



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



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# GENERAL NEWS

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

## Letter From The President



**Ron Bertacini**

The new pass policy is scheduled to go into effect sometime in March, most likely the latter part. At this time, the specific date has not been announced. To access information about the new policy, go to [Flying Together](#) and then click on [Travel](#) on the header line. Once in the [Travel](#) section, click on [Program Chart](#). As soon as the effect date is available we will let you know, check the RUAEA website [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org) and or [Flying Together](#).

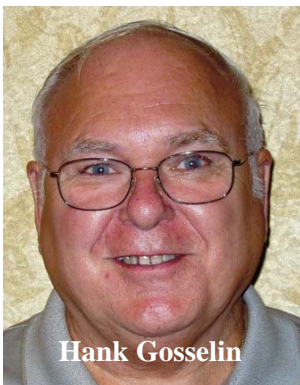
On another issue, one of our members received letter from Social Security relative to Potential Private Pension Benefits. It appears that in some cases, Social Security believes that some retirees still have ESOP stock with value. The question then does any of the ESOP stock still have value. The answer is no. Here is help if anyone encounters a similar situation. According to Rob Puryear, Managing Director, HR Benefits *“Apparently this is a common question and is due to the fact that when the ESOP was terminated during bankruptcy, the Plan never filed a final Form 5500 with the IRS so it appears that participants may still have a benefit. The ESC has the steps that the retiree can take to demonstrate that the plan is in fact terminated and no benefit exists.”* The ESC phone number is 1-877-UAL-ESC9 (1-877-825-3729).

**Hank Gosselin**, your Executive Vice President, has addressed some financial issues facing our organization. While we are doing fairly well, we have seen a slight drop in membership and rise in cost to publish and mail our monthly Newsletter. The size of the Newsletter directly impacts the cost to publish and mail each issue. Consequently, we will strive to keep each issue at 36 pages. Hank mentions some other items along with the possibility of increasing annual dues. We value your input and look forward to hearing from our members on these issues.

Speaking of finances, we want to thank all those who make contributions over and above their annual dues. These monetary contributions from individuals and chapters certainly help in defraying our mailing cost. You will note that we acknowledge those who make contributions each month in the Newsletter. Again, thank you to those who make contributions and hopefully more members will consider making one themselves.

**Ron Bertacini**  
**President – RUAEA**

## Letter From The Executive VP



**Hank Gosselin**

Hi Folks,

As we head into the New Year, we as retirees and RUAEA members face some challenges. We are part of a new airline with the merger of United Airlines and Continental. The merger itself has created a lot of grief and consternation within our group with issues regarding pass travel, insurance, rebadging, along with more to come.

We, the Officers of RUAEA, are ready to engage in all these as they crop up. We may not be successful. However, the company knows where we stand. We, as an organization, face all these challenges, with you and all retirees. At this point, we have seen a falling off of membership, which relates to a decrease in revenue. We have taken steps to reduce expenditures by changing and shorting our convention along with changing activities during the convention. Many of the convention changes have come as a result of your input. The reduction in our Newsletter total pages is another cost savings. We have reduced the number of our board meetings along with the criteria for attendance. All this is helping our bottom line. However, we again ask for your input to help reduce our expenses. We can increase our yearly dues \$5.00, just one example, which would in turn possibly reduce our membership.



As your elected officers, we welcome your input. Please let us know of any and all ideas you may have. Feel free to contact any of your Regional Directors, Elected officers, and Board Members. Please let us hear from you so we can keep RUAEA alive and functioning as your advocate with the new company.

**Hank Gosselin**  
**Executive Vice President – RUAEA**

### **New benefits insurance ID cards; UA deduction changes**



Eligible co-workers and retirees who enrolled in most medical plans can expect to receive new medical identification card(s) in the mail in January for 2012 medical and pharmacy coverage. Remember to shred your old ID card and use your new one at the physician's office and/or pharmacy. If you have not received your ID card, you may go onto the carrier's website to print a temporary ID card.

Some carriers may require you to re-register on their websites for 2012, as medical ID information has changed. For a list of carrier websites, go to Flying Together and view the Benefits

Contacts page on the 2012 Benefits site under Employee Services.

You may contact the United Airlines Benefits Center at 1-800-651-1007 with any benefits-related questions. Representatives are available Monday through Friday, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Central time.

### **UA co-workers will use All About Me to manage eligible pass riders on Jan. 1**



As of January 1, UA subsidiary co-workers and retirees will use All About Me to make changes or additions to their lists of eligible pass riders. Co-workers and retirees will no longer use UALbenefits.com for these updates after December 31.

Lists of existing pass riders will automatically carry over from UALbenefits to All About Me. Co-workers and retirees will use All About Me to update pass riders in times of marriage, the birth of a child or other life events. Eligible co-workers also will use All About Me to manage enrolled friends.

Similar to UALbenefits, updates in All About Me take two or three days for changes to take effect before new pass riders can use

travel privileges.

Co-workers and retirees will need to provide documentation for new pass riders as described on All About Me within 60 days after they are added. The company will confirm that the new pass riders are eligible for pass travel privileges.

United will introduce the new pass travel program toward the end of the first quarter in 2012. For more information, visit the Program Chart under the Travel tab. If you have questions about pass travel, send them to ETC@united.com.

### **United selects new weather information provider**



United has achieved another important milestone in the integration process by selecting one weather provider for the airline.

*"Having up-to-the-minute, accurate weather service is essential,"* said Network Operations and United Express SVP Alex Marren. *"Congratulations to the ops and procurement teams on the selection of Weather Services International (WSI) as our provider for on-site weather forecasting, data services and web portals."*

WSI is a Weather Channel company that provides services with a global reach and is equipped to serve United's vast network. United expects to complete the migration to WSI by May 2012.

*“We are pleased with the level of support that our current providers have given us so far, and will work with them to form an effective transition plan for both continuous and future forecasting and technical services,”* said Network Operations Control VP Don Dillman. A cross-divisional weather services team including representatives from the NOC, flight operations and airport operations will be overseeing the transition.

*“WSI’s on-site meteorologist support in the new NOC at Willis Tower will be invaluable to our operational planning and execution of the daily schedule,”* Don concluded.

### **Passenger service agents to vote on representation**



The National Mediation Board (NMB) on December 29 authorized a representation election among passenger service co-workers. Co-workers will be voting whether to be represented by the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) or to have a direct relationship with the company.

Eligible voters will include above-the-wing airport and reservations agents at CO, UA, Continental Micronesia and MileagePlus.

### **Flight attendants choose winning wing design**



Inflight Services SVP Sam Risoli announced the design for new flight attendant wings. EWR-based flight attendant Joseph “Kepa” Takata submitted the winning design as a part of a co-worker contest. Inflight Services received more

than 800 submissions and narrowed them down to six finalists for voting.

*“Our flight attendants’ overwhelming participation is testament to the fact that their wings are one of the most important symbols of the profession,”* Sam said. More than 10,000 co-workers cast their votes in the final contest.

United will introduce the new wings when the company transitions to its new uniforms.

### **FAA issues revision to rules on pilot work schedules**



The U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Acting Administrator Michael Huerta announced a revision to FAA rules regarding pilot work rule regulations for commercial passenger airlines.

Carriers have two years to adapt to the new rules, which would limit the maximum number of hours airlines may schedule a pilot to be on duty, including wait time before flights and administrative duties, to between nine and 14 hours. The range of hours takes into consideration the time of day pilots begin their first flight and the number of time zones they cross, the Associated Press said in its coverage of the ruling. Cargo carriers are exempt from the new rules.

The trade organization Airlines for America said it is reviewing the new rule and that it supports changes to the rule that are science-based and that will improve safety.

### **Changes to alert system go into effect**



Effective December 13, United has migrated to one common language for how the company classifies potential operational alerts and another for how it handles weather events. To be consistent with industry standard terminology, United will classify situations as either “major” or “minor” depending on severity rather than “red” or “amber,” respectively.

The criteria for classifying the level and severity are unchanged. Initial “minor alert” classification will flow through the flight crew and dispatcher, and the manager of flight dispatch or the network director will handle escalation, if warranted.

For severe weather events, United is implementing the Severe Weather Action Plan (SWAP) across the enterprise. The SWAP system uses a matrix of red, yellow and white color codes to designate various levels of impact. *“These changes are part of harmonizing our processes and another step in working as one airline,”* said Network Operations Control VP Don Dillman.

Under SWAP, white alerts advise of upcoming issues, such as potential snowstorms. Yellow alerts mean United is experiencing delays, more severe weather and air traffic controls, which may cause reductions in the United Express schedule. Red alerts mean delays are extensive and both mainline and express cancellations are occurring or are imminent.

### **United remains No. 1 in New York market**



Being the No. 1 carrier in United’s hub markets is one of its key competitive advantages. None of United’s markets are as competitive as New York, the world’s largest air travel market. Delta (DL) recently added flights at New York-La Guardia (LGA), which was made possible by the 2010 “slot swap” with US Airways (US).

Even after DL adds 10 net destinations with its new flights from LGA, United will still fly to the most total worldwide destinations from the New York market, which also includes EWR and New York-Kennedy. United will average 153 destinations daily while DL will have 124 and American (AA) will be in third place with 65.

All the DL growth is in the domestic market, but even with those 10 added destinations, United still holds the edge in total domestic destinations from the three area airports, 86 to DL’s 81.

United expects that in 2012, it will offer 25 percent of the total seats in the market, and DL will have 24 percent.

Much of DL’s growth is coming at the expense of US, which is dropping many New York routes to focus on the Washington, D.C., area, where it gained a number of slots at Reagan National (DCA) in the slot swap.

### **UA flights to offer PetSafe program; web-based training now available**



Subsidiary UA will adopt subsidiary CO’s PetSafe program for transporting animals starting in March 2012.

Under this program, pets will travel on most aircraft as cargo (small animals are still allowed in-cabin according to existing UA and CO policies). This allows United to provide enhanced safeguards and benefits, including a dedicated 24-hour Live Animal Desk, tracking and tracing capabilities, personal handling, weather monitoring, and PetSafe climate-controlled vans.

*“Our PetSafe program has been a hit with pet owners for many years,”* said Cargo VP Robbie Anderson. *“They know we’re treating their animals with the care and kindness they deserve, and they will receive a comfortable travel experience.”*



Although the programs initially will be slightly different within each subsidiary, United will eventually harmonize them.

**Co-workers at Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)  
run a gateway to the world and recognize many customers by sight**



*“It’s never dull in Dulles,” said Customer Service Representative Beryl DeCarion, who in November celebrated her 33<sup>rd</sup> year with United. “We do a number of things in the passenger planning area, like international meal planning and positive passenger bag match monitoring for all international departures. We also answer questions from co-workers at stations on the other side of the Atlantic, who know we’re one of the first U.S. hubs to open every day.”*

Built in 1962 to serve the growing transportation needs of the area around Washington, D.C., IAD features a world-famous design by Eero Saarinen that is an architectural landmark. While the architects envisioned the C and D concourses from which United operates as temporary modular buildings, it hasn’t quite worked out that way. In November, United completed an overhaul to refresh

gate area podiums and carpets. While the Aerotrains opened in 2010 and serve much of the airport, IAD’s one-of-a-kind mobile lounges still serve the D concourse. IAD holds other surprises, as well.

*“Most people don’t know that the roof of the main terminal is suspended,” said Beryl. “It has these two white columns that everyone thinks hold the roof up. Those columns are actually drainage spouts, and water from the roof runs out and is funneled into a little lake on the other side of the airport.”*

Almost 1,300 pilots and 2,700 flight attendants call IAD home base; they are part of more than 5,300 co-workers at IAD who help United launch daily flights to 14 cities in Europe, 11 in Latin America and the Caribbean, five in Canada and two in Asia, in addition to 78 U.S. airports. Last spring, UAL launched service to Lagos (LOS), Nigeria, United’s second destination in Africa from IAD.

*“We have flow all day long,” said Lead Ramp Serviceman Terrance Martin (known out on the ramp as “T”), who has spent 12 years at IAD. “But we also have the megabank in the 5 to 6 p.m. timeframe, when we have the majority of our international departures.”* Those departing planes are full of business travelers, diplomats, leisure travelers and families who come to Washington for a countless number of businesses, cultural, political and personal reasons.

*“Most people come to the nation’s capital from around the country at some point in their lives,” said 18-year-veteran Customer Service Representative Leonard Miller. “And it’s not just U.S. citizens. We see quite a diverse group of people. We help customers connect from Dubai or Accra to San Francisco or Denver. We have noontime visitors from London headed to Norfolk and Richmond.”* But the heavy volume of customers doesn’t keep us from recognizing a familiar face in the crowd.

*“There’s a customer who flies every Monday morning to Los Angeles,” Leonard said. “We’ve become friends just by sight. This morning I happened to be working the Orlando flight, and, when I saw him, I joked, “Am I in the wrong place or are you?””*

Airport Operations Supervisor Trozie Jordan said that after 15 years with United he, too, finds the customer focus at the hub rewarding: *“The biggest joy I get out of working for the airline is knowing when I assist customers that I am contributing to United being a great company. I take pride when they say, “Thank you. You helped me out a lot.””*

*“Slowly but surely, we’re beginning to roll out a unified product,” said Service Director Bill Huston, a 42-year veteran. “Once we complete the SHARES (common passenger service system) cutover, we’ll really be able to see things take shape. When the pieces fit together, we’ll have a great product to offer to the world.”*

Behind the scenes at IAD ~ IAD opened in 1962 as the first airport in the United States designed for commercial jets. Admission to the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum annex on the IAD airport property is free to co-workers. The bus from the terminal costs 50 cents, and parking is free after 4 p.m. IAD offers free Wi-Fi.

In April 2011, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) board approved the construction of a Metro station that will connect IAD with downtown Washington. Plans call for the station to open in 2017.

## **United Reaches Tentative Agreement with AFA for s-UA Flight Attendants**



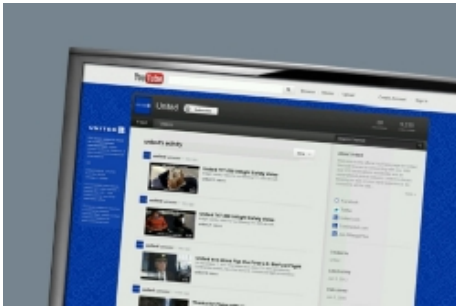
UAL reached a tentative agreement with the Association of Flight Attendants (AFA) on a labor contract for subsidiary-UA flight attendants.

