



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



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**Writers Column ~ RUAEA members do not need a special holiday to recognize our military veterans. Charles Bogert, SFOJS & EWRJL, from Foster City, California wrote the following article. Marty Etler, correspondent for the Garden Staters sent the photo of US military veterans of the Garden Staters from EWR, November 2014, taken at Snuffy's Restaurant in Scotch Plains.**

**They're just veterans** ~ To most, Veterans Day is just another day on the calendar. To them, veterans are just someone who served their country and once wore a uniform, but to those of us who actually served, we did so proudly. The price of freedom has always been high, but veterans have always been willing to pay that price and their individual sacrifices are staggering.

Through the years, veterans came from all walks of life, all ages, some in the very early teens, but mostly high school graduated seniors or older. Some of these recruits were never far away from their families, friends or homes. The rules and restrictions their parents laid on them while growing up were nothing compared to the new rules and regulations their military instructors would impose on them. They would be overwhelmed with training exercises, marching drills, weapons training and military procedure, nothing compared to their home lives. Within 8-12 weeks, their lives go from "childhood to adulthood" and despite their sometimes second thoughts, most graduate basic training proudly and ready to serve their country.

For those who receive deployment to their bases in a peaceful world, they have the chance to enjoy their surroundings much like an away from home college student. Their windows of opportunity are open, their friendships evolve, their plans for the future develop and their contacts with "Home" often used. The bases usually offer some comforts of home, sleeping quarters, dining halls, warm meals, movies and other forms of entertainment are available and many use them wisely.

But peace is usually short lived and the military moves quickly. As conflicts arise, the veterans are called upon to face the challenge of protecting our country. Within weeks, these same people are there to answer this challenge and their lives get changed forever, their danger begins.

Unlike the public, their daily routines are changed drastically. Deployed to a region of the world they never knew to fight someone with harmful intent. Sometimes they live in deplorable conditions. Their body showers, dental hygiene and sleep cycles are disrupted. They might spend weeks in damp, cold improvised trenches or fox holes in freezing cold or torrential heat. Thirsty, hungry and unable to relieve their body waste when needed; these people stay at their posts. They hear and see things the public never views, yet somehow they endure the wrath of battle. Their stomachs will turn in the anguish of combat and teenage lifestyle might suddenly realize the difference between a "high school hickey" and a "combat hemorrhage". They are forced to make decisions that might change outcomes or possibly destroy lives. They are afraid to make friends for they could lose them in a short time and history has recorded that many military ranks lose their lives before the age of 25.

The returning war torn veterans finally return home, changed in so many ways. They bring their nightmares home with them and fight to repress their anguish. Then there were those that were POWs combating great mental battles they fight every day that the general public knows little about. Veterans are not supermen; they suppress their emotions but hurt inside.

The fortunate ones have the strength of their family or friends to reach out to as well as other veterans who have shared their experiences. Some never recover, they lose everything. As a World War 2 D-Day survivor, one quoted to me "I wouldn't give a plug nickel for my experiences, but I wouldn't sell them for a million dollars".

Hell, we might just be veterans, but we did our jobs well. I salute you all! **Charles Bogert.** Foster City, CA



# GENERAL NEWS

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

## Letter From The President



**Hank Gosselin**

Hi Folks,  
I hope everyone had a great holiday season.

I thank all of you for being RUAEA members, a great organization to belong to and be a part of, in

my opinion.

As we start up 2015, our main goal must be to increase our membership. So again, I ask your help, please try to sign-up at least one new member during 2015. The photo is of the first planning session for the Pittsburgh Convention. Remember to mark your calendars for the Convention, which will be held from September 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup>. Pittsburgh is a great area for a vacation.

Thank you all again and enjoy the New Year!

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



**L to R: Ron Bertacini, Mary Jane Stewart, Treatie Karwoski, Marilyn Marcy and John Koehl**

## RAFA Pass Travel Update from Kirk Moore ~ Important things to know about the “My Info” page



**Kirk Moore**

“My Info” (used for EF registration) is now located in the left column of the Employee Services page on Flying Together <https://flyingtogether.ual.com>.

Retirees who do not visit Flying Together at least once every 90 days will be denied access. To get re-instated, you must call the United IT Service Desk: 1-800-255-5801 outside of normal biz hours.

If the “My Info”; page does not display on your computer then try changing your browser preferences to enable JavaScript and cookies. Don’t know how? Call the United IT Service Desk: 1-800-255-5801 outside of normal biz hours.

Personal Information: If you are on the “My Info” page, do NOT click on “Myinfo” under “Personal Information” ... that’s for employees only. Retirees can view their personal information by clicking on “Your Benefits Resources (YBR)” under the blue “Benefits” heading on the “My Info” page. Once you are re-directed to the YBR page, click on “Your Profile” at the top of the page to view your personal information.

“Pass Travel Report” under “Pass Riders” will display all the pass travel trips you and your eligible pass riders have taken (handy to have if United sends you a 1099 tax form). Only problem, the Pass Travel Report does not work on Mac computers. Find a friend with a PC to generate your report.

### **ORD renumbers “F” gates to reduce customer confusion**

Employees across a number of work groups recently completed renumbering the “F” gates in Terminal 2 at ORD. The gates now include F1-F28 replacing the confusing letter-number-letter (e.g., “F1A”) system that was in place prior to the project.



*“On the surface it would seem this was a simple process of changing signs,”* commented ORD VP Charles Duncan. *“However, there was a great deal of work behind the scenes to make this happen.”* Other changes included updates to software such as Gate View, terminal maps in Hemispheres, boarding pass details and numerous changes in the Station Operations Center to ensure there was no confusion with flight crews and ground personnel throughout the process.

### **United launched inflight Wi-Fi on regional jets**



UAL has expanded Wi-Fi to the first of its United Express regional aircraft (#N127SY), enabling more customers to stay connected in flight during their journeys.

United will outfit more than 200 Embraer 175, Embraer 170 and CRJ700 regional jets with Gogo’s ATG-4 advanced air-to-ground Wi-Fi product. By mid-2015, United expects to complete installation on nearly all these aircraft.

Additionally, the company will begin providing personal device entertainment on regional jets this year, offering customers hundreds of complimentary movies and television shows to view on their Wi-Fi-enabled iOS and Android devices using our mobile app, as well as on laptop computers.

United continues to outfit its mainline fleet with Wi-Fi, which the company currently offers on nearly three-quarters of its domestic mainline fleet. United also operates more international aircraft with Wi-Fi than any other U.S. airline.

United has installed personal device entertainment on nearly 200 mainline aircraft, including its entire Boeing 747, Airbus A319 and Airbus A320 fleets and its nine Boeing 777 aircraft that fly primarily between the continental U.S. and Hawaii.

In addition to Wi-Fi and personal device entertainment, United is further investing in its customers’ regional-jet experience, including upgrading premium-cabin meal service on United Express this spring by replacing snack boxes with freshly prepared food on flights that are more than 2 hours and 20 minutes, or 800 miles.

### **Now that’s quality: SFMC finishes 2014 ahead of transformation targets (from United Daily, 12/17/14)**



This year the San Francisco Maintenance Center (SFMC) has seen considerable change, and as 2014 comes to a close, United employees’ efforts there are paying off in a big way. Shifting the focus to work United can do most effectively has put the SFMC ahead of plan by millions of dollars and set the stage for years of more improvement serving the airline’s basic maintenance needs as well as competing more aggressively for third-party work.

The changes have affected all 3,000-plus employees of the base, especially those who changed shops, shifts and schedules as United expanded many areas to 24/7 coverage primarily to support its new Airbus heavy maintenance visit lines, which inducted five aircraft in 2014 and is working to reduce throughput to 30 days.

*“It’s remarkable what our teams have accomplished this year, and we’re looking forward to more growth in 2015,”* said Engine and Component MRO (Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul) Managing Director Mark Eldred. *“The base is well positioned now to get even better at our core business while we continue to explore new opportunities.”*

Mark and other base leaders including Airframe Managing Director Bonnie Turner stressed how



impressively the SFMC employees responded to the challenges presented when we implemented these Project Quality initiatives over the past year and a half.

*“The shift and shop changes alone have affected people in a very direct, personal way,” Bonnie said. “We appreciate that nearly everybody is dealing with major change this year, and the way we are responding and adapting is one of the big reasons we’re going into 2015 in such good shape.”*

Components Senior Manager Bill Fulton agreed, noting that his teams included men and women with skills ranging from sheet metal to high-end avionics. *“We went into this intent on preserving jobs, and we’ve done that; in fact we’re hiring again,”* Bill noted. *“But the changes we’ve made in our product lines were major. A lot of people are now doing work they wouldn’t have imagined doing a year or two ago.”*

The physical plant has changed considerably since the beginning of 2014. United is well into a long-term project to consolidate groups and make better use of its huge base footprint. Also, United is putting new equipment and accessories into place to help support the transformation, from cranes to lifts and stands and improvements to lighting and the infrastructure.

The most visible new addition to the facility is the big, blue blast room complex in the composites/sheet metal shop where United is training technicians to use a state-of-the-art reclaimable abrasive machine. United will use cornstarch as the abrasive when it prepares radomes and other large surfaces for repair and painting. *“As a medium for professional smoothing, cornstarch is precise, environmentally friendly and safe, and we can do the job 10 times faster than in our current sanding booths,”* said Component Maintenance Supervisor Mohammed Buksh.

*“This is another investment that will give us a real edge, not only turning around the parts more quickly for our own airplanes, but in taking on more outside work,”* Mohammed said.

Mark added, *“Elsewhere, we’re getting a new production control system, CNC (computer numerical control) grinder, high-pressure water blaster, shot peen (for metal cold working) machine, and a new lathe, all of which will earn back their costs in less than two years.”*

United will see the benefits of many of the upgrades and new items in its Landing Gear shop, where the company has expanded by taking on the overhaul of sets from its own Boeing 737NG, 757 and 777 aircraft, and Engine Overhaul shop, which has seen a more than 50 percent increase in third-party volumes in 2014 and has plans for even further expansion in 2015 and beyond.

### **United app makes travel easier**



Did you know that as a pass rider you can take advantage of many of the same features that customers can when they use the United app to help manage their travel? All the same features are available to pass riders except the one that allows you to change your seat (that’s available only if you are a positive-space traveler). Visit [united.com](http://united.com) to read the [press release](#) on the top 5 ways the United app is your best travel companion.

To use the United app for pass travel, just create a pass rider travel plan in employeeRES, then open the United app on your iPhone, iPad, Android, Windows or Blackberry device. Add the reservation either under “My Reservations” or in the travel wallet (top right icon) by choosing “Add a current reservation”. If your flight is within the 24-hour check-in window, you can even use the app to complete check-in.

The United app offers additional tools for non-revenue travelers:

- ✓ “View boarding totals”
- ✓ “View standby list” links you to pass rider details, including pass class and abbreviated board date
- ✓ “Change your flight” is an easy way to modify your itinerary without re-listing. Alternate flights will list, with a summary of the passenger boarding totals and a link to the standby list, to view at-a-glance seat availability and the standby list of alternate flight options for the same route.

You can monitor the standby list on the flight status screen. Refreshing this screen on the app is the quickest way to see when agents are clearing standbys on the flight.

Signing up for flight status push notifications will notify you when a flight has left the gate, taken off, landed, arrived at the gate, etc. It’s helpful for monitoring pass riders’ travel, particularly if you’re meeting them at the airport.

In the event of a delay, using “Where is this aircraft coming from?” on the flight status screen is an easy

way to follow a plane from its previous destination. It's a feature unique to United.

If you have questions about pass travel, please direct them to the Employee Travel Center at [etc@united.com](mailto:etc@united.com).

### **Flight attendants to get iPhone 6 Plus in 2015**



Flight attendants will begin using Apple's iPhone 6 Plus in the second quarter of 2015 to better connect with the tools and information they need to do their job.

*"Providing our more than 23,000 flight attendants with one of the newest, most user-friendly devices is an important investment,"* said Inflight Services SVP Sam Risoli. *"We count on them to deliver our flyer-friendly experience every day, and we are committed to supporting them."*

UAL will begin rolling out the new devices pre-loaded with the ability to handle most onboard retail transactions, access to company email and Flying Together, [united.com](http://united.com), and PDF versions of policies and procedures manuals. Future enhancements include replacing their printed Flight Attendant Operations Manual and providing real-time reporting and improved follow-up on cabin issues.

Additionally, United plans on developing a number of customer-focused tools to better enable its flight attendants to serve the customers. *"Providing leading-edge technology to a workforce of this size is a challenge,"* said Operations Automation and Innovation Managing Director Julian Pachon. *"But we're excited to align the flight attendants' new work tool with the Apple iPad the pilots are using. This gives us a lot of opportunities to develop common tools and apps for both crews."*

### **United seeks FAA investigation of Port Authority financial practices at EWR**



United is asking the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to investigate the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey's financial practices at EWR. United filed a complaint alleging those practices violate federal law governing airports. The complaint centers on the discriminatory and unreasonable fees the Port Authority charges to airlines serving EWR, which is one of the country's most important hubs and a critical gateway to the Atlantic for the traveling public. The complaint also raises significant issues concerning the Port Authority's grant assurances and financial responsibility and its use of airport revenues to subsidize other, money-losing operations.

The costs that the Port Authority requires airlines at EWR to pay are grossly disproportionate to those it requires carriers serving the New York airports to pay. Airfield fees at EWR are by far the highest in the nation - 59 percent higher than at the next most expensive non-Port Authority airport (ORD) and even 75 percent higher than at JFK (New York-Kennedy), which is operated by the Port Authority.

The complaint alleges the Port Authority unlawfully diverts the substantial financial surpluses it generates at EWR to fund loss-making non-aeronautical operations and projects. Since 2004, the Port Authority has diverted more than \$2 billion from the New York-area airports to non-airport uses, including spending on facilities not even operated by the Port Authority.

It is important for New Jersey, EWR, all the carriers that serve the airport and the traveling public that the Port Authority charge reasonable and transparent fees that are proportionate with those charged at other New York-area airports and stop the unlawful use of EWR as a revenue generator for non-airport projects.

### So Simple from Sheryl



Sheryl Schubert

Happy Valentine's Day! Do I have a dessert for you! This cake is for chocolate lovers and would make a great dessert for your honey or other company.

Kahlua Cake:

1 German Chocolate Cake mix

1 large instant chocolate pudding mix

1 pint sour cream (2 cups)

4 eggs

$\frac{3}{4}$  cup vegetable oil

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup Kahlua liquor

6 oz. chocolate chips

Combine all ingredients except chocolate chips with a hand mixer. Fold in chocolate chips. Pour into a Bundt pan sprayed with Pam.

Bake at 325 for 70 minutes. Cool slightly before inverting on to a platter.

Cake needs no icing, but may be garnished with powdered sugar. Why not top with whipped cream and a heart shaped candy or fresh strawberries?

### Flight 93 Memorial Chapel by Frank Eggles



Thank you, United Airlines Retirees for your dedication and support to United Airlines Flight 93 Memorial Chapel in Shanksville, PA.

Year to date, you have donated over \$40,000.00 to the Chapel. Your continued support is needed in repairing the damage recently incurred to the Chapel. As reported previously, the chapel was damaged by a car accident. Insurance doesn't completely cover the \$135,000.00 in damages due to only one driver having coverage.

To donate, make check payable to United Airlines Flight 93 Memorial Chapel and mail to, Frank Eggles, 3405 West Chester Pike B307, Newtown Square, PA 19073-4252. Have a great and prosperous 2015.

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

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

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

**Francis Domaratius**

**Newsletter Manager**

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# LOCAL NEWS

## ALABAMA



### GULF COAST CHAPTER

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What a meeting our Gulf Coast Chapter had on December 8, in the Cubi Bar Café in the NAS National Aviation Museum! We had 25 members attending our Christmas gala. They were **Jessie Arnold, George & Denny Atteberry, Mike & Elaine Austin, Bob & Carol Dorsey, John & Myrl Eisinger, Conrad Hamilton, Bill Hayden, Bob & Bev Heinrich, Rick & Carol Herrick, Ray & Mai Owens, Jeanne & Norm Reinoehl, Bob & Yvonne Schwartz, Barbara Serra, Harold Stofko, and Steve Wilkey & Annie Kirkpatrick Wilkey.** We were thrilled to welcome back **George & Denny Atteberry** from their stay in IN. We missed them so much while they were gone.

Members unable to attend this month were **Jim & Penny Alston** gone until April; **Keeton Barnes** had a doctor's appt.; **Doug & Edna Horne** due to **Edna's** health issues; **Park & Billie Learned** due to **Park's** health issues; **Monica & Joe Leonard** as she continues to recover from her major surgery and problems afterward; and **Tommy & Sande Zander** are back in New Orleans until the Spring. We were sorry to hear that **Ray & Mai Owens'** trip to Viet Nam had to be cancelled due to **Mai** having back surgery the first part of Jan. **Annie Kirkpatrick Wilkey** had major foot surgery December 17<sup>th</sup>. Everyone wished **Bob Schwartz** well with his cataract surgery.

President **Bob Schwartz** opened our meeting with the drawing of our raffle tickets. The winner was **Mike Austin** (second month in a row)! We only had two chocolate chip cookies extra and they were won by **Barbara Serra** and **Conrad Hamilton**. Neither the Treasurer's Report nor the Minutes had any corrections.

