



Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

WWW.RUAEA.ORG



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JANUARY-2009



RUAEA In "The Valley of the Sun" May 17 - 24, 2009

***Meet us in Phoenix!
Join your RUAEA friends!
Discover the Natural Wonders of
Arizona!***



Arizona Cacti

Yes! Part of those Natural Wonders of Arizona are "*The Five C's of Arizona: Copper, Climate, Citrus, Cotton and Cactus*". While in Phoenix, you are certain to see the part each of these plays in Arizona life. As you travel about, you are sure to see many varieties of cacti in the surrounding desert. And there is no better time to see them as they will be in full bloom in May. The climate at that time of the year will be sunny and warm. Days are warm and the evenings are cool in the desert.

Our Transportation Committee Chairman, **Jim Brigante** and his team of greeters will be waiting for you on your arrival at Sky Harbor International Airport to help direct you to transportation to downtown Phoenix. In addition, Phoenix Airport has Navigators who are there to help you in getting through the airport. Look for the purple jackets if you need help. Since the hotel does not have a courtesy van, you will have to choose an alternate means of transportation to the hotel. There are a few means to travel the five miles to your hotel. Cabs for four people will cost approximately \$16. Super Shuttle will be offering a special rate to RUAEA Members. If you choose to pick up a rental car, you may want to do it at the hotel to avoid the airport rental tax which is 19%.

The Hyatt Phoenix is located in Copper Square, 90 blocks of urban lifestyle, attractions and businesses in the heart of Phoenix. From sunup to sundown and well into the night, Copper Square provides a truly unique urban environment. Delight in the aromas and tastes of over 90 restaurants, bars and markets. Expand your horizons with museums, live theater, and music events. Experience the rush of professional sports at US Airways Center or Chase Field. Copper Square ambassadors are available in the area to help direct you.

Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport is serviced by the following airlines from major cities and offer discounted fares to retirees: **American Airlines** (Dallas, Chicago); **United & United Express** (Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Washington Dulles); **Continental** (Houston); **Delta** (Atlanta, Salt Lake City, Cincinnati); **USAir** (Philadelphia, Boston, Washington DCA, Charlotte); **Northwest** (Detroit, Memphis, Minneapolis); **Jet Blue** (New York JFK, Washington Dulles); **Southwest** (Chicago Midway, Las Vegas, San Francisco, Burbank, Seattle, Islip, New York, Orlando); Southwest and JetBlue require an authorization letter to purchase an interline fare. Zed Fares are available for the other carriers through the travel desk. The toll free number for all the Travel Desks are listed on page 34 of the Newsletter.

If you choose to purchase a United Airlines ticket, remember that we are eligible for a 20% employee discount. When you make your reservation, provide the reservations agent with the code **S*PMO/EMP20**. The discount is applicable to any UAL fare.

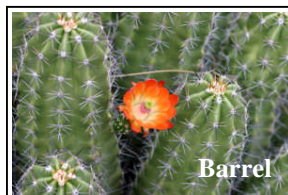
While in Phoenix, you will have over 15 different tours to choose from, including **The Grand Canyon, Tombstone** and **Bisbee, Dolly Steamboat, Culinary School of Scottsdale** and **Pima Air and Space Museum**, only to mention a few.

Watch for the 2009 RUAEA February Newsletter. It will have complete details about local transportation & registration for the convention and tours. Mark your calendars now and join us in Phoenix for RUAEA Convention 2009.

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Ocotillo



Barrel

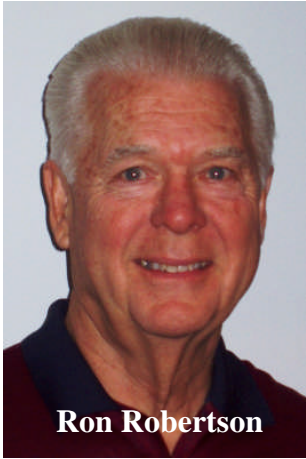


Saguaro

GENERAL NEWS

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Letter From The President (12/05/2008)



Ron Robertson

Well, if you receive the NEWSLETTER electronically, you will be reading this in the middle of the Holiday Season, if in print, then it's basically next year. In either case, regardless of the timing, **Shirley** and I wish you and yours' the happiest of HOLIDAYS and the very best for a healthy NEW YEAR!

