



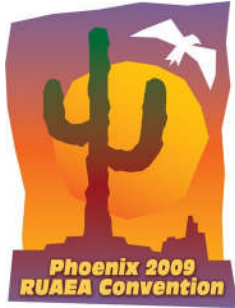
# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



ISSUE NO. 414

FEBRUARY-2009



**May 17 - 24, 2009  
RUAFA Convention,  
Phoenix, Arizona**

**Explore "The Natural  
Wonders of Arizona"  
with UA friends.**



We're less than four months away from our next National Convention and an opportunity for a fun-filled reunion and vacation. Take this opportunity to experience, a city filled with fascinating attractions, interesting museums, live theater, music events, professional sports venues, great restaurants and entertainment night spots. Bring along family members or friends with whom you would like to share a vacation. They can take advantage of the great convention hotel rates. Special car rental rates, exclusive for convention attendees, have been arranged at the hotel with Enterprise Car Rental. This will enable you to visit attractions beyond the city limits.

Even if you do not go beyond the city, downtown Phoenix has so much to offer right within walking distance of the hotel or accessible by Light Rail. **Copper Square**, the immediate area of the hotel, has over 90 restaurants. You will not have to walk far to fulfill your appetite. From fast food to fine dining, it is all covered for breakfast, lunch & dinner, snacks and desserts. The legendary rock star, Alice Cooper owns **Alice Cooperstown Phoenix**, a sports bar & restaurant featuring live music and award-winning BBQ. Or, you might like to try **Pizzeria Bianco**, known for the country's best pizza. You may have to wait in line to get in, but it is worth the wait. Chris Bianco prepares an authentic Italian pizza baked in a wood-burning brick oven. This is a "must-stop" for many visitors to Phoenix. No visit to Phoenix is complete without a taste of Mexican. Stop by **Matador Mexican Food Restaurant**, a family owned establishment celebrating over thirty years of business, serving authentic Sonoran Mexican Food. Sample a little western fare and a touch of the glamorous past at **Copper Door Steakhouse**. **Stoudemire's Downtown**, is downtown's hottest restaurant, owned by Phoenix Suns' superstar, Amare Stoudemire. These are only a few of the city's great restaurants and we hope we whet your appetite.

You can find the registration forms for the convention in this newsletter. It will provide details of all the events and tours being offered to help you discover "The Wonders of Arizona."

Don't forget to contact **Jim Fauber**, Chairman of the Arts & Crafts Raffle, if you have a special artistic work you would like to donate. He can be reached at [fauberjimbo@aol.com](mailto:fauberjimbo@aol.com). All donations should be sent to Jim at 10520 E. Sunnydale Drive, Sun Lakes, Arizona 85248-9235.

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**2009 Convention Issue**



# **GENERAL NEWS**

## **WWW.RUAEA.ORG**

### **Updates to International Travel Embargoes**

If you are planning international unaccompanied companion travel in 2009, please keep in mind the following travel embargo dates and stations:

Effective now through January 14 (and may include other dates, as noted below):

- ✈ To/from Sao Paolo
- ✈ From Buenos Aires
- ✈ To Rio de Janeiro (also, February 18-22)
- ✈ From Rio de Janeiro (also, February 24-28)

Other embargoes are:

- ✈ Hong Kong to the United States: July 15 - August 15
- ✈ Rome to the United States: July 1-31

See SkyNet's Travel page for details.

### **Alaska Airlines Chose United in Hawaii**

When Alaska Airlines entered the Hawaiian market and needed ground handling services for its flights, the decision to work with United was a natural one, says Kirk Chaffee, general manager for United in Lihue.

*"They liked that our employees here are very consistent and conscientious," Kirk says. "Our check-in is smooth, and our ramp employees do a great job of loading and offloading bags. That efficiency helped lead to an expansion of our initial agreement with Alaska."*

When Alaska began operations in Lihue 14 months ago, it became the first United Hawaiian station to offer them ground handling services. Gradually, Alaska recognized that they preferred United's services to those of United's competitors. The excellent service and support Alaska experienced in Lihue contributed to expanding the United/Alaska ground handling relationship to Maui and Kona, most recently. Performing ground handling services for other airlines ties directly to the corporate goal of revenue generation. *"Our teams remain extremely consistent in their service, not just to Alaska but to United flights," Kirk says. "The employees who work the flights really take it seriously, and that shows in the results."*

### **United Announces Codeshare Agreement with EGYPTAIR**

United recently signed an agreement with EGYPTAIR to offer Codeshare flights to expand the international destinations and enhance the frequent flyer benefits offered to customers of both carriers.

Beginning next summer, United will place its code on EGYPTAIR flights between both New York – JFK and London Heathrow to Cairo.

EGYPTAIR will place its code on United flights linking New York with Los Angeles and San Francisco, as well as on flights between London and Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Washington Dulles.

### **Brussels Airlines to Join Star Alliance**

At their annual board meeting, the CEOs of the Star Alliance member airlines voted to accept the application of Brussels Airlines to become a future member of the alliance. Brussels Airlines is the Belgian airline offering the widest choice of flights to and from the "capital" of Europe. With a fleet of 45 aircraft, Brussels operates some 300 daily flights to 55 European airports and 15 African destinations. The airline has a state-of-the-art hub in Europe and more than 80 years of experience operating in Africa.

For the upcoming integration in Star Alliance, Brussels Airlines will be assisted by its sponsor Lufthansa. Through its membership in Star Alliance, Brussels will be able to offer its passengers a variety of benefits. On the network side, the Star Alliance will expand to cover 1,074 destinations in 174 countries. Frequent flyers in the Brussels Airlines Privilege program will be able to collect and redeem miles on all other Star Alliance member carriers.

To provide all the alliance benefits, the specialized teams at Brussels Airlines, Star Alliance and its member carriers will now be working on the integration process. Once completed, Brussels will become part of the Star Alliance network, which currently consists of 21 members. The annual meeting of the Star Alliance CEOs was hosted by United in Chicago.

### **United and Teamsters Reach Agreement on Future Collaboration to Mitigate Furlough Actions**

United successfully reached an agreement with the leadership of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) that will mitigate furloughs and enable higher levels of collaboration and cooperation in light of its business plan in the current economic conditions. This agreement will enable United to maintain Line Maintenance operations at LaGuardia (LGA) and operate three shifts at Portland (PDX).

*"On behalf of our people, we are pleased that we reached an agreement with the IBT that enables us to mitigate employee furloughs," said Jim Keenan, SVP - United Services. "We recognize and understand the difficult industry and economic environment that we operate in, and a collaborative approach such as this that includes an agreement to continue to work together"*

to improve our cost competitiveness and our operational success is critical. I look forward to continuing to work with IBT leadership as we face the future challenges ahead."

David Bourne, IBT's airline director, echoed Keenan's comments, noting on Friday that, "United's representatives have worked closely with us in a most professional manner, and we at the IBT look forward to building a relationship based on mutual respect and trust. Our agreement helps put us on that path. Both the union and the company recognize that there are very important and difficult issues that we must address and resolve to each other's mutual satisfaction. Our agreement shows that we will indeed be able to work well and cooperatively together as we go forward in attempting to resolve those issues."

The changes at LGA and PDX were part of an overall consolidation of our line maintenance network and were linked to the company's capacity reduction. Line maintenance operations at Newark (EWR) and Philadelphia (PHL) are still expected to close, and PDX will have reduced manning on day and swing shifts.

#### **United Teams Up with the Chicago Bears to Make Children's Wishes Come True**

The Spencer family arrived at their Gary, IN home to find all of their belongings on the street after their rental building was foreclosed on and all of the residents evicted without notice. Relocating to Chicago, and seeking Chicago public housing assistance, the nine-member family was not expecting this to be a very happy holiday season.

For the Spencer family, United Holiday Giving program offered a way to put gifts under the Christmas tree and food on the table.

Thanks to the generosity of Tax Department employees, the Spencers received \$375 in grocery gift certificates during our annual Holiday Giving party. The Tax team organized a "Bring Your Lunch - Feed a Family" day, taking the money they would have spent on their lunches and contributed it toward the gift for the family. "The look of surprise combined with the sincere gratitude made us very proud," says Michelle Bailey, an administrative assistant who helped organize the group's holiday fundraising efforts. "The spirit of the season is giving and bringing joy to others, and as a department we banded together and achieved that."

Altogether, United's employees and retirees purchased gifts to fulfill holiday wish lists from more than 1,000 individuals like the Spencers as part of the annual Holiday Giving program. This year's festivities - organized along with the Chicago Bears - included a fun-filled holiday party at the United Club at Soldier Field, home of the Chicago Bears.

More than 150 employee volunteers, including pilots, flight attendants, ground crew employees and others, along with their friends and families, used their vacation time and days off so they could assist with the event.

For this year's activities, United Corporate Social Investment team coordinated with the Chicago Bears organization and six non-profit agencies - the Chicago Housing Authority, Department of Children and Family Services, James R. Jordan Foundation, Chicago Parks District Youth Football League, Women in Need Growing Stronger (WINGS) and Teen Living Program.

Parents and their children were treated to an afternoon of fun, games and holiday cheer, as well as opportunities to meet some of their favorite Chicago Bears players, including Brian Urlacher, Robbie Gould, Rashied Davis and Josh Beekman. Staley, the Chicago Bears mascot - joined the fun and welcomed the guests as well.

"Despite the tough economic times we all face today, the generosity of our employees and retirees has not diminished," says Sonya Jackson, managing director Corporate Social Investment. "I'd like to thank everyone who made this year's contributions extra meaningful."

Visit SkyNet's Corporate Social Investment site (under Departments on the home page) to view photos from the Holiday Giving festivities.

#### **RUAEA Membership Dues Increase** **(Please Note that this policy is not effective until** **JUNE 1, 2009)**

RUAEA, like any other organization that provides a service to its membership has to weigh the expense of providing the service relative to its income. Our source of income is primarily from membership dues and a nominal amount of income from savings accounts. Another source is from contributions, of which we are grateful. In view of the fact that our costs have gradually increased over the last ten years (since our last dues increase) we feel it necessary to make an adjustment. At our last Board of Directors meeting, an increase in dues was recommended. The recommendation was weighed and after due consideration the board approved a nominal increase. In addition to the increase, a multi-years' choice (**at a discount**) was also approved, for a limited period of time, and an option to receive both the web/internet and paper versions. The new dues structure (**effective June 1, 2009**) is as follows:

##### **Domestic Members:**

- \* One year - \$25.00
- \* Two years - \$45.00
- \* Three years - \$60.00

Domestic and Foreign Regular members can receive

the monthly RUAEA newsletter either via the U.S. mail or the Internet (*usually available 3 weeks ahead of the mailed edition*). If you would like to have both Internet and US mail, you can get it for an additional \$5.00 per year. **NOTE:** The option of both paper and Internet is not available for Life Members. You can have one but not both.

Canadian Members:

- ☞ One year - \$45.00
- ☞ Two years - \$85.00
- ☞ Three years - \$105.00

Foreign Members:

- ✈ One year - \$50.00
- ✈ Two years - \$95.00
- ✈ Three years - \$120.00

Regular Members from Canada or Foreign locations may receive their Newsletter by the internet only at the Domestic yearly rates. **Note:** Once this option is selected, you cannot revert back to the paper Newsletter until the membership expiration date.

**NOTE:** The two and three year options listed above will be available for onetime only beginning **June 1, 2009** and ending **June 1, 2010**. After that, the dues structure will revert to one year increments.

Thank you for your understanding and continued commitment to RUAEA.

RUAEA Board of Directors

**ASK THE DOCTOR – A Mountain or a Mole Hill,  
Which is It?**

Up to this point, I have been trying to convey the need to take preventive action so we can have a long, healthy retirement. We know that life is not that kind. We know that something will go wrong. The question that arises when the unexpected happens is what to do? Should I ignore the problem or should I go to the doctor? Here are some tips:

☞ **Cough, sore throat, stuffy nose, slight fever:** We know these symptoms most likely mean we have a “cold” or URI (as doctors call it). There are over 90 viruses that can cause these symptoms. So, we can use OTC treatment with success. No need to visit the doctor. We gradually feel better with each passing day. Just be compulsive when taking the medication AS DIRECTED.

What are the danger signals? Fever of 101° or higher, swollen glands in the neck, yellow-green sputum with coughing, noisy breathing (wheezing) are NOT good. These symptoms need more than OTC treatment. If you have emphysema, diabetes, heart disease, asthma, or other chronic heart/lung problems, see your physician IMMEDIATELY. These symptoms usually mean bacterial complica-

tion and need much more intense treatment.

☞ **Indigestion, “heartburn”, upset stomach:** Generally, this constellation of symptoms is just that. Eating too fast, eating something too spicy, etc. are the usual causes. Again, OTC medications familiar to all of us will suffice. Avoid overindulging, go easy on the spicy foods, etc, will prevent the problem in the future. HOWEVER, I have seen too many patients with heart attacks in the Emergency Room who have the same symptoms and who have ignored them.

ANY of these symptoms NOT related to eating are cause for concern. If you are under care for high blood pressure, ANY heart problem, or a lung condition, contact your physician as soon as possible. Most heart patients have Nitroglycerin tablets for emergencies. If the symptoms subside after taking a nitroglycerin, take one adult aspirin, and go immediately to the Emergency Room. Do not pass GO, do not collect \$200. This sequence of events applies to men AND women equally. All too often, women have unusual symptoms (neck pain, shoulder pain, chin pain) that originate in the heart and receive no attention. Don’t take that chance.

☞ **Headache:** This symptom is so common that making a decision about the proper course of action to take is very difficult. Not every headache means brain tumor or stroke. Decreased vision in one eye, muscle weakness on one side of the body, loss of balance, slurred speech, tingling of an arm or leg, ARE another matter indeed. ANY of these alone or together require evaluation almost immediately. Adding a headache only magnifies the urgency of getting IMMEDIATE medical attention. Some call this a possible brain attack (think heart attack). For those of you, who unfortunately have migraine; follow the guidelines of your physician. The safest drug to take for a headache is acetaminophen (Tylenol) because there is NO danger of bleeding into the brain as with aspirin that thins the blood. If the headache resolves after 1-3 doses, that usually means everything is normal. A headache that persists for more than 24 hours and has never done so in the past is cause for alarm. Again, see your physician ASAP.

☞ **Rectal bleeding:** Oh, this is just hemorrhoids. No problem. WRONG, WRONG, WRONG. I have personally have seen many patients with hemorrhoids who actually had colon cancer or a bleeding ulcer. DO NOT overlook this symptom if you are a man OR woman. Monitor your bowel habits closely, check the toilet tissue closely. If there is ANY blood or suggestion of blood, have it evaluated as soon as possible. Survival rates for the earliest stages of colon cancer are over 90%. Survival

rates for late stage colon cancer are less than 30%. YES!

☞ **Swollen joints:** A single joint that is swollen usually is the result of trauma or infection. A single warm or hot joint most always is an infection. Seeing an orthopedic surgeon is the proper course of action after conferring with your primary physician first. Multiple swollen or warm joints are another matter and will not resolve easily. Yes, X-rays will be necessary for both situations. However, the multiple joint involvements will require complicated blood tests, repeat tests, and more. The single joint disorder may require insertion of a needle to obtain fluid for examination, an MRI to examine the anatomy, and often a surgical procedure (arthroscopy). We old folk will invariably have some arthritis in our joints regardless of our lifestyle or previous occupation. Secretaries and ramp service workers BOTH get arthritis. The older one is, the more likely we will have arthritis. IF you have been physically active your entire life, continue to participate in those activities as long as you are able. IF you rarely have been physically active, DO NOT assume you can participate in the Triathlon in Kona, Hawaii. Be content to walk regularly or ride a stationary bike or swim laps in your pool. Minimal trauma to the joints is the correct choice, if you have had significant joint injuries or problems in the past. HOWEVER, even severe arthritic patients need an exercise program, albeit under professional supervision.

The above discussion is by no means inclusive. They do reflect the more common complaints in most medical practices, in my opinion. Furthermore, in our retirement years we need to be more vigilant of what our bodies are telling us. What we don't know WILL hurt us!! Err on the side of caution. Spending \$500 for a false alarm is better than waiting and having to spend \$50,000 or more for a lifetime of treatment.

So, is it a mountain or a mole hill? The choice is yours. Stay well and fly safe. Until next time.