December birthdays are **Annie Kirkpatrick Wilkey** (13<sup>th</sup>), **Bob Heinrich** (16<sup>th</sup>), **Carol Dorsey** (17<sup>th</sup>), **Tommy Zander** (18<sup>th</sup>), **Edna Horne** (30<sup>th</sup>), and **Denny Atteberry** (31<sup>st</sup>).

January birthdays are **Monica Leonard** (1<sup>st</sup>), **Elaine Austin** (3<sup>rd</sup>), **Joe Leonard** (19<sup>th</sup>), and **Sheila Pritchett** (23<sup>rd</sup>). Happy Birthday to all of you!

Everyone attending brought a toy for the Toys for Tots program and we voted to give half of the toys to the Pensacola area and half to the Alabama area. **Conrad Hamilton** will deliver the toys to the Pensacola chapter and **Norm & Jeanne Reinoehl** will deliver them to the Alabama chapter.

We had our waitress, Christine, come into our meeting and presented her with a cash Christmas gift for all she does each month to set up our room just the way we like it. She is great!

Once we got the necessary meeting items done, we played our favorite "Dirty Santa" game where you never know if you will get to keep the gift you picked or if it will be stolen from you by someone. This turned into our liveliest game ever! One gift that was brought must have changed hands at least 10 times! We began to think we would be there until dinner time before the game ended. Another gift that went through many hands was a hand turned wine stopper handmade by **Rick Herrick**! You would not believe the beautiful work he does. Everyone had a great time and all the gifts were terrific and our meeting ended just prior to the Cubi Bar closing at 3 PM!

We always welcome visitors. Our members live between Ft. Walton Beach, FL and almost to Mississippi so if you are coming to the Gulf Coast, please give us a call and plan to join us at one of our fun meetings.

### Calendar:

**February 9 – 11:30AM Meeting at Cubi Bar Café in National Naval Aviation Museum, Pensacola, FL**



## SWEET HOME ALABAMA

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Our group met on Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Keith & Charlotte Gibson** in Trussville. Attending were **Bobby & Jean Cox**, **Jim & Donna Gooch**, **Ken & Beverly Yeager**, **Herb & Carol Wilbanks**, **Gay Fowler**, **Joe Jones**, and **Joann Benton**. Our special guests for the day were **Brian Tribble's** widow **Roxanne Saffles** and her mother **Nancy Sims**. Brian was tragically killed by a burglar in his church several years ago.

A highlight of the day was the celebration of **Herb Wilbanks' 80<sup>th</sup> birthday!** Other birthdays for December were **Charlotte Gibson**, **Joann Benton**, **Bobby Cox** and **Travis Glass**. **Jim & Donna Gooch** celebrated their anniversary on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

We meet every second Monday and welcome all retired United members and families to join us for lunch. For more information please call **Charlotte Gibson** at (205) 661-6288 or **Joe Jones** at (205) 646-3825.

## ARIZONA

### PHOENIX AZURES



Carol Liltz, Correspondent  
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At this writing, on January 3, I'm in Huntley, IL and it's "bbbrrrrr" cold. There was a little "dusting" of snow overnight (about 3/4") and I woke up to a snowplow going down our street. Nothing like that happens in Arizona. Oops, except December 31, New Years Eve, which saw the Superstition Mountains clad with the white stuff. Arizona is warming up this week to a balmy mid-70's and Vic & I will return to our winter abode.

Vic & I nearly missed our December luncheon at Briarwood Country Club due to a slip in my brain. LOL, we were cleaning (which is what we do on Saturday morning) when **Joe Hopkins** called to ask if we were okay and coming to the luncheon. Well, we got ready in lighting speed and drove up Rt. 303 to Briarwood CC in time to pass out the boxed candy kisses for each member attending the luncheon. Our lunch was delayed and a little cool but the after-party at the Neals made the day worth it. Oh, well, the cleaning had to wait.

The Azures had a luncheon at Golden Corral Buffet in Surprise, AZ on Thursday, January 15. I'll report in the next newsletter on the fun time we had.

Another "let's get together" luncheon was held at Carraba's Restaurant on 99<sup>th</sup> and McDowell on January 2. Attendees were **Joan & Richard Aaronson**, **Ziggy & Pat Butkiewicz**, **June Murphy**, **Enza Scarso** and, of course, the hosts **Joe & Lisa Hopkins**. Through the holidays, Carraba's opened for lunch dining, normally they open at 4:00pm.

Azures breakfasters at Coco's report a larger crowd now that the snowbirds are back. Or, maybe it's the new time of 0830 that allows attendees to get up one-half hour later.

Our February luncheon will be held at Arrowhead Country Club, in the Whitusa Room, on February 14 (Saturday). 1100 meet & greet, 12noon lunch. The address is 19888 North 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Glendale, AZ. We will hold our annual "white elephant" auction. Members bring a gift(s) in beautiful wrapping and the bidding begins. Most gifts are slightly used but some are bought new. Anyway, it's a fun way to fund our "kitty" and the members always enjoy the "surprises" within.

Don't forget Azures, if you haven't paid your yearly dues, it is still \$5.00 per person and you should send your check to **Joe Hopkins**, 3333 North 151<sup>st</sup> Drive, Goodyear, AZ 85395.

Since I am again away from my birthday/anniversary list, I will extend birthday and anniversary congratulations to our February celebrants and hope they have many, many more. One I know for sure, though, is **Vic Liltz** on February 4. So Happy Birthday to Vic and, "special" birthday wishes to **Enza Scarso** on her December birthday.



It's not too late to reserve your spot at the All Arizona Luncheon hosted by the Tucson Roadrunners on March 19, at 1130am at The Property Conference Center, 1251 West Gila Highway, Casa Grande, AZ 85130. A buffet lunch will be served with a good choice of entries. Great food, door prizes, 50/50 raffle. Sounds like fun seeing 'ole friends and co-workers from our United family. Make checks payable to **Pat DiLallo**, 14740 N. Palmwood, Oro Valley, AZ 85755. The price is \$23.00 per person. We have distributed flyers to our members but if you didn't receive one, please let me know and I will make sure to send you one. All United and Continental retirees are welcome.

Calendar:

**February 14** – (Saturday) at Arrowhead CC, Whitusa Room, 19888 N. 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Glendale, AZ

**March 19** - (Thurs.) All Arizona Luncheon, The Property Conf. Center, 1251 West Gila Highway, Casa Grande, AZ

March date not set for Turf Paradise or Casino Outing

**February 10 & 24** – Breakfasts at Coco's, 98<sup>th</sup> & Bell Rd., Sun City, 0830am. Call **Sherry Muoio** for reservations, (623) 572-4828, by Monday night before.

**PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S**

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The New Year has begun and our Re-United Chapter has many good and fun things planned to keep everyone interested. We welcome anyone who has worked for United or Continental Airlines at any time, and who is 55 years or older. We have many things to offer you, so please consider attending one of our monthly breakfasts or luncheons anytime. If you would like more information, please contact our President, **Shirley Claggett** at (480) 354-7610, or send her an e-mail at indind75@yahoo.com, or our Vice President, **Peg Snowdall** at (480) 396-3317 or by e-mail at phomfeldt@cox.net. They will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have.

We had 26 people at our monthly breakfast at the Black Bear Restaurant on December 19. That's a pretty good crowd in spite of the busy Christmas season when there is so much going on and to do. Our President was on a cruise, so she wasn't able to attend; but our Vice President, **Peg Snowdall**, filled in nicely. We talked about the successful Fantasy Flight held on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Our members helped in many ways, either by donating items for the children or helping with the decorating of the gates before the day of the Flight, and the morning of the exciting flight. Everything turned out just great!

We also talked about our annual Christmas Luncheon, which was held at the Palo Verde Country Club on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, hosted by **Carol & Skip Ward**, which really was nice. Because of health reasons, the **Wards** won't be able to do it anymore. **Pat & Buzz Nicholaisen** have offered to take over the Christmas party. The **Wards** have done it for quite a few years, and have always done a superb job. Thanks again **Carol & Skip**.

We welcomed a guest of **Linda Koltz** at the breakfast; **Marti Murphy**, who retired from the PHX Airport and knows some of our members who also worked there. She decided to join our chapter and we're glad to have her with us. Welcome **Marti**!

We will report on the January 14<sup>th</sup> Luncheon at Mt. Athos in Florence, AZ, hosted by **Natasha Schmidt** in the next newsletter.

Our next luncheon will be February 11<sup>th</sup> at Floridino's in Chandler. It's a rather small Italian Restaurant; but has excellent food, and reasonable too. We're having a private room there, with the luncheon being a buffet. After the luncheon, we will all head out to Basha's Gallery of Western American and Indian Art, where we'll have a self-guided tour of the place. There is so much to see in this gallery, you will really be amazed. It is owned by the Basha family, who has grocery stores all over the Phoenix area. There is no charge to visit this museum at any time. It is very worthwhile taking your time to see this place. More information as to the cost of the luncheon and directions to get to Floridino's will be sent to all our members by the hosts, **Ted & Liz Tollefsen**. The social hour will begin at 11:00 a.m, with the buffet luncheon at noon. Reservations are due by February 4<sup>th</sup>. Be sure and mark your calendar for this event. Any questions, please contact the **Tollefsens** at (480) 895-2897, or by e-mail at tedtolle@aol.com.

Have you paid your dues of \$5.00 each yet? They were due January 1<sup>st</sup>. If you haven't, please get your money to **Rita Zarek**, our treasurer, right away. If you're unable to come to one of our breakfasts or luncheons, you can mail it to **Rita** at 823 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Apache Junction, AZ 85120. If you have any questions, you can contact her at (480) 288-6685. Please let her know if you have any changes in your address, phone number, or e-mail, so our directory will be correct when it comes out next spring.

We will be voting this month on the officers for our Re-United's Chapter. Installation will be held in April.

Our next breakfast is Friday, February 27 at the Black Bear Diner, in Gilbert, starting at 9:15 a.m. Please contact our Vice President, **Peg Snowdall**, to let her know you'll be there by Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. She can be reached at (480) 396-3317, or by e-mail at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net).

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), **Dillon Terry** (2/16), **Ann Carroll** (2/22), and **Bud Hubbard** (2/28). Happy Birthday to all! We have three couples having their Wedding Anniversaries in February: **Marjorie & Joel Matteson** (2/2/63), **Judy & John McFarland** (2/8/64), and **Lynn & Bud Hubbard** (2/26/49). All of them have been married a long time. Congratulations!

#### Calendar:

**February 11** – Luncheon at Floridino's, 590 N. Alma School Rd. in Chandler and a tour of the Basha's Gallery, in Chandler, hosted by **Liz & Ted Tollefsen**, (480) 8956-2897, or by e-mail at [tedtolle@aol.com](mailto:tedtolle@aol.com).

**February 27** – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline Rd. in Gilbert, starting at 9:15 a.m. Please contact Vice President **Peg Snowdall** at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net) with your reservation by Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, or by phone at (480) 396-3317.

**March 19** – All-Arizona Luncheon at the Property Conference Center in Casa Grande, AZ, sponsored by the Tucson Road Runners.

**March 27** – Chicago Cubs, White Sox Spring Training game



#### TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Tucson, Arizona  
John Bennatts  
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Forty-three Roadrunners had a fantastic Christmas lunch at the Arizona Inn (a historic site in Tucson). I believe that nothing could be faulted in the meal. I found out later that the chapter treasury did help with the final bill. The 50/25/25 winners were **Marcy Degan** and **Peg Kuhn**.

President **Sandy Lawyer** presented wine to those who handle various duties throughout the year ~ **Wayne Norman** for the group photography at the luncheons, **Alice & Pete Lopez** as the 50/25/25 specialists, **Pat DiLallo** as treasurer, **Doris Clark** as secretary, and **John Bennatts** as the RUAEA correspondent.

The All Arizona Luncheon Committee consisting of **Sandy Lawyer**, **Alice Lopez**, **Doris Clark**, **Shirley Robertson**, **Pat Dilallo**, and **Jinny Cable** has met and developed ideas that should make for a very interesting luncheon. Just to refresh, March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Property Conference Center, 1251 W. Gila Highway, Casa Grande, AZ.

January's luncheon was scheduled to be held at the Agave Restaurant at the Desert Diamond Casino and hosted by **Claire Byle**. Since it occurs after this letter goes into publication, happenings will be covered in the March Newsletter.

Milestones ~ Anniversaries: **Eileen & Bob Loshbaugh**, Birthdays: **Tom Workinger** (9<sup>th</sup>), **Alice Belzer** (11<sup>th</sup>), **Erika Williams** (11<sup>th</sup>), **Gary Rayburn** (14<sup>th</sup>), **Beverly Workinger** (16<sup>th</sup>).

Tour of the Mini Time Machine Museum located at 3344 E. Camp Lowell Drive. Tour begins at 10:00 but head count is at 9:45. Tour cost \$5.00; contact **Gordon Starr** at 6479 E. Calle de Mirar, Tucson, AZ 85750 before February 13. Lunch will be held at Risky Business 6866 E. Sunrise at Kolb 12:00.

#### Calendar:

**March 19** - 2015 All Arizona Luncheon, address above

## CALIFORNIA

### CENTRAL COASTERS

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



It's hard to believe another year has passed. We ended the year with our usual Christmas luncheon. We met at the Spyglass Restaurant in Pismo Beach on December 17<sup>th</sup>. In attendance were **Bob & Esther Bartlett**, **Nina Powers**, **Peter & Joan Schaefer**, **John Wessel**, **Ken & Stella Bake**, **Bob Wagner**, **John & Barbara Stilwell**, **Bob & Marcia Stanger**, **Al & Marilyn Rybar**, and our President **Mike & Bridget Zoldak**. Missing from our group was **Jack & Eleanor Cunningham**. We had invited **Hal Klobe** and his wife to attend, but at the last minute they were not able to make it. They might make our February meeting. **John & Barbara Stilwell** hosted our luncheon. They had very nice table treats that were lighted Santa Clauses. As Barbara told us, John goes to various stores after Christmas to see what he can find. He negotiated at this one store and bought several of these Santa's. Each one needed batteries and John put candy in them. Barbara said that his work bench looked like an assembly line while he was putting them together. We have to wait till next year to see what he comes up with again.

President **Mike Zoldak** opened the meeting earlier than noon since our restaurant was advised by the Electric Company that they were working on the lines and there was a possibility that all power would be cut off. The restaurant prepared all the meals early and that worked out fine. As it was, we never lost power. Mike thanked the officers for the past year, and the same ones will remain for 2015. He also wanted to know who would be the hosts for next year's meetings. The results were:

- ❖ February 18 - **Bob & Esther Bartlett**
- ❖ April 15 - A committee will be arranged
- ❖ June 17 - **Bob & Marcia Stanger**
- ❖ August 19 - **Al & Marilyn Rybar**
- ❖ October 21 - **Mike & Bridget Zoldak**
- ❖ December 16 - **John & Barbara Stilwell**

No Secretary report.

Treasurer **Marcia Stanger** reported on the bank balance. She is still trying to find a bank that will take our deposits with little or no service charge. She has a couple of possibilities that are being looked into. Our Chapter will be donating \$100 to Toys 4 Tots, and \$100 to the Wounded Warriors fund. Our yearly dues remains the same at \$5 per person.

**Bob Wagner** told us of his trip to Iowa. He drove 3000 miles around the area, plus a few other states. He is a very active guy.

**Esther Bartlett** is suffering from double vision, which she says might be caused by the car accident she had several months ago. She is not only our Vice President, but our photographer also. She was taking all kinds of pictures during our luncheon, which should be very interesting when she develops them. She loves painting, but with her eye problem she has to put that aside for awhile. As I've said before, she is a very talented lady.

Before our gift exchange, we had the 50/50 drawing which was won by **John Wessel**. He drives the furthest, so this should cover his cost for gas.

The gift exchange went very well with some interesting presents. This usually ends our year and now we look forward to another safe and healthy year.

Our next meeting will be on February 18<sup>th</sup>.





## DESERT SUNBIRDS

Palm Springs Area  
 Chuck Lamas  
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[chucklamas@gmail.com](mailto:chucklamas@gmail.com)

The Desert Sunbirds' Christmas Luncheon was held at the La Brasserie in La Quinta. Forty four members enjoyed various selections from the menu (as opposed to the traditional "Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings.") It was a beautiful warm (but not too hot) day, so we enjoyed our lunch on the patio.

Our hostesses were **Carole Paquin** and **Doreen Roberts**, and they were ably assisted by **Patti Sica**, **Gay Traber**, and **Elaine Aggson**. It was a big day for the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission, as our members were very generous with our donated toys for the children.

We were happy to see some members we haven't seen in a while, namely **Barbara Rowe**, **Mary Butler**, and our snowbird, **Robb Bohart**. President Mike was there at the beginning, but was not feeling well. He went home, but reappeared just as the luncheon was breaking up.

**Al Beuchel** and **Mark Kaplan** spent the Christmas Season in Germany - Frankfurt, Munich, Wurzburg, and Rothenberg. They sent a Christmas greeting, "Froelich Weinachten", to one and all. **Dede Utzinger**, our wanderlust, was in Austin, Texas. **Mary Frank** missed the meeting for a different reason; she had eye surgery a couple days before the luncheon, and was not allowed to drive for two weeks. Hopefully, we'll see all of these folks in January.

