



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



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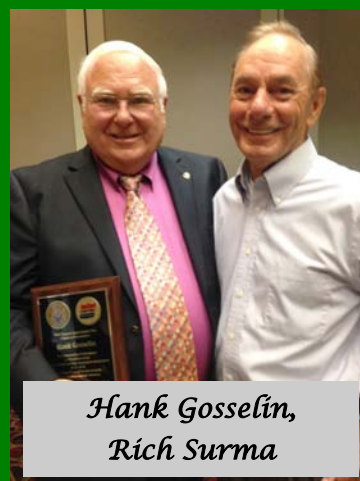
*RAFA Members: Susie Naye, Martha Casne (RAFA Int'l President), Kirk Moore, Cherina Byrne, Linda McArthur*



*Standing: Paul & Barbara Schuster, Betty Tomaino, Hal & Donna Klobe, Joyce Cason. Seated: Thomas Easley, Louis Semon*



*Standing: Sherrie Wolfram, Sherrill Morgan, Angie Dellinger, Bridget Zoldak, Frank Dellinger  
Seated: Irv Wolfram, Syd Morgan, Mike Zoldak*



*Hank Gosselin,  
Rich Surma*

## 2016 RUAEA Seattle Convention



*Charles Onesko, Jeannie Roland, Ruth Takaki, Felix Cicco, Harry Takaki*



*Mike Takamatsu, Penny Greenacre, Ed Rheam, Kit Kitajama, Terry Greenacre*

# GENERAL NEWS

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

## RUAEA 2017 Convention



We finally have some details for the 2017 Convention to be held in Las Vegas at the Palace Station Hotel & Casino. The hotel is located off the strip at 2411 West Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89102. The room rate will be \$59.99 plus 13.38% tax Sunday through Thursday, rate includes a \$14.99 Hotel Service fee with the total being \$68.02 per night. Friday and Saturday night rates are higher and will be announced next month. Rates are available three days prior and three days following the convention. With these rates in mind, the Convention schedule will begin on Monday September 25, 2017 and finish

on Thursday September 28, 2017 with the Business and Benefits Meetings during the day and our annual Banquet that evening.

The hotel requires a \$100.00 deposit when making reservations and they have a 72 hour cancellation policy. Reservation can be made at 1-800-634-3101 and be sure to identify that you are with Retired United Airlines Employees Association. Soon there will be a web-link to book rooms online. Upon checking in, be sure to sign up for my/Rewards Boarding Pass card which will entitle you to discounts at restaurants and outlets on the property.

Palace Station has many dining options within the facility. They also offer free parking and have scheduled shuttle service from and to the Las Vegas Airport as well as the Las Vegas Strip. The cut-off date for making hotel reservations is Wednesday, August 30, 2017. The local Convention Committee has already begun their process to put on another great RUAEA Convention. More information will be forthcoming and we look forward to seeing many of you in Las Vegas this fall.

## **John Zoboli - VP Convention**

### Introducing 2 New Regional Directors

In the July election issue of the newsletter we had photos and biographies of the candidates. When we went to print, there were 2 vacant positions with an option for write in candidates. **Claudia Blancett** received write in votes for Southern California Regional Director and **Ray Jensen** later volunteered for the Florida Regional Director position. We thank both for accepting these positions and we are now printing their photos and biographies to introduce them to you.



**Claudia Blancett** entered the airline industry in 1980 with TWA, United Airlines in 1984, Qantas, Australian and Ansett in 1986, and returned to United Airlines in 1988. She worked in Reservations, Customer Service, Training, Ramp, even World Headquarters at the first Online Service Desk in the 90s, and about 13 different stations (line and hub) prior to taking an early out in 2010 from LASOZ.

While living in Australia she was employed teaching how to use 29 different airline computer systems, including Apollo. As a daughter of one of the first 50 computer designers in the world, she has always been involved with computers, and later online services, including working with America Online. She was asked in an interview at WHQ with all the computer experience she has, why was she still working with United. Her reply was that she loved United and will work there until retirement.

Claudia is currently working at an Internet Security company that her younger brother started as a Customer Service Representative. Because she works online, she is able to work anywhere that she has an internet connection. She is also an administrator of several Facebook groups assisting active and retirees. She recently began a travel group on Facebook for Single Women of retirement age called "Gypsy Journeys."

When she is not on a journey, she is lucky to be able to spending time with her 88 year old father, with whom she inherited the travel bug.



Claudia is honored to be a part of RUAEA as the Southern California Director, and has plans on visiting each of the chapters in the coming year. Feel free to contact her by email at [claudia415@me.com](mailto:claudia415@me.com).



**Ray Jensen** served 4 years in the USAF and after discharge in 1965; he joined UAL as CSA at JFK. In 1966, he transferred to HNL as TSA working at the ticket office on Waikiki Beach. He left HNL in 1967 when he was accepted as a Sales Rep at NYC Sales. In 1968, he joined the cargo Department as a Sales Rep. After a 10 year stint in that position, he became a Staff Rep with the Eastern Division. When the Divisions were consolidated at EXO, Ray went back to sales as Regional Manager for Convention and Incentive Sales.

In 1984, Ray was promoted to Staff Rep position at EXO working in Sales and Marketing area. In 1985, he was made Regional Sales Manager Northeast based at JFK where he stayed until he left the company in 1987.

Ray was with AMR Services (a subsidiary of AA) as General Manager of Operations until 1993 when he transferred to DFW as Director of Marketing. In 1995, he joined Midway Airlines as Director of Property and Facilities based in Durham NC. In 1997, Ray rejoined UAL as Sales Development Manager at UAL Services.

Ray retired from United in 2003. After his retirement, he became Vice-President of Sales and General Manager in Ft. Myers for a large Aviation Services Company. Ray retired for good in 2013.

### **Snowbirds! We need your help**



Many of you have homes in two different states. As a result, you are changing your address for delivery of the Newsletter twice a year. Unfortunately, sometimes the change of address reaches us after the newsletter has been mailed to the wrong address. Then, the secretaries are asked to send a second newsletter to the alternate address. They graciously do this whenever asked. However, this is a financial issue for RUAEA. As this is not bulk mail, the USPS cost to mail one Newsletter is approximately \$1.60. That does not include the envelope and the time it takes for someone to go to the post office. And, of course, you receive your newsletter very late.

We are asking you to consider getting your newsletter online or getting both the print and the online version for a mere five dollars more a year. You will be able to get the web version online no matter where you are. The online version is available about two weeks before the print version and it has the added benefit of enabling you to access prior issues. Just to clarify, if you add the five dollars to get both print and web at the time of your annual renewal, the five dollars counts for the entire year. If you add the online version in the middle of your subscription, it is only good until your annual renewal and then you will pay the additional five dollars again.

Thank you for considering this option.

**Notice to All Members:** All address changes must reach the Denver Office by the **1<sup>st</sup> of the month** to have the current issue delivered to the new address.

### **Members Have Questions, Newsletter Has Answers**

**Still Have Questions?**  
**We've Got Answers...**

A major advantage of having the web version or paper and web version of the newsletter is being able to access previous issues. The newsletter on [RUAEA.org](http://RUAEA.org) has an archive section where you can read newsletters as far back as 2003.

The following list gives you an example of articles contained in previous issues and where to find them.

**Please Note: Always go to Flying Together for the latest changes/updates**

**The excerpts listed here are from past issues of the RUAEA newsletter and may not be applicable today.**

#### **SA Travel RUAEA Newsletter**

- SA Travel #486 February 2015, RAFA Kirk Moore ~ Important things to know about the "My Info" page
- SA Travel #487 March 2015, RAFA Kirk Moore ~ Flying Together gets a makeover
- SA Travel #489 June 2015, UA FT ~ Pass rider enrollment is about to get easier

- SA Travel #490 June 2015, RAFA Kirk Moore ~ Survivor Pass Travel; UA Flying Together, How to update retiree personal information
- SA Travel #492 August 2015, UA Question about registering pass riders? Check the Q &A first
- SA Travel #493 September 2015, UA FT ~ The United Pass Line; create bookings, check Passenger; Boarding Totals (PBT) and check ePass balance; RAFA Kirk Moore ~ “Order of Accommodation” boarding? Registering your Pass Riders
- SA Travel #494 October 2015, UA FT ~ Message from United to all retirees a newly designed united.com; Travel Advisory from Kirk Moore ~ Cannot log into Flying Together with Firefox or IE
- SA Travel #495 November 2015 ~ Snowbirds, Don’t Miss a Newsletter Issue
- SA Travel #496 December 2015 ~ ZED travel now available on Air France
- SA Travel #496 December 2015. RAFA Kirk Moore ~ Access to Flying Together, YBR gets a new look; choose your security questions.
- SA Travel #497 January 2016 ~ Hot off the press! The new Winter Pass Travel Newsletter from the Employee Travel Center!
- SA Travel #499 March 2016, RAFA Kirk Moore ~ Imputed Taxes (aka “Pass Tax Value”)
- SA Travel #504 August 2016, RAFA Kirk Moore ~ myUAdiscount tips, Trip Planning: Europe
- SA Travel #506 October 2016, RAFA Kirk Moore ~ Travel plan changes and refunds; Steps to request a refund on a pre-paid eTicket
- SA Travel #507 November 2016, RAFA Kirk Moore ~ Open Enrollments for retirees; United Pass Line is no longer automated; Other Airlines: Important notices
- SA Travel #509 January 2017, RAFA Kirk Moore ~ Register your Enrolled Friends for 2017; Reminder from the ETC: myUAdiscount and space-available

#### **Torgy’s Travel Tips:**

- ✓ Issue #479 December 2014 ~ ZED fare tickets, Signing on, Flight Schedule Query, Flight Schedule Display, Listing Changes:, Full flights, Refunds IDTravel:, THREE methods for buying standby tickets on Other Airlines.
- ✓ Issue #485 January 2015 ~ The Big Apple, New York City!
- ✓ Issue #487 March 2015 ~ Offline standby travel, ID90T.com, ID90Travel.com. , Caution - Do not sign in.
- ✓ Issue #489 May 2015 ~ Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex.
- ✓ Issue #491 July 2015 ~ “The Wizarding World of Harry Potter” at Universal Studios Florida.
- ✓ Issue #493 September 2015 ~ Drive Historic Route 66!
- ✓ Issue #495 November 2015 ~ Flight 93 National Memorial.
- ✓ Issue #497 January 2016 ~ Offline Travel Ticketing: Flyingtogether.ual.com>Travel. Open enrollment period; United.com app: Employee Profile; 20% off all food and beverage.
- ✓ Issue #499 March 2016 ~ Update Pass Riders & Buddies, Enrolled Friends.
- ✓ Issue #501 May 2016 ~ U.S. National Park Service.
- ✓ Issue #503 July 2016 ~ Xi’an Terra Cotta Warriors.
- ✓ Issue #505 September 2016 ~ Flying Together Travel banner, Employee Discounts for Travel, car rental discount codes.
- ✓ Issue #507 November 2016 ~ “Walked” England
- ✓ Issue #509 January 2017 ~Washington, D.C.

#### **Mileage Plus:**

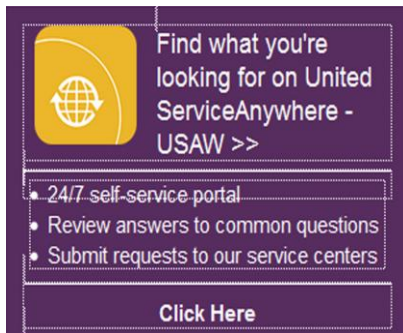
- Issue #487 March 2015 ~ United implements MileagePlus login change for added security
- Issue #505 September 2016 ~ MileagePlus makes it easier to book complex itineraries

#### **So Simple from Sheryl:**

- ❖ Issue #486 February 2015 ~ Kahlua Cake
- ❖ Issue #488 April 2015 ~ Fiesta Salsa
- ❖ Issue #490 June 2015 ~ Potato Chip Cookies
- ❖ Issue #492 August 2015 ~ Beer Can Chicken
- ❖ Issue #494 October 2015 ~ Ravioli with browned butter sauce:
- ❖ Issue #496 December 2015 ~ Sautéed Green Beans and Mushroom
- ❖ Issue #498 February 2016 ~ Sweet Cherry Crunch:
- ❖ Issue #500 April 2016 ~ Coca Cola Pork Chops
- ❖ Issue #502 June 2016 ~ Easy Key Lime Pie
- ❖ Issue #504 August 2016 ~ Cranberry BBQ Chicken

- ❖ Issue #506 October 2016 ~ Scalloped Corn
- ❖ Issue #508 December 2016 ~ Pumpkin Pecan Pie

## United ServiceAnywhere



United ServiceAnywhere (USAW) is a 24/7 online self-service portal. This new resource provides you with the ability to search for answers to commonly asked questions regarding travel, retiree badging and HR Policies via what are called “Knowledge Articles”. You can also request an action (which we refer to as “offerings”) from the employee service centers and view the status of the request online.

Access United ServiceAnywhere at [ess-usaw.ual.com](http://ess-usaw.ual.com) or by going to Flying Together > Employee Services > United ServiceAnywhere. USAW is also mobile friendly and can be accessed on your Smartphone or tablet Flying Together > HR Tools > United ServiceAnywhere.

***Got a Travel Question?*** You can now request actions/submit questions (called offerings) to the Employee Travel Team online through USAW. Once an offering is submitted, you will get a notification that the team received your request or question. This notification will be in the tool and you can monitor the status of your request under “your requests”. When your question or request is completed you will also get a notification informing you of the resolution.

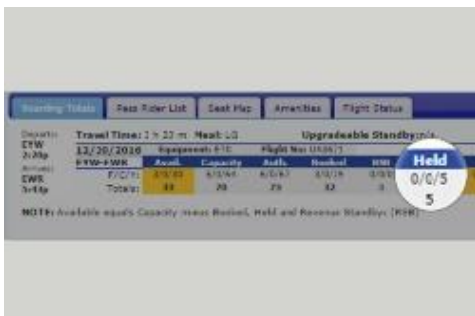
**United ServiceAnywhere**

Here is the list of offerings available in USAW:

- ❖ Dependent Management Question
- ❖ Employee RES Questions
- ❖ ePass Balance
- ❖ General Pass Travel Policy Question
- ❖ My UAdiscount
- ❖ Other Airline (OA) Leisure Travel
- ❖ Adjustments to Travel Tax
- ❖ Pass Travel Dependent Correction or Update
- ❖ Emergency Travel
- ❖ Pass Travel Charges

Access United ServiceAnywhere at [ess-usaw.ual.com](http://ess-usaw.ual.com) or by going to Flying Together > Employee Services > United ServiceAnywhere. USAW is also mobile friendly and can be access on your smartphone or tablet Flying Together > HR Tools > United ServiceAnywhere.

## Payload restrictions and EmployeeRes: What you should know



The winter travel season is upon us, and with that many more of us are looking to get away for a few days of sun and surf or maybe to hit the slopes and enjoy some fresh powder. Just remember to keep an eye on those held seats when figuring out which flights to catch.

Several factors drive the number of seats that are held on a given flight - aircraft range, airport placement and air conditions, among them - and the engineers in Technical Planning and Market Analysis (TPMA) assess each of those elements on critical flights when determining held seats.

The first factor, aircraft range, comes down to a simple matter of weight. Pushing an aircraft to its range limit means using more fuel, and every additional gallon of fuel equals a heavier plane. In those cases, empty seats are the only way to keep the aircraft below its weight limit.

Airport-related factors can be a little more complicated. Take ski markets, for instance; at high elevations, an aircraft's wings produce less lift. TPMA is also required to take worst-case scenarios, such as engine failure, into account when formulating weight projections, so the team looks at how light an aircraft needs to be to clear obstacles, such as mountain peaks, while down one engine. Airports with shorter runways, like the ones at JAC (Jackson Hole, Wyoming), for instance, also limit some of the aircrafts' ability to take off with heavier payloads.

Temperature, air pressure and wind can also contribute to lower payloads, which is why you might see the number of held seats increase during the winter for some routes and during the summer for others. Wind resistance from the jet stream causes more fuel burn and “longer air distance” during winter months, while hot departure temperatures reduce takeoff weight/payload on some markets in the summer, resulting in fewer passengers. SFO-SIN (Singapore), for example, has more held seats this time of year than in the summer thanks to the west-to-east jet stream over the Pacific Ocean during the wintertime.

Fortunately, when you check the boarding totals in EmployeeRes, held seat numbers are provided. While the amount of held seats on a particular flight is determined weeks in advance of its departure, conditions at the time of takeoff are ultimately the deciding factor on payload, so keep that in mind when looking at capacity versus booked passengers on your next trip.

### **United is investigating information security claims**



From time to time, IT security researchers who believe they’ve found security weaknesses in a company’s or industry’s computer systems will make a public statement. One such research firm, IOActive, issued a report claiming to have found vulnerabilities in Panasonic inflight entertainment systems that might allow a hacker to interfere with onboard displays or possibly access customers’ credit card information.

