were installed at Farnsworth Park in Altadena (near Lake and Mt. Curve at the Mt.C & Conchas corner) in honor of former LAXRR lady, Karen Graham. Karen was a wonderful lady with many good friends who have shown their appreciation for such a caring friend. Joan Hoffman is to be thanked for all the work involved in putting this together.

Seems we're at that time of life - Millie Wolf, mom of deceased member, Iris Racataian, died in Jan. at age 87. Millie was known & loved by many of the LAXRR folks. Condolences can be sent to

the family - Pete, Cindy & Paul Racataian, 3148 W. 157th St., Gardena, CA 90249-4406 (310-978-0486).

I heard from and of some LAXTO/Ticket Sales folks who disappeared into the far reaches of the UAL system after retirement. Joan Perkins' name popped up at me from Dale Harper's list, also from a multi-addressee e-mail, so I managed to reach her. She moved from her SAN County home to a couple of places a year or so ago, now is checking out the possibility of permanently living at The Villages near Ocala & Orlando, FL. Arlene Jones advised me that she heard from Don Chapman, also living in FL. Isn't it fun to find old friends & co-workers? Now if we could only find Margaret Guyselman! Closer to home, I heard about Bill Weedin's cataract surgery recently - no news is good news, so I presume it went well. Bill & Jackie Hills and I used to share problems and projects as ticketing instructors 'way back when. By this time Bill will have received a reminder that it's time to join the ReLAXers.

For those of you who can read this early in the RUAEA.com website, you still have time to join us on the April 8-9 overnight tour to PSP to see the Fabulous Follies, shop the famous street fair, gamble on the way home, plus a few other goodies. Give a call - I'll sign you up.

In Aug. we have signed an agreement for a 2-night trip to Mesquite, NV which is a small, but growing town on the UT/NV border, on the Virgin River. The main attraction of this trip will be the BBQ dinner & show at the red-rocks amphitheater, Tuacahn, not far from Mesquite or St. George, UT. The setting is spectacular, the productions outstanding. We will be seeing "Guys and Dolls". Flyers going out with the April luncheon meeting notice to all members.

Calendar

Apr. 8-9 - Tour to PSP

UNITED AIRLINES **RETIRES-SFO Area**

Donna Taiclet
212 Lomitas Ave.
South San Francisco, CA 94080
(650) 583-3360
d.taiclet@worldnet.att.net



Pres. Walt Bartkowiak called our Feb. 23 meeting to order with 142 members & guests. Membership Sec'y, Carol Walter, welcomed new members, George Dyson & Anne T. Harris.

Carol reported that membership renewals for 2004 are past due. Some people are still confusing our local group with the National RUAEA. One difference is the National RUAEA dues should be paid during your birthday month. Our fees are due the first of every year.

Lowell Maloney had a fall last month. He was with us today but he said he was still a little sore. Edmund Swan passed away Feb. 13. Ed retired from the Air Force after 24 years, then had a second career with United for 18 years. Condolences can be sent to his wife, Phyllis, 351 Bramble Court, Foster City, CA 94404.

Michelle Smirnoff, Branch Manager of our UAL Credit Union, now Alliant Credit Union, gave us a short report. Nothing has changed but the Credit Union will now be open to the public. They are looking for a new location in our area. There is an office at AirPark Plaza, 433 Hegenberger Rd., Oakland, CA 94621 & the UAL Maintenance Base office is still open but, due to security, the retiree or employee must accompany their family members. You can now make deposits & withdrawals from the local ATMs near you. Go to the website - www.alliantcreditunion.org, click on the "Co-op Network logo, type in your zip code, click on "search" to find an ATM you can use.

Charity Coordinator, Harriet Kunze showed one of the cute 48 teddy bears that member Jean Lloyd was able to buy for \$1 each. We plan to donate these to children at local shelters. They will make some children very happy. Thank you Jean.

The entertainment for today was Michael Martell, "The Great Pretender". Michael gave a tribute to many singers with his impersonations. They included Nat King Cole, Sammy Davis, Jr., Tom Jones, Wayne Newton, Frank Sinatra to name a few. He impersonated Elvis Presley by singing "Lonesome Tonight" which he informed us was originally written for Al Jolson. It was a good show; we gave Michael a standing ovation. Next month we will have the "Highlighters" a musical group from "Broadway by the Bay".

Travel Coordinator, Ginger Dahlberg informed us that from now on she will be requiring 3 emergency contacts for her trips. These 3 people

should know the traveler's medical needs, family or friends names, phone numbers, doctors' names with phone numbers, current insurance coverage & UAL contact number which is 800-482-5236. She also said it is a good idea to keep an emergency card in your wallet or purse with all of this information.

Ginger has trips planned to Canada in Oct. & a French Barge trip July 19-30. There is still space available, so give her a call, 650-345-5548 or e-mail gingersfo@aol.com. In her other hat as Western Division Director, Ginger Dahlberg encouraged us to attend the Seattle convention.

Calendar

Singles Club: 1st Mon. ea. mo., Crystal Springs United Methodist Church, 2145 Bunker Hill Dr., San Mateo, CA. Pres. Ellen Pearce - 650-593-7328.
Retirees General Meeting: 4th Mon. ea. mo., business meeting, 11:30 a.m. at the Wm. Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd. (Shell & East Hillsdale Blvd.), Foster City, CA. Mail should be sent to P.O. Box 4788, Foster City, CA 94404

SFO/SJC



SOUTH BAY RETIREES

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA SFO/SJC SOUTH BAY

Lois Rodriguez
6544 Clifford Dr.
Cupertino, CA 95014
(408) 253-9065

On Feb. 2004, South Bay Retirees made lots of plans for picnics, luncheons, events, etc. Hope you'll plan to join us for some or all of these fun times together.

Breakfast attendance was down to 34 on the 13th. All you men must be out there buying up those roses & chocolates or maybe your're tired of giving those and you think she'll look great in that brand new Lexus...no..OK then, HUMMER. Whether or not all this happens hope your Valentine's Day was a "Special" one. March 6 & 7 Don & Delores Burda performed at Alameda Fair Grounds - Pleasanton - Land of Fun.

Our WELL WISHES to: Deloris Burda, Bert Swanson, Velma Childs, Pete Bilsich, Ruby Edwards, Harry Willever, Charlie Brown, Gail Stewart & Marion Gaever

SORRY TO REPORT: Our friend Ann Ventura passed away Feb. 22. She will be missed.

OUR GOOD WISHES TO: Rosie & Zelma Rosenthal on their move to Las Vegas. Hope you'll come back & visit.

Congrats to: Lee & Thea Suit on their 58th anniversary, nice to see you at breakfast on Feb. 6., Willard & Ethel Olson celebrating their 54th & Dwayne & Anna, 42 years together.

Look forward to seeing all of you at breakfast.

Calendar

Weekly breakfast meeting each Fri. morning at Holder's Country Inn, 998 Deanza Blvd., San Jose, CA at 7:30 a.m., meeting at 8:25 a.m. For more info: Contact Pres. Bill Copley, 408-725-8420

SAN JOAQUINERS

Ruth Dixon
P.O. Box 47
MiWuk Vlg., CA 95340
(209) 586-5352



Meeting was held at historical Columbia House, Columbia, CA. Pres. Ray Harm introduced guests: Rudy & Elma Reyna's grandson, Diego; Rich & Lynn Sylvester's grandson, Cody; Skip & Betty Sonderman's granddaughter & Mr. & Mrs. Russell Klipper. Glad to have the younger generation with us.

Ray thanked the Sondermans for hosting this meeting. George Gemberling reminded us that membership dues are due - \$5.00 p/p. Treasurer's Report: We're holding our own despite the purchase of the speaker system.

A letter from Bob Cuff informed us of his recent illness but is on the mend & hopes to join us soon. Ernie Sawyer expects to attend our next meeting. Fred Verbaere says his leg is not healing properly & may have to arrange for a skin graft. George & Beverly Hudgins are facing back problems. Don Temple had a 4-way bypass but is healing nicely.

Guest speaker was Rod Horn, Fire Adjusting Counselor, who showed a very enlightening film about dangers we face in Tuolumne Co. & gave us a brochure on Acreage Cleaning Service. Questions about illegal dumping in the county should be addressed to Environmental Health Office, CDF.

Reflective Green House Numbers will be available at the Garden Show at the Fairgrounds.



Concord, CA
UA -EL DIABLOS
Diane Griego
1634 Nuala St.
Concord, CA 94518
(925) 676-6097
diangriego@aol.com

The El Diablos of the East Bay held their Feb. meeting on a beautiful, cloudless, cold day. (This is beginning to sound like a weather report, so I'll just get on with it!) We were pleased to see 44 members & guests. New attendees were Bill & Marilou Morrison - SFOHL (I might mention here that Marilou & I both attended CYS Flight Attendant Training less than a year apart!) More new people were Don Rutkowski, SFOMM; Terry Flanagan, SFOJE & MJ (Mary Jane) Gordon, SFOHR. It was good to see Jim Bias and Nancy & Bill Boyles back. Vilma & Sam Patrick, who founded our El Diablos years ago both celebrated their birthdays this month.

We had a lively & informative discussion on the Retiree Health Benefits subject and agreed it is most important for all of us to be actively involved. There are many websites & phone numbers to use to let our politicians know how we stand.

We have outgrown our current location; effective with the March 8 meeting, will be meeting at Marie Callender's Restaurant, 2090 Diamond Blvd. in Concord, (925) 827-4930. The times will remain the same...11:30-12:00 social time, 12:00 to order & conduct our business matters. No need to make reservations; just come on down.

Calendar

Apr. 12

May 10

Jun. 14 - Annual Picnic

COLORADO

DENVER MILE HIGHERS

Jo Madden
910 Grape St.
Denver, CO 80220-4427
(303) 377-0153



At the 2/28 Mailing Session Elizabeth Hierzer's daughter, Kathy Provo, was a welcome guest who

was put to work immediately.

63 Mile Highers enjoyed the March 3 breakfast. First-timers were Lynn & Joe Pettrow and Rosie Melichor. Fred Dale & Lynn Pettrow returned their 50/50 winnings to the RUAEA stamp fund.

Tom Goodyear requested that if anyone has any information on the DC-8 called the "White Whale" or "Moby Dick" to please advise him. This airplane was used for pilot training only. Tom is also looking for pictures of this aircraft.

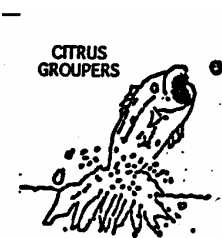
Sorry to hear that Ken Larson is "under the weather". Best wishes for a speedy recovery. Elizabeth Eaton was in the hospital with a blood clot in her leg. She is now recuperating at home. Address: 14233 E. Marina Dr., Aurora, CO 80014

Mary Ann Amend had an inflammation in blood, however, is improving but could use some cheering-up notes or cards. Address: 904 S. Evanston Cir., Aurora, CO 80012

Calendar

Breakfast 1st Wed. ea. mo., 8:00 a.m., Aurora Elks Club, 11759 E. 14th Ave. Aurora, CO. Call Tom Goodyear for information, directions - #303-696-7001.

FLORIDA



CITRUS GROUPEERS

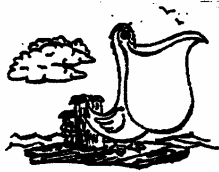
Claus Brinnitzer
3014 S. Skyline Dr.
Inverness, FL 34450-7424
(352) 637-1760

On Feb. 26, the Citrus Groupers met at Bentley's in Dunnellon. We had 24 members & guests in attendance. Betty Smith & her navigator, Jeanne Albright, got lost on the way to the meeting. After some recrimination they made up before the meeting was over. Isabel Buchanan had knee surgery. Today, we have no further information. I'm sure she would like to hear from her friends.