*(We hope you've enjoyed the articles written by Dr. Reider and found them beneficial. If you have a question for the Doctor, please submit it by email to [askthedoctor@qwestoffice.net](mailto:askthedoctor@qwestoffice.net)).*

### **Travel Tips By Bob**

This month I want to talk about the security of carry-on items and looking out for your personal well being while flying.

An example of what I'm talking about happened to my niece several years ago. When the flight arrived at her destination and her husband was gathering their carry-on items, it was discovered that a rather expensive

fur jacket was missing. The flight attendants remember seeing it as she boarded. But they didn't see it being carried off. They later recalled a man getting a book from the overhead bin and "rearranging" items, perhaps stuffing the coat into a large shopping bag. In any event, the coat was gone.

**Preventive action:** Place coats & jackets as close to your seat as you can in front of you or across the aisle where you can see them. It is known that my niece's fur coat was in a bin behind her, out of sight. Also by attaching some Christmas bells to the items, so a familiar sound can be heard if they are moved. Fur coats may be turned inside out to protect the fur and placed in a large shopping bag to conceal it. Also, expensive outer garments may be given to the flight attendants and a tag can be attached with your seat number, so they can be returned by the attendant prior to docking. **Note:** This service is for First Class only, not Economy.

Regarding our personal well being, we are all aware that everything that goes up must come down. An example of what I'm talking about happened to me not long ago. I was already seated and I watched another passenger come on board with many carry on items. He had a brief case, laptop computer, coat, and two wheelies that were stuffed. He was in a different row than I was, but proceeded to attempt to put his heaviest items in the bin over my head. I simply got his attention and said "Not over my head, put it over your head." Then three other men stated the same thing to him, "over your head." Then I knew my angel was watching over me. Brazen of me, yes! But, there were also others who shared the same concern I had. I'm positive his bag weight was near 50 pounds from the effort it took to but it over his head.

**Preventive action:** First try to place your own carry on items in the bin over your seat, therefore utilizing your space. If that is not successful and someone does attempt to put an overweight item in the overhead bin, you may mention to that person that there is a weight limit. Yes, overhead bins do have weight limits and usually that information is posted on the back wall of the bin. If you are not successful with that approach, you can mention to the attendant that the bag/item appears to be over the posted weight limit for the overhead bin and with the question - shouldn't it be checked and placed in the baggage pit?

Regardless of what you do, be polite and do not cause a fuss.

One final item - Diabetics: Take an empty water bottle to pass through TSA Security, then fill it at the next water fountain.

Happy Traveling

Bob Brumfield  
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## Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter

All articles submitted for publishing in the Newsletter are due in the Denver Office on the 7<sup>th</sup> of the month. This includes chapter reports, letters for the "Letters" Column, obituary listings, 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. **There is one exception to the above deadline:** *If your chapter meets on the deadline date, we will extend this deadline by **one day** for the chapter report, if it is submitted by email and received by 4PM in the Denver, CO office.*

Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to [ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net) or by FAX. FAX number is (303) 780-5667. If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401 E. MLK Blvd, Denver, CO 80207-2433. Allow for postal delay. We cannot extend the deadline!

**Chapter Correspondents:** If you have not received a copy of the Newsletter guidelines (dated 6/2008) and the minutes of the Correspondents' meeting from the RUAEA 2008 Convention in Pittsburgh, please contact us and we will send you a copy. Also, we would appreciate it, if you could provide any newly appointed Chapter Correspondent, a copy of the Newsletter Guidelines (they can also contact us for this).

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

Virgil Gooselaw - Newsletter Manager

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



### **Attention All Golfers**

***The 2009 UARGC Golf Invitational will be held in Mesquite, NV from May 4<sup>th</sup> to May 8<sup>th</sup>.***

**If you are interested, contact Frank Callahan: 19833 N. Calypso Lane, Sun City, AZ 85373, (623) 815-6899, [uargc@cox.net](mailto:uargc@cox.net). Registration form is available on [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org)**

## LOCAL NEWS

### ARIZONA



#### **PHOENIX AZURES**

Carol Liltz

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I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

I have to apologize for my apparent "brain freeze" the early part of December for not sending the newsletter in time for the January publication. Too many progressive dinners, lunches, trips back to Chicago for Thanksgiving and for the Chicago chapter luncheon, shopping, decorating two houses, and any other number of excuses, is the reason for my forgetting the time frame for getting the newsletter out. I hope it didn't confuse too many folks.

Our Christmas luncheon at Briarwood C.C. was very nice and it was good to see **Ferrol & Cindy Hilsabeck** for their annual visit. The food was excellent and we had about 48 members in attendance. We took a little survey about our luncheons - whether to have luncheons every other month and a lighter menu at restaurants instead of C.C.'s to keep the cost down. It seems the members like it just the way we've had the monthly luncheons. The Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> luncheon will be held at Portofino's West in Surprise, AZ with an Italian singer as entertainment. I'll report on that next month. And, our Feb. 7 luncheon will be at Pebblecreek Tuscan Falls with our annual "white elephant" fund-raiser.

Some sad notes: **Kay Heinig** lost her special friend and our newest member, **Lowell**, from a brain aneurism. We are very sorry for her loss. **Roy Scroggs** is recuperating from a broken hip after a fall in December. **Jean Kerman** had a fall from passing out when she was on a holiday trip to Colorado. She spent a few days in the hospital in Colorado. She is now home and feeling a little better. We got a report that **Mary Toeppen** has been doing much better since her cancer treatment in the Chicago area.

Happy Birthday to **Vi Mumaugh** who turned 90 on January 10, 2009.

We received the e-mail from the Roadrunner chapter regarding the 2009 RUAEA All-Arizona Luncheon on March 19. Last year, the Azures rented a bus to transport our members since we were hosting the luncheon. We lost money when a few members cancelled out and so this year we'll be asking our members to carpool as much as possible so that we have a good turnout.

Our annual racetrack event is on March 17 so, hopefully, we'll have a decent response.

If any member wants me to make "special mention" about a birthday, illness, anniversary, birth(?), etc. in this newsletter, please e-mail me with the information and I will be glad to make a note of it.

To all our members and all our friends a very healthy, Happy New Year!

#### Calendar:

Coco's breakfast meetings, 08:00AM, 98<sup>th</sup> and Bell Roads

**February 3** – Breakfast meeting

**February 7** – Pebblecreek Golf Resort, Goodyear – (White Elephant raffle)

**February 17** – Breakfast meeting

**March 17** - Turf Paradise Race Track (back by popular demand), information to follow by e-mail.

#### PHOENIX RE-UNITED

Liz Tollefsen

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February is a busy month, with a lot of activities going on, such as Valentine's Day, Presidents' Day, and also Ash Wednesday. We hope you won't be too busy and will come out for our February luncheon at Rosati's in Chandler and also our monthly breakfast at Crackers. Our meetings are such a good way to get caught up on your fellow Re-Uniteds activities, what's happening with our company, and meet some new friends besides.

Our luncheon will be held Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, at Rosati's, 1050 E. Ray Road, Chandler. The restaurant is located on the NE corner of McQueen and Ray Road, in the Safeway parking lot. Social hour will start at 11:00 AM, with lunch being served at 12:00 noon. Your choice of entree are Spaghetti/with Meatballs, Chicken Parmigiana, or Italian Beef Sandwiches. House Salad and Garlic Bread, Tiramisu for dessert and coffee or iced tea are included. The price is \$15.00 per person, which includes the tip. Checks are to be sent payable to **Donna Pedone**, including your choice of entree, no later than Tuesday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>, to 1471 W. Folley Street, Chandler, AZ 85224, or contact her at (480) 821-8074.

The All-Arizona Luncheon will be held Thursday, March 19 at the Robson Ranch Grill, in Eloy, starting at 11:00AM for the no-host bar and lunch being served at 12:00 noon. The lunch is a Ball game Tailgate party consisting of Grilled Burgers and Dogs, Grilled Chicken, Potato Salad, Beans, and Cole Slaw. Dessert, Coffee, Tea, and Lemonade are included. The cost is

\$18.00 per person. Checks are to be sent to **Sybil Collins**, 731 W. Rio Moctezuma, Green Valley, AZ 85614. Seating inside is limited to the first 114 reservations. The entertainment will be a DJ playing your favorites from the good old days. There will be door prizes, 50/50 raffle, and other goodies. If you wish to golf, you can make arrangements before or after lunch with the pro-shop there; this would be a separate price, not included in the luncheon cost.

Directions to Robson Ranch are Interstate 10 East, exiting at exit 198, Jimmie Kerr Blvd. At stop sign, turn east for 2.7 miles. Turn left on Robson Blvd. for 0.8 miles. Turn left at sign for models, approximately 0.2 miles. Follow signs for the golf club house.

On Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, there will be a spring baseball outing to HoHoKam Park to see the Chicago Cubs and the White Sox play, starting at 1:05PM. Tickets are \$20 per person. Seating will be in the shade. **Ron Paluch** will have the tickets available sometime in February, so see him if you would like to attend this exciting game of two rivals.

If you haven't paid your annual dues of \$5.00 each, please see **Bud Hubbard**, or mail it to him at P.O. Box 183, Sedona, AZ 86339. We are up-dating our membership book to be published this month.

February Birthdays are: **James Pappas** (2/01), **Bonnie Fauber** (2/04), **Bob Gerdes** (2/04), **Chester Kamensky** (2/08), **Ted Tollefsen** (2/10), **Gordy Kubiak** (2/11), **Bill Norwood** (2/14), **Sybil Voss** (2/15), **Ron Pedone** (2/16), and **Ann Carroll** (2/22). We wish all of you a Happy Birthday!

Anniversaries in February are **Marjorie & Joel Matteson** (2/2/63) and **Judith & John McFarland** (2/8/64). Congratulations to both couples!

Speaking of birthdays and anniversaries, there are a number of our members whom I have not gotten their dates, and would appreciate receiving this information. Plus, also, if I have made a mistake in recording your dates, please let me know.

One of our members, **Julia Sapelak**, is recuperating from her lung surgery, but is very sore. Cards can be sent to her at 25801 Ontario Dr., Sun Lakes, AZ 85248. Hope you feel better soon, Julia!

#### Calendar:

Breakfasts on the fourth Friday of each month starting at 9:00 AM at Crackers, 535 W. Iron Avenue in Mesa (near Hwy 60 and Arizona Avenue). Contact **Peg Homfeldt**, (480) 396-3317 - [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net) or **Jim Zarek** at (480) 288-6685 - [jzarek1@msn.com](mailto:jzarek1@msn.com), by the Wed. before the breakfast, if you plan on attending.

**Feb. 11** - Luncheon at Rosati's, 1050 E. Ray Rd., Chandler, starting at 11:00AM for social hour, lunch being served at 12:00 noon hosted by **Ron & Donna Pedone** (480) 821-8074. Reservations by Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>.



**Feb. 27** - Breakfast at Crackers.

**March 19** - All-Arizona Luncheon at Robson Ranch Grill, Eloy, Arizona, starting at 11:00AM for social hour and lunch at noon. Send your checks for \$18.00 to **Sybil Collins** at the above address.

**March 27** - Chicago Cubs/White Sox Spring Training Game at HoHoKam Park. Contact **Ron Paluch** for tickets.

**April 8** - Picnic at Crescent Run Community Building in Mesa.



### **TUCSON**

#### **ROADRUNNERS**

Roger & Lyn Callihan

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

The Christmas tree trimmings at Reed Park Zoo on December 1<sup>st</sup> was attended by 14 Roadrunners. We all brought some decorations that were placed on the tree under the supervision of **Gordon Starr**. **Donna Kuehn** contributed coffee and donuts, which were consumed very quickly.

Our Christmas luncheon at the Oro Valley Country Club was held on Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> with 36 Roadrunners present. This has always been an excellent venue for our holiday luncheon, our host **Beverly Goodlow** deserves a big "Thank You" for arranging this event.

The computer for our adopted family was ready before we expected and was delivered to **Donna Kuehn** just before Christmas. Donna was to arrange for the set up of the computer. The Senior For Kids program operated by a few dedicated people in the Sun City Community went out of their way to get this equipment ready before Christmas. This group also makes toys for tots and makes blankets and clothing for the unfortunate.

Our Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> luncheon will be held at Angelina's, located at the corner of Rancho Vistoso Blvd. and Tangerine Road. **Gordon & Dora Starr** will be the hosts.

**Sybil Collins** is now collecting payments for the all Arizona Luncheon. The cost is \$18.50 per person. Retired flight attendants will be doing the table decorations and **Gordon Starr** has arranged for entertainment with a DJ. You can mail checks to **Sybil Collins** at 731 W. Rio Moctezuma, Green Valley, AZ. 85614.

On a sad note, we have received word that **Hans Radtke** has passed away. His death on December 27<sup>th</sup> has come only weeks after his wife **Margaret** died. We have no info as of this writing of any services to be held.

### **Calendar:**

**January 15** - Angelina's Restaurant

**February 19** - **Jim & Gail Rudolph's** home

**March 19** - All Arizona Luncheon at Robson Ranch in Casa Grande

## **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)



We had 21 members attend our Christmas luncheon at the Pelican Point Restaurant in Pismo Beach on Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>. I was told that since our chapter began back in 1996, they have held the Dec. meetings at this same place. **Bob Wagner** suggested we meet here again next year and we all agreed. The food and service was excellent and **John & Barbara Stilwell** provided the wine and table treats. They went all out to make this special, everyone enjoyed their special treats. After lunch, we exchanged gifts that could only be stolen once. **John Stilwell** was the first to choose and it seemed that he could not keep anything, so after the third try, he was successful.

We had so many things to discuss. **Kathy Shurtleff** was unable to attend this year and she was missed. President **John Stilwell** opened the meeting by saying that **Bob Stanger** got a hole-in-one a week ago. This is his third and quite an accomplishment that all golfers realize. Congratulations Bob! **Bob & Marcia Stanger** went to the Senior Games at St. George, Utah in October. Bob came back wearing apparel that he won, and Marcia won a medal for golf in her division. They seem to do this every year.

John got down to getting nominations for officers of our chapter for next year. Those voted in are:

- ★ President: **Mike Zoldak**
- ★ Vice-President: **Esther Bartlett**
- ★ Treasurer: **Dana Noyes**
- ★ Secretary: **Al Rybar**

The next order of business was to get hosts for next year's meetings. The dates and volunteers are:

- ☼ Feb. 18 - **Esther & Bob Bartlett**
- ☼ April 15 - **Bob & Marcia Stanger**
- ☼ June 17 - **Mike & Bridgett Zoldak**
- ☼ Aug. 19 - **Al & Marilyn Rybar**
- ☼ Oct. 21 - **Jack & Eleanor Cunningham**
- ☼ Dec. 16 - **John & Barbara Stilwell**

**Bob Wagner** gave us a report on Toys for Tots. This is the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary that the Marine Corps. distributed toys and this year \$2800 also was delivered to various Moose Lodges for distribution. Bob emphasized that all donations were given out and none used



for administration. Our chapter was thanked for our donation to help in this very worthy project. Bob said that they had about an 18 to 20 motorcycle caravan plus cars and trucks to collect toys. They started at the Moose Lodge in Pismo Beach and drove to Lompoc, Santa Maria, San Luis Obispo, Atascadero, and Paso Robles. He said it was a very successful operation. Thank you, Bob, for following up on this and I know Pat was very involved also. They finished the Toys for Tots distribution with a barbeque at the Moose Lodge in Pismo Beach. It was also attended by the Marines.

**Mike Zoldak** told us that RUAEA dues will be going up to \$25 a year and if you pay for three years, it would be \$60 which would still be the \$20 a year.

**Jack & Eleanor Cunningham** celebrated their 67 years of marriage on Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. Jack requested that if there are any Purple Hearts lying around, he would appreciate getting them and giving them to his wife for all she has put up with all those years.

By the time you read this, **Dana & Bill Noyes** would have celebrated their 64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations!

**Dana Noyes** has been the treasurer for our Chapter since it began and the group presented her with a gift certificate, thanking her for her devoted service all these years. Naturally, she was voted in as treasurer again. We just didn't want to lose her.

**John Stilwell** had several drawings prepared and he raffled off jars of honey that a friend of his made from his bee hives. This was a very nice gesture that the winners will enjoy.

It was good to have **Nina Powers** back with us after missing our last meeting. She told me she traveled to Myanmar, Burma. She took a tour that included Laos, Thailand, and Cambodia. My first question is "Why?" She told me she had been there on other occasions and the last time she was there, she was impressed with a guide that she wanted to meet again. This was a fascinating story and I know she will correct me if I didn't get it right. She did meet the guide after some searching and this made her trip a success.