Panasonic said in a statement that it “*strenuously disagrees with any suggestion by IOActive that such an attack is possible, and calls upon IOActive to clarify that its research does not support any such inference,*” adding that the firm “*inappropriately mixed a discussion of hypothetical vulnerabilities inherent to all aircraft electronics systems with specific findings regarding Panasonic’s systems, creating a highly misleading impression that Panasonic’s systems have been found to be a source of insecurity to aircraft operation.*”

United takes all security matters very seriously and is working with the company’s technology partners, outside experts and the aviation community to carefully examine these claims. It’s important to note that the researchers have publicly acknowledged that there are safeguards in place to prevent using this purported security flaw to control the aircraft. United agrees with this and wish it had been included in their report.

United Airlines supports the responsible disclosure of potential security issues. In fact, United was the first airline to launch a bug bounty program, allowing the company to build relationships with leading researchers across the world to strengthen its digital security efforts. So, while United believes the likelihood of exploiting this vulnerability is low, the company will work to understand specifically which aircraft could be affected and will take any necessary steps to ensure its systems are protected.

### **So Simple From Sheryl**



I have not done a breakfast item for my column so I hope you will enjoy a change. You’ll find everything you want for breakfast ~ potatoes, eggs, cheese and ham in this wonderful casserole. It can be made the night before and kept in the refrigerator. I serve with fresh fruit and toast or sweet rolls.

#### **Breakfast Casserole:**

- 8 frozen hash brown patties
- 4 cups (16 ounces) shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 pound cubed fully cooked ham (2 cups)
- 7 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- ½ teaspoon salt

½ teaspoon ground mustard

Place hash brown patties in a single layer in a greased 13x9 inch baking dish. Sprinkle with cheese and ham. In a bowl, beat eggs, milk, salt and mustard. Pour over ham. Cover and bake at 350 for 1 hour. Uncover: bake 15 minutes longer or until edges are golden brown and a knife inserted near the center comes out clean. Serves 8.



## Flight 93 Memorial Chapel

*Donations to maintain the Flight 93 Memorial Chapel are still needed and greatly appreciated. Please continue your support and make a check to United Airlines Flight 93 Memorial Chapel and mail to **Dave Voit** at 507 Hunting Whip Road, Glen Mills, PA 19344-2223.*

### 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 [2ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:2ruaea@qwestoffice.net), please copy Francis Domaratius at [ruaeaneewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaeaneewsletter@surewest.net) and John Chu at [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com). If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd, Denver, CO 80207-2433. Please allow for postal delay. We cannot extend the deadline!

*Please note that all submitted articles are subject to editing and approval by the Newsletter Manager.* Once they are published in the RUAEA Newsletter, they

become the property of RUAEA. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me. My contact information is listed in the Newsletter.

**Francis Domaratius**

Newsletter Manager

[ruaeaneewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaeaneewsletter@surewest.net)

## LOCAL NEWS

### ARIZONA

#### PHOENIX AZURES

Lynn Cline  
Recording Secretary  
2690 North 162<sup>nd</sup> Lane  
Goodyear, AZ 85395  
(623) 444-9084  
[lynncline1@cox.net](mailto:lynncline1@cox.net)



Happy New Year from Arizona!

The Christmas party was a great success with 46 in attendance enjoying a wonderful plated luncheon and cocktails. Followed by a delicious dessert of New York style cheese cake with fruit topping. (Photo attached).

Somehow **Carole Brei** and her guest got lost on the way to the party but luckily found a very understanding police officer who personally escorted them to the event. He laughingly told us he only did so after checking that they had no outstanding warrants.

Our members then participated in a Chinese gift exchange with a lot of laughs as swapping and stealing of gifts took place throughout the game. **Ziggy Butkiewicz, Tom Heidecker, Marge Hinnners and Sally Illingworth** were our lucky 50/50 winners.

We heard a brief report from our Treasurer **Lonna Fischer** and the treasury is in good order.

President **Mike Richards** reported that the Azures have 65 active members and we welcomed two new couples this year. **Ron & Cheri Innis** and **Warren & Gail Allen**. Ron and Warren retired from IND. We are happy to have them and encourage anyone reading this from the West Valley area of PHX to join our group. Contact our membership secretary **Claudia Richards** @ [mccke2@zona.net](mailto:mccke2@zona.net) for info.

Happy Birthday to **Gail Allen** (2/1), **Vic Liltz**, (2/4), **Mildred Hofer** (2/11, **Ann Bergstrom** (2/21, and **Keith Steffen** (2/27).

Our next lunch meeting will be on January 20 at 11:00. Location ~ Eagle's Nest Country Club Restaurant at Pebble Creek, 3645 Clubhouse Drive, Goodyear, AZ 85395.

Breakfasts: Biweekly on Wednesday - (February dates are the 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>). Location: Tivoli Gardens, 12535 West Bell Road, Surprise, AZ; (623) 974-822. Time: 8:30am. Please RSVP to **Sherry Muoio** at (623) 572-4828.

 **PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S**  
Liz Tollefsen  
9034 E. Citrus Ln. N.  
Sun Lakes, AZ 85248  
(480) 895-2897  
[tedtolle@aol.com](mailto:tedtolle@aol.com)

We hope the New Year is starting out fine for each one of our members and will continue to be a good year for all. Each year seems to go by faster. I'm sure it doesn't have anything to do with our age! Our chapter has many good and fun things planned, so hopefully, we can get more people involved. If you haven't been attending any of our functions in awhile, or are new to the community, we would love to see you at our monthly breakfasts or luncheons. We are a friendly and caring group of retirees!

Our Fantasy Flight, held December 2<sup>nd</sup> at the airport, turned out just wonderful. There were over 120 elementary students, who were in kindergarten or first grade, from Step Up Elementary School, Mesa Arts Academy, and the LaMesita Homeless Shelter. They were invited to board a once in a lifetime Fantasy Flight to the North Pole. After the 20-30 minute flight, they returned to a separate gate decorated as "Santa's Winter Wonderland". The children enjoyed many games, food, and drinks, and they each received a special bag that included toys, blankets, shoes, socks, gloves and toiletries. What a fun time they had! Thanks go to all the volunteers who helped make this a very special day for the children! That's what Christmas is all about!

Our Re-United Christmas luncheon was held December 7<sup>th</sup> at the Palo Verde Country Club in Sun Lakes, hosted by **Pat & Buss Nicholaisen**, with 36 people attending. Thanks Pat and Buss for doing an excellent job setting up this luncheon. It's always a beautifully decorated Holiday luncheon. We were so happy to see **Lynn Hubbard**, who came down from Sedona, to attend the luncheon as she hasn't been able to come down for quite a while due to her husband, Bud, being ill and prior to his death last April. We hope to see her more often this year. We were also happy to see **Barb Paymaster** and **Nancy Luby** there, as we haven't seen them as much as we would like to. **Rita Zarek** brought her son, Bruce, and his wife, Chris, to the luncheon, which was very nice. We always enjoy having visitors.

One of our members, **Ginny Rockenhauser**, had a birthday that day, so we all sang Happy Birthday to her. President **Shirley Claggett** gave us a nice history lesson, being December 7<sup>th</sup> was Pearl Harbor Day. Shirley and Ron talked to our member, **Bob Irwin**, who is recuperating in the Chicago area, and he hopes to be able to return to his home in Mesa, AZ, early in the New Year. Shirley also told us that it's time to nominate anyone we want for officers in 2017. Shirley will appoint a Nominating Committee in our January meeting, and in our February meeting, the Nominating Committee will present a ballot of nominees for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. If you are interested in any of these offices, please let the committee know. It's nice to have changes and new ideas brought forward. Tickets were drawn for the many door prizes people brought to this luncheon. Everyone got a prize to take home. Our next luncheon will be held at the Stonebridge Manor in the Bistro Cafe in Mesa, hosted by **Cindy & Ferrol Hilsabeck** on January 18.

Our Breakfast in December was held on the 16<sup>th</sup>, with 24 people attending at the Black Bear Diner in Gilbert. One of our new members, **Barbara Tremonto**, told us about a recent flight she had where she read in the December Hemisphere magazine about an article, United's CEO, Oscar Munoz, wrote about the Fantasy



Flights that several airports host each December. Of course, we think ours is the best! Treasurers **Ferrol & Cindy Hilsabeck** gave us a treasurers and membership report, and reminded us to pay our \$5.00 dues, which needs to be paid no later than January 31<sup>st</sup>. You can give the money to them at one of our meetings or mail it to them at 2625 N. Hogan Ave, Mesa, AZ 85215. Be sure to let them know of any changes in your address, e-mail, or phone, as we need to have the correct information for the Membership Directory, which is printed before our April picnic, and distributed to each one of the members at that time. While we were at the breakfast, we recognized everyone who had a birthday or anniversary in December and January and wished them a great day. Everyone wished each other a very Merry Christmas, as we left the breakfast.

Our January luncheon at Stonebridge Manor Bistro on January 18 and our breakfast at the Black Bear Diner in Gilbert on January 27 will be reported on next month.

One of our newest members, **Barbara Tremonto**, broke her foot recently, and is recovering at home. If you would like to send her a get-well card, her address is 20321 N. Enchantment Pass, Maricopa, AZ 85138. I'm sure she can use some cheering up. Also, we recently heard that **Marjorie Matteson** is going through a serious health issue at this time, and I'm sure she would appreciate hearing from our members. Her address is 8711 E. Angus Dr., Scottsdale, AZ 85251.

Our luncheon in February will be at Mimi's, 2800 W. Chandler Blvd. in Chandler, on Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, hosted by **Donna Pedone** and **Dakota Morris-Terry**. Information about this luncheon was sent to everyone by the hostesses. We look forward to seeing everyone there plus any new faces, who want to join us. If you need any information about this luncheon, please contact **Donna Pedone** at (480) 821-8074, or by e-mail at [octobermoon10@yahoo.com](mailto:octobermoon10@yahoo.com), or **Dakota Morris-Terry** at (602) 920-7785, or by e-mail at [dctdmt03@cox.net](mailto:dctdmt03@cox.net).

Our February Breakfast will be Friday, February 24, starting at 9:15 a.m. at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline Rd. in Gilbert. Please let **Peg Snowdall** know whether you will be attending or not by Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Peg can be reached at (480) 396-3317 or by e-mail at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net).

We have the following February Birthdays for our members or their spouses: **Marilyn Morey** (2/8), **Ted Tollefsen** (2/10), **Gordy Kubiak** (2/11), **Bill Norwood** (2/14), **Dillon Terry** (2/16), and **Ann Carroll** (2/22). Happy Birthday to each of you! We have two couples celebrating Wedding Anniversaries: **Marjorie & Joel Matteson** (2/2/63), and **Judy & John McFarland** (2/8/64). Congratulations!

#### Calendar:

**February 9** – Luncheon at Mimi's, 2800 W. Chandler Blvd. in Chandler. Please see further information about this luncheon in a preceding paragraph above. Hosts are **Donna Pedone** and **Dakota Morris-Terry**.

**February 24** – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline Rd. in Gilbert, AZ, starting at 9:15 a.m. Please let **Peg Snowdall** know if you are coming.

**February 27** – Chicago Cubs/White Sox Spring Training game in Mesa, starting at 1:05 p.m. Contact **Ron Paluch** at (480) 354-7610, or by e-mail at [ripal96@yahoo.com](mailto:ripal96@yahoo.com), for further information.

**March** - All Arizona Luncheon ?

**March 24** – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner.

#### TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Tucson, Arizona

Doris Clark

[desertdoris@q.com](mailto:desertdoris@q.com)



There were 35 Roadrunners on hand to celebrate our Christmas lunch at the Oro Valley Country Club on Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. It was a beautiful sunny, but chilly Tucson day. Our former president and faithful member **Ed Kokot** was hospitalized in intensive care the day of the luncheon; he died the next day on December 9<sup>th</sup>. I also received an email the end of November from **Jinny Cable** saying **Clyde** had passed away suddenly on August 1<sup>st</sup>, and she doesn't plan on returning to the Tucson area.

President **Charli Nicholson** thanked **Pat DiLallo** for finding the new venue for our Christmas lunch, which was delicious. We had a private, festively decorated room which was enjoyed by all. **Chuck Cole** announced that there will be an annual convention in 2017, but the hotel and date have not been determined. The 50/50 drawing winners were **Gordon Starr** and **Jackie Benner**. A bottle of wine, donated for the drawing by **Roger & Lynn Callihan**, was won by **Larry Clark**. It was announced that the monthly luncheon host schedule for 2017 is complete.

The first luncheon in 2017 will be on January 19 at The Thunder Canyon Brewery in the Foothills Mall Located at 11:30 am hosted by **Doris & Larry Clark**. The restaurant is located on the east side of the mall near the Movie Theater. Please RSVP to **Doris Clark** at [desertdoris@q.com](mailto:desertdoris@q.com), by January 16.

February Luncheon ~ Tree Ring Lab Tour at University of Arizona followed by lunch at the Claim Jumper on Thursday, February 16, hosted by **Pat & Rich DiLallo**. Tour starts at 10:00 a.m. Check in time 9:45 a.m. The tour will begin in the main lobby of the Bryant Bannister Tree-Ring Building and will last about 1-1.5 hours. There is no fee for the tour. However, they do accept donations. All visitors are advised to allow for extra time to access campus and parking. The closest parking is in the Sixth Street garage, which is adjacent to the building. A map and directions may be found here <http://lrr.arizona.edu/map>. The parking garage is on 6th Street East of 1<sup>st</sup>/Park (1<sup>st</sup> Ave. turns into Park) and West of Campbell Ave. Lunch time 11:30 - 11:45 depending on the length of the tour at Claim Jumpers Restaurant (we will order off the menu), 3761 E. Broadway (If you get to Alvernon Way, you went too far.) Please contact **Pat Di Lallo** no later than February 10<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions call Pat or Rich at the number above. Let her know whether you are going on Tour only, Tour and lunch or Just lunch

January Anniversaries ~ **Bonnie & Bill Royal** (1/28/1978).

January Birthdays ~ **Carolyn McGlothlin** (1/9), **Marcy Degan** (1/20), **Emmett Doyle** (1/14), **Alice Lopez** (1/20), **Merit Merland** (1/25), **Ron Robertson** (1/31).

I wish everyone a Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year.

## 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 Christmas luncheon was held at the Spyglass Restaurant in Pismo Beach with 12 members attending. Order in the picture from L to R: **John Wessel**, **Al & Marilyn Rybar**, **Ken & Stella Bake**, **Bob & Esther Bartlett**, **Mike & Bridget Zoldak**, **Bob & Marcia Stanger**, and **Nina Powers**. We missed **Jack Cunningham**. At the last minute he had a visitor and was unable to attend. **Joan & Peter Schaefer** had a doctor's appointment. That pretty well sums up our current membership.

It was agreed on that the present Board remain for next year.

President **Mike Zoldak** opened our meeting and since this was our gift exchange, he held the business section short. The main item was the hosts for next year's meetings. We also agreed on our Christmas donation to the Toys 4 Tots and Wounded Warriors program. The usual dues for 2017 was also collected.

As Secretary, I had received a Christmas card from our new Director for S. Cal. **Claudia Blancett**. In her card she introduced herself and will try and make some of our meetings in the future.

**Esther Bartlett** put out very nice table treats again. She had also put out battery operated candles that **John Stilwell** had gotten after Christmas last year. This was a very nice touch to our tables and also a remembrance of John.

Our next meeting will be on February 15, hosted by **Esther & Bob Bartlett**.

## DESERT SUNBIRDS

Palm Springs Area  
Chuck Lamas  
P.O. Box 149  
Palm Desert, CA 92261  
(760) 772-5960  
[chucklamas@gmail.com](mailto:chucklamas@gmail.com)



The Desert Sunbirds returned to the Monterey Country Club for our December Christmas Luncheon. Our Hostess, **Patti Sica**, was ably assisted by **Carole Paquin**, **Gay Traber**, **Elaine Aggson**, and others, I'm sure.

Fifty Sunbirds and three guests enjoyed a traditional Turkey Dinner, with all the trimmings - my favorite, and many others too.

Our guests were **Paul & Judy Mallory**, guests of the **Brunkens**, and **Tom Wheaton**, guest of **Doreen Roberts**.

The Luncheon was on December 7<sup>th</sup>, so President Mike started off with a moment of silence.

Once again **Carole Paquin** spearheaded our Christmas project, toys for the children of the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission. And we did it again! Lots of toys for the kids. A big hand for Carole and her helpers!

**Bill & Lia Schultz** missed the Luncheon, as they were in Germany, celebrating at the "Christmas Market". But **Merv Myers** was present. (Guess he thought it was May). Merv usually attends the May Luncheon, where he has won the Birthday Lunch a few times.

On the Health front ~ **Mary Butler** has informed us that, due to health problems, she will not be able to attend any further Luncheons. **Jim Rotella** was also missing, as he was scheduled for heart surgery due to heavy blockage and calcified arteries. As if that wasn't enough, it's possible he was looking at two or three surgeries to save his kidneys. Mary & Jim, you know that you will be in our prayers.

**Marianne Patterson** and **Sherylle Delaney** each won \$50.00 in our 50/50 drawing. The Birthday Lunch was won by **John Schultz**. Finally, everyone in attendance won a gift (using our raffle tickets), supplied by the Chapter Treasury, and a few of the members.

Our featured Sunbird of the month ~ **Dede Utzinger**. Dede grew up in Los Angeles, majoring in Spanish in High School and College. In 1965, at 20 years of age, Dede planned to set the world on fire by being the best bi-lingual Stewardess ever ... until the UAL Employment Office measured her, and found that she was 1/4 inches too short. However, they were impressed with her secretarial skills, and offered her a job in LAXRR as a Secretary. Two years later, she transferred to LGAFO.