Our April meeting will take place at Whispering Pines Park, 1700 Forest Dr. in Inverness. We will have a picnic in the pavilion. Please bring your own food & drink, plus a dessert to share. We will have some games.

SW FLORIDA **PELICAN DROP-INS**

Joan Gilkison
2521 W. Marion Ave.,
Unit 1012
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
(941) 637-9367
jgilkison1@comcast.net



The Pelican Drop-Ins had a great picnic & cookout planned for Mar. 5 at Burnt Store Lakes; because of lack of interest the picnic was cancelled. Terry & Joan Gilkison prepared a picnic lunch & had a great time at Gilcrest Park in beautiful Punta Gorda on the Peace River.

Our next luncheon meeting will be at Sabal Springs Golf and Racquet Club in North Fort Myers on Apr. 2. Hope to see as many as possible there. All United retirees, either living or visiting in the Fort Myers areas, are urged to call & make arrangements to attend the meeting.

We have 3 Freds, Fred Dillon, Fred North & Fred Miller, on our sick list. Bee McCarthy is also on the sick list with a left foot fracture.

Calendar

1st Fri. of the mo., luncheon meeting at Sabal Springs Golf and Racquet Club (Oct.-May). Breakfast meetings at Perkins Restaurant (Jun.-Sept.) For more information call or e-mail: Marilyn McNabb (239) 482-3882 (Fort Myers) - UALMKE@aol.com; Joan Gilkison (941) 637-9367 (Punta Gorda) - jgilkison1@comcast.net; Carrie Belluso, (239) 481-1450 (Fort Myers) - Tutupapa@aol.com.



THE ORLANDO **REAL McCOYS**

Gloria Armistead
370 Hamrick Dr.,
Poinciana, FL 34759
(863) 427-0635
GloriaArmistead@AOL.com

We had an overflow crowd of 61 members & guests. We welcomed two guests: Cliff Hill & Bob Diesynski, plus one new member, Bill McCue. Minutes of the previous meeting, as well as the treasurer's report, were read & approved. Let's Go to my Favorite Restaurant for Feb. was Kahuna

Grille. A good time was had by all. The March trip was on Mar. 17 to the Red Lobster on Sand Lake Road by the Florida Mall. Charlie & Sharon Ringer hosts.

Stan Halderman reported on the many trips he has scheduled including Winter Park theater on April 10, "The Roar of Grease Paint" & "Smell of the Crowd", a Branson trip April 26-May 3 & a New England color tour Oct. 4-10.

Marlin Lade filled us in on the progress being made with United Airlines, RUAEA & the bankruptcy action. Thank you Marlin for keeping us informed.

Our chapter again responded generously with items for The Central Florida Children's Home. We know they will appreciate them

Pres. Rich Llewellyn asked for volunteers to help with cooking & set up for the picnic, then closed with a great e-mail story.

Calendar

Apr. 7 - Potluck picnic at the East Lake Fish Camp in Orlando

May 5 - Regular meeting at the Golden Corral on Semoran in Orlando.

Submitted by Norma Butchart for Gloria Armistead

TAMPA BAY

Submitted by Barbara Riecsc
11634 Holly Ann Dr.,
New Port Richey, FL 34654
(727) 379-9730



On Mar. 1, Pres. Mike Rice called the meeting to order at Buddy Freddy's Restaurant. The meeting began with the pledge to the flag. Birthdays & anniversaries were announced. The minutes were read and corrected by Barbara Riecsc, Acting Secretary for vacationing Denise Allen. Treasurer's report given by Lillian Sawyer was read & accepted.

The chapter bylaws were updated; however, the title of the organization read: Retired United Airlines Employees Association in Florida, Tampa Bay Chapter. The words "in Florida" were stricken. We are all part of the national RUAEA, thus RUAEA Tampa Bay Chapter.

The proposed people to represent the retirees in management & non-management before the bankruptcy courts are: Mort Wax, Ed Tolle & Jim Houser.

The new chairpersons of the West Coast Luncheon will be Michael & Loretta Marvett. We are so fortunate to have them as they together bring us many years of leadership experience; however, good leaders always need working associates. If you can serve, please contact the Marvetts at 727-532-2140 or loretmarve@aol.com. Thank you Sadie Tuten for nine years of outstanding organization & service for this most important affair. You are one special lady!

Sunshine cards were sent to Dick Riedl due to illness in Jan. & Feb. So happy to see him back! Also to Betty Smith for whom good health has returned. Sending these cards helps them to recover quickly.

Please send \$5.00 dues to Dick & Sue Riedl for the Florida Newsletter. It is published five times a year. They will also accept extra funds for postage.

Jon Wilkinson will make a reservation at Anderson Park for our Oct. picnic. Thank you, Jon.

Jim Hottel is running for the Southeast Director in RUAEA. Watch for your opportunity to vote. Let's support our hometown candidate.

Please remember Hank Canfield with phone calls at 727-863-7598. He needs some cheer.

Calendar

Apr. 5 -Picnic - Anderson Park. No walk-ins for lunch. Call Bev Alderdice for reservations; members are free, non-members \$5.00

May 23-30 - Convention - Seattle, WA

THE VILLAGES

AIRLINE RETIREES

Jo Beck

1717 Oak Forest Dr.

The Villages, FL 32162-7596

(352) 753-5593

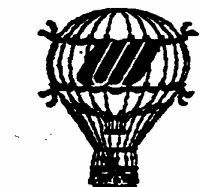
beckj788@aol.com

The Feb. meeting of The Villages Airline Retirees was held at the Saddlebrook Recreational center on Feb. 19, with 60 members present. A short business meeting was held to assure everyone that we were still financially stable. We were entertained by Latin America dancers. Oh, to be able to dance so well.

It was announced that the meeting in April would be a picnic to be held on Sat., April 17, at

the new Mulberry Complex in The Villages. It is a covered area & affords game accommodations. It should be a fun time.

GEORGIA



DIXIE FLYERS

Metro Atlanta

DIXIE FLYERS

Bill Elk

150 Poplar Way

Fayetteville, GA 30214

(770) 461-3130

Dixflyers@aol.com

39 Flyers were present for the meeting at Longhorn Steakhouse in Peachtree City, GA, hosted by Elmer & Lois Koldoff. Everyone ordered from the menu. We were accommodated in a private room with booths for seating. Food & service were good. As usual, there was discussion about the changes or possible changes to United's medical benefits. Elmer Koldoff, retired supervisor of ATLMM, offered those interested a tour of the facilities & hangars of the Commemorative Air Force Organization at Falcon Field in Peachtree City, GA. Elmer also wanted to remind everyone of the upcoming air show on April 3, at the same location.

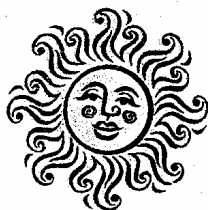
Coming events for our chapter: lunch in Fayetteville next month at the Grand Buffet hosted by Gene & Jeanne Barber; a special annual event, a covered dish at the home of Don & Marge Shelley which brings old friends & retirees from all over on April 17; & a picnic being planned, our first this year, at Indian Springs in Oct.

Jeanne Barber received notes from Dottie Maxwell & Fred Wegrzyn who have appreciated receiving the newsletter even though they have been unable to attend because of illness. It is sad to hear that Harriet Jones has been diagnosed with cancer & is undergoing treatment but seems to be in good spirits. For those who remember Andy Bungo of PIT/BUF/ATL he recently lost his daughter, Arlene Bungo Wells who died Feb. 21, 2004. Also Kenny Weiss now in Orlando has lost one of his sons. Our Newsletter to more than half of our membership is now received via e-mail. They are appreciating the color & graphics included in our letter. Spring has arrived in GA. The temperature today is in 70s; the flowers are blooming, so is the pollen.

HAWAII

PAU HANA KUPUNA

CeCe McMahon
HCR 2, Box 6297
Keaau, HI 96749
(808) 966-7886
djsmiley@ihawaii.net



We had a wonderful turnout at Rocky's Pizza in Kona on the 19th of Feb. Pres. McMahon welcomed a new member, Bill Choy Hee, from Laupahoehoe. We had 20 in attendance & 2 guests from CA.

David Carlson & Bill Choy Hee won the raffles. Aiko Pennington won the 50/50.

The Pres. talked about us starting our collection for "Toys for Tots" campaign. This way we will have our toys collected & delivered to the local fire department before Dec. 1. Anyone wishing to donate please bring your unwrapped gift to any meeting.

We are looking for anyone interested in joining our group who has retired to the "Big Island". Please give us a call at (808) 966-7886 or e-mail us at: djsmiley@ihawaii.net.

Our March meeting was held at Dotty's II on Banyan Dr. in Hilo.

Calendar

We are making plans for the **Apr.** meeting to be at Tex Drive In, in Honoka'a.

May meeting will be at Ken's House of Pancakes in Hilo.

Jun. Meeting will be held at Daniel Thiebaut's in Waimea.

Jul. meeting will be at Luquin's Mexican Restaurant in Pahoa.

Aug. meeting will be at the Aloha Angel Café in Keauhou.

IDAHO

BOISE GEMS

Bill Heath
361 Charwood Ct.
Boise, ID 83706
(208) 336- 5359
wahboi@rmci.net



At the March 1 breakfast meeting, Ron Hamann welcomed guests of Marlene Groghan: her son Jerry, daughter-in-law Laura & their daughter Marilyn. They are here from TN to attend Marlene's 80th birthday.

We welcomed back Al Cox, after too long an absence coping with health problems. Al wrote modestly on the scratch pad we pass around asking for Newsletter offerings, "It's great to be back," but one admirer (we don't know who) added a personal note below Al's remark, "Welcome back, Sweetie!"

It was pleasant having breakfast with two newcomers to ID, Ossie & Louise Haugen. They recently moved to Nampa, ID, from EUG, to be near 2 daughters who live here. Ossie served UAL (Ramp Service) for 26 years, starting in DEN & later transferred to SEA. When he retired in 1988, they moved to EUG. Since Louise has had back problems, they have been busy learning their way around the valley, locating doctors & hospitals; we have some of the best. Their address is 822 Cairn Dr., Nampa, ID 83651, phone #(208) 442-1189. Ossie would like to hear from those he worked with in "the good old days."

Ron passed around a sign-up sheet for those interested in participating in, 1) a Boise Theater showing on April 9 (Good Friday), 2) dinner (7 p.m.) at El Gallo Giro in Kuna on May 19, 3) golf outing & picnic at Purple Sage on June 15.

On the Warhawk Air Museum project, we've taken delivery of a second showcase purchased for the museum, through donations from the Boise GEMS. It will house additional UAL artifacts. Ned Yundt is collecting money for a 3rd showcase that will house jet-age memorabilia & artifacts. The GEMS hope to have that display ready for this year's expansion of the museum. Any retiree who may wish to donate UAL historical items should contact Don Behrendt by phone (208) 463-9186, or by e-mail gobigred1@mindspring.com.

Breakfast meeting on April 5 will be in the Holiday Inn's lounge, near the bar - not in the regular meeting room.

Ron said that the RUAEA Newsletter was keeping us updated on the likely reduction of our health benefits & encouraged anyone who is not receiving that publication to see him for a RUAEA membership application.

