



Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

WWW.RUAEA.ORG



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GENERAL NEWS

WWW.RUAEA.ORG

Letter From The President



Hi Folks, I mentioned that we in RUAEA would endeavor to work with the company on behalf of the retirees. I was recently asked by United if a column/page in “FlyingTogether” would be a benefit to retirees. Of course my response was “yes”. This was also the response of the other retiree organizations representing United and Continental retirees. Remember, we also accept into our organizations those who worked in departments that were sold off or dissolved. This includes the credit union, COVIA, and APPOLO, for example. Therefore, let’s consider us all as Alumni of United, Continental or any part of each company you may have worked in the past or retired from.

This column in “FlyingTogether” will be aimed at retirees to help lower frustration levels that occur while trying to navigate through the many rules and regulations. It will be a so called one stop shop for retirees. Many retirees who have lost contact with people they had worked with, will now have a reference to all the retiree organizations available for them to contact and join. Of course, I would like to have many more join RUAEA.

There will be no attempts to duplicate what each retiree organizations have on their respective websites. The project will not occur overnight. It will be a slow development, using input from the retiree organizations and development by the company. I think it is a wonderful step forward by recognizing there is a need to help retirees by the company. The number of items that could be published are numerous such as, alerts of changes, direct links to our organizations, grass roots efforts, along with many other items of interest to all retirees.

Again, I know many of you do not have computer access or are not computer savvy, however this should help as it is the future. Once this is in place, please feel free to let us know of any comments you may have.

The column/page will be a Retiree/Alumni Dedicated Flying Together Page.

Hank Gosselin
President – RUAEA

Retiree? Unable to Use Computer to Book Space Available Travel?

United has confirmed to RUAEA’s Corporate Liaison, **Ed Tolle** that United will waive the booking service fee for retirees who are not able to use a computer to book space available travel. You can now call the ePass Line 1-866-359-3727 and book without the \$25.00 fee. You must state your inability to use a computer and ask for the fee to be waived.

Pass Travel Survey

United is planning another pass travel survey for both employees and retirees. We think it will again be online only. At this time, we do not know when it will start or end. An alert will be posted on the RUAEA website as soon as we know. Please check the website frequently and share the information as soon as you know it. Yes, we know many of us felt our concerns were not addressed in the last survey and it was a waste of our time. That was last time. Please be optimistic and spend the time to take the survey.

Internet Explorer 11 Problems

If you are using Internet Explorer 11 and have issues accessing United applications like employeeRES or My Info/All About Me, see the ALERT message on the Flying Together home page. If you continue to have trouble using Internet Explorer 11, call the IT service desk for help: 1-800-255-5801.

Pass Travel Report for retirees not working?

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

Due to security restrictions with various browsers, the “Pass Travel Report” in My Info/All About Me requires the use of Internet Explorer 9.0 or below. Browsers such as Google Chrome, Firefox, or Safari are not compatible with this report. Users with IE 11 should follow the instructions in the ALERT message on Flying Together. Users with IE 9.0 or below who are receiving errors related to JavaScript or Cookies, see instructions at the end of this article.

Everyone else can obtain a Pass Travel Report via email by following these steps:

1. Go to employeeRES>Quick Links> Feedback
2. The feedback form will already have your Employee ID and email address populated.
3. For the Subject field, choose “Question”.
4. In the comments box state you want a copy of your 2013 Pass Travel Report.
5. Click on the “Submit feedback” button.
6. Allow several days to receive your report, at this time of year they are quite busy.
7. OR...find a friend who has IE9 or below on their computer and generate the report online.

Notes about your Pass Travel Report:

1. The PDF is laid out by pay period, scroll down to go thru the year.
2. The “Pass Tax Value” is listed on the left side under each ticket coupon number.
3. Retirees can ignore the “Payroll Deduct” amounts on the far right side. They apply to active employees only.
4. The report does not calculate the total pass tax values for all trips, but if you add the values for trips flown between 11/1/2012 and 10/31/2013 it should equal the amount on the 1099 form United will send you in early 2014.
5. If the total of all “pass tax values” flown between 11/1/2012 and 10/31/2013 is less than \$600, you will not receive a 1099 from United and do not need to declare the pass tax value on your IRS forms.

What is the Pass Travel Report? A record of all pass travel by you and your pass riders for the year. For 2013, that will include pass travel flown from 11/1/2012 thru 10/31/2013.

Why do you want it? The report shows the “pass tax value” for each segment your “taxable pass riders” flew during the 2013 period. Retirees should check their Pass Travel Report for accuracy. If your “taxable pass riders” accrue over \$600 of “pass tax value”, then United must send you a 1099 form to be declared on your 2013 IRS tax return. Last year United mailed Pass Travel Reports to retirees who received a 1099, but for 2013 they will only mail the 1099s (early in 2014), retirees must access their own Pass Travel Report online.

What if your report is wrong? If you find a discrepancy, email epc@united.com and put “2013 1099” in the subject line and include the following in the body of the email: retiree name, retiree ID number, ticket details (coupon #, date of travel, passenger name) and any questions.

How do you obtain the report online? Go to My Info/All About Me (in the left column of the Employee Services page on Flying Together) and click on “Pass Travel Report” under the “Travel” heading. Fill out the form with a start date of 11/1/2012 and an end date of 12/31/2013 (some travel ending on October 31, 2013 may not be posted until December). If your report doesn’t generate, fill out the feedback form on employeeRES>QuickLinks>Feedback as described above.

Who are a retiree’s “taxable pass riders”? Travel by your domestic partner, enrolled friends, non-dependent children 18-26 years old and same gender parents is taxable. Travel by other eligible pass riders, including the retiree and spouse, is NOT taxable.

Who pays the IRS? You do (the retiree/employee, not your pass riders).

How is “pass tax value” calculated? It is 10% of the economy class fare, minus any service charges paid**. Since United’s economy fares change daily, the “pass tax value” will vary by date flown.

How much tax will you have to pay? It depends on your tax bracket, tax rates, and how the income is declared on your tax return.

** Retirees with less than 25 years of service, and their pass riders, pay service charges for travel in premium cabins at the time of listing. To determine the “pass tax value” of each segment flown, any service charges that were paid are deducted from 10% of the fare. Note that pre-paid departure taxes/fees are not deducted to compute the “pass tax value”. Retirees with 25 or more years of service, and their eligible pass riders, do not pay any service charges.

If you are currently using Internet Explorer 9.0 or below and are receiving errors related to Java Script and/or Cookies please follow the below instructions:

To enable cookies:

1. Click the Tools icon in the browser toolbar
2. Choose Internet Options
3. Click the Privacy tab
4. Go to Select a setting for the Internet zone area
5. Slide the settings button down to Accepts All Cookies or Low
6. Click Apply, and then OK

For more information on Internet Explorer, please [see Microsoft's Help Center on enabling cookies](#).

To enable java script:

1. Click the Tools icon in the browser toolbar
2. Choose Internet Options, and then click the Advanced tab
3. Scroll down the list until you see the Java category
4. Make sure there is a check mark in the box beside the only setting option under "Java"
5. Click OK to save your preference and Re-start your computer

In the event that you are still experiencing problems with processing, downloading or printing your pass travel report while using Internet Explorer, please contact the United Airline Help Desk at 1-847-700-5800 or 1-800-255-5801 for further assistance.

Here's what you can expect in 2014



MileagePlus program changes: Starting in January 2014, US members must meet a minimum annual spending level to qualify for Premier status.

Unaccompanied minor changes: United no longer accepts unaccompanied minors aged 5 to 11 on itineraries that involve connections for all tickets booked on or after December 5.

Award seat redemption: United adjusted miles required for first- and business-class awards on United and its partner carriers. Most economy-class tickets will remain at their current levels, though some - like a flight to Hawaii - will rise slightly. United has invested hundreds of millions of dollars to improve its business- and first-class cabins in the past five years and have flat-bed seats on nearly every long-haul international flight. The company also considerably improves its in-flight entertainment. The value that customers assign to United's international premium cabin product is significantly higher today than it was in 2008, the last time that United had an increase in award mileage levels. Customers who book award seats on United rather than on partner airlines will see smaller increases in the number of miles required to book a ticket.

Taxes: The U.S. budget bill signed by the president raises the 9/11 fee from \$2.50 per segment to \$5.60 per one-way journey, resulting in more than \$3 billion in additional taxation on the industry over the next decade. Read [Jeff's Journal](#) from December 11 to learn more.

TSA pre-check: The TSA will continue to increase the number of airport with TSA Pre✓™ expedited security lane. TSA ultimately plans to operate more than 300 application centers across the country. In late December, TSA extended TSA Pre✓™ screening benefits to all US Armed Forces service members, including those serving in the US Coast Guard, Reserves and National Guard.

Ask the Pharmacist: Rx Tips for Snowbirds



As many [snowbirds](#) prepare to head to sunnier climates, our home delivery pharmacies, pharmacists, Web resources and network of retail pharmacies make it easy for these members to seamlessly manage their medications regardless of their location.

Considering that more than [15% of seniors use at least 10 medications](#) at the same time, our services are more than just convenient — they help keep members adherent to their therapy and protect them from potential adverse events that can arise if patients visit physicians who are not always involved in their care.

If you plan on escaping the cold winter months in a sunny location, here are some tips to help protect you during your trip and manage your medication on the go:

- ✓ **Document Your Dose:** Keep an accurate list of medications in a central location or even in your wallet at all times. This includes prescriptions, over-the-counter (OTC) drugs and any vitamins or supplements. Make sure to note dosages, frequency and each drug's purpose. Share this list with all doctors. If you

have a smartphone and are an Express Scripts member, the “My Medicine Cabinet” feature on our mobile app and newly redesigned member portal make it easy to share that list.

- ✓ **Use Home Delivery:** Home delivery eliminates the need to transfer maintenance medications to a different pharmacy and helps prevent the loss of important prescription information between pharmacies. It’s easy to change your address and have your medication mailed to a winter home.
- ✓ **Stay on track:** Prepare extra reminders on your smartphone so you can stay on track when traveling. If you miss a dose while traveling, check the prescribing information (sent with the medication, but also available on the Express Scripts website and mobile app) for instructions on how to make up for that dose. If you are unsure about what to do or are experiencing any side effects, call your doctor or pharmacist immediately. If your travels will take you to a different time zone, a pharmacist can tell you about any changes you need to make to your dosing regimen before you leave.
- ✓ **Use original containers:** Carry your medications in their original containers with original labels to prevent anyone from mistaking them for other substances. If you are flying, keep your medications in a carry-on bag. Also, keep a copy of the prescriptions with you for emergency refills.

At Express Scripts, we make it easy and safe for our members to continue with their prescription therapies in any situation. Remember, pharmacists are available to answer questions our members have about their prescriptions, anytime, anywhere.

Happy holidays and safe travels!

Flight 93 Memorial Chapel by Frank Eggles



Over the years, as of December 31, 2013, you have donated \$32,592.12. The largest donation received in any year was in 2012, in the amount of \$6,638.00. Among the donors, Clipped Wings is in first place, followed by the Philadelphia Independents in second place. Thank you and keep the donations coming. Big plans are projected for 2014. Improvements were made to the chapel in 2013. There are plans to expand the chapel grounds by purchasing additional property.

The chapel for the first time will be open all year. I have made a suggestion to have a donation box built into the chapel entrance. This would allow visitors who arrive after the chapel is closed for the day to make a donation if they wish.

To make a donation to the Chapel, make check payable to United Flt. 93 Memorial Chapel and mail to: Frank J. Eggles, 3405 West Chester Pike, B307 Newtown Square, PA 19073-4252. Thank you and have a great year.

Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter



Francis Domaratius

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

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

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

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LOCAL NEWS



GULF COAST CHAPTER

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Our December meeting was held at the Pensacola Yacht Club in Pensacola, FL on Thursday, December 19, and it was a fun-filled day. 19 members attended and they were: **George & Denny Atteberry, Bill & Ann Delavan, Conrad Hamilton** and his guest, **Gayle Furlow, Bill Hayden, Rick & Carol Herrick, Doug & Edna Horne, Ray & My Owens, Bob & Yvonne Schwartz, Barbara Serra, Ed Southworth, and Steve Wilkey & Annie Kirkpatrick Wilkey**. We all missed **Park & Billie Learned** as **Park** is still recovering from his stroke he suffered the end of October. We are hoping they'll be back soon. It was great to have **Conrad Hamilton's** friend, **Gayle Furlow**, back with us again. The Yacht Club's Christmas decorations were absolutely fabulous and so festive. Our buffet lunch was once again out of this world with Shrimp Newburg w/rice and their Seafood Gumbo as the entrees.

Bob Schwartz, President, called our meeting to order after we had finished our delicious lunch. By the time we finished our huge lunch, we were all ready for a nap but today we were all excited to get the meeting over with so we could proceed with the Dirty Santa game! **Bill Hayden & Barbara Serra** sold raffle tickets to everyone and **Bob** asked **Annie Kirkpatrick Wilkey** to draw the winning ticket as a celebration of her finally being well enough to be with us again. We have missed her so very much. The winner was **George Atteberry**. Congratulations, **George!** **Barbara Serra** donated 7 dolls of various types that were still in their original boxes that dated back several years and they were all beautiful. 7 lucky people had their raffle ticket drawn and got to choose one of the special dolls. Winners were **Gayle Furlow, Conrad Hamilton, Yvonne Schwartz, Ed Southworth, Ann Delavan, Carol Herrick** and **Rick Herrick**. Everyone thanked **Barbara** for her very nice donation.

The financial report and minutes were emailed to everyone and there were no corrections.

A discussion was held as to where we would like to donate the extra money in our treasury this year. It was moved and seconded that we give \$150 to the Manna Food Bank and \$150 to the Toys for Tots and it passed unanimously. **Bob** asked **Conrad** to make the donations for us, and he agreed. Thank you, **Conrad!**

There were no January birthdays in our group but February birthdays will be celebrated by **Doug Horne** (7th), **Ed Southworth** (12th) and **Harold Stofko** (13th). Happy Birthday to all of you!

Annie Kirkpatrick Wiley reminded everyone that they must sign up by the end of December to change their enrolled friends. She said we should receive our new Aetna medical and prescription cards by the end of the year. We are all hoping that the change will go smoothly.

With all our business taken care of, we began our long awaited Dirty Santa game! **Yvonne Schwartz**, secretary, put everyone's name in a box and drew out one name at a time. That person could then either select one of the festive wrapped gifts from the table or they could steal one of the gifts that a previous person had selected. It became very exciting as people had their gifts stolen that they had picked and were so happy with and all of a sudden it was taken from them and they had to then choose another gift. In the end everyone seemed very pleased with the gift they wound up with and we didn't have any fights and everyone was still friends in the end! After the game was completed, **Rick Herrick** wound up with the wine stopper he had made for the Dirty Santa game. **Rick** suggested we auction off the wine stopper for the benefit of our chapter. Words cannot describe the beauty of this handmade wine stopper. After a very spirited auction between **Bob** (the very amateur auctioneer) and **George** (the raffle winner), **George** prevailed with the winning bid.