At the end of the year, we sometimes turn a bit philosophical, and, as a request, please indulge me as I express a few personal thoughts. On the national level, this has been a very divisive year. We are bombarded daily by the "NEWS" with mostly doom and gloom in minute detail on any subject you care to mention. The latest (as of this writing) is "bailouts" - for banks, corporations, Wall Street, Big Three, government organizations, etc. Everyone wants "free money" to cover poor decisions of their own making, which is actually our tax dollars. As a footnote to fellow airline employees, following 9/11, a true tragedy beyond their control, there was no bailout for the airline industry. There were subsequent bankruptcies and the airlines either survived in some form - or they did not. We've given our share and then some.

Having told you nothing that you don't already know, there is a positive perspective to keep in mind as we head into 2009. Although you have minimal personal control over all these headline issues, let's not forget that we can control how such things affect our outlook on life for ourselves and our little corner of the world. We do live in the best country on earth. For the most part, we have enjoyed our lives' experiences and have had satisfying careers. We enjoy retirement and look forward to tomorrow. Yes, the problems are big - although the full airplanes, restaurants, retail stores, and parking lots I experienced in November, do give pause to wonder. The point is, don't let them overwhelm our personal lives. You are at a successful stage in life because of past decisions that were more right than wrong, and an outlook on life that is more positive than negative.

RUAEA and the Local Chapters provide another avenue in living our lives to the fullest. We all have a lot in common. We all spent a good portion of our past,

working for the same company in interrelated roles. We have great friendships and common experiences. RUAEA and the Local Chapters provide us with a means to relive history, share and enjoy the present, and look forward to the future.

Our 2009 Convention in Phoenix is coming up in May - it will be here before you know it. **Rita & Jim Zarek** and the entire PHX crowd have planned a great affair. PHX is relatively easy to travel to compared with some of our past venues. You'll be pleased you took the opportunity to enjoy life a little fuller - and maybe had a little role in "stimulating" the economy. In any case, have a terrific 2009!

Ron Robertson, President - RUAEA

From The Executive Vice President



Ron Bertacini

A New RUAEA Chapter: As we welcome in the New Year, let us also welcome the newest chapter to the RUAEA family from Birmingham, Alabama. The group in Birmingham will be calling themselves, "**Sweet Home Alabama**". This new chapter is the 61st within the states. We wish them well and look forward to hearing about their gatherings.

With sixty one chapters throughout the country, there is plenty of opportunity to be involved on the local level. There are chapters in at least 25 states with several in some states like California and Florida. These chapters gather in a social atmosphere and are a perfect setting to reacquaint with past co-workers and establish new friendships. Some of the chapters are involved in philanthropic activities during the year to support the needs of those in need in their respective communities. Most chapters meet monthly, although a few meet for breakfast each week. There are various ways that local members get together, lunch at the same restaurant each month, lunch at a different restaurant and even picnics ... weather permitting.

If you are not already attending local functions, I would encourage you to do so. It is easy, local contacts are available at the RUAEA website or if you do not have access to a computer, contact either the Denver office on one of the Directors. Maybe you are in an area that presently does not have a local chapter. It is also quite easy to get one going. The Officers and Directors of RUAEA are here to assist you. Feel free to contact any officer or director to help you get started. In addition, you probably know other retirees in your area that

do not attend local gatherings. Encourage them to give it a try and see how much fun they will have. Finally, you may have retiree friends that are not members of RUAEA, let them know what they are missing and encourage them to get involved.