**Peter Schaefer** was able to attend this time and it was good to see him. He had major back surgery 11 weeks ago and is now getting around very well. He looked good and his wife **Joan** said that he has to be careful so as to not exert himself because the surgery he had, it would not be possible to have it done again. Keep up the good work, Peter.

Just before we had the exchange of gifts, we sang Christmas carols accompanied by **Esther Bartlett** and her magic violin. She is quite talented and we all enjoyed her playing. Now that she will be our vice-president, I think we can expect more of her playing, if our president **Mike Zoldak** is absent.

This comment was found on a pilot's gripe sheet.

*Pilot: "Aircraft handles funny!" Mechanic: "Aircraft warned to straighten up, fly right, and be serious."*

## SACRAMENTO GOLD DIGGERS



## THE SACRAMENTO GOLD DIGGERS

Colleen Esola, Secretary  
6235 Gettysburg Lane  
Citrus Heights, CA 95621  
(916) 348-5552  
[colleenesola@comcast.net](mailto:colleenesola@comcast.net)

The Sacramento Gold Diggers met on December 10<sup>th</sup> at the Alta Sierra Country Club in Grass Valley for our Christmas Luncheon. This was hosted by **Barbara & Ron Bertacini**. We had a total of 62 Gold Diggers and four guests. The guests were **Carla & Jim Moss**, guests of **Jean & Forester Sinclair**; **Andy Anderson**, guest of **Frank Uhl**; and **Gerri Klovers**, guest of **Den-nis Volz**. President Bob Fulkerson welcomed those attending. The Gold Diggers thanked Barbara and Ron for hosting today.

We have our Officers for 2009:

- ★ President: **Francis Domaratius**
- ★ Vice President: **Frank Dellinger**
- ★ Secretary: **Colleen Esola** and **Barbara Bertacini**. They will share secretarial duties. Colleen will do the Gold Diggers mailings and Barbara will write up the meeting reports for the RUAEA and Gold Digger's Newsletters.
- ★ Treasurer: **Judie King** will continue in this position.
- ★ Sunshine: **Darryll Stroud**
- ★ Historian: **Stephanie Norton** is also continuing in this position.
- ★ Roster: **Jack Raynor** who is also continuing in this position.

"Toys for Tots" Drive: These toys were distributed to various Fire stations in the various counties we are connected with.

Officer's Reports:

**V.P. Francis Domaratius** – Francis thanked us for bringing gifts for the children and also for the older children. He also talked about the Jan. meeting in Auburn.

**Secretary Report:** Colleen read the anniversaries for December. Those with 50 years and above are **Sanford & Frances Pinkiert** – 61 years and **Bill & Lois Hopkins** – 50 years.

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

**Sunshine:** **Angie Dellinger** – No report this month. We were reminded that **Barbara Bertacini** was ill and couldn't be at our luncheon today.

**RUAEA Vice President Ron Bertacini** – There is possible good news for 2009. **Ron Robertson**, RUAEA National President, forwarded an article from *Aviation Week* by Adrian Schofield. The article suggests that the

major US airlines are in line to make profits in 2009, since they have all scaled back their capacity with the fuel problems earlier this year. The airlines have either parked, sold or returned planes on lease and are not able to readily replace them. This accompanied with the dramatic drop in fuel prices bodes very well for profits in the coming year.

The RUAEA Board of Directors has approved a dues increase to be effective June 1, 2009. In addition, members will be able to have multi-year membership and for an additional \$5.00 per year, can receive the Newsletter via paper and online. All the information concerning the new dues structure was in the RUAEA January newsletter.

There were questions about why the dues were being increased. RUAEA has not had a dues increase in over ten years while the cost of running the organization has increased almost yearly. The member dues cover more than the newsletter. In addition to the newsletter, there is the website, convention planning as well as covering some of the expenses of the directors and officers. Although all of these folks volunteer their time, they do incur expenses traveling to local chapters to help keep retirees informed and talk about their concerns.

We concluded with our raffle.

Chapter Dues are Due, **\$10.00/Family**. Please make checks out to **Gold Diggers** and send to: **Judie King, 11886 Heather Lane, Grass Valley, CA 95949**

#### Calendar:

**January 28** – Sizzler in Auburn

**February 25** – Past Presidents Luncheon

**March 25** – Hosted by the **Dellingers**

**April 29** – Hosted by the **Domaratius**

#### **REDWOOD EMPIRE RETIREES**

Joan Olsson, Secretary  
45 Monterey  
San Anselmo, CA 94960  
(415) 454-3329  
[olssons@aol.com](mailto:olssons@aol.com)



Once again, our members and guests (62 in all) were entertained by a favorite group, the eleven-member Maria Carillo High School Vocalists, singing holiday tunes with an unusual beat.

While our December meeting is always an uplifting gathering of old friends this year, it had a special poignancy because of the recent passing in November of our president **Judy DeFord's** husband, **Dan DeFord**. There will be a celebration of his life in early January at the DeFord home.

However, there was good news as we saw the return of **Norma Stilman**, who experienced a stroke a month

or so ago. She was bright and chipper and enjoying herself. Our dear **Clare Hagen** was missing along with her husband **Barney** as she underwent another round of surgery the previous day.

Members brought what seemed like “tons” of toys which **Oscar & Joan Chambers** and **Ron & Joanne Huhn** later distributed to fire houses in Sonoma and Marin counties. In addition, Joanne announced the year-end charitable distributions to five agencies, totaling \$1000.

**Joan Olsson** substituted for traveling Sunshine Lady **Verda Burr** and announced December anniversaries: **Richard & Carol Hanna** (48 years) and **Matt & Norma Stilman** (68 years). A complementary birthday lunch was awarded to **Dorothy Ochoa**.

2008 President **DeFord** passed the gavel to 2009 President **Oscar Chambers**.

#### Calendar:

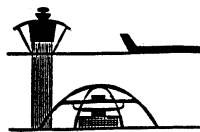
**February 12** - La Gare Restaurant, Railroad Square, Santa Rosa, hosted by **Ron & Joanne Huhn**

**March 12** - Quail Inn, Oakmont

**April 9** - La Gare Restaurant, Railroad Square, Santa Rosa

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

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



**Newsletter Manager's Note:** Due to technical difficulties, **Barbara Smith** was unable to send a report to the RUAEA office this month. We're certain that the problem will be resolved before the next issue.

#### Calendar:

**Feb. 5** – Valentine Luncheon

**April 2** - Spring Luncheon

**April 7-8** - Tour to PSP and “The Follies”. The trip will include a dinner, breakfast, the usual Fabulous Follies show with John Davidson as the star, and a tour of surrounding Indian country led by a local Indian guide. Overnight at the Casino Hotel (yes, there's gambling). \$293 P/P dbl unless we get 30 bookings which will give everyone a very nice refund – cash on the bus - for gambling! I'll send flyers if you want.

**May 17-24** – Let's all go to PHX!

*Love is like an hourglass, with the  
heart filling up as the brain empties.*

*-Jules Renard*

## **GOLDEN GATERS**

### **SFO - BAY AREA**

Helen M. Cain  
163 Francisco Drive  
South San Francisco, CA 94080  
[musicalcain@sbcglobal.net](mailto:musicalcain@sbcglobal.net)



We've survived *Hanukkah*, *Christmas*, *Kwanza* and are fast heading for *Valentine's Day*. Whether or not this means chocolates or flowers or baking heart-shaped cakes and cookies and sending valentines, just be glad you're here! Remember: "*Time is too slow for those who wait ... too swift for those who fear ... too long for those who grieve ... too short for those who rejoice ... but for those who love, time is an eternity.*"

As of Jan. 1, ex-President **Auburey Bliss** handed his gavel to newly elected Pres. **Bob Taiclet**. We gained one new Board member, Auditor **Ben Vietz**. Gentlemen, please know that we thank and appreciate you.

We are still missing a *Domestic Travel Coordinator*, without whom we will have no marvelous tours around the Bay Area to sample fresh apple pies, sip champagne, smell beautiful flowers, enjoy Yosemite's natural wonders, sit in outside railroad cars and giggle at the smoke and bumpy rides of neat little mountain trains, discover the delights and surprises of nearby towns we have only heard of ... and on and on and on! This does not necessarily have to be a one-man or one-woman job. In fact, several of y'all could get together and take on this fun challenge.

R.I.P. Unfortunately we lost 2 long-time members during the holiday: **Charlie Paff** (November) and **Roe Burner** (December). Charlie's wife **Ardyce** may be reached at 3914 Parkview Drive, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001. Roe's wife, **Grace** may be contacted at 3 Springdale Way, Redwood City, CA 94062.

Evidently, there remains confusion here in the **San Francisco Bay Area** about another UAL retiree group meeting for **Friday** lunches, only. They are not RUAEA (national) associated: **WE ARE**. We have not changed our dates, still meeting as usual on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month (except for December) with an average attendance of approximately 100 members and guests. And yes, we still meet in Foster City. (See address in Calendar below.) September is our greatly anticipated annual picnic in a local park which usually brings out over 100 happy participants. We eat, play games and just talk ourselves silly! Our yearly dues are minimal. Chapter meetings are informational and brief and we try to answer members' questions ... or, at least we usually know where to get answers. Each meeting is followed by an always surprisingly gifted charity raffle and a potluck lunch or specially catered meal ... all leading up to the treat of an interesting speaker or pleasurable entertainer. We donate specified funds at the

beginning of each year to 6 or 7 local charities and also make a memorial charity donation throughout the year in honor of each chapter member who has preceded us through the Pearly Gates.

**Personally Speaking:** We didn't have a December chapter meeting to energize this column, so I'm taking the liberty of passing on a lifesaving (for me) dessert recipe that I re-discovered this past holiday season. Being kind of "baked out" but still entertaining a house guest and also having company dropping in, I dug through my beleaguered recipe drawers and found a newspaper clipping, now turned brown with age. The delicious and QUICK end result: I've made these Walnut Date Snack Bars 3 times since December, for different company each time!

**Here goes:** 1 package yellow cake mix, ¼ cup firmly packed brown sugar, ¼ cup melted butter, 2 eggs and 2 cups EACH of chopped dates & walnuts. (I use the packaged already-chopped dates.)

**Preparation:** Preheat your oven to 350 F. **Generously** grease a 9"x13" pan (I used a glass one). **In a large bowl:** Thoroughly combine cake mix & brown sugar with a fork, blending well. Add melted butter & eggs, beat 2 minutes at medium speed. **In another bowl:** combine dates & walnuts, then stir into cake batter ... batter will be stiff. Spread evenly into prepared pan. Bake 30 – 40 minutes according to how long it takes your oven to produce nice golden brown edges. Cool completely or temporarily refrigerate before running knife around sides of pan & cutting into bars. Makes 24 bars. Bon appétit!

### **Calendar:**

Retirees General Meeting: 4<sup>th</sup> Monday (except for December), 11:30 a.m. business meeting, Wm. Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd. (Shell & East Hillsdale Blvd.), Foster City, CA. Lost? Call (650) 286-3380.) Mail should be sent to P.O. Box 4788, Foster City, CA 94404.

**SFO/SJC**



### **SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA** **SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY**

Alice Rostirolla  
1603 Samedra St.  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087  
(408) 245-8433  
[jellybean7@earthlink.net](mailto:jellybean7@earthlink.net)

Our ladies luncheon in early December, hosted by **Joan Dahl** and **Nancy Walb**, was a wonderful success, attended by many. Several of the ladies brought friends as guests. This is a very festive and special event that many of us look forward to each year; and each year, the ladies who work on the luncheon make it more and more delightful. There were beautifully wrapped

Christmas ornaments as favors at each place setting. Each table had a large Christmas floral centerpiece, made by **Cheri Scales**; these were later given as prizes. Cheri also baked a gorgeous variety of Bundt cakes, which were part of the after-lunch dessert.

The regular Christmas luncheon, hosted by the officers, was held at the Ramada Inn as usual again this year. We had a big turnout again; many people who can't attend our regular meetings always come to this event. A plaque was presented to outgoing Pres. **Tony Urso** to thank him for his year of service. It was nice to see former president and now treasurer **Garver Sandy** and his wife **Velma**; they no longer attend all our meetings, but they are still very much a part of our group.

**Dave Walb** had tendonitis in his left foot, then tripped and tore the Achilles tendon, he will be in a cast for six weeks.

**Elaine Kristen** had carpal tunnel surgery on both wrists. **Gerry Frisch** has been continuing to improve slowly, has been going outside for walks. His pins are to come out on February 9. **Marion Swanson** had a screw removed from her wrist. **Floyd Phillips** was scheduled to go home on December 18, then to be on hospice; let us keep him in our prayers.

This will be my last newsletter. **Cheri Scales** will be recording secretary and in charge of the newsletters. We all want to thank Cheri again for stepping up to the plate. I know of no one who is more willing to share her talents and time to causes - from contributing floral arrangements and decorations; to making handicrafts and baking on a large scale to help raise money for a neighbor boy's medical expenses. She always says "*It's no big deal!*" Well! What you contribute is big, Cheri! You are a talented and very generous lady.

It may seem a bit early but mark your calendars for our summer picnic at Vasona park, scheduled for June 16<sup>th</sup> and hosted by **Tony & Sally Urso**.

#### Calendar:

Meeting every Friday morning at Holders Country Inn, De Anza Road (across from Home Depot).

Breakfast starts at 8:00 AM with meeting at 9:00 am.

All UA retirees are welcome. Please call our President, **Dave Saso**, (408) 266-9347 for details.

#### SAN JOAQUINERS

Rosie Walls  
10416 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
P.O. Box 1372  
Jamestown, CA 95327-1372  
(209) 984-5672  
[jawrmw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jawrmw@sbcglobal.net)



Hopefully, we all survived the holidays and now we are ready to settle down and enjoy the new year of 2009.

The parties are over and the gifts are all put away and it's time to put our New Year's resolutions into gear. I always say I am going to go on a diet; that's number one on my list. I'll let you know how long I last this year.

Well, let me tell you, buffets are my downfall. And we had a wonderful, delicious buffet on December 11<sup>th</sup> at the East Sonora Conference Center when we all joined together for our end of the year Christmas celebration. There were 54 people at our luncheon. Our luncheon was hosted by the Chapter officers and it was wonderful. We all had a great time.

Some of our members were missing due to illness: **Doug Daniels, Ken Wesela, Skip Sonderman, Helen Kohl**, and **Bob DuMars**. We wish them all a speedy recovery and hope to see them in Feb. at our next meeting. We want to welcome **Bob Gray**, a UAL retiree. He & wife **Ana** attended our luncheon for the first time and decided to join our chapter. Welcome Bob & Ana!

**Bob Brooks** turned the gavel over to our new president, **Joan Verbaere**. Joan then presented Bob and his wife Sandy, with a gift certificate and flowers as a thank you for his dedicated service as president. And then Bob presented **Nancy Buddington** with a thank you gift for her service as secretary for 20 years. Thank you to everyone for a "job well done".

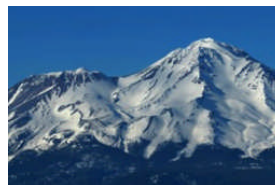
**Darren Brooks, Bob & Sandy Brooks'** son, joined us and he took pictures of every one by the Christmas tree in the lobby of the convention center as they came in. This was a wonderful surprise and a special gift from our president. While we ate lunch, Darren printed the pictures on his computer and presented them to each person. Thank you Darren, Bob and Sandy for a lovely gift and a very nice surprise.

Again, we ALL want to wish each and everyone a very Happy & Healthy New Year! And we hope to see you at our next luncheon AND, Happy Valentine's Day!

The San Joaquiners meet the second Thursday of each month. New retirees are always welcome; come and join us. If you have any questions, please contact me at (209) 984-5672 or President **Joan Verbaere** at (916) 682-6148.

#### Calendar:

**February 12** - Luncheon at the Good Friends Chinese Restaurant in Valley Springs.



#### CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS

Chico, California  
Billie Jorgensen, Secretary  
(530) 343-6879  
[cicjorg@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cicjorg@sbcglobal.net)

The Northstaters ended 2008 with a luncheon in Redding, CA. Since it was Thanksgiving Holidays, we

had RUAEA visitors from Nebraska – **Willard & Ethel Olson**. The 50/50 raffle was won by a visitor who came with **Wayne Molter**. **Jim Geiger** and **Kent Jorgensen** gave short talks about fishing in the Northern California Area. Officers for the coming year were nominated and voted on ... we will retain the same officers as last year. President - **Merritt Odor**, Vice President - **Richard Skelly**, Treasurer - **Klaren Odor** and Secretary - **Billie Jorgensen**.