The tentative agreement is subject to approval by the AFA's Master Executive Council. Following approval, the agreement would then be subject to ratification by s-UA flight attendants. The agreement is the result of an expedited mediation process that began last October.

*"This agreement follows an intense mediation process, and we appreciate the hard work of both negotiating teams in reaching an agreement that is fair to the company and fair to our co-workers,"* said Inflight Services SVP Sam Risoli.

S-CO flight attendants, represented by the AFA, ratified their collective bargaining agreement in February of 2011.

## **UAL launched integrated YouTube channel**



United has launched a new YouTube channel that features content ranging from its TV commercials to its onboard safety videos and Jeff's welcome messages. It also includes features about the merger and the progress of integration, the new Boeing 787s United will be welcoming later this year and United's recent historic biofuel flight, among others.

The United YouTube channel replaces the two channels each subsidiary maintained previously. Along with United's ongoing participation in Facebook and Twitter, the YouTube channel visitors can subscribe to the channel to receive updates when the company adds new content.

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



Recently, after going for his regular checkup, Bishop Mascherino was hospitalized. After undergoing many tests, he is now back at his residence. He has trouble speaking, is in a lot of pain and will have to undergo further chemotherapy. I phoned the Bishop and he had to hang up, as he lost his voice. He now communicates messages by using the Dragon Speaks typing program. Please remember the Bishop in your prayers.

I sincerely thank my fellow retirees from United Airlines. Your thoughtfulness and support is greatly appreciated. Bishop Mascherino plans to use the United funds as a down payment on the 33 acre land purchase I mentioned last month. Included in this is the Manson House. The plan at this time is to use the Manson House as a bed and breakfast and restaurant for those arriving by busses.

To donate, make check to Flight 93 Memorial and mail to: Frank J. Eggles, 3405 West Chester Pike B307, Newtown Square, PA 19073.

## Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter



Francis Domaratius

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

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

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

**Francis Domaratius**  
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## LOCAL NEWS

### ALABAMA



#### GULF COAST CHAPTER

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Our Gulf Coast Chapter met on Thursday, December 15, 2011, at 11:30 A.M. in our favorite restaurant, which is the Cubi Bar Café in the Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola, FL for our Christmas luncheon. We had 16 members attend this month. We decorated our room with Christmas tablecloths, placemats and decorated bags of Christmas candy for everyone. Everyone placed their Dirty Santa gifts on a festive table for the after lunch game. Members in attendance were: **Conrad Hamilton, Bill Hayden, Bob & Bev Heinrich, Rick & Carol Herrick, Doug & Edna Horne, Park & Billie Learned, Jeanne Reinoehl, Bob & Yvonne Schwartz, Barbara Serra, Ed Southworth, and Harold Stofko.**

**Bob Schwartz**, President, called our meeting to order at 12:40 PM after lunch and their great chocolate chip cookies. Minutes and Financial Reports were emailed to everyone and they were approved as sent. No raffle was held because of our Christmas activities.

Our only business agenda was to decide how much money to donate to two places we had voted on at our November meeting. It was approved to give \$100.00 to the Naval Aviation Museum and \$300.00 to the Manna Food Bank in Pensacola, FL. **Conrad Hamilton** is very involved with the Food Bank so he will take our donation and present it to them.

We then started our Dirty Santa gift exchange. After much laughter and stealing of one another's gifts, it was over! Everyone had a great time and afterwards, we all just sat around and talked. All the gifts were great and each of us wanted all of them but had to leave with just one.

Our future meeting dates are January 19<sup>th</sup> and February 16<sup>th</sup> in 2012! As always, our meetings are open to anyone who happens to be down on the Gulf Coast on our meeting day. We would be thrilled to have you join



us and see in person what a great group we have! Our meetings are the third Thursday of each month and we always meet at the Cubi Bar Café in the National Naval Aviation Museum at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, FL.

Calendar:

**January 19** - Meeting

**February 16** - Meeting

### **SWEET HOME ALABAMA**

Judy Slover

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For the month of December, we met at DoDiYo's in Homewood, Alabama near Birmingham. This is another restaurant for travelers to Birmingham to put on their list. The name of the restaurant is derived from a combination of the owner's mother (Dorothy), father (Dinos) and grandfather (Yorgos) names. Greek and other Mediterranean food is served "in style" in an exotic restaurant décor. We had our own private dining room where the food and the service were spectacular. Having traveled to many far corners of the world, I must say that the restrooms were the most unusual that I have ever seen. I won't spoil that surprise for those of you who might visit this wonderful restaurant in the future. You can visit their website at [dodiyos.com](http://dodiyos.com) for more information and menus.

We had a really great turn out of retirees, family members and friends for this meeting. After being seated in a private dining area, we started our meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag. The blessing was offered for our lunch. After lunch and a period of "catching up" on everyone's news, we held our drawing. **Kim Venable**, my guest, was the winner. **Edna Mann Aronson** also brought **Donna Pruitt** and **Kim Peoples** as guests to our meeting. We all enjoyed meeting and greeting them.

**Beverly & Ken Yeager** brought a treat for everyone. Their daughter has a company called "Polly Petite" which makes original bite-size pound cakes. The cakes were delicious and presented in a beautiful manner. Anyone interested in an unusual treat for a gift or surprise can visit [www.pollypetite.com](http://www.pollypetite.com) for more information.

In order to keep in the festive holiday spirit, our president, **Herb Wilbanks**, announced plans to make a donation to the United 93 Memorial before the end of the year. All other business will be on hold until our January meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

I would like to thank member **Travis Glass** for providing the following information for our article featuring a fellow retired employee.

Our featured retired employee this month is **Joe Duncan**, BHMOZ ~ Joe began his career in June of 1956. He retired after 36.5 years in 1993. Joe left a legacy of being a highly motivated employee, one who would do his share of the work and stand ready to assist his coworkers. He was asked and did provide OJT and training for new hires as they took their place in the work force at United. Many in attendance at our last meeting spoke highly of his help making them better employees. Joe was and still is a "faith" based personality. He has over the years, along with his wife Marie, faithfully served seniors and other members of his church and has received several public accolades for his work.

Joe was in the Army during the cold war and served as a tank driver. When he returned from the service, his work ethic, attitude toward his work, management leadership, and his company was unsurpassed by any of his peers. He performed all duties at a small line station, including ramp, fueling, reservations, load planning and ticket counter, and did them exceptionally well.

Coworkers today still hold **Joe Duncan** in high regard as one of the most productive and cooperative employees with whom they ever worked. So we proudly feature Joe and introduce him as our retiree employee of interest for the month of January 2012.

A special thanks to all of our "regular" retiree members, spouses and friends for continuing to make "Sweet Home Alabama" a great group of former colleagues and friends. If you live in Alabama, and you are not a part of our group, please consider joining us. Contact **Judy Slover** at (334) 322-1161 or [judyslover@mindspring.com](mailto:judyslover@mindspring.com).

January Birthday: **Ruby Singer** (1/6).

Calendar:

**February 13** - Meeting - 11:30AM - TBA

**ARIZONA**



**PHOENIX AZURES**

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With the holidays seasons over and some of our travels for “Christmas with the family” are completed, let us look forward to a very Happy New Year 2012 in sunny and warm Arizona.

The Azures enjoyed a wonderful pre-Christmas luncheon on December 10 at Briarwood Country Club in Sun City West, AZ with a choice of steak kabobs or chicken piccata. Further, the group that attended “Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street” thoroughly enjoyed the performance and meal. Thanks to **Sherry Muoio** for putting together the dinner and theatre package at Arizona Broadway Theatre.

Our January luncheon will be held at **Tim & Nita Everhart**’s home with everyone bringing a “dish to pass” (appetizer, salad or dessert), and with catered chicken. Tim supplied the directions to his house which is right down the golf course from Briarwood Country Club.

Our chapter was saddened by the passing of **John (Doc) Crowthers**, SFOCC, on December 9 of complications from dialysis and diabetes. Our prayers are with his wife, **Olive**, his daughter, **Cheryl Halderman** and son, **Mark B. Crowthers**. Cards can be sent to the family at 10760 W. Beaubien Drive, Sun City, AZ 85373.

**Sally Illingworth** had another back surgery on December 7 and is at home recuperating. Cards to: 12522 Prospect Drive, Sun City West, AZ 85375.

We are happy to announce two new members: **Carol (DENTK)** & **Mike Fujimoto**. Welcome to the Azures!

We have not chosen our luncheon site for February, but, wherever it is, we will have our annual “white elephant” sale to drum up money for our treasury. We will email our members when we’ve chosen a site.

Calendar:

Coco’s breakfast meetings 8:00AM. Location – 98<sup>th</sup> and Bell roads. Call **Jim Bechtold** at (623) 465-5423 for reservations.

**January 14** - **Tim & Nita Everhart**’s house party - 12923 West Paintbrush Drive, Sun City West, AZ

**February 11** – Luncheon, Location TBA

**February 7** – Breakfast at Coco’s

**February 21** – Breakfast at Coco’s

**PHOENIX RE-UNITED**

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This is the month most snowbirds come to Arizona to enjoy the nice warm weather. We would love for anyone visiting in the area that has worked for United or Continental Airlines at any time and is of retirement age of 55 or more, contact us and possibly join us at either our monthly Breakfast or Luncheon held in the area. You might be surprised to find someone you know or have worked with in the past among our group of friendly people. Please contact our President, **Jim Brigante** at (480) 443-0031, or by e-mail at [jbrigante@lostshadow.com](mailto:jbrigante@lostshadow.com), or our Vice President, **Peg Snowdall** at (480) 396-3317, or by e-mail at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net). They will be able to answer any questions you might have.

Our December Breakfast was held at Crackers with 21 members in attendance. Our President, **Jim Brigante**, went over the new pass info that is shown in Flying Together (use to be SkyNet). He also went over

the calendar for the year, which is all set up with dates and the names of members who are hosting each month. At the meeting in February, new officers will be elected, and our present President, **Jim Brigante**, plans to step down.

Two of our current members are on the sick list. They are **Joel Matteson** and **Tony Ribeiro**. We hope they feel better soon and can join us again at one of our meetings.

Our January Luncheon was held at the Grand View Steak House in Mesa on January 12<sup>th</sup>. Everybody enjoyed the Beef Tips or Chicken Marsala. We were delighted to have our RUAEA Director, **Mike Richards** and his wife, at our luncheon to keep us updated on RUAEA, as well as our company. Everyone had a good time and we thank our hosts, **Ferrol & Cindy Hilsabeck**, for setting up this great luncheon.

Our Breakfast, held on January 27, will be reported in next month's newsletter.

Our February Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at Mount Athos Restaurant in Florence, AZ, 444 N. Pinal Parkway, also known as Hwy. 79, starting at 11:00 a.m. with the Social Hour and Lunch at noon. The menu will be an appetizer, classic Gyros with traditional lamb, cheeseburger deluxe with fries, or triple-decker club, salad, and a dessert. The price will be \$15 per person. If you have any questions about the location of the restaurant, you can reach them at (520) 868-0735. After the luncheon, a tour of the Pinal Historical Museum at 714 S. Main Street in Florence has been arranged. A donation to the museum would be appreciated. Our host is **Natasha Schmidt**. She can be contacted at (520) 723-7939 or by e-mail at [mohrle@q.com](mailto:mohrle@q.com). Send your checks to **Natasha Schmidt**, 3668 W. Saratoga Ct., Florence AZ 85232 by **February 1<sup>st</sup>**.

Hopefully, everyone has paid their dues by this time; but if not, send your check for \$5.00 for each person to **Rita Zarek**, our Treasurer, at 823 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Apache Junction, AZ 85120. Membership dues for RUAEA are \$25.00 for one year. Be sure and include your file number in all correspondence. Mail it to Retired United Airlines Employees Association, 7401 E. MLK Blvd., Denver CO 80207.

The following members have a birthday in February: **Jim Pappas** (2/1), **Bonnie Fauber** (2/4), **John Tiefel** (2/7), **Marilyn Morey** (2/8), **Ted Tollefsen** (2/10), **Gordy Kubiak** (2/11), **Bill Norwood** (2/14), **Ron Pedone** (2/16), **Ann Carroll** (2/22), **Phil Snowdall** (2/27), and **Bud Hubbard** (2/28). Happy Birthday to all of you! The following have Wedding Anniversaries this month ~ **Marjorie & Joel Matteson** (2/2/63), **Janet & Don Burns**, (2/5/2000), **Judy & John McFarland** (2/8/64), and **Lynn & Bud Hubbard** (2/26/49). Congratulations!

#### Calendar:

**February 8** – Luncheon at Mount Athos Restaurant in Florence, AZ, hosted by **Natasha Schmidt**, starting at 11:00 a.m. For further information, see above.

**February 24** – Breakfast at Crackers, 13258 N. Greenfield Rd. in Mesa, starting at 9:00 a.m. Contact **Peg Snowdall** by Wednesday, Feb. 22 with your reservation at (480) 396-3317, or by e-mail at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net).

**March 15** – All Arizona Luncheon, sponsored by the Tucson Road Runners at Robson Resort in Casa Grande, AZ, starting at 11:00 a.m.

**March 23** – Breakfast at Crackers in Mesa.

**April 12** - Picnic at Crescent Run, hosted by **Shirley Claggett** and **Ron Paluch**.

**January 27** – Breakfast at Crackers, 13258 N. Greenfield Rd in Mesa, starting at 9:00AM. Contact **Peg S**



#### TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Tucson, AZ

Roger & Lyn Callihan

2262 E. Gerbera Way

Oro Valley, AZ 85755

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

Once again, the Oro Valley Country Club proved to be a fantastic venue for our end of the year luncheon. Twenty nine members and two guests were on hand to enjoy a terrific lunch. The guests were **Lisa McGilvray** and almost two year old Isabelle who stole the show. I can't imagine ever having that much energy.

**Shirley Robertson** was also a star attraction as she sped around the room on her knee-scooter. Shirley had to have her foot re-operated on after the first go-around failed to heel properly back in the spring of this year. I'm sure she will be up and running soon.