Ron Bertacini, Executive VP - RUAEA

RUAEA Membership Dues Increase

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

Domestic Members:

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

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

Canadian Members:

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

Foreign Members:

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

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

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

structure will revert to one year increments.

Thank you for your understanding and continued commitment to RUAEA.

RUAEA Board of Directors

ASK THE PHARMACIST – Generic Drugs

Prescription drugs can be costly, especially for seniors and those who suffer from chronic illnesses. One way to save money on out-of-pocket costs for your prescriptions is to use generics whenever clinically appropriate, instead of brand-name drugs, which can be more costly.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved generics are bioequivalent of their brand-name counterparts. That means they have the same effect on the body as brand-name medications. Generic drugs must meet the same strict FDA standards for quality, strength, purity, stability, and safety as brand-name drugs. According to a survey conducted by Medco, nearly 40 percent of consumers say they're not knowledgeable about generics, and what they don't know about generics may be costing them a lot of money.

If you have a chronic condition for which you're taking long-term medications, you can talk to one of Medco's specialist pharmacists to learn more about how generics can help you save money. Specialist pharmacists are trained in the medications that treat *one* specific chronic condition, such as diabetes, cancer, high cholesterol, and asthma. A specialist can talk to you about the medications you're taking, and answer any questions you have about lower-cost generics. Working with your doctor, the specialist pharmacist can help find out if generics are right for you. Of course, only your doctor can change your prescription. For more information on specialist pharmacists, call the number on the back of your prescription card.

Facts about generics

- * Generic drugs typically cost 30 to 80 percent less than their brand-name counterparts. Many plans charge lower co-payments for generics.
- * Even when your doctor writes a prescription for a brand-name drug, your pharmacist can fill your prescription with a generic equivalent, as long as the doctor has not checked the "dispense as written" box on the prescription.
- * Once a brand-name drug loses patent protection, other manufacturers can produce a generic version that usually costs less.

The rising cost of healthcare affects businesses, too. Generics are now among the most important factors in keeping down the cost of the pharmacy benefit that employers offer to their workers. For some companies, especially small ones, generics can help make the bene-

fit more affordable and might mean the difference between providing a benefit or cutting coverage altogether. Because of this, many health plans have implemented rules and incentives to promote the use of generics, such as:

- ✧ Lower co-payments for generics than for brands, resulting in reduced out-of-pocket expenses for consumers using generics
- ✧ Step-therapy programs that require patients to try a generic drug first before providing coverage for a brand-name drug

In April 2008, the FDA released a study that re-examined whether a brand drug (*Wellbutrin XL*®) and its generic version (*Budeprion XL*) were equally effective. The study was prompted by reports of bad side effects and other complaints concerning the generic version. After reviewing all available information, the FDA concluded that both products were bioequivalent and therapeutically interchangeable. In other words, both medications were equally effective.

This information from the FDA underscores what many people have known for years - that generic drugs provide a safe and effective way to stay healthy and combat medical problems.

For more information, visit www.medco.com

United Airlines Chief Executive to Chair Air Transport Association Board



WASHINGTON - The Air Transport Association of America (ATA), the industry trade organization representing the leading U.S. airlines, announced today that United Airlines Chairman, President, and CEO Glenn F. Tilton has been elected chairman of the ATA Board of Directors, effective immediately.

Tilton, who succeeds former Northwest Airlines Chairman and CEO Douglas M. Steenland in this role, will serve a two-year term.

"Glenn has proven time and again his strong leadership ability during the most tumultuous of times," says ATA President and CEO James C. May. *"Under Glenn's chairmanship, ATA will work vigorously with the new administration and Congress on a number of aviation priorities, including air traffic modernization, energy policy and the implementation of fair and practical environmental-protection measures."*

"I am pleased to serve as chairman of the ATA and, along with my fellow directors, look forward to partnering with the new administration and the Congress on initiatives that will further both the performance of the

industry and its economic contribution to the U.S. economy," says Tilton. *"Airlines are a driver of economic growth, contributing more than \$1.1 trillion in value to the economy and creating more than 10 million jobs. With a modernized air traffic control system, we can deliver better financial, operational and environmental results to the benefit of our customers, our employees, our stakeholders and the communities we serve."*

Tilton became UAL Corporation chairman, president and CEO in September 2002. Prior to joining United, Tilton was vice chairman of the board of directors of ChevronTexaco, as well as interim chairman of Dynegy Inc. Previously, he served as chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Texaco Inc., a position he assumed in February 2001.