Our next meeting will be in Red Bluff at the Cowgirl Café on Main St. The date is Thursday January 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am. Hope to see any new members there. Dues will be due - \$10 per couple for the year.

#### Calendar:

**January 29** – Meeting at the Cowgirl Café on Main St. in Red Bluff, 11:30AM.

### COLORADO

#### DENVER MILE HIGHERS

Tom Goodyear  
9341 E. Jewell Circle  
Denver, CO 80231  
(303) 696-7001  
[tagoodyear@aol.com](mailto:tagoodyear@aol.com)



The annual Christmas Luncheon was held at the Holiday Inn Select on Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> with 75 retirees and friends in attendance. The friendship and food was great and there were 75 toys donated to the Starlight Children's Foundation. Some may not know that the children associated with this foundation are seriously ill and this gesture helped to make their Christmas brighter. Thank You for your generosity. Also, a big "Thank You" to **Harriet Ahr** for the time and effort she put in coordinating the luncheon, it's greatly appreciated.

The January breakfast of the Mile Highers was held at United's Training Center on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. We had 46 in attendance. Chapter president **Tom Goodyear** was under the weather and unable to attend so **Virgil Goose-law** and **Harriet Ahr** pitched in and ran the breakfast meeting. Thanks, Virgil and Harriet!

"First Timers" were **Tom Ahean** and **Freda Linder**. Freda is the next door neighbor of **Bonnie Ceperley**, come back and see us. From out of town, we had **Warren & Noria Gerig** from the Pikes Peak Chapter in Colorado Springs to join us. Returning travelers were **Walt & Vee Hansen**, from a cruise. They went from Florida to California (Or maybe it was the other way) by way of the Panama Canal. I understand they had a great time and that the quarters are very tight for large ships passing through the canal. Welcome back!

Sorry to report the passing of **Gary Emke**. **Dick McGee** fell and fortunately, he didn't break anything,

just badly bruised. **Warren Roper** is recuperating from foot surgery; he would like to hear from you. His email address is [Roperwv2@aol.com](mailto:Roperwv2@aol.com). **Mary Lou Hoffman** had eye surgery and is recovering very well. **Earl Horner** and **Nancy Goodyear** are doing well with their new knees.

I understand that **Mary Lou Mims** opened her home & had guests for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. **Tom & Nancy Goodyear** did the same thing; they had 31 folks for Christmas dinner. Every one helped by bringing some food & pitching in to clean up.

The following 50/50 winners returned their winnings to the chapter: **Joe Pettrow**, **Thom Rowland**, **Charlie Hassler**, **Bob Hagedon** and **Teena Davis**.

May the Mile High Chapter be the first to wish you **Happy Ground Hog Day**. What is Ground Hog Day? Hundreds of people gather around Punxsutawney Phil's burrow to see if the ground hog sees his shadow. If Phil sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter. If Phil does not see his shadow, spring will come early. Do you really believe that a ground hog can predict the weather? How accurate is Punxsutawney Phil?

According to [www.groundhog.org](http://www.groundhog.org), the German settlers discovered and thought that ground hogs were intelligent and interesting creatures. German settlers also thought that the ground hogs were like the hedgehogs from Europe. Truth or Legend? - You be the judge.

Watch for the Spring Luncheon information and don't forget those pop cans.

Next breakfast is the first Saturday in February.

May we wish you a Happy Valentine's Day!

#### Calendar:

**Breakfast 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. each month, 9:00 AM** at Denver Flight Training Center Cafeteria - DENTK. Call **Tom Goodyear** for information, directions, (303) 696-7001. Remember to bring your pop cans. Bring a fellow retiree!



#### PIKES PEAK

Chuck Stuller  
1135 Beta Loop  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906  
(719) 475-2073  
[chuck.stuller@hotmail.com](mailto:chuck.stuller@hotmail.com)

We held our Christmas Luncheon at Giuseppe's on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> and had 24 retirees in attendance. A big "Thank You" to organizers **Noria Gerig** and **Wendie Holody**. It was good to see **Jane Lopez** finally at our meeting!

I flew to Oakland, CA to attend the Oakland Airport retirees monthly lunch at Harry's Hofbrau in San Leandro, CA on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. Six members were present including **Ken & Jean Smith**, who recently moved from



hilly Oakland to flat land Alameda, CA, and **Jon Hasegawa**. No shows were **Rich Hunter** and **Bill King**.

I then drove Highway 101 to Monterey, CA for my son's graduation from the Naval Post Graduate School. Lt. Chuck Stuller, Jr. received a Masters Degree in Computer Technology. He had been studying Electrical Engineering but was deployed to Iraq for two years and had to change majors and complete his requirements online in five years! We had to rent a car and drive to SBA and LAX to get flights back to Denver.

Please pray for the sick in our families. **Bill Fritsch** (OAKOZ) shared that **Al Beebe** (OAKOZ) needs our prayers. **Margy Silver** said **Ed Reinhard** (OAKOZ) should be kept in our thoughts and **Gus Chofre** (OAKOZ/ SFOCS) shared that **Ed Reichel** (OAKOZ) was too ill to attend any more meetings. F/A **Debbie Knisley's** (DENSW) son Brett Forrest is hospitalized for surgery and had to go back three times because of complications. He will be out of college for six weeks and needs our prayers. Captain **Richard Rex Carlton, 77**, (SFOFO/ CLEFO/ DENFO) passed away December 11, 2008 in Colorado Springs. He retired in 1991 according to The Gazette newspaper.

Our meetings are held the third Monday at 0830 at The Village Inn on Harrison Road near Circle and I-25.

#### Calendar:

**January 19** – Regular meeting

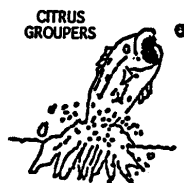
**February 16** – Regular meeting (Presidents Day, bring your favorite flag)

**March 16** – Regular meeting

### FLORIDA

#### CITRUS GROUPERS

Inverness, FL  
Claus Brinnitzer  
3014 S. Skyline Dr.  
Inverness, FL 34450-7424  
(352) 637-1760  
[cjbrinnit@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:cjbrinnit@tampabay.rr.com)



There was no meeting during the month of December. Our next meetings will take place at the Golden Corral on Rte 466 in the Villages on the fourth Thursday of each month at 11.30 AM. The January meeting is on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### Calendar:

**January 22** – Meeting



#### THE ORLANDO REAL MCCOYS

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

Our meeting room at the Golden Corral was bursting at the seams as 46 members and guests gathered for our first luncheon of 2009! President **Rich Llewellyn** entertained us with several jokes to start the meeting and it was a lively exchange from there on! A special welcome to our newest members, **Patti Clark** and **Jayne & Jack Regan** and a hearty welcome-back to **Norma & Bill Butchart**, **Cliff Hill & Jerry**, **Dottie & Lee Cahoon**, and **Montague Martin Sr.** It is great to be "lunching" with you all again!

Lots of January Birthdays in this group! Guest **Tom Cannata**, **Diane Lewis**, **Norma Butchart**, **Jim Mummah** and **Isabel Pomicter** – HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Congratulations to **Jim & Pat Hernandez** celebrating 26 years together on Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>!

Prayers and well wishes, cards too – for **Matt McNeill** (East Orlando Health & Rehab Center, Chickasaw Tr. Cell 407-484-9795). **Jane Houston** updated us on the health status of former MCO Station Manager **Park Learned** and his wife, **Billie**. They could use a prayer and a cheery card too: 19523 Underwood Road, Foley, AL 36535

**Stan Halterman's** traveling opportunities include:

- ✈ May 11-15 – Motor coach 5days/4nites: Savannah, Jekyll Island & Beaufort, 4 nights, 8 meals, tours in each city. Amazing at \$399/pp/dbl.
- ✈ August 13-21 – Yosemite Trip, including SFO, LAX, SAN
- ✈ November 2009 – Branson, MO 9days/8nights @ \$800.00

Contact Stan at (407) 852-6773.

#### Calendar:

1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of the Month – Luncheon meeting at the Golden Corral, 2323 S. Semoran Blvd. (just south of CurryFord Road) at 12:30 pm.

**February 7** – Luncheon Meeting

**March 4** – Luncheon Meeting

**April 1** – Our Annual Picnic, NO FOOLIN'

Favorite Restaurant Dinner Nights have begun again!

**February 17** – Meet at Logan's Roadhouse at Sandlake Road and John Young Pkwy - 4:30PM

*Don't hold on to anger, hurt or pain. They steal your energy and keep you from love.*  
- Leo Buscaglia



## **TAMPA BAY**

Palm Harbor, FL  
Ken Wilson, Secretary  
2101 Sunset Point Rd. #303  
Clearwater, FL 33765  
(727) 642-6825  
[zulu770@aol.com](mailto:zulu770@aol.com)



The Jan. meeting was opened by Pres. **Bob Lindstrom** with the Pledge of Allegiance. We had 25 members in attendance.

Birthdays – **John Quinn** - 91 yrs young on Jan 4, **Martha Auletta** - 89 yrs young on Jan, 22.

Officers for 2009 are Pres. - **Bob Lindstrom**, V.P. - **Jon Wilkinson**, Secy. - **Ken Wilson**, Picnic Committee - **Jim & Pat Hottel**, Membership - **Mary Martin**.

Sunshine Committee: **Bob Taylor**, V.P for many years, is being visited by hospice daily and his minister visits often. **Les Manuel** is up and about while recovering from shoulder replacement surgery. **John Gikens** suffered a fall recently. **Dave Lodge** underwent back surgery on January 5. **Bob Hamm** of TPA has suffered a stroke and one side is paralyzed.

**Terri Breslin** wished to thank all that helped with the Christmas Luncheon: **Dave & Carolyn Lodge**, **Mary Martin**, **Lillian Sawyer**, **Bob & Jan Lindstrom**, and last but not least, our resident photographer **Bill Linehan**. Our thanks also go out to Terri on her job as chairman.

### Calendar:

**February 2** - 10:00AM meeting at Tiffany's.

**March 2** - 10:00AM meeting at Tiffany's.

**April 6** – Spring Picnic at Anderson Park - 11AM



## **TREASURE COAST**

Stuart, FL  
M. Jane Kerr  
1372 SW California Blvd.  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34953  
(772) 343 0709

Well, I'm back and am so very happy to be able to write the Newsletter for the Treasure Coast again. **Al Popek** who has been covering for me the last two months did a super job and I think he is celebrating my return as well. Thanks Al for a job well done.

Our meeting for lunch at Mulligans in Jensen Beach was held on January 6<sup>th</sup> and was attended by 16 members and 2 guests. One of the guests brought in by **Maureen & Michael Carragher** was **Patrick Mahoney** who hails from White Plains, NY. Do you think he was escaping from the cold weather and snow for a time? **Claire Mainville**, the other guest was my friend from the Port St. Lucie Newcomers Club and Mahjongg

buddy, we also volunteer on Saturday's at St Vincent de Paul Thrift Store. I learned how to play Mahjongg here in Florida and all I can say is it is very addictive to say the least and a great game for the mind and lots of fun.

Just before I left home for the Luncheon/Meeting, I received a call from **Sandy Giller** whom **Diane Brodis** & I used to work with in Rockleigh, New Jersey and it turns out that Sandy lives around the corner from Diane in Boynton Beach. Small world and then I received a call from **Sharon Kolibab** who also worked with us in Rockleigh and is looking for a home here in Florida and will be having lunch with us shortly. Looks like our chapter will be expanding. As usual, we all thoroughly enjoyed our lunch and visited with each other. If anyone would like to join us, you won't be disappointed.

The 50/50 was won by **Celina Xifaras** and the progressive was won by **Artie Frage, Sr.** Now it seems that Celina and Constantinos have been winning a lot lately, is this the new mystery? Constantinos and Celina brought a large tray of Greek pastries for our desert, like we all needed those extra calories right after the Holidays, but they sure were delicious. Thank you both for your generosity.

**Elizabeth & Wally Armstrong** were in attendance and Wally will be having surgery in about a week, so get well wishes and prayers are in order. If you would like to send a card, their address is 2408 SW Brookwood Lane, Palm City, FL 34990.

**Mari Hirjak** was not able to attend our Luncheon/Meeting since her husband, who has been in a nursing home, fell and broke his hip and was moved to a hospice. Get well wishes and prayers are in order for Michael and you can send cards to his home address and Mari will see that he gets them. Their address is 1797 SE Berkshire Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34952.

**Al Popek** reminded us that Southwest Airlines accepts cash and check but No Credit Cards. He will have some important information regarding Jet Blue at our next meeting. Keep Tuned!

On the lighter side: New exercise for Seniors!

*"This happens to be a wonderful exercise for older people. I just came across this exercise suggested for seniors to build muscle strength in the arms and shoulders. It seems so easy, so I thought I'd pass it on to some of my friends and family. The article suggested doing it three days a week and begins by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side.*

*With a 5lb potato sack in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute, then relax. Each day, you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer.*

*After a couple of weeks, move up to 10lb potato sacks, then 50lb potato sacks and 100lb potato sacks in*

*each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute. After you feel confident at that level, then put a potato in each of the sacks."*

#### Calendar:

**February 3** – Luncheon/Meeting - Mulligan's Jensen Beach, FL

**March 3** – Luncheon/Meeting - Mulligan's Jensen Beach, FL

**April 7** – Luncheon/Meeting - Mulligan's Jensen Beach, FL

### GEORGIA

#### DIXIE FLYERS

Metro Atlanta, Georgia

Diayne Thompson

118 Circle H Rd.

Sharpsburg, GA 30277-2524

(770) 251-0635

[dixflyers@charter.net](mailto:dixflyers@charter.net)



Twenty eight flyers & one guest were in attendance at the Christmas Lunch which was held at The Downtown Grill Restaurant on Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> Noon in Tyrone, GA. The lunch was sponsored by **Bruce & Mary Brodersen**. Our guest was Vanessa Mottley, Co-Director of The Promise Place. We had a smaller but comfortable meeting room as there were not as many flyers as usual in attendance. The food and service was very good, mostly very basic entrées, such as chicken, country fried steak and assorted vegetables. The chapter treated us all to desert, which was Cheesecake or Chocolate brownie delight, which every one really enjoyed.

We had a new member join The Flyers: **Phil McLucas**, formerly of ATLKQ, Computer Services, retired recently from IADKQ at Dulles, in Northern Virginia. We all welcomed Phil on board. **Sandy Lis** held a normal business meeting and Vanessa Mottley, our honored guest, gave us all a report and a large thank you for our support of the Promise Place. There are presently two mothers, and seven children in residence at the shelter, and as in past years, we presented Vanessa with gift cards for the mothers and children. We hope we made their Christmas a little more Merry. As an added gift, **Ray & Mary Owen** graciously donated a check for each of the mothers presently there. A wonderful act of generosity in this giving season from Ray & Mary. Sandy also reminded us that it's that time of year to have the election of officers, so nominations were made and it was voted on and seconded by all present that the officers for 2009 will be: **Bill Elk** - Pres., **Sandy Lis** - VP, **Bruce Brodersen** - Treas., **Diayne Thompson** - Newsletter Editor/RUAEA Correspondent/Secretary, and **Jane Brown** - Sunshine Lady.

Thanks and Congratulations to all that are serving in office. The 50/50 was conducted by **Fred Cron**, our 50/50 Executive Coordinator. Fred was assisted by **Sam Mace**, and **Bobby Jones** drew the winning number held by **Judy Elk**. Judy donated the proceeds to the Promise Place. **Don Holmes** drew the second number for a small gift won by **Sandy Lis**, who also in turn presented it to the Promise Place.

On our Sick Call, still at home and recuperating steadily from surgery is **Art Gwynn**. **Wormie Bowling** is still making slow but sure progress from eye and wrist surgery. We wish them both a full and complete recovery. Just a reminder that 2009 dues are now being accepted by the treasurer.