In 1969 Dede, now married to an Employment Representative, **Bob Campbell**, got transferred (along with her husband); Dede to LGAFO as a Secretary; Bob to JFK as a Personnel Rep. Two years later, Dede transferred to LAXTR. She remained there until 1984. Her three bosses were **Fred Ireland**, **Rod Strickland**, and **Elaine Aggson**.

Dede then transferred to Apollo Services. Two years later, she transferred to LAXFO, where she remained until her retirement in 2000.

During her career, Dede found a thrill in writing, editing, and proofreading letters to passengers, Company Reports, newsletters, and magazine articles. As a 16 year Retiree, she still edits, rewrites, and helps people write their books.

In her 35 year career, Dede enjoyed working with the Mainliner Club which included picnics, Children's Christmas Parties, Mystery Parties, Golf Tournaments, and Fantasy Flights.

A word about the Golf Tournament ~ Dede began working the Los Angeles Mainliner Golf Tournament, (the "Patterson") in 1966; began "running" it in 1980. Her husband, **John Utzinger**, whom she married in 1984, also helped at the "check-in desk". I might add, I had the privilege of playing in the Tournament in their foursome for many years.

Dede still works the Tournament, but restricts her participation to sending flyers, filling the foursomes, and check-in. Now the Mainliner Club does the rest.

Dede says, *"I can honestly say my career with United was the Best. I was fulfilled, and truly enjoyed my fellow employees. On the passing of my husband in 2006, I lived in my motor home for 7 years, seeing the sights normally enjoyed from above. I have reconnected with a High School sweetheart who now travels with me. My life has been great - friends, family, United, reading, swimming, Hawaii every year, and most of all ... being happy!"*





## GOLD DIGGERS

Sacramento, CA  
Terry Greenacre, Secretary  
1976 Monterey Pines Dr.  
Roseville, CA 95747  
(916) 786-6143  
[terpengre@surewest.net](mailto:terpengre@surewest.net)

The Sacramento Gold Diggers held their annual Christmas Luncheon early in December as reported in the January newsletter. As we begin a new year, our officer's for 2017 are: President ~ **Ed Rheam**, Vice President ~ **Ken Norton**, Secretary ~ **Rose Rheam**, Treasurer ~ **Judie King**, Sunshine Person ~ **Angie Dellinger**, Historian ~ **Stephanie Norton**, and Roster Keeper ~ **Jack Raynor**.

The Gold Diggers meet monthly for lunch on the last Wednesday of the month except December which is usually the first Wednesday. There is no meeting in September, the RUAEA Convention month, or November because of Thanksgiving. Our first meeting in 2017 will be on January 25<sup>th</sup> at Awful Annies' in Auburn and will be hosted by **Ray & Lorna Andrejewski**.

It's time to pay your Gold Digger dues for 2017. If you haven't already done so, please send your \$10.00 check to our treasurer **Judie King** at 11886 Heather Lane, Grass Valley, CA 95949.

We received the sad news that **Velma Stough**, one of our long time members, passed away on December 17, 2016. A service will be sometime in March in Southern California, details will be available at a later date. Velma and her husband Mike had long careers with United Airlines and, after retiring from SFO Maintenance Base, moved to Colfax where they were very active in the Sacramento Gold Diggers. In recent years Velma moved to Sequim, WA to be near a daughter and was dearly missed by the Gold Diggers. But, many kept in touch and **Angie Dellinger** sent Velma a Christmas card after our Christmas Luncheon to let her know that she was in our thoughts. One of the things I learned from Velma was that one of her jobs at the Maintenance Base was to prepare the ug100's for all of the many employees that transferred from Cheyenne to San Francisco in 1948. All of us have very fond memories of Velma.

It's that time of the year to make some New Year resolutions. If you need some help, here are a few ideas;

- ✓ Host a luncheon. Call **Ken Norton** to pick your choice of the open dates. And here's an idea that may help some of you. Find someone else to co-host the meeting if you need some assistance.
- ✓ Submit a Letter to the RUAEA Newsletter telling about your experience working at United. I know that many of you have some real tall stories to tell.
- ✓ Notify the Nominating Committee (last three Presidents) of your interest in serving as an officer.
- ✓ Recruit a new Gold Digger or RUAEA member.
- ✓ And finally, let's do a better job of welcoming our newer members. We tend to stick to our close group of friends at our luncheons. Introduce yourself and share a table with a new friend.

As outgoing Secretary, I want to thank all of the Gold Diggers for their help during the year. Happy New Year! I hope to see everyone at Awful Annies' in Auburn on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

## HANGTOWN MINERS

Jane Gibson  
[tired-dogs@comcast.net](mailto:tired-dogs@comcast.net)



Greetings to all of you! No doubt you are scrambling to get all those "last minute" details finished before your "gang" arrives. Or, maybe you are the ones doing the traveling! Hope you're already where you want to be!

**Rudy Blazius**, who has been our esteemed president for the past 4 years and who organized our December luncheon, welcomed everyone to our last get together for 2016. How could we possibly be at the end of yet another year?

But we are! Once again we had wonderful places to get together, talk, eat, laugh, gripe (?) and just enjoy the company of friends. Sadly, we have lost a few of our members this year. We had to say “Good Bye” to **Andi Stuchell**, **Mary Buschman** and **Judie Leimer**. All wonderful ladies who are missed.



Rudy “passed the baton” to **Bill Gibson** who will serve as president for 2017. I do believe I saw a look of glee on Rudy’s face as he handed over the “faux leather” briefcase! Rudy, I know I speak for everyone when I say a heartfelt “Thank You” for leading our crazy group – we didn’t even get lost! **Bill Dinette** was not able to be with us, but **Rosemary Heier** will serve as Vice President with **Thom Biro** taking over the Historian role from **Lynda Lima**. “Thank You” goes to each of you too. Pictured from L to R: **Thom Biro** (Historian); **Rosemary Heier** (Vice President); **Suzanne Kenny** (Sunshine); **Tom Kenny** (Treasurer); **Jane Gibson** (Secretary); **Bill**

**Gibson** (President).

Even though we do not have a “formal” meeting in December, **Tom Kenny**, our ongoing Treasurer, was able to join us and did give me a monthly report. Tom also gave me an update on who has paid their annual dues for 2017. Only about one third of our members have already paid the \$10.00 dues. January is the month when you need to send in or bring to that luncheon your annual dues. Please don’t forget!



### **REDWOOD EMPIRE** **RETIREES**

Santa Rosa, California  
Mary Wilson, Secretary  
3623 Aaron Dr.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
[marywilson333@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marywilson333@sbcglobal.net)

On December 8, the RER membership met for our end of year Holiday luncheon at the La Gare Restaurant in Santa Rosa. It was hosted by all the officers, and we had a good turn-out of a total of 39, including 7 guests. The tables were decorated with festively-wrapped wine bottles by **Barbara Underhill**, intended to be raffled off at the end of our luncheon, and also we had a few poinsettia plants donated for the tables, also to be raffled off. We all brought one or two unwrapped toys to be given to a variety of toy drive collection sites around Sonoma County; several people volunteered to deliver them to those locations. The toy donation table was an impressive sight of selfless outpouring!

Our menu for the luncheon, was a lovely butter lettuce salad with a light dressing, followed by the La Gare’s wonderful mushroom soup and choices of Marco Polo chicken, a Salmon dish, Pork Schnitzel, and a vegetarian dish. We all had a good time greeting and wishing each other a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. Vice President **Jerry Underhill** announced among the seven guests were **Beth Pitchford** and **Lynn and Cassil**, guests of **Barney & Clare Hagen**; **Shirley & Sam Anderson**, guests of **Maddy McKinnis**; **Pat Stokes**, guest of **Jan Blackburn**; and **Jill & Mark Schratz**, invited to be with us to witness the honoring of Jill’s father, **Oscar Chambers**, who passed away this year, with a donation from our Charity Fund to the Marin Humane Society, which was his favorite place to donate his time visiting and taking some the dogs there for a walk on a weekly basis. The other three recipients to honor the members whom we lost this year, were North County Hospice, in memory of **Nick van Kruining**; Becoming Independent in Santa Rosa, in memory of **Naomi Tolf**; and Orbis – The Flying Eye Hospital, in honor of **Brandon Maus**.

RUAEA Western Regional Director **Roger Casterline** shared with us about the 2016 RUAEA convention in Seattle, which he said was successful; Roger went to the Space Needle, and the Boeing Air Museum. He said that it is reported that UAL CEO, Oscar Munoz, has been making strides to settle all union contracts with employees, to have better relationships with management and the workers and allow good job satisfaction!

**Barney Hagen**, Travel Pass Expert, reminded us to arrange to sign up friends and family now in December for discounted buddy passes.

The treasurer’s report was brought to us by Treasurer **Valerie Hulsey**. She said that we ended the year in a very positive balance of over \$1600.00 in the General and the Charity accounts. We dispensed \$200.00 to each of our designated charities listed above from our charity account and still had some left! We awarded Valerie with a nice bottle of Korbel’s Champagne for all her hard work for us this last year. We also awarded **Jerry & Barbara Underhill** a nice bottle of wine for hosting luncheons and buying and bringing the fine wines for our

raffle each month; they also keep track of the numbers of members and guests attending the luncheons each month!

Sunshine Lady **Verda Burr** was back with us from visiting her family in the Atlanta area. She shared about a cruise she and her younger son took a couple of months ago in the Baltic Sea. She talked about her impressions of the history of the Baltic States. She then read the December birthdays: **Lee Beery, Mary Hill, Dorothy Ochoa, Kathy Staples** and me. The one anniversary for December was **Carol & Richard Hanna**, 56 years; the free birthday luncheon was won by me ... wow! Verda also blessed us with a great joke for all to enjoy. **Doug Saunders** and **Don Edwards** also wanted to share some jokes that they had prepared, making it a merrier time together!

While we enjoyed the special mousse cake dessert prepared for us by Chef Roger, we held the raffle for the centerpiece wines and the poinsettia plants on the table, as well as the See's candies, faithfully brought by **Ron & Joanne Huhn** as they have each month all year!

**Larry Wilson** encouraged everyone to consider hosting a luncheon in the 2017 New Year; we passed around the list of the dates and restaurants where the luncheons will be held. The volunteer members took a number of the donated toys to three destinations around the county. Larry also asked if we would continue to remember to give to the Charity box on our way out! We all wished each other a very warm holiday season and a Happy New Year as we closed our great end of year holiday luncheon!

The next luncheon will be back at the La Gare restaurant on January 12, 2017, hosted by **Jan Blackburn** and **Valerie Hulsey**. See you all there; wishing you have enjoyed your Christmas or Hanukkah celebrations with family and look forward to seeing us all back together in the New Year.

### RE-LAX-ERS

Donna Klobe  
4058 Alla Rd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90066  
(310) 306-7415



Wonderful greetings to all for the New Year from the Re-LAX-er group!

A few days before Christmas brought a welcome note from friends of **Barbara Smith**, with a new address and greetings. Reply to her at 1945 Cragmont St., Madison, IN 47250.

**Peter Schuster** is still recovering from heart surgery, but perky as ever and happy to return soon. **Frankie Tschirhart** advised her husband, **Al** is not doing well. Remember him in your prayers.

Happy holidays greeting came from **Linda & Richard Smith** from the ReSANS group. **Mardele Celestin** hopes to visit us next year on a visit from Florida. Happy Holidays came from **Roxanne Francesconi** who lives far away in Flat Creek, Tennessee. **Phyllis & Tom Easley** send love and pictures from snowy Pennsylvania and hope to visit us in 2017. Phyllis missed the convention in Seattle due to heart problems, and we missed her.

**Sylvia Allen** sent a reminder to friends to watch for another birthday party coming in April 2017. Sweet thoughts to all from **Laly Savoy**, who is still working and not able to visit with us. Our dear **Olga Jean Barnes** visited the hospital again over the New Year, she's now at home with more in-home care and oxygen to make life a happier place. We send love and pray for a better New Year.



### RESANS

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

We are getting a good start on 2017 although it did rain; we had twenty brave souls drive in to attend our breakfast. **Bob & Helen Grissom** joined us. They are visiting their son and flew in from Minnesota. Bob wore an Aloha shirt and thought it was hot in San Diego. I guess they have acclimated to the Midwest weather. They both looked well.

**Ray Wood** was the winner of the 50/50 raffle and a door prize to the Brigantine was won by **Mary & Ralph Hernandez**.



**Maria & Arnie Pollack** spent the Holidays in New York City and are planning to leave on a Caribbean Cruise. Maria is also planning to go zip lining. If she has as much fun as I did, she will definitely want to do it again.

Our Christmas Lunch at Hunter's Steak House was well attended and everyone had a great time. Although we are getting a bit crowded, everyone likes it there and as long as they are willing to squeeze us in, we will most likely return next year.

The United Mainliner Club, the employees at the airport joined us for our Toys for Tots Drive that we do every year at our lunch. We were so pleased to have them participate and we thank them for their contributions.

I am making a correction to the January newsletter. I referred to **Arlene Nicholson Roberts** erroneously as **Arlene Richardson Roberts**. We were all so glad to see her at our Christmas lunch to celebrate her birthday with us. I hope this is the last time she has to correct me.

Please come and join us if you are going to be in San Diego.

#### Calendar:

**February 2** - Pt Loma Café, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA. 92106 -2394, (619) 226-0255.

#### GOLDEN GATERS

SFO – Bay Area  
Ginger Dahlberg  
821 Magellan Lane  
Foster City, CA 94404  
(650) 224-1865  
[gingersfo@aol.com](mailto:gingersfo@aol.com)



Hear Ye! Hear Ye! 2017 will come to order sez President **Vera Kina**.

Another notch in our belt – we're coming up on 55 years in existence sez Historian **Jim Goodwine**.

Please pay your dues, \$12.00 per person, pleads our Treasurer **Art Barrett**.

Pereginations with Travel Coordinator **Ginger Dahlberg** – fun trips and more!

You all stay well – Membership Secretary **Barbara Underhill** will tally birthdays & anniversaries.

Now's the time to pay your dues so that Secretary (Pro-Tem) **Ginger D.** can produce a current roster.

Everyone wonders how old Auditor **Ben Vietz** will be this year – we will audit and fine him if he lies!

Worry not - Auditor **Gene Walter** will steer us away from the IRS.

Yes! sez **Dorothy Reuszer**, Auditor, a budget is eminent (our Prez will send a copy to USA Congress!)

Eagerly accepting funds for raffles ... food & toys for year-end donations, **Harriet Kunze**, Ticket Sales

All of us wish you good health, winning Lottery #'s, - and Dr.s' advise: Hydrate, and don't fall!

Remember come join us if you are in town, all United and Continental retirees are welcome -- we meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at 11:00am at the William Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd., (Shell Blvd. and East Hillsdale Blvd.) Foster City, CA 94404. Our mailing address: UAL-SFO Bay Area Retirees, P.O. Box 4788, Foster City, CA 94404.



#### SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

San Jose, CA

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

Robin Garland

1917 Farndon Ave.

Los Altos, CA 94024

(650) 969-9530

[robin\\_garland@yahoo.com](mailto:robin_garland@yahoo.com)

Our Christmas Luncheon on December 13 had 90 people attending this festive event. Mariani's Restaurant buffet was delectable and entertainment by the Peninsula Banjo Band was fun and cheery. Others joined us from nearby chapters and many members invited family and friends to join us for this memorable time together. President **George Midwin** announced the 2017 Chapter Officers with **Boyd Sweet** as President, **Bob Devlin** as VP, with others continuing on in their respective roles. Guest **Doug Jones** did another marvelous job as our

Master of Ceremonies raffling off baked goods (spreading the joy by purchasing two of **Cheri Scales** cakes for \$100 each!) and announcing the winners of over 70 raffle prizes donated by various members of our chapter. We had another successful Toys for Tots toy drive with many contributions. Thank you one and all for your generosity! A huge thank you to **Cheri Scales** again for your vision and inspiration in carrying on this holiday tradition. You're the best!

On a sad note we said goodbye to two of our members in December. **Geneva Schaller** passed on December 7 (Pearl Harbor Day). Several from our chapter attended her memorial service and discovered that she had been a WWII war bride. **Barbara Demblewski**, wife of **Ken Demblewski**, also passed away after struggling with health issues for some time. They had been married for 46 years. Our condolences and prayers for comfort go out to both families.