**Alice Lopez**, our chapter photographer, had several binders on display with pictures of chapter members taken at various luncheons over the past several years. She has done a tremendous job of putting everything together.



**Pat Dilallo** said that the response from our members with donations for the Seniors For Kids was terrific. As a result, a very generous check was presented to the organization to help them with the cost involved to carry on this fine tradition. They sew clothing and blankets as well as rebuild computers and bicycles. Also toys are made at the craft rooms during the year and all items are donated to the agencies in the area for distribution to those in need.

The 50/50 drawing was won by **Ron Robertson** and **Claire Byle**.

Thank you **Ed Kokot** and those involved for making the arrangements for the Christmas Luncheon.

**Pat Carera** will host the January luncheon at My Big Fat Greek Restaurant. It will be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> and is located at La Cholla and Ina Road at the Foothill Mall. Let Ed know of your attendance by the 19<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at 11:30AM.

#### Calendar:

**January 19** - My Big Fat Greek Restaurant

**February 16** - Thunder Canyon Brewery

### CALIFORNIA

#### CENTRAL COASTERS

Avila Beach, CA

Al Rybar

P.O. Box 2298

Avila Beach, CA 93424

(805) 595-2532

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



Our meeting was held at the Spyglass restaurant in Shell Beach on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>. Our President, **Marcia Stanger**, opened the meeting at 11:30 a.m. and greeted the 18 attendees. As usual, the food and service went well, **John & Barbara Stilwell** hosted our Christmas luncheon and furnished very nice table treats. **Bob Stanger** brought his mother, Isabelle, who is a regular at our meetings.

Before the 2012 board was introduced, we voted on whether we should have our meetings every other month or more times or less. It was agreed to meet every other month, as we have been doing. The host can select the location. We missed **Jack & Eleanor Cunningham** this time. They travel the furthest, 90 miles one-way.

These members volunteered to host the following meetings:

- ★ February ~ **Bob & Esther Bartlett**
- ★ April ~ **Mike & Bridgett Zoldak** and **Peter & Joan Schaefer**
- ★ June ~ **Bob & Marcia Stanger**
- ★ August ~ **Al & Marilyn Rybar**
- ★ October ~ **Bill & Dana Noyes**
- ★ December ~ **John & Barbara Stilwell**

Marcia then told us that **Dana Noyes** will no longer be our treasurer. After 12 years, and Dana & Bill being the originators of the Central Coasters, she decided to retire. We have been so fortunate to have her taking on this responsibility for such a long time, and lucky for us, they will still be attending our meetings.

Marcia then opened the positions for club officers. Since it is hard to replace **Dana Noyes**, **Marcia Stanger** volunteered as treasurer. Our Vice President, **Esther Bartlett**, automatically became our President. The Vice-President for 2012 will be **Barbara Chappell**. The job of secretary was not even mentioned, which means I have the job again.

**Mike Zoldak** sent me an email regarding the mechanic's ranks that UAL wants to reduce by 700. The new total would be 900. In order to do this, they have been offered \$75,000 if they are 45 years old with a minimum of 10 years of service. Mike expanded on this information a little more and concluded that those 62 years or older will have an easier decision to retire. Is this the signs of future things to look forward to?

**Nina Powers** shared with us news articles regarding UAL. One article was about The Heroes of Flight 93 taken out of The Week magazine. It was quite detailed about the commotion that was going on while the plane was being hijacked. There were cell phone conversations to loved ones until there was silence. This was a very heartfelt article even after all these years.

On a lighter note, **John Stilwell** said that he distributed our contributions to Toys 4 Tots in San Luis Obispo

and Santa Barbara counties. We have catered to this worthy cause for several years and we know the money went to a very worthy program.

The 50/50 drawings were won by **Bob Bartlett** and **Barbara Chappell**. After this, we had our grab bag exchange that always is a lot of fun. For several Christmas parties, one of our members donated an ornament from the White House. There is a different one each year and is quite a collectible item. I have always wanted to win one, but never did until this year. It was worth waiting for.

Before adjourning, **Marcia Stanger** said how she enjoyed being our President for the past two years, and **Bob Stanger** seconded the motion since he will no longer be responsible for selling the 50/50 tickets. They both did a great job and it was acknowledged by all the members.

By the time this is received, we will have gone through Christmas and we are now in a new year. I recently received information about the pass policy that will go into effect in 2012. It appears that our UA pass benefits and boarding priorities will be the same until March 2012. After that, the CO pass policy called "PSS Day 1" will take over. Take advantage of UAL's passes before March and after that, it will be interesting to hear any "horror stories" the retirees have when trying to fly.

#### Calendar:

**February** – TBA, hosted by **Bob & Esther Bartlett**



#### **BRAZEN RAISINS**

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

The Brazen Raisins' December meeting did not have a host, but **Elida Rivas** performed most of the host's functions. We had no formal meeting, just frivolity of the season. We did not meet in January.

#### **DESERT SUNBIRDS**

Palm Springs Area  
Chuck Lamas  
38708 Bautista Canyon Way  
Palm Desert, CA 92260  
(760) 776-0812  
[cjlamas@msn.com](mailto:cjlamas@msn.com)



Sixty Desert Sunbirds and guests were in attendance for the December Luncheon/Meeting at the Monterey Country Club in Palm Desert. The Traditional Holiday Dinner (roast turkey with all the trimmings), was hosted by President **Elaine & Ron Aggson**, and, as Tony the Tiger would say, "It was G-G-R-R-E-E-A-A-T-T!"

**Claire Staples** brought two guests, her sister **Louise**, and their niece, **Priscilla Naro**. **Carole Paquin** also brought two guests, **Carol O'Neil** (LAXCS-Retired), and friend **Lee Pellitier**. And I brought my main squeeze, **Marji Gomez**.

It was great to see **Gwen Craven**, who made good her promise to make it to the December Luncheon, after her fall and fractured hip in September.

Our drive to give toys (instead of \$\$\$) to the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission was a resounding success. There were so many gifts and toys brought to the luncheon, that **Carole Paquin** and **Betty Rodgers** had to make three car trips to deliver all of them. Congratulations Sunbirds, for your thoughtfulness and generosity, and a special thank you to Carole and Betty.

**Melinda & Ron Lerg** gave this writer a report on their recent trip to New Zealand. Apparently, Gisborne, N. Z., is the Sister City of Palm Desert. It was the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the association, and they were invited to go along with 14 others. They were wine and dined, and saw much more than the regular tourists. They learned about Maori culture, were welcomed to a City Council Meeting, and had two dinners with the Mayor and his wife.

They were on both the North and South Islands, took a trip to Milford Sound, and saw hundreds of magnificent waterfalls. Their final tour dinner was at the Sky Tower, at the top of the tallest building in the Southern Hemisphere.

**John Schultz** was the Birthday winner; the 50/50 (\$100.00) was won by **Marianne Patterson**; 2<sup>nd</sup> place 50/50 (two free lunches at the Monterey C.C.) was won by **Al Beuchel**. Lastly, hearty Congratulations to **Al & Jenny Pennington**, who celebrated their 62<sup>nd</sup> anniversary on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

*Troubles ~ With all the sadness going on in the world at this time, it's worth reflecting on the death of a V.I.P. A while back, Larry Laprise, writer of "The Hokey Pokey", died at the age of 93. Most traumatic part was getting him into the coffin. They put the left leg in ... and then the trouble started!*

Calendar:

**February 8** – TBA, hosted by **Mary Frank**



### **GOLD DIGGERS**

Sacramento, CA  
Colleen Esola, Secretary  
7969 Madison Avenue, Apt. 1505  
Citrus Heights, CA 95610  
(916) 966-5552  
[colleenesola@comcast.net](mailto:colleenesola@comcast.net)

The Sacramento Gold Diggers met on December 14, 2011 at the Alta Sierra Country Club in Grass Valley. This was hosted by **Terry & Penny Greenacre**. We had 69 Gold Diggers attending and six guests; **Ron (Swede) & Cheryl Jensen** (Clipped Wings) guests of **Ron & Barbara Bertacini**; **Laura Morgan**, guest of **Syd & Sherrill Morgan**; **Jim & Clara Moss** and **Bunny Melby**, guests of **Forester & Jean Sinclair**. Our Chapter President welcomed those attending. The members thanked the **Greenacres** for hosting.

Officer's Reports:

President **Terry Greenacre** introduced our new officers for 2012.

VP **Orville Harshbarger** thanked everyone for filling the luncheon spots for 2012. We still need hosts for July and October.

Secretary **Colleen Esola** read the anniversaries for December: Those 50 years and over: **Sanford & Frances Pinkiert** (64 years); **Bill & Lois Hopkins** (53 years). **Harold Esola** led us in the anniversary song.

Treasurer **Judie King** gave our Chapter balance.

Sunshine **Angie Dellinger** made calls to a few members that weren't feeling well. She sent a sympathy card to **Veronica Domaratius** as her Mother passed away.

Historian **Stephanie Norton** reported that she brought the photo albums with pictures of most members. Also have history book of our group that Velma had done in the past.

Roster Chairman **Jack Raynor** is sending around the roster to make any changes to the roster for 2012.

RUAEA President **Ron Bertacini** told our chapter that **Velma Stough**, a long time member of Gold Diggers, that today was her last Gold Digger's meeting. She is moving to Washington to an assisted living center close to her daughter. She said "*Goodbye and thank you for being beautiful people to me*".

Calendar:

**January 25** – Trolley Junction Restaurant in Nevada City hosted by the **Wikstads**.

**February 29** – Past President's Luncheon

### **REDWOOD EMPIRE**

#### **RETIREEES**

Mary C. Hill, Secretary  
941 Helene Ct.  
Rohnert Park, CA 94928  
[mchill941@att.net](mailto:mchill941@att.net)



Our Christmas luncheon was held on December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Quail Inn in Oakmont. There were 54 members and guests, who were greeted with a great Christmas décor. There were red table cloths, big poinsettias, nice painted scenes on the windows, with a big Christmas tree in the corner. It looked just beautiful.

After a great buffet, our President **Joanne Huhn** welcomed everyone and thanked the Officers, who were hosting the party. Joanne took a moment of silence in memory of **Corinne Geppert**. Services were held on December 21 in Marin County. A card was sent to her family.



Vice President **Barney Hagen** introduced our guests, **Prudy Wilcox**, guest of **Ted Bell**; **Lee Trevelyan** and **Clem Shanahan**, guests of **Clare & Barney Hagen**; **Dorothy Ochoa**, guest of **Maddy McKinnis**; **Pam Olson**, guest of **Edie Olson** and **Ed & Margaret Nelson**, guests of **Less Carey**. We were also happy to have **Bev & Mike Harris** attending. Mike retired from the SFO Maintenance Base a few months ago. Hopefully, they will come back soon.

Treasurer **Judy DeFord** gave us our monthly report. It looks pretty good. Judy also told us almost everyone has “re-upped” and sent in their dues. There is only one person she has been unable to contact. Good job everyone.

There were no changes in the November minutes.

Our Sunshine Lady has returned. **Verda Burr** announced our December birthdays ~ **Mary Hill**, **Naomi Tolf**, **Lee Beery**, **Ann Sullivan**, **Richard Hanna**, **Kathy Staples** and **Mary Wilson**. We had one anniversary this month, **Carol & Richard Hanna** celebrated 51 years. Congratulations to all.

Joanne announced the Recognition Awards ~ **Barney Hagen** and **Oscar Chambers**. Barney is keeping our picture album up to date and has for a very long time. Whenever we have a special occasion, such as a “Big Anniversary,” it is remembered with a nice picture taken by Barney. Oscar takes care of all our badges, labels for mailing, sitting in at Conventions and anytime we need something, Oscar takes care of it. Thank you Oscar and Barney.

This is the time of year to think of others. Joanne announced our Charity Distribution recipients. They are Rebuilding Together of Santa Rosa, Rotary Club of Willits, Homewood Bound of Marin, Hospice of Petaluma, (in memory of **Matt Stilman**) and Redwood Empire Food Bank. We did very well this year because everyone was very generous all year. There were many, many toys for the children. They are being distributed to the Rotary Club of Willits by **Charlie Anderson** and the Petaluma Christmas Cheer Fund by **Ron Huhn**.

**Norm Burnett** is still under the weather and would appreciate cards. Please no phone calls. Norm’s address is 1709 Burgundy Place, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.

It was very good to see **Mary Wilson** and **Naomi Tolf** back after surgeries. Naomi had recent surgery, but you would never know it. Mary had two back surgeries and is doing great. That is always good news.

Joanne had a card from **Helen Furber**. Helen is doing well, but can’t drive. Helen is looking for someone to drive her to the luncheons. Hopefully, that won’t take too long and we can enjoy her company soon.

**Barney Hagen** had a chance to visit the USS Iowa. The Iowa has been in mothballs for some time. It is being made sea-worthy to travel to Los Angeles, where it will be based permanently. The ship was in and out of service four times. It was in 1942, Korean War, Vietnam War, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Gulf War. It will be in Port Richmond until the end of January. It is located on Harbor Way and is open on Saturday and Sunday from 10-4 pm. Sounds like a nice weekend adventure.

Our raffle was great as usual. There were many little “elves” giving out chocolates, wine and poinsettias to the winners.

Joanne wished everyone a Healthy and Happy Holiday Season.

#### Calendar:

**January 12** – Luncheon at La Gare, hosted by **Joan & Oscar Chambers**.

#### Re-LAX-ers

Los Angeles

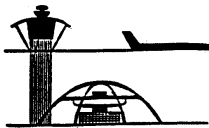
Barbara Smith

13721 El Dorado Dr. #20-H

Seal Beach, CA 90740

(562) 430-4886

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



First – I’m slowly, but steadily gaining ground against the effects of my stroke. Sooo, I need news, please! **Donna Klobe** has stepped in so wonderfully, but help is needed. She cannot do it all! Want to know more retirees? Fill in one of the positions with or for the “older” crowd. I must know at 100 times more retirees now than I did upon my retirement from a small department. I am so glad that Donna and **Jim Ferrance** are helping me continue gathering news for you all - anyone willing to help us out? **And**, I will be willing to help anyone with putting together tours which were always great fun. I still have good contacts and guarantee a busy job, I with bennies!