OK, I did it again. As in past years, we had a tableful of gifts for our raffle; this is in addition to the gifts for the C.V.R.M. kids. As the names were being called, I was writing furiously to keep up with the names. I wanted to include the winner names in this report. I only realized that there were enough gifts for everyone when I heard names being repeated. So, a big "Thank You" to those who contributed gifts: **Elaine Aggson**, **Patti Sica**, **Gay Traber**, and of course, **Carole Paquin** and **Doreen Roberts**. This writer contributed a couple of gifts too. There may have been others, so a big "Thank You" to you, too!

**John Schultz** won the Birthday Lunch, and **Sherylle Delaney** and **Betty Rodgers** each took home \$50.00 in the 50/50 drawing. Lastly, the table centerpieces, made and donated by **Kathy Wilson** (Thank you, Kathy) were taken home by one lucky winner at each table.

### Calendar:

**February 11** – Hosted by **Gwen Craven**, **Scoobie Wolfe**, and **Sherylle Delaney**

**March 11** – Hosted by **Dave & Kathy Wilson**

## GOLD DIGGERS

Sacramento, CA  
 Colleen Esola, Secretary  
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The Sacramento Gold Diggers met on December 10<sup>th</sup> at Alta Sierra Country Club, Grass Valley, CA for our Christmas Luncheon. This was hosted by the **Wikstads** and **Volkers**. We had 66 Gold Diggers and 5 guests; **Ken & Cindy Skarin** and **Gil Martin**, guests of **Rolf & Margret Kramer**; **Carla & Jim Moss**, guests of **Forester & Jean Sinclair**. Our Chapter President welcomed those attending. The members thanked the **Volkers & Wikstads** for hosting.

### Officers' Reports:

*President* ~ **Orville Harshbarger** introduced the 2015 officers. He also introduced a Marine who was a representative of the Toys for Tots Program who came to pick up our toys that we brought.

*Vice President* ~ **Phil Frank** was not in attendance.

*Secretary* ~ **Colleen Esola** read the anniversaries for December: **Sanford & Frances Pinkiert** – 67 years. We will read our November anniversaries at our January meeting since the Secretary forgot to recognize them.

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

*Roster Chairman ~ Jack Raynor* had no report.

*Sunshine ~ Alice McPeak* passed out a Christmas card for us to sign for **Velma Stough**. Alice also sent a sympathy card to the family of **Paul Ambrosh**, a Hangtown Miner member. She also talked to **Shirley Vanderzyl** who has cancer.

*Historian ~ Stephanie Norton* brought albums of pictures of our members and memorabilia of past presidents and members. **Velma Stough** started the collection in the early years of our chapter.

*RUAEA Past President ~ Ron Bertacini* talked about some changes for 2015. Also he was promoting the next convention which will be September 23<sup>rd</sup> thru Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> in Pittsburgh, PA. The convention will be held at the Double Tree at Greentree.

#### Calendar:

**January 28** – Dingus McGees, Auburn, CA – hosted by **Ronnie & Judie King**



#### HANGTOWN MINERS

Jane Gibson

tired-dogs@comcast.net



December is such a wonderful month. We're beginning to really feel the changes Mother Nature gives our outdoor surroundings, our homes and businesses are all dressed up for the holidays with so many twinkling lights and cheerful music and it is also a time to reflect on the year that is coming to a close. We Miners have very creative and delicious places that are set up for us to enjoy. In 2014 we dined at Cascada Cantina, Red Hawk Casino, Spaghetti Factory, Camp Virner, Pollock Pines, 36 Handles, Mimi's Cafe, Cork & Fork, Akin's Ranch and the fantastic last meal at Sequoia House. A huge Thank You to each and every host and hostess who took the time and made the effort to arrange these great get togethers for us. The December luncheon at

the Sequoia House was the result of a huge amount of time by **Thom Biro**, **Tom & Suzanne Kenny** and a little decoration help from **Jane Gibson**.

Sadly, our reflections include the loss of members. This has been a particularly rough year for the Hangtown Miners. We have lost 5 current and/or former members: **Tom Stuchell**, **Ann Czapkay**, **Al Lockwood**, **Paul Ambrose** and **Jerry Juba**. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to their families.

*President ~ Rudy Blazius* took a moment to welcome everyone. This luncheon had 46 in attendance! 44 Miners and 2 guests. **Jim Raber** brought friend, **Judie Leimer**, **John Muir** brought his daughter, **Jacquie deMontel**. Happy Birthday wishes went to **Suzanne Kenny** and **Carolyn Woolston** and even though they weren't there, a Happy Anniversary goes out to **J.R. & Rosemary Heier** and **Herb & Kathy Prevost**. Another Thank You goes to Rudy & Cindy for handling the very generous contributions you all brought of food. Also for the large amount of toys donated that **Lynda & Joe Lima** will take to the Mosquito Fire Department.

While we do not normally hold an "official" meeting in December, Rudy had a couple things that he wanted to address. First: A reminder that our annual dues of \$10.00 is now due and payable. If you wish to pay by check, please make it out to the Hangtown Miners and send it to **Tom Kenny**, 3481 Parleys Canyon Placerville, CA 95667.

Second: Last month we approved making a donation to four charities. **Jeanette D'Amico** found when she tried to get the address for H.E.L.P., that apparently they are no longer around! So, the other charity that was suggested, SHARE, was nominated by **Thom Biro** and seconded by **Suzanne Kenny** as the replacement organization. All those present approved the motion. SHARE has been around since 1982, they provide food and help to those in need.

Third: **Gary Dalleske** is still searching for his missing memory book. Just a reminder, it is a 3" white plastic binder with a UAL shield on the front. This is a book that Gary's mother put together and it contains personal memories for Gary. It's been "gone" for about 2 years, so if you know of someone who may have it in their possession, please help them get it back to Gary.

Now, concerning the stock certificate that we have been hearing about for several months that **Thom Biro** bought, well, it has a new home now. Everyone received a “ticket” when they arrived and the winner is **Jon Somplack!**

Our next luncheon will be at the Cork & Fork in Cool. Oh, you will be paying for your meals then, but **Bill Dinette** needs to know what you plan to have so they can have things prepared for everyone.

Have a wonderful Holiday, be safe if you’re traveling and see you in 2015!

## **REDWOOD EMPIRE**

### **RETIREES**

Santa Rosa, California

Mary Wilson, Secretary

434 Decanter Circle

Windsor, CA 95492

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



On December 18<sup>th</sup> we met at the Quail Inn Restaurant in Oakmont for our annual Christmas luncheon and final get together for 2014! The Oakmont staff had decorated the tables with silver and blue ornaments in tall cylinder vases; set on a circular mirror to make it all shimmer like a Winter Wonderland! Everyone was dressed up in their holiday attire and in festive moods. The Quail Inn is such a nice setting for a holiday party, and the view, of course, was great as usual. We had a nice time greeting and visiting with each other while the staff provided a mini bar set up in the room; the table loaded with all the unwrapped toys made the room that much warmer and “Christmassy”! We had a total of 41 attending, including 3 guests. The food menu including a lovely pork roast and turkey with salads, red potatoes, and vegetables was generous and delicious; we felt unhurried and had a fun time visiting with our table-mates.

Our President **Brandon Maus** said he has enjoyed serving as President this last year, which I heard was a repeat performance for him; he officiated over the luncheon and presented us with a couple of changes to the Redwood Empire Retirees bylaws and policies, one of which is that any current UAL employee may join our “retiree” group. Any other changes will be repeated for us at the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. He also announced that there will be a new roster with corrected e-mail addresses compiled by **Oscar Chambers**, treasurer and will be provided to us early next year. The list of newly appointed officers for next year was re-read from last month and we welcomed a new officer, **Jerry Underhill**, who will take his place as the new Vice President! The Treasurer, Secretary, Photographer/Historian, and the Sunshine Lady will remain the same for 2015.

**Larry Wilson**, our current Vice President and incoming new President of the chapter next year, welcomed all the guests attending! They were: **Alice Eastus**, guest of **Ted Bell**; **Marge Baur**, guest of **Roger Casterline**; and **Jill Schratz**, guest and daughter of **Oscar Chambers**. **Barney Hagen** reminded us of the telephone number to reach the UAL Reservation desk, which is: 1 (877) 825-3729; please make a note of it. He mentioned that we should know that in order to keep our passwords current, the employees/retirees should access [Flyingtogether.com](http://Flyingtogether.com) website at least once every 90 days, because due to security they will expire within that time.

**Roger Casterline** revealed to us that next year’s RUAEA convention will be in Pittsburgh, PA in September; buy your lottery tickets now to purchase the entry fee and hotel accommodations, (just kidding)! Wish we all could go since the San Diego convention sounded like fun!

Treasurer **Oscar Chambers** announced our current balance in the General Fund is \$417.93 and after dispersing our annual donations to Charity, our Charity Box starts next year at \$46.36; for a total of \$464.29. He reminded us to get our membership dues in by the end of the year, or be “cut off” (LOL).

Many paid that day before departing for their holidays. The cost is \$10.00/each member; pretty reasonable in this day and age of high cost everything! **Joanne Huhn** listed the voted winners of the charitable donations from our chapter, which totaled a generous \$900 collected over the last year in our Charity Box. They were Hospice by the Bay (in memory of **Joan Chambers**) \$200.00; The Rose Women’s Shelter (Redwood Gospel Mission) \$100.00; Meals on Wheels \$100.00; The Children’s Village of Sonoma County \$100.00; The Living Room \$200.00; and the Redwood Empire Food Bank \$200.00. Thank you to all the members who made these donations possible, and who helped us select the lucky winners by voting on the selections.

**Brandon** welcomed back **Verda Burr**, our Sunshine Lady from her recent travels over the last couple of months to visit her family for Thanksgiving et al.

The Birthdays and one wedding anniversary for the month were read, which are: **Mary Hill**, **Lee Beery**, **Ann Sullivan**, **Kathy Staples** and **Mary Wilson**. December birthdays, and the Anniversary was **Carol &**



**Richard Hanna** (54 years!) The winner of the free luncheon was me! Wow, and I promise it wasn't "rigged"! Verda said that she had sent a card to **Madelyn Schmidt** who recently had a knee replacement surgery, and asked if anyone had heard from **Charlie Anderson**, who she tried to contact a few times. Oscar said he has been trying to e-mail and call him and received no response. He will continue to try reaching him and give a report at the next meeting. We wish them well and a quick recovery to Madelyn. Congratulations were sung for the birthdays and anniversary!

Verda, being in rare form could hardly get out the jokes that she brought for us. She was at the top of her game this time, and we laughed long and hard along with her!

After announcing next year's officers, **Brandon Maus** handed out some special gifts to the main current officers who served the club this last year. **Larry Wilson** presented Brandon & Pat with a nice bottle of fancy wine purchased by the officers and members to show appreciation for serving as President, and taking on hosting of some luncheons for the last two years.

Finally we got to the raffle of See's candies from **Ron & Joanne Huhn**, and some nice wine, purchased and wrapped by **Larry Wilson**. It was a very nice and memorable luncheon, and to top it off, we sent out the unwrapped toys destined for the Toys for Tots program, to be distributed to the local Fire Station, and a local Charity in Petaluma.

As we departed, we look forward to starting a New Year back together again for some great luncheons and new adventures!

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

Los Angeles

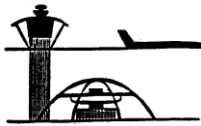
Donna Klobe

4058 Alla Rd.

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[haldonna@verizon.net](mailto:haldonna@verizon.net)



What a wondrous Christmas early in December. Our members came loaded down with bags of toys for Vista del Mar Child and Family Services. They filled a truck this year with gifts of love.

Long before the actual Christmas Day, we were pleased to receive a call from our dear **John Daley** with sad news. He could not attend the luncheon, as construction to his home was taking place. He sent his Jolly wishes to all. **Al Tschirhart** also called to advise he could not attend, but sent his loving wishes to all. We received sweet notes from **LaVonne Wilhoite**, **Barbara Rowe** and **Gina Bura-Henzel**. They are so supportive of the Re-LAX-ers and expressed happiness at hearing news of their friends. We missed others not able to attend this luncheon and we wish them blessings of good health. **Pat Cottrell** could not attend and **Betty & Herb Kopp** didn't make the long drive from the valley. Both **Olga Jean Barnes** and **Donna Klobe** were absent due to falls. Olga Jean broke her hip and spent time in surgery and then was moved to a rehab center; where she probably will be until the New Year. Donna's fall did not require Drs care and recuperated at home. **Joan Hoffmann** brought **Nancy Bessenbacher** and **Fran Elsner** all the way from the valley.

The RES table was again filled with many friends. **Mary Lou Favela** attended; **Diane Burbank**, **Jim Ferrance**, **Beverly McAlister**, **Pat Mosk**, **Barbara Whelpton**, **Becky Booker** and **Diane Lange** also joined this group. We wish to thank Diane, who generously donated envelopes to the Re-LAX-ers mailing "kitty". **Harry Takaki** who takes many photos at our local Fantasy Flight, brought a United Air Lines 2015 Calendar for every-one as a gift. Our thanks for your kindness, Harry.

We gratefully acknowledge our steady support from **Charles Onesko**, **Jim Lynskey**, **Gary Baesel**, **Peter & Babara Schuster**, **Dick Pendleton** and **Flor Santos**, **Ester & Louis Horompoly**, **Florence Hoy** and her daughters. Other regulars that were unable to attend our Holiday luncheon were **Lois Hamilton**, **Jeri Burley**, **Laly Savoy**, **Rowe & Pat Prideaux**, **Barbara Muehlrath**, **Pinky & Diane Opp**, and **Phyllis & Tom Easley**. They were missed. We send our love and gratefulness to all our missing friends and wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year!

### Calendar:

**February 6** - Proud Bird Restaurant - Lemay Room

## **RESANS**

San Diego, CA  
Barbara Drews  
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Another year coming at us. We look forward to what is ahead and what new adventures await us.

The annual Christmas lunch was held on December 10<sup>th</sup> and we had a record attendance of forty five. Special guests were **Hal & Donna Klobe** and **Barbara & Peter Schuster** joining us from the Re-LAX-ers. Donna was recovering from a bad fall and we were so glad she is doing better and made the long drive from LA to be with us.

**Debbie Taylor** made an announcement that RESANS dues are going up from \$5.00 to \$7.00 in 2015. Also the dues for RUAEA membership is going up from \$25.00 to \$27.00 in 2015. These increases reflect the rising cost of postage of the monthly RUAEA Newsletter. Check their website as you can also receive an online issue if you prefer at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org) and you can now pay your dues using a credit card on this website.

**Jackie Schwartz** was the winner of the 50/50 which was one of our largest ever, congratulations!

Our monthly breakfast is on the 8<sup>th</sup> of January so I will be reporting on that in February along with the news of the February 5<sup>th</sup> breakfast. We are promoting RUAEA membership and its importance to all retirees at our next breakfasts along with the need for RESANS membership and dues to be paid in April.

If you are going to be in the area please drop in and join us for our monthly breakfast held on the first Thursday of the month.

### **Calendar:**

**February 5** - Our monthly breakfast at the Pt. Loma Café, 4865 N. Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92106-2394. (619) 226-0255.



## **GOLDEN GATERS**

SFO – Bay Area  
Patricia Niland  
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Happy New Year again to everyone! As we don't have a general meeting in December, I don't have much news. The Officers Transition Luncheon did take place in December and it was a blast. Here is a list of our officers, which will be the same as 2014 except that we don't have a 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. Please step forward and ask to be nominated! I can all but guarantee the job will be yours (wink-wink). Upcoming meeting dates are January 26<sup>th</sup>, and February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Looking forward to seeing old and new friends.

Officers: President ~ **Jerome Underhill**, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President ~ TBA, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President ~ **Kathy Hutt**, Recording Secretary ~ **Donna Taiclet**, Corresponding Secretary ~ **Patricia Niland**, Treasurer ~ **Art Barrett**, Membership Secretary ~ **Barbara Underhill**, Auditors ~ **Dorothy Reuszer**, **Ben Vietz** and **Judy Curran**.

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

## SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

San Jose, CA

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

Merle Sweet

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Gung Hei Fat Choy! The Year of the Goat draws near. Since February is the month in which the Chinese Lunar New Year is celebrated annually, many western cities with significant Chinese populations, such as San Francisco, have festivals and parades. In this spirit, it is hoped ill fortune will be swept away making way for good, incoming luck, happiness, and longevity. These wishes especially go out to **Jack Jenkins, Vern Snyder, Boyd Sweet, and Sally Urso** who saw the inside of hospitals at the end of 2014, but who are recovering nicely.

2015 is a New Year with New Beginnings for **Margie & Alex Klaus** who have moved to Las Vegas. We are all having a hard time believing they are Really Gone! But, SFO/SJC's loss is the Silver Liners' gain. Good luck, Alex & Margie. You will be missed.