This year I've asked for stories from our members about their experiences working at United. This month's contribution is from **George Midwin**. He tells about his first day as a new hire at United. *"I was so excited and extremely nervous to begin working for United, having this as a goal for many years. My first day was to be on graveyard shift and I was told to report to a foreman in his office above the aircraft hangers. After looking at every office door name tag, I finally located him at a desk among a sea of desks. He was busy working on some papers and smoking so I stood quietly until he addressed me by saying, "What do you want?" I responded that I was a new hire and this was my first day. He simply said to report to the hangar planning office lead. No welcome to United, no let me introduce myself, no let me show you around, no nothing. My excitement was squashed and my nervousness increased. So I find my way to the hangar and find the lead. Since this was my first day he assigned me to work with a mechanic with over 25 years of experience. My nervousness peaked at this point and I thought, "Oh my, I hope I don't screw up." We were assigned to install a new, shiny aluminum floor panel in the forward cargo hull of a 737 jet. Holy cow! This panel was nearly eight feet long by four feet wide and had hundreds of predrilled holes for screws to secure it to the aircraft structure. After carefully maneuvering the panel into the aircraft he explained to me how to use a powered screwdriver with preset torque to install the screws. He then went to one end and I on the other. As I began to install the screws, I noted the holes in the panel were not completely aligned with the holes in the structure, so I struggled to install the screws. The mechanic noted my issue and demonstrated to me how to use the drill to slightly elongate the holes to improve the alignment. After doing this on just a few holes, I saw that nearly all of the holes in the panel were not aligned. So, I swallowed my pride and said to the mechanic, "Do you think the panel may not be installed in the proper direction?" After some quibbling we removed the screws we had installed and rotated the panel. Once set in place all the holes in the panel lined up with the holes in the structure! My nervousness immediately dropped several levels and I thought, if an experienced mechanic was going to approach this task this way, I certainly would be okay. Welcome to United!"*

We meet every Friday at Holder's Country Inn on DeAnza Blvd. in San Jose across from Home Depot. Breakfast is at 8am with a short meeting following at 9am. Please join us.

### **SAN JOAQUINERS**

Stockton, California  
Barbara Edkin  
1616 Sapphire Dr  
Livingston, CA 95334-9486  
(209) 394-1770  
[aedkin@gvni.com](mailto:aedkin@gvni.com)



In December we met at the Fruit Yard restaurant in Modesto, in a lovely large meeting room. The food was excellent, as was the company. The Board supplied the hostess/host duties, and opened with President **Bob Scoble** leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance, and member Pastor **Ginger Dumars** offering the Invocation for the gathering of old friends, for the food we were to receive, and the upcoming Holiday season.

Our usual humorist, **Don Nesja**, offered a couple of jokes, one sending our waiter into the kitchen laughing and trying to hide it.

President Bob shared the ongoing efforts to recruit new members, but suggested that word of mouth to friends and acquaintances from UA might be the most effective method, and suggested we all talk to those we know in the area and invite them to a meeting. Apparently rumor has it that there will be many new retirees in the near future, so keep your ears open for retirement announcements or party invitations.

**Barbara Edkin** was welcomed back after being absent for quite a while due to medical problems. Her husband, **Ace Edkin** is still not able to make meetings, but we are holding out hope for the future. We welcomed a guest, **Ingrid Grinner** and she seemed to enjoy the group.

A new contract was accepted by the mechanics at UA, and because the vote was so close (51% to 49%) suggesting an increase in unhappy workers retiring.

**Hans Weber** reported on the cost of medicine thru the VA vs Medicare, and discussed qualifying for VA benefits.

**Rosie Walls** told us the Minden Nevada UA Mechanics Bar B Que is scheduled for June 20-24, 2017.

**Rudy Reyna** submitted the Treasurer's report indicating an ending balance of over \$700.00. Treasurer Rudy presented a list of the five non-profits we donated to last year, and the group agreed to send \$100.00 to each in the name of our group. The five are the Emergency Food Bank in San Joaquin County; Interfaith Community Social Services in Toulumne County; Interfaith Food Bank in Amador County; The Resource Connection Food Bank in Calaveras County; and the Salvation Army in Stanislaus County. We are very proud of being able to contribute to needy organizations in each of our counties.

President Bob said that **Donald Herman** may have passed away recently and asked if anyone has newer information about him. Also, has anyone kept in touch with **Dick Frazier**? **Nancy Buddington** was unable to attend due to a medical problem and **Guy Hoffman** is trying to care for his own physical problems along with **Nancy's** declining state.

December birthdays are **Mel Oberg** and **Carol Ann Valdez**. December anniversaries are **Bob & Sandy Brooks** (59 years!)

President Bob closed the meeting wishing all Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year, and reminding us that we are "dark" (no meeting) in January, so our next meeting will be February 9, 2017.

We would like to issue an open invitation to anyone living/visiting in our area to join us. We meet for lunch the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month (our next meeting is Thursday, February 9, 2017, but, since we meet at various places, you can call our President, **Bob Scoble** at (209) 626-5308 for information.



#### **EAST BAY DIABLOS**

Contra Costa County

Diane Griego

1634 Nuala Street

Concord, CA 94518

(925) 676-6097

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

Our annual Christmas banquet and Toys for Tots Drive took place on December 12<sup>th</sup> with 38 in attendance. It was held at Zio Fraedos in Pleasant Hill. We enjoyed a special Christmas repast featuring their outstanding Prime Rib, Chicken Cordon Bleu or Salmon. Our new Cashier and Greeter, **Wilma Leather** did a wonderful job welcoming everyone and collecting money. **Jan Soderstrom** assisted Wilma. Our thanks to both ladies. **Jo Payne's** regular 50/50 drawing was expanded by many donated door prizes for the happy winners. Our thanks also to **Carol Parks** who brought Christmas sweets for all, even though she was not feeling well. Her Christmas outfit with blinking colored lights made us all smile.

Next month we will return to the Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord.

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

- February 13 – Old Spaghetti Factory
- March 13 – El Tapatio
- April 10 – TBA
- May 8 – TBA
- June 12 – Annual Picnic – Manny and Diane's home



## CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS

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



The Northstaters started this holiday season with a wonderful Christmas party. The rain held off and we had a delightful time at **John & Linda Delaney's** home. Beautiful decorations, great food and a wonderful group of 26 retirees and spouses enjoyed the day. **John & Chris Isbell** brought a tasty ham to share and everyone brought a side dish and desserts. President **Merritt Odor** thanked John & Linda for inviting us to their home.

Merritt asked if there were any birthdays or anniversaries in December. A rousing Happy Birthday song was sung to **Phyllis Burdick**. **Kay & Vincent Neidlinger** celebrated an anniversary.

Merritt reminded everyone that our dues for the group are due at the January meeting.

The party was held on December 7<sup>th</sup> and it truly was an honor to have one of our retirees, **Ray Herrick**, give a presentation on his younger years in Hawaii when Pearl Harbor took place. Ray was about 4 years of age and even remembers the planes flying over the mountains. He spoke about his grandfather and father's military service. He brought a picture of an airplane, a 1938 Lockheed single engine aircraft, and this led to lots of discussion concerning the usage and memories of this type of plane. Such great memories he shared and everyone really was moved by his experiences.

**Klaren Odor** could not make the luncheon but she wrote a wonderful Christmas story and the members played a great game to exchange gifts. Lots of laughs and surprises were had by all.

The 50/50 raffle was won by **Vreny Gruhdherr** and the \$15.00 gift certificate was won by **Hal Burdick**.

The next meeting will be held at the Italian Cottage in Chico, CA. **Billie Jorgensen** volunteered to set up the meeting place. **Sharon Simonton** invited our new Northern California Regional director, **Sonda Sandstedt** to any of our meetings and we look forward to meeting her.

### Calendar:

**January 25** - Wednesday at 11:30 AM at Italian Cottage, Chico, CA. Hope to see you there.

## COLORADO



### DENVER MILE HIGHERS

Bob Duensing  
(303) 457 3917  
[Rd5280@hotmail.com](mailto:Rd5280@hotmail.com)

The Christmas luncheon was attended by 42 people. Once again, The Holiday Inn staff did an excellent job of catering this event. The food was excellent as was the wait staff. It was good seeing old friends and co-workers. There was a drawing held near the end of the event. Gift cards were presented to **Marilyn Hansen**, **Frank & Cathy Engert**, **Fred & Virginia Rupp** and **Antoinette Duensing**. The door prize winner was **Bob Duensing**. If I have missed some of the recipients, I apologize.

The December breakfast was attended by 28 members. The 50/50 winners that returned their winnings to the chapter were **Gene Sibley** (DENMM), **Matt Ohr** (DENMM), and **Don Rogers** (DENTK). The 50/50 drawing along with the sale of aluminum cans helps support the chapter since this chapter does not collect dues.

President **Don Burbank** opened the meeting by reading the minutes of the December meeting. Ted's place, a neighborhood pub was voted to be the future meeting place beginning in March. Ted's Place is located at 5271 E. 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Commerce City, CO. The February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting will still be held at the TK cafeteria. Don noted that the Caremark/Silverscript problems that occur at certain locations and not others are still being investigated. UAL Mechanics have ratified a new contract. Don is almost the sole Liaison for contact with HR. A new service for employees/retirees is now available. It is called United Service Anywhere and it is accessible through FlyingTogether or by using [ess-usaw.ual.com](http://ess-usaw.ual.com). Information such as; pass balance, UA discount, other airline travel and much more is available. Computer literacy is required for this service as will all

communications with the company eventually. Don noted that a treasurer volunteer is still needed to take **Marilyn Hansen's** place. There was some discussion of retiree badges.

RUAEA President **Virgil Gooselaw** announced that the hotel for the 2017 convention that was announced last month has been cancelled because there are no ground floor rooms available. New arrangements are being made with the Palace Hotel & Casino. More details will appear in the June issue of the RUAEA Newsletter. Virgil reiterated how important computer skills are becoming.

**Don Burbank** travelled to Ireland on 20% discount tickets. That saved him from missing flights in Dublin and Dulles. He noted Ireland's weather is similar to Seattle (very green and frequent rain). **Marilyn Hansen** (DENCG) has booked a Caribbean cruise with balcony accommodations for \$500 for five days.

**Mary Lou Mims** (DENRS) has moved into a rehab center following her stroke. Cards may be sent to her at Life Care of Aurora, 14101 E. Evans, Room 262, Aurora, CO 80014, (720) 219-3980.

**Velta Eikerts** passed away on 9/16/2016, wife of **John Eikerts**, (DENTK) (deceased), cards can be sent to family at 1532 S. Leyden St., Denver, CO 80224.

**Waldo A. Roybal** (DENAF) passed away on 11/29/16. He is survived by his wife Yvonne. Waldo was 85.

**Leslie N. Bullas** (DENKR) passed away on 10/19/16. He is survived by his wife, Joan. Cards can be sent to Joan Bullas at 2209 Cebolla Creek Way, Albuquerque, NM 87120. Leslie was 90.

**Barbara Katherine Earl (Caskey)** (DENRRUA) passed away Monday, 10/19/16. Cards to her family can be sent to 2321 Iola St., Aurora, CO 80010. Barbara was 86.

**George Bellopatrick, Jr.** (DENMM) passed away on 12/26/16. George was a maintenance foreman and retired with 31 years of service. George is survived by his wife, Beverly Bellopatrick. Cards can be sent to Laura Bellepatrick 18221 E Union Dr. Aurora, CO 80015. George was 80.

**John Williams**, a member of the greatest generation, left us on 12/31/16. John was a B24 pilot and flew 30 missions over France and Germany in WWII. John worked as an R&E at DENMM and retired as a Technical Support Mgr. at DENTK in 1986. In 2013, John was awarded the French Legion of Honor medal for his service in helping free France in WWII. John was 95. John is survived by his wife Irene. Cards can be sent to: Irene Williams 1050 W. 112<sup>th</sup> Ave. Unit 104 Northglenn, CO 80234.

**Dick Niebels** (DENCS) passed away on 12/31. A Masonic ceremony is planned for a later date.

Keep in mind, the next RUAEA Breakfast Meeting will continue to be held at the DENTK Cafeteria on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>.

## FLORIDA

### SAND"DABS"

Daytona Beach, FL  
Gloria Marcantoni  
644 Donald Ross Way  
St. Augustine, FL 32092  
(904) 940-9908  
[ddmgm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ddmgm@sbcglobal.net)



It's still hard to get used to a 74 degree day in January but we're all grateful for the perfect 10 today! So it was fitting that 10 folks came out for our first meeting of 2017. Some of those missing were traveling and some were under the weather. **Emily Veracka** is recuperating from a mild stroke and **Juanita Ritt** just had knee surgery. We wish them and the others a speedy recovery.

President **Dick Coughlin** passed out an updated roster of our members. Thanks Dick for putting this together!

Celebrations today included birthday wishes for Vice President **Steve Moddle** and anniversary congratulations to **Dick Coughlin**. It was 51 years ago he joined United!

Our 50/50 drawing was won by **Bill Lowry**. Treasurer **Penny Logan** was absent but she reported that she sent out donations to the charities we selected.

**Lillian Moddle** shared a local article that is touching and something we each may like to consider. The New Smyrna Beach Foster children's group is asking for donations of luggage to be given to the foster children for their belongings. Often all they have is a garbage bag and that is sad to say the least. If anyone would like to donate a suitcase, bring it to our next meeting and Lillian & Steve will make sure they get to the proper person. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

**Frieda Coughlin** told us about letters she and Dick have gotten from Caremark/CVS/Silver Scripts denying coverage on medications they have been prescribed in the past and have been getting for some time. She offered some suggestions and after her research she was successful in getting these medications. We continued the discussion with several other concerns about the continuing confusion surrounding our prescription drug coverage. Let's hope it gets straightened out soon!

**Dick Coughlin** gave his United report which included information regarding new airplanes, fuel purchases, basic economy fares and our new President Scott Kirby.

Calendar:

**February 2** – 11:30 - Red Lobster, 3162 S. Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach, FL

**March 2** – 11:30 - Red Lobster, 3162 S. Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach, FL



**THE SAND DOLLARS**

Bradenton, FL  
Judy Macklin,  
840 Bird Bay Dr. W., #202  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-214-0252  
[bjmacklin@comcast.net](mailto:bjmacklin@comcast.net)

The Sand Dollars Group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at various restaurants around the area. **Ginger Hyde** (TPAOZ) arranges the luncheons at various restaurants in the area. We welcome retirees from all over who have now relocated to Florida's west coast, from Sun City Center to North Port. For more information on the Sand Dollars, please contact Ginger at [drjekyl.hyde@aol.com](mailto:drjekyl.hyde@aol.com) or call (941) 360-6671. We are always looking for new members and, if you are in the area, we would love to have you join us as a guest.

Our Christmas Party was held at the Peridia Golf & Country Club, hosted by **Lesley Brynjolfsson**, (ORDSW), with 26 members attending. We enjoyed a delicious lunch, with our choice of four different entrees. For our Attendance Drawing, **Liz Mavis'** name was drawn but unfortunately she was not present to collect her winnings – sorry Liz, maybe you will be lucky enough to have your name drawn again next month. Our 50/50 drawing, where the chapter gets half and the other half is divided into thirds, was won by **Alice Parker** (DCATN), **Emelice** (a guest of **Suzan Goodson** - ORDFO), and **Vivian Rucker** (wife of **Harvey Rucker**, DCAVP). As is our custom at Christmas Parties, we had a "White Elephant Gift Exchange" which is always a fun experience, plus a 6" poinsettia was given to each person attending the luncheon.

Our February luncheon will be at the Waterlefe Golf and River Club in Bradenton, on February 9<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to a big turnout as our snowbirds will be back by then, and we hope some new retirees will join us.

Birthday gals and guys included: January - **Suzan Goodson**; February - **Cindy Irwin**, **Michael Hyde**, **Bill Phillips**, **Alice Parker** and **Bob Frye**. Anniversary Congrats for January go to **Joanne & Russ Wasser**, and **Bill & Inge Phillips**, and for February - **Larry & Charlotte Johnson**.

Fly safe, and be sure to make the most of living in Florida in wintertime!

**TREASURE COAST**

Stuart, FL.  
Mary Kay Wetherington  
8849 Egret Isle Point  
Lake Worth, FL. 33467  
(561) 345-6373  
[mwether7044@att.net](mailto:mwether7044@att.net)



This is my first report. We all want to thank our ever-faithful, **M. Jane Kerr** who has decided to step aside as Secretary for our group after many years. She will be a hard act to follow. I will give it my best.

Our Christmas/Holiday Party was held again this year at the Twisted Tuna on December 8<sup>th</sup>. **Janice & Al Popek** (our President) always do an awesome job with decorating and arranging for the restaurant and menu. They certainly get everyone into the spirit. We had 14 members and one guest, **Doris Reel**, accompanied by **Truman Barker**. The food was fabulous and the company very lively. We had a great time with our gift exchange. It is always so much fun. In addition, 25 toys were donated for Toys For Tots. The 50/50 was won



by **Diane Brodis** and the progressive will once again roll-over since the ticket drawn was **Paul Liebisch**'s who was unable to attend.

Our January luncheon meeting was held at Duffy's with 16 members in attendance. President **Al Popek** led the Pledge of Allegiance and wished everyone a Happy New Year. He announced the chapter's election results. He has consented to be our President again for 2017. **Bob Langevin** will continue on as Vice- President, **Diane Liebisch** as Treasurer and yours truly as Secretary.

There was a discussion about whether the Holiday Party should continue as an evening event or be moved to the afternoon. More feedback is needed in the next few months to decide.

We will now be having two picnics in lieu of regular meetings. They will be held in March and October. We always have a terrific time at these events thanks to Al & Janice's efforts as well as the other members that pitch in. They will be held at DuBois Park.

Our 50/50 was won by **Dave Damon**. The progressive will once again roll-over since **Joan Polumbo** was not in attendance to accept her prize.

We have no birthdays to celebrate in January. All of us want to congratulate **Al & Janice Popek** on their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (January 28<sup>th</sup>). They will be going on a much deserved cruise with 17 relatives and friends. Have an incredible week! He shared a cute story with us. He and Janice have been saving all their small change for "50" years together. They are using some of it to upgrade to a suite on their cruise ship. What a great start to a new year.