On the sick list are Lil Jolly who, on her birthday last month, had an appointment with her doctor for a check-up. He put her in the hospital

primarily for tests, presumable having to do with her heart. That's all we know at this point. Coincidentally, I had a similar experience, which I relate only because it might serve as a tip to others. One day in Feb. my pulse rate suddenly dropped to the low 30s. Feeling faint, I phoned 911. In short order, I was in the hospital undergoing a battery of tests; 3 days later, I was back home feeling fine. Later when I confessed to my cardiologist that I had quit drinking on Jan. 1, he said, "Ah-hah, that made your heart medication *too effective*, & you were essentially over-medicated." They cut my dosage; I've felt fine ever since. The moral of this story, I guess, is: *Don't stop drinking!*

Calendar

Apr. 5 &

May 3 - 9:30 a.m., breakfast at Holiday Inn on Vista Ave. in BOI.

Apr. 9 - Boise Little Theater

May 19 -Dinner at El Galo Giro in Kuna

Civil aviation logic: *A smooth landing is mostly luck; two in a row is all luck; three in a row is prevarication."*

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO SKYLINERS

R.I. Surma

10 Grow Lane

Streamwood, IL 60107-1404

(630) 830-1279

Rich_SURMA@JUNO.com



100 people attended our last breakfast at Artemis. Newcomers were: Jeanette Curcuro, ORDFF, & husband James; Ed Gall, EXOCX; Linda Gillespie, ORDMK; Mary Ukleja, WHQTE; Ed Meyer, WHQCT, & wife Bonnie Meyer; Ed Ballinger, WHQDD, & wife Sally; Jack McTague, CHIRR, Lola Payette, WHQWS; Norm Pearson (spouse); Jan Gawenda, OPBCM, & Julie Irwin (spouse); Barbara Calabrese, WHQWS; Robert Pitts, OODCG; Laurel Lindenback, CHIRR.

I called Angie Waunn, our Sunshine Lady; she mentioned that she has been somewhat under the

weather this past winter & looking forward to sunny, warm days. Anyone who would like to send a "*cheering-up*" card to Angie, her address is: 56 Forest Lane, Elk Gove Village, IL 60056 or give her a call at home (847) 439-1725

Some good news from our monthly Volunteer Program workers: In Feb. there were 27 retirees & spouses who went to the Chicago Food Depository. Of these there were 5 new volunteers. Volunteers filled 1,247 20-pound boxes with assorted canned goods. The group meets in the lobby of WHQ Training Center at 9 a.m. the first Mon. of each month unless there is a holiday, then it's the 2nd Mon. A bus ride is provided to the Food Depository & back to United Training Center. For further details & information about the program, give Ron Pryor a call at (847) 541-5729.

Received a few letters from which I would like to pass on messages: Fred Fraudfinder of CHI thanks everyone who sent get-well cards. He wrote that he is recovering & will be in touch when he is well enough to write.

LaVern Lundquist writes about Dave, her husband, being in the hospital for therapy for heart failure, mild heart attack & lung related problems. He is now home receiving TLC. Their address is 3115 Lindenwood Lane, Glenview, IL 60025; their e-mail address is Laverne@Mailstation.Com.

New visitors joined the Tues. Southside breakfast at Sally's last month: Bill Adams, Ed Ward, Ted Guz & Wes Roak.

Everyone is invited to participate at any social gatherings. Take time & come on out. Bring another United retiree or friend, share the ride & enjoy the fellowship with new friends. Looking forward to hearing from anyone with some exciting news to share in this column.

Calendar

Northside Breakfast - Artemis Restaurant, 9:00 a.m., (2nd. Wed. of the month), Golf & Busse Hwy., Mt. Prospect, IL

Southside Brunch - Breakfast 10:00 a.m., Grandma Sally's Pancake House, 8500 South Harlem Ave., Bridgeview, IL (last Tues of the month).

Downtown Chicago Group - Trader Vic's, 11:30 a.m., lunch Palmer House - French Quarter.

May 19 - next gathering - call Angie Malouhos for more details at 773-465-7420.

MICHIGAN



Detroit, Michigan

GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Marie Cook

9588 West Parkway

Redford, MI 48239-1331

(313) 534-0065

mariecook516@aol.com

16 Escapees gathered at Peabody's in Birmingham March 4. Big discussion was the convention plans & getting caught up with the news from those that have been absent the last few months.

Our love & prayers this month to Joan Benoit (DTWRR) who lost her mom Feb. 12 and then her husband on Feb. 14. Concerns for Joan & family at 24458 Bashian Dr., Novi, MI 48375. Also we were saddened to hear Roger Smith formerly YIPTR/DTWCS has taken that final flight., he had been battling a very aggressive form of cancer. Love & prayers to wife Elsie, 4348 E. Dover, Mesa, AZ 85203.

Calendar

First Thurs. of month, location varies, please call or e-mail.

NEVADA

RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

Mary Withers

1602 Mountain Lane

Reno, NV 895 SIERRA 21

(775) 851-1067



37 members & guests attended our Feb. 19 luncheon at the Red Lobster in Reno. Pres. John Zaboli called the meeting to order & announced the birthdays for Feb. We wish all of you a Happy Birthday!

A letter from Bob Cuff about the upcoming RUAEA Convention was discussed; it appears a few members of our group will be making the May trip to SEA.

Concerns about the new Medicare Bill & how it will affect us was discussed. Nevada Senator Gibbons was holding a meeting that evening at the Senior Center to discuss the Bill. A few members were planning to attend & report back at the next meeting.

Veronika Withers was guest of Mary Withers. Veronika is Mary's granddaughter. Geri Boutz was introduced & welcomed as our newest member. Geri is from San Jose & was a flight attendant based in SFO.

Maxine Dringenberg & Pat Nettles are both facing operations. We hope for a speedy recovery. Shirley Dringenberg is now in a walking cast while her ankle heals.

NEW JERSEY



Newark, New Jersey

THE GARDENSTATERS

Violet Etler

15-12 Elmary Pl.

Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-2403

(201) 797-6610

vietler@juno.com

The meeting of the Gardenstaters was held on Feb. 25 at Snuffy's Restaurant in Scotch Plain, NJ. Pres. Dick Confer opened meeting & had a moment of silence for those who have passed away: Dick Monahan, Mike Divisio, Mary Ann Markowski, Hugo Moirano, Jim Ballard, mother of Reggie Martin, & Claire Colson, wife of Rooky Colson.

Those in the hospital, Norm Hils & Danny O'Leary. Terry Mac Namara had a brain tumor removed, hopes to see us at the convention in SEA. An e-mail was received from Rollie Roller asking to be remembered to all the old-timers. Report about the convention was given by George Wittman. It is to be held May 23 to 30 at the Double Tree Hotel in SEA, near the airport. He will take the names of those attending & have a table for the Newark retirees.

All employees should have received a letter about medical benefits for retirees. Company would like the retirees to pay what the active employees pay now. IAM has a negotiating committee headed by Kitty Ahearn; 2 members from RUAEA are representing the retirees. If you want to write a letter concerning the aforementioned, send to Peter McDonald, in charge of Personnel.

A plaque was received from the Marine Corps for the "Toys for Tots", thanking us for all the gifts. New members: Pat O'Prey & Neil Erickson. John Murphy asked if we are interested in going to the Hunterdon Playhouse, musical or play, would

be in the middle of the summer, need 20 people to attend. Also planning a golf outing in the summer.

NEW YORK

NEW YORK METROS

Rose Schneider
37-15 255th St.
Little Neck, NY 11363
semschn@yahoo.com



72 members had a moment of silence for Hank Zotti, a retired LGA Maintenance Manager. Most of the older Metro members worked under Hank and have many stories to tell, all good of course! Our condolences to the Zotti family.

Kathleen Hannon is progressing well at North Shore Rehab Center - 718-423-1725. Diane Arena - 516-541-1163, & Joe Zwiulich - 631-289-4405, both had cataract operations. Bob Gilson recovering from oral surgery - 631-499-7610. Mabel Bittar had bladder surgery - 718-238-2984. We're looking forward to seeing all of you at the April meeting. Speedy recovery.

Birthday greetings to John Butera, 81 years on March 9; Julie Schneider, 80 years on March 16; Hal Malasardi, 81 years on March 18; Peter Dollis, 86 years on March 23; Tony Manfre, 86 years on March 25. Life begins at 80!

Happy Anniversary Edythe & Peter Dollis, 64 years, married on the 30th of March. Your fortitude is greatly admired.

Once again, the annual "Metro" dues of \$5.00 is being collected by Treas. Paul Cohen. Bylaws, address & telephone lists are being distributed by area code. Area Code 718, see Paul Cohen. Area Code 516, see Rose Schneider. Area Code 631, Charlie Kaczinski.

"Metro" Pres., Joe Totaro, presented to Julius Schneider a Diamond Veteran's Badge as an honor of good standing for 50 years of service as a member of IAM.

Charlie Kaczinski updated the membership of what's happening with the medical situation & United Airlines.

Calendar

Apr. 7 - 12 noon, Millerridge Inn, Jericho, NY, possible bus trip to Atlantic City

May 5 - 12 noon, Milleridge Inn

May 23-30 - RUAEA National Convention, Seattle Doubletree Hotel

Jun. 2 - 12 noon, Millerridge Inn

Jul. 7 - Annual picnic at Wantagh Park

NORTHWOODS

NORTHWOODS LOONIES

Norman Wilkinson
2114 Country Knoll Ln.
Elgin, IL 60123-4909
(847) 697-3775



Bill Looney sent a fun note from Cupertino, CA suggesting that his name ought to entitle him to honorary membership in our group, we agree! Welcome to the Loonies, Bill; we hope to see you in person some day. We also had a nice phone call from Zita Wessa, PHX Azures newsletter correspondent. She & her husband have a place in Door County, may be able to join us if their timing works out. We hope so.

Now, this is a reminder that our Spring meeting will be May 19-20-21, 2004 in Door County, WI. Having never been there when I volunteered to host the meeting, I was on the phone A LOT! After narrowing down the hotel/motel prospects to a half dozen, I drove up at the end of Feb. to finalize arrangements and check out eating/activity possibilities. The hotel is confirmed. A block of 25 rooms will be held until April 15, so if you haven't done so already (a letter to all members went out in early March) please do make reservations directly with the hotel. Please phone me if you need any further information. When I was there in Feb. the main activity was snow removal; most of the hotels/restaurants were closed for the winter; but everything was incredibly beautiful. Even better news is that the whole month of May will be the "Festival of Blossoms", with thousands of acres of cherry & apple trees in blossom, millions of daffodils & tulips, plus countless wildflowers in the meadows and along the roadside. Mother Nature is planning on a fine show for us.

If you are not a Loonie now but would like to become a member and join us for this get-together, please give me a call. We will make it happen. See you all next month.

OHIO

BUCKEYES

Sharon Garrah
43248 Kipton Nickel Plate Rd.
Lagrange, OH 44050
(440) 775-3558
slgarrah@aol.com



Because of the due date of this report the Ohio Buckeyes did not meet until March 10 at Massimo da Milano for a buffet luncheon in downtown Cleveland.

Several of our members are experiencing health problems. Our wishes for a speedy recovery from surgery for Ray Hacker. John Taucher had surgery recently for a massive tear on his rotator cuff. I hear tell that John has a "New Friend", which is a pillow that holds his arm out away from his body. Also, Bill Farnsworth is feeling better, but his resistance is still very low. He requests no visitors but cards & phone calls are welcome. His address is: William Farnsworth, 276 White Oak Dr., Elyria, OH 44035-4134, (440) 365-7526. Our thoughts & prayers to Cale & Eleanor Neth. In Feb. Cale had 3 stents put in; he now has a total of 5 stents. He is getting along quite well. Eleanor needs your prayers; she has uterine cancer & is getting ready to begin her treatments. Cards & phone calls are welcome by the Neths. Their address is: 4162 DeRussey Rd., Collins, OH 44826-9777, (419) 663-1346. We pray for the health of all our United Family & for our troops. Here is a prayer that I would like to share with you:

WHAT TO DO?