Our January meeting will return to the normal meeting day of the third Tuesday, which will be January 21, 2014, at 11:30 AM at the Pensacola Yacht Club. If you live in our area (Panama Beach, FL-East to Mississippi border-West), please come join us at our new location.

Calendar:

January 21 - 11:30 AM

February 18

SWEET HOME ALABAMA

Joe E. Jones, Ret. ORDFO

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Clanton, AL 35045

(205) 646-3825

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The Birmingham chapter met at Matthews Manor in Springville for lunch with twelve members, spouses and guest. Attending were **Herb & Carol Wilbanks, Bobby & Jean Cox, Joe & Marie Duncan, Jim & Donna Gooch, Charlotte Gibson** and her mom **JoAnn Benton**, and **Joe & Jane Jones**. We were happy to have Jim & Donna back after her unfortunate fall and fractured wrist. The good news, she is recovering nicely and will have the brace off before Christmas.

We meet every second Monday in the Birmingham area for lunch and would welcome any United retiree to join us. Call **Joe Jones** at (205) 646-3825 or **Bobby Cox** at (205) 833-0655 for information.

ARIZONA



PHOENIX AZURES

Carol Liltz, Correspondent

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I hope we all made it through the holidays okay, maybe travelled a little and glad we're in warm and sunny Arizona. Temperatures have been in the 60's and 70's which is great for walking, barbequing on the patios or just enjoying.

The 24+ Azures attendees at the Arizona Broadway Theatre production of The Sound of Music on December 14 thoroughly enjoyed the music and the meal. This was a wonderful way to start the Christmas season with such an enjoyable classic. Much thanks to Azures member, **Sherry Muoio**, for planning, collecting monies and securing wonderful seats.

The Azures will be meeting at Arrowhead Country Club, 19888 North 73rd Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85308 on February 8 at 1100am for cocktails and 12noon for lunch. An email will be going out to our members to get their choice of two different meals for lunch. We will, also, hold our "white elephant" sale which is always a favorite of the members and keeps our Treasury in the "black". It has been a long time since we lunched at Arrowhead and we're looking forward to more in the future.

Since some of the Azures members prefer a private room when we lunch so that we can conduct a meeting of sorts, we look to our Board to come up with venues that offer that. It is very difficult to secure venues that offer private rooms and still maintain a reasonable price for lunch. If anyone of the Azures has ideas for new lunch/meeting restaurants, banquet halls, or country clubs, please advise the Board so that we can look into them. Joe & Carol have been working on finding different venues and hope that most of our members are satisfied with our choices.

The Azures are also planning a trip to Turf Paradise in February, we will advise members of the date and times closer to the event.

Plans are coming along for the All Arizona Luncheon to be held March 20 at the Holiday Inn in Casa Grande, AZ. The Azures are hosting the event and flyers will go out to the other Arizona chapters advising reservations, menu, and costs. We are planning a "sports" (baseball) theme so get your favorite team hats out!

Birthdays for February are **Vic Liltz** (2/4); **Millie Hofer** (2/11). No anniversaries that I know of. Congratulations to everyone on their birthdays and anniversaries.

Calendar:

Breakfast at Coco's, 98th and Bell Road, Sun City, AZ continue at 0800 on **February 11** and **February 25**. Please contact **Sherry Muoio**, 572-4828 for reservations.

PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S

Liz Tollefsen
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We're having beautiful sunny weather here in Arizona; so if you're new to the area, or just visiting for awhile, or haven't been attending for awhile, why not attend one of our breakfasts or luncheons this month? We welcome guests and anyone who has worked for United or Continental Airlines at any time and at least 55 years old. Give our President, **Shirley Claggett**, a call at (480) 354-7610, or contact her by email at indind75@yahoo.com, or contact our Vice President, **Peg Snowdall** at (480) 396-3317 or by email at phomfeldt@cox.net. They will be glad to give you information where we're meeting and at what time, and even give you directions! We're a friendly group.

Our December breakfast didn't have as many attend; possibly due to the rainy weather, or people were busy getting set for Christmas; but those attending were in the festive mood. Our President, **Shirley Claggett**, reminded everyone election time is coming up and we're looking for anyone who might be interested in running. It really isn't hard. Let the Nominating Committee know of your interest. They are **Bob Irwin** and **Ron Paluch**. You get to know the members better and find out what a great chapter we have! Think about it, OK?

Shirley went over the calendar of events planned for this year, and they all sound like fun! **Peg Snowdall**, our Vice President, told us she got a letter from the chaplain at the Sky Harbor Interfaith Chaplaincy Office advising of three major challenges they are facing. It is due to a decrease in donations and the loss of a contract to provide travelers aid services. The staff chaplain may soon end his service because there is not enough money to meet his salary. The Chaplaincy's Board of Directors is working on several plans to address these challenges. In the meantime, they are asking for donations to help maintain the chaplain. For further information, please access their new website at www.skyharborchapel.org. We had a chaplain speak to us not too long ago at one of our luncheons. He was very interesting and has helped many visitors who needed assistance while at Sky Harbor Airport.

Our January luncheon at Mt. Athos Restaurant in Florence, AZ, hosted by **Natasha Schmidt**, will be reported on next month.

Our February luncheon is coming up real quick, so hopefully, you are planning on attending on Thursday, February 13th at Monti's Steakhouse, at 100 S. Mill in Tempe, AZ. The social hour starts at 11:00 a.m., with lunch being served at noon. You will be able to order off the menu when you get there. The entrees are Prime Steak, Chicken Breast, or Salmon. These include mashed potatoes, seasonal vegetable, along with Garden Salad and Monti's Roman Bread. There is also a Vegetarian pasta dish. The chef's choice dessert and coffee service is included. The cost is \$20 each which includes tax and gratuity. Doesn't that sound good? The **Pedones (Ron & Donna)** are hosting this, so please contact them and tell them you're planning on attending. Their phone number is (480) 821-8074 and their email is octobermoon10@yahoo.com. We hope to see a lot of people there! Ballots for officers will be given out at this luncheon.

Hopefully, you haven't forgotten to pay our annual dues of \$5.00 each. It isn't very much, and you want to be included in the Membership Directory that will be given out at the April Picnic. So, see **Rita Zarek**, our Treasurer, right away!

If you haven't been a member of **RUAEA** recently, be sure and join that too. We need more of our members to join and get involved and keep current on United Airlines and fellow retirees. The newsletter is always very informative on things happening with the company. The dues are only \$25 per year. It's easy to join, just check the website at www.ruaea.org. You can use a credit card to join, which makes it real convenient. Be sure and include your file number when joining. If you wish to mail in your dues or a renewal by check, please send it to **RUAEA Office**, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433.

We have the following birthdays in February: **Bonnie Fauber** (2/4), **John Tiefel** (2/7), **Marilyn Morey** (2/8), **Ted Tollefsen** (2/10), **Gordy Kubiak** (2/11), **Bill Norwood** (2/14), **Ron Pedone** (2/16), **Ann Carroll** (2/22), and **Bud Hubbard** (2/28). Happy Birthday to each one! We have three couples celebrating their

Wedding Anniversaries: **Joel & Marjorie Matteson** (2/2/63) 51 years! **John & Judy McFarland** (2/8/64), 50 years and **Bud & Lynn Hubbard** (2/26/49) 65 years! Congratulations to each couple! That's wonderful.

Calendar:

February 13 – Luncheon at Monti's Steakhouse, 100 S. Mill in Tempe, starting at 11:00 a.m., hosted by **Ron & Donna Pedone**. Contact them at (480) 821-8074 or by email at octobermoon10@yahoo.com.

February 28 – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 East Baseline Rd. in Gilbert starting at 9:15 a.m. Contact **Peg Snowdall** with your reservation by Wednesday, February 25, at (480) 396-3317, or by email at phomfeldt@cox.net.

March 20 – All Arizona Luncheon in Casa Grande, AZ

March 27 – Cubs/White Sox game at the new Cubs Stadium in Mesa, AZ



TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

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At our December luncheon in the Tanque Verde Guest Ranch, we made our bi-yearly change in office holders: Correspondent **Sandy Lawyer** is now President, Past president **John Bennatts** is now Correspondent, Historian **Alice Lopez** assumes responsibility of Vice President, **Pat Dilallo**, thankfully, stayed on as treasurer, but we have lost **Claire Byle** as secretary. Claire served as secretary for 6 years – 3 presidents and more than deserves retirement. That position remains open. Thank you Claire!

Thank you, Rich & Pat for hosting the Christmas luncheon. The January luncheon was scheduled to be hosted by **Clyde & Henny Satterfield** at the Thunder Canyon Brewery in the Foothills Mall.

February luncheon will be hosted by **Claire Byle** at Mimi's Cafe at the Tucson Mall (Oracle and Wetmore), 11:30AM. Order off menu, contact Claire at (520) 744-0959 or email idclaire70@yahoo.com by February 18.

Calendar:

February 20 – Mimi's, hosted by **Claire Byle**

March 20 - All Arizona luncheon, hosted by the Phoenix Azures at the Holiday Inn, Casa Grande

CALIFORNIA

CENTRAL COASTERS

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Our Chapter met on December 18th with 19 in attendance. **John & Barbara Stilwell** were the hosts at the Spyglass Restaurant in Pismo Beach. We were so happy to have **Hal & Donna Klobe** as guests, who brought **Howard Lackey** with them. It was good to see Howard and he looked like he did before his illness, although he is still trying to get back to how he was.

Our members had been so healthy, but now we have some hospitalized. **Eleanor Cunningham** is in the hospital as is **Peter Schaefer**. Both of their illnesses occurred about one week before our meeting. Details are not available at this time. Also **Pat Wagner** was to come, but at the last minute, her husband **Bob Wagner**, said she was unable to attend. Bob did say that they celebrated their anniversary on December 19th. Our President, **Mike Zoldak**, had three "Get Well" cards available for us to sign. Our prayers are with them and hope they get well soon.

On a happy note ~ we had a newlywed couple with us, **Ken Bake** and **Stella** got married in March. They travel a lot in their 5th wheel and we were so lucky that they were able to be with us. They visited Torino, Italy

to visit Stella's family. They were only going to spend two weeks, but spent several weeks more because Ken enjoyed himself so much. Ken knows no Italian, but Stella did teach him to ask for the location of bathrooms.

A long time member, **Kathy Shurtleff**, met with us after a couple of years being absent.

Another guest, and hopefully, a new member was **Patti Launders**. She told us of starting her airline career in LAX Res. then Stewardess Service in EWR, and then went on from there. She had nothing but good feelings about the way she was treated by UAL during the time she was actively employed. I think we all agreed that those were the glory days that we can never enjoy again.

Another member, **Nina Powers**, just returned from another trip that included a visit to Easter Island. She has so many interesting stories about her trips and she now is planning on another trip. This lady lets no grass grow under her feet and we marvel at her endurance.

Mike Zoldak opened our meeting prior to the lunch. He introduced our guests and welcomed them. Mike said that since this is our last meeting for the year, and it is our Christmas gift exchange, he would keep the business part short. Selecting new board members will be done during our February meeting.

Our Treasurer, **Marcia Stanger**, will send our usual contribution to the Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties "Toys 4 Tots" again this year. The Chapter dues for 2014 can now be paid.

Our President, **Mike Zoldak**, presented to **Howard Lackey**, **Marcia Stanger**, and me, **Al Rybar**, gifts for the past years service to our Chapter.

Esther & Bob Bartlett kept busy taking pictures. I know Esther has a talent for sharing these pictures as only she can do.

Mike introduced **Hal Klobe** and his wife **Donna**, who is the correspondent for the ReLAXer's. Hal started off with a couple of jokes before the serious information. The main subject was a pass survey that will be on the Internet soon. Those of us will have the opportunity to voice our opinions. I'm hoping our inputs don't end up in the circular file as it was done last time. Hal also reminded us of the Convention in San Diego. We thanked Hal for taking over the Director's job for the So. Calif. Region. He has quite a territory to cover and we were very happy that he was able to meet with us.

I found out that Hal is an Ex-Capital employee and we reminisced a little. I had pictures of Capital's fleet including a picture of the Viscount flying over Washington D.C. We both agreed what a great plane it was, but due to limited passenger seats, and restricted cargo loads, this plane's operating costs was too much to make a profit. I was very fortunate to fly several times in this plane.

During the Holidays, I had a friend fly from JFK to SFO on another airline. He said the flight was full and it took him an hour to drive 15 miles from Brooklyn to JFK. There was a heavy rain storm that made driving a mess, but the flight left on time. He said a friend was to fly with him, but after going through security and being delayed by traffic, she started to check in one hour and a half before flight time. The agent told her she was late and her seat was given to someone else. The next three flights were full, but six hours later she was able to board a flight. That was the joys of flying during the holiday season.

Our next meeting will be in February hosted by **Bob & Esther Bartlett**.



DESERT SUNBIRDS

Palm Springs Area

Chuck Lamas

P.O. Box 149

Palm Desert, CA 92261

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cjlamas@msn.com

The Desert Sunbirds' Christmas Luncheon was held at the Indian Palms Country Club in Indio. For the first time since the very first "Meeting" in 1989, it was not at the Monterey Country Club, hosted by **Elaine Aggson**.

On a beautiful 80 degree day, fifty members and guests enjoyed a traditional Holiday meal - Roast Turkey with all the trimmings. **Patti Sica** was our Hostess, with some excellent help from **Carole Paquin**, **Betty Rodgers**, and **Elaine Aggson**. I'm sure there were others, whose names I did not get, so a big "Thank You" to the others who helped from the rest of us who only came to enjoy the festivities.

Well, that's not entirely true. Everyone contributed toys for the kids at the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission, probably 3 or 4 carloads. The Mission picked up the toys after our Luncheon, but they may have needed a small bus.

Guests this month: **Dick (LAXCS) & Lois Hopkins** were the guests of **Scoobie Wolfe** and **Gwen Craven**. Dick & Lois were last seen at our April Luncheon. **Renate Haig** was the guest of the **Brunkens**, and **Carole Paquin** brought a friend, **Betty Leaskow (SFOCS)**. And I brought Marji, soon to be a member.

We were delighted to see some members we haven't seen for a while - **Gay Traber, Alan & Gail Wayne, Louie Horvath, and Edna Fanucchi**.

The **Penningtons** missed the Christmas Luncheon for the first time in 20 years. Al's health is not good, so we'll keep them in our prayers. **Dede Utzinger** was serving on Jury Duty; **Barbara Rowe** had a fall and broke her kneecap; she will be in a full leg cast until February. **Mary Butler** rides with Barbara, so she also missed. And the **Lergs** were on a Panama Canal Cruise.