#### Calendar:

**February 7** - 12:30 PM, Duffy's South Stuart - Luncheon/Meeting

**March 7** – Noon Picnic, more information to follow.

**April 4** - 12:30 PM, Duffy's South Stuart - Luncheon/Meeting

### GEORGIA



#### DIXIE FLYERS

Metro Atlanta Georgia

Ron Heider

935 City Park Dr.

McDonough, GA 30252

(770) 320-8890 (H)

(678) 575-9217 (C)

[janicec1121@yahoo.com](mailto:janicec1121@yahoo.com)

On January 4, 19 Dixie Flyers met for lunch. The blessings of our meal were led by **Don Shelley** followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by **Fred Cron**, outfitted in his army uniform of the 50's era. **Bill Elk** and **Andy Ryabik** held the flag.

We are now down to two live MM of the original mechanics, **Willie Foles** and **Stan Cebula**, with the passing of **Tom Ogle**. **Willie Foles** was one of the Dixie Flyers founders whose health and hearing is not the greatest.

**Fred Cron** conducted the 50/50 and **Sybil Voss** pulled **Barney Knotts**' lucky number. He graciously donated his \$20 winnings to the Ladies in Distress. **Jodi Elk** and **Sandy Lis** accepted contributions of boxed food and toilet articles after the luncheon.

A little discussion was about UAL and airplane orders. It appears our management team is putting UAL in the forefront with profit, safety, and reliability.

**Don Shelley**'s annual picnic reunion of Atlanta and Tampa employees will be in April, date will be announced next month.

January birthdays ~ **Stan Cebula** (1/2), **Tommy Harris** (1/23), **Ed Paille** (1/7), and **Barbara Russy** (1/19). Retirements in January ~ **Ron Heider** in 1993, and **Tommy Harris** in 2002.

Our next luncheon will be Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2 PM at the Broadway Diner, Fayetteville, Georgia. All UAL retirees are welcome.

## HAWAII

### HONOLULU MENEHUNES

Patricia Thomson, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 1709  
Honolulu, HI 96806-1709  
(808) 946-7847  
[HNLRLUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNLRLUA@gmail.com)



Aloha! The Honolulu Menehunes is an active chapter and we meet for lunch at various Honolulu restaurants on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of February, June, and September. All retirees are welcome to join us. If you are planning to be in Honolulu and would like to attend, just send your email address to [HNLRLUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNLRLUA@gmail.com) and we will email you the details.

We look forward to seeing you in United's Little Corner of the World!



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

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

## IDAHO

### BOISE GEMS

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



The weather outside is frightful, but the fire is so delightful, that about sums up Boise and nearby towns. It's so unusual in our Treasure Valley area as we have 15 inches of snow on the ground today, December 6<sup>th</sup>, and long icicles, very long icicles. And it was -5 last night.

David had his second knee replacement on December 12<sup>th</sup> and he is doing well with his therapy. Many of you will know all about this I imagine.

Our annual Christmas party on December 7<sup>th</sup> was once again held at Jakers restaurant in nearby Meridian, the back room was saved for us. The 14 of us enjoyed the company of each other, as always. In attendance were **Joe & Joan Varady**, who live about 50 miles north of us; it is a joy when they can join us. Others included **Roni Adams, Marlene Croghan, Rick & Shirley Dempsey, Robert & Palmer Sarnoff, Denny Snyder, Louise Rodriguez, Bud & Pat Peters**, and **David & Carol Adams**.

We spent some time discussing changes in our monthly meeting, perhaps different persons making arrangements at a restaurant of their choice. As we all know, change can be a good thing!

We wish you all many blessings in this New Year. The next meeting will be February 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM at the Black Bear Diner. This will be our last meeting at the Black Bear Diner.

### Calendar:

**February 8** - 11:30 - Black Bear Boise

## ILLINOIS



### CHICAGO SKYLINERS

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

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

Jan Gawenda

920 Ridge Sq. #208

Elk Grove, IL 60007-4196

(847) 437-7073

[jawenda@gmail.com](mailto:jawenda@gmail.com)

February - shortest month of the year, but chuck full of celebrating; Black History month, Heart month, Super Bowl, Groundhog, Mardi Gras, Pancki Day, & ever popular Valentine's Day. Lovely lover's day. It got me to thinking, how long have our friends been together. The numbers might surprise you. **Norm & Diana Wilkinson** (64 years), **Ed & Marlene Hughes** (61), **Jim & Phyllis Haslem** (60), **Vince & JoAnn Gianinni** (59), **Mike & Nancy Pasquerelli** (58), **Clyde & Doris Johnson** (58), **Bob & Pat Kalicki** (58), **Dick & Deanna Hoppel** (58), **Bill & Gwen Brookins** (58), **Harvey & Eileen Bruning** (56), **Ron & Rosemarie Pryor** (56), **Ken & Ellen Thiede** (55), **Mort & Lorrie Wax** (55), **Charlie & Carol Lewis** (54), **Joe & Joan Teister** (52), the **Bob Palms** (50), **Glenn & Linda Hill** (50), **Pierre & Toni Lupori** (49), **Perry & Theresa Pahl** (49), **Ed & Linda Ward** (47), **Michael & Diane Webb** (44), **Bob & Carol Faust** (43), **Hank & Jean Mueller** (37), **Bill & Delphine Perry** (36), **George & Phyllis Kordecki** (35), **Ken & Muriel Bergsma** (33 years of wedded bliss, she said), **Ralph & Carol Robbins** (25), **Larry & Mary Alice Weber** (21), **Bob & Agnes Pearson** (21, Agnes was married 50 years to **Jim Hartley**, EXORA, before he passed away), **Bill & Kathleen Corbett** (10 years, both were married over 30 years to others, but both spouses died. They met through a mutual friend, they walked around Munster, went to a park for a picnic, and the rest is history). Congratulations to you all for the fortitude and love to meet and stay together for all these years. Sincere congrats to all of you in our group that are celebrating another year together in 2017. Love is in the air and the fragrance is delightful! Love is beautiful at any age, no matter how many times you try. One man married five times. He was asked, 'Why?' He said, 'I'm going to do it until I get it right'!

Our Northside breakfast had a special guest, **Joan Teister's** son, Keith, our new UAL A320 first officer. He was happy to join us and she was proud to have him join us. Proud mama bear.

The Southside breakfast had about a dozen attendees. **Marge Caliendo** and **LaVonne Halach** are still under the weather, and could not attend. A Christmas grab bag was held, and thanks to **Agnes Pearson**, everybody went home with a prize, and candy. We all owe a big hand to Agnes, she takes such good care of her little ducklings. She keeps track of who is sick, where we are, if we're not where we're supposed to be, has a box of greeting cards with her, and has us sign one and sends it out right away when we discover someone is in need of a pick me up or sympathy. I think her husband, Bob, has to catch up with her sometime. Thank you, Agnes, for being you! The raffle was won by **Perry Pahl** (twice), **Gwen Brookins**, and **Bob Pearson**. Gwen's arm is getting better from her fall in LAS, no broken bones, but still sore and tender. And it's all Elvis' fault!

The IAM local 1487 had their monthly meeting at the Union Lodge, offering a hot dog and chili luncheon. The new Local president introduced himself, Tony Liciardi, and gave an idea what some of his plans are for the year. Other newly elected officers are VP, Leonard Ursitti, Treasurer, Mike Finn and Secretary, Dave Roderick. Any IAM member is welcome to join this fun group. Dues are \$10 a year. Meetings are the first Thursday of the month.

Effective January 1, Illinois has about 200 new laws on the books. Hairdressers should look for signs of domestic violence or assault and provide clients with resources to get the help they need. Police are now allowed to have training and access to EpiPens. Workers can use half their sick time to care for their family members. You'll have to slow down or move over for a disabled car stopped on the highway, just like you do now for a police car. There will be stiffer penalties for people caught driving without insurance. Speeding through a work or school zone over 26 mph is now a Class B misdemeanor, and could put you in jail. Going around lowered railroad crossing gates will cost a \$500 fine, if you survive. You can look these up under the Illinois General Assembly website.

**Lillian Mallstrom** sent me an interesting article, from the New York Times. United is continuing to add more seats on their 737 aircraft, causing their lavs to be smaller. This causes problems for the physically disabled and for the larger person. Lavs in the rear or in the area between first and economy have been reconfigured, so if someone is in a wheel chair, or a child that needs extra help, the door might have to remain

open for somebody to help that person. Handicapped people are almost forced to hold it on short trips or have help. This is also a challenge for the very tall, since the height of the area is shorter. Until the airlines and the Department of Transportation receive enough complaints, they won't change the seat changing policy on the single aisle airplanes. The first class lavs have not been affected. Alaska and Delta Airlines have also changed their configurations with the seating arrangements.

Illinois is replacing our old license plates that were originally issued in 2000 & 2001. The new design features images of Abraham Lincoln, the Chicago skyline, a farm and the State Capitol. We will receive mail notifications if we qualify for new plates at no charge. Those with newer plates that are difficult to read, apply at [cyberdriveillinois.com](http://cyberdriveillinois.com). If you just want the pretty new plates, they will cost \$29, and you can request them at the same address.

In our own lives, family and friends have left us. Among our departed friends are **John DeYoung**, and **Richard Eddings**, both from ORDMM, **Madonna Breckler**, ORDSW, and **Ed Kokot**, OPBCM. This last year has been unusually brutal with losses of notable entertainment and sports stars. John Glenn, infamous 'dahrting' Zsa Zsa Gabor, everybody's dad, Alan Thicke, Jim Lowe, Pop star, George Michaels, Dr. Henry Heimlich, Bernard Fox, (Dr. Bombay), Fran Jeffries, colorful Craig Sager, William Christopher, (MASH), and the two deaths that shocked us all, Carrie Fisher, and her mom, Debbie Reynolds. Not only did we see Debbie & Eddie marry, and have Carrie, followed by a divorce in a scandal to surpass all scandals, then we witnessed the death of both women, a day apart. Princess Leia and Kathy Selden, Dancing & Singing in the Rain. Goodbye to all, old friends. You all gave us many hours of enjoyment. Heaven must be really big to have room for all of these people. Hope there will be room for me! (Maybe not all are in heaven, Jan)

Some words of wisdom from **John Witkowski**, ORDMM, Sometimes too much drink is not enough. and If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame.

Winter has been so harsh, but Spring is just around the corner, approximately in 30 days! Hold on!

Cubs spring training starts February 14<sup>th</sup>. Go Cubs! BTW, the Cubs won the World Series!

#### Calendar:

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

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

**April 4** - Spring Luncheon, Tuesday, Cotillion Restaurant, Palatine, 11:00 cocktails

### INDIANA

#### INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN  
Shary Johnston, Correspondent  
5374 Far Hill Rd.  
Indianapolis, IN 46226  
(317) 374-1389  
[sharyjohnston@aol.com](mailto:sharyjohnston@aol.com)



The Indy Racers didn't meet in January and won't meet in February due to Indiana weather conditions. However, we are still remembering all the fun we had singing carols and eating great food at our December party and Secret Santa exchange. Pictured: Retirees **Frank Prins** (L), played the trombone for us, and **Jim Gibson** (R) helped keep the beat with his hand clapping as we sang.

We enjoyed Stuffed Mushrooms and Bruschetta for appetizers, a Caesar Salad, Lasagna, Chicken Marsala, Pork Loin, Garlic Mashed Potatoes and Grilled Asparagus for the main course. We topped it off with Tiramisu plus Profiteroles with vanilla bean ice cream and hot fudge for dessert.

As usual, many exchanges of bottles of alcoholic beverages were selected and swapped during the Secret Santa exchange. Attending were **Ken & Deanna Boeke**, **Hannelore Brabo**, **Wanda Bryce**, **Mario & Margie Bregante**, **Ed Duffey**, **Bob & Ruth Duffey**, **Bob & Myrt Duty**, **Jim Gibson**, **Chris & Shary Johnston**, **Frank & Rita Prins**, **Dimple Rihel**, **Charles Theiss** and his daughter Amy Christine Fallowfield.



We wish Happy Birthday to **Jack Conway** (2/4), **Jeanne Matlak** (2/12), **Joan Romano** (2/17), and **Ed Duffey** (2/18). We also wish **Ed & Consisca Loftus** a very Happy Anniversary on 2/18.

When we meet again in March, **Charles Theiss** will be chairing the meeting in which we will share fun stories of our experiences working for the airlines.

Calendar:

**March 14** - Emmy's House of Pancakes, 7508 Beechwood Center, Rockville Rd., Avon, Indiana. Lunch begins at 12:30 p.m., the business meeting starts at 1:30 pm.

**MASSACHUSETTS**



**NOR'EASTERS**

New England  
Dick Vee Vecchione  
107 Bunker Hill Road  
Auburn, NH 03032-3521  
(603) 264-3430  
[NH4Vee@aol.com](mailto:NH4Vee@aol.com)

No meeting, so no meeting news. Well, I'm beginning the 18<sup>th</sup> year of my 2-year term as Nor'Easter Secretary. Reading through the Newsletter, I see some chapters have historians, meeting hosts, correspondents, sunshine person etc. Seems like I've been doing all of that, all along! Our Treasurer **Bill Vanderwal** is starting his 15<sup>th</sup> year and our President **Carleen Eddy** is starting her 13th. We do have a newbie though; **Sarah Pitt-Wooll** is our VP as of September 2016.

A few months ago, we New Englanders were worried about the lack of rain for our reservoirs. Well, southern N.E. has been getting winter rain, but northern N.E. has been getting the fluffy white stuff, lots of it! The skiing has been in full swing almost a month before normal, without the man made snow! As much as I hate to get out to move it around, it's the best thing that could happen to our forests. Dammed if you do and dammed if you don't! By the way, as I write this it is snowing, 6 to 12 inches predicted.

**Carleen & Bruce Eddy** are finally settled in the new (all on one floor) home. This year, they were invited to their son's home for Christmas dinner. Carleen said *"first time in 36 years I didn't have to cook or clean"*. Guess I can say the same, I used to cook different Italian dishes for large family holiday gatherings, now long gone, as everyone has grown up and moved away. Worse, now I'm the grandparent and granduncle!

**Jayne Regan's** husband, **John** underwent aortic valve heart surgery on January 3 at Mass General Hospital. He is breathing better but has had pain and his hope is that he will be able to get back to his golf game! Go for it John!

Our own **Charlie Enos** fell at Christmas time and broke a hip. Charlie is now in rehab, but send cards to his home, 52 Derry Road, Merrimack, NH 03054. He worked at PVD, BOS, ORD & MHT, I'm sure he'd like to hear from old friends.

**Dick Niebles**, BOSCS & DENCS, passed away December 31, 2016. He retired from DEN, so he was not a Nor'Easter, but was well known by BOS retirees. Dick was one of the good guys and left us much too soon!

A reminder to all Nor'Easters, we are holding 4 scheduled meetings for 2017, the first Tuesday of March, June, September and December. Please be sure to plan all appointments around these dates so you can attend our luncheons. We can add unplanned meetings as necessitated.

Note: Uncle Sugar gave all us retirees a kick in the butt with our 3/10th % SS increase for 2017. I got a \$4.10 a month increase. Just happens that my Medicare climbed the same amount. On the other hand, the Massachusetts legislators are looking for a 4.5% pay increase. I guess the Feds don't think much of retirees as they do of themselves!

By the time you read this, you should already have your 2017 Nor'Easter membership renewal. If you still have it, please mail it now!

I made myself a snowball as perfect as can be. I thought I'd keep it as a pet and let it sleep with me. I made it pajamas and a pillow for its head. Last night it ran away, but first, it p--d the bed!

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

February's anniversaries ~ **Robert & Clair Anderson** (64 years).

Calendar:

**March 7** - Jevelli's Italian Restaurant, East Boston MA ~

## MICHIGAN

### GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Gwen Dyc-Schwendenmann

(248) 667-9258

[bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net)



The tradition continues. **Marie Cook** and her daughter, **Jeen Kobb** hosted the first luncheon of the year. It was held at Station 885 on January 5<sup>th</sup> in Plymouth, MI. Jeen baked pumpkin bread, one of Marie's favorite recipes. To our delight, everyone got a loaf! Some of you may remember how Marie always transformed her computer room into the Snowman room. There were hundreds of snowmen, everywhere. This year she shared some of her snowmen as favors for those attending the luncheon. Our trees will now have a part of the 'snowman' tradition. Oh, and then there were those special mints that Marie always had at the January luncheon held at her home. Thank you Marie and Jeen!

We also raffled off a couple of special items that **Linda Ward** (who has since moved to Nebraska) wanted to share with her United friends. **Marlene Heaney** won a stein of Detroit and **Marguerite Venn** won a model United airplane. We all hope that Linda is enjoying her new home in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Those attending the January luncheon were **Connie Covington** (all the way from Toledo!), **Joan Robinson**, **Lynn Manzi**, **Marcy Vance**, **Carol Slade**, **Sue Craig**, **Marlene Heaney**, **Patty Gates**, **Marguerite Venn**, **Marie Cook**, her daughter **Jeen Kobb**, **Camille Wade**, **Bill Wade**, **Joanna O'Brien**, **Helen Venn**, **Carol Shaffner**, **Rick Schwendenmann** and **Gwen Dyc**.