It seems logical that February, being the "official" month for Love and Friendship - with the celebration of St. Valentine's Day-- would be a great month for weddings, but we only have two who celebrate in this traditionally "romantic" month. We wish a Happy Anniversary to **Barbara & Ken Demblewski**, and **Barbara & Jerry Underhill**. February is a Big Birthday Month, since we have National Holidays to celebrate Presidents' Day, and closer to home, author John Steinbeck was born in February. I've been told that a few years ago many of our group took a trip to visit The Steinbeck Museum in Salinas. Our UAL friends who are lucky enough to celebrate February birthdays are **Russ Currier, David Diaz, Kal Kalpin, Virginia Phillips, Goldie Purdy, Sharon Ramsey, Vern Snyder, and Chuck Thuener**. Happy Birthday Everyone!

Discussion has begun about Time, Place, and Who will host our Spring Luncheon. Any Volunteers? Call our President, **Dave Garland**.

**Keith Olthof** is our featured member for February. Keith was born January 5, 1928 in The Netherlands. He served in the Royal Netherlands Air Force (RNLAf) for 10 years. It was during this time when he served a year and a half in Biak, New Guinea working as a Flight Engineer on a PBY Catalina ("Patrol Bomber" or "Flying Boat"). Biak is a small island located near the northern coast of Papua, and Indonesian Province. During this time exercises were coordinated with the RNLAf and the American Navy on aircraft carriers. Touring the Midway Aircraft Carrier while at the San Diego Convention, Keith stated that this brought back memories of serving on such a ship.

Keith worked for 10 years in Canada. In 1957 he worked for Hamilton Aircraft Service, then in 1961 began working for Air Canada in Montreal. In March, 1963 Keith began his (almost) 29 year career with United Air Lines (UAL). Keith spent his first 4 years as a Mechanic at SFO and the remainder of his years as an Inspector. He retired from SFOPI in June 1991.

Keith and his wife, Ann, have put together a most impressive Volunteer Resume since Keith's retirement. To say they help others who are less fortunate is putting it mildly. For example, the year after Keith retired, Hurricane Iniki struck Hawaii. This has been the most powerful hurricane to strike Hawaii in recorded history. Damage was greatest on the island of Kauai where destroyed houses left more than 7,000 people homeless. Keith & Ann volunteered, rebuilding homes. (Among those on Kauai was filmmaker Steven Spielberg, who was on location shooting the movie *Jurassic Park*.)

Ann retired after 30 years of working as a nurse at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital (LPCH), which is part of the Stanford University system. Since retirement, Ann has worked together with a Pediatric and Neonatal Intensivist (doctor) in Africa. Keith, not to be left home, joined Ann as a technician. These assignments have been in Nigeria in West Africa. Nigeria is often referred to as the "Giant of Africa", due to its being the 7<sup>th</sup> most populous country in the world. They also worked in Swaziland, one of the smallest countries in Africa. The Swazi population faces major health issues. As of 2013 Swaziland has an estimated life expectancy of 50 years. Uganda, where the endangered mountain gorilla is found in small portions of protected forests, yet another country in which Keith and Ann volunteered.

Keith has also joined Ann as she has worked for The Flying Doctors. The Flying Doctors bring together physicians, dentists, nurses, chiropractors, other health professionals and non-medical support volunteers to care for people who otherwise would never receive professional medical care.

Ann & Keith continue to travel the globe. For example, besides their African experiences, just some of the places they have gone are Russia, China, a cruise through the Panama Canal, Viet Nam, Cambodia, and various



trips to the Netherlands and Belgium. They also take advantage of sites on the mainland United States, such as their recent camping trip across the north western part of the country to South Dakota, (see November 2014 RUAEA Newsletter) as well as trips to Hawaii. When home, in addition to our weekly breakfast meetings, they also enjoy a Lecture Series sponsored by The Los Altos Forum.

During the banquet at the RUAEA Convention in San Diego, Keith kept all apprised of the score of one of the San Francisco Giants postseason playoff games. Being a Giant's fan, I'm sure Keith must have thought Christmas had come in October when the Giants won the World Series for the third time in five seasons.

Keith & Ann were married for 53 years this past March. They have 4 children, 7 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. One of their daughters and her husband live in Scotts Valley in the Santa Cruz Mountains, another daughter and her husband live in the California Valley in Copperopolis, their third daughter and her husband live in Maui. Their son and his wife live in Napa, both working in the Wine Industry, of course! Keith states that they are very grateful for their health and that retirement has been wonderful.

#### Calendar:

**Every Friday** – 8:00 breakfast at Holder's Country Inn, De Anza Blvd., Cupertino (across from Home Depot)

**On-going** – Donations for Palo Alto Veterans' Hospital – see **Harry Willever**



#### **SAN JOAQUINERS**

Stockton, California

Barbara Edkin

1616 Sapphire Dr.

Livingston, CA 95334-9486

(209) 394-1770

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

A very special thank to **Rosie Walls** for acting as secretary at our December meeting. We are sorry that **Barbara & Ace Edkin** missed the luncheon due to illness. We hope to see them at our next luncheon. Get well soon!

We had a wonderful luncheon hosted by **Bob & Sandy Brooks** and the 2014 officers. There were 28 people in attendance and the food was delicious. The Garden Café prepared the buffet and left take-out boxes for people to take home the leftovers.

**Bob Brooks** opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. **Ginger DuMars** said a prayer and blessing before lunch was served.

It was great to see **Bob & Ginger DuMars, Mike & Anita Millard, Pat Magee**, and **Ben Yates** join us for our luncheon. Thanks for coming and hope to see you again next year at one of our luncheons. **Bob Brooks** passed around the sign-up sheet for hosting lunches in 2015. It was awesome to see the sheet all filled out. Thanks to everyone who signed up.

**Bobby Wood** will be taking over as president of the chapter for 2015. He still needs someone to step up to fill the position of vice president. **Rudy Reyna** mentioned that the chapter will be donating \$100 to each of the following charities: Emergency Food Bank - San Joaquin County, Interfaith Food Bank - Amador County, Resource Connection Food Bank - Calaveras County, Salvation Army Food Bank - Stanislaus County, Interfaith Community Social Services - Tuolumne County.

**Hans Weber** recommended to the group that we apply for a United Explorer Credit Card. When you sign up for the card, you automatically get 30,000 miles. The first year, the card is free, then every year after that the fee is \$95.00 per year. Charge all your purchases and earn travel miles. He also said when you list for a space available flight; you should always list for first class.

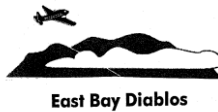
**Bob Brooks** announced birthdays and anniversaries for December and January. Then it was time for the raffle. **Fred & Joan Verbaere** donated a case of wine from their winery. Thank you from all of us for the donation. And the final raffle ticket called was for the door prize of \$50.00 cash and the winner was **Fred Verbaere**. Congratulations Fred!

Best wishes to each and every one for a Happy and Healthy New Year. Hope to see you at our luncheon in February. There will not be a meeting in January.

We would like to issue an open invitation to anyone living/visiting in our area to join us. We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday (except January) of each month (our next meeting is February 12) but, since we meet at various places, you can call our president, **Bob Brooks** (209) 772-9814, for meeting information.

## **EAST BAY DIABLOS**

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



Our 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas party was held at Zio Fredo's restaurant with 38 members and guests in attendance for a delicious Prime Rib meal. This was a special treat for the Holidays. Our members were most generous with gifts for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots collection. Many of our members donated wine and food gifts for the door prize drawings.

Our new faces were **Lance Engeldinger**, husband of **Trudy** and **Kathleen Kincaid**, **Lou's** daughter. Among those we hadn't seen for a while were **Red Klaren**, **Judy & Al Tiu** and **Russ Kennedy**. **Carol Parks** fulfilled her role as Santa's helper with candy canes for everyone.

Our meeting schedule is as follows:

- ❖ February 9 – Sizzler
- ❖ March 9 - Sizzler
- ❖ April 13 – Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mount Diablo Street, Concord (Todos Santos Park location)
- ❖ May 11 – El Tapatio
- ❖ June 8 – Annual Picnic at Diane & Manny's home.
- ❖ July – No meeting

We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month and have an ongoing book and magazine exchange as well as new or used Christmas cards. The leftover books are donated to the Contra Costa Library for their book sales and the magazines are donated to various hospitals. **Barbara Cunningham** has kindly offered to accept and distribute the cards. We welcome all UA and CO retirees who live in the East Bay.



## **CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS**

Chico, California  
Sharon Simonton, Secretary  
P.O. Box 2257  
Paradise, CA 95967  
(530) 872-7992  
[sbsimonton@comcast.net](mailto:sbsimonton@comcast.net)

Rain for the whole month of December did not stop the Northstaters from a luncheon/meeting outside at the Simontons' home. Christmas decorations and even a fire outside helped to ward off the weather and 27 retirees and spouses were in attendance for the holiday cheer. **Merritt Odor** greeted everyone and thanked the Simontons for hosting the meeting/luncheon. There was ham, turkey and beef. Everyone brought a beautiful side dish perfect for the Christmas holiday.

Merritt mentioned that dues will be due for 2015 at our next meeting. The dues will remain \$10.00 per family.

**John & Pat Zoboli** came from Reno. It is always great to have John and his wife. John brought interesting information from the convention results and updated us on current changes.

He spoke about the 2015 convention that will be held in Pittsburgh this year, Sept. 23-26 at the Doubletree Inn. The rooms will be \$112.00 a night and lots of activities are planned.

RUAEA News - Membership dues will increase by \$2.00 per year starting Jan. 1, 2015. John brought applications for those who are not in RUAEA yet.

John spoke about the Enrolled Friends for the retirees and the difference with Enrolled Friends and the Buddy Passes. He reminded everyone that signups for new friends started in December.

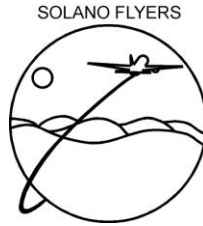
Fantasy flights are planned at the following airports in 2015: Boise, Cleveland, Denver, Los Angeles, Chicago, Phoenix, San Antonio, Newark, San Francisco, Dulles, Houston and Guam.

There was an open session where John answered questions and there was some discussion on standby for flights, etc.

After the luncheon, Sharon held a Christmas gift exchange that was very entertaining. **Hal Burdick** won the 50/50 raffle and **Vanessa Pratt** won the \$15.00 lunch certificate. **Sharon & Bill Simonton** donated a box of Joy Lyn's candy and **Vincent Neidlinger** was the winner.

### SOLANO FLYERS

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



December meeting at the Benicia Grill in Fairfield found the following members in attendance: **Bob Zweighardt, Louis Pell, Rudy Arsaga, Bill & Joanne Blizzard, John Francis, Pad & Eileen Gardner, James Ellison, Diosnel & Luci Perez, Robert Zirzow, Ed Meadows, Allan & Peggy Pochop, Eugene Boyce, Charles Johnson.**

**Ed Meadows** celebrated his birthday in December.

Chapter Officers ~ The chapter officer elections are in January. **John Francis** volunteered **Harold Mitchell** for our new chapter president, **Al Pochop**, seconded the motion. Members then voted unanimously for **Harold** for President, 2015. Someone then questioned if this a legal election as **Harold** was not in attendance. **Al** reviewed the chapter by laws found one restriction regarding a "shanghai" vote. Page 31, paragraph 6.b, states, "*shanghaied member may only hold one officer position*". Therefore there is no violation and **Al** declared this a legal election. Now, the hard part will be convincing **Mitch** of the legality of the election. **JoAnne Blizzard** graciously volunteered to remain our chapter Treasurer.

Chapter Dues ~ Members voted to increase the annual dues to \$10 per person, any new member that joins after July, will only pay \$5 for the remaining year.

**Rudy Asarga** won the 50/50 drawing.

Donated Gifts ~ **Luci Perez** donated a Biscotti. Again, the winning ticket was held by **Rudy Asarga**. **Pad Gardner** donated two Pinapple/zucchini breads, the winner was **Al Pochop** and **Charles Johnson**.

### Calendar:

**January 14** - Meeting at Denny's, Vacaville, 11am.

**February 11** - Meeting at Benica Grill, Fairfield, 11am.

## COLORADO



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

We met at DENTK on January 3. It was a sunny day, but we did get more snow later in the day. We had 31 attendees, including two "apprentice retirees". **Allen & Alex Barron**, great grandchildren of **Walt & Vee Hansen**, DENMM. We had news that **Gene Sibley**, DENMM, was suffering from the flu. **Paul Miller**, DENMM, received holiday greeting from **Cliff Reik**, DENMM, who now resides in PA. He had a difficult year, aorta issues, Lyme disease, and is ready for a new year. Paul suggested that we send him some get well wishes. Address is **Clifton Reik**, 8059 William Penn Hwy., Mifflintown, PA 17059. **Carol Bare** is in charge of our sunshine correspondence now. We had a couple of attendees who recently celebrated their 80<sup>th</sup> birthdays, **Tom Goodyear**, DENOO and **Bill Brehmer**, DENMM.

After the holiday travels, we all feel the need to get back to our routine. Several attendees shared their upcoming travel plans though. **Jim Spate**, DENMM, will be traveling to FL for a reunion of former CLEMM employees. The date has not been announced, but they expect to meet the first part of February, near Sarasota FL.

**Glenn Cannon**, IADCG, will be leaving for a cruise through the Panama Canal. Several will be leaving for Arizona to resume their snowbirds activities.

Obituary ~ **Gene Calvert**, DENMM passed away on December 19 and **David Stephens**, DENMM passed away on December 12, 2014.

Follow up ~ **Doris Hall**, Denco is still in assisted living, Denco. Note: We got information that **Charles Norris**, DENMM, wasn't doing well. We contacted Charles and he is fine. We also contacted the wife of **GT Norris**, Dencs and she says GT is in home hospice care. He is comfortable as the family sees to his needs. She also expresses her thanks for the concern shown for GT.

A question was asked about Primary Friend travel. The primary friend is eligible for active employees only. They would have a higher priority than an enrolled friend, when not accompanied by the sponsor. You can find all the details on Flying Together, Travel tab, Pass travel questions & answers. The new category of Primary friend was added November 2013.

Our 50/50 winners were **Mary Lou Hoffman**, DENTK, **Matt Ohr**, DENMM, & **Casmir Spokas**, DENMM who won twice. Each returned their winnings.

Calendar:

**February 7** - Next breakfast at DENTK 9:00 am

**March 7** - Breakfast at DENTK 9:00 am

**March 21** - DENMM breakfast at Gala Gardens 9:00 am

**April 15** - Spring Luncheon at Cinzzettis

**FLORIDA**



**SAND'DABS**

Daytona Beach, FL

Gloria Marcantoni

644 Donald Ross Way

St. Augustine, FL 32092

(904) 940-9908

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

This was our Holly Jolly Meeting – the first of the New Year! 15 people were in attendance and we started off with the Pledge and a prayer composed by **Bobbie Rieck**. Bobbie is a beautiful writer and for this meeting was the back-up secretary due to the absence of **Gloria Marcantoni**. Thanks Bobbie for all you do for this group!

Some regulars were unable to attend due to a conflict of dates (**Marion & Rick Johnson**) and travel plans (**Emily Veracka**). We hope to see them back next month. Travel plans are in the future for **Steve & Lillian Moddle** and **Penny Logan**. We wish them safe journeys!

President **Dick Coughlin** started off the New Year with some historical trivia by giving us the background of an old saying: "God willing and the Creek don't rise." "Creek" refers to an Indian Tribe, not a body of water! Who knew! These meetings are always fun and educational. Thanks Dick!

Our Treasurer **Penny Logan** gave us her report and we plan to discuss which charities we will donate to at our next meeting. The 50/50 was won by **Marian Wickersham**. That will help defray some of her relocating expenses.

President **Dick Coughlin** gave us a UAL briefing including topics such as iPhones for Flight Attendants, new gates at O'Hare, and someone getting caught selling cheap tickets for others.

**Steve Moddle** reported the area is still experiencing cars being stolen due to keys left in the car or even leaving the motor running! Be careful when leaving your car. (Twice, I have unintentionally left my car running for hours. Once at EXO, once here in Florida.)

Milestones for January are **Steve Moddle's** birthday, **Lowell & Anne Johnson's** 58<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, **Penny & Omar Logan's** 41<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary, and Penny's 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of her kidney transplant from 1982. Finally, **Dick Coughlin** celebrated his 49<sup>th</sup> Company anniversary. Congratulations and many more healthy years to all!

Calendar:

**February 5** – 11:30 - Red Lobster, 3162 S. Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach, FL

**March 5** – Same as above



**THE ORLANDO**  
**REAL McCOYS**

Elaine Tillman-Mannella  
7953 Canyon Lake Circle  
Orlando, FL 32835  
(407) 523-6983  
[emt6250@yahoo.com](mailto:emt6250@yahoo.com)



January 6<sup>th</sup> dawned another beautiful 73+ degree day in Orlando! Yes, I'm rubbing it in, but it's just a ploy to "grow our chapter here in central Florida". Wouldn't you love to get out of the cold and snow and give your kids and grandkids a super place to visit anytime of the year? Got just the place for ya! Ho!

Pres Rich began our meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance (flag bearer **Ernie Vosges**) and Treasurer Charlotte reported the financials for the end of the year. She also read the thank you notes we received from Russell House, Hospice of the Comforter, and the VA Hospital for our donations. Did You Know: a VA patron at Bonefish, when she heard of our donation, gave us a generous donation to add to ours, paying it forward! Char also reported that she has already received membership dues from 29 of us, take a minute to tuck a ten-spot in your wallet to give her in February!