Personally – I've progressed to being on my own - caregivers only if really needed. Biggest problem is my right hand – doesn't work well with writing, turning the key in my car ignition, and shifting gears. I only drive around L.A. and right turns almost all times. Tricky! Still using our free buses when time permits - but the car helps me get to the gym on time!

From **Donna Klobe**, Secretary of RE-LAX-ERS ~ We had a large and lively crowd this Christmas. It was sunny and warm. Aren't we lucky? **John Daley** and **Steve Braun** kept us laughing as they described a musical comedy they were appearing in together for the Christmas Holidays. We're sure it was a huge success!

At Christmastime; we support a toy drive for the Vista Del Mar organization. This year, **Charlene Walker** was not going to be able to attend our event; so she went to Plan B. On her trip home from Vail, AZ via LAX to BFL, she dropped off her gifts in Airfreight for pick-up. Three big boxes of gifts! This is one dedicated lady! Our thanks on behalf of Vista del Mar Child and Family organization.

### Re-Sans

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



We have returned to the Pt. Loma Café where we will continue to meet for our monthly breakfast. **Doris Ailshie** joined us and reports that her husband, Al is still at a care facility in Coronado. His progressing dementia makes it hard for her to visit with him. Doris did make a trip to Branson, Missouri with her church group during the Holidays and had a great time enjoying all of the great entertainment that they are so well known for.

**John Cunningham**, now one hundred pounds lighter and looking very trim, was the winner of the 50/50 raffle. That got his year off to a good start.

**Don Voegel** will not be joining us for awhile as he is undergoing radiation treatments which will last for about eight weeks. Keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

I went to a San Diego Water Color Society exhibit and discovered a painting by **Sheila Greer**. She has been painting for a few years but since retirement, she has been able to become more involved in her water color. She does display her paintings at the Water Society so if you are ever in Liberty Station, drop by and look at the lovely art, including Sheila's.

Hoping to do some whale watching this month as this is the time of year for their migration.

Please send in your ideas for where you would like to hold our annual Spring Fling luncheon. All ideas will be considered.

Till next month, don't cry because it's over but laugh because it happened.

### Calendar:

**February 2** - Our monthly breakfast resumes at the Pt. Loma Café, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92106 -2394, Phone (619) 226-0255



### GOLDEN GATERS

#### SFO - BAY AREA

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

Another of our SFO-Bay chapter Angels has left us for better pastures: **Joseph (Joe) Vaccaro** waited until one day after Christmas to seek a land of peace and bodily renewal. Services have been temporarily postponed. Spouse **Beatrice** may receive cards at 2647 Thornhill Drive, San Carlos, CA 94070. We are keeping another active member, **Al Christian**, on our prayer list. On top of recovery from surgery (heart trouble), their house in Henderson, Nevada has undergone major destruction (internal flooding) requiring extensive rebuilding). **Lillian**, you are in our thoughts and prayers as well.

With no December 2011 meeting, we can only send everyone of you happy, healthy greetings for the new year. God bless us all!

Our “busy bee” Travel Coordinator **Ginger Dahlberg** is offering everyone a round trip cruise (unusual but true!) out of San Francisco to the Hawaiian Islands like you’ve never seen them before, on the “Star Princess” for October 6 – 21, 2012. Ginger was born and raised there so she has infinite knowledge that we don’t have just yet. Also, she needs your money now; credit cards will be accepted. March 5 – 8 (coming up fast, folks) will be a Wonder Valley Ranch Resort, Sequoia Nation Park, Blossom Trail fun trip. When is the last time you saw a real eagle? Again, money is needed now. Ginger needs your “telephone calls of interest” for “The Best of Eastern Canada”, late April – early May: Montreal, Quebec City, Ottawa, rail to Toronto. Call Ginger now at (650) 224-1865 or email [gingersfo@aol.com](mailto:gingersfo@aol.com).

Our hard-working 2<sup>nd</sup> VP **Kathlyn Hutt** has already planned great entertainment for the whole year: in keeping with our RUAEA newsletter staff requests for only 3 months worth of calendar events, we would like to invite you all to our meetings, 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month, 11 a.m. as follows: January 23 - “Mary Spalding Steel Jam (Steel Drum Player)”, February 27 - “8<sup>th</sup> Air Force England, Dr. Robert Kraft”, and March 26 - Phil “Ackerly Magical Entertainment”. Do join us; we’d love your company!

Time is fleeting, don’t you know: Get a buddy to share your room cost (\$99 plus room tax) at the Washington, D.C. Hotel (Hyatt Regency, Crystal City, VA), October 3 – 6, for our next RUAEA convention. And the Metro (transportation) is immediately available. Only one banquet dinner this time (Saturday evening). Our convention will last 5 days this time but the pricing is good 3 days before and after the convention dates. If you’d like to check out this great hotel online: [www.crystalcity.hyatt.com](http://www.crystalcity.hyatt.com). When you make your reservation, tell them you’re part of the UA retiree convention. If you’re like me, you’ve already made your plans. And I **love** the fact that we’re all wearing name tags. It’s so much nicer than saying “Hey, You”. I don’t think (?) I have senior dementia (yet), but names do not stick with me. Their smiles and friendly personalities do.

**Free** Tax Preparation and Tax Credit: Did you know that free tax preparation is available in most of our communities at local senior citizen centers? As our income tax returns become more and more confusing and complicated, there is a VITA program (usually income \$49,000 and below) to help those of us who have basic tax returns needs. These people helped my Mom and are certified volunteers.

**Personally Speaking** ~ My favorite Christmas present and it only cost \$2.00 plus tax: Especially for women who wash their hair in the shower, resulting in drain clogging: “Zip-It” unclogs sinks, showers and tubs. It’s a plastic rod, about 20” long, has sharp teeth along each side, made in the USA by Cobra and available at your average hardware store (Lowe’s, Orchard Supply, etc.). It says “single use” but that’s still cheaper than buying the usual plumber’s “snake”.

#### Calendar:

Every SFO-Bay Area retiree meeting begins promptly at 11:30 a.m. on the 4th Monday of each month. We’ll meet you with a “Happy Greeter” at our door. Don’t want to be hugged? Tell him/her! We meet at the William Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd. (Shell & East Hillsdale Blvd.), Foster City, CA 94404. Bring a retiree friend so that they can see what a good time we have! Lost? Call (650) 286-3380. Mail may be sent to UAL-SFO Bay Area Retirees, P.O. Box 4788, Foster City, CA 94404.

#### SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

Joan Dahl & Rosemarie Reichard

1169 Johnson Ave.

San Jose, CA 95129

[joandahl@att.net](mailto:joandahl@att.net) – (408) 996-2161

[rosieandbill@gmail.com](mailto:rosieandbill@gmail.com) – (408) 257-9170



Gosh, can it already be February? It seems like we just finished December. Speaking of December and the holidays, our members enjoyed a special presentation of the traditions of the Philippines. **Mary Lou Rogers** shared “Simbang Gabi”. This Christmas celebration started in 1660 by missionary friars who held early morning masses to accommodate the farmers before working in the fields. Today, it is still part of the church’s celebration.

Our chapter’s new president **Sam Cramb** took over his duties from outgoing president **Alex Klaus**. President **Sam Cramb** encouraged the group to enlist new retirees to join us for our weekly breakfast meetings at Holder’s in Cupertino. We have been enjoying a steady attendance of 40+. Our meetings often include special themes and as usual, this month’s meeting in February will include special Valentine decorations. Our treasurer and special event’s chairman **Dave Saso** promises to take us to the islands, look for leprechauns and in the Fall, beware of spooky and strange occurrences.



On the serious side, we send condolences to the family of **Velma Childs** who passed away recently at the age of 97.

Please mark your calendars for our annual June picnic at Vasona Park in Los Gatos. **Tony & Sally Urso** will be hosting the picnic on Tuesday June 12, 2012. It will include a delicious barbecue and the popular Bingo challenge. Look for more information in future issues.

We meet every **Friday morning at 8 A.M.** for breakfast and a short meeting at **Holders' Country Inn on DeAnza Blvd. in Cupertino** across from the Home Depot.



### **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)

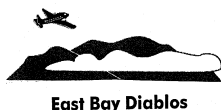
Here I am again with just a short note to say hello and wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy New Year. It is hard to believe we are starting 2012. Is everyone sticking with your New Year's resolutions? We all have good intentions but sometimes it is hard to stay focused.

We had a wonderful December Christmas luncheon at Thomi's Cafe in Jackson. Our Christmas luncheon was hosted by the Officers and there were 53 people in attendance. We were so happy to see several members join us who had been on the sick list. They were **Larry Brinsfield, Ken Silva, Fred Verbaere and Charlene Wood**. Let's hope 2012 will be a better year for them and for everyone.

Since we are not having a luncheon meeting in January, our next luncheon will be on February 9<sup>th</sup> and we are hoping to see many members attend. If you would like any information, please contact our president **Don Nesja** at (209) 295-2104 or me, **Rosie Walls** at (209) 984-5672.

### **EAST BAY DIABLOS**

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



#### ***Submitted by Howard Payne***

As we have done for many years, we continued our tradition of making the December meeting a special one. With the assistance of Toys for Tots (who loaned us two handsome Marines), our members provided a large quantity of toys for local families. While we donate money all year to other charities, this has always been our special effort to help others at Christmas time.

Including our Marine guests (Lance Corporals Adrian Perez and Christopher Salazar), we had a large group of 29 in attendance. Unfortunately, our correspondent, **Diane Griego** and our founder, **Vilma Patrick** were under the weather and could not join us.

We welcomed back **Jackie Ormiston** and **Georgia Rutowski** whom we had not seen for a while.

Thanks to the efforts of **Emma Lou Olson** and **Rich & Georgia Bouska**, the room took on a festive air. We also enjoyed a special Holiday drawing with gifts for all (thanks to the many contributors).

Don't forget to bring in your cards for **Emma Lou Olson** and books for our exchange at the January meeting.

We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each Month at the Sizzler Restaurant, 1353 Willow Pass Road, Concord. No need for reservations. Social time is from 1100-1200, then lunch and business matters. We encourage all former UA and CO employees to attend. We have many different departments represented.

#### **Calendar:**

**February 13**

**March 12**

**April 9**

## COLORADO



### DENVER MILE HIGHERS

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

The first breakfast of the year was attended by 55 folks. We met at our usual place, the United Flight Training Center Cafeteria. **Tom Goodyear** opened the meeting with a hearty wish for everyone to have a Happy New Year.

First timers were **Marvin Olsen**, **Michelle (Mickey) Abbey** and I forgot to mention **John Sausen** in last month's newsletter. Sorry John, we're glad to have you back. Hope to see you folks again!

**Mickey Manfre** from Continental and his wife were with us, it's always good to have them and we hope they can make it next month.

**Marv Olsen** told about his experiences at Hickam Field on December 7, 1941. We also learned that he was on the first B-29 to bomb Tokyo.

The following are the 50/50 winners who returned their winnings to the chapter, **Mickey Abbey**, **Judy Brankin**, **Walt Hansen** (won twice) **Charles Hassler** and **O. J. Keip**. Thanks folks! Also **Doris Hall** brought her hand made teddy bears, which were raffled off as part of the 50/50.

Thank you all for the aluminum cans. Your generosity helps us to be a dues free chapter.

#### 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 flattened pop cans. Bring a fellow retiree!

### PIKES PEAK CHAPTER

Chuck Stuller  
1135 Beta Loop  
Colorado Springs, CO 80905  
(719) 475-2073  
[Chuck.stuller@hotmail.com](mailto:Chuck.stuller@hotmail.com)



Pikes Peak did not meet in December. **Chuck & Carol Stuller** went to Maui for a week and had a great time. Flew CAL DEN to HNL on a 767-400, very nice but takes away UAL crew flying!

A notice of the death of a friend! *"I just wanted to let all of **"Hank" Falk's** friends to know that he passed away on November 14, 2011. (Hank worked at SCKOZ, SFOCS, and PHXOZ. Hank was the one who was crushed under the nose wheel of a 757 on pushback at PHX several years ago. Hank loved German music, collecting Native American Kachina Dolls and was very involved as a Boy Scout Leader.) A beautiful memorial service was held on November 28, 2011 in Tempe, AZ. Diane (Henry's sister)"*

Our meetings are held once a month on Monday at 1200 noon at The Village Inn on Harrison Road near Circle and I-25. Please RSVP to Chuck.

#### Calendar:

**January 23** - Regular lunch meeting

**February 27** - Regular lunch meeting

## FLORIDA



### SAND'DABS

Daytona Beach, FL  
Bobbie Rieck  
615 Yupon Ave.  
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169  
(386) 427-0514

On a beautiful, slightly cool day here in Florida, President **Dick Coughlin** opened our first meeting of the New Year. After our pledge to the flag and invocation, the count was 19 Sand'DABS present, all alive and happy, talking about their wonderful Christmas holiday and how they spent it.

Birthday celebrant was **Steve Moddle**. And we did a good job of staying on key when singing to him. Maybe it was because **Karen Gammill** was with us and she belongs to a singing group, so I'm sure she helped us a lot.

**Penny & Omar Logan** are celebrating 38 years of wedded bliss. Penny also mentioned it was the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her kidney transplant from her sister. What a blessing to hear that good news.

Company Anniversary was Prez Dick but he didn't give us a number of years of when he started with UAL. Prez Dick gave us a summary of how his wife Frieda fell on Christmas Eve. It seems after going to church, they stopped at a restaurant and down she went, breaking her hip. She is recovering nicely after her operation and is expected to be home in a few more days. What a way to spend the holidays, but glad she is on the mend.

At joke time, Dick had a few funny ones based on the New Year and how it is going as we're all growing older.

**Jim Meyers** won the 50/50 which was a little bit more \$\$ than usual. Bobbie reported the call she got regarding RUAEA looking for ways to cut expenses and ways to save money or raise money so we don't get into a financial crunch.

Dick gave some brief information regarding the company about the new Blue Cross/Blue Shield medical cards. Be sure to show them next time you visit your doctors. He also mentioned the bio-fuel subject.

It was a good meeting and we adjourned until next month.