#### *February Chapter Report:*

Thirty three Flyers and one guest were present at the I-Hop restaurant in Fayetteville, GA on January 7<sup>th</sup>, at 12:00 noon. Our guest was Ruth Rumin, **Don & Mary Lou Sullivan**'s sister from Pittsburgh, PA. We will be having the lunches at I-Hop every month thru May 2009, and will resume in August 2009, thereafter. We have an ideal room and the food and the service are very good. We had a very good turnout this month, most everyone is back from holiday travel or family celebrations. It was good to see **Don & Marge Shelly**, **Bobbie & Willie Foles**, and **Ron & Pat Gunny**, back after being absent for awhile. Don recently had surgery on his shoulder and is now doing very well. **Fred & Jane Higgins** were in town from Florida.

President **Bill Elk** held the first business meeting of 2009. All the Flyers honored **Sandy Lis**. We presented her with a gift card and much thanks and appreciation for a great job well done, as our President for the past 3 years. Sandy is our Vice President now and it will afford her a little more time for home and family.

**Don Shelly** reported he had been in touch with **Jay & Gail Chambers** who are doing well after Jay had a hip replacement, and Gail had a knee replacement. Jay will also have a knee replacement in the future. Don also reported that **Frank George** in Florida is also doing well after a health issue that put him in the hospital recently. Don was in touch with **Evelyn Freeman** and assured her she and her family are still in our thoughts and prayers. **Art Gwynn** and **Wormie Bowling** continue to convalesce at home. Hope to be seeing them out and about soon. It is with great sadness that we report **Don & Mary Lou Sullivan**'s daughter Kerry Belcher passed away on Dec. 23, 2008 after a very hard fought, two year battle with cancer. All our thoughts and prayers are with them and their family. Memorial contributions may be made to: The Heifer Foundation, 1-888-422-1161 or [www.heiferfoundation.org](http://www.heiferfoundation.org).

**Bruce Brodersen** reported on the progress and plans for the upcoming convention in Phoenix, he said things are moving along nicely and urged people that

are able, to try to attend this years event. The 50/50 was conducted by our Director **Fred Cron** assisted by **Tom Wheeler**. During this process, Fred discovered that Tom and he had the exact same birthday. Now what are the odds on that? As it turned out, **Jane Higgins** drew the winning number held by **Mary Owen**. Congratulations Mary! The people at the Promise Place thanked the Flyers once again for their generous contributions and support which has become a tradition for our chapter.

#### Calendar:

**February 4** – Lunch at 12:00 Noon - I-Hop, Fayetteville, GA

### IDAHO



#### BOISE GEMS

Bill Heath  
361 Charwood Ct.  
Boise, ID 83706  
(208) 336-5359  
[wahboi@quickidaho.com](mailto:wahboi@quickidaho.com)

*Submitted by Shirley Dempsey, Co-President,  
[brandyjake@cableone.net](mailto:brandyjake@cableone.net)*

Another snowstorm hit the Treasure Valley on the eve of our breakfast meeting on Jan. 5, and only two couples – **Dave & Carol Adams**, and **Walt & Wilma Anderson** could make it to JB's for breakfast. **Rick Dempsey** talked with Dave & Carol who reported they and the Andersons were the only ones there. But in true UAL spirit, they carried on, voting for a new chapter president for 2009. The Catch 22 is that they won't tell us who it is until the Feb. meeting!

Dave did tell us that he drove a bus to Disneyland and Knotts Berry Farm, after their trip to PDX to visit their daughter for the holidays. The bus was chartered by a family consisting of 41 people.

We had the Christmas party on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, with 22 members and friends attending. Everyone enjoyed the dinner at the Owyhee Hotel. **Ned Yundt** provided the Christmas music, with thanks to the hotel, which surprised us with a piano in our party room.

**Rick & Shirley Dempsey** entertained their daughter **Shannon** and her boy friend **Dustin Carver** for the two weeks of Christmas. **Denny Snyder** is at home recuperating from rotator cuff surgery.

**Lil Jolly** lost her sister during the Christmas holidays and made the trip to SLC for services.

**Joe & Loan Varady** drove to California for Christmas to visit grandchildren. They returned to four-feet of snow in their driveway.

#### Calendar:

**February 2** - 9 a.m., Breakfast at JB's in Meridian

### ILLINOIS

#### CHICAGO SKYLINERS

Esther Broderson  
51 Bonnie Lane  
Clarendon Hills IL 60514-1409  
(630) 323-8677  
[estherales@aol.com](mailto:estherales@aol.com)



The weather for our Christmas luncheon just proved how hearty our Skyliners are in braving snow, sleet, and icy roads. Out of four hundred, only ten no-shows. Most of us enjoyed a prime rib treat at an affordable price. Our entertainment was a trio of three gals singing the songs of the Andrew Sisters. After the usual money raffles, one person at each table won the centerpiece on the table, an original Christmas piece designed and created by **Rich Surma**. Hopefully, he had a few elves to help with all the decorations. He also designed the card and menu at each plate.

The Southside had 25 for breakfast this December. They included visitors **Henry Pietrzak** and **Dorothy Overbey** from the CA Re-Lax-ers, sporting tans no less. They had a good time visiting with old friends. After a long absence, **Charlene Eberhardt** and **Wes Roak** joined us, and we hope this reunion will continue. We bribed **Wes Roak** by letting him win one of the raffles. Charlene got close by husband **Al Eberhardt's** winning one. **Carlyle Brandt** won a raffle and one of the gifts. Having to settle just for money and/or a gift were **Mary Brandt**, **Lydia Codillis**, and **Javier Chavez**.

Happy New Year, especially to **Marie & Wes Roak**. While celebrating their daughter's anniversary in Aruba, Marie spent seven days in the hospital there with appendicitis!

**Lorraine & Al Kobler** topped any anniversary I've heard about. Sixty seven years! Bet they have some stories they're not telling.

Since our Northsiders' breakfast was the day after the luncheon, just the die-hards showed up. But still a lively group, proving how much fun and laughter we share. The big joke we Illinoisans share are the jokes on the late night shows regarding our cutesy governor.

Happy New Year 2009!

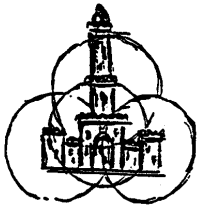
#### Calendar:

Southside Brunch – Breakfast at Jedi's Restaurant (**January 27 & February 24**) at 9:30 a.m., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn, IL.

Northsiders Breakfast – Artemis Restaurant (**January 14 & February 11**) at 9:00 a.m. Golf & Busse Hwy., Mt. Prospect, IL.

Food depository - First Tuesday (**Jan. 6 & Feb. 3**).





### LOOP GROUP

Chicago  
 Lillian Mallstrom  
 1109 Cleveland Avenue  
 Park Ridge, IL 60068-5507  
 (847) 823-5062  
[Roenavy56@aol.com](mailto:Roenavy56@aol.com)

There is no luncheon in February and our next gathering will be on March 18<sup>th</sup> which is the usual schedule of meeting on the 3rd Wed. of odd number months.

#### Calendar:

**February** – No Luncheon scheduled

**March 18** – Luncheon at the Renaissance Chicago Hotel @ State & Lake Streets (Great Street Restaurant) – 11:30 a.m.

**May 20** – Luncheon Cancelled due to conflict with RUAEA Convention in Phoenix week of May 17-24.

### INDIANA

#### INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN  
 Wanda Bryce, Correspondent  
 6801 Stanley Road  
 Camby, IN 46113  
 (317) 821-8862  
[Wnd190@cs.com](mailto:Wnd190@cs.com)



Okay, it's time for warmer weather; and I'm writing this in early January. It seems like winter has been here forever already. It began very early in December with cold, windy and freezing rain turning to snow. Admittedly, we haven't had too much snow to this point, but it's out there, I know. I like it when it snows on Christmas Eve and melts by January 1<sup>st</sup> and that's it!

I haven't heard from those escaping to warmer climates yet, but I know that several couples are planning to take a cruise to the Panama Canal but I'm not certain when.

We had a wonderful time at our December 20<sup>th</sup> Christmas party. Approximately 25 members and guests were there to enjoy the warm cozy atmosphere and the friendship of former employees and family members. Many, many thanks to **Cheri & Ron Innis**, **Ellie & Bud Barnett**, **Dimple & Dave Rihel** and **Mike Matlak** for their help in setting and cleaning up to make the party so successful. And of course, kudos to the chefs, the party would not have been without all that delicious food. Missing from the party were **Ray & Hannalore Barbo** due to her broken rib. Hopefully, they will make it to our regular meetings. They were initially responsible in forming Indy Racers and enjoy its gatherings.

I failed to mention the 2009 reelected officers include: **Mike Matlak**, President; **Jim Gibson**, V. President; **Hannalore Brabo**, Secretary; **Mario Bregante**, Treasurer and yours truly, Correspondent.

Please continue to remember in your prayers: **Lelia Theiss**; **Terry Martin** and **Hannalore Brabo**.

#### Calendar:

**February 9** – Regular meeting at Golden Corral, 2224 E. Hadley Rd., Plainfield, IN. Meeting room available at 2PM, meeting begins at 3PM

**March 9** – Regular meeting Golden Corral, 2224 E. Hadley Rd., Plainfield, IN. Meeting room available at 2PM, meeting begins at 3PM

### 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)



The Nor'Easters held our Christmas luncheon on December 10<sup>th</sup>, gathering 77 members and guests. This was our first visit to the Danversport Yacht Club. The room had windows on three sides, with excellent views of the waterfront and beautiful patio, which the room opens out to in warm weather. Nice meeting place, set up by Pres. **Carleen Eddy**.

**Don Simard**, our Master of Ceremonies called for a minute of silence for our three members who passed away in 2008, **Bill Cummings**, **Bill Dwyer & Erwin Leader**. Don & Pres. Carleen, conducted the 50/50 with five winners, **Elaine Vanderwal**, **Sylvia Shakley**, **Bill Betters**, **Walter Grace & Angelia Bosco**. They also raffled the many Christmas presents, some winners being; **Dolores Berardi**, **Paul Newcomb**, **June Alberino**, **Helmet Umbley**, **Lee Lyon**, **Ed Burke**, **Gerald Peters**, **Bruce Eddy**, **Fran Mathews**, **Myron Babij**, **Bill Rodenhizer**, **Joan Simard**, **Fred Duda** and **Ralph Torres**. I don't even know who won the free lunches.

Yours truly normally flits from table to table, snapping pictures, gleaned Newsletter info and being an all round host. Unfortunately, I didn't get to speak with **Audrey Joyce**, sitting right behind me at the next table. I did overhear her talking about having visited Foxwoods Casino and something about having a baby. Are you holding out on us Audrey?

**Bill Shailor's** little French Poodle, Tula, was brave enough to successfully chase a coyote from his senior living grounds, into the nearby woods. Tough little Tula! Also, good to see Bill's daughter, Kimberly, back

again this Christmas, but without her leg cast.

**Joe Duda**, his son Fred and daughter Abigail still drive the furthest, coming from Bondsville, MA, just north of BDL. Abigail told what life was like growing up with farm animals, still having a few. A 365 day a year job. Abigail then gave everyone free passes to the Peabody Essex Museum in (Witch City) Salem MA, quite a place to visit.

We usually put up a peg board with pictures of members, snapped at prior meetings. This meeting, we added a picture of **Ruby Glascock**, a centenarian, mother of **Ginger Hyde**, a member of the Florida Sand Dollars Chapter. For her birthday on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, the Nor'Easters sent a card signed by almost all our members. Ginger in kind, sent a thank you e-mail with Ruby's picture, which I enlarged and displayed on our board. Members were glad to see her picture and couldn't believe she's a centenarian. Bless you Ruby, you look GREAT!

We have two new Nor'Easters. **Dorothy Berry** and **John DeYoung**, both from BOSGQ. John has attended several meetings while still working and is well known by most members. Welcome to both of you!

The Nor'Easters monetary donation this year went to the Boston Food Kitchen, desperate for food or donations, as the need is greater than most years.

Yours truly lost electricity, cable and phone during that disastrous ice storm in mid Dec. Fortunately, I have a generator that allowed me to run the necessities. There were 420,000 NH homes, (don't know the numbers in MA & VT) without electricity, some up to and including Christmas day. In our rural NH towns, no electricity also means no heat. Serious! With trees and lines down everywhere and a majority of roads closed, driving was chancy at best. Being retired made it easy to stay home. Our society has such an easy lifestyle; we take it all for granted. Tough living without juice for several days!

February's birthdays: **Gary Bosworth, Mark Domurat, Joseph Pizzano, William Spruce** and **Bob Wilson**. February's anniversaries: **Bob & Claire Anderson** - 58 years, **Elizabeth & Lawrence Restiano** - 46 years and **Ralph & Elaine Torres** - 52 years. Congratulations!

Unfortunately, we didn't have anyone step up to obtain the positions of chapter officers. The current officers, Pres, VP, Treas. & Secy., will now start their 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> terms, respectively.

#### Calendar:

February - No meeting

*Love is not about who you live with ....  
It's about who you can't live without.*

*-Aesop*

## MINNESOTA

### NORTHERN LITES

MSP/St. Paul

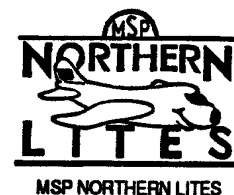
Connie Glattly

82300 Wold Road

Willow River, MN 55795

(218) 372-3973

[crglatty@frontiernet.net](mailto:crglatty@frontiernet.net)



In December, 31 of us gathered to eat, visit & enjoy fellowship with friends. The food was good & plentiful & we were all imbued with Christmas spirit.

Santa made an appearance, passing out gifts to all. Those white elephants must have made the trek all the way to the North Pole! Santa sure had a sack full, because everyone received something & there was enough left over that some folks had their number drawn for a second gift.

It was great to see **Wes & Bette Briest** again, without the wheelchair! Bette is doing well after joint-replacement surgery, just a tiny limp which will probably be gone by the time this is read.

Somehow the idea of the oldest member present came up (?). **Don Woods** said he figured he probably was the oldest. **John Beveridge** allowed as how he thought he was older than Don. But then, from over on the other side of the room, came another voice ~ **Wes Briest** said that he has them both beat at 88½! Strangely, there were no female voices in that contest.

Our charities list was consulted again & the decision was made to donate a lump sum to the Flight 93 Memorial Fund this year.

We encourage our far-flung membership to stay in touch in the winter months, so that we may share news & greetings with those of us who stay here. It's widely known that most of you have email, so there's no excuse, is there?

We sadly report that **Barbara & Gerry Wilmes'** daughter, **Cindy Bruska**, was unexpectedly found dead in her home, cause unknown. Condolences may be sent to Barb at 220 Walnut Street, Apt. 202, Chaska, MN 55318.

#### Calendar:

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

*One day you will ask me which is more important?  
My life or yours? I will say mine and you will  
walk away not knowing that you are my life.*

*-Khalil Gibran*

## NEBRASKA



### GOLDEN'EARS

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

There were 65 who had a wonderful evening at Anthony's, serenaded by one of our own, **Joyce Torchia**. Thanks to **Ev & Shirley Payton** for hosting this event. The food was delicious and our Christmas Bingo called by the one and only **Dave Letts** was much fun.

**Larry & Sharon Farrell** celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Sunday, December 7, with an Open House hosted by their children. Congratulations!

**Lorraine Stanfield** said that **Gerald Wittenberger**, age 78, was killed in a car accident near Cozad, NE on December 1. Gerald worked for United in passenger service but left and moved to Cozad in the late 60's.

**Peggy Casebeer** had back surgery the first part of January. She has been in severe pain for quite a long time and will be glad when this is over.

Remembering those who passed away this year:

- † **Doc Savage** (4-13)
- † **Toni Longmeyer** (4-19)
- † **Vera Thomsen** (8-15)
- † **Dorothy Greenstreet** (10-28)

## NEVADA

### LAS VEGAS GAMBLERS

Chris Czaplewski, Secy.  
280 Cottonwood Dr.  
Mesquite, NV 89027  
(702) 346-8877  
[chriscz@cascadeaccess.com](mailto:chriscz@cascadeaccess.com)



The "Gamblers" Christmas luncheon was attended by 48 members; a much smaller group than in the past. This is due to a drop in our membership, and quite a few of the members were under the weather. Others were away for the Holidays. I think the **Morwicks** were at their condo on Maui. Our President, **John Albert**, was absent, so the meeting was conducted by the Secretary, VP, and Treasurer. Glad we can all help each other out.

**John Albert** was very sick with an upper respiratory infection and ended up in ER. Since John and **George Fox** always handle the 50/50 and drawing tickets, George was really hustling to keep things in order. A separate ticket was given to each member who brought a gift for the raffle table. Lots and lots of toys were brought in for the Toys for Tots campaign. **Tony**

**Tricoli** delivered the toys to the Marines for their annual giving to needy children. Thank you, Tony; and to all our members for your generosity.