UNITED Launched Common Stock Offering

United recently launched a 200-million-dollar common stock offering, one of many actions the company continues to take to enable United to be competitive in a challenging economic environment. Under the offering, United will decide when and how much stock to issue at prevailing market prices.

Continental, American & US Airways have all completed equity offerings in 2008. Continental has completed 2 offerings this year, worth 363 million dollars.

In addition to this stock offering, United raised almost 1.4 billion dollars in additional liquidity during the third quarter, and the company did so without significant impact to its base of unencumbered assets. In September, United completed an agreement with Chase which provided United with 1 billion dollars in immediate cash. United also raised approximately 400 million dollars in the third quarter from various activities, including asset sales and aircraft financings.

The company has also taken a number of steps in the fourth quarter to further strengthen liquidity. United received 65 million dollars from an aircraft financing that closed in the third quarter. In addition, the Chase agreement (see November 25 story, Fourth Quarter 2008 Investor Update, on SkyNet) will also help to strengthen United's liquidity position, providing needed flexibility. United also anticipates completing a 150-million-dollar aircraft financing transaction and will continue to take the necessary actions to ensure the company's success.

United Reinstated Seasonal Service between Denver and London

United opened for sale passenger and cargo service between Denver (DEN) and London Heathrow (LHR), reinstating a route that it originally launched earlier this year to enable United's customers to fly to London from any of its five U.S. hubs.

The daily, nonstop Denver-London service will operate on a Boeing 777 between April and October. As United does with all its routes, the company will assess how this service performs before making any other decisions about flying this route in 2010.

The Denver - London service was terminated in late October as a result of ongoing efforts to size the business appropriately to reflect market conditions and volatile fuel prices. With fuel prices significantly lower today, and due to customer interest in the Mountain Region for service to London during a peak travel season, United decided to reinstate the route.

"We are constantly reviewing our schedule to respond to customer interest and provide them with the best route network for their travel needs," says Kevin Knight, SVP-Planning. "We will continue to adjust our capacity to market conditions and seek new opportunities to serve markets that respond to our customer needs and deliver the results necessary to return us to profitability."

The proposed schedule between Denver and London begins in April 2009. and the Washington Dulles and Geneva route opens for sale for flights in the spring.

United Announces New Service from Washington Dulles to Geneva, Updates Schedule for Beijing

As previously announced, United opened for sale new daily service to Geneva (GVA) from its Washington Dulles (IAD) hub. Pending government approvals, United plans to begin service in spring 2009, operating the flight with a Boeing 767 configured with its new, fully lie-flat business class seats.

The start of Geneva service would mark United's second daily service to Switzerland, joining United's daily Dulles-Zurich flight.

The proposed start dates for flights between Washington Dulles & Geneva are still being finalized. Flights will depart Dulles at 6 p.m. and arrive the next day in Geneva at 8 a.m. local time. The return flight departs Geneva at noon and arrives at Dulles at 2:56 p.m.

Geneva is an international banking capital and home to the headquarters of many international non-governmental organizations. It is the second most populous city in Switzerland, with good connections for United's customers via United's Star Alliance partner Swiss International Air Lines.

United is constantly reviewing where and when the company operates based on customer interest. Because of low seasonal demand, United will temporarily stop service between Washington and Beijing for February but the company plans to resume the flight in March and continue to provide customers more service to China than any other carrier through daily flights from San Francisco and Chicago to both Shanghai and Beijing.