"Someone I care about is suffering, Lord, and I feel helpless. Assure me that a little means a lot and that I'm sharing your healing love in my notes and visits. If you need me to do more, send me. I am like dandelion fluff, small but mighty in possibility."

FYI the notice letter for the Ohio Buckeyes Luncheon to be held on May 5, hosted by Perry & Judy McKnight has the incorrect spelling for the city. The correct spelling is Chippewa Lake, OH 44215-9792. Please send check & bottom of the luncheon letter to the Chippewa Lake address.

Calendar

Apr. 14 - 1:00 p.m. at Mahle's, Forest Hills Plaza, 63 Pearl Rd., Brunswick, OH. Please note this is the 2nd Wed. of the month. Pre-paid.

May 5 - Pacino's, 14952 Pearl Rd., Strongsville, OH. Doors open 12:30 p.m., lunch 1:00 p.m. Pre-paid

Jun. 9 - Bus trip to Lake Erie Islands. Limit of 50 people. Checks must be in by May 9. The bus will depart Southpark at 7:00 a.m. & Great Northern Mall 7:30 a.m. This sounds like a fun time.

Jul. 7 - 12:00 p.m. at Albion Woods Reserved Picnic Area in the Mill Stream Run Reservation in Strongsville.

OREGON

DEW-ERS

Barbara M. Heidegger
13848 NE Milton
Portland, OR 97230
(503) 254-5018
DuaneBaba1@AOL.com



Once again it was the ice cream social & valentine exchange for the Feb. meeting with 121 in attendance. V.P. Dave Smith presided over the meeting in Jack Hooper's absence. Pat Smith, Dave's wife baked decorated heart-shaped cookies of all sizes to go along with the ice cream; Carol DeFord went around the room distributing the valentines. Joining the chapter were Bill & Kathleen Francis (Bill PDXCS), Helen Stinnett & her son Russell. Helen is a spouse of Rudy Stinnett DENCs.

Jack & Nancy Hooper were in FL to enjoy the sun attending a reunion of his naval group, but the rain followed them there.

John Donaldson & Tom Walker are volunteers at the Evergreen Aviation Museum in McMinnville, famous for the Spruce Goose and have been working on restoring a WWII A-26 bomber. The restoration has now been completed. If you are ever in OR this is one museum that all aviation enthusiasts should not miss. McMinnville is about 50 miles from PDX on the way to the Oregon coast at Lincoln City.

It was voted on at one of the meetings that the April meeting be held on the 21st since the Refectory is not available on the 14th. Please remember to adjust your calendars.

I am sorry to say that Merle Pitman is back in the hospital but Lois said the doctors hoped to be able to release him this week. Experiencing some type of illness were Joan Brotherton, Jack Cox, Ed & Mary Nolan, Ophelia Nunley and Esther Walkinshaw. Stay well everyone!

I would like to thank everyone that attended the memorial service for Duane and sent the lovely cards expressing how much they enjoyed working with him. He loved working for UAL & RUAEA.

The travel desk is open 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Mon/Wed/Fri (503) 249-4142 & 4143). Anyone with UAL can avail themselves of these services. The staff is always willing to assist with information & listings.

Calendar

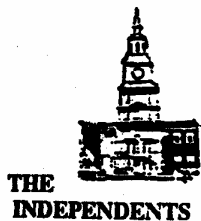
Meetings at Refectory Restaurant, 1618 NE 122nd Ave., Portland, OR unless noted otherwise.

Apr. 21- Please note date change (see above article)

May 12 - Schedule TBA

Jun. 9 - Schedule TBA

PENNSYLVANIA



Philadelphia, PA

THE INDEPENDENTS

Dee Burrs

2618 Silverside Rd.

Wilmington, DE 19810

(302) 478-2221

We had 46 attendees turn out for our Feb. 9 Valentine's luncheon. Pres., Bernie McNamee, opened the meeting. Ways and Means committee chairman, Joe Brad, offered the invocation.

Bill Carman, AGC Assistant General Chairman, IAM District 141, gave us an update on the proposed retiree medical increase. He explained that the union would represent District 141 retirees' groups in negotiations with United.

Our speaker for this meeting was Ron Pritch, a cultural anthropologist. His topic was "The Lore of Love". His talk was very interesting, entertaining & appropriate for our Valentine's theme.

The centerpieces made by Shirley Roberts were awarded to the person at the table whose birthday was closest to Feb. 14. Joe Brad's wife, Gail, made a beautiful door prize, a heart made of grapevine,

decorated with roses & baby's breath. The lucky winner was Ron Lindenmuth. We held a drawing for a free lunch, also a 50/50 drawing.

Pittsburgh Pit-Stoppers

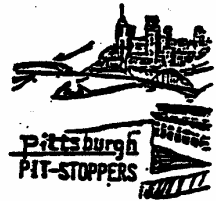
Jeri Juth

1900 Truman Dr.

Aliquippa, PA 15001

(724) 378-3316

jmjuth@hotmail.com



Thanks to the good people in the Dulles Loungers, I enjoyed a great luncheon at the Golden Corral in Manassas, VA. After taking the "scenic" route from the airport to the Golden Corral, my gracious driver, Linda Scriven, got me there just in time for the 50/50 raffle. What a great turnout. David Cox & his wife did a great job hosting over 100 people. We had a very informative panel consisting of Marv McColl, myself & Ken Ahern.

The Pit-Stoppers luncheon was held at Peter's Place on Feb. 13. Bill & Ruth Redfern did a fine job with decorations and candy for all attendees. We were fortunate to have Walter Benham, PIT Station Manager, as our guest speaker.

Walt has to be one of the most energetic, enthusiastic speakers - very optimistic about United's future. We "ole-timers" had a chance to tease him about his "1999 seniority" - to his credit - he's been to 5 stations already. Remember the name, Walt Benham - I'm sure he'll be one of our future leaders.

Harry Shirley is looking well after his illness. Welcome back.

A motion was made to send a donation of \$500 to the Laurie Arguello Fund - daughter of Capt. Al Haynes.

Plans were made to have a committee meet & try to set up bylaws for our local chapter. Barbara Seaholm will chair the committee.

We discussed chartering a bus to attend the Capital Airlines picnic in Sept. Anyone interested please let our Pres. Bill Redfern know.

Best wishes to Roberta Larimer on her recent surgery. Cards can be sent to Roberta at 2007 Kenzie Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15205.

Our condolences to Jim Rotella, former Pittsburgher, on the recent death of his mother. Jim & Vivian are now living in the CA area.

Deepest sympathy to Bob Fender & family on the loss of his son. Our prayers are with you all. Bob was a former CS agent in PIT.

Best wishes to Jerry Hugentobler, recent retiree from SLC. Jerry, Pat Surwall, John Croft & I did a lot of training back when - it was known as EXOTD. Hope to see you at the convention, Jerry.

Calendar

May 23-30 - RUAEA Convention, SEA

Jun. - Baseball game

Jul. 16 - Picnic

Sept. - Capital Airlines picnic.

4th Thurs. of every month - breakfast at Robinson Eat 'n Park

TENNESSEE

TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS

Jerry Barr
216 Mingo Way
Loudon, TN 37774-2952
(865) 458-0815
TNBarrs@aol.com



With high temperatures pretty regularly in the 60s & buds opening up, it's obvious that Spring is starting to spring. It was in that setting that 13 of us met for breakfast at the Cracker Barrel on Feb. 19...always a good way to start the day before going on to other activities. The Taylors, for instance, were heading to the Convention Center to attend the Home & Garden show. Although Jeanne Barkmann wasn't able to join us because of a doctor's appointment, it was good to see Al again.

2 guests were Pat & Ione Thompson, who live next door to the Barrs in Tellico Village, but who also have close ties to the Ferrells...at least on the male side of the equation. Jack & Pat were both Naval fliers in an earlier life & stationed in SAN during the 60s, flying A-4s & F-11s among others. They were also together on the carrier USS Hancock. Pat later flew 747s for UPS, finished his commercial career in Nov. when he retired. It's heart-warming to see old relationships like that get reestablished in a new time & place.

Calendar

Apr. 15 - 10 a.m. EST, breakfast at the Cracker Barrel, Exit 373 off I40-75 on Campbell Station Road, Farragut.

May 20 - 12:30 p.m. EDT, luncheon to be hosted by the Taylors & Nancy Krop. Details to follow.

Jun. 17 - 10 a.m. EDT, breakfast at the Cracker Barrel

UTAH

THE SALT LAKERS

Brigitte Murdock
1505 S. Roxbury Rd.
Salt Lake City, UT 84108-2844
(801) 583-2346
MURDOCKFN@aol.com



On Feb. 18, 28 chapter members came together for a congenial lunch at the Jumbo Buffet restaurant on Murray's State St. - We greeted new & seldom seen members: Dick Dahl; John/Beverly Farrington; Gray Lowery; Geo. Nihipali. The group met Dick McKinley for the first time. Welcome to all.

Bob Faydock popped in to say "Hi" - was off again to another therapy session. Bill Berg & Geo. Dalton, both fresh back from major surgery, joined us; they are healing well. Dick Dahl & Keith Tronier came, while Nancy Tronier was scheduled for a doctor's appointment. We hope all is well with her. Tony & Dorothy Brown reported that their eye operations went well; they are doing fine.

Our raffle prize was won by Gray Lowery, a toast to your health, Gray!

Kiyoko Olsen brought her friend Frank. Doug Schwartz reported that his voluntary U. of U. committee work will keep him from attending our local meetings because of scheduling difficulties - both are slated for the 3rd Wed. of each month.

Frank Murdock called Geo./Ellen McDonald who are fine, even though mostly confined to their home due to frail health. George is one of our senior chapter members with a seniority of 6/21/37.

We heard nice comments about Manny Rubal (sen. date 1936/ret'd 1976) from various DEN people who responded to SLC's Dec. report. News from his family assured us that he was doing fine, but felt a bit weak to join us today.

Anne Smith, one of the early-day F/As domiciled in SEASW, is presently very ill at a local hospice; her SLC/SEA friends are deeply concerned about her. Anne is kept in our thoughts through news from Geo. Dalton & updates from

Roni Adams, BOI, & Billie Smart, SEA.

Down memory lane: Some time ago, Mary Blackhurst donated to us her copy of *The Shield*, UAL's internal newsletter dated Aug. 1960. There we read about the volunteer work of "Clipped Wings" founded in 1951 to form a "purely social organization". Since then, this group of ex-UALers formed chapters system-wide & took on many important local/nat'l tasks. Its main effort is to serve as fundraiser for NARC (Nat'l Assoc. for Retarded Children); it includes chapter member assistance to local teachers in their schools for retarded kids. The article ended with "...*(T)he 1961 convention will be held in Salt Lake City, July 26-28.*". That was one month after the United/Capital merger.

For your info: the Nat'l Foundation for Transplants, SEA, sent thank-you notes to our chapter treasurer & all those individuals who donated money to the account set up for UAL Capt. Al Haynes' daughter Laurie Arguello.

Calendar

Apr. 21 - Coffee, 10 a.m., Murray Heritage Center
May 19 - Lunch, 2:00 p.m., Jumbo Buffet, 6930 S. State, Murray

VIRGINIA

Roanoke, Virginia

BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS

Louise Fuller

791 Rainbow Forest Dr.

Lynchburg, VA 24502-3035

(434) 237-6502



Our Chapter met on Feb. 9 with 24 present at Mrs. Rowe's Restaurant, Staunton, VA. This was a nice turnout for lunch followed by our meeting. Discussion was all about United, pensions, health care & the new named Credit Union information.