*Thought for today ~ When they lit all the candles on her birthday cake, several people were overcome with the heat!*

### Calendar:

**February 2** - 11:30- Red Lobster

**March 1** - 11:30 - Red Lobster

**April 5** - 11:30 - Red Lobster

### THE ORLANDO REAL MCCOYS

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



President Rich opened the meeting with the information that some of our retirees are having issues with the 2012 Medical Benefits Enrollment. Without going into specifics – because everyone's is unique – check, check, and double-check with United until you are sure that you have the coverage you are entitled to.

Our chapter received very nice letters of thanks for our Christmas donations to Hospice of the Comforter and the Russell House for Atypical Children. At the February meeting, we will be having our annual collection for the Central Florida Children's Home.

Our travel coordinator, **Stan Halterman**, has a special offering for 9days/8nights in NYC, "The Big Apple". Motor coach RT from MCO September 5-13, 2012 for \$799/pp/dbl. Including 8 nights lodging (4 in NYC), 8 Breakfasts and 6 Dinners. Tours and More. For details contact Stan today at (407) 852-6773.

Please keep all our United Retirees in your prayers, but most especially those in special need of God's loving care: **Lou Gaydos** and **Ernie Vosges** on the death of his sister.



Lots of January Happy Birthday's in our group: **Jim Mummah, Diane Lewis, Tom Cannata and Barb Fitak**. And very special Anniversary Wishes to **Jim & Pat Hernandez**, celebrating 29 years together!

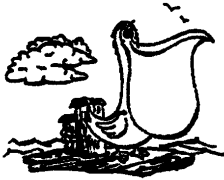
Calendar:

Luncheon - First Tuesday of the month at 1:30pm. Golden Corral, 2323 So. Semoran Blvd., just south of CurryFord Road

**February 7**

**March 6**

**April 3** – Picnic



**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA**

**PELICAN DROP-INS**

Fort Myers, Florida

Sandy Pryde

10275 Bismark Palm Way, #1121

Ft. Myers, FL 33966

(239) 418-1034

[jspryde@msn.com](mailto:jspryde@msn.com)

The Pelican Drop-Ins held its regular monthly luncheon meeting on Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, at Sabal Springs Golf and Racquet Club in North Ft. Myers at noon. Attending were 20 members plus 4 guests. Seasonal visitors **Tony & Darlene Novak** from Ohio and **Henry & Sherry Jazwinski** from New York were guests.

Following lunch, we enjoyed a presentation by Nicole Nedra from Habitat for Humanity of Lee County. It was good to learn of Habitat's presence in this area (since 1982) and to hear the requirements for acceptance into the program. Currently, emphasis is on rehabbing foreclosed houses and enabling persons to move into a home much quicker than building a new home from the ground up and more people/families can be served. Everyone was encouraged to donate to or shop at the large Re-store in North Ft. Myers to support Habitat. After the presentation, it was suggested we support their efforts with a monetary gift. The board will follow up on that directive.

Members were asked to offer suggestions for new menu options. Our food is always delicious but more variety was requested and suggestions were offered. The officers will pursue the request with the chef. It was noted that April 6 (first Friday) is Good Friday so we will not meet that month until the following Friday, April 13.

The 50/50 raffle was won by **Marge Burg**. Other winners were **Paul Olson, Bill Burg, Joan Gilkison, Marilyn McNabb, Henry Jazwinski, Ingrid Olson, Rosemary Blake, Linda Volz, Darlene Novak, and Ed Clarke**.

We next meet on February 3. Please join the Pelican Drop-Ins if you're visiting in the Port Charlotte, Punta Gorda, Ft. Myers, or Naples area this winter/spring. We would welcome you.

Calendar:

1st Friday of the month

Luncheon meeting at Sabal Springs Golf and Racquet Club (October - May)

Breakfast meeting at Perkins Restaurant, North Ft. Myers (June - September)

For more information call or email:

**Sandy Pryde**, (239) 418-1034 or [jspryde@msn.com](mailto:jspryde@msn.com)

**Marge Burg**, (941) 697-8086 or [burgmarge@aol.com](mailto:burgmarge@aol.com)

## TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL  
M. Jane Kerr  
1372 SW California Blvd.  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34953  
(772) 343-0709  
[jane Kerr13@att.net](mailto:jane Kerr13@att.net)



We started our first meeting in the New Year with the outside temperature hovering around 49 degrees and the wind chill dropping it to the mid to upper 30's. Whoopee! This weather is just up my alley but for most of the Floridians, it is in the deep freeze! The sun was warm so it did warm up somewhat, 26 members and one guest made it, so the weather was not a problem. Every one enjoyed our Christmas/Holiday dinner party and enjoyed the New Year as well. Happy and Healthy New Year to all!

Our guest was Greg Stein who made it to one of our earlier meetings and had to leave abruptly since his little daughter was ill. He gave a short presentation on annuities and retirement investments. He left some literature and business cards and took with him our names and some emails so that he can contact us later. He announced if anyone wishes to speak to him, he is available for us.

Some issues were covered re the new ID#'s for BC/BS and to call Medco to advise them that all current prescriptions are to be mailed as noted.

The 50/50 was won by **Arnold Lakso** and the progressive was won by **Sharon Kolibob**. Since she was not in attendance, the money goes back for next month's drawing. When Al started to read the name Sharon, **Sharon Kirk** got all excited, thinking she had won but when he finished the name and it was **Sharon Kolibob**, she was disappointed, it was only \$3.00, not a big winning.

**Vic & Alicia Pignata** arrived a little late at the meeting; they spoke to **Al Popek** briefly and advised him they would not be joining our group as members since the ride from Lake Worth to Jensen Beach and their place near Kissimmee was too long a ride, then left the meeting. We are very sorry to lose them. It's sad that we don't have a group south of us in West Palm, Ft. Lauderdale or Miami. **Bill Nehls, Luster Smith, Wallace Armstrong** and **Diane & Gordon McCourt**, have also become non-members.

After we finished our lunch, **Janice Popek** presented a large tray of her homemade Christmas cookies to the delight of all. Yum, yum, and I think she said she took all the calories out of them as well. Yeah and thanks Janice. There were only six cookies left on the tray after everyone had their fill so she gave them to Dana, our waiter, and of course he was delighted.

Happy Birthday to **Catherine Coate** (1/18) and Happy Anniversary to **Al & Janice Popek** (1/28).

*On the Lighter Side:*

*Live simply, Love generously, Care deeply, Speak kindly and leave the rest to God.*

*Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery and today is a gift, that is why they call it the present.*

## Calendar:

**February 7** - 1230PM Luncheon/Meeting –Mulligan's, Jensen Beach

**March 6** - 1230PM Luncheon/Meeting – Mulligan's, Jensen Beach

**April 3** - 1230PM Luncheon/Meeting – Mulligan's, Jensen Beach

## IDAHO

### BOISE GEMS

Carol Adams  
2630 Inglewood Rd.  
Boise, ID 83705  
(208) 344-6897  
[dadams208@aol.com](mailto:dadams208@aol.com)



In December, we had our annual Christmas Potluck at **Dave & Carol Adams'** home. Those participating were: **Bob & Palmer Sarnoff, Bud & Pat Peters, Louise Duvall, Marlene Croghan, Ned Yundt, Denny Snyder, Annie & Floyd Rose, Marilyn Taylor, Roni Adams, Dave & Carol Adams** and **Shirley & Rick Dempsey**.

The Boise Gems did not have a luncheon meeting in January and will be meeting for a special luncheon on January 9 at the Golden Corral in Boise. This luncheon will welcome **Dave & Carol Adams** as the new President and Co-President of our Boise Gems. Our next regular luncheon meeting will be on Monday, February 6, at 1:30 p.m. at JB's in Meridian. Dave is attempting to get a guest speaker for this meeting.

## ILLINOIS

### CHICAGO SKYLINERS

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



Just last month, **Jim Sommerfield** shared his news about him and his wife celebrating their 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary with friends and family. Sadly, he had to inform us that **Louise** passed away December 8<sup>th</sup> from him and us to her Heavenly Father.

I have also been advised that **Don Potter's** wife **Carol** passed away in October. Don was a payroll supervisor and now lives in Michigan.

More sad news, **Ted Guz**, our Southside Smiler, passed away Christmas eve. His friends believe a later memorial will be planned.

**Virginia Hilkins** spent a few days in the hospital just before Christmas but is now at home. Cards would be welcome to Sunrise of Palos Park, 12828 S. LaGrange Rd., Palos Park, IL 60464.

**Javier & Carmen Chavez** left their home in Oak Lawn to attend 1487 Retirees Christmas Luncheon on the northwest side. What should be a one-hour drive turned into a three-hour excursion following MapQuest. **Ray Prost** from the planning committee called to check on them and found they had finally arrived ... just before a 911 call. Their lunches were waiting for them.

Of the 16 members at the Southside Breakfast raffle winners were **Margaret Schmidt, Bill Brookins, Carmen Chavez, and Tom Hurley**. **Mary Brandt** graciously wrote the news for me since husband took a fall on the ice and hurt his ribs. I got a note from **Margaret Pearson** that two of the 16 wrapped gifts were saved for us.

#### Calendar:

Southside Brunch – Breakfast at Jedi's Restaurant, 9:30 A.M., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn, (**February 28 & March 27**)

Northsiders Breakfast – Ritzy's Café & Backereia, 9:00 A.M., 2765 Algonquin Rd., Rolling Meadows (**February 8 & March 14**)

Food Depository - First Tuesday, every month

### 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 21<sup>st</sup> which is the usual schedule of meeting on the third Wednesday of odd number months.

Note that the Skyliners will be having their Spring Luncheon at the Meridian the same week on Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. Since we all belong to the Skyliners, we will want to attend both luncheons!

#### Calendar:

**February** – No Luncheon scheduled

**March 21** – Luncheon at Renaissance Chicago Hotel @ State and Lake Streets (The Great Street Restaurant) 11:30 a.m.)

April – No Luncheon scheduled

## INDIANA

### INDY RACERS

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



December 3<sup>rd</sup>, we enjoyed our Christmas party get-together at Charbono's in Avon. The food was delicious and, as always, we had great fun with our gift exchange and socializing. Twenty-five members and guests attended. Even if we return to Twin Bridges Lodge next year, this was a wonderful reprieve.

Winter made a hint of an appearance when it snowed the day after Christmas, nothing like last year when freezing rain and ice were almost a daily occurrence in December. Surprisingly, and this writing is in early January, the temps have been in the 40's and 50's so far. Later next week, it is to become more like a Midwestern winter, so I'll enjoy the spring-like weather till then. Now that the holidays are over, the city is abuzz with anticipation of hosting this year's Super Bowl. Playoffs begin this weekend; I'm crossing my fingers for the Steelers, of course!

**Ray & Hannelore Brabo** departed for Seattle WA soon after our party. They visited with their son David and his family, including his two-year-old daughter, for the holidays. They also celebrated their 49<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary while there. Congratulations and many, many more! Our globetrotter, **Mary Chandler** took a short trip to Japan. I made a quick trip to Fort Myers, FL for a visit with my brother and attended a concert by the Fort Myers MasterSingers, of which my sister-in-law is a member. Mary and I met in Chicago upon our return and dined in the festively decorated "Walnut Room" at Macy's. The huge tree was magnificently lighted and the food delicious. **Dimple Rihel** met with Mary and me to attend our weekly karaoke evening on Friday before Christmas. No, we don't sing, maybe hum a little. Dimple is headed to Florida to spend a warmer winter and visit with her son. Finally, I heard that **Eli & Ralph (Bud) Barnett** recently returned from a trip, but I'm not certain from where. I'll get more info at our meeting. Right before the New Year's celebration, I enjoyed a lovely evening, just chilling out, with **Cheri & Ron Innis**. As stated previously, the holidays are a time for gathering with family and friends.

Happy February birthday to **John Conway** and **Gail Allen**. Since I have yet to receive this month's newsletter, I wish to include a belated birthday wish to **Nancy Gibson**. Neither she nor **Jim** have been to recent meetings due to an illness that affected Nancy. Recover soon and come back, we miss you.

### Calendar:

**February 14** - IHOP, 10143 E. US 36 (Rockville Rd.) Avon. Meeting room is available from 1:30P.M. Meeting begins at 3:00 P.M.

**March 13** - IHOP, 10143 E. US 36 (Rockville Rd.) Avon. Meeting room is available from 1:30P.M. Meeting begins at 3:00 P.M.

## MASSACHUSETTS

### NOR'EASTERS

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



No January meeting, so little news. We lost several members for 2012 for different reasons, added one and retained the same officers. I am beginning my 12<sup>th</sup> year on my 2 year term as chapter secretary. Our Treasurer, **Bill Vanderwal** said "*That's what you get for being good*".



Paul & Mary Ward, with 5 couples spent a week on the island of St. Kitts. They stayed at the Marriott all inclusive. Great island, great weather with excellent accommodations. They highly recommend it for fellow retirees.

The Nor'Easters own **Dick Mangino**, a quadrupled amputee was the subject on Chronicle again, after his double hand replacement operation at a Boston hospital. He is slowly recovering full hand use and is already doing things he hasn't been able to do for some time. He says the most important thing to him, is being able to hold his grandchildren. Dick has good priorities!

February's birthdays: **Gary Bosworth, Mark Domurat, Josephine Pizzano and Joan Simard.**

February's anniversaries: **Robert & Clair Anderson** (61 years) and **Ralph & Elaine Torres** (53 years).

*"The aging process would seriously slow down if it had to work its way thru Congress" ~ Will Rogers.*

## MICHIGAN

### GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Detroit, Michigan

Marie Cook

9588 West Parkway

Redford, MI 48239-1331

(313) 534-0065

[marie-cook@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marie-cook@sbcglobal.net)



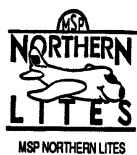
28 Escapees gathered at the Snowman Place hosted by Marie & sister; Joan, on January 5<sup>th</sup>. Thankfully, it was like a Fall day; weather wise and no snow. As usual, it was a great time for all as we welcomed for the first time ever **Marlene Lyall**, who brought **Marcy Vance** who was hobbling well after her accident on November 8<sup>th</sup>. She fell off the bike path while playing with her iPod and broke her right foot and fractured her hip replacement. She was told not to place any weight on her right side for 2 to 3 months. I think we all knew that would never happen, knowing Marcy. We were also very happy to see **Cathy Dewey** doing so well after her hip replacement.