We welcomed **Retta Finn**'s mother, **Mary**, and new members to our ranks, **Marie Aiello** and **Tracie Ruffolo**, along with **John & Mary Starzynski** and **Edna Gooseman**, whom we haven't seen in awhile! **Bob McNeill & Mary** were back with us too, after some health issues in November. **Sharon Ringer** landed in the hospital at Christmas time, but was with us today, perky and animated as ever! Wonderful to see you all!

Since our last gathering, **Don Ulman** is back in rehab and could really use a shot of cheery. Send a card to the house and **Susan** will deliver it to him. Prayers too!

Our Happy Birthday Wishes for January included: **Jim Mummah** (4<sup>th</sup>), **Diane Lewis** and **Tom Cannata** (5<sup>th</sup>), **Carol Woods** (8<sup>th</sup>), **Marie Aiello** (20<sup>th</sup>) and **Barb Fitak** (23<sup>rd</sup>). And **Jim & Pat Hernandez** were married 32 years ago on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Congratulations!

P.S. Many of you from CLE and MIA will remember Storekeeper "**Tek**" **Francis Tekavic** from years ago. Tek retired back in 1999 and passed away August 2<sup>nd</sup>. In a Christmas card to **Rich & Cathy Llewellyn**, Tek's wife, **Joyce** said, "... *He had 15 good and fulfilling years of retirement and sure enjoyed hearing from all of his friends from United. He never tired of reminiscing of "those days."*" **Joyce Tekavic**, 701 1<sup>st</sup>, Mountain Lake Park, MD 21550 or [teksplace@yahoo.com](mailto:teksplace@yahoo.com).

Calendar:

First Tuesday of every month at 1:00pm

**February 3** - 1:00pm at the Golden Corral

**March 3**

**April 7** -Picnic Planning



**TAMPA BAY**

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

Everyone except **Beverly Alderdice** spent the holidays here in Florida. Beverly flew to the BDL area to visit family. Other than Beverly, none of us has been doing much traveling. I guess we know how good we have it here in the Tampa area with our summer like weather.

We sent our year end contribution to JDRF (diabetes research) and received a nice thank you letter from them.

Only one birthday this month, **Volrie Fusina** on January 27.

**Terri Breslin**, our sunshine gal, sent a card to **Marie Summers** and will be sending one to **Les Manuel** who just had surgery.

There was a discussion about the special dates coming up. Our spring picnic will be on April 6 and our fall picnic will be on October 5. There will be no meetings in June or July and the September meeting will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> instead of the usual first Monday since that is Labor Day. Terri is checking with Heritage Springs to see if we can have our Holiday party there again this year.

**Jon Wilkinson** briefed us on what's happening at UAL.

We're still looking for new members so hopefully you retirees in the TPA area will join us. We're a friendly group.

Calendar:

**February 2** - Meeting, 10:30am at the IHOP.

**TREASURE COAST**

Stuart, FL

M. Jane Kerr

1372 SW California Blvd.

Port St. Lucie, FL 34953

(772) 343-0709

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



What a noisy 20 in attendance at our luncheon, conversation from last year was rehashed, and new members chimed right in. **Diane Liebisch** was in attendance and is doing very well in her recovery from the fall she had on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Fran & Gene Student** were introduced as our new members and have just moved to Del Ray Beach. Gene worked for Pan Am at NY headquarters in many capacities and also worked in Rockleigh, NJ with Pan Am and Thomas Cook in corporate accounts near Giants Stadium and ended up in New York. He retired in November, 2013. Fran worked for United in Rockleigh, NJ until they closed that office. She also worked at EWRCS, DENRR, NYCTO, BDLTO, COSTO and retired from Denver in April 2006. Welcome to both as new members.

**Diane Liebisch** gave a treasury report.

Everyone agreed that our Christmas/ holiday party on December 15<sup>th</sup> was a blast and **Al Popek** passed around pictures for everyone to keep who attended the party.

The 50/50 was won by **Gene Student** and the progressive was won by **Ed Snyder** but he was not in attendance so it goes back for next month's drawing.

Birthdays ~ **David Damon** (2/17), **Gene Student** (2/22). Happy Birthday!

Anniversaries ~ **David & Carolyn Lindgren** (2/2) and **Arnie & Judith Frage Sr.** (2/29). Happy anniversary to both couples!

Remember to live, laugh and love, the clock is ticking.

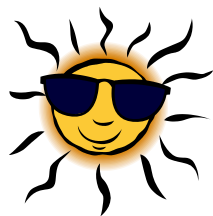
Calendar:

**January 7** - Luncheon/Meeting 1230PM, Wahoo's Stuart, FL

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

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

**April 1** - Luncheon meeting at 12:30 PM at Wahoo's, Stuart, Florida. April meeting is not a joke



**FIRST COAST SUNSHINERS**

Jacksonville, FL

Gloria Marcantoni

644 Donald Ross Way

St. Augustine, FL 32092

(904) 940-9908

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

Unfortunately due to illness, we cancelled this month's meeting. Hope to see you in February!

Calendar:

**February 12** - 11:30 - Red Lobster, 416 Commerce Center Dr., Jacksonville, FL 32225, (904)727-7460

## GEORGIA

### DIXIE FLYERS

Metro Atlanta Georgia  
Ron Heider  
935 City Park Dr.  
McDonough, GA 30252  
678(782-3262)  
[heider.ronald@yahoo.com](mailto:heider.ronald@yahoo.com)



#### Submitted by Janice Carter, [janicec1121@yahoo.com](mailto:janicec1121@yahoo.com)

The Dixie Flyers met for lunch on January 7, our attendance dipped to a new low of 20, considering the near freezing temperatures and gusty winds, it kept a lot at home.

A little discussion about PBGC pension benefits really in jeopardy of shortfall of companies not contributing what they should, as well as new influx of members. The airline industry is showing profits on the rise, United showed only 6%, while Delta, American, and Southwest profited above 18%.

Eighteen United Stations customer service and ramp service jobs are under consideration of jobs being farmed out to private contractors.

**Fred Cron** conducted the 50/50 raffle, lucky ticket was drawn by **Cybil Voss** and went to **Frank Russy** for \$18.00.

January birthdays ~ **Stan Cebula** (2<sup>nd</sup>), **Ed Paille** (7<sup>th</sup>), **Mary Owen** (17<sup>th</sup>), **Barbara Russy** (19<sup>th</sup>) and **Tommy Harris** (23<sup>rd</sup>). Retirements in January ~ **Art Guynn** (1999), **Tommy Harris** (2002), and **Ron Heider** (1993).

**Audrey Knotts** is recovering from a heart attack last November, but dementia is taking over. **Frank Preminger** lost his father recently, condolences to him.

Our next meeting will be February 4<sup>th</sup>, at Broadway Diner, 535 Glynn St. S. Fayetteville, GA, (770) 716-2628.

The annual Zot Shelley ATL, TPA reunion will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in April on the 18<sup>th</sup>. It is a fun day of reunion and good food contributed by locals and far away.

*And a special note to **Ron Heider**:* My Dad (Ron) who lost his sidekick, his best friend, his family member, their dog Cuddles. He was adopted for mom, but ended up being dad's travel companion. Cuddles was adopted on January 25, 2008, and was put to rest Jan 5, 2015. Dad, Cuddles won the Lottery when you came in and adopted him! As true animal lovers believe, he has crossed over to rainbow heaven, you will see him again!

## HAWAII

### HONOLULU MENEHUNES

Patricia Thomson, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 1709  
Honolulu, HI 96806-1709  
(808) 946-7847  
[HNLRUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNLRUA@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 [HNLRUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNLRUA@gmail.com) and we will email you the details. All retirees are welcome to join us. We look forward to seeing you in Our Little Corner of the World.

### **PAU HANA KUPUNA**

(Hawaii, The Big Island)  
Ann Eaton Medve  
P. O. Box 126  
Kapa'au, HI 96755-0126  
(808) 889-1636  
[annmedve@aol.com](mailto:annmedve@aol.com)



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

### **IDAHO**



#### **BOISE GEMS**

Carol Adams  
2630 W. Inglewood Dr.  
Boise, ID 83705  
(208) 344-6897  
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We had a good turnout for our annual December meeting, again at Jakers. The food is always excellent, and the company is always great! (Side Note: Jake Jones, the owner, was with me in the first graduating class from Borah HS in 1959. He has several restaurants in Idaho and Montana). Those in attendance are **Roni Adams, Carole Bell, Rick & Shirley Dempsey, Louise Duvall, Bud & Pat Peters, Louise Rodriguez, Marlene Croghan, Freck & Ann Rose, Susan Shaw, Ileen Bunce, Marilyn Taylor, Holbrook Maslen, David & Carol Adams, and Charles & Shirley Perkins**, whose son-in-law is now the manager of the Idaho Military Museum at our Gowen Field, bordering the airport.

The Fantasy Flight did not go quite as planned, but a good time was had by all anyway! As it turned out, the weather here was too foggy to take the 82 children and several adults for a "spin around the city". However, Plan B, was also exciting, as the plane taxied on the tarmac. Prior to this, the children were kept busy with treats, gift bags, and all kinds of games, with several of our BSU football players, cheerleaders, and our mascot Buster Bronco joining in at a waiting area down the concourse. Following the ride, the children were brought into a second waiting area which was beautifully decorated by employees (whose names I don't know), and greeted by Santa and Mrs. Claus. There were, just as in previous years, several trees identified by the school names, with many labeled gifts under each. If this is new to you, it would help you to know that the children chosen from each of the schools had written a letter naming some items that they would like to receive. Many airport employees participated in buying gifts, also we Boise Gems. Because of David's knee replacement, we had to miss the fun this time. As you can imagine, it is always a very heartwarming experience.

We no longer meet monthly at Jerry's State Court Café. It was sold, and everyone in our group who went there in November was very disappointed. However, there is good news to share. Our new location to meet for lunch is the Black Bear Café. We will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month from now on. We would love to add more to our group.

#### **Calendar:**

**February 11 - 11:30 - Lunch at The Black Bear Café, 1731 S. Entertainment Ave.**



## ILLINOIS

### CHICAGO SKYLINERS

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

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

Jan Gawenda

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February - President's Day. It used to be just Washington and Lincoln. But somebody somewhere decided it should be all 44 Presidents' Day of observance. For some reason, the mattress companies think it's a good month to have mattress sales. Says a lot for the character of the Presidents! Also, it's Valentine's Day. I bet St. Valentine would be shocked to see how Hallmark, Fannie May, and the rose industry have jumped at the chance to make a few bucks in his name. Young love, old love, or no loves, our minds are filled with hearts and flowers. Enjoy it, ladies; he might not remember it next year. Fat chance you'd let him!

Over 200 people attended our Christmas Luncheon at the Avalon. We had a great time, seeing old friends. Newbies included **Sam Ambegaoker**, **Gwen** and **Bill Brookins**, ORDCG, **Arlene Hardley**, **Nancy Kraft**, CHIRR and ORDCS, **Debbie & Roger Mock**, ORDMM, **Liz & Ted Tollefsen**, **Dorothy & Tom Badon**, ORDPV, **Lynn Hagele**, from CHIRR and ORDCS, **Irene Jarmulska**, from EXOOU and EXOSI, **Sharon Klett**, CHIRR, **Carolyn Keys**, CHIRR, **Kathleen Loftus**, CHIRR and ORDCS, **Mary Ann Martin**, CHIRR, **Barbara Ruccia**, CHIRR, **Lorraie Wach**, CHIRR, and **Joyce Walker**, CHIRR and ORDCS. Looks like somebody called Res and said, "*Come on Down!*" Welcome and thanks for calling United! Our next luncheon will be Wednesday, March 25, at the Cotillion in Palatine. Please join us. Wine a little, laugh a lot!

If you ever leave from the B gates at ORD, you'll get to see a new look at gates B 4, 6 and 8. It is a prototype concept they are testing at ORD before they roll it out at other cities.

The cold weather kept some people away from our Northside Breakfast. But **Elena & Cesar Guerra**, brought their grandson, **Ian**, before he went to Day Care, a very charming little man.

Our Southside Group only had a dozen retirees. We had a grab bag, everything from a candle to Lotto Tickets. There were quite a few raffles. Our regular cash raffle was won by **Marge Caliendo**, **Tom Hurley** and **Ed Ward**. Lotto Scratch off tickets, brought by **Gwen & Bill Brookins**, were won by **Ed Ward**, **Marge Schmitt**, **LaVonne Halach**, and **Perry Pahl**. The Grab Bag gifts were won by **Gwen Brookins**, **Perry Pahl**, **Tom Hurley**, **Jan Gawenda**, **Marge Caliendo**, and **Bob Pearson**. The Cash Postage Fund was won by **Agnes Pearson** and **Al Broderson**. Our eyes were spinning checking those little raffle numbers. But everybody won something, which was great.

Some of our United dearly departed include **George Gorman**, ORDCS, who is considered one of the best Managers of CS, ever! Also **Ruth Merriman**, EXORA, and **Bill Phillips**, ORDCG. From ORDMM, **Don Wolfel**, Aircraft Inspector Extraordinaire, according to the mechanics that he worked with. He was very precise, if the repair didn't look right, he wouldn't pass it, he'd say, "*Fix it again!*" He was also very funny. Once I mentioned that my ice cubes would shrink if I didn't use them right away. He laughed and said, "*Ha, ice cubes don't last that long in our house, not during our cocktail hour.*" Don had a stroke two years ago and lingered on until 12/19/13. God bless you all, UAL'ers. One of my aunts passed away, also, quite unexpectedly. Alfrieda, a lovely lady, I'll miss her. Also of note, Mario Cuomo, Stuart Scott from ESPN, Bess Myerson, 1945 Miss America, Donna Douglas, Elly May from The Beverly Hillbillies, and the incomparable, Geoffrey Holder, remember the "UnCola Nut" commercial for 7Up? Aging with dignity, coupled with the quality of life gives hope to those of us who wake up and say, "It's great to be alive, let's do something with this day". Do we have our bags packed, or are we creating our own happy quality of life. What have you done with, your dash? That little dash between your birth and death dates on your tombstone, 192?---201? Yes, that dash. Life worth living is a life that has quality.

2014 Fourth Quarter Postage Fund Donors: **Joan Anderson**, **Marlene Anderson**, **Tom Badon**, **Ron Baker**, **Jay Boberek**, **Juanita Braid**, **Al Broderson**, **Phyllis Capuzelo**, **Ron Carlson**, **Karen Carney**, **Irene Carroll**, **Helen Cauwels**, **Bill Churchill**, **Evelyn Clark**, **Steve Conrad**, **Rich DelBoccio**, **Betty Doran**, **Cesar Guerra**, **Bill Hamilton**, **Barbara Hanson**, **Tom Hurley**, **Ted Jung**, **Lynn Kalweit**, **Lorraine Karpen**, **Mary Keenan**, **Ed Keifer**, **Jean Kohmstedt**, **John Kozlik**, **James Kulik**, **LaVerne Lundquist**, **Janice Menchaca**, **Rudi Meskele**, **Ed Meyer**, **Pat Muha**, **Marj Nelson**, **Harold Ogle**, **Joan O'Hara**, **Joan Olsen**, **Ruth Opitz**,

**Hertha Orszula, Lucy Paet-Smith, Gary Peck, Ann Pepper, Gilberto Romero, Virginia Rood, Nalini Shah, Stephanie Simpson, Jim Sommerfield, Marlene Stanek, Eleanore Syoen, Mary Szabo, Wayne Tapp, Kay Towns, Don Tutt, Gene Vegeais, Ginny Vlach, Jim Vlazny, Sophie Wajda, Mary Kay Wojtal.**

2014 Fourth Quarter Website Donors: **Joan Anderson, Marlene Anderson, Tom Badon, Jay Boberek, Irene Carroll, Bill Churchill, Steve Conrad, Rich del Boccio, Dave Dunham, Harry Gilling, Jackie Giri, Cesar Guerra, Bill Hamilton, Barbara Hanson, Ed Keifer, Linda Kim, John Koehl, Phyllis Kordecki, Nancy Kraft, Kathy Loftus, Terri Martin, Ed Meyer, Virginia Monaco, Kathleen Moore, Marj Nelson, Luci Paet-Smith, Gary Keck, Ann Pepper, Gloria Rinkenberger, Ellen Shofner, Jim Sommerfield, Marlene Stanek, Mary Szabo, Ken Thiede, Toni VanKampen, Ginny Vlach.**

#### Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Elly's Restaurant, 8:30 A.M., 372 E. Golf Rd., Arlington Heights, IL. (**February 11**).  
Second Tuesday of the month.

Southside Breakfast - Jedi's Restaurant, 9:30 A.M., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn. (**January 27**). Last Tuesday of the month.