It was determined that about 8 or 10 plan to attend the UAL Convention in SEA.

We were pleased to hear that Bob Carter's son, Bob, Jr., is engaged to a lovely young lady named Doreen. We understand that wedding plans are not yet completed. We wish them all the best.

Calendar

Apr. 12 - Luncheon meeting, Evers Restaurant on Rt. 11.

TIDEWATER SEAGULLS

Mario Quaglietta

5421 Club Head Rd.

Virginia Beach, VA 23455

(757) 490-7326



33 members & 2 guests Rob Williams & Hershal Williams, attended the luncheon at Locks Point on Feb. 20. Two members who had moved to Texas but now are back are Lois & Chico Pichardo. Welcome back. Connie McManus opened the meeting with news that the UA Sales Rep could not attend this meeting but will attend later. Welcome to new member Amy Fredrico (retired in Nov. from Flight Attendant). Long time member Pat Gieger is ill at home with pneumonia, when recovered will have surgery on shoulder. Bill Caviness & his wife spoke about their cruise from FL to the Panama Canal, also about their recovery from hurricane Isabel.

Hosting the luncheon were the Riggs who had Spring flower plants on the table, later raffled & won by Carolyn Davis, Betty Chasey & Hershal Williams. 50/50 winners were Barbara Riggs and Sally Lippert. A good time was had by all.

Calendar

We meet the third Thurs. of every month except July & Aug. please call me at (757) 490-7326 if you would like to attend.

WASHINGTON

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Dee O'Donnell

451 - 4th Ave., S., Apt. 701

Kirkland, WA 98033

(425) 827-6640



The SEA Slickers are very much alive. The Jan. 13 luncheon hosted by Lyle & Joanna Meyers at Fairwood Country Club had 94 Slickers & guests. Needless to say, this is one of our favorite places, always draws a good turnout.

Dick Waterous looked hale & hearty. People stopped at his table for chit-chat. Visitors were Felix Cicco from LAX, Don Jackson, Anne Flemming & Marion Krewson.

The luncheon Feb. 10 at Maxi's at the top of the Double Tree Hotel, hosted by Guy Lamond had

80 slickers in attendance. Nice to see Bea & Ross Hatch who drove from Bli. She wanted to show Katherine & Lloyd Towne who are handling the art for our convention in May. Bea had created machine embroidered tea towels with the logo of the upcoming convention. Any of her work is awesome.

Nice to see Gloria Lisle from TCM, also Jan Cornelius.

Guy Lamond will host a luncheon at Maxi's in Oct, has already made arrangements.

People on sick leave are David Ramsey, husband of Jean - SEARR, Vi Gray, SEARR, still suffering from immune system problem. Doctors have not been able to determine how to treat it.

We were sad to learn the passing of Duane Heidegger in PDX. He was well liked & respected. Both he & Barb put a lot of hours into RUAEA. They also belonged to the SEA Slickers.

Calendar

Apr. 13 - monthly luncheon at Fairwood Country Club

May 11 - monthly luncheon at Winners Restaurant at South Center

May 23-30 - Annual Convention hosted by Emerald City Slickers at the Double Tree Hotel.

May 30 - End of convention Alaska cruise; Victoria B.C. picnic

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE DULLES LOUNGERS

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



Feb. 11 a record breaking crowd of 80 members & guests met at the Golden Corral for our monthly luncheon. Our numbers increase steadily; we may have to move to an adjoining room!

Interest was running high as members gathered to hear 3 speakers tell us their thoughts about the proposed changes to the retirees' medical plan.

The speakers were Ken Ahern, retired IAMAW; Jeri Juth, RUAEA Northeastern Regional Director; & Mari McColl, retired AFA. Mr. Ahern is the authorized representative of the IAMAW to

meet with the bankruptcy court on our behalf. The 3 speakers presented many details in the chain of events leading to the bankruptcy & an attentive crowd was impressed with their devotion. A question & answer period followed. As the weeks & months follow, we shall watch anxiously for more information.

Jan Revetta Hooe is home recovering from surgery; we send her all good wishes for a speedy recovery.

The 50/50 was won by Vince DeFelice; he went home \$48 richer; well done, Vince!

Calendar

Apr. 14 - Golden Corral, Manassas, VA

Aaron, Linda K, INDPP, 2033 Linda Ln, Greenwood,

NEW MEMBERS

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

IN 46143

Beatus, Stephen M, MIAVG, 1232 Alhambra Cir, Coral Gables, FL 33134

Bergman, James H., SEAMM, 22219 40th St. E., Buckley, WA 98321

Bieman, Freddi A, 87 N Collier Blvd Apt C1, Marco Island, FL 34145-3752

Blake, Fred E, DENCg, 4925 Kalispell St, Denver, CO 80239

Boedecker, Michael S, SEAJL, 27007 Cambridge Pl, Kent, WA 98032

Brown, Geraldine, 19411 Oak Crossing Rd, Santa Clarita, CA 913121

Carlson, Bonnie L., 681 S. Placita Prosperidad, Green Valley, AZ 85614-4747

Counts, Jake S, ORDFO, 296 Brooks Rd, Brooks, GA 30205

Courtney, William C, LAXFO, 6501 Nw 50th Ln, Gainesville, FL 32653-3933

Davis, Larry R, SFOLX, P.O. Box 656, Glen Ellen, CA 95442

Dobson, Celia M., 2502 70th Ave. Se, Mercer Island, WA 98040-2513

Ducharme, June M., WHQIR, 11348 Bellflower Lane, Huntley, IL 60142

Duggan, Lois M (Dixie), 1667 Bachan Ct, Reston, VA 20190

Dwyer, William T., BOSFF, 21 Humphrey St,

Wakefield, MA 01880-4203

Eary, George D., IADFF, 19 Porter Way, Charles Town,
WV 25414-9429
Fill, Peter K, SEAMM, P.O. Box 754, Burley, WA
98322
Francis, Darlene Z., 2301 Homewood Drive, Orlando,
FL 32809
Frisone, Frank, SEAMM, 27614 86th Ave E, Graham,
WA 98338-9101
Getz, Joseph K, 1470 King Rd, Hinckley, OH 44233-
9717
Gienger, Gerald D., DENFO, 10280 W. 84th Place,
Arvada, CO 80005
Goggin, Mary T., CHIRR, 1592 West Oakmont Rd,
Hoffman Ests, IL 60194
Gray Goodman, Linette M., MIASW, 8284 Sw 178th
Terrace, Miami, FL 33157-6140
Gregoire, John C., DENFF, 3026 W Prentice Ave #C,
Littleton, CO 80123-7785
Hopkins, Joan, IADCG, 4121 Point Hollow Ln, Fairfax,
VA 22033-3002
Huffman, Frank E., LAXMM, 102 Grogg Alley Pob
373, Jefferson, PA 15344-0373
Jarmulski, Irene A., ORDDF, 4130 N. Mallard Drive
#6, Arlington Heights, IL 60004
Jensen, Guy D., SFOFO, 10967 Blue Sky Dr, Fort
Lupton, CO 80621
Juth, Harley, 758 Van Nest Dr, Martinsville, NJ 08836-
2205
King, Kate G., 152 Calado Avenue, Campbell, CA
95008-1501
King, Melvin L., SFOJJ, 1527 25th St, Richmond, CA
94806
Kirton, Ronald M, 1316 Hancock Ave, San Mateo, CA
94403-1147
Kuehn, Connie, OPBCM, 9219 Grand Cypress Dr,
Weeki Wachee, FL 34613
Leon, Gonzalo K., 4361 S Avenida Don Gerardo,
Tucson, AZ 85746-8475
Lisle, Gloria A., SEATO, 3317 N. Defiance, Tacoma,
WA 90407
Lloyd Jr, Harold C., JFKFO, 146 Gulf View Dr,
Islamorada, FL 33036
Lopez, Alice C., LGBRR, 7314 Quill Drive Unit 152,
Downey, CA 90242-2023
Luke, John D., SEAPV, Po Box 855, Renton, WA
98057-0855
Makowichuk, Kenneth J., SEACS, 2812 Summitview
Ave, Yakima, WA 98902
Manthey, Edwin J., 5247th Ave, San Bruno, CA 94066-
4522
Mcgarry, Michael K., SFOPP, 5007 19th St. Nw, Gig
Harbor, WA 98335-7541
Melchiorre, Kathleen J., 2460 The Haulover, Seabrook
Island, SC 29455-6103

Miller, Patrick J., DCAFO, 1751 Plantation Dr,
Dunkirk, MD 20754
Panning, Wayne., 1733 S Nucla St, Aurora, CO 80017-
5146
Pech, Bonnie L., WHQKF, 672 Swain, Elmhurst, IL
60126-4312
Pryor, Victoria, WHQHH, 1019 W Jackson Blvd,
Chicago, IL 60607
Rabinowitz, Joshua S., DENFO, 6750 Bugle Ct,
Boulder, CO 80301-3869
Reddy, Vedda C., 2540 Pinceton Dr, San Bruno, CA
94066
Roberts, Jeffrey B., LAXFO, 705 Sw Colewood Ln,
Normandy Park, WA 98166-3900
Roller, Josephine, 1726 Maxine Av, San Mateo, CA
94401-3454
Schmidt, Janet L., ORDDF, 1801 N 22nd Ave, Show
Low, AZ 85901-3566
Schoenbeck, Ruth M., WHQAK, 12 N Reuter Dr,
Arlington Heights, IL 60006-1120
Scott, Richard F., SFOFO, P.O. Box 37, Papaikou, HI
96781
Shrum, Alton S., SEAMM, 33318 30th Ave Sw,
Federal Way, WA 98023
Snell, Larry J., SFOFO, Po Box 125, Seaview, WA
98644
Thomas-Johnson, Ann R., SFOJJ, 208 Montana St, San
Francisco, CA 94112
Trumble, Cynthia W., TPAOZ, 2016 Tanglewood Way
Ne, St. Petersburg, FL 33702
Uhl Jr, Frank J., SFOPB, 225 Lone Oak Dr, Vacaville,
CA 95688-1017
Valenzuela, Marilyn I., 95249 Kehepue Loop, Mililani
Town, HI 96789-1240
Waldron, Robert J., 1788 Bowden Drive #1, Orlando,
FL 32822
Webster, John G., DCAFO, 622 Grecken Green,
Peachtree City, GA 30269
Wiesner, Richard E., SEAFO, 17117-23rd Place Sw,
Seattle, WA 98166-3200
Willoughby, William R., SFOUS, 6128 Glen Harbor Dr,
San Jose, CA 95123
Zell, Carol A., 5 N 285 Neva Terrace, Itasca, IL 60143-
2438
Please accept our apology if your name was omitted

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

from the Contribution list in the March Newsletter. This was caused by a computer error. We appreciate your understanding.