Maureen Williams picked up \$50.00 and **Brigitte Brunken** \$17.00 in the 50/50 drawing. The Birthday Lunch was won by **Glen Voirol**. Finally, our Hostess, Patti, somehow came up with gifts (wrapped) for everyone to be included in the raffle. Patti declined to mention names (only saying she had help from "everyone"). We'll go with that.

One more thing, congratulations to **Al & Jenny Pennington**, who celebrated their 64th Anniversary on January 1st!

Calendar:

February 13 - Brad Zittel and Company

March 13 - Dave & Kathy Wilson



GOLD DIGGERS

Sacramento, CA

Colleen Esola, Secretary

12801 Fair Oaks Blvd. #446

Citrus Heights, CA 95610

(916) 735-5497

colleenesola@comcast.net

The Sacramento Gold Diggers met on December 11 at the Alta Sierra Country Club in Grass Valley for our Christmas luncheon. This was hosted by **Rose & Hank Wikstad** and **Dale & Dorothy Volker**. We had 59 Gold Diggers attending and 7 guests. **Cathleen Tallman** and daughter **Laurie Hukill**, guests of **Carolyn & Orville Harshbarger**; **Carla & Jim Moss**, guests of **Jean & Forester Sinclair**; **Barbara Curran**, guest of **Syd & Sherrill Morgan**; **Peggy Brockwehl** and **Lois Bower**, guests of **Hank & Rose Wikstad**. Our Chapter President welcomed those attending. The members thanked the **Wikstads** and **Volkers** for hosting.

Officers' Reports:

President ~ **Hank Wikstad** told us that **Al Kaiser** had passed away. He was our first President of Gold Diggers in 1981. Our Chapter sent a donation to St. Lukes at the family's request.

Vice President ~ **Orville Harshbarger** gave us a luncheon update for next year. February and April are covered. We need March and May through October for hosts.

Secretary ~ **Colleen Esola** read the only anniversary for December which was **Sanford & Frances Pinkiert** – 66 years.

Treasurer ~ **Judie King** gave our Chapter's balance.

Sunshine ~ **Alice McPeak** said she sent a sympathy card to **Al Kaiser**'s daughter; **Rolf Kramer** had surgery on December 6th. His hip replacement from last April had to be redone as it became loose; **Irv Wolfram** had knee surgery; **Marta Fornell** had been very ill; **Bob Eggert** is now in a permanent care facility. His address is 109 Arundel Court, Roseville, CA 95747.

Historian ~ **Stephanie Norton** has our photo books with her today. She has her camera to take pictures of our new officers.

Roster Chairman ~ **Jack Raynor** has nothing to report.

Past President of RUAEA ~ **Ron Bertacini** said that United is doing a pass travel survey. It should be on the website on Flying Together. He concluded with "Merry Christmas everybody".

Installation of Officers for 2014: President~ **Orville Harshbarger**, Sunshine ~ **Alice McPeak**, Vice President ~ **Phil Frank**, Historian ~ **Stephanie Norton**, Secretary ~ **Colleen Esola**, Roster Keeper ~ **Jack Raynor**, Treasurer ~ **Judie King**.

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

HANGTOWN MINERS

Jane Gibson

tired-dogs@comcast.net



What a lovely way to finish 2013 for the Hangtown Miners! A busy year that took us to so many great restaurants - Old Spaghetti Factory, The Snooty Frog, Red Hawk Casino, The Golden Dragon, three different places for Mexican; Los Pinos, Casa Ramos, Cascada, the charming setting for Hot August Nights at Boeger Winery, our annual treat at the Akins' Ranch and then topping it all off with the delicious foods made by our wonderful members/cooks - the December luncheon at the Veterans Memorial Building in Placerville. A huge THANK YOU goes to **Thom Biro** for arranging the luncheon. He would be mad at me if I didn't include his (and our) acknowledgement of the extra efforts put in by **Tom & Suzanne Kenny** and **Bill & Jane Gibson**. Of course, all of you make this group of UAL retirees special.

Our esteemed president, **Rudy Blazius** did not hold a "formal" meeting, but, he did have a couple of items to cover:

- A gentle reminder that our annual dues of \$10.00 (such a deal!) is due in January.
- He welcomed long time members, **Gary & Mikki Dalleske**. They had not been able to attend our luncheon for some time and it was really good to see them. Gary brought information for those who know **Frank & Joyce Sulgit**. Joyce has been having health problems. If you would like to send a note, their address is: **Frank & Joyce Sulgit**, 1560 Los Montes Drive, Burlingame, CA 94010.

Our schedule for hosting the luncheons for 2014 was passed around and we have a host for each month. Thank you for signing up.

Bill Dinette scheduled his birthday on the 9th – Happy Birthday to you, Bill! And a cruise thru our roster revealed that we have two couples celebrating 50 years of marriage this month! Congratulations to **J.R. & Rosemary Heier** and **Herbert & Kathy Provost**!

I received a nice letter from the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association. They thanked us for our generous donation of Gift Cards, Toys and Food. With our help, they were able to provide gifts for 7 families with a total of 11 children in the community and provided each family with a large box of food and a turkey for Christmas Dinner. Thanks to **Lynda Lima** for handling our donations and getting them delivered.

We will start 2014 with lunch at the Cork and Fork in Cool.



REDWOOD EMPIRE RETIREEES

Santa Rosa, California

Valerie Hulsey, Secretary

412 Oak Point Court

Santa Rosa, CA 95409

valerie.hulsey@yahoo.com

We had a wonderful turnout of 52 members and 12 guests at our annual Christmas Luncheon at the Quail Inn in Oakmont on December 12. President George welcomed everyone and thanked the officers for hosting.

VP Brandon introduced our guests: **Pamela Olson**, guest of **Edie Olson**; **Marlene von Borssten**, guest of **Naomi Tolf**; **Alice Eastus**, guest of **Ted Bell**; **Ed & Margaret Nelson** and **Clem Shanahan**, guests of **Barney Hagen**; **Nina Matlock**, guest of **Charlie Anderson**; **Gerry Fichtner**, guest of **Lee & Pat Berry**; **Jan Baty**, guest of **Helen Furber**; **Jack Donahue**, guest of **Joan Olsson**; **Carrol Turek**, guest of **Doug Sanders** and **Bob Schwind**, son of **George & Lois Schwind**.

Jan Blackburn gave the treasurer's report as of 11/14/13. The current balance is \$428.87 and on that date, the charity fund had \$708.21. \$650 was donated so the remaining balance in the charity fund was \$58.21. If you have not paid your dues yet, please send them to **Oscar Chambers**.

Our RUAEA Western Region Director **Roger Casterline** announced that next year's convention in San Diego will be extended to seven days. He also announced that a Travel Survey will be coming out soon and he urged everyone to take the time to answer the questions. He is hopeful it will not be as biased as the last one.

George announced the full slate of officers for next year: **Brandon Maus** ~ *President*, **Larry Wilson** ~ *Vice President*, **Mary Wilson** ~ *Secretary* and **Oscar Chambers** ~ *Treasurer*. **Verda Burr** will continue as our Sunshine Lady and **Barney Hagen** will still be our Photographer/Historian.

Sunshine Lady Verda announced the December birthdays and the birthdays that were missed in October and November. **Mary Wilson** was the lucky winner of the free lunch. Verda also read a nice letter from the Southons (who moved earlier this year) but they are going to continue their membership in our RUAEA chapter.

Joanne Hune reported contributions were made to all of the charities listed on the survey she put out last month. The recipients were: Redwood Empire Food Bank - \$200, The Children's Village of Sonoma County - \$200, Rebuilding Together of Santa Rosa - \$125 and the Living Room - \$125. A total of \$650 was distributed and the remaining funds were put towards next year's fund.

Brandon thanked President George for a wonderful year as President and presented him with a gift of wine glasses.

As always, the raffle was fun and lots of wine, candy and beautiful poinsettia centerpieces were given away. January's luncheon will be hosted by **Barney & Clare Hagen** on January 9 at La Gare, always a favorite so let's keep our attendance up.

Re-LAX-ers

Los Angeles
Donna Klobe
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Los Angeles, CA 90066
(310) 306-7415
haldonna@verizon.net



Wow! Some wonderful news to start the New Year! We have our favorite restaurant, The Proud Bird, back in operation for at least another year. All the problems have not been solved as yet. Our VP, **Howard Lackey**, jumped on the job and began negotiations to complete the contract for February and we'll discuss the situation at that meeting.

We had a huge Christmas luncheon and welcomed a group of 73, including new members **John Ferguson** and **Ursula Bloor**. **Ray Ginocchio** and wife, **Rachel** attended. Ray is Pres of the local IAM retirees and addressed us with some words of wisdom and some funny stories as well. Our own President **Hal Klobe** had to be hospitalized the same week as the Christmas luncheon. His Dr. had discovered a heavily blocked artery that surrounded his heart and hastily implanted a stent! Good move, Hal looked great and is progressing very well.

Mardele Celestin, a ReLAXer who resides in Florida, called to advise she had enjoyed an early Christmas on a river cruise from Basel to Amsterdam. She plans on assisting at the 2014 RUAEA Convention in San Diego. A friendly "catch-up" call to **Phyllis Easily** was well-received and Phyllis is planning on attending the convention to see the many changes that attract visitors to the San Diego area. Our group is looking forward to having a convention close to home.

Our emails of late are sending sad news. A niece of **Shirley Crisciones**' sent word that Shirley had fallen and received 8 stitches in her head; she is in perfect care at the care center and doing well.

Jeannie Alarcon's daughter sent shocking news of her sudden death. A Celebration of Life was held on January 4th at the Fullerton Elk Lodge from 1 to 4pm.

Our very dear friend, **Twila Congleton**'s daughter has passed away and was laid to rest on January 3 at the Messiah Lutheran Church at 11:00AM. Our love and prayers are with these families during such heart-breaking times.

Our last call was from **John Daley**, who advised he's in a rehab in Poway, CA where he's been given assistance to walk better. His son is close-by in San Diego. We wish John the best in his recovery and hope to see him very soon.

Calendar:

February 7 - The Proud Bird - discussions will be about the day of the week and service offered for future luncheons. Please come and share your opinions!



RESANS

San Diego
Barbara Drews
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La Mesa, CA. 91942
sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com

I missed the January Newsletter deadline so I will play a little catch up. **Phil Maita** joined us for our December breakfast. He was visiting from Des Plaines, IL. He worked in SANCS from 1990-1991. **Ralph & Mary Hernandez** brought their daughter who was visiting from New York City. **Arlene Roberts** celebrated her 90th birthday with us and we presented her with cards and a cupcake with one candle.

We had a good New Year breakfast and eighteen turned out to get the year off to a good start. We had a new retiree, **Tammy Tucker**, who joined us and also won the 50/50 lotto. We hope to see her at future breakfasts. She now has an incentive. It's called beginner's luck! **Bob & Helen Grissom** will celebrate 63 years of marriage on the 26th and Helen's birthday on the 27th.

Don Voegelé is home recuperating from prostate surgery, he is feeling well but it will be awhile before he is able to join us. We will continue to keep him in our thoughts.

We were very sorry to hear about **Debbie Taylor's** father passing away and then Debbie had a heart attack shortly after. We are extending our sympathy and our wishes for her to have a speedy recovery.

Betty Tomaino is in Anchorage with her niece and twin babies. It was just me this month so I hope I haven't missed anything. Hopefully, we will all be back for breakfast on the 6th of February. Until then ...

Calendar:

February 6 - Our monthly breakfast at the Pt. Loma Café, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA. 92106 - 2394. Phone (619) 226 0255



GOLDEN GATERS

SFO – Bay Area
Patricia Niland
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Patricia39@RocketMail.com

We did not have a general meeting in December. Our Officers Transition Luncheon was held on December 18, 2013. It was very festive and the fare was delicious and ample.

Congratulations to the new elected officers ~ President - **Jerome Underhill**, 1st Vice President – **Bob Taiclet**, 2nd Vice President - **Kathy Hutt**, Recording Secretary - **Donna Taiclet**, Corresponding Secretary - **Patricia Niland**, Treasurer - **Arthur Barrett**, Membership Secretary - **Barbara Underhill**, Auditors – **Dorothy Reuszer**, **Ben Vietz**, and **Judy Curran**.

Calendar:

January 27 - Next Meeting, Monday, 11am -2pm

If any of you are visiting the SFO area and are here during our monthly meetings, please join us – we'd love to see you. We meet on the fourth Monday of the month at the William Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd. (Shell Blvd and East Hillsdale Blvd.), Foster City, CA 94404. Mail should be sent to: UAL-SFO Bay Area Retirees, P.O. Box 4788, Foster City, CA 94404.

Exception: March meeting will be held on the 5th Monday – March 31, 2014

SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

San Jose, CA
Merle Sweet
486 Barto Street
Santa Clara, CA 95051
sweetmerle@comcast.net



Happy Valentine's Day from our South Bay RUAEA Chapter. We are off to a good start this year with a weekly average attendance of 38 people having breakfast and socializing. For example, we recently wished **Claire Eber** a Very Happy 91st Birthday. At one of our meetings, **Larry Jorgensen** treated our whole group to coffee. Thank you, Larry.

Each meeting **Dave Walb**, our President, provides us with information regarding "This Day in History", and keeps us advised of recent Industry News. There are usually "spirited" discussions regarding some of these issues.

Maureen Snyder, our Sunshine Chairman, has sent cards to **Vi Mattscheck**, **Geneva Schaller**, and **David Diaz** since they have been having some health challenges. We hope to see them back at our meetings in this New Year. Unfortunately, we lost one of our members, **Dan Thomas**, in December. We send our condolences to Dan's family.

Vern Snyder, our Photographer, has been updating our Roster Picture Album.

Bill Copley is our unofficial "Joke Teller". He leaves us with a smile at the end of each of our meetings.

The Ladies' Quarterly Luncheon will be Wednesday, February 5th at the Saratoga home of **Nancy Walb**. There will be more information in the March newsletter since the event has not occurred as of this newsletter deadline.

On-going event: **Harry Willever** collects various items, such as toiletries, magazines, and paperback books to be donated to the Veterans' Hospital in Palo Alto. If you have any of these items bring them to our weekly meetings.

We meet weekly, every Friday, at 8 am for breakfast and a short meeting at Holder's Country Inn on DeAnza Blvd. in San Jose/Cupertino, across from the Home Depot. We were pleased when **Claire Byle** from the Tucson Roadrunner Chapter joined us for one of our meetings in December. We welcome any United Retirees to join us whenever in the area.