#### Calendar:

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

## MINNESOTA

### NORTHERN LITES



Connie Glattly

82300 Wold Road

Willow River, MN 55795

(218) 372-3973

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

December's meeting was especially poignant, as all the Christmas season meetings are. Everyone is so filled with good will & kindness (unless you're shopping) & anticipating the onset of family interactions. The snowbirds still in the neighborhood have plans to get outta Dodge immediately after Christmas, so it's sad to expect their absence for several months. It was a warm, *brown*, snowless day for December in Minnesota, bringing to memory the previous year when a huge storm forced the cancellation of our get-together.

There were 34 hard-core Lites who came to wish everyone Merry Christmas & to have a good winter, including **Bonnie Rose**, a long-time MSP Customer Services Rep who has since moved on to other endeavors & **Al Gunderson's** daughter, Jeanne, who is facing some intricate surgery soon. Everyone wished her well & urged her to come back again to have lunch with us. Gosh, she's the spittin' image of her Dad!

**Lee Storlie** mentioned having read a fascinating book entitled "The Day The World Came To Town". It chronicles the impact on Gander, Newfoundland on 9/11 when 38 jumbo jets bound for the east coast of the US were diverted to that small community. The town opened its schools, churches, homes & arms to the stranded travelers for several days until some normalcy returned to the US aviation system.

Our buddy, **Jack Doke**, had surgery for bladder cancer. Please keep him in your prayers; a phone call or note would brighten his day ~ 927 La Quinta Blvd., Winterhaven, FL 33881, (863) 294-9599.

The Company has established March as “open enrollment” time for establishing those you want to include as your entitled pass riders. This includes the two “enrolled friends” which supplants the old “Companion Pass” program which many of you enjoyed pre-merger. I’m sure that by the time this is read, more information will have been made available online about what the travel programs will be.

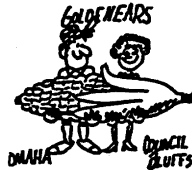
In honor of the Christmas season, all the proceeds from the 50-50 raffle were given back to those attending in the form of \$10 prizes. And of course, one table in the rear of the room (no names will be mentioned) took five of the nine prizes awarded.

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

## NEBRASKA

### GOLDEN EARS

Omaha  
Marge Edwards  
12727 W. Dodge #132C  
Omaha, NE 68153  
(402) 691-0960



What a beautiful and festive night 53 enjoyed at our Christmas dinner. Thanks to **Ev & Shirley Payton** for hosting. We were happy to have **Al Hostetter** join us. He and **Geri** lived in Phoenix, but Geri passed away in February and Al decided to move back to Omaha not too long ago. Geri was a former OMATR employee with United.

**Keith & Jan Cornish** received word on December 10 that their oldest grandson, Seth age 25, passed away very suddenly in New York where he was living. Seth was not aware of any health problems, but all of a sudden, he had what is known as a runaway condition where the heart beats super fast but fails to pump properly; thus, causing his death – Heart Failure. Cards may be sent to Keith & Jan at 6501 Rainwood Rd., Omaha, NE 68152.

**Keith Cornish** called on **Charlie Cromling** over the holidays. Charlie suffers from Parkinson’s which causes him difficulty in talking. He lives with his daughter and family in Ft. Calhoun and has his own residence in their downstairs.

Tony visited with **Mary Beveridge** to see how she was doing. They each enjoyed reminiscing about their years with United. Mary is doing okay with the help of her niece who lives very close.

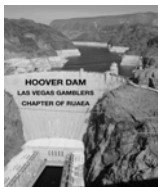
**Marianne Brown** has moved to House of Hope Assisted Living. We had a long conversation and she is happy where she is. I also called on **Jean Kirsch**. Her arthritis is causing her lots of pain. She is fortunate to be in a lovely duplex with her daughter right next door.

**Dorothea Schmill** passed away November 26. Services were held Wednesday, November 30. She is survived by her son, Bob, and his wife, Lynn, along with relatives and friends.

**Kitty LaRue** suffered a stroke on November 16 but the latest report is that she is doing well. That is good news.

In remembrance of those members who passed away this year ~ **Rose Ballard** (12/30/10), **Virginia Lang** (5/5/11), **Gene O’Brien** (1/7/11), **Stan Taylor** (8/31/11), **Mary Wilbur** (2/17/11), **Paul Steuri** (9/3/11), **Larry Weare** (2/28/11), **Cy Buell** (9/15/11), **Carol O’Brien** (3/11/11), **Georgia Egr** (9/29/11), **Nick Nekonchuk** (3/23/11), **Dorothea Schmill** (11/26/11), **Jim Beveridge** (4/1/11).

## NEVADA



### LAS VEGAS GAMBLERS

Baldor Ziel - Secretary  
2649 Rich Flavor Pl.  
Henderson, NV 89052  
(702) 616-9690  
[baldorz@gmail.com](mailto:baldorz@gmail.com)

Our December 13<sup>th</sup> Luncheon meeting went very well with 40 persons in attendance. We had our lunch served at 12:00 and it was very good. The business part of the meeting started with the pledge to the Flag.

**Eleanor Vasko** reported that **Dora Coleman** called, she's still the same since her stroke and she sends her best to everyone. **Carmen Ralph** had a bout with diverticulitis in July. She spent 11 days in the hospital and she's better now. **Ted Milk** is having oral surgery, next meeting, he'll have a fantastic new smile.

We welcome back **Shirley Popp**, we'll enjoy seeing her at every luncheon from now on.

I talked to **Lois Fox** on December 26<sup>th</sup>, she had a few tests done and is waiting for results and a second opinion. We're all praying for her.

**Ruth Verplank** was looking good at the Christmas Luncheon. She is still recovering from her ordeal in the summer.

My wife **Celia Ziel** had cataract surgery on both eyes in December and she says she never saw colors so bright and beautiful in her life. She wore glasses all her life and had very high astigmatism which got reduced to almost perfect 20/20 vision.

Calendar:

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

**April 10** - 11:30 am.

**June 12** - 11:30 am.

### **RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP**

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



There were 28 people, including three guests at our Christmas lunch at the 19<sup>th</sup> Hole. A good time was had by all. Once again, almost everyone left with a prize.

The members of Sierra Roundup donated \$200.00 to the Northern Nevada Food Bank this year.

The 50/50 was won by **Mary Withers**.

The 2012 Sierra Roundup picnic will be Monday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. The reservations will be made this month. The date has also been provided to the Clipped Wings for their planning purposes.

December birthdays were celebrated by **Nancy Scaife**, **Joe Robinson**, **Mac McGuire**, **Herb Klemm**, **Lynda Klemm**, **Bill Royle**, and **Jim & Inez Compton**.

We are sorry to see **Duncan & Nancy Scaife** leave the Truckee area and relocate to the El Dorado Hills.

### **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 Garden Staters Christmas party on December 14<sup>th</sup> was attended by a large number of our members, making this holiday one of joy. Nothing is better than seeing old friends again.

President **Dick Confer** opened the meeting with a flag salute and a moment of silence for all our members who have passed on. After a short business meeting, the 50/50 was held, **Marie Blackwell** and **Jennifer Deily** each won a pot.

We then went on to the great door prizes, some of them came from our ill fated picnic in Merrill Park, that was cancelled due to the flooding from hurricane Irene. In this world, everybody is a winner, thirty prizes later; **R. C. Smith** won the last bottle of champagne.

Our form member **Jerry Confer** who was a member of the U.S.M.C. Reserve started "Toys For Tots" with our group and that tradition continues. I can tell you a large amount of toys were collected. **Ellen Confer** (his

wife) spoke in his behalf.

Calendar:

**January 25** – Next meeting.

## NEW YORK

### BUFFALO CHIPS

Buffalo, New York

Jerry Stevens

130 Countryside Lane

Williamsville, N.Y. 14221-1308

(716) 688-4613

[jerstel30@msn.com](mailto:jerstel30@msn.com)



**BUFFALO CHIPS**

December 5<sup>th</sup>, 28 Buffalo Chips met at Jades Restaurant, Depew, NY for our Christmas Meeting and lunch. This is the second year we have used Jades and as usual, the food was plentiful and excellent.

We welcomed back **Cora Hahn** who has been missing for several meetings. She sold her condo and moved into assisted living and is really enjoying the new facilities and the new friends she has made.

Discussion centered on many of the unknowns with the merger, pass travel, medical insurance and what the actual flight schedules will be in the future. It has been very difficult to get in and out of Buffalo because the load factor is consistently in the high 90's.

**Cheryl Pelkey** has been found and is living in her cottage in Angola, NY. **Rosie Michalek** was able to talk to her and she is doing well.

**Norm (Butch) & Betty Buczkowski** had planned on being at the meeting but within the last 10 days, Norm was readmitted to the ICU for breathing problems. He was well into recovery for lung cancer and according to Betty, is fine except he has a problem keeping up with the lung exercises.

**Rosie Michalek** has been under the weather with a severe cold which turned into a sinus problem causing her to miss the meeting.

**Frank Klein** had a heart attack and a stent or two, is back home recovering.

We wish Norm, Frank and Rosie well and will remember them in our prayers and trust they will rejoin us in the near future.

The next get together is planned for early March and will be at the North Campus of Erie Community College in the Statler Room. The Culinary class runs this fine restaurant and has treated us to exceptional meals for the last 3 years. The exact date will be confirmed.

## 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)

I wish all of our members could have been there for our Christmas luncheon. There were 87 present to enjoy the festivities and win great prizes. The decorations on each table were small trees perched on bottles of sparkling cider covered in cedar with a battery operated candle on top made by **Kathy & Paul Russell** and **Nadine Holten**. The person at the table whose birthday was closest to Christmas won the decoration. Thank you to all of the members who brought desserts.

It was nice to see **Deanna Green**, **Tina Lewis** and **Karen Talton** as they had not been to a meeting in a long time. **Craig Strand**, a PDX retiree, came and donated beautiful photographs to be given away in the drawings. Visitors this month were **Sam French's** sister **Darlene**, **Emily Newberry's** sister **Julia**, **Pat Ogden's** sister-in-law **Patsy** and **Len & Jerri Blodgett's** long time friends **Gloria & Jack Swalko**.

**Margaret Borbely** and **Dave Smith** started the program by leading a sing-a-long of Christmas songs and when everyone finished singing "Here Comes Santa Claus"; Santa arrived dressed in his red Santa suit. The



drawings commenced with 21 winners of wine, photographs, restaurant gift cards, movie tickets and wood working by **Harold Miller** (Santa).

Our monthly winners were: Men's birthday - **Dick Wahlberg**, Women's birthday - **Joann Patterson**, Anniversary - **Deanna Green** and 50/50 - **Harvey Larkin**.

**Ashley Hall** has been our "Lunch Princess" for several years handling the reservations via e-mail and she has decided to step down. It is one of those jobs often not recognized for all the time it takes. Thank you Ashley! **Rosalie Betschart** has agreed to be the new "Lunch Princess" so any inquiries should be sent to her.

**Bob Charron** had successful cancer surgery last month and while visiting him in the hospital, **Joyce** became caught in an automatic door and took a bad fall. She had to have hip surgery and the hospital will pay all expenses incurred with her fall. They are recuperating together and we wish them a speedy recovery.

One of our long time retirees, **Coran (Slim) Bordeau** who worked at PDXCG passed away on January 5<sup>th</sup>, just 13 months after the death of his wife **Dee**. He is survived by a daughter Therese, son Steven (and his wife Kelsey), four grandchildren and his dog Cosmo. He was a nice man and losing his wife of 60 years had been difficult for him. We will miss him.

Please remember 2012 dues are being accepted by **Rosalie Betschart**. If you haven't paid and will not be attending a meeting before April, please mail your dues to **Rosalie Betschart** at 220 NE 116<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland, OR 97220-2333. The dues are \$5.00 per person. Remember, you can't win a lunch prize unless you are a member.

The travel desk at PDX is open 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Mon, Wed and 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 8** - Valentine's Day and Ice Cream Social

**March 14** - Social

**April 11** - Social

### PENNSYLVANIA

#### THE INDEPENDENTS

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



Our Christmas luncheon on 12/12/11 at the Ramada Inn was tasty and enjoyable. Our attendance was 39. Numerous items were brought by the members for the silent auction. The overnight stay plus breakfast at the Ramada was won by **Adele Sherman**. The lottery ticket wheel was won by **Gail Bradley**. About half of those attending won a door prize.

We were so happy to have **Barbara Fanto** come to the luncheon and also **Paul Moyer**. Both have ongoing health problems and have difficulty getting out.

We were saddened to learn of the death of our dear friend **Leo Neelan** on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Our sympathy to **Sharlene** and the family.

Remember those on our sick list. **Hal Zerbach** has total vision loss. **Norm Donkin** is undergoing dialysis 3 times weekly. **Gene O'Neil** is very ill in California; drop him a card at 3300 Via Carrizo, Unit D, Laguna Woods, California 92637.

Have a healthy low snow winter. We'll see you on March 12<sup>th</sup> at the Ramada.

We have room for a few more to attend the Arden Dinner Theater with us on 4/14/12 at 6 pm. The price is \$48.00. The show is the Wedding Singer.

Keep a committee member posted if you have any news you want to share.



**PITTSBURGH**  
**PIT-STOPPERS**

Treatie Karwoski  
1900 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Beaver Falls, PA 15010  
(724) 843-7755  
[treamoo2@comcast.net](mailto:treamoo2@comcast.net)

It's time to review events of the past year and take a forward look ahead. A special thanks to the faithful members of our Board of Directors. Without their leadership we would not have our social events. We also appreciate the support of our members attending our events. The plans for 2012 includes a membership drive, a trip to the Rivers, possibly day trips and continue with our luncheons and picnic. We need more volunteers to help with these projects.

We lost another member of our United family, **Harry Kerr**, 71 years old, passed away October 11, 2011 at his residence. Surviving is his wife **Sharon** of 38 years, 4 children, Eric, Allen, Paul and Sarah, two brothers and many grandchildren plus 4 great grand children. Our condolences to his family.

**Lorraine Keith** has returned from her granddaughter, Megan's, wedding held in Geneva, Nebraska. Lorraine flew United both going and return; however the flight home was a nightmare, with mechanicals and misconnects. What a way to end a beautiful week

**Kathy Matteson** went to visit **Charla McBride** in Actworth, GA. I don't know if she has returned, perhaps the two of them got into some trouble as they usually do when they get together!