**March 25** - Spring Luncheon, The Cotillion, Rt. 14 and Creekside Drv., Palatine, 1200 P.M.

**September 23-26** - 2015 RUAEA Convention in PIT

### INDIANA



#### INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN

Rita Prins, Correspondent

9662 N. 675W

Fairland, IN 46126

[groovygran70@netmagic.net](mailto:groovygran70@netmagic.net)



As a past President of Indy Racers as well as holding other Chapter officer positions, we are proud to be featuring **Wanda Bryce** this month ~ Before Wanda began her employment with United Airlines, in 1959 she began her career at Capital Airlines in Cleveland in Reservations. She was there for three years. In 1961, Capital Airlines and United Airlines merged. As fate would have it, Wanda met her husband in Cleveland and they were married in 1962. Their daughter was born in 1963 and following only a brief time off, Wanda returned to UAL in Charleston, West Virginia. However, in 1964, Wanda returned to Pittsburgh, where she stayed on hiatus to raise her babies. In 1968, she returned to Cleveland where she continued on her break from work.

In 1974, she returned to UAL to work in Load Planning (for about one year) then transferred back to Reservations until the Cleveland plant was closed in 1990. Given a choice to resign or take a layoff, Wanda opted for the layoff. At the time of her layoff, Wanda returned to Pittsburgh and went to work as Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

In 1993, when UAL went to ESOP, Wanda moved to Chicago and re-entered United Airlines and returned to Reservations. In 1995, she moved to Indianapolis and continued working in Reservations. She also served as Team Leader and Union Committee Person. After 9-11-2001, Wanda retired from United Airlines.

She started right up on a **big** project: She rehabbed and painted every room in her parents' old home. After a trip to Pittsburgh and Cleveland to visit family and friends, Wanda returned home to Indianapolis and bought a foreclosure with 2 acres of land around it. With the help of a hired handyman, she gutted and redid that little house, even added a front porch and a deck. Wanda moved into the house after having loved rural living most of her life and it seemed so by being in an old neighborhood. She loves it!

So, when that project was done, Wanda set about to freshen up and redo the home she had been living in and put it on the market.

Wanda has traveled to RUAEA Conventions in 2011 (in Pittsburgh) and in 2012 (in Washington, DC). She told me she would encourage as many of the retirees as she could to attend a RUAEA Convention.

She has loved trips to Casinos and in 2013; she went to Las Vegas and stayed a month in the home of an old UAL friend. Another friend, **Dimple Rihel**, joined her to spend a little time and a little (?) money at the Casinos on the "Strip".

Having satisfied her love for Casinos for a while, Wanda is mostly content to rock in her rocking chair and make an annual trip to Pittsburgh and one to Cleveland to meet up with family and friends.

Birthdays ~ **John Conway** (4<sup>th</sup>), **Jeanne Matlak** (12<sup>th</sup>), **Joan Romano** (17<sup>th</sup>), **Ed Duffey** (18<sup>th</sup>).  
Anniversaries ~ **Ed & Concisa Loftus**.

Trips ~ **Frank** (retiree) & **Rita Prins** made a holiday trip to Illinois to visit with Rita's family. They tell us everyone had a great time! **Ray** (retiree) & **Hannelore Brabo** had pre-holiday visitors from Missouri. They were Brabos' son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Carol. It was a nice visit and everyone had a good time.

Illness ~ On November 7, our new President, **Mario Bregante**, entered the hospital for a 5-hour surgery to replace his Aortic Valve and for a double bypass. He was in the hospital for a week and was transferred to a Rehab facility for three weeks. On January 3<sup>rd</sup>, his wife, **Margie** (our Vice President) brought Mario home. He is making progress every day. He told us he will be attending our next meeting. We will welcome him back with grateful hearts!

**Rita Prins** (Correspondent) is recovering quite well from recent back surgery. Former member, **Gail Allen** has been hospitalized in Arizona. Her husband, **Warren**, is a retiree from United Airlines and they moved to Arizona a year or so ago. We wish them well.

#### Calendar:

**February 10** – Emmy's Pancake House and Grill 7508 Beechwood Center, Suite 300, Avon, IN 46123. Lunch and informal card playing are available at 1:30 p.m. with the Business Meeting starting at 2:30 p.m.

### MASSACHUSETTS

#### NOR'EASTERS

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



No January Meeting, no meeting news. Our snowbirds have left for the season. Lucky them! Our treasurer, **Bill & Elaine Vanderwal** spent the last two weeks of January in Naples FL. I'm envious!

Whenever I travel to Boston, I pass our VP **Mercedes Hersom**'s home. She volunteers so much time to various organizations, I'm lucky if I get to catch her at home one out of ten times.

So far, noting the weather across America, I think northern New England has gotten off easy, unusual for us. So far, only one major storm this season. We've had a little snow a few more times, nothing to complain about. Living in the woods I get out and look for animal tracks. It's easy to tell the difference between prints of rabbit, squirrel, deer, raccoon, field mice and large birds. However, this is the first time I've seen large cat tracks, possibly lynx or bobcat.

Our own **Bill Betters** has been under the weather for a few weeks. Get better Bill! As a regular attendee, we don't want to miss you at meetings.

February's birthdays ~ **Gary Bosworth**, **Nicholas Bouzianis**, **Mark Domurat**, **Eric Fairweather**, **Joan Simard**, **Lucinda Suga** and **Gladys Willis**.

February's anniversaries ~ **Robert & Claire Anderson**, 63 years.

#### Calendar:

**February** - No meeting

## MINNESOTA



### NORTHERN LITES

Connie Glattly  
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Willow River, MN 55795  
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[crglattly@frontiernet.net](mailto:crglattly@frontiernet.net)

Our December Christmas luncheon was the first time at our new venue and 40 Lites managed to find their way to Woodbury without much trouble. There had been heavy frost the night before and every twig was coated in white ~ a beautiful sight. Members who we don't see very often were **Janice Meyer** and **Roger Jorgenson**, **Andy & Norma Holen** and **Wayne & Karen Cole**. We also had a chance to meet for the first time (hopefully not the last!) **Trudy Steinbeck**, alumna of both MSP and GEG, retired about a year. However, it sounds like she won't be spending much time in the Twin Cities during the winter. Hmmm! Wonder why not?

This time we had a secret Santa who paid for all our lunches! What a wonderful Christmas present! **Diane & Lee Storlie** wanted to show their appreciation for all the love and support that the Northern Lites family have shown them during **Diane's** ongoing health struggles. She's one gutsy lady and all of us love her grit and courage. Heck, we just love her, period.

Everyone seemed very pleased with our new lunch spot. The food presentation was better than the last OCB where we'd been going for many years. They were welcoming and very pleasant and the food quality was good.

**Al & Mary Kilian** made it to lunch for the first time since in about three months. The docs have finally given him his Get-Outta-Jail card and he can now resume driving. They did, however, get a ride that day with **Gordy & Lou Olson**. Their plan is to head south after the holidays.

When it came time for the 50/50 raffle ~ although in honor of Christmas it was the 100/0 raffle ~ our pal **Sonja Gunderson** was a bit flustered. New lunch venue, new seating, had she and **Lyle** chosen a lucky table? Only time would tell and the whole group waited with bated breath. The dice were rolled to find the lucky birthday winner and **Sonja** rolled the highest total. Then the raffle ticket numbers were called for the \$10 prizes. First number out of the box was **Sonja's** and the crowd went wild! She held up her ticket in triumph and you can bet your last dollar that no one will be allowed in that chair in the future.

There were a few other items raffled off: Some wooden crafts donated by **Tom Cafilisch** and several UAL mementos from **Janice Meyer** and **Roger Jorgenson** who are in the process of downsizing after their move to St. Paul from Lanesboro, MN.

**Andy & Norma Holen** along with 12 other volunteers from their local Lutheran congregation spent Thanksgiving (and the three days prior) preparing, serving and delivering 119 meals to those without plans for the day. Once the event was over, the dishes done and the church hall cleaned up, they noticed that the basket they'd put out for free-will donations held \$650! Their local Lion's Club had been very generous as well as a lady who had been lucky at the casino the night before.

### Calendar:

Note: New lunch venue! Lunch the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 11:00am at The Old Country Buffet, 7433 Currell Blvd., Woodbury, MN. (For directions, call **Mary Brennan** at (651) 429-7343 or me.)

## NEBRASKA

### OMAHA GOLDENEARS

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



What a great turnout with 53 attending our Christmas Luncheon. Thanks to **Ev & Shirley Payton** for hosting. Our entertainment was provided by a Barbershop Quartet which was excellent. We all enjoyed the Christmas Bingo which has been a part of our Christmas for many, many years. **John Orchard** surprised us after many years by showing up at one of our functions. He still works 3 days a week for a Rent All Company.



Effective January 1, **Ev Payton** will become President of our chapter and **Tony Sortino** will serve as Vice President. All other officers remain the same.

I had a great conversation with **Ken & Sandy Bender** on November 22. **Sandy** has been cancer free for about 5 years, her doctor has had her on a medication that hopefully will prevent it from coming back. She says she is still weak and can't seem to get much strength back. **Ken** had been in a golf tournament and he was to play in the championship round coming up. They haven't been back to Nebraska since they left for Hemet, CA 7 years ago.

January birthdays: **Sharon Farrell** (2); **Sydney Greenstreet** (4); **Carol Jensen** (4); **Joy Whisinnand** (4); **Stella Mason** (5); **Frank Sesto** (9); **Brack Olds** (13); **Louise Mitchell** (17); **Jackie Sortino** (17); **Jim Schreiber** (20); **Eileen Holly** (23); **Amy Meyer** (29); and **Dick Weak** (31).

I talked with **Ruth Jeppesen** and asked her if she was ready for Christmas. She proceeded to tell me about the custom of Denmark, her homeland. They weren't allowed to put the tree up until noon on Christmas Eve Day and they couldn't turn the lights on until that evening. She said they kept it up long enough to look at and enjoy.

**Roger Jensen** is having some problems. After having several tests, his Oncologist put him back on steroids. He is taking a medication to prevent his cancer from returning so maybe that is why he can't get his strength back. **Carol** has diabetes which has caused neuropathy in her feet so she has her problems also.

**Jim Schreiber** was quite ill for approximately a month. He visited the Emergency Center a couple of times plus had an MRI and the only thing they could come up with was he had a really bad virus. He said they finally found a high powered medication to get rid of it. At the same time he was sick, **Elaine** fell in a store and landed on both knees. She was quite worried about the one she had a replacement on, but she said it seems to be okay and was very relieved.

**Kathleen Much** is now in Remington Heights Assisted Living. She had been living with her daughter and family for several years (having her own apartment). **Kathleen** fell about a month ago and the doctor thought the best place for her would be in an assisted living facility.

Remembering our members who passed away this year: **Hal Gebhard** (December 6, 2013), **Jim Neumann** (April 23, 2014), **Teddy Letts** (May 12), **Catherine Rowe Johnson** (October 12), **Don Behrendt** (October 23) and **Jackie Vassios** (November 13).

#### Calendar:

**January 6** - Golden Corral

### NEVADA



#### LAS VEGAS

##### SILVER LINERS

Chris Czaplewski  
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Mesquite, NV 89027  
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Our December luncheon was a huge success with 50 members and guests attending the annual Christmas get together. The Chef and Jean, our Catering Manager and their staff did an outstanding job, as usual, to make this luncheon special for us; a wonderful meal and candy cane cake for dessert. The room, beautifully decorated in Christmas colors, and everyone dressed in their holiday attire, completed the festive occasion.

Our members brought non-perishable food items to give to the local food bank. This year, we chose Helping Hands of Vegas Valley. We were able to donate a large amount of items for their cause and to help seniors in need. Established in 2000, Helping Hands is a non-profit organization that provides assistive services to senior citizens in Southern Nevada, allowing them to maintain their dignity and independence, while improving daily living. Helping hands provides transportation to and from medical appointments, shopping trips and errands, telephone reassurance and friend visits. The organization also administers a respite care voucher program and maintains a food pantry. Their director, Lorri Highet, sent a volunteer senior to pick up all the food items from the hotel for us.

President **Rosemarie Restivo** conducted a short meeting so that we would have time for our raffle and gifts. Each member who brought a gift received a gift; and all the extra gifts went to the 50/50 drawing tickets, which

were awarded to many members. Money drawings went to **Rena Papenburg, Arlene Reed, Winnie Stone and Lee Price.**

It was nice to see members that we haven't seen for a while, **Madeline & Jerry Meierkort** (CHIRR); **Anthony Tricoli** (LASIP) is looking so much better; and **Leila Albert**, who has been ill for much of 2014.

We welcomed new members, **Diana & Jim Heinz** (LASCS). **Eleanor Vasko**, Hospitality board member, announced Dec. and Jan. birthdays and anniversaries: **Lamar Shreeve** (LASCS), **Mary Chandler** (ORDOZ); **Georgia & Don Rutkowski** (SFOMM), **Celia & Baldor Ziel** (SFOIQ); **Christine Earl** (LASCS), **Peggy Dunkle; Peggy & Bruce Dunkle** (LAXFO).

We thank our dedicated board members for all the work they do; **Rosemarie Restivo** (EXOHH), **George Fox** (SFOPD), **Eleanor Vasko** (Mike-LAXMM); and **Christine Earl** (LASCS), who continues to handle the Secretary/Treasurer for our Chapter.

Our goal for 2015 is to recruit new retiree members. We wish everyone a healthy, happy, and prosperous New Year.

#### Calendar:

**February 10** - Luncheon/meeting at Arizona Charlie's Hotel & Casino on Decatur Blvd.



#### RENO SIERRA

##### ROUNDUP

Pat Zoboli  
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There were 31 members and guests at our December Christmas Luncheon at the Tamarack Junction, including 6 guests. The guests were **Anthony Nettles, Pat's son; Judi Carano, Jeanne Williams, Kathy Boyce, Margaret Scholl, and Roane Funk**, friends of **Kathy Robinson**.

A grand total of \$170.00 was collected for the Northern Nevada Food Bank. Thank you to all our generous members, especially to **Maurine Williams** for her very generous contribution.

Reservations for the Plaza Pavilion at Bartley Ranch County Park will be made early in 2015 for our August summer picnic.

December birthdays were celebrated by **Nancy Scaife, Herb Klemm, Lynda Klemm, Bill Royal, Larry Leusing, Pinky Perry and Don Wight**. The 50/50 raffle was won by **Christa Knutson**. Various other members and guests won the other gifts donated by chapter members.

#### NEW JERSEY



#### THE GARDEN STATERS

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

Our Christmas party meeting at Snuffy's in Scotch Plains was a great success. We had about 60 people there, many whom we haven't seen a long time. Our meeting was opened by President **Frank Worzocha**, and a moment of silence as always for those who have passed on. There were so many door prizes, even I won one. We had a great selection from the menu and of course that always includes prime ribs. Visiting from Los Angeles, **Janet Kair**, was there to enjoy the festivities. A good friend of mine, **Queenie Vleso**, was also in attendance. I can tell you there was much conversation from all tables, and while it may sound trite, the United spirit is still alive and well.

Our members responded to the "Toys for Tots" with remarkable fashion. All I could see was a mountain of toys that members have brought. Yes indeed, **Jerry Confer** would have been proud. **Terry D'Amico** won the 50/50. Our next meeting will be on January 29, at Snuffy's in Scotch Plains at 12 PM.

*\*It's never too late to make a friend.*

## NEW YORK



**BUFFALO CHIPS**

### BUFFALO CHIPS

Jerry Stevens  
130 Countryside Lane  
Williamsville, N.Y. 14221-1308  
716 688-4613  
[jerste130@msn.com](mailto:jerste130@msn.com)

Twenty-five Chippers were at Jades Restaurant for our annual visit and Christmas Party. The only real business conducted was the decision by the group to support one of the many handicapped Children's groups at Christmas time.

Everyone enjoyed the excellent meal served by Brian and his mother. Meal consisted of Chef's Salad, Steak Rollups, Breaded Pork Chops, Chicken Cordon Blue, Macaroni and Cheese and Mashed Potatoes. Dessert was an assortment of Cheesecake, Cream Puffs, and Chocolate Éclairs all served family style. No one went away hungry and leftovers were boxed for anyone who wanted them.

Everyone won a bottle of wine with a couple of lucky people taking home a second bottle.

Former Buffalo Supervisor and Albany GM **Hayden Spencer** was getting out his car in his driveway in Tucson, his knee folded and he landed face first on the ground. Result was a clean break of his neck. **Marlene** reports he is in a head, body cast and doing well.

**Lloyd Cliff** reported in from his home in Greenville, NC and said he is doing well after celebrating his 94<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Dottie Butcher** fell and broke a leg in a couple of places and is now in Greenfield Rehab in Alden. **Clyde** reports with the huge snow storm that area suffered in late November, he was stuck in the house for 4 days and unable to make the 2 mile journey to visit.

Everyone else appears to be in good shape as I have had no other reports of illness.

Next meeting is planned for Erie Community College North in early March, details will be forth coming.

A late note: **Dottie Butcher** passed away on December 12<sup>th</sup> from complications of the leg injury. Funeral arrangements are pending.

## OHIO



### OHIO BUCKEYES

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

The beginning of November and the leaves are starting to turn beautiful colors and falling. What a wonderful day for a luncheon. It's not freezing yet. Before we were served, VP **Arlene Taylor** led us in saying "Grace" in the most beautiful way.

Our Fifty/Fifty drawing is always a big hit. Conducted by our forever loyal **Dave & Marie Placko**, the lucky members were **Bobbie Jefferson** and **Tom Hockett**. Congratulations!