Elvira S Adamis, Robert J Aguilar, Herman Amaral,

William L Arnett, Robert B Austin, Thomas H Barnes, Margaret M Bastian, Robert D Bauer, Paul Bellinger, Harry A Benson, Rosemary Bischof, Lois M Bowns, James L Boyd, William A Boyle, Mary G Brennan, Albert L Brose, Geraldine Brown, Robert Burke, Robert F Cardell, Vic A Carnevale, Ann D Carr, Carol J Cersosimo, Norma S Ciarlariello, Anthony B Cobosco, Dewey Cogar, Kerwin Connors, Patricia Conrad, Mollie P Cook, Helen Crisman, Russell C Currier, Robert Curtis, Barbara Dee, Aubrey L Dewoody, Mary Lou Dillner, Donald O. Dockendorf, Harold L Dryden, Paul V Dullman, Martin J Egan Jr, William H Erdman, Lee E Evans, Frank Eymann, Jean D Feely, Emilia Fischer, Vivian D Fox, Thomas M French, Margery E Fuller, Erika Furtner, Clarence J Gburek, Edward J 'Jack' Genader, Joan M Gisle, George T Gorman, M Bethine Grunewald, Theodore S. Guz, Ralph Hastings Jr, John R Hildebran, Ferrol D Hilsabeck, Sylvia A Hirning, Harlan Hocken, Gary L Hook, Mary T Horan, John L Houser, Rolland L Howard, Harold D Hubbard, Diana M Huffman, Ray E Hutchinson, H R Ingram Jr, Marlene A Jeffery, J W Jenkins, Richard R Johnson, Herbert F Johnson, Marie Kady, William I Kain, Shirley A Keller, Walter Kendall, John T Kerbaugh, Lyn M Kerns, Kate G. King, Connie A Kirkpatrick, Thomas Kishiyama, Francis E Kittle, Harold F Klobe, Larry A Knaub, Raymond Konop, Gordon Kubiak, Barbara M Kucharski, Katherine L Larsen, Anthony J Laudadio, Marge Lenz, Emma Jean Lloyd, Jack Mahan, Loretta S Marvett, Robert D Mc Donald, Elmore D Mc Fadden, Albert J Mc Garrity, Jack F Mc Kinney, Connie A Mc Manus, Marcia K Mellen, Ivo Mersmann, Birute Rudi Meskele, Kenneth A Miller, Marlene Miller, Ethel A Miyasato, Mary M Morrow, Lucille S Nesbitt, Arlene L Nicholson, William W Noyes, Richard C Obenberger, Philip J O'neil, Joe M Onodera, Gerald W O'rourke, John A Paulson, Francis A. Pellizzari, Vincent Peloso, Jacobus Philipoom, Bob Piggot, Leon D Placzkowski, William H Poerstel, Loretta M Preisser, Leota L Price, John J Robb, William J Robinson, Vi (The Academy) Rochelle, Josephine Roller, Gloria C Runkles, Yas K. Sako, Robert G Sampson, Edmund Savage, George J Segmiller, Anne M Seibel, William J Sharp, Linda N Sheffield, Barbara S Simkins, Anne R Skolkin, Allen Slyter, Carol A Soffel, James A. Sommerfield, Richard R Southon, Lodene M Spanola, Paul Steuri, John C Tate, Helen Taylor, Clifford E Terry, Robert H Tibbetts, John Tiefel, Oliver K Tyler, Albert H Warner, Mertie L West, Grace A Witt, Dorothy L Wood, Ramon A Wood, Hiroko Yamada, Richard T Yunck, Harold F Zinger

*A man who never made a mistake
never made anything.*

Retiree-**BEAN, Elizabeth J.**, EXO, on 2/22/04,

OBITUARIES

wife of Leroy, 3510 St. Johns Rd., Des Moines, IA 50312

Spouse-**BOGUE, Margaret**, on 2/3/04, wife of Clarence, DTW, 8465 Willis Rd., Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Retiree-**BORK, Sonja M.**, DEN, on 2/14/04, sister of Beverly Dardano, 6975 E. Colorado Av., Denver, CO 80224

Retiree-**DE REUS, Ray L.**, DSM, on 2/12/04, husband of Sue, 1906 S. Lawn Dr., Des Moines, IA 50315

Retiree-**HAY, JR., Robert A.**, MIA, on 2/14/04, husband of Eileen, 111 Rivera Ave., Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

Retiree-**KOVARIK, Dudley B.**, LAX, on 2/19/04, husband of Jean, 5654 Daisy, Simi Valley, CA 93063

Retiree-**LEWANDOWSKI, Joseph B.**, ORD, on 2/9/04, husband of Elvira 465 Skokie Ln., Bolingbrook, IL 60439

Retiree-**NOVY, Robert J.**, EXO, on 2/2/04, husband of Arlene, 408 S. Phelps, Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Spouse-**POWELL, Sharon G.**, on 1/17/04, wife of John, DEN, 500 W. 123rd Ave., Apt. 3314, Westminster, CO 80234-1812

Retiree-**PRICE, Arthur H.**, LAX, on 2/6/04, husband of Josephine, 2336 Wood Duck Lane, Paso Robles, CA 93446

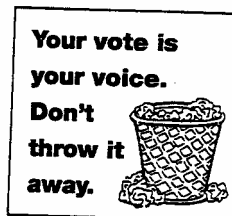
Retiree-**SWAN, Edmund K.**, SFO, on 2/13/04, husband of Phyllis, 351 Bramble Ct., Foster City, CA 94404

Retiree-**VAN DUSEN, Vincent L.**, JFK, on 2/4/04

Retiree-**WILKS, Eileen B.**, LAX, on 2/6/04, wife of John, Rt.1, Box 293F, Schell City, MO 64783

Retiree-**ZECH, N. Donald**, EXO, on 2/13/04, husband of Sheila, 945 East 7th Ave., Escondido, CA 92025

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT!!



RUAEA

CANDIDATES

YEAR 2004

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President

Marlin Lade - began his career at United in 1952 in Omaha in Passenger Services as a Ticket & Tel. Sales Agent. He worked in LNK and SFO as an agent. Moved to SFOED as an instructor new hires. Staff instructor in CYSED.

Midwest Regional Field Instructor at MDW & ORD. Representative serving ORD, EXO offices & line stations in Personnel Dept. He served in EXO employee relations & as Manager - Stewardess Training. On the team negotiating navigator contract.

He retired as Administrative Mgr. of Corporate Training, also Corporate Human Resources. Following retirement, served as liaison between UAL and the retirees. Currently, Director & Treasurer of United Employee Relief Fund.

He has served in many community & church activities. He has been active in his local chapter; Marlin was elected as Midwest Regional Director of RUAEA and is presently serving as Executive Vice President of the retirees' organization.

Executive Vice President

Mort Wax - Mort holds a BS Degree in Accounting from the University of Illinois. He was employed by United on July 23, 1953. He held a number of positions during his career with United. He was Supervisor of Revenue Accounting & Manager of General Accounting.

In the area of Corporate Planning, he was Manager of Capital Expenditures Plans. Mort was controller of Management Information Services. Served as Controller in the Food Services Division, as well as Manager of Purchasing. He also served as Manager of Administration in the Catering Dept.

He retired in Feb. 1993. Mort served as RUAEA Chairman of the Audit Committee from 1994-1996 and completed four years as Treasurer (1998-2002). He is active in his community using his expertise involving community activities as well as activities of the Army Reserve; he retired as a Lt. Colonel.

Mort was also Treasurer of the 2003 CHI Convention & remains involved in the local RUAEA Chapter activities.

Executive Vice President

Tom Goodyear - employed by UAL 6/02/53 as an Inner-Office Mailman at DEN's OPBOP; he retired 2/29/93 as a DENOO Zone Controller. Tom spent his entire UAL career in DEN was, and thus, in a good position to be very active in many local volunteer endeavors:

- 1 President of the DEN Mainliner Club
 - 2 Participant in UAL's All Sell program
- After he retired, Tom served as president of the RUAEA chapter "Mile Highers". Tom and wife Nancy also work as members of the RUAEA Newsletter Mailing Team. From 1999-2001, Tom served as the elected Mountain Region Director and is presently serving in this capacity again. He is a volunteer for the UAL Historical Foundation; he worked as the Local Gen'l Chairman of the RUAEA 2002 DEN Convention.

Tom serves as a board member of the Colorado Adoption Exchange (Wednesday's Child). As well as an Elder in his church administration.

In his spare time, his leisure activities include the restoration of antique automobiles. He & wife Nancy enjoy gardening, walking, traveling, watching baseball/football.

Vice President - Conventions

Bud Hubbard - began his career with United as a mechanic in SEA in 1953 & was a Manager - Line Quality Assurance when he retired from SFO Maintenance Operations Center in 1988. He received a Maintenance Operations Special Recognition Award in 1985.

He is a charter member of the Phoenix "Re-United" and served this chapter as President, VP and Secretary. Bud is also a member of the SEA "Emerald City Slickers" and past member of the "Arizona Azures". He served on the RUAEA Nominating Committee 1999-2000 and was Computer Chairman of the 1997 PHX Convention, as well as assisting the Computer Chair for the 1998 BOS Convention. In 2001 he was elected Director of the AZ Region.

In addition, he assists the State Director & Staff

to put on the AZ Jamboree each year. In his capacity as VP-Conventions, Bud worked closely with the CHI 2003 convention planning team and, at the present time, is busy in the preparation of the SEA 2004 convention.

Treasurer

Charles “Charlie” Lewis -graduated from Northwestern University with a degree in Bus. Adm. & Major in Accounting. Charlie was employed by UAL in 1957 and worked in General Accounting until Dec. 1960 when he became a Programmer in the Revenue Dept. He transferred to Flight Operations to help in the design & implementation of the Automated Flight Planning & Monitoring System. In 1970 Charlie transferred to Unimatic where he spent the rest of his UAL career. After 35 years of service, he retired in July 1992.

He has been active in community activities; Charlie is also volunteering his expertise to work for his church as Asst. Treasurer.

From 2000-2002, Charlie served as Chairman of the RUAEA Audit Committee; in 2002, he was elected to the post of RUAEA’s Treasurer, a position he holds at the present time.

National Secretary

Helen Cauwels - started her long notable United Airlines career on 2/2/62 at the EXO Treasury Dept. She then transferred to EXO Statistical Production and spent the next 22 years in various job classifications rising from clerical to management positions. After her husband’s death, Helen took early retirement on 3/1/87; her last position with United was that of a Management Schedule Analyst.

In July 2000, Helen was asked to serve as RUAEA National Secretary upon the resignation of the elected secretary, a position she accepted. Two years later, she was elected to the National Secretary position for the period 2002-2004.

During the 2003 CHI Convention, Helen co-chaired the Convention Tours Committee.

Helen has volunteered her time & expertise as President of the board of directors at her Palatine, IL “condominium” residence and was recently elected President of her Condo Complex Master

Board. She volunteers her time on the office staff and as a day-tour escort at the Rolling Meadows Senior Center.

National Secretary

Carole L. Genter - began her distinguished United Airlines career 11/4/74 as EXOUL, Executive Secretary to VP Investor Relations. She retired 12/31/93 as DENTK Fleet Operations Coordinator (B-747/400 Fleet).

Carole earned recognition & awards:

1. UAL Merit Award, Phase II Simulator Project;
2. UAL Service Corp. Monetary Award;
3. Special Project Work.

Her UAL assignments over the 21 years of employment covered various duties at DENTK where she worked as secretary for the manager of Simulator Services and where she advanced to Supervisor of Technical Administration. Carole also worked as a Director of Mid-Continent Mgt. Systems, Ltd., Lakewood, CO, as well as Special Asst. to the President, UAL Services Corp., DEN. She distinguished herself as DENFO Administrative Coordinator and Fleet Operations Coordinator. Before she early-retired in 1999, she held the position of DENFO Consultant, Flt. Ops (B-727, B-747, DC-10 fleets).

At the 2002 DEN RUAEA Convention, Carole served as Asst. to the Chairman. In her leisure time, she and husband Duane, also a retired UALer, enjoy gardening, crafts, and traveling. She volunteers her time as Deacon in the administration of her Faith Presbyterian Church.