United B757 is First to Land on New O'Hare Runway

Just after 11:15 a.m. Chicago time on Nov. 27, Captain Bob Early and First Officer Pat Sullivan landed United Flight Runway 1, the first official flight to make use of O'Hare International Airport's new runway 9L/27R. The new runway is the next step in the ongoing O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP).

The city of Chicago requested that United fly the special charter flight, which departed from O'Hare, circled the city and landed back at the airport amid swirling snow, 30 degree temperatures and stiff wind. The Boeing 757 then parked in front of a crowd of several hundred, including civic leaders and FAA, OMP and airline employees, who were entertained by Chicago's own Bronzeville Military Academy ROTC band. Glenn Tilton and John Tague attended the event, along with dignitaries that included the U.S. Secretary of Transportation Mary Peters, FAA Acting Administrator Bobby Sturgell (a former United line pilot) and Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley.

United's 757 landed on the first new runway to be added at O'Hare since 1971, guided in by the new 255-ft North Air Traffic Control Tower, which began operations at 6 a.m. the same day. Mayor Daley called the tower the most environmentally friendly tower ever built, with a 10,000 sq. ft. green rooftop. The mayor celebrated the cooperation of the business, labor, and political leaders, as well as federal, state and local employees, which was essential to the success of this phase of the modernization program.

Secretary Peters also delivered brief remarks to the crowd gathered in Chicago, having officiated at the opening of a new runway at Washington Dulles earlier in the morning and before continuing on to Seattle for her third new runway opening of the day. *"Thanksgiving came a little bit early to Chicago, you could say,"* she said.

"In all those years [I flew for United], there was never an airport that could match this one in its ability to draw a crowd," Bobby said. *"I suppose some worry what all the pomp and circumstance is all about. But I think we know better. Runways in aviation are the engines of freedom and economic power, and the lifeline of our communities. The FAA is working hard on other projects around the country to bring the same kind of benefits we're going to see in Chicago."*

"We are extremely pleased to have landed the inaugural flight flawlessly just behind us, so I'd like to recognize our employees who are here with us today," Glenn said. *"We appreciate all of your efforts and all of the contributions that you made to make this day special."*

"The mayor and I had a moment to speak on the

inaugural flight, and one of the things upon which we agreed was that just as airlines compete, cities compete. As the hometown airline, we've been committed to the modernization of O'Hare and the benefits it's going to bring to all of us - to the community and to all of our employees. We're extremely excited about the operational improvement that it will also bring."

The new runway adds an additional all-weather runway to the airport, meaning that O'Hare can now support three arrival streams during bad weather situations, addressing one of O'Hare's biggest causes of delay.

All 3 new runways that opened at O'Hare, Washington Dulles and Seattle, are expected to improve overall service. At Dulles, a fourth runway opened, the first addition since the airport started operations in 1962. In Seattle, the new runway is the airport's third and is expected to cut delays at that airport in half since it will enable aircraft to take off and land side by side, even during bad weather.

Flight 93 Memorial Pavilion Updates

To date, \$6,450 has been received for the Flight 93 Memorial Pavilion toward our goal of \$10,000. Thanks to the United Airlines Retirees for their generous contributions. Hopefully we'll reach our goal by the 10th Anniversary. Many thanks again for your support.

If you'd like to make a contribution, make checks payable to: **Chapel 93 Memorial** and mail to: **Frank J. Eggles**, 3405 West Chester Pike B307, Newtown Square, PA 19073.