This year we had 58 members in attendance. President **Dolly Taucher** opened the meeting with a big "Thank You" to **Tom & Helen Hockett** for bringing us back to Tony K's, and hosting this luncheon. This has become one of our favorites. Good food, great service, a large room with a beautiful view of their courtyard. **Tom Hockett** spoke about his career in the military. We had one person, **Frank Osborne**, who had served in World War II, and **Jack Preston** who had served in the Korean War. We also had others whom had served our Great Country stand. All were honored for their service with applause. **Tom Hockett** then led us in singing "God Bless America".

A big "Welcome back" went out to **Sharon Garrah** and **Mary Lou Kuretz**. It was so good to see you both back with us again.

Happy Birthday to **Nancy Oncu, Dave Placko, Jack Preston, Lee Rak, and Lillian Schabel**. Yes, as always, we sang Happy Birthday to them all.

There were no couples in attendance with an anniversary, but Dolly did announce that **Boyd & Mona Callender** celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, **Dennis & Alice Ryan** their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and not to forget, **Joe & Mary Kavcar** with a whopping 67 years together.

**Dolly** reminded us that the RUAEA Newsletter was the best place to keep up to date with what is going on at United, and if they do not receive the newsletter that they should join RUAEA. The cost is only \$27 per year and well worth it.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> report:

It's Christmas time at the beautifully decorated Williams On-The-Lake. A big "Thank You" goes out to **Earl & Arlene Taylor** for hosting this event. And oh, what a good time we had.

Our December 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas party was a great success for all 75 members that attended. Including special touches of door prizes, a delicious chocolate cake was at each table.

Before lunch, President **Dolly Taucher** spoke about what happened 73 years ago at Pearl Harbor, and in remembrance we had a moment of silence. Then Dolly informed us of the passing of member **Dennis Ryan** on November 20<sup>th</sup>. She also announced that member **Paul Rodjom** was having health issues and needs our prayers. The Newsletter for February through August of 2015 was there for members to pick up.

Before our meal, VP **Arlene Taylor** said a prayer before leading us in saying "Grace".

**Dave Placko** conducted the 50/50 drawing. Our 3 winners were **Bob Templeton, Cathy Pytel, and Helen Hockett** (second month in a row). Then Santa arrived in all his glory. He brought gifts which were handed out by way of a drawing. Also distributed were some door prizes. Santa then went from table to table visiting with each member and asking what they wanted for Christmas.

Now **Arlene Taylor** had an announcement to make. This year, we were adding some Special Entertainment, by personal appearance, Frank Sinatra (**Damion Fontaine**) & Dean Martin (**Scott Brotherton**) singing "oldies but goodies". And they were great!

You really need to visit our website at [www.ualohiobuckeyes.org](http://www.ualohiobuckeyes.org) and go to the "Past Meeting" tab. When you see the slide show, you'll wish that you had been there too. With these officers, you never know what they may do next.

**Dolly** then resumed the meeting. There were no December anniversaries to celebrate, and it's a good thing because the reindeer were getting restless and wanted to get back to the "North Pole"

We acknowledged our December Birthday's. And yes, as we do every month, we sang "Happy Birthday" to **Nancy Cleary, Bobbie Jefferson, Carole Mullen, Steve Pytel, and Carol Seifried**. Congratulations to all and we wish you many more. During this wonderful Holiday Season we also pause to remember the birth of Jesus.

#### Calendar:

**February 4** - 100 Bomb Group Restaurant, hosted by **George & Mary Lou Kuretz**

### OREGON

#### OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland

Barbara M. Heidegger

13848 NE Milton

Portland, OR 97230

(503) 254-5018

[DuaneBaba1@aol.com](mailto:DuaneBaba1@aol.com)



When I sent in column last month I stated it would be my last; however so far no one from the chapter has come forward to write the news and I feel something should be said about our December meeting.

Eighty members attended the annual Christmas party and Santa visited us again with lots of give-a-ways. The Debonairs from Parkrose High School entertained us with Christmas carols after our luncheon. They are an amazing group of high school students who have many extracurricular activities besides singing in the choir and being a Debonair.

Winners of the \$25 gift certificates from Applebees, Olive Garden, Red Robin and Starbucks were **Betty Alff, Bruce DeFord, Barbara Heidegger, Richard Householder, Anna Miller, Mel Martin, Joanne Patterson and Paul Russell**. The beer and wine went to **Tony DaSilva, Chris Householder, Lorie King, Barbara Martin, Patsy Ogden and Sue Rommel**. Pens made by **Glen Swanson** went to **Tom Hotchkin, Dan**



**Jones and Marilyn Woods.** Cutting boards went to **Mary Lou Falbo, Jack Hooper, Richard Householder and Lorene Ludeman.**

**Louise Robillard** decorated the tables with lovely Poinsettia plants that were raffled off to **Betty Alff, Len Blodgett, Margaret Borbely, Steve Borbely, Richard Householder, Gene King, Pat Ogden, Sara Petersen, Dave Smith, Carol Trojel, Anita Uhl and Shirley Walker.**

The monthly drawings for a free lunch were as follows: Door prize ~ **Paul Russell**, Women's birthday ~ **Joanne Patterson**, Men's birthday ~ **Richard Householder** and 50/50 ~ **Ron Lyall.**

**Please, please think about coming forward and writing the monthly column. It isn't difficult and I would be more than happy to assist anyone who would be interested. You don't have to have a computer and it can be hand written and sent in to Denver.**

Dew-er's dues must be in to **Rosalie Betschart** by March 15<sup>th</sup> to have your name listed in the 2015 roster. Please send a check of \$5 per person to Rosalie at 220 NE 116<sup>th</sup>, Portland, OR 97220 or pay at the next meeting.

Calendar:

Meetings at Colwood Golf Course, 7313 NE Columbia Blvd. Social Hour 11:00 AM. Lunch served at Noon

**February 11-** Valentine's Day Luncheon

**March 11 -** Social

**April 8**

**PENNSYLVANIA**

**THE INDEPENDENTS**

Philadelphia, PA  
Joyce Lindenmuth  
208 Stull Rd.  
Ridley Park, PA 19078  
(610) 521-2291  
[Ronjoyce2@verizon.net](mailto:Ronjoyce2@verizon.net)



We have no more meetings till March 2015. So I will just review our Christmas luncheon. Thirty four members and friends attended our wonderful banquet luncheon. We were especially delighted to welcome **Tom Lyons** and **Frank Eggles** back after months of sickness. What a blessing to greet them. But, (there is always a but) our loyal president **Joe Bradley** entered on crutches suffering a broken leg. He fell on an icy patch during the first snow of the season. What a bummer.

We were treated to Christmas guitar music during lunch. We played games and had a silent auction after lunch for items our members donated. **Lynn Sonderman** won the card toss. Being an expert bowler certainly helped her win! **Al Edwards** won the chocolate candy count with a guess of 351. **Dick Campbell** won the lottery wheel and the over night hotel stay at the Clarion with a gift certificate for the Erin Pub for \$50.00. The **Campbell** kids, **Dick** and **Keith** were big winners. Congratulations to them.

We were pleased that **Frank Eggles** agreed to chair the flight 93 committee. **Dave Voit** has agreed to take over as treasurer January 1. He is working with acting treasurer **Dee Burrs** to have a transition. **Tom Lyons** was our treasurer for years. Dee and Dave have discovered how hard Tom worked and what a good job he did during his tenure. Kudos to Tom and thank you for many years of services!

**Lynn Sonderman** thanked our group for supporting wounded warriors. Her grandson **Matthew Sonderman** was aided by that group after being wounded in action serving our country, many thanks to **Matt** and all others bravely serving now.

**Dick Campbell** has volunteered to take our 15 boxes for the vets to Coatsville Hospital in time for Christmas.

See you on March 9 at the Clarion. Have a safe winter.

## PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

Jeri Juth  
1900 Truman Dr.  
Aliquippa, PA 15001  
(724) 378-3316  
[jmjuth@hotmail.com](mailto:jmjuth@hotmail.com)



Well, winter has finally made its presence in PIT. As of this writing, only 72 more days until Spring. Unfortunately, the Pit-Stoppers lost one of our most ardent supporters on December 9<sup>th</sup>. **Ruth Redfern**, wife of **Bill Redfern** (PITMM), left us very suddenly and unexpectedly. Ruth was diagnosed with liver cancer during Thanksgiving and left us on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Condolences to Bill and his family! Rest in peace to a lovely, caring woman! She was devoted to her family and her community. Condolences may be sent to Bill at 207 Clubside Dr., Coraopolis, PA 15108. Phone # (412) 264-3522.

December also claimed the life of **Horace Pendleton** on the 13<sup>th</sup>. "Pen" was a former Capital employee and retired as a mechanic for US Steel.

The Pit-Stoppers Christmas luncheon was held on December 10<sup>th</sup> with 28 members in attendance. We missed some of our regulars, **Carl & Dee Chiocchi**, **Ed & Kay Yauch**, **Bill & Verna Alex** and **Jim & Diane Weber**. Thanks to **Paul & Betty Musko** for escorting **Barb Guida**. President **Dave Beatty** held a brief business meeting and announced plans to have a Spring picnic to try to enlist more new members. **Treatie Karwoski** gave a brief update along with **Mary Jane Stewart** on plans for a meeting to discuss the upcoming RUAEA convention. **Ellie Masters** from The Pit Interline Club sold tickets for their famous "basket of cheer" raffle and invited us all to their luncheon. **Vic Ference** won the 50-50 raffle.

The Interline Christmas luncheon was held on December 21<sup>st</sup> at the Fez. The highlight of the luncheon is their distribution of door prizes. Their famous "basket of cheer" was won by our own **Treatie Karwoski** last year, she didn't win this year but never fear, she won the 50/50 raffle. United was represented by yours truly and hubby **Bernie** along with **Vic & Joan Ference** and "lucky" **Treatie**.

Our February birthday celebrants are **Kay Yauch** (3<sup>rd</sup>), **Ted Polinski** (22<sup>nd</sup>), **Jack Tinney** (27<sup>th</sup>), **Bob Frye** (27<sup>th</sup>) and **Kay Ike** (28<sup>th</sup>).

Happy Valentines one and all! Don't forget September 23-26. Y'all come to RUAEA Convention in Pittsburgh.

## WASHINGTON

### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

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



As of this writing, our president, **Dave Jones**, is preparing to welcome new and returning members of the Emerald City Slickers to the first luncheon meeting of 2015 on January 13<sup>th</sup> at the Elks Club in Burien, Washington. It will be history by the time you read this RUAEA Newsletter, but such is the way of the world in publishing.

Our new treasurer, **Jackie Stenger**, will get her feet wet, wading in for her first experience in collecting payments for luncheon reservations and annual dues.

Dues for membership in the Seattle chapter of RUAEA are \$10 a year, payable in advance or at the January meeting. If you're a "newbie" and wish to sign up or you've forgotten to renew (an "oldbie"?) in a timely manner, you can mail your 2015 local chapter dues to **Jackie**. Remember that dues paid to the national RUAEA organization do not automatically include membership in the Emerald City Slickers, which also provides a subscription to our local chapter newsletter, *Contrails*. For a richer experience as a retiree of United or Continental Airlines, your best bet is to join both national and local groups.

Chapter officers for the year are: President ~ **David Jones** (SFOFO), Vice President ~ **Phyllis Bowman**, wife of **Herald Bowman** (SEAGQ), Secretary ~ **Carol Soffel** (SEARR), Treasurer ~ **Jackie Stenger**, friend of **Paul Burton** (EXOHH), Assistant Treasurer ~ **Noreen Krawczyk** (SEARR), Membership Secretary ~ **Mary**

**Luke**, wife of **John Luke** (SEAPV), *Contrails* Editor ~ Vacant, RUAEA Correspondent ~ **Gay Liesse**, wife of **Ed Liesse** (SFOED), Sunshine Coordinator ~ **Virginia Dice**, wife of **Bud Dice** (SEACG).

Many thanks to all who give of their time and talents, especially to the non-airline partners-in-retirement, without whom this chapter would not flourish. We hope to have a name for a new newsletter editor by the March issue.

**Gay Liesse** spent the 2014 holidays recuperating from a total hip replacement, updating a 10-year-old partial.

We regret to announce the death of **Gerald (Jerry) Opperman** (SEACS) after a long illness. **Jerry & Irene** will be remembered as long-time hosts of the formerly-annual Emerald City Slickers August picnic in their spacious back yard.

The Emerald City Slickers meet for lunch on the second Tuesdays of January through May and September through November. The local newsletter is published at the end of months preceding meetings. Reservations are required. Please join us.

Note: Listings of birthdays, anniversaries, and door prize winners have been discontinued in 2015.

#### Calendar:

**February 10** - Luncheon – Elks Club, Burien

**March 10** - Luncheon – Elks Club, Burien

**April 14** - Luncheon – Elks Club, Burien

**May 12** - Luncheon – Elks Club, Burien

Summer hiatus

#### WASHINGTON, D.C.

##### DULLES LOUNGERS

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



##### *Submitted by Linda Scriven, Dulles Loungers President*

I want to thank all the Dulles Loungers for another successful year, including the membership, monthly lunches, picnic in June, Toys for Tots Drive in November and the gathering for Christmas lunch. The truly fun luncheon this December was topped with a little Door Prize for everyone.

Thanks to **Marie Libby**, **Jan Hooe**, **Vel Foust** and **Peg Betcher**, all who attended went home with a little wrapped door prize. Great fun for me to pass out all those prizes.

The 50/50 this month went to our server and everyone left a little extra on the tables.

The sad news is our RUAEA Newsletter representative is in the Hospital Rehab Center with a broken hip and ankle. We received word the night before our luncheon that **Lucy Chatelain** has had hip surgery and we are awaiting to hear on the balance of the possibilities for her. The good news is **Kerrie Schneider** had completed her chemo and radiation treatments.

The Dulles Loungers group is made up of all departments at IAD. If you know anyone in our area that would like to stay in touch with the United/Continental family, please let them know about us.

## NATIONAL

### CLIPPED WINGS



Trudy Engeldinger  
National Vice President  
3484 Hamlin Road  
Lafayette, CA 94549  
(925) 283-5439  
[flygirltoots@comcast.net](mailto:flygirltoots@comcast.net)

We have some exciting news to report. Our first gathering for Current and Retired Flight Attendants, for the Peninsula, is set for January 15<sup>th</sup> in Foster City. We have had good response and feel very strongly we are on our way to a “New Chapter”. We will keep you posted in the next Newsletter how successful we were in adding another Chapter.

Also, we have had calls from Florida interested in starting an additional Chapter there as well. We are so proud of these Flight Attendants who want to continue their connection with Flying Partners and do some Philanthropic work as well. They are fantastic women and men and we so enjoy their enthusiasm.

Again, if any of the RUAEA members have any connections with the Flight Attendants, please call me or email me. We are working very hard to keep Clipped Wings a very successful organization. 2015 is our year to Rock 'N Roll.