Speaking of luncheons, the list for hosting in 2017 is now complete. Remember that the luncheons are held the first Thursday of the month. Mark your calendars so you don't plan anything else for that day. We would like to see you join us.

So what do you do in your spare time? If you are like Rick and I, you probably are very busy and don't know how you ever had time to work! It is heartening to know that some of our retiree friends volunteer in their spare time. **Patty Gates** is a volunteer at Troy Beaumont Hospital in the guest services and information areas. **Carol Breneau** was a Salvation Army bell ringer this Christmas season. What fun! She also gave a big hand to **Gay Givens** with Gay's annual letter to our armed forces. Gay has been corresponding with our troops for about 13 years, this year sending out over 220 letters! The letters are a delight and well appreciated by those that receive them. They include the chatty homey daily news of our dear friend and her family of cats and various neighborhood livestock. She is very involved in supporting Military Working Dogs and the local humane society. Oh and Gay also answers phones for public television pledge drives. The reservation training at United has paid off. Great job, Gay! Let me know what you do. I will publish it in the newsletter and it just might inspire others to give a bit of their time to a worthy cause.

**Connie Convigton** sends her holiday wishes; *"Please tell all the Escapees hello for me and give them my best. I hope that you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year! Love"*.

**Jeff Lefleur** and his wife, **Carole**, send their holiday greetings to all their United Airline friends. Good news. He now has an email address: [jeff.lefleur@yahoo.com](mailto:jeff.lefleur@yahoo.com). Don't forget the dot between his first and last name if you send him an email.

**Sharon Jacob** is currently at a rehab facility in Waterford after experiencing a severe illness. She is gradually improving and would love to hear from her old United friends. Cards may be sent to her home at 411 Coledale, White Lake, MI 48386. Her son, Scott, will make sure that she receives them. Or if you get off a card right away, she will be at Canterbury on the Lake, 5601 Hatchery Rd, Waterford Twp, MI 48329, Room 108 on Brighton Lane for the next couple of weeks.

We are still looking for someone to take over the writing and sending out of the monthly newsletter. Please contact me to answer your questions and to volunteer. Phone me at (248) 667-9258 or email [bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net).

Our very best wishes for a Healthy, Happy New Year!

## MINNESOTA



### NORTHERN LITES

Connie Glattly  
82300 Wold Road  
Willow River, MN 55795  
(218) 372-3973  
[crglattly@frontiernet.net](mailto:crglattly@frontiernet.net)

The December lunch/meeting was called off due to forecasted subzero temperatures and high wind chills. After such a lovely, warm autumn, especially November which is usually a raw, windy, rainy time, the plunge into another MN winter cold snap shook the whole population to its core. How easily we forget!

Unfortunately, all the news this time is bad. Most times bad news can be balanced by something good or funny, but ... In the last couple of weeks, the newspaper obituaries were rampant with old MSP friends or spouses.

**Eileen Cotcamp**, widow of weights and balance wizard **Bill Cotcamp**, passed away. She had not joined us since Bill's death in 2011. I don't have contact info for the family.

**Larry Flodin**, 80, passed away December 16<sup>th</sup>. He had hired on with Capital Airlines back in the day, transferred to MSP and worked the ticket counter and Stores until health issues caused him to resign from the company. His wife, **Lori**, deceased many years ago, also worked here in the Reservations office. Again, no family contact info available.

**Auldin Gunderson**, Lead Ramp Serviceman at MSP and one of the hard core members of the Northern Lites, lost his battle with cancer January 2<sup>nd</sup>. A good guy, quiet and laid back, with a droll sense of humor. He'll be sorely missed. Condolences may be sent to his brother, Lyle Gunderson, at 149 US Hwy 63, Baldwin, WI 54002.

Hopefully, next month's report will be more cheerful.

Lunch at 11:15 a.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at Perkins Restaurant, 7425 Currell Blvd., Woodbury, MN. Take I-494 to Exit 59 (Valley Creek Rd.) east to Queens Dr., left to Currell Blvd, right to the first driveway on the right.

## NEBRASKA

### OMAHA GOLDENEARS

Jan Cornish  
6501 Rainwood Road  
Omaha, NE 68152  
(402) 571-6031  
[kcornish6031@msn.com](mailto:kcornish6031@msn.com)



What a busy time of year this is. I apologize that this letter is a few days later than normal. I've been trying to put more than 24 hours in a day and have not succeeded.

On December 6, 41 bright eyed retirees celebrated the holiday season with a luncheon at Anthony's Steakhouse hosted by **Ev & Shirley Payton**. The food was marvelous, and the service outstanding. We were entertained by a musical group of **Kyuri Clapper** and **Keith Wilson**. They were very good. That was followed by our annual bingo game emceed by **Tony Sortino**. It's always a fun time and great time to reminisce with friends. This year there was a slight cloud over the celebration. We lost one of our brightest eyes, **Marilyn Weak**, on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Marilyn always lit up a room with a smile and a wonderful spirit. She will be greatly missed. Our sincere condolences go to Dick and the Weak family.

We also just received word that **Lorraine Stansfield's** s/o **Ralph Bichel** passed away on December 14. He had been at home on hospice care. Our condolences also go to Lorraine and the Bichel family.

We remembered those that we have lost this past year, **Bracston Olds**, **Dick Schwan**, **Eileen Holly** and **Marilyn Weak**.

As a bright spot this past week, Keith and I delivered poinsettias to those of our group who are homebound. We delivered to **Melvina Brayzys**, **Charlie Cromling**, **Ruth Jeppesen**, **Dick Chizek**, **Ralph Bichel** and **Carroll Ballard**. **Tony Sortino** delivered one to **Don Jensen**. This was a very enjoyable exercise. We spent some time visiting with these folks and exchanged some fun and funny memories of the "good old days."

Our next meeting will be on January 3 at The Golden Corral at 6006 N. 72<sup>nd</sup>. Street. Pay at the door. The restaurant does not open until 11am so there is no need to get there early. There is always a vast selection of food so everyone should find something they like. We will have our own room. There is no need to call anyone, just come and enjoy the company. The cost this year will be \$8.99 for the meal. That does not include a drink. She says they are under new management and would not include the drink.

If you have not yet sent in your dues, please do so as soon as possible. Amounts are still the same. \$10 per person living in the area, \$10 per couple outside the state. Please make your check payable to United Airlines Retirees and send to **Ev Holly**, 6535 Cypress Drive, Omaha, Ne. 68137. If you have already paid, thank you. We have not raised the dues in 17 years. Since **Dick Weak** sends out the newsletter by email to the majority of our members, it has cut the costs of paper, envelopes and stamps dramatically. If you have an email address that we do not have listed yet, please send that to Dick so he can add you to the email list.

Birthdays for the month of January are a long list. Happy, Happy Birthday to one and all: **Sharon Farrell** (2), **Sydney Greenstreet** (4), **Carol Jensen** (4), **Joy Whisinnand** (4), **Stella Mason** (5), **Frank Sesto** (9), **Jackie Sortino** (17), **Jim Schreiber** (20), **Melvina Brazys** (25), **Amy Meyer** (29), and **Dick Weak** (31).

According to Marge's records, she indicated that **Sydney Greenstreet** was 98 in 2015, so that would mean this one would be #100. For those of you who remember him, it would be nice if you sent him a birthday card. His address is 175 E. Calderwood Drive, Meridian, Idaho 83642.

#### Calendar:

**January 3** - Golden Corral, 6006 N. 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, Omaha

### NEVADA



#### LAS VEGAS

#### SILVER LINERS

Don Rutkowski  
8517 Lynhurst Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89134  
(702) 300-4038  
[geodon1192@centurylink.net](mailto:geodon1192@centurylink.net)

The Las Vegas Silverliners had their Christmas Luncheon /meeting at Giuseppe's Italian Grill on December 8<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was opened with our President **Rosemarie Restivo** getting the membership into reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag. Rosemarie also introduced a new Silverliners member, **Sue Stevens** retired from WHQKA, and we all welcomed her to Silverliners membership. President **Rosemarie Restivo** presented our outgoing Vice President **George Fox** with a Certificate of Appreciation for his many years of service to our organization. Our incoming Vice President **Chris Czaplewski** will now serve in that capacity. Chris has been a very viable addition to our club, also serving as President and Secretary in the past.

At this point, lunch was served to the 50 members in attendance plus our guests from RUAEA, **John Zoboli** and **Ron Bertacini**.

After the lunch, John & Ron addressed the membership about the ongoing process to get a proposal for the RUAEA National Convention in September. They talked about all the Hotels that were contacted and the proposals they submitted. They also mentioned that they were in the final stages with a local Hotel and should sign the contract the following week. They took a few questions and asked for the members who will volunteer to work the convention to remain after the luncheon for a short presentation. Secretary **Don Rutkowski** is the point of contact for the Silverliners with items relating to the National Convention. He will be setting up a meeting of volunteers in mid-January to go over the requirements and needs.

Next introduced was our Treasurer **Christine Earl**; she gave a report on the Silverliners finances and reminded everyone that the membership dues for 2017 are due before the year end.

Sun Shine Lady **Eleanor Vasko** went over the Birthdays and Anniversaries for November and December. She also mentioned a couple of our members who were home sick with flu like symptoms. Also Eleanor's husband Mike had knee replacement surgery 3 weeks ago and was coming along in therapy.

The membership responded in the Christmas Spirit in a great way with a large amount of food items for the "Helping Hands Food Kitchen". Helping Hands works to help and support seniors in Las Vegas to remain independent and also receive the nutrition they require to keep going. We were asking for "Non Perishable"



food items, can goods, packaged in box or bag. We did very good last year, but I think we out did ourselves this year, the table and floor was piled high with items for the Kitchen.

Our 50/50 raffle member **Georgia Rutkowski** arrived at the Luncheon again with 21 hard covered books from her personal home collection. These books were free to anyone who wanted one or more, and before the luncheon ended 18 books were taken to enjoy by our members. The remaining books will be donated to the Library Summerlin, Clark County. The 50/50 raffle went real well with our guest **John Zoboli** winning the first prize of \$35.00. John had to leave early to catch a flight home so Ron said he would deliver the winnings to John.

We had a table full of gifts donated by the members to be raffled off so that everyone who brought a gift would pick and leave with something new and different. Our host restaurant Giuseppe's donated a \$50.00 gift card and one of our members won it and was very happy to get it.

The Silverliners hold our meetings on the second Thursday of every even month. The next meeting is February 9, 2017. The meetings are held at Giuseppe's Italian Grill at 6065 Durango Road Las Vegas, NV 89113. If you are in Las Vegas and/or planning a trip here you are more than welcome to come to our meeting and visit with our members, you may even know or worked with one of them.

Email Don Rutkowski at [geodon1192@centurylink.net](mailto:geodon1192@centurylink.net) or call him at (702) 300-4038; we will be glad to see you.

### **RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP**

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



There were 30 members and guests at our Christmas Luncheon at Tamarack Junction. Once again, the casino did a great job with the decorations and service. The weather also cooperated this year and no one had to ski in (thank you Mother Nature). There were lots of special surprise "gifts". **Kathy Robinson** was kind enough to source 4 gift cards for local eateries that are always welcome. Everyone was dressed in their holiday attire and looked so nice.

Our thanks to resident pastry chef **Bill Perkins** for the holiday chocolate decadence bites.

We collected \$85 for the Food Bank which always needs help during the holidays.

December birthdays were celebrated by **Nancy Scaife, Herb Klemm, Lynda Klemm, Bill Royal, Larry Leusing, and Pam Wight.**

Margaret, a guest of **Kathy Robinson**, was the lucky winner of the 50/50.

This newsletter mailing includes the forms for 2017 dues. Please make checks payable to the Sierra Roundup and mail to **Kathy Robinson** at the address shown.

### **NEW JERSEY**

#### **THE GARDEN STATERS**

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



The "Garden Staters" had their Christmas luncheon on December 15<sup>th</sup>, and what a day it was. When you turned around, everybody was in conversation. If that wasn't enough, one of the tables was piled high with items for "Toys for Tots". **Jerry Confer**, a longtime member of our organization, and a proud Marine would have been glad of our response for these toys.

We did have some sadness. After a flag salute by President **Frank Worzocha**, we held a moment of silence for the passing of, **Shirley Teagarden** of EWR TR, **Betty Preiser**, the wife of **George Preiser** of EWR FF, and **Rose Bummara**, the mother of **John Bummara** of EWR CG.

We do have a new member that has joined us, **Vivian Kalchbrenner** of EWRCJ, we hope to see her regularly. One good member to see was **George Whitman**, who is recovering from a broken hip at the meeting, and I have to say was in very good spirits. Of course he was accompanied by his ever popular daughter Joanne.

It was good to see some of our old time members, who showed up. Here are a few names: **Jim Raith, Jeff Fitzgerald, Dick Confer, Jim Safer, Charlie Donnerly** and **Bob Pruchnik**. Also, **Ev Eaten**, who called me from North Carolina, wanted to send regards to all our people. In all, it was a great day. Oh I forgot, there were 24 door prizes given out, and I think that's a record.

The 50/50 was won by **Terry Schultz**, and our next meeting will be on January 25, 2017 at Snuffy's in Scotch Plains

*Good friends are like quilts; they age with you, but never lose their warmth.*

## NEW YORK

### NEW YORK METROS

Caroline Manelski  
94 Erin Lane  
Setauket, NY 11733  
(631) 928-5766



Our Christmas luncheon has come and gone, too late for me to make the December newsletter, so I hope you all enjoyed Christmas and Hanukkah and have a healthy and happy New Year. We had our first snowfall on December 17<sup>th</sup>, about 3 inches. It will either melt as it warms up, or will get rained away. Beautiful while it lasted.

We had 66 in attendance at Filomena's. It's always nice to welcome those who can't make it to the monthly luncheons, and of course **Irene Parker, Lynda Guillianio**, the **Pucillo** sisters (sounds like a good show biz name, do they sing?), who travel every year from New Jersey to present the Pucillo award which this year went to **Emma Millazo**. The Artie Shepherd award went to **Paul Cohen** who served 16 years as the Metros treasurer. Congratulations to both of you, well deserved! I believe Artie was the founder of the Metros.

Our super 50/50 award, given out each December, was won by **Carol Maley-Davis**, 1<sup>st</sup> place, and **Emma Millazo**, 2<sup>nd</sup> place. A raffle ticket to see "Masters of Illusion" at Westbury Theater, was won by guest **Mary O'Connor**, who, if all goes well, should be living at the Villages in Florida by the time of the show. So if someone really wants to see the show, better get on Mary's good side. The proceeds for this raffle benefit the Marathon School, which was set up in the past by **Joe Totaro**. Missing you, Joe and all the others. Rest in Peace.

**Lynda Guillianio** won 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> prize in the regular 50/50, which I believe, she donated back to the Metros. I was too far away to hear the results. 3<sup>rd</sup> prize went to **Lee Marcus**. Lots of good stuff going around.

While we note the absence of several former "regulars", it was particularly unfortunate that Leo and Dee were a bit under the weather and couldn't make the Christmas luncheon after all her hard work setting things up. But they'll be at the February meeting at Davenport Press. Mark your calendars, Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>.

On a cheery note, something I never realized as a child, in just five days, the days will be getting longer. Isn't that great? In the meantime, I am enjoying two hours every winter evening of "Frasier" reruns on COZI TV. That and a Manhattan will do it for me.

Next meeting: Davenport Press, February 1<sup>st</sup>.

## OHIO



### OHIO BUCKEYES

[www.ualohiobuckeyes.com](http://www.ualohiobuckeyes.com)

Kay Preston  
25846 Royalton Road  
Columbia Station, OH 44028  
[katybird0108@roadrunner.com](mailto:katybird0108@roadrunner.com)

We had our Christmas Party on December 7<sup>th</sup> at Diamond Event Center in Brunswick, Ohio. Consequently, we changed the order of events due to the party.

Recent Deaths: There were 3 (non-members, all Cleveland UAL): **Jim Dugan**, CLE PV passed away November 16<sup>th</sup>; **Joe Oppman**, CLE CG & DEN CG passed November 16<sup>th</sup>; and **Howard Congrove**, CLEMM passed on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**George Kuretz** had surgery on December 15<sup>th</sup> and at this time is doing as well as can be expected. He faces a long recovery and prayers are asked for George and all members who are in need.

December 7, 1941 was the "Day of Infamy", the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. Today we had a moment of silence in reverence.

Grace was said by President **Dolly Taucher**, followed by a sumptuous lunch. Dolly began the meeting after lunch. We had 64 members present.

Birthdays ~ **Kay Baran, Bobbie Jefferson, Carole Mullen, Joan Schulte, and Carol Seifried.**

Then the "party" was about to begin! We thanked our hosts **Dave & Marie Placko** for setting up the fabulous Christmas lunch. Kevin, owner of the party center was thanked for the wonderful meal, service and decorations.

50/50 winners ~ **Pat Hendy, George Oncu and Bob Templeton.** **Dave & Marie Placko** donated 5 poinsettias which were raffled off. The officers had a Christmas gift for everyone. That was payment of 2017 dues for all who were up to date on this year's dues.

"Then what to our wondering eyes should appear", but the man in the red velvet coat. Santa stopped at each table to ask members what they wanted for Christmas. He made no promises. He then conducted the drawing of 40 money envelopes. Everyone was wished a Merry Christmas and Healthy New Year.