Seniority List

Looking for a fellow retiree? **Art Shattock (610 Arboleda Dr., Los Altos, CA 94024)** may have the answer. Art has been compiling a "Seniority List" and offering it to RUAEA members for years. To get the list, see the following message from Art:

"It's been over six months since I've put out any word regarding the "Seniority List", which means there's six months of new Retirees who are unaware there is such a List. So now, let it be known to these lucky souls that there is such a List, and that they can be added to it very simply - AT NO CHARGE - just by sending me their name, address, and date of hire. That's all there is to it. My address is above, or if you're computerized, send me an e-mail to WAShattock@comcast.net. This not a RUAEA sponsored project - I do it as a whim, and all entries are for RUAEA members only, and all listings are on a voluntary basis. If anyone would care for a printed copy of the List, I will be glad to send one - but there is a catch - it would cost you \$3.50 - just send me a check and your copy will be on its way. I should mention this is not a tax deducti-

ble item, and any proceeds from sales will not go to any Charity. Please don't begrudge me the \$0.20 "take" on each sale. MERRY CHRISTMAS."

Travel Tips By Bob

Topic for this month is the new Service Charges on pass travel. The "Base Fee" for Economy travel is \$0.00 for the entire UAL System. But, be aware there are some fees that **all employees** will pay. These fees will vary depending on their applicability such as class of service and domestic or foreign travel. The place where these fees are listed is the Fare Calculator located in SkyNet.

To get to the Fare Calculator in SkyNet, sign in and click on "Travel" located in the upper right of the display. Then in the right hand column you'll see "Fare Calculator". Simply enter the origin, destination and month of travel, and then click on "Find Charge". You will see all the possible charges for regular pass passengers and companions. Also, remember that for each change of planes you must break the fare except for the same flight number on the same day.

There have been some changes in the Base Fee format that for the most part has eliminated the fee charges for Economy. Also the new Fare Calculations are based on interline ZED (Zone Employee Discount) and a percentage discount. Some cities with different mileage will be the same fare as they are in the same zone category. Compared to old fares they are quite similar, some more and some less with a plus or minus \$5.00. I did not find any exceeding that range, except for International through fares.

I have mentioned in past Travel Tips by Bob to become familiar with SkyNet. This is the place to go to find information about the company and what it has to offer you. It is also the place to go to take advantage of one of the best benefits we as retirees have ... **Travel**. If you have problems accessing SkyNet or simply using the computer, ask for help from your children, grandchildren or anyone that is willing. Don't be afraid to ask for help, we all have been there and done that.

I hope all of you have had a Grand Holiday Season and was able to be with friends and family.

Happy Travels,

Bob Brumfield
MrB10@mac.com

Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter

All articles submitted for publishing in the Newsletter are due in the Denver Office on the 7th of the month. This includes chapter reports, letters for the "Letters" Column, obituary listings, and in general, any item for

inclusion into the current Newsletter. All items received after the 7th are subject to be considered for the next Newsletter. **There is one exception to the above deadline:** *If your chapter meets on the deadline date, we will extend this deadline by **one day** for the chapter report, if it is submitted by email and received by 4PM in the Denver, CO office.*

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

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

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

Virgil Gooselaw

Newsletter Manager, vgoose@comcast.net

FROM THE NEWSLETTER MANAGER

New Column

The Newsletter is making a new column available to our members. This column will be called "***The Writers Column***" and the purpose is to provide an avenue for RUAEA members to submit articles about individuals or events that will be of interest to the membership. **Note:** The individuals or events do not necessarily have to be related to United Airlines.

To submit articles, send them to the Denver office at ruaea@qwestoffice.net and copy **Virgil Gooselaw** at vgoose@comcast.net. Pictures are welcome, but they must have a resolution of at least 300 dpi. All pictures will be returned upon request. The length of the article should be limited to one page, approximately 600 words with an 11 pitch, New Times Roman font. If pictures are submitted, the word count will have to be less. Articles submitted will be selected for publication at the discretion of the Newsletter Manager. And all material is subject to editing.