## NEW MEMBERS

Broderson, Alfred, ORDJL, 51 Bonnie Lane, Clarendon Hills, IL 60514  
Carr-Richardson, Linda A, 4416 Madison Woods Dr., Marietta, GA 30064  
Finkey, Rick, DENCg, 747 West Drive, Memphis, TN 38112  
Guter, Patricia, 1400 McKinney Street, Unit 1504, Houston, TX 77010  
Ireland, Robert, 1501 Van Buren St. NW, Washington, DC 20012  
Merrill, Charles, 702 City Park Avenue, Columbus, OH 43206  
Miller, Gilberto, EWRMM, 4465 Douglas Ave., Bronx, NY 10471  
Scherer, Timothy, TPAOZ, 12343 Hollybush Terrace, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202

## CONTRIBUTIONS

The association acknowledges contributions from the following members:

Elda F. (Custer) Jeskey, Roni Adams, John R. Albert, Robert B. Ames, John R. Anders, Janice R. Anderson, Bruce A. Aten, Kathryn Baran, Ross A. Bauman, Kenneth C. Bender, Cornelis Neil Berghout, Carol Birt, Nanci G. Blackmarr, Carole J. Blanchard, Robert Bledsoe, Mary K. Book, Michael Thomas Bowles, Thomas F. Boyle, Marcia K. Brett, Nancy R. Brock, Roy C. Brown, Betty S. Bryant, Don Burbank, Richard Carroll, Victoriano Castaneda Goytia, Duane S. Stu Chambers, Theresa H. Chiparo, Margery Clark, William L. Clark, Jennifer L. Clark, Earl Clore, James Michael Clynych, Ernest J. Codilis, Ronnie Corning, James W. Crouch, Carol Dahlin, Vernal C. Dean, Patricia A. Dilallo, Kevin L. Dillon, Maxine F. Dixon, Lovel R. Dolin, Francis Domaratius, Jack H. Domosley, John G. Donovan, Vernon R. Duley, Samuel R. Dunton, Richard L. Edwards, Laura Ehas, George Emory, Dorothy L. Engels, William A. Engler, Alice Nora Fitzpatrick, Daniel A. Foster, Philip Frank, Valentin Garmasch, Jean A. Gill, Stephen O. Gray, Patricia E. Hall, John W. Hannan, G. Joseph Heinen, James L. Hernandez, Maureen B. Hicks, E. E. Buck Hilbert, Miyuki Hilliard, Jessie Hiltbold, William Hourston, Franklin D. Huckins, Rob Ilves, Leroy H. Irons, James W. Jensen, Harlen J. Jesser, Clyde E. Johnson, R. Lee Johnson, Agnes J. Jones, Harvard D. Kauffman, Robert V. Keefe, Linda L. Keim, Paul I. Kern, Zelma Kibler, Alcuin F. Kilian, Masamizu Kitajima, George E. Klocker, John M. Koehl, Joann M. Koester, Jack Kotin, William J. Krainak, James W. Kramlich, Kurt Kubatz, Melanie Lee, Soo Hoon Lim, Gus Harrison London, Karen A. Lundie Dowd, E. Ann Mace, Roscoe Mack, Robert V. Magdaleno, Laura L. Mansueto, Samuel A. Margolis, William C. Mayer, Frank P. Mcanulty, Marjorie L. McCall, Huguette B. Meyer, Terry J. Miller,

Herbert Minnig, Sandy L. Moore, Alan S. Morishita, Sharlene Neelan, Bradley W. Nelson, Yvonne M. Newland, William R. Nibert, W. L. Niemiste, Harumi Odori, Manuel Ojeda, Allan E. Olson, George W. Oncu, John S. Pasakarnis, Shirley Pelham, Aiko Pennington, Marcia L. Perry, James P. Petri, Frank L. Pol, Anthony Pytlinski, Dorothy Dottie Quick, Agnes W. Quill, Jane Reynolds, Janet E. Rodriguez, Eugene R. Rollins, Stephen C. Ryan, Alexander Sanchez, Edwin J. Sande, William A. Sandy, Ernest S. Sawyer, Duncan Scaife, Jeanette A. Schlau, Bernard W. Schneider, Judith M. Schroeder, Timothy Sherer, Rod Smith, Dennis G. Snell, Margaret C. Snyder, Margarete Stahl, Marcia M. Stanger, Robert Stanger, Dolores Steger, Thomas W. Stevenson, Kenneth A. Storey, Ernest A. Stukey, Emily Sundstrom, Bernice Sweeney, Daniel T. Takata, Barbara Thomas, Geraldine L. Thompson, Patricia A. Thorp, G. S. Tiwana, A. J. Torlone, Joe & Carolyn Torneo, Shirley A. Trendel, Kenneth V. Tripoli, Frederick W. Verbaere, Charlene Walker, Joseph Walp, Norman Walton, John A. Warren, Nancy L. Weilmuenster, Dolores C. Dee Whately, Emmett P. Whisenhunt, Dale R. Whitaker, Gwendolyn Williams, Maureen C. Williams, Mary Margaret Wittlin, Roland F. Wolbach, Richard A. Wood, Richard G York.

## OBITUARIES

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

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

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

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

Retiree – **Calvert, Gene L. (Geno)**, on 12/19/2014, DENMM, husband of Catherine P. Calvert, 5011 Harvest Ridge Rd. Roanoke, VA 24019

Retiree – **Campbell, Robert W.**, on 10/20/2014, SFOIQ, husband of Rachel C. Campbell, 20135 Forest Ave., Cupertino, CA 95014

Retiree – **Fisher, William**, on 7/17/2014, SFOJL, father of Mary Johnson, 16054 Colfax Hwy, Grass Valley, CA 95945

Retiree – **Gerrity, James R.**, on 9/12/2014, WHQHR, husband of Regina J Gerrity (Deceased) and father of Mary Jo Gerrity, 1765 Connors Point Dr., Columbus, OH 43220

Retiree – **Hopkins, Thomas N.**, on 12/20/2014 OPBOP, husband of Joyce L. Hopkins, 611 Yellowstone Dr., Elgin, IL 60123

Retiree – **Krouse, Theodore W.**, on 12/2/2014, SFOLX, husband of Judy Krouse, 103 Crescent Drive, Monticello, IA 52310

Retiree - **Malone, Ruth**, on 10/22/2014, DENHH, mother of James, Bobbie, Ever, Donnie, Keith, Gwen, Portia and Harryette Malone



# LETTERS



**Martha Gooselaw**

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

Martha Gooselaw  
Letters Editor

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

Barbara Anable, Robert Bledsoe, Nellie Brawner, Earl Clore, John Donovan, Richard Edwards, Dorothy Engels, Stephen Gray, Sarah Harris, Buck Hilbert, Jessie Hiltbold, George Hudgin, Agnes Jones, Al Kilian, Donna Kopec, Ernestine Manzo, Patricia Morris, Morris Nelson, Gordon Olson, Kenneth Paulson, Ronald Shepherd, June Reynolds, Bernard Sandner.

## **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.)*

### **Janice Anderson, 68 Willow Rd., Tequesta, FL 33469**

I have been busy taking care of my former husband who has dementia. His doctor asked me to or they would have to put him in a home. It has been 2½ years and I had to finally do it myself, as it was too much for me and I have gotten into an unhealthy state myself.

I am 89 years old and would like to make it to 90. I wish everyone a great Holiday.

### **Jerry Barr, 22910 90<sup>th</sup> Ave. W, Unit C303, Edmonds, WA 98026**

My current situation has turned out to be far different than what I had envisioned a year ago.

After several weeks of reduced energy and an occasional dry cough, in late February I was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic/liver cancer.

My treatment regimen has so far consisted of IV chemo and oral chemo, accompanied by some naturopathic supplements, a little exercise and a healthy smattering of hugs and good wishes. I will be 10 months into my uncertain journey at the end of December. So far, I think I am doing fairly well, considering.

I welcomed the cards and expressions of support from many of our United friends who were aware of my condition. Even though I have not been able to acknowledge many/most of these thoughtful cards, they are deeply appreciated.

As we move through this holiday season, Mary Lou and I extend to all our best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.

### **Colin Cooke, Sr., 23 Edgecliff Ter., Yonkers, NY 10705**

Will the USPS go broke? My son took a large parcel to the post office and was told that to Boulder, CO, it would cost \$114. Instead he took it to UPS and they sent it for \$78. I will be sorry to see the post office disappear. I read that China has done away with postage stamps and I wonder how one pays to send letters.

My shock of the year was to feel an ordinary shirt and be told it costs \$250 to buy, but a New Yorker expressed no surprise at all. It was just ordinary cotton.

I never thought my letter in the December newsletter would evoke any comment when I wrote that we are “The Lost Generation”. It brought several letters, one phone call and two Christmas cards.

Sadly we are at a time in our lives that doesn’t yet exist for those younger, the airline execs, and CEO’s and they don’t try to understand. What’s the use of talking to anyone who has tweaked a \$15 million Golden Parachute.

One person I heard from on another subject was **Francis Domaratius**. I knew him in SFORQ when he was a techie in the radio department, and I was next door in Flight Instruments. I also heard from a guy who sat near me, **David Olson** of San Jose. He has had much ill health of the eyes and stomach, but has managed a long trip back to Burma (now Myanmar) in S.E. Asia, where he spent time after WWII as a student in an American school. His father was the principal. I was a flight mechanic in Burma when WWII ended. I have few nice memories of that country. There was so much internal hatred among the differing tribes and races. According to news reports, that has not changed much.

If you want to shop in Manhattan for a shirt and pants, it will cost you about \$95.

Now for my feet, the trouble is I can reach my feet well enough; but can’t see where I need to cut to trim my nails. So it is off to a nail place to have them trimmed. Sadly, the nail cutters are all Korean or Chinese, don’t speak English and in Mandarin I can only say, “Ding boo ho” or that is not good. I know no Korean. When I winced in pain she simply gave me a beautiful Korean smile. I limped towards the exit like a kangaroo with corns, and their smiles went with me.

I have fallen victim to the dreaded Deer Tick disease, with a leg bite and the blood test came back positive. I have been heavily dosed with an antibiotic.

I know of a 13 years old local boy whose bite was ignored and he suffered mental retardation. A tick bite demands immediate treatment. His mother tells me that it will develop into organ, brain or joint disease.

My son asked his 2 boys what Paul Newman was well known for and their immediate answer was, “He makes pizza.” Sorry folks, our day are past. Incidentally, I think the day of the turbine or jet engine might also be coming to an end. I hear they have finally reached Hypersonic speed, isn’t that 18,000 mph?

PS, about “ding boo ho”, it might not be Mandarin but Cantonese.

#### **Phyllis Easley, 882 Annesley Circle, Meadville, PA 16335**

The San Diego convention was great. The location, food and entertainment were great, but the best was meeting old and new friends.

I am looking forward to the Pittsburgh convention. Since I am only about 100 miles north, I hope to be able to help with the planning and etc.

#### **Marie Greenough, 8231 Ambrose Cove Way, Orlando, FL 32819**

Hello there, is anyone else having trouble with the \$80 annual credit that is supposed to be refunded back to retirees? As a retiree who had previously participated in the 2012 mileage plus Visa rebate program, and as a primary cardholder, I believe I am entitled to this credit. I have contacted Chase, UAL mileage plus and United and nobody seems to know whom to contact. Does anyone have any further information that I might check into?

#### **Lee Johnson, 6125 S. Kilkenny Dr., Crystal Lake, IL 60014**

I look forward, each month, to receiving the newsletter and going through it from front to back. I find helpful tips on travel and other important things. I also find it interesting to see what the different chapters around the country are doing as well as finding names of people I know and worked with.

Keep up the excellent work.

#### **Phyllis Kordecki, 736 Littleton Trail, Elgin, IL 60120**

Thanks for your hard work. I look forward to each issue of the Newsletter.

2014 has gone by pretty fast, 4 cruises total were taken. We love cruises; the first one was the beginning of Feb. with my cousin & husband on an 11 night partial Panama Canal Cruise. Then another one the first week of April with **Ken Kofink**, ORDMM (& wife **Faith**) taking an AMA Waterways River Cruise, flying into Munich. It went from Vishofen, Germany and ending in beautiful Budapest. River cruises are so wonderful, not big & crowded like the regular cruise lines and only 150 passengers.

Then we took a cruise to one of our favorite places: In July we took a cruise to Bermuda.

Then I was not doing much after surgery on August 4<sup>th</sup>, as I had two tears in my right shoulder rotator cuff & could not use my right hand/arm for many months. So I was grounded for the months of August & September. But at least now the pain is gone & my physical therapy sure helps.

My husband, (**George Kordecki**, ORDMM) is still working and just celebrated 45 years working at UA in August! He plans to retire maybe at the end of 2015 that is his tentative plan as of now.

First trip after surgery & we bought confirmed UA tickets at our 20% discount price this time. We went from October 1-4, ORD-FLL-ORD to visit both my sisters who now live in the same town, instead of opposite ends of the United States! One used to live in SAN, and we visited her & her husband at least once a year. I also visited the sister in FLL & husband probably once a year. Now the SAN sister moved and they live in the same town in FLL area. We 3 sisters have not all been together in 15 years: it's about time that we had this "Reunion!"

Then from November 1-6, I took a cruise with one of my girlfriends on Princess. We went to one "new port" in the Caribbean to Grand Turk which is very hard to go to new ports, since this was my 99<sup>th</sup> cruise! But we usually love to take cruises in Europe, it's so amazing there.

We usually take 3 cruises every year, and usually always pay great low "Interline Rates" which I book friends, as well as us thru the interline company that I work part-time for called, ALL INTERLINE. Plus I also sell regular rate cruises to non-airline people. But a few times we paid "full price" on Seabourn & also Viking River. I usually take one cruise with Family or the Girls without my husband since he still is working & does not have off 52 weeks a year like I do! Isn't Retirement grand?

I wish everyone a "Happy & Healthy New Year in 2015!"

#### **Gus London, 1705 Rogers Dr., Tupelo, MS 38804**

Here is a little trivia for all.

My first job in aviation was with Continental Airlines as a station agent in July of 1951 in Colorado Springs. After 4 years in the Air Force, I joined UAL in July of 1956 as a station agent in SAN.

Looks like I have come full circle.



## **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS FOLLOW**

# 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**

1-877-825-3729

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

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

For flight information and to list or change listing

Password for Pass Line –your birthday, mmddyy

\$25 fee to create new booking

1-877-202-0263 (PIN Reset)

## **Employee Travel Center**

1-877-825-3729

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

## **Flying Together Help Desk**

1-800-255-5801

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

## **New United number: 877-825-3729 (International**

**use: 847-825-3729)** This is a new, centralized number for employees/retirees to reach United. After calling the new number, **select option #2 (for retirees)**

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

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

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

## **Social Security Administration**

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

## **Alliant Credit Union**

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

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

## **Express Scripts (Pharmacy Benefit Administrator)**

1-800 - 864-1425 (open 24/7)

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

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

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**Annual Dues Increase:**

As we all know, the cost-of-living is going up everywhere. In order for RUAEA to survive, we must raise our annual dues very, very slightly. As of **January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 the annual dues will be \$27 per year Domestic, \$47 Canada/Mexico, and \$52 Foreign.** Only a two dollars per year increase. The major expense for our organization is the Newsletter. Your Newsletter staff feels the increase is realistic and minimal. Quite awhile ago, we asked our correspondents for suggestions regarding our financial situation and the small dues increase was mentioned. The Board of Directors delayed the increase as long as possible. It is now a necessity. We hope you consider the two dollars increase a bargain.

**Remember you can renew online with a credit card at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org).**

**INCLUDE FILE NUMBER IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE**

**For all Membership & Newsletter Circulation issues, please contact Membership Secretaries:**  
**Phone Number: (303) 780-5022**  
**Fax Number: (303) 780-5667 -or-**  
**RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433**  
**Email: [ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net)**

	<i>Membership Dues</i>		
	<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Canada/Mexico</u>	<u>Foreign</u>
One year	\$27.00	\$47.00	\$52.00

*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](http://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](http://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."**



# United Airlines Historical Foundation



"Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future"



**"Flight Pan '54" - A Denver Main-Line Musical Comedy.** The zaniest flight in United's history took-off April 2 and 3 when the **"First Nighters"** of Denver presented their first production at Denver's East High School Auditorium.

Approximately 125 employees participated in the unique musical revue, sponsored by the Mainliner Club and the UAL Supervisors Club. Some 2,700 employees, families and friends attended the two smash performances.

Flight Pan '54 opened with a ramp scene featuring a sterling United ground crew. When the flight was ready, the motliest collection of passengers ever assembled proceeded to board the plane. Before the passengers reached their destination they found themselves in Paris, the Deep South and Hawaii.

Surprising and Outstanding Talents were discovered among the Denver employees - Pictured are: **"Can-Can Girls"** ~ **Joan Haney, Lorna Howard, LaBeth Summer, Dean Edwards, Jean Drongoski, Mary Crichton & Scotty Childs;** **"Rampmen's Chorus"** ~ **Bill Johnson,**

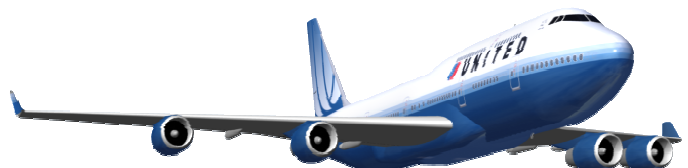
**'Snowy' White, Bob Graham, Howard Pollard, Bill Becraft, Rod Lang, George Thal, John Wilson & Tom Dawson;** **"Dixieland Combo"** ~ **Bud Enge, Jack Watson, Bob Blaschke, Kermit Miller, O.E. Wilkinson & Don Magarrell;** **"Hula-Hula Boys"** ~ **Chuck Allison, Earle Carkin, Nate Goodspeed & Tony Weih** and many many more.



*By Marvin Berryman DENTK A/V Retired - Excerpted from the May 1954 issue of "United Air Lines News".*

Recently UAHF received a \$ contribution from the **Retired United Pilot's Association** via Capt. (Ret.) **Leon Scarbrough** and donated items from: **Irma Atanasio, Phyllis Jack, Aggie Holcomb, Laura Coats, Jean-Francis Akana Lewis, Ronald Akana, Everard Eaton and Jean Feely.**

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](http://www.uahf.org).





**Check your mailing label for Renewal Information**

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](http://www.ruaea.org). Mail your check to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433.



### *Recognition of Local Chapter Officers*

This month we have the officers of the Sacramento Gold Diggers to thank for their services. Please note that many of the officers do not have United station and work areas listed. These officers are spouses of United retirees. Despite having never worked for United, they see the benefit and enjoyment of being in RUAEA and work to keep the organization alive. Most have served for years in various positions. They carry on a family tradition of service to RUAEA as their spouses have also served as officers.

We thank them all for their continuing service.

*Standing from left ~* **Angie Dellinger**, Sunshine Lady, 3 years, wife of **Frank Dellinger**, SFOEC; **Orville Harshbarger**, President, 2 years, also served as Vice President for 5 years, OAKUM; **Colleen Esola**, Secretary, various positions for 13 years, wife of **Louis (Harold) Esola**, SMFOZ; **Jack Raynor**, Roster Keeper, 12 years, SFOOV.

*Sitting ~* **Stephanie Norton**, Historian, 5 years, wife of **Ken Norton**, SFOOV; **Judie King**, Treasurer, 14 years, wife of **Ronnie King** SFOCE.