#### Calendar:

**February 1** – Fuji Grill n' Buffet, hosted by **John & Dolly Taucher**

### OREGON

#### OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland  
Terry Hotchkin  
20201 NE 179<sup>th</sup> Court  
Battle Ground, WA 98604  
(360) 687-3465  
[tthotchkin@gmail.com](mailto:tthotchkin@gmail.com)



Our December meeting fell on a Winter Storm Warning day and consequently we had a very small group of 56. We were able to adjourn our meeting just as the snow started falling in earnest. The Portland/Vancouver area seldom experiences snow accumulation so have limited removal equipment and all in attendance were eager to depart before the roads got bad. Even with a short meeting, many still got caught in terrific traffic because everyone decided to head home at the same time. We were fortunate to leave when we did though because traffic continued to get worse throughout the day and many were stuck on roads for several hours at a time.

Announcements ~ **Chuck Ludwig**, retired passenger service, died suddenly last week. No details are known at this time. The Park Rose High School Debonaires were scheduled to perform but did not show, most likely due to the Winter Storm warning currently in effect. Probably a very good thing as the meeting ended up being much shorter.

Thanks to **Harold Miller** for once again acting as Santa and assisting with gift distribution. Thanks also to **Robert & Dee Boelter** for their Christmas-themed table centerpieces. The person at each table who had the birthday closest to Christmas took home the centerpiece.

**Denis Cline** thanked all the board members for their help and support during his presidency for the past two years and gifted each with a delightful rose, presented in a vase with baby's breath and a red rose.

Once again this year we enjoyed our Christmas Giveaways which included a variety of gift cards for dining, some hand crafted items donated by member **Harold Miller**, a variety of wine, some wonderful wildlife photography donated by **Craig Strand**, some beautiful Poinsettias, a framed needlepoint of a Boeing 727, and a Hickory Farms Gift box. In all, 28 guests received gifts, handed out by our resident Santa.

Anniversaries ~ **Richard & Chris Housholder** (56 years).

Birthdays ~ **Richard Housholder** (81), **Mary Lou Falbo** (85).

Drawing Winners ~ Lunch/ Door Prize - **Sam French**, Men's Birthday - **Richard Housholder**, Women's Birthday - **Mary Lou Falbo**, 50/50 - **Jack Hooper**.

Calendar:

Meetings at Colwood Golf Center Grill – Social Hour 11:00AM, Lunch served at noon.

**February 8** – social

**March 8** - social



**OUR CLUB**

(Oregon United Retirees)  
Grants Pass, Oregon  
Gidget Walcha - Secretary  
(541) 474-6414

The January meeting of OUR Club was canceled due to snow. Many of the members live in areas that received as much as 2 feet of snow. We have no news to report at this time.

**PENNSYLVANIA**

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

Paul & Betty Musko  
21 Sunridge Dr.  
Coraopolis, PA 15108  
[Lesuex4@comcast.net](mailto:Lesuex4@comcast.net)



From Pittsburgh, we wish all of our RUAEA friends a Happy, Peaceful, and Healthy 2017 New Year! It is always nice to see our family and friends and share some wonderful memories and believe that in the coming year, we will be able to make new acquaintances. One of my goals on top of the list is **believe, make new acquaintances!** Let's make 2017 the best we have ever seen.

By the time you read this article, the Pittsburgh Steelers will hopefully have taken their first step to winning the Super Bowl L1 by defeating the Miami Dolphins (Believe)! Let's Go Steelers, Let's Go. Plus, the Penguins, Sidney Crosby is on a pace becoming the top in scoring in the National Hockey League! Wow!

Since our last Convention here in Pittsburgh, we have a lot of new awesome restaurants! If anyone is in Pittsburgh – we will help you find a nice place to go to eat!

Pitt-Stoppers Christmas party was held on December 14 at JW Hall's with 31 in attendance. We had a great menu, each member received a gift of a Pittsburgh lottery ticket, candy and many door prizes! We were so happy to see our wonderful star advisor, **Joann & Bernie Juth**. Joann transported from the residence at St. Joseph's Villa Baden to attend the Christmas Party and looked wonderful (Bernie, keep up your great care)! **Treatie Karwoski** and **Mary Jane Stewart** were helpful informing us of RUAEA news! We missed and think about **Phyllis Smith**, **Russ Miller** and **Barb Seaholm**!

Treatie brought her sister **Eleanor Krzemienski** from Arlington, VA. She has been a great help to Treatie and drove her wherever she needed to go!

Also in attendance from Pittsburgh Interline Club, President **Ellie Masters** and Secretary **Eleanor Seibel**/Mr Seibel. They were sharing their chance of RUAEA winning a Basket of Cheer from their upcoming Christmas Party at the Pittsburgh Interline Club.

FYI ~ At our March meeting, we will have an "election for new officers" for our chapter. Please let us know if anyone would like to help in any way!

**Betty & Jack Tinney** very proudly informed us that their grandson, Sean Tinney, has been named the 2016 Almanac MVP for Boy's Soccer. The Chartiers Valley Senior led the team to the WPIAL title by scoring a team high 23 goals and collected twelve assists! Congratulations and Good Luck to Sean Tinney!

We are pleased to inform you of RUAEA 2017 Convention in Las Vegas. Dates will be Monday, September 25, to Thursday, September 28. Hotel will be Palace Station Hotel, there is a courtesy bus to and from airport and from hotel to Las Vegas strip!

Happy Birthday to **Bob Wagner** (12/8); **Marge Morton** (12/12); **Mary Jane Stewart** (12/18); **Vic Ferrence** (12/23) and **Georgia Garcia** (12/24 – Christmas Eve Baby); **Betty Musko** (1/23); **Steve Moliterno**



(1/26); **Betty Tinney** (1/27); **Kay Yauch** (2/3); **Ted Polinski** (2/22); **Jack Tinney** (2/27); **Bob Frye** (2/27) and **Kay Ike** (2/28).

Happy Anniversary to **Ed & Kay Yauch** (1/25); **Barb & Max Seaholm** (3/11) and **Bob & Kay Frye** (3/2).

If you would like to pass on some PIT news to us to add to the newsletter, please call or email. We would be happy to get some information!

## TENNESSEE

### TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS



Carolyn Hartshorn  
5957 Warrenpark Lane  
Knoxville, TN 37912  
Home (865) 951-1198  
Cell (303) 886-9537  
[carolynhartshorn@aol.com](mailto:carolynhartshorn@aol.com)

Greetings to all RUAEA members from Knoxville, TN! (AKA the South Pole). At present it is snowing and the temperature is 8 degrees. Where is all of our southern sunshine?

Our December 15<sup>th</sup> breakfast at the new First Watch restaurant was attended by 17 members and guests. All we did was visit and discuss the menu and the cost of the health food and no longer senior discounts.

On December 24<sup>th</sup>, **Al Barkman**'s daughter had a surprise 88<sup>th</sup> birthday open house to celebrate his special day. All Rocky Tops were invited. Al is a very active member in the Rocky Tops.

### Calendar:

**January 18** - 12:30PM, we will be having a business meeting and luncheon at Tanasi Clubhouse restaurant in Tellico village, 450 Clubhouse Drive, Loudon, TN 37774. RSVP by January 17<sup>th</sup> to hosts **Noreen Koreen** and **Ray Perry**, (650) 218-2627 or [years2you@aol.com](mailto:years2you@aol.com).

**February 17** - Breakfast at Egg & I restaurant. Please note a new location, 5018 Kinston Pike, Knoxville (Bearden), TN 37919. Call **Pollie Klosky** for a head count (847)757-5261.

## WASHINGTON

### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

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



Emerald City Slickers are preparing to welcome the New Year under the leadership of President **Ken Storey** at their January 2017 luncheon meeting at Angelo's Ristorante in Burien, Washington. The event will be history by the time you read this.

Other officers serving the chapter include Vice President **Phyllis Bowman**, Secretary **Mary Ann Andersen**, Treasurer **Jackie Stenger**, Assistant Treasurer **Noreen Krawczyk**, Membership Secretary and Luncheon Coordinator **Mary Luke**, RUAEA Newsletter Correspondent **Gay Liesse**, Sunshine Lady **Virginia Dice**, and *Contrails* Editor **Vicki Shumaker**.

Also to be recognized are **Tom Holford** and **Dolores Steger**, our faithful "reservations agents" who accept luncheon commitments and entrée choices before each meeting, reporting them to **Noreen**, who then notifies the restaurant with the – hopefully – final count. Special thanks to all our volunteers.

February is known traditionally as Presidents' Month, so we'd like to pay tribute to the past presidents of the Emerald City Slickers. From a long list of dedicated volunteers beginning with **Norm Strange** in 1982 and the beginning of the Seattle Chapter of RUAEA, we regularly enjoy the presence of our longest-serving president, **John Haferbecker**, who rapped the gavel from 2007 until 2010, when he retired from the position for health reasons. We're all happy that **John** is hale and hearty and keeping us on our toes. **Frank McNulty** succeeded **John** during 2011-12, followed by **Dave Jones** from 2012-15, when our current president **Ken Storey** took the

reins in time to plan the 2016 national convention. Unfortunately, all other former presidents have passed away. It isn't really *that* stressful a job!

December 10 we lost **Rita Reynolds**, another mainstay of the Seattle chapter of RUAEA. While working in SEAOZ, **Rita** served as secretary to a succession of Station Operations Managers. She also did more than her share as chapter president, chapter secretary, chapter newsletter editor and correspondent to the RUAEA National Newsletter. With her delightful English accent, **Rita** added a special spark to meetings and always looked like a true professional. **Rita** is survived by her husband, **Sydney** and her sister **Edna Harris** (SEAHH). **Edna** is the widow of the late **Sidney Harris** (SEAMK).

**Rita** made a major contribution to United retirees nationwide when she and her boss at the time, **Frank McAnulty**, Manager of Seattle Station Operations, organized the Retiree Travel Desk based in Seattle. Later Travel Desks were established in Portland and Chicago, operating for several years before the Continental merger.

It is with sorrow that we announce the death of **Herald Bowman** (SEAGQ) on January 4, after a year in assisted living. We earlier had reported that **Herald & Phyllis Bowman** celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary last June; **Herald** observed his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday in September; and **Phyllis** hit the ripe old age of 90 in December. **Phyllis** remains one of our most active members, furnishing wine for door prizes, conducting door prize drawings, and keeping track of and announcing birthdays and anniversaries at each meeting.

In the January issue, we reported the death of **Richard (Dick) Wiesner**, 1919-2016 (SEAFO) but had few details at the time. **Dick** enjoyed a career as Captain and Flight Manager with United from 1941 to 1979, when he retired. He is survived by numerous children, stepchildren, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Another familiar name gone from the rolls.

It's growing colder here in the Puget Sound area, with often confusing predictions for rain or snow. What little snow we've had has crippled small areas while just dusting others only short distances away. But ... crisp and cold ***The Mountain is Out!*** No matter the weather, some folks already are counting the days until spring, but we're likely to see a number of red shirts and sweaters at our February luncheon on Valentine's Day. Some stores (namely Target) had Valentine displays in place right after Christmas. Happy Hearts Day to all retirees and their loves ..., but celebrate quickly before the Easter Bunny shows up.

#### Calendar:

**February 14** – Luncheon meeting, Angelo's

**March 14** – Luncheon meeting, Angelo's

**April 11** – Luncheon meeting, Angelo's



#### LILAC CITY FLYERS

Sharon Holmes

5120 N. Riblet View Lane

Spokane, WA 99212

(509) 924.4959 (H)

(509) 953.5088 (C)

[ghshic@quixnet.net](mailto:ghshic@quixnet.net)

Happy New Year from frozen Spokane. Winter has arrived!

December 6 brought 16 of us to Das Stein Haus. Great food and laughs. Christmas exchange always brings out the competitiveness in each of us; and never show you want "that" gift - stolen before you know it! Another great holiday get-together again. We are looking forward to next year's party!

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

### THE DULLES LOUNGERS

Mari McColl - President  
1517 Hiddenbrook Dr.  
Herndon, VA 20170  
(703) 471-8218  
[marimccoll@aol.com](mailto:marimccoll@aol.com)



My apologies for not submitting a report for last month's newsletter, and for sending this one in right at deadline. Between the holidays, the visitors, and a trip to SC for a sudden and unexpected death in my family, I found myself overwhelmed. The New Year so far is rather calm and I will enjoy catching you all up on the November and December luncheons of the Dulles Loungers.

Our November luncheon was well attended by everyone but the Marines. Our annual toy and fund raiser for Toys For Tots was very successful. There were two tables full of lovely toys and over \$1,000 in cash and checks. Bless **Kerrie Schneider**'s heart, we can always count on her to step in and help out where necessary. She drove the toys and money to the Marines in Quantico, VA. This was a two hour drive in each direction. This is what is called "going the extra miles".

December luncheon was a lot of fun. **Cathy Gilbert-Silva** printed out the words to 12 Christmas carols for each member. **Kerrie, Linda Scriven, Benita Bell, and Mary Beth Collins** led us in song. We thought we sounded pretty good and we were NOT kicked out of the restaurant. The Marines sent Kerrie back with a nice pen for each of us and a Toys for Tots stickers. Our 50/50 drawing came to \$52. The chapter's portion went to our servers as a small Christmas gift (as well as generous tips from our members.) **Ralph Baggett** won the other half and donated it to Toys for Tots. This is at least the 3<sup>rd</sup> time Ralph has won the 50/50 and donated it to a charity. We also had a cookie/candy exchange. The array of sweets was amazing! Everyone took home a Snowman box of goodies. Everyone, that is, except for **Ralph Baggett**. He went home a bit early and forgot his swag. Sorry Ralph.

Wishing everyone a peaceful and healthy New Year from our chapter to yours! Below is a poem written by **Gunn Chencinski** while on her anniversary celebration trip to San Francisco.

*I feel free as a bird  
I am not a computer nerd  
The beauty of the area Bay  
Makes me feel traditional gay  
The constant buzz in the air  
Planes take off and land as a pair  
Parallel and crossing runways skills  
Concentration, variables the mind fills  
Birds no navigational tools they need  
They can do tricks on land, stand and lead  
Both birds and aero planes swing  
Turn into the wind and flick their wings  
Over wide oceans and prairies they fly  
High, high in the sky that's why  
Leaving the crowded and feisty land below  
Seeking serenity, peace and freedom a glow  
Soaring into the clouds and wind, sets the mind free  
thousands of destinations and thoughts, it's nice to be  
Until the next day, next night, next day and night  
will the journey be heavy, turbulent or light  
Oceans are mindless, timeless and move  
Times are definitely infinite and also move  
Just after-thoughts from beach Pacifica  
gazing out over ocean Pacific magnifique*

## NATIONAL

### CLIPPED WINGS



Karen Williams, CW Vice President  
P O Box 161  
Highland, MD 20777  
(301) 854-3934  
[cwkarenwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:cwkarenwilliams@gmail.com)

Wishing you a Happy February! It's cold where I am but regardless of that I'd like to take my hat off to all of our Clipped Wings members and to the members of our MAL Chapter in particular. Before you try to recall which city has the airport code MAL - this code stands for Members-at-Large and this Chapter offers membership to those who are residing anywhere in the world and would like the opportunity to stay connected with their airline friendships.

It does become apparent that the Large part in that code really could indicate the Large Generosity and Hearts of the amazing men and women of this Chapter. Clipped Wings has always been a proud supporter of the Special Olympics Athletes and their parents in a variety of ways with donations of our time, talents and funds. In 1999 for the World S/O Games held in North Carolina, the MAL Chapter started the Parent Grants to assist with the parents' travel expenses. Through their members' individual contributions they awarded 6 grants of \$100 each. In all the years since then The MAL Chapter has faithfully supported the Parent Grants. Now we fast forward to the 2017 World Games to be held in Austria. The MAL Chapter and CW National Philanthropy have awarded 23 grants of \$2500 each! Isn't that absolutely amazing? These grants help families to be able to see their Team USA athletes compete. The 23 recipient families come from 18 different states across the USA. Many hours are put in by dedicated volunteers from our CW Chapters in the process of selecting the recipients. All we ask is that the family shows an active participation in their athlete's life with Special Olympics.

A quote from a Michigan Mom tells it best: *I am so blessed to be the recipient of the Clipped Wings Grant! I cannot begin to tell you how much this means to me and my daughter Leslie. We have never been outside of the United States. It means more than words can say!*

The next S/O USA Games will be held in SEA in 2018. Clipped Wings is already looking forward to being involved in SEA. If you are a current or former Inflight Crew member with UAL/CO, just check out our website at [www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org](http://www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org). We'd love to welcome you and have you join in the fun, good times and opportunities that we share.