It was nice to see **June Martinez** and **Celia Ziel** attend with **Danny** and **Baldor**. The ladies looked beautiful in their Holiday wear. We hadn't seen "**Dapper Dan**" **Martinez** and his buddy **Al Hutchinson** in some time. They always look so sharp! **Chris Czaplewski** brought her niece, **Michele Milbrat**. The food was great, as always; roast pork loin and all the trimmings.

**Jean & Jim Frasco** took their family on a Carnival cruise to the Caribbean during the holidays. **Denny Gutwald** looks and feels good (going thru his Chemo treatments). **Lois Fox** is recovering nicely with her hip replacement. **Collean Fullmer** is feeling better. **Evelyn Smith Bluiett** is still recovering from her illness at a LAS Medical and re-hab hospital. Thanks, **Preston**, for keeping us updated. **James Spencer** (SFOCE) says his wife, **Barbara**, has been very ill. We wish her the best.

Poor **Mikey Vasko** is still suffering with his kidney stone problems. **Eleanor** says he's weak from his treatments, but better than he was. He came to the Christmas luncheon, and was so sick; he spent the afternoon lying down in his car. Good health wishes and prayers to all our sick members. May 2009 bring us all good health and happiness.

### Calendar:

**Feb. 10** - Luncheon/meeting at 1130; Arizona Charlie's on Decatur.



### RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

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

There were approximately 40 attendees at our December Christmas luncheon meeting at the 19<sup>th</sup> Hole Restaurant, including two guests – Ginny Christian, **Elizabeth Brown**'s sister and Robert, who accompanied **Mary Withers**. Everyone was festively attired and in a Christmas mood. The chapter was able to somewhat subsidize the cost of the luncheon.

With no new nominations, the 2007 officers will again serve for another year – President **John Zoboli**, Secretary/Newsletter Editor **Pat Zoboli** (final year, thank you) and Treasurer **Mary Withers** assisted by **Kathy Robinson**. Anyone interested in any of these positions can still volunteer.

Reno/Tahoe Clipped Wings Co-President **Pat Miller** attended our gathering again this year.



**Elizabeth Brown** won the 50/50. In addition, we had a number of other winners: Wine was won by **John Brown**. Table centerpieces were won by: **Roberta Wagoner, Bill Perkins, Larry Reid, Donna Perkins**, who graciously re-gifted the centerpiece to be won by someone else, **Ed Williams, Herb Klemm, Christa Knutson, Elizabeth Brown, Jean Stephens, Nina Mischker** and **Mary Withers**. The surprise gift was won by **Louise Smith**. As usual, everyone enjoyed the gathering. The food and the service were very nice. **We collected \$135.00 for the Food Bank.**

We would like to thank **Bill Perkins** for his home-made fancy Santa Clause cookies and to mention Bill's appearance with the Reno Philharmonic Choir Christmas show.

**Maurine Williams** mentioned that on Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, there was a "live" Nativity scene staged at First Methodist Church in Carson City.

December birthdays were celebrated by: **Nancy Scaife, Larry Leusing, Joe Robinson, Millie McGuire, Herb Klemm, Bill Royle, Linda Klemm, Jim Compton** and **Inez Compton**. Gone to Maui with their spouses to celebrate birthdays were: **Larry Leusing** celebrating his 65<sup>th</sup> on Dec. 9, **Nancy Scaife** celebrating her 70<sup>th</sup> on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> & **Joe Robinson** celebrating his 75<sup>th</sup> on Dec. 11. I am sure a rollicking good time was had by all. Wait for the stories.

## NEW JERSEY

### THE GARDEN STATERS

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



The Gardenstaters met on December 10 at Snuffy's Restaurant in Scotch Plains, N.J. to celebrate the Holiday Season. The attendance was great with 84 members and spouses. Members whom we haven't seen in a long time were there to help us celebrate. President **Dick Confer** opened meeting with a flag salute. A moment of silence was held for **Tom Reilly** who passed away last month. **Bob Brittan** and **Angelica Angel** were our guests. The business part of the meeting was suspended, so that we could enjoy our lunch and get to talk with everyone whom we haven't seen in a long time.

We, at the Gardenstaters, wish everyone a Merry Christmas and hope 2009 brings prosperity to everyone and great expectations for all.

Clipped Wings (NJ): Clipped Wings New Jersey's November meeting was nicknamed "Operation Christmas Stocking". The plan was to fill 50 holiday stock-

ings for the troops in Afghanistan with favorite items from home. There were so many donations from members, the stockings simply overflowed with requested items such as gum, beef jerky, hot chocolate, hand lotion, socks, granola bars, yo-yos, etc. We were able to ship a total of 6 boxes of stockings, extra goodies, and 50 fleece blankets – all headed to Afghanistan.

As we look forward to the New Year, we'd like to thank the Gardenstaters for letting us share our news and wish a very happy holiday season to all! **Diane Johnston**

## NEW YORK

### BUFFALO CHIPS



**BUFFALO CHIPS**

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

December 5<sup>th</sup>, fourteen active employees met at the Millennium Hotel, Cheektowaga, NY and were joined by twenty Buffalo Chips for the annual Christmas Party.

The organizer **Angela Selak**, assisted by husband **Joe** and **Mary Ann Palumbo** did all the set up, invitations, ordered the dinner and prizes. Recently retired **Frank Palumbo** was the Master of Ceremonies. The rest of the retirees laid back and did what we were asked to do which was very little.

The evening opened with an open bar for an hour, followed by dinner and then followed by a second hour of open bar as the gifts were distributed for all to enjoy. In the end, everyone present had at least one gift, plus a new ornament for their tree and a bottle of wine or something better to take home.

The surprise of the evening was when everyone left to discover that two inches of very fluffy, powder snow had fallen while we were in the hotel. It was beautiful and so light that when you started the car and moved a few feet it fell to the ground.

All the known persons on the sick list have recovered & several were at the party. Let's keep it that way.

The next meeting is planned for early March & will probably be a luncheon, a notice will be forthcoming.

### Calendar:

**March - TBA**

*Without love, what are we worth? Eighty-nine cents! Eighty-nine cents worth of chemicals walking around lonely.*

*-Hawkeye, M.A.S.H.*

## OHIO

### BUCKEYES

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



Can you believe that it's 2009 already? How quickly the time flies when you're having fun. My wish for each of you for this New Year is to take time to smell the roses. I would like to thank you all for your concern and prayers. Life is so precious. Good health and stay active.

The Feb. meeting will be held on Wed. February 4<sup>th</sup> at Dimitri's in Parma. **Dolly & John Taucher** will host this event. **Marilyn Gschwend** hosted this event for many years. With the passing of Marilyn last year, the Tauchers are hosting this event. There is a large room to accommodate the Buckeyes & the food is great.

The semi-yearly package will be distributed at our Feb. meeting. It will contain the events for the next six months. If you are unable to attend, your package will be mailed to you. If you have a change of address or email, please notify one of the officers, so that your address and/or email address are current in our database.

It's that time of the year again for the yearly membership dues to be paid. Make your check payable to: Ohio Buckeyes. Send payment to our Treasurer: **Dolly Taucher**, 8301 Lorraine Drive, Strongsville, OH 44149-1031.

Buckeyes! Mark your calendar for a fun filled day on Thursday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>. That's the date that we are planning a trip to Shanksville, Pennsylvania. We will depart at 7:00 AM from Great Northern Plaza. Points of interest are: Flight 93 Memorial Chapel & Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater. Luncheon is at the Oakhurst Tea Room in Somerset, PA. Our last stop will be at Christian W. Clay Winery for a tour and wine tasting before heading for home. Return arrival time is 10:00 PM. The cost will be \$75 per person. Additional info. will follow as the date draws closer.

Many of our members are facing many health problems at this time. Keep **Bob Herman**, **Sharon Vannoy** & **Barb Vauls** in your prayers. Each is facing many difficulties at this time.

### Calendar:

**February 4** - Dimitri's Restaurant, 1830 Snow Rd., cash.

**March 4** - Old Oak Bible Church in Middleburg Hts., Gather at 12 noon & luncheon served at 12:30PM, pre-paid.

## 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)



Our Christmas luncheon came just in time. The following week, our area was shut down by snow and ice and many of us didn't get out of our homes for over a week. Talk about cabin fever! We did have a white Christmas, the first in many years.

Our thanks to **Jack Hooper**, who has presided over our meetings for the past two years (and don't forget the years before) and his fine group of officers for the enthusiasm they showed. They selected interesting speakers, fun events and put forth a lot of effort each month.

At the December meeting, Jack introduced the new officers who take over in January, President **Charlie Stemper**, VP **Bruce DeFord**, Secretary **Dee Boelter**, Treasurer **Rosalie Betschart** and the three directors **Jeri Blodgett**, **Nadine Holten** and **Harold Miller**. We had our regular drawing winners and they were: Door prize - Jack Hooper; Birthday - **Nadine Holten**, no Anniversary and Fifty/Fifty - **Johni Wilson**.

Merry "old" Santa Claus (**Harold Miller**) arrived to give out the Christmas prizes. Grand prize winners were **Kathy Russell** and **Tony DeSalvo**. Ten smaller gifts were given to **Bob Bauer**, **Connie Bauer**, **Carol DeFord**, **Joe Giammalva**, **Elaine Hoek**, **Ophelia Nunley**, **Lois Pitman**, **Mike Thomas** and **Shirley Walker**. There was also a photo contest where you had to pick the person in the photograph. It was particularly hard as the pictures were taken when the member was young. Fortunately, a list of the names of those in the photos was given out to make the task a little easier. Lucky me, I was the winner by selecting 16 out of 33!

**Merle Pitman** was in the hospital during the Holidays with heart problems. He is home and has high hopes of coming to the next luncheon. No one else reported any health problems for December.

The February meeting will be an Ice Cream Social. Please don't forget to bring a Valentine for the card exchange and couples should bring two cards.

The travel desk at PDX is open 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Mon/Wed/Fri (503) 249-4142 and (503) 249-4143 for the PDX area. Calls from outside our (503) area code please use 1-888-278-7038. They can assist you with listing and load information.

### Calendar:

Meetings at Refectory Restaurant 1618 NE 122<sup>nd</sup> Ave.,

Portland OR 11AM Social Hour, Lunch 12:00 PM  
**February 11** - Valentine Exchange and Ice Cream Social

**March 11** - St. Patrick's Day celebration

**April 8** - Social

## PENNSYLVANIA

### PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

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



January will have come and gone by the time you read this (thank goodness). The annual Christmas party was held on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Montour Heights Country Club. This year's party was held in conjunction with the Pittsburgh Interline Club. The event was attended by 82 members of whom 19 were Pit-Stoppers. Bernie and I were unable to attend, however, I understand a good time was had by all. **Jim & Lois Doolan** were able to attend, thanks to their lovely daughter who escorted them. **Dave & Gwen Detwiler** drove in from Connellsville. Thank goodness, the weather cooperated.

I heard via the grapevine that our own Northeast Director **Treatie Karwoski**, along with **Mary Jane Stewart** and **Tami Yeager** qualified for "Dancing with the Stars". **Vic Ference** reported that the prizes were plentiful and echoed a well deserved "pat on the back" to the Interline Committee.

Hopefully, I will have mended from my hernia repair surgery which is scheduled for Jan. 5 and best wishes also to **Mac Crampton**, who was scheduled for a knee replacement on the same date. So sorry to report that former PITCS supervisor **Ray Mc Conaghy** suffered some serious problems after a fall at home. Word has it that after several surgeries, Ray is mending, and well on his way to a full recovery. Our best to Ray and wife **Julie**.

## TENNESSEE

### TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS

Herman Emmel  
865 Lakeview Drive  
Sharps Chapel, TN 37866  
(865) 278-3482  
[bhemmel@aol.com](mailto:bhemmel@aol.com)



In December, a small group of us showed up for the breakfast buffet at Shoney's. It appears that most of our United group was traveling for the Holidays or getting

ready for family to visit them. The **Barkmans** were looking forward to two of their granddaughters visiting from California.

Our trip up to IL got postponed. After many tests in Nov. and Dec., the doctors decided to put in a stint to one of the arteries where Herman had by-pass surgery 15+ years ago. This procedure was finally done on Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>. We'll find out Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> whether he needs to have the same procedure done on two other arteries which are partially blocked. He feels so much better now and is up and around, almost back to normal.

The news on **Cecil Adkins** is encouraging. **John & Mary Bunish** report that he is still in rehab; however, he is hoping to come home in the next few weeks.

### Calendar:

**February 18** - 9:30 AM Breakfast at Shoney's Restaurant on Lovell Rd. in West Knoxville. Take Exit 374 off I40-75 toward Kingston Pike for one block.

**March 19** - Hosted by **Don & Jacque Jeacock**, Green Meadows Country Club. Guest speaker from Haven House/Home for abused women.

**April 16** - 9:30 AM Breakfast at Shoney's Restaurant on Lovell Rd.

**May** - Date to be announced. **Joe & Robbie Corbin** will host a trip to Cumberland Playhouse.

## UTAH

### THE SALT LAKERS

Brigitte Murdock  
1505 S. Roxbury Rd.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84108-2844  
(801) 583-2346  
[ettigirb24@q.com](mailto:ettigirb24@q.com)



*Submitted by **Kip Lufkin**, [kiplufkin@comcast.net](mailto:kiplufkin@comcast.net)*

On January 6, only 11 members of our coffee group met at the Murray Heritage Center. The fog and snow took a great toll on the number. Coffee and hot drinks were provided by **Mike Brown** and **Kip Lufkin**. **Frank Christensen** and **Clair Anderson** provided the donuts. Our usual coffee makers, **Frank & Brigitte Murdock**, were snowbound in their mountain home.

Our attendees were **Bill Berg**, **George Dalton**, **Judy Anderson**, **Art Scott**, **Doug Peterson**, **Bob Turgeon**, and **George Lufkin**, along with the cooks of the day. We all signed a card for our very ill fellow retiree, **Simon Seikaly**. Kip delivered the card to Simon's wife, **Maureen**, at St. Marks Hospital. Maureen advised that they are keeping him as comfortable as possible. We wish them and best. **Marie Apperson** talked to Brigitte during the holidays and sends "Hello to All".

Former SLCRR employee **Jay Fidler** passed away in December.

We hope for better weather next month so that those that missed today can join the group in Feb.

#### Calendar:

**Feb. 3** - Coffee Time, 9:30AM - Murray Heritage Ctr., 10 E. 6150 S. Murray. Please remember our new time.

### VIRGINIA

#### BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS

Roanoke, Virginia  
Louise C. Fuller  
791 Rainbow Forest Drive  
Lynchburg, VA 24502  
(434) 237-6502  
[Fuller1924@aol.com](mailto:Fuller1924@aol.com)



On December 5<sup>th</sup>, the RUAEA Blue Ridge Chapter met at Edelweiss Restaurant, a very nice setting for our Christmas luncheon with eleven attending. The **Carters** did not attend because **Mary** had a doctor's appointment and **George & Louise Fuller** were not able to come. **John Rice** & sister Elizabeth had his brother and wife as guests from Michigan. **John & Elizabeth Rice** gave each of those present, a hot mat to handle hot dishes. It was so nice to be remembered at Christmas.

After a nice time to join in the fellowship of all in attendance, we had a short meeting. We discussed planning for future meetings as to where and when, so everyone can attend.

**Gene & Catherine Calvert** drove to Indianapolis to visit their daughter. They are also happy Great Grandparents. The **Carters, Mary & Bob**, flew to California for the Thanksgiving Holiday. We are always interested in the travels of our members.

Since I was absent from the meeting, we thank President **Gene Calvert** for the details of this December luncheon and meeting.

### WASHINGTON

#### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle  
Dee O'Donnell  
9311 NE 118<sup>th</sup> Ln., Unit 203  
Kirkland, WA 98034  
(425) 820-9008  
[addynjohn@hotmail.com](mailto:addynjohn@hotmail.com)

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS



I took a fall in my apartment December 8<sup>th</sup> and ended up spending 5 days in the hospital with a broken left ankle. I went back a second time in January for surgery to have a plate and pins put in to reinforce the bone. Upon my discharge I went to recuperate at a reha-

bilitation home in Kirkland. Both the hospital and home treated me well and I have no complaints, but it's always good to get back to my real home. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their thoughtful cards, letters and phone calls while I was out of commission. It's nice to know I have so many friends.