Calendar:

June 17 - Annual Picnic at Vasona Park in Los Gatos

September 28 - October 4th - RUAEA 2014 Convention in San Diego

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

EAST BAY DIABLOS

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



Our Christmas party was held again this year in the banquet room of the Back Forty Restaurant in Pleasant Hill. This is our special meeting each year and we were pleased to have 40 attendees. This included two US Marines resplendent in their Dress Blue uniforms. They assisted in the delivery of our many gifts as part of the Toys for Tots program. We are proud to have made large donations to their wonderful program every Christmas for a number of years. Our thanks to Carol for the delicious candy canes!

We seldom have a birthday to celebrate on the same date as a meeting, but this year, long time member **Bill Boyle** was successful in doing so.

In January, we will return to the Sizzler Restaurant, 1353 Willow Pass Road, Concord. At that time our Treasurer, **Rich Bouska**, will have a 2013 year end financial report for us and consideration will be given to making donations in 2014 to local charities.

As always, we would welcome any United or Continental retirees in the East Bay to contact us and join us for lunch the second Monday of every month with the exception of July.

Calendar:

January 13

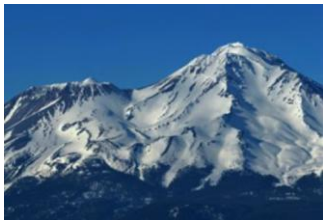
February 10

March 10

April 14

May 12

June 9 - Picnic



CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS

Chico, California

Sharon Simonton, Secretary

P.O. Box 2257

Paradise, CA 95967

(530) 872-7992

sbsimonton@comcast.net

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday! Our November meeting was delayed until December so that we could have a special time with our fellow retirees during the holiday season. What a great time we had with food, conversation and a wonderful speaker.

Merritt Odor, our President, greeted everyone and welcomed visitor **Bill Brook** who retired from SFOEG. Our guest speaker was **Linda Dye** from the Chico Police Department. Merritt thanked **Sharon Simonton** for arranging the room at the Pour House in Chico. We had 27 retirees and spouses for our holiday event.

Merritt asked if there were any birthdays or anniversaries. **Phyllis Burdick** had a birthday as well as **Mike Johnson**. **Kay & Vincent Neidlinger** celebrated 45 years of marriage and **Ray & Jean Herrick** celebrated 50 years of marriage.

Merritt advised us that we will collect the \$10.00 membership dues in January 2014. Merritt brought us up to date about the American Airlines/US Airways merger. U.S. Airways President will become the president of both airlines called American airlines.

Carl Franke introduced our speaker for the day, Lt. Linda Dye from the Chico Police Department. **Carl Franke** has been in the VIPS program for the Chico Police Department for 11 years. Linda Dye spoke of her years with the Police Department. Linda will be retiring in the middle of December after 26½ years of service. She spoke of her background and what brought her to Chico. Lots of great questions came from the floor and Merritt thanked Carl and Linda for presenting some great information.

We ended our day with a great gift exchange game made up by **Klaren Odor**.

Our profile this month is **Mike Johnson** ~ Mike joined United Airlines on March 26th, 1984. Prior to that, he had worked at TWA for just short of 17 years. He and many of his co-workers at TWA were furloughed during November of 1983 due to reorganization effort by the new owner to make the airline profitable. Who knew that the airline would be consumed by American Airlines a few years later.

Mike was not certain working at another airline was in his best interest. After being furloughed from TWA, he was working as a quality inspector at a small company who repaired military jet engines as well as spending several hours a day working as a flight instructor. Mike taught others to fly general aviation aircraft, from small engine to large multi-engine aircraft. Most of his students were striving to fly for a major airline. Some of them did make it to the left seat after many years of hard work.

One of his students had applied at United and felt Mike had a good chance to get hired. Mike thought there was a better career choice to support his wife and two children but then decided to apply and was hired.

Mike felt he spent a 25 years plus working at a great company with a great group of fellow employees. He began working as a general skills mechanic in the infamous "Bat Cave", B-29 Maintenance checks. He loved working there and felt they were all on the same team.

Within a few weeks he was asked to work as a temporary Supervisor in B-29. He worked several other areas which broadened his experience and continued to work in Line Maintenance Control or SAMC.

United then grew with the purchase of routes from PAN AM. United also purchased several Lockheed L-1011 Aircraft. Not many had exposure to that fleet with the exception of a hand full of ex PAN AM and TWA new hires. Mike had the experience and joined the Pacific Expansion team and went off to Manila. He spent the next six months supporting the local ex PAN AM team.

Upon returning to San Francisco, he went to work in Line Maintenance SFOMM working several management positions over the next few years. Then an opportunity came at SFOOV to work as operating manager and then a Manager before another re-organization came about. He then returned to SFOMM and worked as the Business Coordinator overseeing the business aspect of the organization.

1997 brought on a move to Hong Kong where he lived and worked for the next two and one half years as the Area Manager responsible for Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong. During this assignment United moved to the new CLK airport in Hong Kong.

Returning to SFO, Mike was then responsible for the Pacific Operation for line Maintenance. He spent the next few years traveling from Auckland and that part of the world to New Delhi and in between. His team moved into a new terminal in PEK and new airport in PVG and introduced the B-777 to several new stations for that fleet in the Pacific. Mike says he wore out three suitcases and was confused when he woke up more than once in a hotel not certain which city he went to sleep in but enjoyed himself and met many new friends.

Mike then accepted a position in the engine shop to manage the PW 2000 and F-117 engine repair and overhaul including the operation in Charleston, South Carolina. Then he was asked to move over to manage the PW 4000 group. In the fall of 2008 he assumed the responsibility of overseeing the heavy maintenance United outsourced to vendors for the B-777, 747, 757 and airbus fleets. This took him back to traveling to China, South Korea and North Carolina as well as Florida.

June 1st 2009, Mike retired after achieving his goal of working for United for 25 years. After 42 years in the industry, he felt it was time to move on and look for fun things to get involved with. He is now living in Paradise, California with his lovely wife and trying to do some local traveling.

Merritt Odor won the 50/50 raffle and **Richard Skelly** won the lunch certificate.

The next meeting will be Thursday Jan 23rd in Redding at the Holiday Inn. **Richard Skelly** has volunteered to set up the luncheon/meeting.

Calendar:

January 23 - 11:30 A.M. in Redding at the Holiday Inn. Come join us!

COLORADO

DENVER MILE HIGHERS

Sharon Burbank
(303) 955 8345
Rae1087@comcast.net



We had our breakfast meeting on January 4th at the Denver Flight Training Center. We had 13 fearless members who made the drive in snow and wind. **Tom Goodyear**, president, advised that the corporate travel survey is still in the works. The new insurance options that were available seem to have gone smoothly. The company or providers should have sent individual membership cards.

Bill Brehmer fell and broke his hip. He can be reached at (720) 985-3541. **Harry Hedghes**, DENMM & IAM Asst. General Chairman, passed away. **Carole Gentner**, DENTK, and committee chairwoman of 2004 Denver RUAEA convention, passed away.

Don Burbank said that he will be working with EAA, traveling as a B-17 mechanic during the summer. With several mechanics in attendance, a lively subject about radial engine history ensued. **Marv Berryman** brought up his historic interest. We then were able to tour the historical foundation's displays at the training center. **Marv** has been instrumental in the displays. The historical meeting asked for a minutes taker for their meeting, **Virgil Gooselaw** volunteered.

With holidays behind us, **Walt Hansen** and family will be traveling to Quartzsite & Yuma AZ (meeting with other UA retirees). **Matt & Bonnie Ohr** will be traveling to Hawaii for golf and warm weather.

Our 50/50 drawings were won by **Ray Shoults**, **Paul Miller**, and **Matt Ohr**. All donated their winnings back to the chapter.

Calendar:

Our next RUAEA breakfast meeting will be at the United Flight Training Center, on February 1st at 8:00. The entrance is located on 35th Ave, just East of Quebec. Don't forget the aluminum.

FLORIDA



SAND"DABS"

Daytona Beach, FL
Gloria Marcantoni
644 Donald Ross Way
St. Augustine, FL 32092
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ddmgm@sbcglobal.net

This is my first time writing the minutes so I'd like to begin by thanking **Bobbie Rieck** for her hard work over the past 13 years. She has officially "retired" from the secretary position but not from our group. We will miss her skillful writing but certainly not her presence at our meetings. Thank you Bobbie for everything you've done! I agreed to accept the position but since my drive from St. Augustine to Daytona is 75 miles, I warned the group that if it's snowing, I won't be able to make the trip. They were all pretty confident that won't be a problem.

President **Dick Coughlin** opened our December Christmas celebration luncheon with our flag salute and a prayer. We had 15 people attending including one guest, **Dennis Marcantoni** (my husband of 42 years). We honored our only birthday celebrant, **Honey Lou Funkhouser** but had no anniversaries (wedding or company) for December.

Dick Coughlin provided the entertainment with several great jokes as well as some interesting Christmas facts. **Steve Moddle** won the 50/50 drawing and we also raffled off 3 beautiful poinsettia plants. The winners of those were: **Steve Moddle**, **Penny Logan**, and **Juanita Ritt**. Congratulations to all! We gave a \$150 donation to the Make-a-Wish Foundation last month and today we collected a generous amount of non-perishable food items that will be given to the Domestic Abuse Council of Volusia County.

We discussed some industry business including UAL's order of some 777X's, the mechanics picketing due to pension concerns, the government adding a \$3 billion dollar tax onto aviation and a large fine levied on UAL due to tarmac delays at ORD. Discussions about enrolled friend problems were also a concern. **Dick Coughlin** told us a story about another benefit of the exploding world of technology. He and **Frieda** were at ORD waiting for a flight to LAX when an Asian lady with an iPad held up the pad to Frieda. On the top was writing in her language, but on the bottom of the screen the translation said "*I don't speak English. When do I board?*" Frieda motioned "now" to the lady. What a wonderful tool to have when traveling! Someone mentioned that the smart phones have a similar app which will even say the translation out loud. How times have changed!

Calendar:

January 9 - 11:30 - Red Lobster - note the date change

February 6 - 11:30 - Red Lobster - back to the 1st Thursday of the month



THE ORLANDO REAL MCCOYS

Elaine Tillman-Mannella
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Orlando, FL 32835
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emt6250@yahoo.com

The Real McCoys luncheon and meeting was held on January 7th. Thirty-one members braved the chilly weather to get together and share "Happy New Year" wishes with one another! We were a chatty bunch today - probably flappin' our jaws to stay warm! Ha! Our guest today was **Lisa Langan**, daughter of **Barb & Joe Fitak**. **Ernie Vosges** was not able to make the meeting (too cold out, I think!) so Pres Rich held the flag for our Pledge of Allegiance.

We received thank you letters for our Christmas donations from Hospice of the Comforter and The Russell Home for Atypical Children. We also got a letter of thanks from Vitas Innovative Hospice Care in Volusia County for our donation in memory of **Lou Gaydos**, who received care from them prior to his passing in November.

Linda Agnello passed on the great news that **Carol Woods** is out of rehab and home **and** that January 8th is her Birthday! And certainly not to be slighted, the Birthday Guys and Gals present today included: **Jim Mummah** (4th), **Diane Lewis**, **Tom Cannata** (5th) and **Barb Fitak** (23rd). 31 Years of Wedded Bliss was celebrated by **Pat & Jim Hernandez** on January 3rd. Congrats!

At the Christmas Luncheon, it was decided that we would move our lunch time up to 1:00pm for the New Year 2014. Also, it seemed no one brought up electing new 2014 officers ... oh, I think that's because no one wants the job. Probably because everyone thinks we do it just fine, right? So, for another fun year it's Pres **Rich Llewellyn**, VP **Ken Michels**, Treasurer **Charlotte LeGrand** and Secretary **Elaine**.

Calendar:

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

February 4

March 4

SW FLORIDA

PELICAN DROP-INS

Fort Myers, FL

Margie Burg

15791 Prentiss Pointe Circle, #102

Fort Myers, FL 33908

(239) 400-2544

burgmarge@aol.com



The first meeting of the New Year was held January 3 at Fletcher's Grille & Spirits in Cape Coral. Attending were **Rosemary Blake**, **Bill & Margie Burg**, **Ed & Judy Clarke**, **John Dainus**, **Jerry & Peggy Kliner**, **Nancy Kopp**, **Paul & Ingrid Olson**, **Jerry & Sandy Pryde**, **Sally Sciple**, **Mel & Linda Volz**, **Ray Winterhalter**, and our newest member **Walis Aves**. **Judy Clarke's** brother, **Rich Jones** and his wife **Karen**, a United retiree, were our guests.

After a delicious lunch, the 50/50 drawing took up the majority of the meeting. Quite a few people donated gifts so, in addition to the cash, we had 11 prizes consisting of wine, peanuts, truffles, and scratch-off lotto tickets. **Paul Olson** won the cash. Other winners were **Peggy Kliner**, **Walis Aves**, **Sally Sciple**, **Mel Volz**, **Sandy Pryde**, and **Ed Clarke**.

As usual, there was a lot of lively conversation and sharing of United news. One of the biggest topics was who managed to get back up North and home again during the holiday rush. The awful weather delays and cancellations didn't make standby travel easy.

Calendar

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

Breakfast at Perkins Restaurant, North Fort Myers June - September

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



SAND DOLLARS

Sarasota/Bradenton/Venice, FL

Kathy Frait, Correspondent

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Our December luncheon was once again held at Peridia Golf and Country Club; the Christmas decorations were beautiful as always, and the lunch was delicious. We had a big group of Sand Dollars and guests, and the laughter and conversation was lively! We all enjoyed the White Elephant gift exchange. Almost everyone brought home a gift. The attendance drawing was won by **Inge Phillips**. The 50/50 winners were: 1st prize ~ **Ted Mavis**, 2nd prize ~ **Kathy Frait**, 3rd prize ~ **Dick Bulin**.

We celebrate birthdays for **Suzan Goodson** (1/4), **Alice Parker** (2/23), **Bill Phillips** (2/19), **Michael Hyde** (2/8), **Cindy Irwin** (2/5), and **Bob Parker** (2/4).

Wedding Anniversaries we toast: **Bill & Inge Phillips** (1/4) and **Joanne & Russ Wasser** (1/30).

At our luncheon, we welcomed first-time attendees **George & Jeanne Sudol**. George retired in 2001 from IAD and really enjoyed sharing memories with former co-workers. We sure hope to see them again! We also welcomed **Fran Klingensmith**, a guest of **Loretta Marvett**.

Calendar:

January 9 - 11:30 a.m., Olive Garden, Bradenton

February 13 - 11:30 a.m., Cedar Reef, Bradenton

Those on our email list will receive address information and directions in time for each lunch event. For anyone interested in attending and not on our member roster, please contact us at the above email or phone. We heartily welcome new members and visitors!

TAMPA BAY

Volrie Fusina

9608 Conservation Drive

New Port Richey, FL 34655

volriej@gmail.com



Meeting was called to order by President **Beverly Alderdice** with 20 members present. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance, minutes were read and approved as read.