Virgil Gooselaw

Newsletter Manager, vgoose@comcast.net



LOCAL NEWS

ALABAMA



SWEET HOME ALABAMA

Donna Murrell

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A meeting was held to establish a RUAEA chapter at Birmingham with the following retirees in attendance:

- ✧ **Paul Brown**
- ✧ **Bobby Cox**
- ✧ **Joe Duncan**
- ✧ **Travis Glass**
- ✧ **Donna Murrell**
- ✧ **Bill Preston**
- ✧ **Joe Singleton**
- ✧ **Herb & Carol Wilbanks**

Paul Brown, RUAEA FL Regional Dir., presented the program, with discussion regarding the by-laws for each chapter, a proper logo, and the deadline for the RUAEA newsletter, which is by the 7th of the month.

Paul distributed applications for RUAEA to each attendee. He reported that Apollo had moved their operations to ATL from DEN, and The National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) has chosen Alliant Credit Union, based in Chicago, Illinois, to purchase the assets of Kaiperm Federal Credit Union of Oakland, California. The purchase and assumption was completed on September 26, 2008, making Alliant the third largest credit union in the country.

Paul gave information regarding the service charges on Southwest Airlines: \$25.00 one-way and Jet Blue: \$50.00 one-way. For retirees needing a benefits letter, you should call Benefit Services at: 1-800-482-5236 and ask them to date the letter January 1st. To check airline, hotel and tour discounts, please check Skynet. You must enter your PIN to check all the available discounts.

The name for the Alabama RUAEA group is "Sweet Home Alabama".

Following are the officers elected for 2009:

- ★ President - **Herb Wilbanks**
- ★ Vice President - **Bobby Cox**
- ★ Secretary - **Donna Murrell**
- ★ Treasurer - **Joe Singleton**

Dues for the year 2009 will be \$10.00 per family, with a \$1.00 per person drawing each meeting: \$.50 goes to chapter and \$.50 goes to the winner. Meetings will be held the second Monday of each month. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 12, 2009 at the Holiday Inn Airport – BHM.

ARIZONA

PHOENIX RE-UNITED

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HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE! We're looking forward to an eventful year and hope that many of you will come to our luncheons and breakfasts we have each month. We always have a good time visiting with our retired friends from United, plus enjoying the food at the various restaurants, which is always great. The RUAEA Convention, which we are hosting the week of May 17 - 24, is our main focus, and everything is shaping up to be the best Convention ever!

Our Fantasy Flight, which was held in the morning on December 5th, was just wonderful. The children were from the Sequoia Charter School, Children First Academy. There were 120 kindergarten through 3rd graders from the school. Captain Bob made the arrangements, so the plane could actually be flown. The plane was all decorated for Christmas. The children were all excited and happy. They all received gift bags, filled with toys and useful items. The crew and all those who participated worked very hard on this project. We thank them very much for all the time and effort they put in, to make this Fantasy Flight one we all can be proud of.

Our November 13th luncheon at the Scottsdale Community College Culinary School had 37 members present. The orders were taken, the food prepared, and served to us by the students who were just finishing their second week in class. Everyone enjoyed this special luncheon.

Our December 9th Christmas luncheon held at Palo Verde Country Club in Sun Lakes also was wonderful. It's always nice to get together during the Christmas holidays with our many friends.

It's time again to pay our annual dues for 2009, of \$5.00 each. You can pay **Bud Hubbard**, our Treasurer, at the next luncheon, or mail it to him at PO Box 183, Sedona, AZ 86339. Also, our 2009 Membership Book is soon to be printed. Please check that the information we have is up-to-date and advise **Jim Zarek**, our President, of any corrections or changes. Thank you!

January Birthdays are: **John Gaudio** (1/05), **Phyllis Weingarten** (1/12), **Molly Norwood** (1/14), **Ferrol Hilsabeck** (1/15), **Judy McFarland** (1/22), **Linda Cooper-Koltz** (1/25), and **Skip Ward** (1/28). We wish you all a Happy Birthday!

Anniversaries in January are **Donna & Ron Pedone** (1/10/80) and **Barbara & Jay Hartough** (1/16/71). Congratulations to the two couples.