**Bill Redfern** had his heart valve replaced. He spent 5 days in the hospital and is home recuperating. His breathing is much better and he's working on building up his walking.

**Barb Seaholm** is half way through her cardio rehab. She has to have 36 sessions and she attends 3 times a week. Barb had the flu which set her back a week.

Our December birthdays ~ **Mary Jane Stewart** (18<sup>th</sup>), **Vic Ferrence** (23<sup>rd</sup>) and **Georgia Garcia** (24<sup>th</sup>).

Our December 2<sup>nd</sup> luncheon was held at the Fez. Forty members gathered to ring in the holiday season. They raved about the good food and good company. The 50/50 was won by **Georgia Garcia**. The door prizes were beautiful Christmas items. One table won all the prizes. **Rich & Barb Guida**, **Vic & Joan Ference** and **Margaret Morgan**. Our woodcrafter, **Bill Redfern**, presented each family with a United States patriotic plaque. That was really thoughtful and kind. **Bill** also delivered the food that was brought in by the members to the West Hills Food Bank.

The golden girls' luncheon was December 9 at Felicity Farms Bed & Breakfast. All the work that **Mary Jane Stewart** and **Treatie** did planning the luncheon, the attendance was very disappointing! The attendees were, **Phyllis Smith**, **Georgia Garcia**, **Jeri Juth**, **Olga Karmazyn** and guest and **Mary Jane Stewart**. A special thanks to **Mary Jane** for the great job she did to make the lunch special. Yours truly was unable to attend both luncheons due to illness.

I have no sad news to report at this time, let's hope that continues. **Ken Wolfe** has completed his cardio rehab. He is now walking further than he did before his heart surgery. Keep up the good work, **Ken**. **Lois Varrenti** has moved to a new location. Her address is 771 Marigold Ct., Bridgeville, PA 15017. In case anyone needs to get in touch with her. When is your open house **Lois**, I'm ready?

January birthdays were celebrated by **Betty Musko** (1/23), **Betty Tinney** (1/27). Our February celebrants: **Ruth Redfern** (2/15), **Jack Tinney** (2/27), **Kay Yauch** (2/28).

**Mary Jane Stewart's** son Bryan presented her with a Royal Caribbean Cruise to Cozumel for her birthday. The good friend that she is, invited me to join her. What a wonderful time we had. The ship was beautifully decorated for the holidays, the food was exceptional and shows were spectacular. Don't you all wish you had a friend like **Mary Jane**?

Are you ready for winter storm season? For better or worse, it is that time of the year again in western PA. The season when we can get deluged with a winter storm, be smart, be careful and be prepared.

Until next month, *let's Go Steelers*

## UTAH

### THE SALT LAKERS

Laraine Jordan Darby  
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What better way to start the New Year than to tell you about someone very special in the SLC Chapter. It all began when 2 of our Christmas party/dues-renewal letters were returned to our treasurer. Being secretary, I offered to make some phone calls and track them down. These 2 ladies lived at the same address and had the same phone #, and were both named Dorothy. Well, come to find out, I was able to reach **Dorothy Larsen** and correct the apartment number so she can now receive her mail (she has no email). In a delightful conversation with her, I found that she was active while in California where her husband, **Dex Larsen**, worked many years with UAL. After his death, she moved here to UT to be close to her children. Anyway, the big news is that her birthday is February 12, 1912, and so she will turn 100 years old this next birthday. She is bright and in good health except for her eyesight. Since our next get-together is February 7<sup>th</sup>, we have extended an invitation to pick her up for the Brunch, at which time we can celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with her!

So far we have introduced a member of our officers each of the past 3 months, and now it is time for our last, but not least, Vice President **Loralynn Brady**. Lori and I go way back even before our beginnings with UAL in 1962 (each not knowing the other was with UAL). This is her story ~ *I am **Loralynn Brady**, the newly elected V.P. The Convair 340 was the first airplane I was ever on, let alone work as a stewardess. I was hired in 1962 and was based out of Chicago. The first 6 months was very tiring due to little rest between flights. I called my mother to let her know I wanted to quit. However, she told me to give it 6 more months. I did and 41 years later I did give up my job as a flight attendant. I truly loved flying. After the merger with Pan Am, I flew international out of SFO and LAX. I flew every aircraft United had to offer, and flew the troops during Desert Storm. The memories are countless. I was married and 15 years later divorced. I partnered in a commercial orchard for 22 years. Farming was a great adventure. The difference between early flying and the 747 was pressurization. Somehow, I think I was pressurized once too often!* (Secretary Note: Yes, she's still as gorgeous as always; and funny – she always makes me laugh).

The *Salt Lakers* wish you a very **Happy New Year** and say, “pray for snow”

### Calendar:

**February 7** – Brunch at 10am, Johanna's Kitchen in Sandy

**April 3** – Lunch at 2pm, Golden Corral in Midvale

## WASHINGTON

### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS



Seattle  
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After a festive holiday season but no December meeting, Seattle's Emerald City Slickers returned to their regular schedule, the second Tuesday of most months, with luncheon at Fairwood Golf and Country Club in Renton, WA, for their January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Details will appear in the March issue of this national newsletter.

February's luncheon will be a change of pace and venue, as the group moves to The Museum of Flight, 9404 East Marginal Way South, in Seattle. At the chapter's request, arrangements were made by **David Jones**, SFOFO, a Museum of Flight volunteer, with the help of **Frank** (LAXOZ) & **Fran** (LAXSW) **McAnulty** and other Museum members. Attendees will enter the lobby and take the elevator to the second floor View Room to check in at a registration table outside the room. No-host cocktails will be available at 11:00 a.m. with lunch at noon.

**Steve Ellis**, son of the late **Bill Ellis** (see a tribute to **Bill** in the Red Barn), will share his father's memorabilia and history in the airline industry. Special displays dedicated to United Airlines from the Museum's collection also will be presented, as feasible. After lunch, attendees will have the run of the Museum, including outdoor static displays of historic aircraft across the street, until 5:00 p.m.

The Pacific Northwest Aviation Historical Foundation was founded in 1964 to preserve and display significant aircraft and related artifacts from the airline industry and to educate the public in terms of their importance. The Red Barn, Boeing Company's original building, was moved by barge to become the first permanent building at the Museum site and was restored in 1983. Now a major Seattle area attraction, the Museum of Flight features additional buildings, including the Great Gallery. Two floors are dedicated to the aircraft of World Wars I and II. Coordinated by The Museum of Flight Foundation, the Museum and its efforts now include airplanes, airlines, and aerospace, both domestic and international. For additional information on The Museum of Flight, go to [museumofflight.org](http://museumofflight.org).

The March luncheon will take us back to Fairwood, our usual meeting location, with arrangements made by **John** (SEAPV) & **Mary Luke**.

**Bob Thuys**, son of **Theo** (SEAHH) and **Marry** (retired from Northwest) **Thuys**, underwent his 4<sup>th</sup> heart valve surgery last December in Oklahoma City. After successful previous experience with his surgeon's retired father, **Bob** opted for the Oklahoma City location. Now he's good to go for another 15 years. **Theo** & **Marry** brought **Bob** back to their home in Graham, Washington, to recuperate. You may remember **Bob** as the featured guitarist at our summer picnics, with Dad **Theo** on accordion.

Best wishes to February birthday celebrants **Helen Ebert** (SEAHH), one of our oldest retirees, and active members **Phyllis Lindblad** (SEARR) and **Fern Lockhart**. Purple is their color with the violet as the flower of the month and the amethyst as February birthstone. With so few of our "babies" born in February, one might assume that folks didn't remove their long johns or take a bath until June – still too cold in May?

**Blaine** & **Vivian Anderson** (SEAFR/KY) observe their 58<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in February, while **John** (SEARR) & **Adelaide Haferbecker** celebrate their 46<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations!

#### Calendar:

**February 14** – Luncheon and tour of the Museum of Flight, Seattle

**March 13** – Luncheon meeting, Fairwood Golf and Country Club, Renton

**April 10** – Luncheon meeting, Fairwood Golf and Country Club, Renton

#### LILAC CITY FLYERS

Laquita Bloom  
1714 N Chehalis St.  
Post Fall, ID 83845  
(208) 660-3845  
[quitajoy1874@gmail.com](mailto:quitajoy1874@gmail.com)



Hi, Merry Christmas to everyone. I'm sorry I missed last month. We had our Christmas Party at **Ken** & **Myrtle Stoop**'s home and it was beautifully decorated. Everyone brought something to help out, Ken & Myrtle furnished the meat. There was more than enough to eat.

There were twenty five people and all brought gifts and put them under the tree, no names. After dinner, we gave out numbers for each one and we start with 1 though 25. You also could steal from someone and that person would get another chance. You could steal one item twice and then it's frozen. It's a lot of fun and laughter. This was the largest group we had in a long time, I hope they keep coming. Last month, we only had 17 at the German restaurant. It had very good food. See you at the next meeting.

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

### DULLES LOUNGERS



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

Greetings from the Nations Capital!

After one of the warmest Decembers on record, winter has finally arrived bringing cold winds and frost on our cars!

The Dulles Loungers met for a festive luncheon on December 14. Our custom each December has been to host the Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" program and 2011 was no exception. The tables were piled high with wonderful toys of every kind!

The hat was passed around and a total of \$381 was raised. Once again, a terrific response to a wonderful cause! Thank you, Dulles Loungers!

Two Marines joined us for lunch and we were delighted to meet them.

Plans are underway for Convention 2012 to be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Arlington, VA, October 3-7, 2012. This is a "not to be missed" Convention as the weather will be delightful at this time of year. Come and enjoy the tours of the Capital area, we will have something to please everyone.

#### Calendar:

**February 8** - 12noon, Golden Corral Restaurant, 10801 Bulloch Dr., Manassas, VA

**March 14** - 12noon, Golden Corral Restaurant, 10801 Bulloch Dr., Manassas, VA

## NATIONAL

### CLIPPED WINGS®

Christel Hasenbring ILG  
National Vice President  
P.O. Box 432  
Capron, IL 61012-0432  
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This is a very quiet month for Clipped Wings, most of our snowbirds have arrived at their warm destinations. Enjoy! We in Chicago have not had much snow so far, maybe just maybe we will escape the brunt of winter, but what am I saying, this is Chicago, and I could only wish!

Clipped Wings® ~ our major event this year will be our National Clipped Wings Convention in Seattle, WA, September 19 to the 22. We are all looking forward to this great gathering of our members.

Scarves and Ties ~ yes, we have ordered more airplane scarves and ties, if you are interested in purchasing one, either for yourself or for a gift, please contact **Cheryl (Mullins) Jensen** (SMF), [rjensen148@aol.com](mailto:rjensen148@aol.com). Each scarf is still only \$20.00 and each tie is \$25.00 (plus \$2.00 for shipping.) Please make your check payable to Clipped Wings and send the check along with your request to **Cheryl Jensen**, 3322 Arroy Court, Davis, CA 95618. If you have any questions, please contact [rjensen148@aol.com](mailto:rjensen148@aol.com). The proceeds from the profit of the sales help support Special Olympics.

If you were a former or are a present United Airlines Flight attendant or were a Capital Airlines Hostess, we would love to have you join our organization, Clipped Wings. Please check out our website [www.clippedwings.com](http://www.clippedwings.com), or as the National Vice President, I will be happy to answer any question you have about membership. Please contact me at [omachristl@aol.com](mailto:omachristl@aol.com). We look forward to having you join us.



## NEW MEMBERS

Brennan, Charles L., SFOFO, 16139 N. Day Mt. Spokane Rd, Mead, WA 99021  
Cullens, Cristina, DENSW, 21983 E. Heritage Pkwy, Aurora, CO 80016  
Forte, Richard, CAKOZ, 5128 Schuller Dr. NE, Canton, OH 44705  
Harley, Carl, LASOZ, 5758 Beacon Hill St., Las Vegas, NV 89120  
Hoffmann, Hank, OPBCM, 321 Julie Ln., Hampshire, IL 60140  
Matchett, Timothy E., ORDMM, 8437 N. County Rd. 900 E, Brownsburg, IN 46112  
McCormack, Linda, DTWRR, 2636 21<sup>st</sup> St., Wyandotte, MI 48192  
Meirana, John, SFOMP, 27020 Daisy Cir, Yorba Linda, CA 92887  
Omeara, Michael, SEAOO, 857 Club Ridge Ct., Chester, VA 23836  
Reeves, Carolee C., DENCs, 8081 Johnson St., Arvada, CO 80005  
Thoennes, Nicholas, SFOFF, 1236 Detroit Ave. Apt 14, Concord, CA 94520  
Walker, Susan, SFOSW, 30 Eddystone Ct., Redwood City, CA 94065

## CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Wyman Anderson, Richard W. Armistead, Arthur A. Asti, Barbara A. Bales, Kathryn Baran, Carolyn N. Baumgartner, Carol Birt, Clifford H. Blare, Carolyn S. Bowles, Michael Thomas Bowles, Eileen S. Burton, Edward A. Carnes, William L. Clark, Linda Cooper-Koltz, Charles J. Correia, Joanne Craig, Alan Davis, Lloyd E. Dawson, Allen P. Dedick, Fred Degrande, Kevin L. Dillon, Maxine F. Dixon, Vernon R. Duley, Henry A. Dykhuis, Amelia I. Ellis, Richard W. Ems, Dorothy L. Engels, Lorraine Fasciano, Barbara P. Fiske, Valentin Garmasch, Rose H. Gee, Joan M. Gisle, Stephen O. Gray, Alison Grieg, Augustin Grznar, Mitzi Harris, G. Joseph Heinen, Deanne A. Henning, Susan P. Henriksen, E. E. Buck Hilbert, Miyuki Hilliard, Hank Hoffmann, John G. Hornbaker, Robert T. Hughes, John Jeskey, Marie Kady, Shirley A. Kagel, Robert V. Keefe, Thomas B. Kirby, William J. Krainak, Vincent R. Krejchi, Alfred H. Krengulec, Kurt Kubatz, Maria Lesiak, Howard A. Long, Winifred J. Lyles, Edward F. Mc Martin, Jacklyn C. Muller, Robert Nakamoto, Jeanne B. Olszewski, John S. Pasakarnis, Jerry D. Pittman, Lila N. Pugh, Joyce Richter, Larry L. Rottet, William A. Sandy, Jim Sarsfield, Judith M. Schroeder, Jon G. Shaffer, William J. Sharp, Josephine N. Shioji, Patricia M. Casey Smith, Louise H. Smith, Dennis G. Snell, Shirley L. Soule, Clinton Sundstrom, Marian Swanson, Daniel T. Takata, Jack O. Tenney, Jean R. Tippie, Mary E. Betty Tomaino, Norman W. Wilkinson, Bernice Yvonne Wright, Helen Zienkievicz.