Committees ~ **Lillian Sawyer** gave treasures report. **Terry Breslin** had no report for sunshine; she did receive a thank you letter from the Tampa Bay Chapter of JDRE for the check we sent them. President Beverly thanked the committees that were responsible for our October barbecue and our Christmas luncheon.

Birthdays ~ **Volrie Fusina** (1/27).

Noemi Guzman flew on a vacation pass to Mexico with no trouble. Beverly purchased a ticket to fly home for holidays, all flights were full.

Old business ~ During last meeting, it was decided that if you did not wear your name tag you would be penalized by paying a small fee. The cup is getting full.

New Business ~ We will be checking out new places for our Christmas luncheon, Heritage Springs Country Club was discussed. We also need a secretary.



TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL

M. Jane Kerr

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Port St. Lucie, FL 34953

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jane Kerr13@att.net

Our Christmas Party held on December 12 was attended by 27 members and a new member, **Truman Barker**. We had wonderful appetizers and a delicious dinner was had by all with choices of Prime Rib, Scrod or Chicken, delicious vegetables, potatoes, cheese cake for dessert and coffee or tea. The club even gave us a free chit to each person for a well drink and of course we had a complimentary glass of wine of our choice with dinner. Our President **Al Popek** and his wife **Janice** gave our members a 2014 desk calendar to help us remember when our meetings are being held.

The grab bag part of the party was hilarious as usual and you had to be there to appreciate the goings on, what a riot. **Mary Jane Wise** ended up with a bottle of Balsamic Vinegar instead of a bottle of wine; she is still using the vinegar on her salads to this day.

Truman is a snowbird of sorts and spends November to April in Palm Beach Gardens and April to November in West Virginia. He retired in 1993 from PBI and worked for United Operations in Chicago and Palm Beach. Of course, he knows many of our members, especially **Al & Janice Popek**.

Toys for Tots was brimming over as usual, the 50/50 was won by **Chris Taylor** and the Progressive was won by **Janice Popek**.

Birthday for the month was **Artie Frage** (12/15). Anniversary was **Glenda & Jack Boisseau** 12/1. Happy Birthday Artie and Happy Anniversary to Glenda & Jack!

Our meeting on January 7 was attended by a total of 22 members and were they busy making up for lost time. It was a chilly 49° at noon but we from the North are delighted for the cooler weather, however, we sympathize with the people up North with the down right cold freezing weather and snow they have had. We all hope that everything is under control and warmer weather is under way up North.

Lots of discussion was relating to Aetna Insurance and costs, yearly allotment of vacation passes, and prices etc.

The 50/50 was won by **Bob Langevin** and the Progressive was won by **Anne Kenda**.

We have a great time when we meet, the food is excellent and the location is ideal, what more could you ask for. Our meetings are also informative and lots of fun is had by all.

Bob Langevin sends out emails to everyone on the computer to make sure we have a total of those that are attending so the wait staff know how many places to set up for us and they appreciate our efforts. Bob deserves a round of applause as well for the great effort he makes. If you don't use the computer, give him, Al or myself a jingle and let us know if you are attending the meeting.

Remember to Live, Laugh and Love, also remember the clock is ticking. Today was a present even though it was not gift wrapped and tomorrow is not for sure.

Calendar:

February 4 – Wahoo's Luncheon/Meeting, 1230PM, Stuart, FL

March 4 - Wahoo's Luncheon/Meeting, 1230PM, Stuart, FL

April 1 - Wahoo's Luncheon/Meeting, 1230PM, Stuart, FL. Don't let April Fools Day fool you, there is a meeting

HAWAII

HONOLULU MENEHUNES

Patricia Thomson, Treasurer
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HNLRTUA@gmail.com



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

IDAHO

BOISE GEMS

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dadams208@aol.com



As I am writing this, the 2014 New Year has already arrived. Oh, for peace on earth, good will to men! Many Gems gathered at Jaker's for our annual Christmas party December 10th. Jake happens to be a classmate of mine who owns several other Jaker's restaurants in Idaho and also Montana. The tasty food and good service the year before brought us back again. Between bites, we enjoyed a lot of good conversations. Those attending were **Bud & Pat Peters, Charlie & Shirley Perkins, Joe & Joan Varady**, who made the drive from Garden Valley, **Ileen Bunce, Marlene Croghan, Marie Kincaid, Marilyn Taylor, Louise & Verla Haugen, Louise Duvall, Shirley & Rick Dempsey, Lois Rodriguez, Steve Hill, Roni Adams, Carole Bell, and David & Carol Adams**.

Our UAL Fantasy Flight followed just three days later. After our correspondents meeting in Denver, one of the ladies commented to me her surprise that a Fantasy Flight happens in Boise. That was because someone had

asked earlier the size of our group. You can probably guess that the Fantasy Flight evening as we know it would be impossible without the huge amount of help from the working employees! The decorating alone must have taken many hours. It was fantastic! An added feature this year was a gate area filled with fun games, led by several student athletes from Boise State University - Go Broncos! This was a super idea, as it is hard for the excited children to wait for the plane to arrive. How great it is to have pilots and flight attendants to provide, for many, their first ride in a plane. In the game room was a popcorn machine donated by Les Schwab Tires and dozens of cookies baked by several of our ladies. This first part of the evening was held a few gates from where everything was in place for the 90 children and their school counselors as they deplaned and entered a winter wonderland area (also enjoyed by many folks walking by). Parents, siblings, and grandparents waited expectantly. Refreshments were provided, including a very large sheet cake decorated with a picture of a United plane. Santa and Mrs. Claus were special guests. I expect that the first thing the children saw when they returned was the gifts, grouped by school names. Those who chose the presents were both retirees and airport employees, guided by letters written by each child and given to us. You can just imagine the joy and excitement as presents were opened!

I'll close with news gathered at our holiday dinner. When several families, bringing turkeys and hams, arrived to celebrate Thanksgiving with **Roni Adams**, it was obvious they wouldn't all be able to eat together at Roni's home. What to do? Plan #2 - the hospitality room at the Marriott Suites!

Marlene Croghan was looking forward to a visit from her Boston granddaughter, Josephine. **Stephen Hill's** son Justin from Irvine, California, was flying in also. **Lois Rodriguez** was making plans to be in "sunny California where the palm trees sway" for Christmas. Two great grandchildren from Alvin, Texas came to be with **Louise Haugen** for Thanksgiving. The **Varadys, Joe & Joan**, were planning a trip to Hollywood to join in the celebration of Joe's grandson's first birthday. David drove one of the four buses carrying the Buffalo football players while they were in Boise for the Potato Bowl. Whew! As you can see, we've all been keeping quite busy since the last newsletter! We send our best wishes to you for this New Year!

Calendar:

February 14 - 11:30 - Lunch at Jerry's State Court Café, 6767 Fairview, Boise

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO SKYLINERS

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February - month of the Ground Hog, Super Bowl, Valentines (hearts and flowers), Lincoln and Washington's Birthdays, also Black History and Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-Transgender Month. There sure is a lot going on for such a short month. Haven't you ever wondered why those Romans made February with only 28 days in that Julian, and later, the Gregorian Calendars? Something to do with the sun and moon phases, etc. Maybe it had to do with them wearing those short little togas, and they wanted winter to be over quickly. Ha, until pant suits came into style, we ladies had to put up with that Chicago wind spiraling up our dupa's. And this year, we have the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, starting on February 6 through 23. They will be seen live on the NBC Sports Network. Skiers, skaters, lugers, bob sliders, and hockey, to name a few of the competitions. Let's not forget our own Chicago Blackhawk's Patrick Kane, will be there. Can hardly wait!

Our North side breakfast was the day after our Christmas Luncheon, and the weather was our "Chicago-style" climate, so we had a small amount of attendees, less than 20. **Toni Van Kampen**, and her husband, came to Elly's right after landing at ORD from HNL. They told the waitress to say hello to us, and to make sure we knew the HNL weather was nicer than CHI. Thanks, Toni, never would've guessed that!

Pat & Bob Kalicki, had all of their great-grandchildren in town to attend the baptism of their newest little angel, Clara.

Didn't hear of much traveling, but some of our friends are on the move, literally. **Georgeanne Auer**, EXO Security, moved to Henderson, NV. **Boris Spitz**, ORDMM, moved from Florida to PHX, still keeping some

roots in CHI. Best wishes on your new destinations, both of you. **If** we can get on an airplane, we'd be happy to visit, hint, hint.

One of our "Missing in Action" Southsiders resurrected from his hiding place for our New Year's Eve breakfast. **Rudi Maki** looked great, and he was happy to be back amongst his friends. Many of our dozen people were extremely generous. **Agnes & Bob Pearson** brought gifts for our raffle. **Gwen & Bill Brookins** also brought candy treats and raffle gifts. Our money raffle was won by **Bill Adams, John Pasakarnis, and Jan Gawenda**. Lottery tickets, gifts from the **Brookins**, were won by **Rudi Maki, Perry Pahl, Bill Brookins, Bob Pearson, and Ed Ward**. **Jan Gawenda** also won a monetary gift from the Pearsons. One person won a few dollars from the Lottery tickets. No millionaire ticket ... **Agnes Pearson** had a New Year's Resolution game. We all wrote "pledges" of what we might consider doing for 2014. We all voted on two that we thought were the funniest. The Brookins won boxes of candy. Gwen's idea was to always say, "Yes, dear", for anything her husband suggested. Bill's idea was to, "Stop being so nice to everybody." Resounding laughs came from everyone. Great way to end one year and start another, with a hearty, belly laugh!

New Skyliner members who attended our Christmas Luncheon were, **Peggy Anderson, ORDCS, Mary Dolan, EXOSY, Jill Kaplan, CHIRR, Dona Nefczyk, WHQKF, Maria and Richard Southon, SFOOV, Joan Teister, WHQDT, Jerry Tipperreiter, WHQKT**. New, but still working, **Larry Smith, ORDMM, and Lucy Paet-Smith, ORDCS, United Clubs**. A very warm and sincere welcome to all of you!

Fourth Quarter Contributions to the Skyliner Postage Fund are, **Walter Chornomaz, Jack Gage, Lorraine Karpen, Rudi Meskele, Stephanie Simpson, Kay Towns, Jim Vlazny, and Hal Weary**. Web Support Donations were received from **Carol Faust, Bill Hamilton, Ken Lucht, and Dona Nefczyk**.

Two of our fellow co-workers have passed away. **Mike Carosielli**, who worked in Finance, Food Services and Computer Services, passed in December. **Jean Tomlinson**, wife of **Roger**, from **ORDFF**, died in January of cancer. Sorry, no addresses available.

January has been a bear, a cold bear here in Illinois. By January 5th, we had more snow than we had all of 2013, a dubious honor to be proud of in Chicago. As Clark Weber, from WLS radio, used to say, "*It's colder than a mother-in-law's tongue*." Speaking of disc jockeys from our past, Larry Lujack, of WLS, and Lee Rodgers, of WIND, during the 60's and 70's, both went to that Rock and Roll turntable in the sky. Don't know about you, but those two guys started me laughing early in the morning and kept me smiling all day. They helped form my "adult" sense of humor. How about you? Clark Weber always hated the Beatles. He said they would never amount to anything. Right, they amounted to about 60 billion dollars. Ha!

Wish I could lay claim to this, but they're the words of Tom Dreesen, comedian. I think there are some smart thoughts in here, good enough to share. *"2013 has come to a close and let's go into 2014 with a goal to be all we can be. Here's what I think. I think if you wait until all conditions are perfect before you act, you'll never act. I think success is more often the result of hard work than of talent. I think the secret of success in business is surprisingly simple: give people more than they expect and do it cheerfully. I think that failures always seem to blame someone else. I think that if we want the circumstances in our life to change for the better, we must change for the better."* Perhaps a few words we could learn from.

Because it's Valentine's Month, give your heart to somebody, hopefully, they'll give theirs back to you. If not, move on. Another street car comes by in 15 minutes. Love you all!

Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Elly's Restaurant, 8:30 A.M., 372 E. Golf Rd., Arlington Heights, IL. (**February 12**). Second Wednesday of the month.

Southside Breakfast - Jedi's Restaurant, 9:30 A.M., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn. (**January 28**). Last Tuesday of the month.

INDIANA



INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN
Shary Johnston, Correspondent
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The Indy Racers had a great turnout for our holiday party at the Milano Inn in December. Thirty three members and guests gathered to enjoy good food, engage in fun conversation, and participate in a Secret Santa exchange. And, just before Christmas, we received word from the restaurant owner where we hold our regular meetings, that another large box of toys had been collected for our Toys For Tots drive. So **Charles Theiss** and **Chris Johnston** picked-up the toys and delivered them to the Indianapolis Marine Corps Recruiting Office December 23rd, just in time for distribution to children of low-income families in the central Indiana area.

On a sad note, we offer our condolences to **Cheri & Ron Innis**. **Cheri's** step-father passed away shortly before Christmas.

After the first of the year, the weather went south and so did some of our members. With temperatures dropping to below zero and 5 inches of snow falling right after the first week in January, some of us, including your newsletter correspondent, became snowbirds heading to Florida and Arizona for a few months.



One Indy Racer, who was busy during the holidays, will continue to be busy throughout the rest of the school year. He is **Frank Prins**. (see photo). **Frank** is a retired United Airlines mechanic, entrepreneur, and current band director for a private school in Indianapolis. This man of many talents, who was born in Holland, says, *"It seems like I've always played music. My father was an international Bandmaster in the Salvation Army."*

Frank hired in to the United Airlines San Francisco Cabin Equipment Department the day after Christmas in 1967. He served as a mechanic and held other positions of responsibility in the Jet Shop for nearly 25 years before transferring to the Indianapolis Maintenance Base in 1994 where he took on the position of Lead Mechanic.

"I often worked the graveyard shift so that I could study music during the day," he explained. **Frank** holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Performance from San Jose State University. *"I stayed with United because the money was good and I could usually work shifts that allowed me to play 'gigs' on the weekend,"* he added.

Frank, who retired from the Indy Maintenance Base three weeks before it closed, is Founder and President of Excursion Music Group, Excursion Records and Silverlining Management Group. He has represented numerous musical artists, including Johnny Paycheck, Tex Williams and Tami Lynn.

The man who went to high school with original members of the Doobie Brothers, also serves as Band Director for the 5th & 6th grade bands at Southport Presbyterian Christian School, has been substitute teaching at Triton Central High School for over 10 year, is actively involved in his church's music program, and enjoys composing music. A couple of days before Christmas, he learned that a member of his trombone quartet would not be able to play at a Christmas Eve performance due to a family illness. So rather than cancel the performance commitment, **Frank** re-wrote the music for a Trombone trio. *"I'm good at the business end, but if I couldn't do the creative side, I probably wouldn't be in it at all,"* he said.