## NEW MEMBERS

The following new members joined RUAEA during the month of **December 2016**:

Alfaro, Wanda, ORDCS, 440 E. Montrose Ave., Unit 407, Wood Dale, IL 60191  
Anderson, Elizabeth, ORDSW, PO Box 346, Blair, NE 68008  
Brannon, Christine C., CHITO, 8040 Cardinal Ln., Waconia, MN 55387  
Costello, Shar, 3409 President Pride Pl., Suite # 3, North Las Vegas, NV 89084  
Hansen, Debbie, 2411 West Sahara Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89102  
Hunt, Delyanira S., 488 Miriam St., Daly City, CA 94014  
Moore, Edward, DENTK, 5923 E. Valley Hi Dr., Parker, CO 80138  
Reinert, Bob, DENMM, 3916 N. Potsdam Ave. Pmb 2549, Sioux Falls, SD 57104  
Smith, Lenord, 37 Stephen St., Glen Ridge, NJ 07028

## CONTRIBUTIONS

We appreciated monetary contributions from the following members during the month of **December 2016**:

Wanda Alfaro, John R. Anders, Kathryn Baran, Michael E. Beirne, Thomas F. Boyle, Teresa J. Breslin, William G. Brooks, Betty S. Bryant, Marilyn J. Cheadle, Margaret Claeys, Margery Clark, Carol A. Colacicco, Joanne Cote-Carlsen, Arthur Cottrell, James W. Crouch, Edward C. Dawes, John A. Degrange, Bernice M. Divine, Robert E. Duensing, Vernon R. Duley, Bruce Dunkle, Richard L. Edwards, Philip J. Elliott, Shirley M. Elmendorf, Francisco Fornells, James A. Foster, Jean R. Fraher, Francis Gibbons, Helene L. Guay, John F. Haferbecker, Hiroko Hansen, Trevor Hewes, Jesse Hicks, Jessie Hiltbold, William J. Hindman, Delyanira S. Hunt, Peggy R. Jacobs Dunkle, Susanne Johnson, Kenneth Johnson, Lloyd O. Johnson, Lowell E. Johnston, Robert V. Keefe, Paul I. Kern, Robert K. Koch, Joann M. Koester, Frank Leo, Lorene Ludeman, E. Ann Mace, John J. Mackenzie, Samuel A. Margolis, Theresa M. Martin, Ben M. Matsumoto, Frank P. McAnulty, Dixie L. McCay, L. K. McGill, Edward J. Meyer, Huguette B. Meyer, Jerry L. Meyer, Mildred L. Monson, Papee Mossman, James A. Nagy, Manuel Ojeda, John S. Pasakarnis, Kenneth W. Paulson, Donna R. Perry, Gary M. Peters, Louise C. Prairie, Eugene R. Rollins, Stephen C. Ryan, Jim Schmidt, Bernard W. Schneider, Ronald L. Shepherd, Josephine N. Shioji, Lenord Smith, Jeffery B. Smith, Dennis G. Snell, Richard John Snyder, Margaret C. Snyder, Dolores Steger, Kenneth A. Storey, Gerard Terstiege, Beverly K. Thompson, Linda Tilford, Emily Turner, Isabel M. Van Toorn, Gayle M. Vanacora Charley, Sophie C. Wajda, Joseph Walp, Charles L. Westpfahl, Maureen C. Williams, Charles R. Williams, Joyce M. Zarr.

## 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), 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 – **Bellopatrick, Jr., George**, on 12/26/2016, DENMM, husband of Beverly Bellopatrick, father of Laura Bellopatrick, 18221 E. Union Dr., Aurora, CO 80015

Retiree – **Byrne, Patrick (Paddy) J.**, on 12/23/2016, SLCCG, husband of Elizabeth (Betty Finnegan) Byrne, 185 Park Shadows Circle, Bountiful, UT, 84010

Retiree – **Bullas, Leslie N.**, on 10/19/2016, DENKF, husband of Joan Bullas, 2209 Cebolla Creek Way NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120

Retiree – **De Young, John O.**, on 12/13/2016, ORDMM, husband of Blossom De Young, 220 Ponderosa Pine Dr., Blue Eye, MO 65611

Retiree – **Kokot, Edmund F.**, on 12/9/2016, OPBCM, husband of June Kokot (deceased), 699 W. Magee Rd., Apt .19103, Tucson, AZ 85704

Retiree – **Mac Pherson, Antonio H.**, on 12/20/2016, SFOMK, husband of Helene Mac Pherson, 1608 Howard Ave., Burlingame, CA 94010

Spouse – **Medve, Richard S.**, on 11/17/2016, husband of Ann H. Medve, SANOZ, PO Box 190726, Hawi, HI 96719



Retiree – **Niebels, Richard C.**, on 12/31/2016, DENCS, husband of Kathy Niebels, 7933 S. Trenton St., Centennial, CO 80112  
Retiree – **O'Brien, Bernice T.**, on 11/18/2016, ORDCS, wife of Dennis O'Brien, 1465 Riverwood Dr., Algonquin, IL 60102 and dear friend for 46 years of Carole Rogers, retired ORDCS  
Retiree – **Preiser, Betty**, on 12/10/2016, NYCRR, wife of George Preiser, EWRFF, 2236 Mt Hood Ln., Toms River, NJ 08753  
Retiree – **Pucci, Edward P.**, on 12/3/2016, DENJL, husband of Marian Pucci and father of Stephanie Pucci, 174 S. Dearborn Cir., Aurora, CO 80012  
Retiree – **Williams, John M.**, on 12/31/2016, DENTK, husband of Irene Williams, 1050 W. 112<sup>th</sup> Ave. Unit 104, Northglenn, CO 80234

## Letters & Notes



**Martha Gooselaw**

Hi Members,  
I'm the person who edits the letters/notes 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/Notes Editor  
7401 MLK Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80207-2433  
[marthagoose@comcast.net](mailto:marthagoose@comcast.net)

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

Margaret Claeys, Vernon Duley, Phyllis Easley, Paul Ebner, Jean Fraher, Janet Frazier, Jessie Hiltbold, Gertrude Holmbo, Cassy Honeycutt, Susanne Johnson, Ernestine Manzo, Ronald Shepherd, Richard Snyder, James Wiegner.

### **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.)*

### **Marie Blackwell, 474 Linden Ave., Teaneck, NJ 07666**

Hi Francis, I have never met you but I had to say thanks to you, Virgil and all who put the newsletter together. I read the newsletter from cover to cover every month.

But this month I had to say how terrific and helpful **Kirk Moore's** article was about the enrolled friends. He must be commended. Then I felt the article that was written by **Kathie Torgison** about Washington, DC was so eloquent. It was like I was there. I am definitely going to use it when I visit our nation's capitol.

Please thank them for me.

**Rob Bledsoe, 20762 N. 265th Dr, Buckeye, AZ 85398**

I always enjoy the Newsletter. It is really interesting to read what people have been doing. The information on pass travel and travel tips is always good even though I don't travel on passes much anymore.

I wish all health and happiness.

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

Thanks to **Virgil Gooselaw, Kirk Moore**, et al, for the fine work you do to keep us in touch with our past life. Where would we find our way to use our passes without you? You are much appreciated, more than you know.

I had 38 years at UAL based in NY, DC, SFO, ORD, and Denver. I do not miss the commuting!

I hope everyone has a happy 2017.

**Papee Mossman, 41-483 Kalaniana'ole Hwy, Waimanalo, HI 96795**

The newsletter brings back many great years, great memories and news of great friends. I was hired in 7/27/63 to open the Honolulu Red Carpet Room. It was a wonderful job. I was so lucky! The entertainers, movie stars and outstanding people, I met them all; I was there until I retired in 1993.

My sister opened the Clipper Club for Pan Am. We would argue about which airline was the best. Of course, I knew who the best was.

Thank you RUAEA for not letting me forget! Mahalo Nui Loa-Aloha no.

**Ken Story, 16039 12th Ave. SW, Burien, WA 98166**

Well, it is that time again. I am sending my dues and some extra, since I still like reading the newsletter on paper.

I want to take this time to thank all the local people who helped us at the Seattle Convention, and the wonderful help the National group gave to me. My wife was also willing to help anywhere she was needed.

**Hank Gosselin** and **Ron Bertacini** kept telling me that things would fall into place. But I still had days I worried how things were going. Hank and Ron were right, things went just fine.

We did lose 2 people at the Museum of Flight; but we found them later.

I hope you had as much fun as we did.

Thanks, especially to **Ron Paluch** and **Shirley Claggett**.

I was able to see a lot of people. I really enjoyed seeing **Kit Kitajima, Felix Cicco** and **Frankie** again.

I will all happy Holidays. I hope to see you at the next convention.

*Notes*

**Frank Bullis**

Marion has been retired for 25 years and Frank for 18. We are trying to stay healthy and are enjoying retirement in the Great Northwest.

Happy New Year to all.

**Hiroko Hansen**

I really appreciate being connected to all of you.

**Trevor Hewes**

Where has time gone? I hired on with UAL 3/1955 as a mechanic and got my A and P licenses. I was a line mechanic and then became an inspection foreman and general foreman.

I retired from UAL in 12/1989 and began working part time as an associate with Aircraft Management Systems, working with Air Tran in Orlando, FL, America West in PHX, Dimension in PHX and Sun Pacific Aviation in PHX.

Finally, I contacted, interviewed mechanics, inspectors and LD mechanics for Timco Aviation in Goodyear, AZ.

**Joan Clout-Kruse**

I just got married 7 months ago at age 80.

Marriage is much easier at this age as we are both finished raising children, taking them to school, buying homes, etc.

We are just having fun being with each other, meeting our families and sharing family stories.

**William Walker**

When United closed the Atlanta station in 1979, I was part of the group that opened the station in Sarasota in December of 1979.

I returned to Atlanta when the station was reopened in June 1984.

I retired in 1993 and moved back to Sarasota in 2000.

I am a member of the Board of Governors, Stoneybrook Golf Course and chairman of the Golf Course Committee.

**Yvonne Wright**

I just want to thank everyone for all the information I have received over the years.

My 30 years with UAL were some of the best years.

**DON'T MISS IMPORTANT RESOURCES ON THE NEXT PAGE**

# Important Phone Numbers



*Updated 10/2016*

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

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

## **United Employee Service Center**

1-877-825-3729, [esc@united.com](mailto:esc@united.com) (email)

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

For flight information and to list or change listing  
Password for Pass Line –your birthday, mmddyy  
\$25 fee to create new booking

## **Employee Travel Center**

1-877-825-3729, [ETC@united.com](mailto:ETC@united.com) (email)

## **Flying Together Help Desk**

1-800-255-5801

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

**New United number: 877-825-3729 (International use: 847-825-3729)** This is a new, centralized number for employees/retirees to reach United. After calling the new number, **select option #2 (for retirees)**

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

**BC/BS** 1-800-535-9825

**PBGC** - for all retiree pension questions  
1-800-400-7242, <http://www.pbgc.gov>

## **Social Security Administration**

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

## **Alliant Credit Union**

(800) 328-1935 or (773) 462-2000 (24-hours, 7-days-a-week except Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day)  
<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

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

## **CVS/Caremark (Pharmacy)**

1-844-635-3401

**VSP Vision Care (Pacific Time)** 1-800-877-7195  
(M-F 6AM-8PM, Sat 7AM-8PM, Sun 7AM-7PM)

**PRESIDENT**

Virgil Gooselaw  
(Home) (303) 343-2102  
(Cell) (303) 963-6690  
[vgoose@comcast.net](mailto:vgoose@comcast.net)

**SECRETARY**

Mary Jane Stewart  
(724) 745-8703  
[stewartmaryjane@aol.com](mailto:stewartmaryjane@aol.com)

**TREASURER**

Pam Ziebarth  
[ruaeatreasurer@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaeatreasurer@qwestoffice.net)

**CORPORATE LIAISON**

Ed Tolle  
[hedwardtolle55@gmail.com](mailto:hedwardtolle55@gmail.com)  
(Home) - (224) 848-7207

**EXECUTIVE V.P.**

Jim Simon  
(916) 644-1604  
[jimmvinc823@gmail.com](mailto:jimmvinc823@gmail.com)

**V.P. CONVENTIONS**

John Zoboli  
(775) 856-2044  
[johnzoboli@aol.com](mailto:johnzoboli@aol.com)

**PAST PRESIDENT**

Hank Gosselin  
(253) 939-4362  
[henrygosselin@comcast.net](mailto:henrygosselin@comcast.net)

**AIRLINE LIAISON**

Don Burbank  
[don8585@comcast.net](mailto:don8585@comcast.net)  
(Cell) - (303) 495-9941

**DIRECTORS**

Chuck Cole	Arizona Region	(206) 919-2020
	<a href="mailto:ctcslc@q.com">ctcslc@q.com</a>	
Claudia Blancett	S. Calif. Region	(818) 620-0222
	<a href="mailto:claudia415@me.com">claudia415@me.com</a>	
Sonda Sandstedt	N. CA/NV Region	(530) 210-5644
	<a href="mailto:sdonthego@yahoo.com">sdonthego@yahoo.com</a>	
Sharon Burbank	Mountain Region	(571) 330-7815
	<a href="mailto:rae1087@comcast.net">rae1087@comcast.net</a>	
Roger Casterline	Western Region	(650) 369-2456
	<a href="mailto:rogathome2@sbcglobal.net">rogathome2@sbcglobal.net</a>	
Tom Cunningham	Northwest Region	(925) 846-8123
	<a href="mailto:tbcunningham3556@gmail.com">tbcunningham3556@gmail.com</a>	
Treatie Karwoski	Northeast Region	(412) 977-3931
	<a href="mailto:treamoo2@comcast.net">treamoo2@comcast.net</a>	
Linda Scriven	Southeast Region	(703) 729-8616
	<a href="mailto:ualemp5936@aol.com">ualemp5936@aol.com</a>	
Ray Jensen	Florida Region	(239) 634-2054
	<a href="mailto:rmmjensen@msn.com">rmmjensen@msn.com</a>	
Jan Gawenda	Midwest Region	(847) 437-7073
	<a href="mailto:jawenda@gmail.com">jawenda@gmail.com</a>	

**MEMBERSHIP MGR** - Cas Spokas

E-Mail [casimir4321@q.com](mailto:casimir4321@q.com)  
HOME (303) 816-1358

**NEWSLETTER MGR** - Francis Domaratius

E-Mail [ruaenewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaenewsletter@surewest.net)  
HOME (916) 789-0422, CELL (916) 521-7236

**WEB MANAGERS** -

Jim Sommerfield  
E-Mail [jsommerfield@aol.com](mailto:jsommerfield@aol.com)  
(847) 895-8014 - M-F, 9:00AM-5:00PM Central Time

Toni VanKampen  
E-Mail [tonivk@gmail.com](mailto:tonivk@gmail.com)  
(847) 806-1371 - M-F, 9:00AM-5:00PM Central Time

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# United Airlines Historical Foundation



"Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future"



*Captain Jack Starr of United views Doris Langher's Airline Transport Pilot's License. She credited him with giving her the instruction and encouragement necessary to earn the top pilot rating.*

It was a long hard flight to the end of the Rainbow, but Doris Langher was "on course" all the way. In 1957, the vivacious UALer became the ninth woman in the United States to earn an Airline Transport Pilot's License. She made her qualifying flight in a twin engine Piper Apache.

The coveted "ticket", the highest rating awarded by the CAA, climaxed a 30-year infatuation with aviation for Doris who, during working hours, is a United Flight Simulator Operator at Chicago.

*"I fell in love with flying as a youngster when Lindbergh made his historic flight to Paris" she said. "I read all the books about planes in the local library; there weren't too many. All through high school my English themes were always on aviation. I got good grades because the teacher didn't know anything about flying."*

Doris began taking flying lessons while still a teenager. She worked at the airport, washing planes and selling rides to finance her airborne education and received her first Pilot's License in 1934.

In 1935 she joined United's Accounting Department at Chicago. Even during the "depression" she was spending half her salary for flight instruction.

United's free home-study program was a bonanza and she completed courses in Navigation, Meteorology and Radio Direction Finding. She then won her Instrument Rating which let her qualify for a United Link Trainer operator's job in 1942. She switched to Flight Simulators in 1954.

On week-ends and days off she taught Instrument Flying and Ground School at the Rubinkam Airport South of Chicago. Along with everything else, she was qualified as a Control Tower Operator and also did some Charter Flying. She was a member of the 99s and the OX-5 Club and flew in the Powder Puff Derby seven times beginning in 1950. In 1947 and 1948 she competed for the Halle Trophy at the Cleveland National Air Races.

The Langher Logbook recorded nearly 6,000 hours in the air (1957). **For Doris the Sky never was the Limit - only the Goal.**

*By Marvin Berryman DENTK Retired, from the Oct / Nov 1957 "United Air Lines News" magazine.*

**NOTICE: Due to the renovation of the Denver Flight Training Facility (DENTK) the Historical Foundation (UAHF) will temporarily vacate their office area and will NOT be accepting United & Continental Memorabilia donations until further notice.**

**UAHF WILL continue accepting your tax-deductible monetary (\$) contributions which can be mailed to UAHF, Tom Goodyear, 7401 Martin Luther King Blvd., Denver, CO 80207. Visit our website at [www.uahf.org](http://www.uahf.org).**



Check your mailing label for Renewal Information

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## RUAEA Convention - A Family and Friends Vacation

**L to R:** Desirae Miller (Granddaughter), Martha Gooselaw (holding Great Granddaughter - Lailah Miller), and Dianne Adkins (Daughter)



More information will be coming regarding the hotel and tours as plans are confirmed. Save the dates, September 25<sup>th</sup> to September 28<sup>th</sup>. And tell your family and friends to also save the dates.

See you in Las Vegas!

**L to R:** Michael Webb, Diane Webb, Violet Serote (Granddaughter), Natalie Webb (Daughter), and Nick Serote