In Dec., the Seattle Post-Intelligencer newspaper highlighted SEA-based United FA **Julie Hamilton** who completed her 40<sup>th</sup> year with United in December. Julie's daughter **Melissa** is also a United flight attendant, and is based in Los Angeles. Julie at age 61 is number 28 in seniority in Seattle and plans to keep on flying another five to ten years. Some of the celebrities that have flown with her are Jimi Hendrix, Sharon Stone and Janet Jackson. One memorable passenger upon boarding had a large falcon perched on his arm. "*That bird better be stuffed,*" she warned, just as the falcon turned his head. It turned out that the passenger had the proper paperwork and the falcon remained on board. Julie hopes to finish up the last year or two of her career flying to international destinations with her daughter.

**Kenny Mayne**, an ESPN TV sports announcer who has appeared on a number of other shows, including Dancing with the Stars, has written a book titled "An Incomplete & Inaccurate History of Sport" in which he briefly comments on various sports but also nostalgically recalls his family life growing up south of Seattle. His father, the late **Ken Mayne**, worked 35 years in SEACS and the family lived on Star Lake in Kent. The author mentions many friends he grew up with in Kent and the schools he attended – Star Lake Elementary, Totem Junior High School and Thomas Jefferson High School. One childhood acquaintance receiving prominent mention is **Bruce Humphries**, son of the late **Nelson Humphries**, who worked in SEAHH and SEACG. Reference is made to the green felt-tipped pen that Ken Mayne used to use in marking tickets and boarding passes and how he had the "power" to upgrade people to First Class with a stroke of that green pen. Ken Mayne's picture is on page 221, and the book is available through the county library system.

**Bob Brumfield** was busy again this past holiday season singing with the Seattle Men's Chorus. They performed in 10 concerts and then had an extra makeup concert in Jan. to accommodate patrons who were unable to attend in Dec. due to the snowstorms. **Hank Gosselin** and his friend **Carol Lucarelli** attended one of the concerts and enjoyed it very much, finding it to be a pleasing blend of humor with the spirit of the season. A standing ovation was accorded the chorus. Incidentally, a nice photograph of Bob and fellow chorus members appeared on page one of the Seattle Times B section the last Sun. in Dec. His picture also appeared previously in the Post-Intelligencer. Bob even squeezed in a space-available trip to Kansas City over Christmas following

his last concert and made his flights with no problem. Even his luggage made it!

**Al Johnson**, retired from LASCS, and formerly of SFOHK and SEAHH, and his wife **Madeline** drove over to SEA from LAS in Nov. to visit Madeline's parents and also looked up friends in the area. Among the friends they visited with were **John & Mary Luke**.

**Carol & Kent Soffel** participated again this past Dec. in the Argosy Cruise Ship Festival in SEA with their boat the "WINDY-i." On Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>, during their caroling stop at Gas Works Park on Lake Union, the winner of the *Best Decorated Boat* was selected, and guess who won the prize? The Soffels and their WINDY-i! This is the 2nd year in a row they've won the prize, and they were told that the competition was especially stiff this year. Along with receiving the honor of the award, the Soffels received a nice basket of goodies. The Christmas Ship Festival has been celebrated in the Northwest for 59 years as a way to bring Puget Sound communities together to celebrate the holiday season. During the month of Dec., private boats follow the Argosy ship as it makes nightly stops along shoreline communities and a choral group onboard sings carols via a PA system to groups gathered onshore, frequently around bonfires. The Argosys' nightly stops are published in advance for everyone's benefit.

Incidentally, the former VP of sales for United Airlines, **John Blackman**, is a limited partner of Argosy Cruises, which operates a fleet of sightseeing ships on Seattle's waterfront and on Lakes Union and Washington. He initially bought into the company in 1990 and at one point took the title of general manager, but in recent years has scaled back his role to that of limited partner. His friends and former United co-workers sometimes refer to him as "Admiral" Blackman.

**Bob Kraves**, retired from SEAMM, spent a couple of days in the hospital in Dec. and then went to a rehabilitation/long-term care home in Burien following a series of falls at home. He has been living with his son **John** and expected to return to John's home after a period of time. We learned of the October 15<sup>th</sup> passing of **John R. Peterson**, SEARR, who retired in the 80's. John had transferred from Portland and one of his outside interests was singing in a local choir. Also **Jay Fidler**, SEARR, and previously of SLCRR and PDXRR, passed away December 26<sup>th</sup> following a heart attack. Jay had retired quite some time ago.

Another passing was **Donald L. Hartman**, SEARR, who died on December 17 of pulmonary fibrosis. Don is survived by his wife **Alma**, and his four children, Karl, Jeanette Rogers, Kurt & Janet Hartman. Don had 10 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Don studied church ministry in the Pittsburgh area and began serving churches there until moving to Alaska and pastoring Methodist churches for 19 years. For 8 years of

that time he also produced an Anchorage TV religious-themed show for children. When he retired from the ministry in 1984, Don was hired as a Reservations Sales Representative in Seattle by United. He retired from United in 1996 and moved to Chehalis, WA where he remained active in his church and in the Chehalis Central Railroad Association & Museum.

#### Calendar:

**February 10** – Luncheon Meeting, Fairwood Country Club, Renton, WA

**March 10** – Luncheon Meeting, Fairwood Country Club, Renton, WA

**April 14** – Luncheon Meeting, Fairwood Country Club, Renton, WA

### NATIONAL

#### CLIPPED WINGS®

Barbara Vincent  
National Vice President  
81-837 Contento  
La Quinta, CA 92253  
(206) 605-6902  
[bvincentps@aol.com](mailto:bvincentps@aol.com)



The winter weather has chilled most of our nation for many weeks now, but we found a way to warm the hearts of many. As the New Year arrives, Clipped Wings® members are pouring their efforts into one of our favorite philanthropy projects. We will volunteer at the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Boise, Idaho, Feb. 6-13, 2009 and host a reception for parents of the participating athletes. We have been hosting receptions for parents at International and National Special Olympics Games since 1987. Many thanks to the committee who is organizing our efforts: **Marta Morgan Rash** (MAL), **Rosalie Betschart** (PDX) and **Diana Ferber Baker** (ORD). Our next group involvement with Special Olympics will be for the National Summer Games in Lincoln, NE, July 18-23, 2010.

The Clipped Wings® airplane scarf has been sanctioned as an optional part of the UA Flight Attendant uniform. Sales are going very well. If you are interested in purchasing the scarf either for yourself or for a gift, contact **Cheryl Mullins Jensen** (SMF), [rjen-sen148@aol.com](mailto:rjen-sen148@aol.com). Each scarf is \$20 plus \$1.50 shipping. Proceeds raised from the profits of the airplane scarves go to support Special Olympics.

We are having great response from prospective members visiting our website. Please check us out at [www.clippedwings.com](http://www.clippedwings.com). As the National Vice President, **Barbara Fisk Vincent** (SEA), I will be happy to answer any membership questions from all prospective members. Please contact me at [bvincentps@aol.com](mailto:bvincentps@aol.com).

## NEW MEMBERS

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

Daumit, Barry, SEAMM, 11246 SE 323<sup>rd</sup> St., Auburn, WA 98092

Dezman, Ruby, SFOJJ, 281 1<sup>st</sup> Ave., Daly City, CA 94014

Domaracki, Rose Ann, CHIRR, 122 S. Walnut Lane, Schaumburg, IL 60193

Hansen, Marilyn, DENCG, 2317 Galena St., Aurora, CO 80010

Johnson, Eva, IADRR, 10401 Strathmore Pk. Ct. #305, North Bethesda, MD 20852

Macewicz, Alan, ORDCG, 608 S. Burton Place, Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Newsome, Larry E., MCOCG, 7000 Virginia Lamm Dr., Graham, NC 27253

Orr, Robert, DTWRR, PO Box 871099, Canton, MI 48187

Simoese, Emilia, SFOFS, 609 Poinsettia Ave., San Mateo, CA 94403

Taylor, Arlene, WHQAC, 509 S. We Go Trail, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056



## CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Lois B. Anderson, Wyman Anderson, Arthur A. Asti, Mary Lou Atkinson, Barbara W. Atkinson, Lonnie E. Autry, Chris Baecker, Dudley Bailey, Kathryn Baran, Elmer Barkmann, Gary W. Bartlett, Janet T. Biro Guild, Clifford H. Blare, Kathleen M. Bright, Christopher Brown, Helen Cain, Edward A. Carnes, Victoriano Castaneda Goytia, Cathryn I. Catelain, Donald S. Chang, Earl Clore, Gayle D. Colman Burrell, Charles J. Correia, Wilford L. Cruzan, Sandy Danielson, Marian De Pasquale, Aubrey L. Dewoody, Donna R. Diksis, Kevin L. Dillon, Maxine F. Dixon, Lyle Dringenberg, Ronald

J. Duda, Donald E. Dulen, Eloise C. A Edwards, Shirley M. Elmendorf, Richard W. Ems, Judith E. Evans, Donald W. Fensch, William J. Fitzgerald, Cary C. Fong, Gerald D. Formulak, James P. Gallagher, Joan M. Gisle, Gerald R. Goehring, Wendell J. (Hank) Goudey, Stephen O. Gray, Alison Grieg, Barbara L. Guinn, James Hafterson, Walter F. Hansen, Mitzi Harris, James M. Hartley, Montarie Hedgpeth, G. Joseph Heinen, Mary Ann L. Helland, James L. Hernandez, Miyuki Hilliard, Era Hoffmeyer, Tomoko S. Hoffner, Earl S. Holmquist, John G. Hornbaker, William Hourston, Florence Hoy, Pamela Hussey, Betty S Iwata, Ole S Jensen, John Jeskey, Lloyd O. Johnson, R Lee Johnson, Marie Kady, Tadashi J. Kato, Linda L. Keim, Shirley A. Keister, Thomas B. Kirby, Robert K. Koch, Dale L. Kruckenberg, Katherine M. Leonard, Maria Lesiak, Gloria L. Lippold, Walter M. London, Virginia C. Lubowicz, Thomas P. Marcy, Colleen Martin, Rosy M. McCaul, Katherine B. McClure, Robert P. McCrory, David J. McQuade, William F. Meyers, Russell C. Miller, Thomas Morgan Jr., Jacklyn C Muller, Robert F Munn, Eleanor Myers, Alfred R. Nordby, Edwin H Noyes, Manuel Ojeda, Hugh Ornduff, John S. Pasakarnis, Norman Pearson, Delphine Diane Perry, Andrew F. Plantz, Gail M. Poling, Joseph Preston, Jerry A. Pryde, Ben Reib, Ronald G. Robertson, Floyd D. Rose, Alexander Sanchez, Milton D. Schafer, Josephine N. Shioji, Patricia M. "Casey" Smith, Ronald D. Smith, Dennis G. Snell, Mary Lou Sorensen, Donald D. Spahr, Robert F. Stoop, James T. Sullivan, John J. Sweeney, Kazuko Tajii, M Mike Takamatsu, Daniel T. Takata, John P. Teresinski, Beverly K. Thompson, Jean R. Tippie, Lorece Tolbert, Mary E. (Betty) Tomaino, Bill Traub, Frederick W. Verbaere, Henry Ralph Vollmer, Sandra L. Wallestad, Carolyn B. Walter, Paul D. Weatherford, Charlyne Raines White, Herbert C. Wilbanks, Richard A. Wood, Jane K. Yaguchi, Thomas R. Yanosko, Cecelia E. Yates.



## 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 – **BATTY, Gerald O.** (Gerry), on 12/12/08, LAXFO, husband of Ann, 860 W Peckham Ln, Reno, NV 895509

Retiree – **BEATTY, Marjorie M.**, on 12/4/08, SFOVO, aunt of Mary Jo Dana, 1402 W. Nettleton Ct., Springfield, MO 65810

Spouse – **BOURGEOIS, Millie**, on 12/4/08, wife of Leon (Frenchy), SFOFO, 5457 E. Oakhurst Way, Scottsdale, AZ 85254

Retiree – **BULLINGTON, Elzie B.**, on 10/15/08, BWIMM, husband of Helen, 4809 Levada Terrace, Rockville, MD 20853

Retiree – **PAFF, Charles F.**, on 11/25/08, SFOPD, husband of Ardyce M., 3914 Parkview Dr., Cheyenne, WY 82001

Retiree – **ROMERO, Ernest A.**, on 11/1/08, SFOIQ, husband of Joyce E., 2019 Jackson Ct., Lodi, CA 95242

Spouse – **WHISEHUNT, Mayola**, on 10/25/08, wife of Emmett P., CLEMM, 9 Tortuga Way, Leesburg, FL 34788

#### October 2008 Skynet Listing

**BEISHEIM, Merle E.**, OMACG 10/16/08

**BERARDY, Terry A.**, SFOCG 10/18/08

**BUCKLAND, Alera A.**, IADRR 10/07/08

**BULLIS, Irene Y.**, PDXMK 10/18/08

**CHRISTENSEN, Kenneth W.**, SEAOO 10/12/08

**CIRRICIONE, Joseph R.**, SFOFO 10/09/08

**CLACK, Richard C.**, SFOFO 10/22/08

**COCA ERSKINE, Alice D.**, SFOCS 10/05/08

**COYNE, Sol**, DENPV 10/11/08

**DOMBROWSKI, Ursula E.**, SFOOV 10/14/08

**DWYER, William T.**, BOSFF 10/17/08

**EGNER JR., Harry A.**, OAKJL 10/10/08

**ERMISH, Arthur J.**, DENTK 10/11/08

**FARRY SR., Donald M.**, IADDD 10/28/08

**FEDOCK, John**, DENJL 10/24/08

**FISHER, Stephen H.**, MCIOZ 10/01/08

**FLEMING WILLIAMS, Alice F.**, IADXX 10/20/08

**FORSLIN, Carl A.**, SFOFO 10/23/08

**GAFFNEY, Edna**, EWRSW 10/11/08

**GARRITY, Joseph J.**, ORDMM 10/08/08

**GILSON, Robert T.**, JFKMM 10/29/08

**GLASSCOCK, Alice P.**, ORDSW 10/11/08

**GOTO, Lloyd O.**, SFOGQ 10/16/08

**HANCAK, Elizabeth A.**, SFOSW 10/29/08

**HARVEY, Thomas**, ORDCG, 10/24/08

**HAYES, George W.**, STLOZ 10/27/08

**HENRICKS, James W.**, SFOFO 10/25/08

**HERNANDEZ, Heriberto E.**, LAXHH 10/05/08

**HOWLAND, Gerard P.**, WHQIN, 10/19/08

**IDE, Roger D.**, JFKFO 10/29/08

**JOHNSON, Harold O.**, JFKMK 10/25/08

**KNIGHT, Robert M.**, ORDFO 10/27/08

**KRAPF, Jaime H.**, MIAFO 10/03/08

**LEROY, John**, DTWCS 10/25/08

**LUKENS JR., Paul F.**, ORDMM 10/28/08

**MANNCHEN, Jo Anne**, OMACS 09/15/08

**MASENG, Peer**, ORDFO 10/24/08

**MASLANKOWSKI, Ronald F.**, ORDMM 10/11/08

**MIHALIK, Stephen P.**, SFOOS 10/04/08

**MILLER, Charlotte**, SFOFH 08/19/08

**MILLS, Menla S.**, DENKA 10/16/08

**MITCHELL, Marjorie**, LAX 10/13/08

**MULLANEY, James M.**, SFOMM 10/24/08

**NEWELL, Henry G.**, ORDGQ 10/28/08

**NEWTON, Earl D.**, SEACS 10/09/08

**ODEKIRK, Robert R.**, SLGGQ 08/26/08

**PANG, Timothy M.**, HNLSW 10/21/08

**PELAEZ, Fernando J.**, SEACS 07/21/08

**PETERSON, John R.**, SEARR 10/15/08

**RAYMOND, Robert B.**, OPBOP 10/21/08

**RICHARDS, Paulette A.**, CHIRR 10/08/08

**RIMKUS, Reva F.**, WHQAC 06/29/08

**RODLAND, Albert R.**, BUFMM 10/17/08

**ROLLER, Rolland E.**, DCAMM 10/08/08

**SAMPLES, James O.**, ORDSK 08/29/08

**SAMUDOVSKY, Joseph M.**, SFOSH 10/27/08

**SEIFERT, J. R.**, INDAF 10/05/08

**SMITH, Albert R.**, TULOZ 10/23/08

**THOMAS, Ann S.**, SEAMK 05/23/08

**TRIMARCHI, Monica L.**, DCACS 10/07/08

**WARNER, Walton W.**, SFOFO 10/08/08

**WEAVER, Margaret W.**, LAXSW 10/23/08

**WELLER, Eugene A.**, LAXFR 10/11/08

**WILLIAMS, Patricia M.**, LASOZ 10/04/08





## LETTERS

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

Jean Alarcon, Wyman Anderson, Lonnie Autry, Kathryn Baran, Jo Barkus, Imme Barrows, Ethel Batiste, Clifford Blare, Helen Cain, Edward Carnes, John Carson, Donald Chang, Sandy Danielson, Carl Dean, Gabrielle Dentraygues, Kevin Dillon, Judy Evans, Nora Fitzpatrick, James Gallagher, Joan Gisle, Bonnie Goodman, Hank Goudey, Alison Grieg, Era Hoffmeyer, William Hourston, Florence Hoy, Ole Jensen, R Lee Johnson, Marie Kady, Tadashi Kato, Linda Keim, Ruth Leck, Katherine Leonard, Maria Lesiak, Rosie McCaul, Dennis McComb, Robert McCrory, Leona McGuire, Jackie Muller, Norman Pearson, Delphine Perry, John Phillips, Rose Marie Piorunski, Joseph Preston, Jerry Pride, Pat "Casey" Smith, Dennis Snell, Robert Templeton, Beverly Thompson, Jean Tippie, Betty Tomaino, Thomas Turner, Jim Wiegner, Jane Yaguchi,

### **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.)*

#### **Thomas Morgan, Jr., 5226 Pale Moon Dr., Pensacola, FL 32507**

I celebrated my 84<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 13<sup>th</sup>. I am still able to do some traveling, and Carol keeps the medication list up to date. I send Pensacola greeting to all. This has been home for the past 21 years, and we enjoy the white sunny beaches and the lack of the traffic jams of southern Florida.