Frank indicated that in the near future, he would like to establish a "mentorship" band for students in the 9th through the 12th grades. He hopes to continue teaching for several years. He says his dad stayed actively involved in music, establishing a Brass Program for a school in Northern California shortly before his death at age 95.

The Indy Racers are very lucky to have the talented **Frank Prins** and his wife, **Rita**, as members of the organization.

February Birthdays and Anniversaries ~ Happy Birthday to **Jack Conway** (2/4); **Jeanne Matlak** (2/12); and **Ed Duffey** (2/18). Happy Anniversary to **Ed & Concisa Loftus** (2/28).

Calendar:

March 11 - Emmy's Pancake House & Grill, 7508 Beechwood Center Suite 300, Avon IN 46123. Lunch is available at 1:30 p.m. and the business meeting begins at 2:30 p.m.

MASSACHUSETTS

NOR'EASTERS

New England
Dick Vee Vecchione
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No meeting, so no meeting news.

We didn't see **Ralph Torres** at the last Christmas Luncheon, a venue he never missed. Ralph, BOSCG, passed away December 27 of a massive stroke. Condolences can be sent to his wife **Elaine** at 35 Country Club Way, Ipswich, MA 01938-1841. He will be missed.

Nor'Easters Note: Because meeting attendance has been poor lately, we are putting out this year's meeting dates early so as not to compete with other commitments. We've decided on five meetings, all to be on the first Tuesday of April, June, August, October and December. Hopefully, we'll soon have a committee to investigate and set up an overnigher that proved so successful last September. This will fulfill our chapter bylaws of a six meeting minimum.

Hope everyone's New Year's Eve celebrations were happy and free of mishaps that might have been caused by the year's opener snow storm that impacted the East Coast.

Statistics show that by the age of seventy, there are five women for every man. What an ironic time of life for a man to get these odds! Sorry guys!

February's birthdays ~ **Gary Bosworth, Nicholas Bouzianis, Mark Domurat** and **Joan Simard**.


February's anniversaries ~ **Robert & Clair Andeson** (63 years) and **Ralph & Elaine Torres** (55 years).

Calendar:

April 1 – Jeveli's Restuarant, East Boston, MA

MINNESOTA

NORTHERN LITES


Connie Glattly
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Our December Christmas luncheon attracted 25 Lites although the "weather outside was frightful" as the song goes. Most of the snowbirds have already scurried south for the winter, but **Wayne & Karen Cole** attended. **Al & Mary Kilian** wished us all a good winter before leaving for AZ soon. Last winter their home was burglarized while they were gone and they understandably have mixed feelings about leaving it alone again.

Mary & Jim Brennan brought poinsettias for each table which were raffled off in the 50/50 in addition to gifts brought by **John Beveridge** and **Tom Cafilisch**. All the money collected in the raffle was given away in gifts in honor of Christmas. We always have the same waitress attend us and she received a gift as well for her service over the year.

Those assembled voted to donate \$100 to the Salvation Army which is always there to help out when natural disasters hit. They seem to be much more efficient in spending the donations they receive; not much goes to administration and fundraising.

Flights out of MSP were discussed; everyone agreed it was a shame that most of the flights are now operated by Express. Even the new service to LAX will be in RJ equipment! How do they expect to compete for the Asia and Europe markets against Delta's mainline big jets? It seems to us that the Company is just setting MSP up for failure ... again. Perhaps our loyal customers will hang in there with us for that 3+ hour ride to the coast in an RJ, but would you?

No news is good news about **Frank Ehr**, I guess. We haven't received good news about **JoJo Eichacker**, either. Please keep these folks in your thoughts & prayers.

Gene & Kookie Delvaux and **Lee & Diane Storlie** had recently returned from another cruise. I think a good time was had by all, otherwise they wouldn't keep doing it, right?

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

NEBRASKA

OMAHA GOLDEN'EARS

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



We did have 55 reservations for our Christmas dinner, but due to illness and deaths we ended up with 44. Thanks to **Shirley & Ev Payton** for hosting. We had a little visitor **Jackson**, two weeks old. His proud parents are **Greg & Bethany Jones** (**Greg** is General Manager here in Omaha. So, we had in attendance ages two weeks to 93 (**Van VanHouten**).

Jake Hutchinson called and said one of his twin daughters, **Leslie**, age 60, passed away in October. She was diagnosed with colon and liver cancer. She lived in Flagstaff, AZ where she was Manager of a Museum and also served in Sedona as a Tour Guide. Her twin sister, **Laurie**, lives in Peoria, AZ. We extend our sincere sympathy to you, **Jake**.

Roger Jensen spent the weekend of November 23 in the hospital with an abscess where he had been operated on in October. After draining the area of the infection, they sent him home on the 26th. It is still very hard for him to sit very long because of the pain. He is determined to feel better and get back on his feet.

Birthdays for January ~ **Sharon Farrell** (2); **Sydney Greenstreet** (4); **Carol Jensen** (4); **Joy Whisinnand** (4); **Stella Mason** (5); **Frank Sesto** (9); **Louise Mitchell** (17); **Jackie Sortino** (17); **Jim Schreiber** (20); **Eileen Holly** (23); **Jim Neumann** (28); **Am Meyer** (29); **Dick Weak** (31).

Our sincere sympathy to **Linda Chapman**. Her sister, **Louise Procopio**, age 77, passed away very unexpectedly. Services were held December 4 for **Louise**.

I spent some time with **Don & Sena Jensen** at the Life Care Center of Elkhorn three weeks ago. **Don** cannot walk due to his broken foot he received at Brookestone. He is pretty weak and it takes two people to get him to bed at night. It is strictly the wheelchair for **Don** right now. **Sena** said **Don** is trying really hard to get his strength back but it is difficult when he can't walk.

We were happy to have three who retired in November attend our Christmas Dinner: **Rita Pukapile**, **Mary McGuire** and **Jane Habeeb**. We welcome them as new members to our United Retiree Group and look forward to seeing them at our luncheons.

Barb Soseman is in the Brookestone Nursing Center after spending 4 days in the hospital suffering a TIA on December 4th. She did not lose her speech, but her left hand was affected to the point of going limp and no feeling. She returned home December 19th.

Calendar:

February 4 - TBD

NEVADA



LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

Baldor Ziel – Secretary
2649 Rich Flavor Pl.
Henderson, NV 89052
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(702) 616-9690
Fax (702) 616-9690

Our Christmas Luncheon was started with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and then lunch was served. We had 42 members and spouses in attendance. We continued with our 50/50 drawing plus the gift exchange drawing.

For our February Luncheon, the Menu consists of Salad, Chicken Cacciatore, pasta and strawberry short cake.

From Treasurer **Christine Earl** ~ A board meeting was held on 12/30/13 @ Sunset Station, 10a.m. In attendance were **Rosemarie Restivo, Eleanor Vasko, George Fox** and **Christine Earl**. The following topics were discussed:

1. **Baldor Ziel** advised that because of medical reasons, he needed to step down as our Secretary and we need to start looking for a replacement. After discussing this with our President, I called **Chris Czaplewski** and asked her if she would help us out with this situation. She agreed that she would assist in any way possible and would get in touch with Baldor and discuss his duties and procedures. I also confirmed to **Chris Czaplewski** that the board members would assist her in this transition.
2. Bank statement from Wells Fargo for our Business Account is: \$532.12
Meeting adjourned approx. 12Noon.

Calendar:

Meeting at 11:30AM, Arizona Charlie's Decatur Casino & Hotel, 740 S. Decatur Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada.
Phone # (702) 258-5200.

February 11

April 8

June 10



RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

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There were 23 members and guests at our Christmas Luncheon, including guests **Anthony Nettles**, son of **Patricia Nettles** and **Bob Taylor**, **Mary Withers'** guest. It was nice to see everyone festively attired for the holiday season. We missed regular luncheon attendees the **Robinsons** and **Scaifes**, who were celebrating Joe's 80th birthday on Maui. We also missed the **Stephens** since **Lloyd** is currently undergoing physical therapy following a broken leg. The Tamarack Junction casino did a wonderful job with the food, the service, the facility and the decorations. We look forward to our return luncheon next year.

December birthdays were celebrated by **Bill Royle**, **Nancy Scaife** (Maui no ka o'i), **Larry Leusing**, **Don Wight**, **Joe Robinson** (Happy Mai Tai to you), **Herb Klemm**, **Lynda Klemm**, **Jim Compton** and **Pinkie Perry**. The 50/50 raffle was won by **Anthony Nettles**, guest and son of **Patricia Nettles**. Thank you also for the gifts donated for our drawing by **Barbara Leusing** and **Ann Batty**. In keeping with the holiday spirit, everyone left with a gift. In addition, members donated \$130 for the Northern Nevada Food Bank. Our baker-in-residence **Bill Perkins** brought some wonderful, holiday decorated shortbread cookies to share.

NEW JERSEY



THE GARDEN STATERS

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

Dick Confer opened our meeting with a flag salute and a moment of silence for those who passed on, most recently **Mike Graziano** of Newark maintenance. He was 90 years old.

We had about 60 people at our luncheon, and it was so good to see so many "old faces". We suspended our regular meeting and went on to have a great repast. When we finished, many door prizes were given out. Actually, everyone went home with a gift. In all, it was a nice gathering of friends with plenty to talk about.

Terry Schultz won our 50/50. Our next meeting will be on January 29th at Snuffy's in Scotch Plains at 12 PM.

"The first time someone shows you who they are, believe them!"

NEW YORK



BUFFALO CHIPS

BUFFALO CHIPS

Jerry Stevens
130 Countryside Lane
Williamsville, NY 14221-1308
(716) 688-4613
jerste130@msn.com

Twenty-four Chips met at Jade's Restaurant for an early Christmas dinner including several members we have not seen in sometime, **Norm & Marlene Scheaffer**, **Jerry & Marguerite Lamers**, **Kay Galbraith**. Welcome back and don't stay away so long next time.

The sick list is getting a bit long, **Lloyd Cliff** in a senior assisted living home in Greenville, SC; **Mike Kellar** in the Veteran's home in Batavia, NY; **John Daniels** is back home doing rehab after a lengthy time in the various hospitals and convalescent homes being treated for Congested Heart and other problems. **Donna Stevens** had good news, they have controlled the Macular Degeneration in her left eye and she will have the cataract removed January 14. They will continue to monitor the eye and future treatments to maintain control are possible.

Dinner was served family style with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Breaded Pork Chops (these are out of this world), Rolled Roast Beef slices, Chicken Cordon Blue. I won't even try to describe the 5 different desserts as they were all done up as mini's and everyone had at least a double helping of their favorite.

The meeting itself was no meeting with an exchange of information and best wishes for the holiday were exchanged by all. Due to the fact we had to cancel our September meeting, the door prizes that were left, bottles of wine were passed out and everyone in attendance received at least one.

Discussion was held on whether to change from the present meeting agenda of luncheons in the winter months of December and March with evening dinners in June and September to all luncheons. The group decided to stay with the present system.

Our next meeting will be in mid-March when we plan to return to the Erie Statler Dining Room of Erie Community College for a luncheon put on by the Culinary Class.



GUYS AND DOLLS

Barbara Hill
155 W 68th St
New York, NY 10023
212/799-8061
btristan96@aol.com

Not exactly a “winter wonderland”, but our luncheon on December 10th, was greeted with the first official snow of the season. We had a very merry time indeed, catching up with old friends, **Anne Windmuller**, **Joe Caruana** and **Ratomir Sunderic**.

Not much business was discussed, except there were positive reports about Bus/first service. Ratomir and his brother experienced it EWR-MUC round trip. **Marilyn Cheadle** had success on her LAX holiday travel with two of four trips “upfront”. She had great flight attendants, and enjoyed the video screens on the seat backs, as well as the “lie-back” seats. Marilyn also found that if you change your type of pass from personal to vacation, you must cancel and rebook as the existing reservation cannot be altered. This means a second charge, and subsequent refund. Apparently, this is being analyzed for new procedures. It also appears that “shares” isn’t as trustworthy as “ual.com”. This is under review.

Betty Williams had positive results with pass travel questions from a woman named Shirley at (310) 995-8412.

There was concern about “taxes” on travel. 1099s will only be issued on enrolled friends travel, and only if a certain amount is reached. So, keep track, April 15th isn’t that far away!

Calendar:

February 4 - 12noon - San Martin. Please RSVP to **Marge Segal** (212) 355-1788 or **Barb Hill** (212) 799-8061.

OHIO



OHIO BUCKEYES

Cleveland, Ohio
www.ualohiobuckeyes.org
Mary Lou Kuretz
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mlkuretz@aol.com

As usual, we do not have a meeting in January. But that does not mean that nothing is going on.

Attention all Ohio Buckeyes ~ Our Newsletter that you received in December has 2 major changes:

1. March luncheon will be on Tuesday, March 4th (the day before Ash Wednesday). Everything else is the same.
2. May luncheon ~ Bucci’s in Berea “Closed” on December 21st after oh, so many years. We will be going to Bucci’s at Crown Plaza in Middleburg Heights with a much larger room. The menu consists of your choice of one of the following: #1. Roast Sirloin of Beef Au Jus, #2. Chicken Marsala, #3. Broiled Scrod Milanese, or #4. Spaghetti with Italian Sausage. Of course, there will be tossed salad, rolls & butter, and beverage. This great meal will be topped off with “Death by Chocolate” cake and ice cream. Yes, just another of our fantastic luncheons. The total cost is \$20 with checks and entrée choice sent to **Carol Seifried** (as usual). Members with internet access, go to “Our” website for updates. All members without internet access, we will get the information to you.

Thanks to all members that had called Dolly, our president, to inform her of any restaurant closing, holiday conflicts, etc. This is a good time to thank all members that have volunteered to host a month. Hosting involves choosing a restaurant, setting up the menu and price, receiving the reservations, checks (and deposit), making out the name badges, and being at the restaurant early to set out the name badges. But all of that is easy, compared to when there are major problems like a restaurant closing or a fire (that happened in 2012 with less than a two week notice). However, all hosts run into the musical chairs of late cancellations or additions. Oh ... what fun that is. But I have to say that they all rise to the occasion and do a great job. We want to thank each and every one of them for their dedication.

Calendar:

February 5 – Stancato's Restaurant, hosted by **George & Mary Lou Kuretz**

March 4 – North Olmsted Party Center, hosted by **Gene & Jackie Craig**

April 2 – Old Schoolhouse Restaurant, hosted by **Vince & Norma Malena**

OREGON

OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland

Barbara M. Heidegger

13848 NE Milton

Portland, OR 97230

(503) 254-5018

DuaneBaba1@aol.com



Our December meeting was, as always, a festive occasion. There were 82 members present and unfortunately, several were unable to make it because of the weather. We had a cappella choir from Parkrose High School called the Debonair's serenade us with Christmas songs before the luncheon.