Director - Northern Calif./Nevada

Bob Cuff - began his career with UAL in March 1952 as a SFO line mechanic; he was promoted to maintenance instructor at SFO, Supervisor of Training at ORD, and EXO line maintenance staff training representative. He returned to SFO when the Line Maintenance HQ Division relocated to SFO.

During the introduction of new airplanes, he traveled extensively to Maintenance Stations, as well as into most new stations that were added to UAL’s schedule, including former PAN AM stations in the Far East.

Bob retired in 1987 after 35 years with UAL and he & wife Jo moved to Auburn, CA.

He is active in local community affairs and has a working relationship with the Chairman of the Auburn Airport Committee; Bob also was a member of the Planning Commission, etc.

He had been a member of RUAEA since 1987 & served as President of the "Sacramento Gold Diggers". Presently he is Director of the Northern Calif./Nevada Region.

Director - Northern Calif./Nevada

Shirley Drumheller - started with United Airlines in April 1989 at SFOPP as a Purchasing Clerk and quickly advanced to SFOEG Engineering Librarian, a job title she held until her retirement in May of 1999 at OAKEG. She was awarded two appreciation plaques for: (1) assisting the B-747 Engineering Dept.'s work in their many COA projects; (2) ten years of service to the OAK Maintenance Center operations.

Shirley became very familiar with narrow-bodied aircraft engineering work at SFOEG and, after her transfer to OAKEG, she added to this experience the knowledge about wide-bodied aircraft at the OAK Maintenance Division.

Upon retirement, Shirley served the members of the RUAEA "Gold Diggers" chapter in the capacities as Sunshine Lady, as chapter VP & as president. She also volunteered her time & expertise at the Mainliner Club as its representative for OAK.

Shirley & husband Victor enjoy camping, gardening, baking, canning and traveling.

Director - Southern Calif. Region

Bob Owens - began his career with United in Sept. 1953. He served as a Ticket Agent, Ramp & Operations Agent, Senior Agent, & Passenger Services Supervisor. He retired in April 1984 and has been active in the local and national RUAEA organization every since.

Bob was appointed Committee General Chairman of the 1995 SAN RUAEA Convention. He was appointed Site Selection Chairman and was instrumental in arranging the 2001 RUAEA Convention in PHL & 2002 Convention in DEN. Bob is presently serving as So. California Regional Director.

Director - Southern Calif. Region

Harold "Hal" Klobe - joined Capital Airlines in 1957, following service in the Korean War. Hal served at CAL and UAL in passenger Service, was Supervisor at NYCTO & LAXRR; he was LAX Apollo Travel Service & Agency Sales supervisor. In 1998, he was President of the "Re-LAX-ers" chapter; from 2000 until 2002. Hal served as So. CA Region Director and is presently filling the position on RUAEA's Site Selection Committee.

Hal's wife Donna is also a UAL retiree who filled the assignment of RUAEA Re-LAX-er" chapter secretary.

Director - Western Region

Howard Payne - Started with UAL 2/10/53 as a LAXRR Reservations Agent; he retired 2/12/87 as SFOCS Supervisor. During his career he earned the company's "Award of Merit". When working for UAL in HNL and DTW, he worked on various other assignments.

He is presently serving as a member of the RUAEA Audit Committee; he is also president of his local RUAEA chapter "El Diablos" in Concord, CA.

In his community, Howard volunteers his time & expertise as Chapter Treasurer of "Rebuilding Together USA". His and wife Jo's leisure activities include traveling, studies of genealogy and spending time with their seven grandchildren.

Director - Western Region

Anthony "Tony" Urso - began his airline career in July 1955 as a Line Maintenance mechanic for Capital Air Lines in DCA; he retired in Oct. 1991 from UAL at SFOPD in the capacity of Supervisor. Tony was recognized with an award for his work with "Friendship Fair" at MOC.

He hosts the annual RUAEA "South Bay" picnic. Other volunteer duties include working at the Good Samaritan Hospital for the past 11 years. In their leisure time, Tony and wife Sally play golf, go traveling, read, and watch sports.

During the Korean Conflict, Tony served 13 months with the USAF in Korea. For his service he received the Korean Medal, the Bronze Star - Presidential Citation, and the United Nations Medal.

Director - Midwest Region

Carol J. Faust - started with UAL 6/19/56 as an EXOPR stenographer at Midway. She retired from UAL CHIRR as a Reservation Sales Agent 3/1/99.

Her awards included:

1. Award of Merit - EXOPR;
2. Employee of the Month - CHIRR
3. Two savings Bonds for two years of perfect attendance - CHIRR

From 1999-2002, Carol served as secretary of the RUAEA chapter "Skyliners"; presently, she is the elected chapter president. Her volunteer work involves (1) Chicago Food Depository, (2) UAL's WHQ Christmas Charity program; (3) several church committee assignments.

Carol & husband Robert enjoy their leisure activities of skiing, hiking, camping, biking, gardening, fitness center, and traveling

At the 2003 CHI RUAEA Convention, Carol served as the Art Raffle Chairperson.

Director - Midwest Region

Robert J. Roeder - was hired by United Airlines 8/14/52 for the assignment of MDW Flight Dispatch "Trip Follower". In 1982, he was given the "Flight Operations Support" award. Robert retired from EXO as Staff Manager-Dispatch 5/30/94.

Robert was a member of the group that developed the Airline Communications & Addressing System (ACARS: it provides worldwide air/ground data communications between aircraft) and trained Unimatic & Ground Operations personnel. Additional UAL assignments included:

- 1959-1962: Member of the JETARAMA team;
- 1966-1972: Member of Unimatic Users design team;
- 1974: Special Assignment with Financial Task Force designing the fuel usage reporting system;
- 1985: Member of the Pacific Acquisition (PAC) team.

Bob was a team member of the RUAEA 2003 CHI Convention. For the past 30 years, he volunteered his services as a member of the "Apostolate of the Handicapped".

He & wife Annette enjoy cooking & baking, reading, as well as surfing the Internet. They also attend many cultural events.

Director - Southeast Region

Harry Walton - joined United at the SFO Maintenance Base in 1969 in the Education Training Dept. producing motion picture training films for instructors to use in training classes for mechanics, slide/tape training programs and the state-of-the-art video training tapes.

All new aircraft from Boeing & Douglas had to have training programs produced before aircraft delivery. Harry traveled to Boeing for the B-747, B-737, B-757, B-767, also traveled to Douglas for DC-10 filming & taping of the new airplanes.

He received a degree in Photography from Ohio University in 1950 and worked for NACA in CLE doing high-speed & regular photography on jet engine research-rocket development & wind tunnel testing. Harry moved to Sacramento to continue his career in the aerospace industry; there, he worked for Douglas as well as Lockheed in his training-film capacity prior to joining United.

In 1999 & 2000, Harry served as South Bay (Calif.) chapter VP & President; he also was active in his church, as well as in the Second Food Bank Program and Cupertino Emergency Response Team.

He moved to Fort Myers, FL in the fall of 2000 and has been active in the local chapter. Presently, he is serving as Director of the Southeast Region.

Director - Southeast Region

James "Jim" Hottel - was hired 6/11/53 by Capital Airlines as Parts & Equipment Runner for DCA's Stores Dept. After the UAL/CAP merger, Jim eventually transferred to CHI to work as Flight Crew Schedule coordinator and Crew Schedule supervisor for "Line Check Airmen". He conducted supervised line-flying for the initial B-737-300 pilot training. During these assignments, Jim received Special Recognition awards. At the time of his retirement 1/1/95, he worked in System Operations Control/Crew Scheduling.

Jim's wife Pat is also a UALer who retired from CHIRR in Oct. 1994.

After they retired, Jim & Pat Hottel moved to Spring Hill, FL where they became involved in the Neighborhood Crime Watch Patrol and in committee work in their local church.

Jim was RUAEA chapter president of the TPA

Bay Retirees North. He initiated the merger of Tampa Bay South & TPA Bay North, which then became the "TPA Bay Retirees". This group enjoys April & Oct. picnics; it also hosts the well-visited "West Coast Luncheon", now in its 25th year. During their RUAEA work, Pat used her expertise in Computer Science in the development of address/phone list merging.

Jim's main hobby is woodworking; Jim & Pat are avid travelers.

LETTERS

We have received Greetings & Thanks for the Newsletter from the following members:

Mel Wehrle, Orrie Peters, Arvid Stenstrom, Margaret Merton, Midge Bischof, Margery E. Fuller, Hal Dryden, John Kerbaugh, Claire Shuham, Hal Klobe, Daniel C. DeFord, Ann D. Carr, Loretta & Michael Marvett, Marlene Jeffery, Paul Dullmann, Dody (for Dale) Engel, Richard Obenberger, Rolland Howard, Curtis Ryden, Tom Barnes, Bob Burke, Lodene Spanola, Herb Johnson, Robert H. Tibbetts, B.E. Jones, Robert B. Austin, Vincent Peloso, Arlene L. Nicholson, John M. Soja, Ralph Hastings, Jr., Alexandra Pontarelli, E.D. Mc Fadden, Al Brose, R.R. Southon, Diana M. Huffman, Lyn & June Kerns, James & Wilma Lundy, Mary L. Dillner, Ethel Miyasato, Marie Kady, Paul Bellinger, Dorothy Wood, Carol Soffel, Carol Cersosimo, Mary T. Horan, Kay Flynn, Shirley A. Keller, Virginia Rood, Gary Peck, Herb Ingram, Loretta Preisser, Roberta (Bobbi) McIntosh, Dick Malm, Cherie Range, Bob & Cathy O'Connor and Jay Mittelstead.

WE HAVE RECEIVED LETTERS FROM:

MEMORIES

Jim Gerrity, 707 Slemmons Dr., at Courtney Pl., Columbus, OH 43235

Warren Anderson's "fondest memories" at MDW in the early 1950s as reported in the Feb. issue was a gem of a story relative to the glory days when we were family with about 9000 employees system-wide.

His letter was so authentic & humorous of what

was accomplished within 640 acres including a large public school located at the end of the runway at the southwest corner of 63rd & Central Ave.

The Chicago Board of Education held title to the airport, which prevented the sale of adult beverages. Hence, passengers had to cross busy Cicero Av., a dangerous pedestrian crossing to quench one's thirst. Some never returned.

A highlight of a Passenger Agent's day would be to see Pres. William "Pat" Patterson enter the lobby with either Mary O'Connor or his Sec'y, Sylvia Mitchell. He usually made it a point to chat with personnel & occasionally drop a bit of news soon to be released to the press.

Warren's reference to the 4 nuns with an excess baggage charge of \$5.24 & but a handful of change was not a difficult decision to "bail him out & bend the rule".

Perhaps what he did not know or may not have recalled is once I entered the conversation & observed their black boxed habits & dress of the Blessed Virgin Mary Order (BVM's) whose peers put up with me for 8 years, I was a pushover. And that was before they called us "two angels from Heaven".

Warren may have fit that image, but I had a long road of repentance before that acclamation might even be imagined.

I look forward to future historical/special letters from retirees.

Ethel Johnson, 2707 Autumnwood Ln., Minnetonka, MN 55305-3488

It's my pleasure to pay these dues for another year. In return I get more for my \$20.00 than anywhere else. In the between time I get the pleasure of attending monthly chapter meetings.

The Denver team is/are a blessing to each of us and oh so talented and loyal. Thank you. See you in Seattle.

Bud & Lynn Hubbard, P.O. Box 183, Sedona, AZ 86339 budhubb@sedona.net

Another year has rolled around; I remembered to send in my dues & postage contribution check complete with File Number! It is great to see the advances being made in the Denver Office. I am sure they will make your work easier. We often do not appreciate your efforts as much as we should.