#### **Frank Stout, 6025 Century Way W., Johnston, IA 50131-2899**

All is well here in Iowa. We enjoy family, grandchildren and friends. The traveling we do is by car. It is impossible to travel SA with a doggie.

Vi has an area in the house for painting and some craft work. This is her relaxation outlet. Yet it does frustrate her on occasions.

The West Des Moines Elks Lodge has been keeping me quite busy. I have been active in their charitable activities. I also hold a district chairmanship with the Iowa Elks Association.

Many thanks to all of you who contribute, type and edit the newsletter. Remember the "good old days" when we went to DENTK early in the morning to start the mailing process. I always looked forward to the

RUAEA mailing day.

Best wishes to all for a healthy and prosperous New Year.

#### **Naomi Tolf, 142 Sequoia Circle, Santa Rosa, CA 95401-9176**

The days and years get shorter! Suddenly I am ready to celebrate my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday with 17½ years in retirement. I have enjoyed my Golden Years, although not as hoped. I immediately became a care giver for my husband for 6 years. The recent years have made me a poor traveler, so I only travel for necessary trips. I regret missing the PIT Convention. It is such a great time to be with friends and make new ones. Maybe I can make it to the PHX convention; locally I never miss a social function.

We have a bond with the Newsletter publication. A big THANK YOU to the staff in keeping us current on what we should know. The "good old days" are a thing of the past, but we all need to endure what is.

#### **Bess McMannama, 1427 Madera Way, Millbrae, CA 94030-2826**

The big 90 has caught up with me. Now what the future will bring, we will have to wait and see.

About 30 years of service with United and 30 years of retirement almost makes a full life.

Enjoy the holidays and prosper in the New Year.

#### **Thomas Yanosko, 17833 E. Mississippi Pl., Aurora, CO 80017-4335**

Thank you for keeping me updated on my past friends and the news of the system.

I want to give a shout out to all in Ohio, the Buckeyes; and to all in Denver, the Mile Highers. It would be great to hear from some of the people I worked with, for over 35 years. How time flies in the Friendly Skies.

#### **Ronald Smith, 3644 Muirfield Ct., New Port Richey, FL 34655**

I have been retired for 16 years and am still healthy and working. I make it a point to read the news in the newsletter. But I think something might be missing. I don't see anything about UAL's financial position. I would think with the price of oil being down, our financial outlook would be positive. The news media doesn't say much about the airlines. This information should be important to retirees who depend on United for health care.

#### **Thomas Donaldson, 12690 N. Roundup Rd., Parker, CO 80138-8421**

2008 was eventful for Michele and me. I had knee replacement surgery in April and it went well. By the end of July, I was able to get back to my 2 day a week

job at Eagle Bend Golf Course as a starter. It was fun seeing the golfers again and being greeted by all warmly.

In October, Michele had a mini-stroke (TIA) and was in the hospital for 2 days with many tests performed. The cause still unknown, but the tests came back fine and she is now taking her aspirin a day and is on a statin drug.

We celebrated our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Dec. 13-20 with our 2 daughters, their husbands and 4 grandchildren on a RCCL cruise through the Western Caribbean from MIA. We left Denver on my 73<sup>rd</sup> birthday, Dec. 12, DEN/FLL and then on to MIA for the cruise Dec. 13. We must say that Southwest is a great airline. They treated us as special because of my birthday and our anniversary and had 2 bottles of champagne waiting for us on arrival in FLL! (That used to be UAL's way of celebrating with their customers in the 60's and 70's). We know now why they are popular - plus no bag charges. The cruise was great. We had a wonderful time with the family and really appreciated all of us being in the Caribbean with exceptional weather, while watching the continental US being in a deep freeze. We have lots of happy memories.

**Colin A. Cooke, 12823 Anderson Hill Rd, Clermont, FL, (352) 394-6692, vectis24@aol.com**

Visiting family in NYC, I was handed my jacket and told, "*We need a video actor now. Try and look European.*" Wearing a beret, I sipped hot cocoa at a table loaded with New York State apples ... "*Filming ... Cut! You picked up the cup too quickly.*" ... "*Cut! ... you looked at the camera.*" There were four more takes. A week later, I asked what had happened with my "star" role. "*It's been approved in LA and it's gone to Munich for approval.*" I'm holding my breath.

In September, I rode from ORD to LHR, being invited to stay with friends for three weeks on the South Coast of England. From there, I took a five day tour of Castles and Gardens in Kent, a Southeastern county facing France across the Channel. The castles were Penshurst, Sissinghurst, and Great Dixter. They all have awesome histories and likewise their gardens. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the Duke at one of them invited King Henry the Eighth (six wives) to pay him a visit. **Mistake!** King Henry was jealous of what the Duke had achieved. Two years later he ordered the Duke arrested for treason and snatched all he owned. No hard feelings and to honor the occasion, King Henry even had a special sword made to "shorten" him after the "trial." It's still on display. Poor old Duke; he outshone the boss. (Did I ever see that during 28 years at SFO?) Henry then gave the estate to another for "services given." In that castle's "Great Hall", everyone lived a communal life from birth to death, including every aspect but one.

I asked, "*Where are the toilets?*" ... "*Outside, hundreds of oaks to choose from.*" In the middle of the Great Hall was a large year-round fire for cooking, and a hole in the roof for the smoke to escape.

When the Lady of the Castle grew tired of the communal noise, children screaming, arguments, brawls and drunkenness, she retreated to a room upstairs not allowed to anyone else. The room had a small window where she could watch life below and I learned the origin of an old English word. The window was called a "Squint". At Great Dixter, I tasted something new - whiskey ice cream.

In December, I zipped out to HNL for a week and some Christmas shopping at the Aloha Stadium flea market. They call it a Swap Meet. There was a huge range of "stuff" to choose from, all new. My timing was bad. The first night, a raging storm arrived from over 2,000 miles of Southern ocean. The clouds were so heavy with water they came ashore at sea level. On the 17<sup>th</sup> floor, I couldn't see the street below. It rained day and/or night for four days causing flooding. On Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, the HNL marathon drew 23,000 wet runners including 17,000 from Japan. A 90 year old American lady ran with her grandson and was forced by pain to drop out at 23 miles, 3.2 miles from the finish. Imagine her good health and courage.

The great HNL bus service now costs \$2 per ride or \$20 for four consecutive days. If you don't take more than two rides a day it isn't worth the \$20. Checking in at LAX on the E machine I failed for the first time to get a blue card. What to do? Start again and use your confirmation number. Voila - your card. Now, I'll stay home and attack the garden but the good fairy won't do the house work. Cheers.

**Laquita Bloom, 1714 N. Chehalis St., Post Falls, ID 83854, laquitabloom32@aol.com**

*How I Changed A Policy At UAL:* I started working at United Airlines on March 9, 1961 & retired in 1987. In 1969, I got pregnant and in those days, it wasn't the ideal thing for a single woman to do.

I was on my own and did not know what was coming ahead of me. My life outside of UA was private, so I don't believe many people knew I even was dating. I figured it would be hard to tell my co-workers. I got along with most of them and liked being around all of them. I decided that I wouldn't tell anyone until I started showing. I first went to my mother and explained my decision to her. My family was great and accepted my decision.

When I got to my fifth month, I decided that I needed to tell everyone at the office and then ask for a maternity leave. I went to a Supervisor, whom I trusted, and asked him to break the news while I was on three days off. When I returned to work, everyone was great,

but I think they were a little quiet and weren't sure what to say. So I decided to give it time and let them get used to the idea. When they started joking around with me, again, I felt that it was going to be okay.

The day to request "maternity leave" arrived. I went to the Manager, **Lyle Heimel** (now deceased), and he made a call to Personnel. They said, "No!" No unmarried woman could have maternity leave, Personnel asked me to resign. I said, "No". Then Lyle went to the General Manager, **Joe Ward** (now deceased), and we worked out a way that I could take my three weeks vacation plus a week without pay. We did not get permission from Personnel. No need to. Right? Wrong! A fellow worker told his wife, who was pregnant and worked for UA, what I was going to do. She decided to call Personnel and ask them if, instead of taking a maternity leave, she could use her vacation time – "*like Laquita in Passenger Service*" was doing. They told her "No", because she was married and had to use maternity leave, and that I wasn't going to use my vacation to have my baby. (Since when is a company allowed to tell an employee what they can do on their vacation!)

That did it! I was angry, so I hired an attorney and filed suit against UA. Joe Ward and Lyle Heimel agreed that I could work until I had the baby.

I worked swing shift and on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 1970, my son Scott was born. That evening, Joe & Janice Ward came to the hospital to give me a letter that said I was fired. I joked and said I'm not pregnant anymore! Joe said that he could hire me back part time until the grievance was decided. So I went back to work, after taking some time off and worked 7.5 hours a day. Part Time! The grievance was settled - in my favor.

After that, there was a new policy in place granting unmarried women maternity leave and guaranteeing them a job on their return. (I believe this ruling also contained the change in the policy on flight attendants being able to marry and still work, but I am not sure about that.) A year later, a fellow worker got pregnant and she was able to take a year off and still come back to work. It made me feel great to know that I could do that for someone that was in the same situation that I had been in. I hope it helped other women.

To bring this to an end, my son is 38 now. He is an electrician and is married to a beautiful woman. They have three children: Ronan Patrick - six, Ethan Dealy - four and Ophelia Josephine - two. They live in Newman Lake, WA, in the Spokane area. I moved to Post Falls, ID. They both are on the border and we live only 15 minutes apart. I love my grandchildren and they love me. What else matters? It all was worth every minute. I hope someone else was able to use this policy to avoid the troubles that I went through back in 1970. I always fight for what I believe in. I win some and I lose some. This one - I won.

## Important Phone Numbers



### **United Retiree Service Center**

1-888-825-0188 (M-F 7AM - 5PM Central Time).

<https://www.ualretirees.com/>

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

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

### **Blue Cross / Blue Shield**

1-800-535-9825

<http://www.bcbs.com>

Traditional Plan information, claim status & forms.

### **1-800-UAL-LIST (1-800-825-5478)**

For flight information and to list yourself and companions for travel.

### **Glenn Tilton's message to employees & retirees**

1-800-393-6682

### **Chicago Travel Desk - Toll Free**

1-877-242-0035 (T/Th/Sat 9 AM - 1 PM CST)

### **Portland Travel Desk - Toll Free**

1-888-278-7038 (M/W/F 10 AM - 2 PM PST)

### **Seattle Travel Desk - Toll Free**

1-888-826-3375 (M/T/W/Th 10 AM - 2 PM PST)

### **PBGC**

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>

### **Benefits Service Center**

1-800-482-5236 - For all retirees pension, travel and ESOP questions. M-F, 7-7 Central Time

### **Interline Ticketing Desk at DTWRR - Toll Free**

1-888-874-1581

### **UAL Service Center (SkyNet Help Line)**

1-800-255-5801

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RUAEA**

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Charles Field	1977 – 1979*
Charlie Urbach	1979 – 1981*
Pate Hutchens	1981 – 1983*
Ralph Hoffmaster	1983 – 1986*
Vance Harmon	1986 – 10/2/86*(#)
(#) deceased – V.P. Lewis Long	
became Pres.	10/3/86
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Elizabeth Ashton	1988 – 1990
William Moore	1990 – 1992
Jim Doty	1992 – 1994*
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Howard Pollard	1996 – 1998
Zelma Kibler	1998 – 2000
Frank Murdock	2000 – 2002
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Marlin Lade	2004 – 2006
Mort Wax	2006 – 2008

Editor Emerita - Jo Madden 1986 – 2007\*

**\*Deceased**



Check your mailing label for Renewal Information

## United Airlines Historical Foundation



"Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future"



**Thorp Hiscock** was the genius who pioneered Radio Communication between ground and aircraft, and other devices that brought Boeing (and later United) to the forefront of precision flying.

A Western Electric radio representative in Yakima, Hiscock had married Bill Boeing's sister-in-law, thus becoming one of Boeing's few close friends. One evening after dinner, Phil Johnson and Boeing were discussing a plane that had been forced down by a local storm. Boeing exclaimed that they needed a way to talk to pilots while they were in the air.

When Hiscock suggested a two-way radio, Boeing told him that radio companies claimed it couldn't be done due to the engine's electrical interference.

"I'll do it!" declared Hiscock and within 24 hours he began the project that had long baffled communications engineers. His research methods were unorthodox

to say the least. He attempted to create static on his radio by airing radio programs and by playing phonograph records over the Boeing telephone system.

Spark-plugs were a known cause of interference, so he tried connecting a radio directly to an airplane engine. He installed a radio in a truck and another at his ranch in Yakima, Washington. He drove up-and-down mountain roads talking to the ranch radio from canyons, mountain peaks and other remote areas.

When this was successful, he transferred the truck radio to an airplane and began talking from the air to his ranch radio and thus proved that radio sets could communicate between the air and ground.

Boeing established a laboratory in Oakland to build radio sets for all the company's airplanes. Hiscock moved to Oakland and supervised the rapidly growing group of technicians, many from Western Electric. Soon a large variety of electronic aviation aids emerged.

Hiscock moved on, searching for new ways of reducing the "human-factor" in air transportation.

Three separate companies had developed and patented Automatic-piloting devices, none of which was completely reliable. Infringing on all three patents, Hiscock took parts from each and built the first successful "Gyro-pilot".

One day in Chicago as he watched the wind whip ice from a stiffly-frozen flag, an inspiration came to him. Within five days, he had developed the first practical Airplane-wing Deicer. He used a series of long rubber tubes, inflating and deflating them with air pressure.

At a machinery exhibit, he became intrigued by a governor used at the Boulder Dam. He bought one and convinced United shop technicians that airflow could be used to change propeller pitch. Soon all commercial air transports were using Variable-pitch Propellers.

In 1934, when Hiscock suddenly collapsed and died at age forty-one, he was working on a Push-button Takeoff and Landing System! It took others 10 years and a war before the system was perfected.

By Marvin Berryman, DENTK (Ret.)

This past month UAHF received donated items from: the **Klaers**, the **Shroyers**, the **DeCraenes & Bert Heeter** (in memory of **Tom Angelo**), & **Leuretta Rallens**. Donations were received from: **Cyndi Karvaski**, **Jo Cuff**, **Warren Gerig**, **Carol Krieser**, **Charles Bogert**, **Philip O'Neil**, **Ralph Trullinger**, **Kathy Peterson**, **Bill Bishop**, **Aggie Holcomb**, **Phyllis Jack & Kenneth Cook** (sent by) **Homer Merchant**.

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