Nancy recognized all the board members and volunteers who help each month in making our chapter a great one. She also introduced Colwood's manager Sue Leger and the two servers Nina and Jeff who work the tables. The servers were each given a \$25 gift certificate and you could tell it was a nice surprise.

Santa arrived and brought gifts of restaurant gift certificates, wine, beer, wooden cars made by member **Glen Swanson**, prints by **Craig Strand** and stockings that held wooden cutting boards.

Green swags and table arrangements were also given to winners holding a lucky ticket. What a nice way to start the Christmas season.

Jane Futrell had surgery and is fully recovered, **Bill Shaw** is now having to use oxygen and **Merle Pitman** was hospitalized the end of December. Merle is now in an Assisted Care facility because of the pain but Lois hopes he will be able to be released from there in early January. She said it was not the way she planned to start 2014.

December anniversaries were **Deanna Green** and **Christ & Richard Householder** who have been married 53 years. Members also celebrating birthdays this month are **Joanne Patterson** (90), **Mary Lou Falbo**, **Dick Wahlberg** and **Don Mitchell**.

Winners for December for a free lunch were as follows: Door prize ~ **Ray Walton**, Men's birthday ~ **Richard Householder** (78), Women's birthday ~ **Carol Trojel** and 50/50 ~ **Veulah Lorts**.

Dues for 2014 are being collected by **Rosalie Betschart** at our meetings until March 12. If you do not plan on attending a meeting before then, please mail your dues of \$5 per person to her at 220 NE 116th Ave., Portland, OR 97220, making the check out to RUAEA. Please remember your name will not be published in the chapter directory unless it is received by the end of March. She would like to have the directory ready for the April meeting.

It is Ice Cream Social time next month for Valentine's Day. Hope to see you there.

Calendar:

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

February 12 - Celebrating Valentine's Day and an Ice Cream Social

March 12 - Social

April 9 – Social



OUR CLUB

(Oregon United Retirees)
Grants Pass, OR
Gidget Walcha
gwalcha@aol.com

After our last meeting, our area was snowed in with several inches and school was out in many areas for a week. We had unusually cold weather for Southern Oregon and hit record lows.

The New Year was upon us before we could finish opening our Christmas presents. We had 14 members in attendance at one of our favorite home town restaurants, Elmer's. **Barbara & Harry Horne** were our hosting couple today and I believe it was one of the best luncheons we have had.

Somehow one story being told turned into all of us telling tales of years gone by while working at United as a Flight Attendant, Maintenance worker, or office personnel. The tricks that were played on each other, stories of some rather unsavory passengers really kept all of our attention and the best stories of how spouses met was enough to start a great novel. Those of us who are of German descent all agreed some of the traditions for the New Year should be forgotten. Herring anyone?

Those who flew home for the holidays all agreed to stay put next year as the weather delayed or cancelled many flights. Everyone agreed that being a seasoned flyer did not apply this year.

It is always nice to see **Neal & Sonnia Appleton** and I finally meet **Miriam Lindberg** at this luncheon. All this time, I thought Bob was making up a story about having a wife. We all enjoyed her company and would like to see more of her because she brought smiles and laughter to our day. **Ida Rogers** was in attendance as well and after some of the stories Bob told, one may have wondered why she came. Why is it when men start a burn pile in Oregon they think it has to be the size of a small house and has to go "boom" when started? Thank goodness for home owners insurance.

Tom DelCorso read us a holiday letter he received from **Steve & Cyndi Austin** who moved to Montana. They seem to be doing great and even one of their Chow dogs loves the snow while the other one prefers to lay by the fire-place. Both Russ & Alberta were home with a bug and we missed them, get better you two.

Marge Calkins, who is celebrating her birthday this month, talked me into joining a chorus group she belongs to and **Jane Frincke**, who is going to being a Grandma for the third time, has me joining an iPad group. It is amazing when you start sharing stories how it can lead to finding new venues in your life.

Calendar:

February 8 – Luncheon, hosted by **Laurie Jordan**.

PENNSYLVANIA



THE INDEPENDENTS

Philadelphia, PA
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Ronjoyce2@verizon.net

We were spoiled with mild weather for a few years. Winter is back with a message! We are not in charge! Our December meeting was cancelled with inclement weather. Now it feels as if we are in hibernation. Snow birds, we are jealous.

We are sad to report the death of **Charles Ferraro**.

We are looking forward to seeing our old friends on March 10th at the Clarion Hotel in Essington at 12:30pm.

Everyone be careful out there!

PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

Jeri Juth
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jmjuth@hotmail.com



Happy Valentine's Day! I wonder how many New Year's resolutions are still on track.

Pit-Stoppers celebrated their Christmas luncheon on December 13th at JW Halls. Thirty people were in attendance. **Ellie Masters** represented the Pit Interline club. Ellie is very active in the interline club and sold tickets for their basket of cheer - which I might add is the **biggest** basket of cheer I have ever seen.

It was great seeing **Carl & Dee Chiocchi** as we count on Carl to lead our invocation opening. Dee has certain dietary restrictions, but I hear tell she has an "in" with Chef Frank, therefore, she gets her special diet attended to.

Treatie Karwoski won the 50/50 prize; I think that's the 2nd time. **Karen Moliterno** along with **Rich & Barb Guida** were also prize winners. **Bill Redfern** volunteered to take the food donations to his local food bank. You can always count on Bill.

The Pit-Stoppers installed our new officers at the luncheon. **Dave Beatty** replaced yours truly as President. VP - **Phylis Smith**, 2nd VP - **Treatie Karwoski**, Secretary - **Lorraine Keith**, Treasurer - **Olga Karmazyn**. Congratulation to all!

We are so sorry to hear of the sudden passing of **Jan Sigler Nichol**. Jan was a CSR in Pit for many years - more known as the Pony (per **Art Todd**). Jan was very active in the East Bay Diablos and so looked forward to the RUAEA conventions. Our condolences go out to her family.

Treatie's niece **Joyce Francis Krezmenski** recently received her doctorate in education and is currently a principal in Florida - also Treatie's great nephew **Jeffrey Karwoski** is headed to the Philippines to help the victims of the recent typhoon. He is associated with the All Hands charity and along with his services; he has made 100 harmonicas for the victims. Jeff will be there until April 1st. Congratulations to you.

The winner of the big basket of cheer raffled by the Pit Interline club was Treatie. Treatie was the winner of our 50/50 raffle and she won the basket of cheers the next day. Hope you bought a ticket for the PA Millionaire raffle.

February Birthdays ~ **Kay Yauch** (2/3), **Ruth Redford** (2/15), **Ted Polinski** (2/22), **Jack Tinney** (2/27), and **Kay Ike** (2/28).

We will have more info in our calendar of events next issue.

It doesn't seem right not having the Steelers in the playoffs.

WASHINGTON

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle, WA
Gay Liesse
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glliesse@aol.com



By the time this column goes to press, members of the Emerald City Slickers, the Seattle chapter of RUAEA, will have experienced their first luncheon meeting at its new venue, The Old Spaghetti Factory in Tukwila (near Southcenter Shopping Center). We hope nobody showed up at our old location at the wrong time on the wrong date.

Treasurer **Helen Stanger** met Assistant Treasurer **Noreen Krawczyk**, **Richard Devereux**, **Ed & Gay Liesse** for a sneak preview of OSF earlier in January just to learn the lay of the land. The Money Maids wanted to see where they would set up their banking business.

The February 11 meeting will return to our regularly-scheduled second Tuesday in the months of January-May and September-November, inclusive, with President **Dave Jones** wielding the gavel and Secretary **Carol Soffel** keeping the records straight. *Contrails*, our local chapter newsletter edited by **Vicki Shumaker**, will announce any additional information, including menu choices for upcoming meetings.

Emerald City Slickers' annual dues of \$10 were collected at the January meeting and we'll soon be able to

give you a head count of active members. These paid memberships entitle their owners to a copy of the local chapter newsletter, available by either email (earlier access and more jokes on the outside cover where a mailing label would go) or USPS delivery. We urge local readers to become members of both the national RUAEA organization and our local chapter.

In the absence of a meeting in December and the January meeting yet to happen, we have no list of lucky winners of the fabulous door prizes donated by chapter members. Bottles of wine are the most prevalent gift, but we may see some rejected Christmas gifts in the next few months. Everybody seems interested in separating the wheat from the chaff after the holidays. Cookies and nuts are other favorites and Starbucks gift cards are popular. During autumn months, we look forward to homegrown produce from members' gardens or perhaps a plant or bouquet of flowers.

We regret to announce the death of long-time member **Evalena Hatcher** shortly after Christmas. **Evalena** retired from SEAHH and served as president of the Emerald City Slickers in 2000. An elegant presence at chapter meetings, she will be sorely missed.

Home in time for a quiet Christmas following his kidney transplant, Past President **John Haferbecker** looks forward to a milestone recovery date in March.

Our Valentine couples celebrating anniversaries this month include **Blaine & Vivian Anderson**, racking up an impressive 60 years, and **John & Addy Haferbecker**, who have a way to go to catch up, with #48 on the docket.

Apologies to the January couples – your correspondent got stuck on the 2013 calendar and inadvertently inserted the wrong number of years of marriage in the January issue of this RUAEA Newsletter. **Lloyd & Penny Baker** reached 47 years; **Gary & Carol Moless-Maxwell** observed #7, while **Ted & Thelma Parks** reached the milestone 60 year mark.

Birthday congratulations are extended to **Helen Ebert**, **Phyllis Lindblad**, **Fern Lockhart**, and **Carol Soffel**. What happened to February boy babies so many years ago? Nary a one on our list.

Hearts and Flowers to all our Seattle retirees, as well as to national officers and committee personnel, plus each and every RUAEA member. Happy Valentine's Day!

Calendar:

February 11 – Old Spaghetti Factory, Tukwila, 11:30

March 11 – Old Spaghetti Factory, Tukwila, 11:30

We hope to gather at this location at least through May

WASHINGTON, D.C.

DULLES LOUNGERS

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



Greetings from the Nation's Capital!

On December 11, a small crowd of about 30 members and guests gathered at the Golden Corral Restaurant in Manassas, VA. Many of our members who volunteer at Travelers Aid at Reagan National Airport and Dulles International Airport were enjoying their Holiday party.

This correspondent had the worst cold in 20 years or more and decided to stay home and recover.

The luncheon was hosted by **Mari McColl** and a good time was had by all.

An update on the Toys for Tots collection held at the November 13 luncheon, the final amount collected was \$1336.00, an all time record! Many, many thanks Dulles Loungers!

We look forward to our meetings in 2014 and enjoy the leadership of our Chapter President **Linda Scriven**. We hope to see you all on February 12th.

Calendar:

February 12 - 11:30 AM, Golden Corral Restaurant, 10801 Bulloch Dr., Manassas, VA

March 12 - 11:30 AM, Golden Corral Restaurant, 10801 Bulloch Dr., Manassas, VA

NATIONAL

CLIPPED WINGS

Bobbi Black
National Vice President
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Mancos, CO 81328-0083
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With the year 2013 behind us, we would once again like to say Happy New Year to all members and friends of RUAEA.

We will continue to encourage Continental retired and active Flight Attendants to join us. We will pursue our mission to determine ways to keep the active members involved with their chapters and to recruit new members.

We have prepared a questionnaire requesting the membership to assist the National Board with what our FOCUS (Future of Clipped Wings – Us) should be for the coming years. By getting some responses by February, we hope to put together some ideas for presentation at the National Convention in September. Your suggestions would also be welcomed by the committee. Please send your ideas to my email address listed above.

We have welcomed approximately fifty (50) “First Time Members” and our membership has grown to over 1155 as of January 1, 2014. We hope you will join us! Please feel free to contact me by email or phone if you have any questions.

NEW MEMBERS

Anderson, Charlene, DTWRR, 13115 Chestnut St., Southgate, MI 48195
Bastian, Joanne, DENCS, 25377 E. Geddes Place, Aurora, CO 80016
Behlendorf, Lindell, ORDCS, 4131 S. Victoria Cr., New Berlin, WI 53151
Bennett, Samuel, MIAJL, 9903 SW 62nd Terr., Ocala, FL 34476
Burggraf, Edward, SFOSW, 35001 46th Ave. S., Auburn, WA 98001
Campbell, Audie, LGACG, 206-12 104th Avenue, Queens Village, NY 11429
Dillon, James, LAXPS, 3333 Broadway Apt. D23b, New York, NY 10031
Eustaquio, Stephanie, SEARR, 3045 52nd Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98116
Greseth, Randall H., SEARR, 7019 47th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98136
Hakimian, Shahbahrass, JFKFO, 6024 Shore Line Dr., Orlando, FL 32819
Hardy, Peter, SFOMM, PO Box 1091, Grantham, NH 03753
Jettenberg, Karen, LAXCS, 210 E. Dorothy Ln., Tucson, AZ 85705
Jones, Ronald, 621 Weatherstone Wy, San Marcos, CA 92078
Kole, Carl, WHQSY, 3519 Highcrest Rd., Rockford, IL 61107
Matsumura, Gail, HNLAO, 1268 Puualoha St., Kailua, HI 96734
McDonald, Debbie, WHQPW, 1323 Osage Orange Rd., Grayslake, IL 60030
Menchaca, Janice, CHIRR, 22w324 McCarron Rd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
Nufable, Eduardo, IADCS, 13500 Fallen Oak Ct., Chantilly, VA 20151
Pernicka, Edward, WHQKT, 1425 Gentry Rd., Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
Simpkins, Lynn D., 2525 Columbia Dr., Costa Mesa, CA 92626
Siu-Oerelius, Gina, SFOSW, 4229 Bettina Ave., San Mateo, CA 94403
Spisak, Robert, MIAJL, PO Box 607, Lady Lake, FL 32158
Swiech, Ronald J., SEAGQ, 6209 E. McKellips Rd. # Sp160, Mesa, AZ 85215
Torlone, A. J., SFOMM, PO Box 50714, Bellevue, WA 98015
Turcotte, Barbara, ORDSW, 19786 Ascot Pl., Mokena, IL 60448
Vanella, Cary, WHQWH, 822 Twisted Oak Ct., Algonquin, IL 60102
Washington, Lula, IADRR, 909 Windsor Court, Sterling, VA 20164

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Roni Adams, Jacqueline M. Anderson, Janice R. Anderson, Kathryn Baran, Elmer Barkmann, Edmond A. Batres, Paul G. Bennett, Carol Birt, Joseph M. Boberek, Gabrielle S. Gae Bockelman, Carolyn S. Bowles, Roy C. Brown, Robert D. Bryant, Betty S. Bryant, Audie Campbell, Jennifer L. Clark, John J. Deily, Gabrielle I. Dentraygues, Kevin L. Dillon, Maxine F. Dixon, Jack H. Domosley, Donald E. Dulen, Richard W. Ems, Dorothy L. Engels, Claire Florio, Cathie L. Frame, Francis Gibbons, Travis E. Glass, Jeanne Y. Betsy Hamblin, Hiroko Hansen, Judith R. Hart, Maureen B. Hicks, E. E. Buck Hilbert, Miyuki Hilliard, Jessie Hiltbold, John G. Hornbaker, Florence Hoy, John Jeskey, Lloyd O. Johnson, R. Lee Johnson, Robert V. Keefe, Linda L. Keim, Shirley A. Keister, Joann M. Koester, Norma M. Kopel, Kurt Kubatz, Richard Kyle, E. Ann Mace, Frank P. McAnulty, Janice Menchaca, Manuel Ojeda, Jeanne B. Olszewski, James P. Petri, Frank A. Reed, William Rodenhizer, Nick J. Romeo, William A. Sandy, Rechie S. Santander, Jim Sarsfield, Gebhard Saup, Juanita Schrecongost, Josephine N. Shioji, Richard John Snyder, Rosalind K. Souza, Margarete Stahl, Harold Stofko, Lorece Tolbert, Sandra L. Wallestad, Lula Washington, Charles L. Westpfahl, Setsuko W. Wilcox, Gwendolyn Williams, Bernice Yvonne Wright.