(Retirees' letters continued on Page 33)

I especially appreciate the work done on the Convention Issue, as it is critical to the success of the Convention. This year the SEA Committee has gone to great efforts to provide activities that everyone will enjoy, also opportunities for the attendees to re-acquaint with their old friends & working cohorts. We look forward to seeing many regulars and, hopefully, more of the new members this year. If you have never attended a RUAEA Convention folks, you should try it, you will like it.

Lynn & I have been busy most of the time with RUAEA Convention planning activities but still manage to travel in the motor coach. We went to FL after the CHI convention last year, then back to OH & IL for family visits before returning to AZ. We also spent the month of Aug. at our favorite spot on the Dolores River in SW CO. Fishing was good with several Rainbows caught in the nearby reservoirs. The river, of course, was low, not very good fishing due to the ongoing drought.

Thanks again for all of the work that you on the DEN staff do for the membership.

Frances Rauschkolb, (spouse of Frank Rauschkolb, DTK, deceased 3-6-93) 15950 SW Oak Meadow Ln., Portland, OR 97224-5640

Ever noticed, the older we get the more we get like computers? We start out with lots of memory and drive, then we eventually become outdated, crash at off moments, acquire errors in our systems & have to have our parts replaced.

Thanks for all the wonderful work everyone does to put out a great paper such as the Association Newsletter. You make an awfully lot of United retirees happy.

Mr. & Mrs. O.K. Tyler, 6565 S. Main St., #401, Downers Grove, IL 60516

Thank you so much for the past year's newsletters. I've enjoyed them. Having been retired 24 years, sometimes it's difficult to relate to the "air age" in which we live (I began my career in the mailroom making \$65/mo and the girl who became my wife, was making \$70/mo in Files). All flights were really first class but speed & aircraft size after WW2 changed everything. It seemed as if all of the fun & pride went out of it. Having always wanted to fly, I got to do that, but many's the time I found myself wishing to be back in the mailroom. I guess that it's stupid to complain about progress since the

majority rule - and - the airline is a business - not a social club. Here's hoping that conditions improve & stay that way.

(Conversations that passengers don't hear between airline pilots & control towers from around the world):

The German air controllers at the Frankfurt Airport are a short-tempered lot. They not only expect one to know one's gate parking location, but how to get there without any assistance from them. So it was with some amusement that we (a Pan Am 747) listened to the following exchange between Frankfurt ground control & a British Airways 747, call sign "speedbird 206": Speedbird 206: Top of the morning, Frankfurt, Speedbird 206 clear the active runway. Guten Morgan, you will taxi to your gate. The big British Airways 747 pulled onto the main taxiway & stopped. Ground control: Speedbird, do you not know where you are going? Speedbird 206: Speedbird 206: Standby a moment Ground, I'm looking up our gate location now. Ground, (with arrogant impatience) "Speedbird, haff ;you never flown to Frankfurt before? Speedbird 206 (coolly) Yes I have, actually in 1944. In another type of Boeing, but just to drop something off. I didn't stop.

George Hart, 156 Hampton Ct., Newington, CT 06111-1145

Began my career with United on one of the great vacation spots on the Pacific Ocean, beautiful Catalina Island (we called it "poor man's Hawaii). To get there you flew a 20-minute flight from Long Beach, CA on a 21-passenger DC3. The fare was, as I recall, \$4.60 roundtrip. You landed on top of a mountain like on an aircraft ship. Then you took a sightseeing bus to the only town on the Island, Avalon. The island was owned by Mr. Wrigley, owner of the Chicago Cubs. After one summer of fun & adventure (I was single), I was offered the opportunity to transfer to the SAN ticket office. I shared an apartment with another ticket agent, Chuck Johnston. Our boss was Bill Patrick. It was a pleasure working & living in SAN; I especially enjoyed the world famous zoo.

I eventually met the girl of my dreams; we married & moved to my dream city, SFO. I worked in the Post & Powell CTO in the downtown area. I went to work on the cable car (sometimes for free). After a few wonderful years in SFO, I transferred

back east to BOS with my wife & baby daughter. I ended up VP in Hartford, CT as a CTO Supervisor; eventually a Sales Rep. While here I founded the "Wings Interline Club" with the purpose of offering bus tours to many places of interest in New England plus Lake George, NY & Montreal, Canada. Most of these tours were offered during the beautiful Fall Foliage season. During the 25 years I conducted these trips on 47 & 56 passenger busses, I made some very dear friends, including some who were still working from 747 Captains to Ticket Agents. We also had participants from other airlines who we discovered were just like us. I would like to mention a few of the United "regulars" who participated year after year: Gladys Smith, SFO; Barbara Harsell, LAX; Stan & Virginia Soult, SFO; Florence Constance, CHI; Mike & Jerry Milner, SFO; Sue Kiaura, Osaka, Japan; John & Carolyn Orchard, OMA; Sadie Tuten, TPA (she ate 5 lobsters on our 2002 Maine tour.); Shirley Dickinson, SFO; Norm & Ruth Strange, SEA; Bill & Bonnie Ceperley, DEN; Hugh & Dorothy Miller, DEN; Jim & Mary Beveridge, OMA. That's just a few of the many hundreds who returned year after year. some years we had as many as five tours. We were always "sold out".

Despite my age, I would still like to conduct more tours when conditions get better. There are still many more places in New England to visit.

Paul Weatherford, 15903 E. Echo Hill Dr., Fountain Hills, AZ 85268-3909

I am sorry to be late with the dues. My wife, Regina B. Weatherford, EXOPZ, would never have forgotten to send this check in. She has Alzheimer's since Nov. 2003; it is hard to fill her shoes.

Should anyone care to write to her the address is: Regina B. Weatherford, 9410 E. Thunderbird, Scottsdale, AZ 85260.

Bob Sealey, 7760 So. Buchanan Way, Aurora, CO 80016

I have been retired 13 years, and a few months back I received a letter from UAL stating that after doing an audit, after 10 years, my pension was being cut, and I owed them thousands of dollars. If any other brothers or sisters out there that retired through the IAM are in the same situation, contact me, bobgolfsue@cs.com.

Davis C. Homsher, 85 Tilton Ave., #4, San Mateo, CA 94401 (650) 347-6073 dch39456@sbcglobal.net

I feel strongly that many of the retirees & active-duty employees of United Airlines would benefit from the publication of the following article:

FREE HEARING AIDS, ANYONE?

A little known & seldom used provision of the United Airlines Medical Benefits program for both active-duty personnel & retirees, is the fact that United, through their associate organization, Illinois Blue Cross/Blue Shield, will reimburse a claimant for up to \$5,000 for hearing aids purchased since 6/14/02.

Reference is made here to United Airlines medical benefits document dated 6/14/02 which announced several changes to the United Traditional Medical Plan. Under "Traditional Medical Plan Before-Medicare Coverage," specifically paragraph 4 of said document, is the following statement:

"Annual hearing aid examinations, prescribed hearing aids & batteries for hearing aids will be covered under the Traditional Medical Plan. Expenses incurred on or after 7/1/02 are payable from the Plan at 100%, without satisfying the annual deductible, up to a lifetime payment of \$5,000 per person."

The document is signed by Virginia Grady, Director of Benefit Programs.

Being the user of two hearing aids which were becoming somewhat decrepit, it entered my mind to inquire if it would be possible to spend the **entire sum of \$5,000** to replace both of my aids. A call to United Airlines Medical Benefits representative elicited the reply that, as far as United was concerned, I could spend \$5, \$50.00, \$500.00 or \$5,000 at any one time.

I went to my local hospital which has a non-profit hearing aid clinic (this is the least expensive approach to getting hearing aids, as opposed to some of the private companies which charge a healthy profit on their wares), ordered 2 each top-of-line 16 channel digital hearing aids at a total of \$5600.00.

When I presented the bill to Illinois Blue Cross/Blue Shield, they were shocked & refused to

reimburse me, stating that I was the first (and would surely be the last) claimant of \$5,000 for hearing aids. I told them that the reimbursement information was gotten from a United Airlines Medical Benefits brochure. I had to fax a copy of the applicable brochure page to Blue Cross/Blue Shield in order to prove to them that I wasn't kidding!

Weeks & weeks passed, with no action on the matter. Several phone calls only told me that my "case was being worked on", and that I "probably would be paid". Evidently everyone hoped that I would go away. I even received an Explanation of Benefits (EOB) statement from Illinois Blue Cross/Blue Shield telling me that my claim was denied.

The upshot of the entire matter was that 3 months later I finally did get a reimbursement check to the amount of \$5,000 from Illinois Blue Cross/Blue Shield. It would seem that United Medical and/or Illinois Blue Cross/Blue Shield will still reimburse claimants to to \$5,000 for hearing aids. To this date I have never seen or heard of anything in writing which would change the terms of the United Airline Benefits document of 6/14/02.

At this point, I must need to issue a legal disclaimer and tell you that I am not dispensing legal and/or medical advice. If you go for the full amount of reimbursement, you will be fought at every step of the way, for no one wants to pay out \$5,000 unless they absolutely must. Believe me when I say that it was a long, hard, uphill fight, all the way to the end! Don't let anyone try to tell you "that's not the way it works....blah, blah." If stated otherwise, someone is letting themselves in for a court suit with a possible legal charge of misrepresentation!

If you do not have a copy of the mentioned United document dated 7/14/02, feel free to contact me & I'll send you a copy.

Good luck & good hearing!

Ken Partain, 5487-A Paseo Del Lago W., Laguna Woods, CA 92653

Since moving to CA I really do appreciate the Newsletter, especially since I do not have a computer. I really miss those monthly breakfasts that we had, mostly the camaraderie.

As I was browsing through some of the issues of the past year, I came across a letter in the Sept.

issue written by Captain Cliff Chaney. I do not know Mr. Chaney but we seem to have quite a bit in common. He spent 36 ½ years with UAL as a pilot ending in July 1978. I spent 35 plus years ending in Feb. 1978. Started as a mechanic (I think they call them technicians now.)

Of course everyone knew who Otis Kline was and that list about taxiing a DC-3 could be a little tricky at times, especially with no load of passenger in the cabin and just as you make that U-turn into the terminal area your radio says "with wind gusts up to 40 miles per hour", it would have been easy to slip that hummer up on its nose.

Before deregulation it was company policy to send a flight mechanic along on charter flights going off our line. I enjoyed my share of those. The line Mr. Chaney mentions about "a map in his lap" sounds familiar.

I once traveled on a flight carrying Senator Joe Martin, Speaker of the House of Representatives in the U.S. Senate. He was a real gentleman. We used UAL's President Patterson's private Convair 340. Maybe that 's why some of us like to say that we worked for "The Patterson Airline"

Please give my regards to Mel Conine & the rest of the fine people that we worked with there in the "Mile High Country".

T.S. Cunningham, 3556 Touriga Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff at RUAEA for all your hard work.

It is great to have an organization that keeps up on what is going on at UAL. I'm now in my 2nd year of retirement, am still trying to get used to not going to work every day. My wife is still working, until she gets to 62 years and can draw S.S. From what I hear UAL is doing better and will soon come out of bankruptcy. I don't know why it's necessary to cut down on our health benefits now after working 39 years to get them. I hope this can get all worked out in the upcoming meetings.

Jack D. Patterson, 203 N. Babcock Dr., Palatine, IL 60074

Thank you & your "staff" for all the good work you do in getting the newsletter out every month. I look forward to reading about people I worked with for over 39+ years with UA. Hope UA will land on its feet, or at least make smooth landing in the near future.

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