## 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 – **Almsteier, Daniel L.**, on 12/2/11, DENCs, husband of Jane Almsteier, 4210 Rio Viejo Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93313  
 Retiree – **Brooks, Charles E., (Charlie2)**, on 11/13/11, ORDMM, husband of Audrey Jean Brooks, 3470 N Alpine Rd # 336, Rockford, IL 61114  
 Retiree – **Crowthers, John D.**, on 12/9/11, SFOCE, husband of Ruth (Olive) Crowthers, 10760 W Beaubien Dr., Sun City, AZ 85373  
 Retiree – **Finley, Harland T., (Pat)**, on 12/15/11, PHXCS, husband of June L. Finley, 17334 W. Rimrock St., Surprise, AZ 85388  
 Retiree – **Cox, H. J.**, in 9/2011, SEARR, uncle of John Gothro, 3334 NE 30<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland, OR 97212  
 Retiree – **Markel, Sigmund B.**, on 11/5/11, LAXMM, husband of Beatrice M. Markel, 1122 Ysabel Street, Redondo Beach, CA 90277  
 Retiree – **Riley, Virginia, (Gini)**, on 12/14/11, LAXSW, aunt of Barbara Guiette, PO Box 160, Pine Valley, CA 91962

**October 2011 SkyNet Listing**

**Anderton, Donald J.**, SFOFO 10/04/11  
**Antonini, Plinio**, EWRHH 10/21/11  
**Beaty, John T.**, SFOMM 10/24/11  
**Bedford, James E.**, TYSOZ 10/16/11  
**Chipman, Harvell E.**, SFOOV 10/29/11  
**Christianson, Larry G.**, RAPOZ 10/04/11  
**Cronin, Barry J.**, SFOJJ 09/24/11  
**Cudmore, Stanley A.**, SFOPK 10/15/11  
**Curley, John E.**, SFOMM 10/19/11  
**Davenport Jr., Dean A.**, OAKRN 10/21/11  
**De Palma, Richard A.**, SFOPK 10/01/11  
**Diedrich, Terry C.**, ORDFF 10/09/11  
**Downs, Robert L.**, SFOFO 10/28/11  
**Fitzroy, Donald P.**, DENFF 10/10/11  
**Frank, Dobromil M.**, BNAOZ 10/28/11  
**Garton, Lucille H.**, DCARR 10/05/11  
**Gaul, Robert B.**, TPAOZ 10/20/11  
**Giroux, Denis R.**, SFOLX 10/25/11  
**Griffith, John H.**, DENTK 10/21/11  
**Grow, Melvin M.**, SFOPV 10/18/11  
**Heiszek, Elmer F.**, ORDFO 10/24/11  
**Henjum, Valerie J.**, DENSW 10/30/11  
**Henry, Kenneth M.**, JFKJL 10/18/11  
**Honaker, Luther B.**, DCAFO 10/18/11  
**Johnson, Richard E.**, SFOMM 10/09/11  
**Jones, Robert E.**, MIAHH 10/09/11  
**Kadow, John H.**, LAXCG 06/09/11  
**Kennetz, Donald E.**, SFOEA 10/13/11  
**Kerr, Harold L.**, PITCG 10/11/11  
**Kinter, Richard G.**, OPBOP 10/25/11  
**Knickerbocker, James S.**, LAXMM 10/27/11  
**La Brie, Leo R.**, CHIDD 10/25/11  
**Lippert, Richard F.**, ORFOZ 10/03/11  
**Luchtenberg, Ernest O.**, JFKFF 10/25/11  
**Matsumoto, Harold K.**, HNLOO 08/05/11  
**Mc Intosh, Roberta K.**, DENRR 10/16/11  
**Meronyk, Wasyl**, ORDFO 10/04/11  
**Michalic, Andrew J.**, ORDPV 10/10/11  
**Miller, George F.**, CLESW 10/10/11  
**Montoya, Ramiro**, WHQRU 06/17/11  
**Morris, Wendell G.**, ORDMM 10/31/11

**Murphy, Frederick J.**, DENKA 10/12/11  
**Navarro, Antonio S.**, SFOMP 10/13/11  
**Nelson, Joanne C.**, LAXSW 06/20/11  
**Osterberg, Armand P.**, JFKCS 10/01/11  
**Parker, Harry W.**, DENFO 10/08/11  
**Poggensee, Myrtle C.**, WHQCT 10/25/11  
**Politza, John J.**, PHLCG 10/28/11  
**Pruski, Nancy E.**, CHICU 10/05/11  
**Quiambao, Francisco M.**, LAXMM 10/12/11  
**Rucker, Raleigh B.**, SFOBL 10/31/11  
**Ryan, Donald F.**, IADHH 10/15/11  
**Skrobacs, Ralph B.**, CLECG 10/19/11  
**Small, Raymond L.**, CLEJL 10/03/11  
**Stearns, David E.**, DENFO 10/14/11  
**Steiner, Philip W.**, SFOFO 10/14/11  
**Stuke, Nancy S.**, DENHR 10/08/11  
**Thompson Jr., Charles L.**, SFOPV 10/18/11  
**Trana, Kristine N.**, DENRR 09/30/11  
**Watasin, Richard C.**, SFOJJ 10/02/11  
**Weber, Harry L.**, JFKFO 10/05/11  
**Whisenhunt, John W.**, PDXCG 10/30/11  
**Wilson, Harvey A.**, SEAFO 10/12/11

## LETTERS



**Martha Gooselaw**

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

Martha Gooselaw  
 Letters Editor

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

Margaret Amedeo, Marvin Berryman, Clifford Blare, Edward Carnes, Carolyn S. Bowles, Al Davis, Amy Jo Ellis, Shirley Elmendorf, Barbara Fiske, Joan Gisle, Alison Grieg, Edgar Heinrich, Fred Higgins, Florence Hoy, Robert Hughes, Maria Lesiak, Tadashi Kato, Kurt F. Kubatz, Jennie Mihalko, Jerry Milner, Manny Ojeda, F. T. Parker, John Pasakarnis, Kenneth Paulson, Rose Marie Piorunski, Jerry D. Pittman, Joyce M. Richter, M. Roderick, Larry Rottet, James Sarsfield, Juanita Schrecongost, Kim Sieren, Helen Stinnett, Marion Swanson, Theresa Tasse, Diana Thal, Jean Tipple, Bessie Tockstein, Betty Tomaino, William Traub, Linda Westbrook, Doris Williams, Norman Wilkinson, Yvonne Wright.

**WE HAVE RECEIVED LETTERS FROM:**

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

**Darleen Conine, 2000 S. Dayton Pl. Apt 224, Denver, CO 80247**

Another year has gone by and our life has changed drastically. Mel has been deteriorating since his fall on the basement stairs over 2 years ago. His sleep patterns turned over and he didn't sleep at night, so he wanted to walk outside. It became impossible to stay in our house. We are now living at Dayton Place. We just had our 66<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November. We miss all of you.

**Florence Constance, 5655 S. Monitor Ave., Chicago, IL 60638**

I am sorry to be late but I have slowed down.

I am so grateful to have worked at UAL. I traveled from 1946-2006. My travels took me to all seven continents and more. I loved my work, all of my supervisors and all of my co-workers. I also had a good time. I have many UAL friends I keep in touch with.

Thank you to all if the volunteers that put out a "newsy" newsletter.

**Carrie Ettredge, 606 Woodland St., Denton, TX 76209**

Thank you for keeping us "oldzheimers" in touch with the new (and not improved) United.

Pat Patterson was on one of my earlier flights. He spilled his coffee and apologized several times. What a peach!

Thanks to RUAEA for picking up the slack that UAL has left us with.

**Mary Lou Hymes, PO Box 282, Tioga, PA 16946-0282**

Another year and this old gal could write a Guinness World book on Medicare.

Do not put any relative into a nursing home until you check in yourself for 24 hours. I used up my 100 days of Medicare and they threw me out.

Nursing homes are sneaky. They will tell you anything, to make you believe they are right and you are wrong. Their main menu consisted of green string beans today, green and green string beans tomorrow. I lost 100 lbs. and look like a string bean. I have no appetite whatsoever.

I made up my mind to go against their word and go home to my own bed and independent living, as much as I can.

Every day I call at least one of my fellow coworkers to see how their retirement is affecting their bodies.

Over a period of 45 years, 10 months and 26 days, I have worked with employees in BUF, ROC and SYR.

So keep in touch. Call me, I love phone calls. (570) 835-5096.

**Janis Kratofil, 7622 Clovis Ct., New Port Richey, FL 34653**

I am sorry to be sending this in late.

David had a heart attack on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. He has had some complications and is still in rehab. We are not sure when he will be able to come home.

**Stephen Wasuta, 173 Wayside Dr., Turlock, CA 95380-3217**

After receiving the December Newsletter, I was tempted to write and let everyone know that this 94 year old retiree looks forward to receiving the Newsletter.

It brings back memories of my UAL employment with a subsequent retirement as Manager of Aircraft Engineering. My employment was for a total of 42 years.

I hope this letter might help me to get in contact with some of my past UAL employees. If they are able; I would enjoy any who remembers me, to get in touch with me at the above address.

**Linda L Keim, 16547 Antero Cir., Broomfield, CO 80023**

Another year is over and it's time to express our gratitude for all you folks do to keep us well informed.

I read with interest some of the letters regarding the high premiums for medical coverage using our questionable UAL benefits. Three years ago, Ron & I took the plunge and opted **out** of the medical coverage. It took some time and research to navigate the somewhat daunting world of HMO's, but we were able to obtain coverage superior to what UAL was offering. Additionally, the cost was only what Medicare deducts from our Social Security checks. The doctors are of our own choosing as well. Sometimes, our mindset is that remaining with a large group is for the best. I can speak from experience, that the last 3 years without UAL involvement has been a blessing.

I would encourage anyone to simply take the time to check into other options. Besides, with the CO takeover and the travel benefits debacle, it's only a matter of time before the balance of the retirees' benefits are impacted.

We're both thankful we were associated with the UAL of old. A place we were proud to call our employer.

**DON'T MISS: IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS FOLLOW ON THE NEXT PAGE**



# Important Phone Numbers



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

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

## **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.

1-877-202-0263 (PIN Reset)

## **Chicago Travel Desk (Central Time)**

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

*If possible, please use local # (847) 700-1087*

## **Portland Travel Desk (Pacific Time)**

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

*If possible, please use local # (503) 249-4142*

## **Seattle Travel Desk - Toll Free (Pacific Time)**

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

*If possible, please use local # (206) 433-4218*

## **PBGC ~ For all retirees pension questions**

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

## **Social Security Administration**

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

## **Alliant Credit Union**

1-800-328-1935 or 773-462-2000 (24-hours, 7-days-a-week except Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day)

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

## **United Employee Service Center**

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

1-877-242-0075 (retirees)

## **Interline Ticketing Desk**

1-888-874-1581

## **Flying Together Help Desk**

1-800-255-5801

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

## **Medicare Hotline**

1-800-633-4227

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(CELL) - (847) 878-5170

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Charles Field	1977 – 1979*
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Ralph Hoffmaster	1983 – 1986*
Vance Harmon	1986 – 10/2/86*(#)
(#) deceased – V.P. Lewis Long became Pres. 10/3/86	
Lewis Long	1986 – 1988*
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Jim Fauber	2002 – 2004
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Mort Wax	2006 – 2008
Ron Robertson	2008 – 2010
Editor Emerita - Jo Madden	1986 – 2007*
<b><u>*Deceased</u></b>	

Check your mailing label for Renewal Information

Corp. for \$90,000 each. Converting the planes to commercial use cost more than \$200,000 per plane.

The Air Transport Command "war-paint" was removed permitting an additional 200 pounds of load capacity and increasing the cruise speed by seven mph.

At first "scraping-off" the coats of paint took 500 man-hours per plane. Later, a chemical paint-remover "bubbled-up" the paint and permitted comparatively

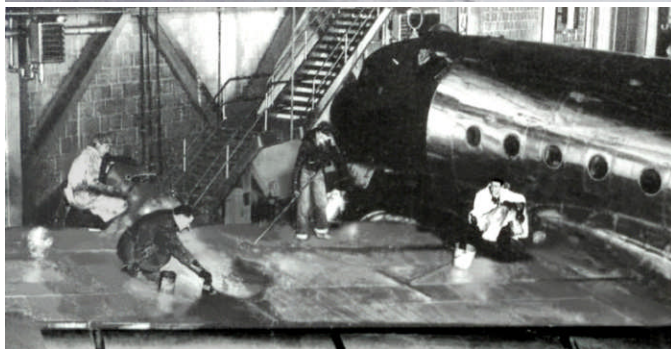
easy removal. The first DC-4 Mainliner "230" (230 mph) went into service March 1, 1946 augmenting United's wartime fleet of 77 DC-3 Mainliners & Cargo-liners. The first of United's 35 new DC-6 Mainliner "300s" was brought into service a few months later.

*Marvin Berryman DENTK - from the 1945 UAL Annual Report & United News.*

## United Airlines Historical Foundation



"Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future"



Following WWII, United purchased a fleet of ATC C-54 (DC-4) airplanes from the Reconstruction Finance

Recently UAHF received donated items from: **Ronnie Bishop** estate by **Tom Steinbrunner**, **Marcia Sander**, **Manuel de Alba Perez**, **Carolyn Baumgartner** & **Bob Schmelzer**.

Please mail your tax-deductible \$ contributions and donations of **United & Continental Memorabilia & Artifacts** to: **UAHF, Tom Goodyear, 7401 Martin Luther King Blvd., Denver, CO 80207, [www.uahf.org](http://www.uahf.org).**