OBITUARIES

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

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

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

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

Retiree – **Alarcon, Melva J.**, on 12/12/2013, LAXTO, wife of Ignacio Alarcon, 4068 Jeffery Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92886

Retiree – **Baron, Maria A.**, on 11/21/2013, CHIRR, wife of John V. Baron, 410 W. Noyes St., Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Retiree – **Beal Jr., Edward R.**, on 12/11/2013, SEACG, husband of Betty Beal, 4A Toler Bend, Mail sent to: PO Box 59, Franklin, IL 62638

Spouse – **Briles, Lena C.**, on 11/26/2013, wife of Elmer A. Briles, DENTK, 26377 County Road 8.5, Pritchett, CO 81064

Retiree – **Bueker, Wesley J.**, on 8/14/2013, MBSOZ, husband of Mary L. Bueker, 400 Sherman Oaks Dr. Apt. 402, Ludington, MI 49431

Retiree – **Evans, Raleigh N.**, on 11/21/2013, TPAMM, husband of Patricia C. Evans (Deceased) father of Madeline Dunsizer, 2505 Nettlow Ln., Wimauma, FL 33589

Spouse – **Foote, Joan Carmichael**, on 12/1/2013, wife of Charles H. Foote (former UAL employee), mother of Linda Weitershausen, 21065 Cardinal Pond Ter., Ashburn, VA 20147

Retiree – **Gordon, Robert B.**, on 12/14/2013, SFOPI, husband of Marilyn (Jayne) Gordon, 4931 E. Windstone Trl., Cave Creek, AZ 85331

Retiree – **Graziano, Michael**, on 12/8/2013, EWRMM, father of Michael J. Graziano and Robert Graziano, 13514 Ann's Choice Way, Warminster, PA 18974

Retiree – **Harrington Sr., Richard R.**, on 11/8/2013, SFOSY, husband of Rita M. Harrington, 66 Borica St., San Francisco, CA 94127

Retiree – **Hughes, Harlan E. (Harley)** on 11/12/2013, DENMM, husband of Beverly J., Hughes, 24310 Richfield Loop, Council Bluffs, IA 51503

Retiree – **Hedghes, Harry L.**, on 12/19/2013, DENMM, husband of Lynn Hedghes (Deceased) 40965 E. County Rd 6, Bennett, CO 80102

Retiree – **Mclean, Murray S.**, on 12/19/2013, HNLCS, husband of Jane M. Mclean, 187 Lukia St., Hilo, HI 96720


Retiree – **Robinson, Joseph H.**, on 12/24/2013, SFOWR, husband of Mary Kathleen (Kathy) Robinson, SFOJJ, 3477 E. Hidden Valley Dr., Reno, NV 89502

Retiree – **Thibodeau, Ronald A.**, on 7/15/2013, JFKSW, companion of Alice Dernbach, 101 Sylvan Ave. Apt 24, Miller Place, NY 11764

Retiree – **Vrtacnik, Ralph J.**, on 12/24/2013, SFOFO, husband of Evelyn Vrtacnik (Deceased) father of Lynnette Vrtacnik, 216 S 166th, Seattle, WA 98148

Spouse – **Yamamoto, Amy E.**, on 12/4/2013, wife of Minoru Yamamoto, 2659 W. 104th Ct., Westminster, CO 80234

LETTERS



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

Martha Gooselaw

Martha Gooselaw
Letters Editor

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

Mike Bowles, Roy Brown, John Deily, Gabrielle Dentraygues, Dorothy Engels, Barbara Fiske, Nora Fitzpatrick, Charles Gallagher, Frank Gibbons, Helene Guay, Sarah Harris, Jessie Hiltbold, Lee Johnson, Frank McAnulty, Russell Miller, Frank Reed, Betty Rupp, Bernard Sandner, Rechie Santander, Therese Tasse, Johnny Tweddell, Emily Turner, Thomas Turner, Eleanor Williams, Gwendolyn Williams, Elizabeth Winchester, Yvonne Wright.

WE HAVE RECEIVED LETTERS FROM:

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

Roni Adams. 2012 North 24th St., Boise, Idaho 83702

To me it seems like 2013 has been in a big hurry to jump into 2014, or it could be that I am moving much slower. So far, I have had some good flying in 2013 and have one more flight coming up December 12. I just hope the weather behaves during this time.

My last flight for 2013 will be a round trip BOI to MKE to spend time with my Wisconsin family, especially with my grandson who will be coming home from the Air Force Base in San Angelo, Texas to Maribel, Wisconsin on December 12th. He then leaves for Wiesbaden Germany on the 19th for two years with Military Intelligence. He doesn't get to spend Thanksgiving or Christmas with family this year. Instead he will be spending the Holidays with his military buddies. It will feel strange not having him at home for the holidays, and though he is a 6' 2" twenty five year old young man, we still think of him as a boy who should be home, especially at Christmas. I volunteer at the Warhawk Air Museum here in Idaho and we have a lot of history and memorabilia from WWII. It is hard to imagine our young soldiers during that time, at age 19, flying the B-17 and B-24 bombers.

The United flight leaving BOI at 7:50 am makes connection in ORD to United Express to arrive MKE at 3:57 p.m. The round trip fare is only 90 cents more to fly into Milwaukee! It's hard for me to understand this fare, but I'll take it. Milwaukee is closer than Chicago to Maribel, so it's more convenient for my family to pick me up.

As always I want to thank you for the Newsletter. I enjoyed the pictures of the Denver Convention, and am looking forward to the 2014 San Diego gathering.

Colin Cooke, 23 Edgecliff Terrace, Yonkers, NY 10705

Much to my surprise last July when I took an urgent antibiotic prescription for an infected tooth, Walgreens informed me that my Medco/Express Scripts had been cancelled, apparently by United Benefits. I called United Benefits to ask **why**, since I retired in September 1984 and had made no changes. I am now 89. To my dismay, they had no answer and said they would open a file on such a case. I envisioned months of paper work and such was the case. My son with whom I now live did all the phoning to United Benefits for me. "*We'll call you in three days*", he was frequently told but that didn't always happen. Suddenly after four months of no pharmacy coverage and frequent phone calls, **without** explanation, my pharmacy insurance was back. Meanwhile I'd paid Walgreens full price for two blood pressure meds and antibiotics plus \$50 to get their Pharmacy discount. I never did get an explanation from United Benefits as to why I'd been dropped after 29 years of retirement. I suspect that perhaps someone in the old "Malfunction Junction" remembered that I once wrote and edited a Union paper at SFOMB for seven years. Was UAL making another effort to reduce their insurance list as they had done before when I was out of the country and lost my UA medical coverage? Such was life then. Bankruptcy was on their mind. Has loss of pharmacy insurance happened to anyone else? Perhaps you heard on TV that a lady in this town of Yonkers was struck by her angry husband during an argument. She is a psychologist and perhaps had grown tired of talking through any problems. So she shot him instead. I can imagine a psychologist in Texas using a weapon but NY? Good "Evvin's". I wish my teeth were healthy in my old age but such is not the case. Four molars had decay beneath the crowns. Three new crowns cost nearly \$3000 and the fourth needed a root canal, \$1600 and a new crown yet to come. Wish I were back in Florida.

A small headline in a recent NY Times read, "*With a PhD, you now get food stamps.*" That's irony. Is the U.S. economy off the rails?

Good health to all.

Ernestine Manzo, 303 Henry St., Fairview, NJ 07022

Last March I flew on UAL to attend my cousin's wedding in Mar del Plata. This was my first flight on UAL since I retired in 2002. I purchased a round trip ticket in economy. On the outbound flight there was an empty seat in the next row near the window. I identified myself as a retiree. The flight attendant said that the seat was in the "Economy Plus" and therefore, could not let me sit there. The FA's were business and matter of fact. What was I expecting, an upgrade?

The Argentinean Government requires a visa prior to entering the country. Several passengers had to purchase this at the airport before being able to board the flight. It is an 11 hr flight from EWR to EZE.

Mar de Plata is another 5 hr drive south from Buenos Aires. The wedding was very nice and lasted until 4 AM the next day. Both of the flights I was on departed and arrived on time.

Pat Morris, 7209 Red Oak Dr., Crystal Lake, IL 60012

A group from a local think tank was thinking of a new name for our merged airline. They rejected the first three, but agreed on the fourth. The following are the reasons why:

1. UCON sounds too much like a college.
2. CON Ed Sounds too much like a utility
3. Contented - may not be true of all passengers (or employees)

They finally decided on Continual - Let's hope so.

Robert Pitts, 2305 Sigwalt St., Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

Bob has had a bad heart year and recently had a pacemaker/defibrillator installed and is having a hard time adjusting to it. We hope to see an improvement in a few months.

For those of you who haven't heard, our best friend **William Thompson**, WHQ passed away on October 8, 2013. His widow, **Dawn**'s address is 175 Andrea Ct., Hot Springs, AR 71909. We will miss him terribly.

Hello to all our Arizona friends.

Nick Romeo, 308 N. Highland Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126

I would like to thank all who have something to do in putting this RUAEA newsletter out. It is an amazing job with all the news updated and stories from members in different parts of the country.

I also wish I could hold back my Birthdays, but when the November issue comes along it reminds me it's time to pay up for membership. November was also my 91st birthday.

My wife, Angelina and I have celebrated our 69th wedding anniversary. I retired from the Elmhurst Post Office 30 years and retired from UAL 26 years, and I am a 20½ year Prostate Cancer survivor.

I made the Chicago Honor Flight to Washington D.C. a few years ago. I had wanted to donate to the cause but was told WWII veterans do not donate. The trip was to honor the veterans. It was a very moving experience, to see the memorials of WWII, Vietnam, etc. On our return flight we had (Mail Call). I received letters from family members and friends.

This has been an up and down year. We have had many doctors' appointments and Angelina is on many different medications. But we are hanging on; (not by the neck). We have caregivers who stay with us. Our daughter, Sandy retired as a Paralegal with Alexian Brothers, has her hands full. Now her time is spent not only for herself, her husband, John, and also for her mother and father. Our other daughter, Juliet also helps out; she is still with UAL.

Being a volunteer with the Elmhurst Police Department since 1992; I finally decided to retire. So I was given a farewell party by the Chief of Police, and many police and office personnel and a photographer attended. I did not know that volunteers got this recognition! I had my wife Angelina, my daughters Sandy and, Juliet and our caregiver with me. I was given a plaque, pin, and a card signed by many. My wife Angelina was presented with a bouquet of flowers and some chocolate candy.

We are unable to do anymore traveling. Glad we did cruises and tours around the world.

On closing, I wish all a Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Richard Snyder, 4900N 123rd St., Kansas City, KS 66109

I am very happy the 2014 Convention will be in SAN. I plan on finally attending a convention. SAN is a very special place for me as I started with the company there in May 1960.

I have lots of great memories of the employees as it was a very close knit family back then.

I was fortunate to be trained by **Lucky Langsett** and my OJT was **Annie Ferguson**, who later married **Tom Gibbons**. To this day, I feel all of my success in my career was due to their fundamentals of company and life.

Kazuko Yaguchi, 906 E Patten Dr., Palatine, IL 60074

I am a life time member. I retired in 1984. I always like to send a contribution to the postal fund.

I look forward to reading the newsletter. It is the only news I get about UAL.

I now get around with a cane or a walker. I haven't gone to the Skyliners meetings since my husband died in 2011. I rarely see any of my co-workers or friends from where I worked in EXO.

I would like to thank all who put the newsletter together.

I wish all a healthy and prosperous New Year of 2014.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS FOLLOW ON THE NEXT PAGE ->

Important Phone Numbers



United Airlines Benefits Center (Central Time)

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

United Employee Service Center

1-877-242-0075

esc@united.com (email)

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

For flight information and to list or change listing

Password for ePass Line –your birthday, mmddyy

\$25 fee to create new booking

1-877-202-0263 (PIN Reset)

Employee Travel Center

1-877-324-5555

ETC@united.com (email)

Flying Together Help Desk

1-800-255-5801

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

Blue Cross / Blue Shield 1-800-535-9825

<http://www.bcbs.com>

PBGC - for all retiree pension questions

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

Social Security Administration

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

Alliant Credit Union

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

Medicare Hotline

1-800-633-4227

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	<i>Membership Dues</i>		
	Domestic	Canada/Mexico	Foreign
One year	\$25.00	\$45.00	\$50.00

Additional \$5.00 per year for both paper and Web deliveries. Note that this option is not available for Life Members
Applications can be obtained via email, US mail or from www.ruaea.org. Send your dues to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433. Or, pay your dues online with credit cards (Visa, MC, Discover Card) at www.ruaea.org.

If it's time to renew your Membership, your Newsletter may contain one of the following Red Messages:

"IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP."

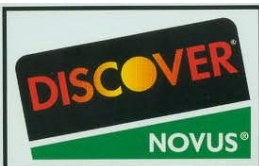
"DISREGARD THIS MESSAGE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID".

"YOUR MEMBERSHIP WILL EXPIRE UNLESS YOUR DUES ARE RECEIVED."

"PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR DUES PAYMENT AT THIS TIME."

"DISREGARD THIS NOTTICE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID."

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



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The DENTK Facilities Department requested a “time line” mural showing of the history of United and

Please mail your tax-deductible \$ contributions and donations of **United & Continental Memorabilia & Artifacts** to: **UAHF, Tom Goodyear, 7401 Martin Luther King Blvd., Denver, CO 80207**. Visit our website at www.uahf.org.