Calendar:

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

January 15 - Luncheon at the Grandview Steak House at the Painted Mountain Golf Resort, 6210 E. McKellips Road in Mesa. Social hour will start at 11:00 a.m, with lunch being served at noon. Our speaker will be a Cardio Thoracic Surgeon, who does Robotic Surgery. The luncheon is hosted by **Rita Zarek**, (480-288-6685), **Linda Cooper-Koltz**, (480-288-2652), and **Peg Homfeldt** (480-396-3317). If you haven't made your reservations yet, call them!

January 23: Breakfast meeting.

February 11 - Luncheon at Rosatti's in Chandler.



TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Roger & Lyn Callihan
2262 E. Gerbera Way
Oro Valley, AZ 85755
(520) 825-1423
Callynrog@comcast.net

Michelangelo's Ristorante was the site of our November luncheon hosted by **Pat & Rich DiLallo**. There were 35 Roadrunners and one guest, **Susan Norin**, a friend of Pat, Rich and Alice.

Sharon & Chuck Cole were back on the scene after missing a few luncheons. The Coles, as it turned out, were busy getting to and from their son's wedding that took place in Malaysia. They spent three weeks there during the month of September.

Lu & Hank Dykhuis spent the week of Thanksgiving aboard Holland America's "Oosterdam". Sailing from San Diego, they cruised the Mexican Riviera accompanied by their son Paul, his wife Sharon and their daughter Katelyn.

Our Christmas luncheon was held on December 4th this year at The Oro Valley Country Club hosted by **Beverly Goodlow**. This has been a terrific meeting place in past years.

Donna Kuehn arranged for us to help a family during this Christmas season. Donna has done this in the past and it has been received with generous giving by our Roadrunner group. It's always a good feeling to help others in need.

Bill Royle talked about the all Arizona luncheon coming up in March and the need to get your checks in to **Sybil Collins** in order to hold a seat. Seating will be limited to 114 in the main dinning room. Any attendees

over the 114, will be seated outside. Hope we have our usual nice weather.

Calendar:

January 15 - Angelina's Restaurant

February 19 - TBA

CALIFORNIA

CENTRAL COASTERS

Avila Beach, CA

Al Rybar

P.O. Box 2298

Avila Beach, CA 93424

(805) 595-2532

papawow@charter.net



We are now in a new year and it should be a very interesting one for UAL and our country. We did not meet in November, but our December meeting is always the one we look forward to. We have a great lunch and then our gift exchange is always a fun time. I will be able to fill you in next month. A few of our members were very close to the fires that occurred this past month in Southern California. We will get filled in by **Bill & Dana Noyes** and **Jack & Eleanor Cunningham** who live very close to that area. It was a devastating fire that destroyed so many multi-million dollar homes. The fire was traced to college students that had a camp fire that they thought was snuffed out. But the winds got it re-started and the rest is history.

At our October meeting, we agreed to donate \$200 for Toys for Tots. We thought we could donate part of that money to a homeless shelter or some such organization. However, we all agreed that Christmas was for the kids and **Bob Wagner** was given the job of distributing our contribution. Bob told me that on Dec. 6th there will be a group of U.S. Marines and motorcyclists leaving from the Moose Lodge in Pismo Beach. They will be gathering gifts and toys and will distribute them to kids from Lompoc to Paso Robles. For those of you not familiar to our area, it is about 50 miles, give or take a few miles. I'll have all the news in our next issue of the Newsletter with the results.

At our Dec. meeting, we will be collecting the dues for next year and also nominating the officers. Usually, it doesn't take too much arm-twisting to get volunteers. At this time, we always find Hosts for our meetings next year.

Here's hoping our organization had a great holiday season and look forward to another great year in retirement. Speaking of retirement, when is our bedtime? About three hours after falling asleep on the couch.



BRAZEN RAISINS

Dick Shryock

39379 Hidden Oak Drive

Oakhurst, CA 93644-9530

(559) 683-2728

dukier@sti.net



Donna & Don Nessling hosted the Brazen Raisins' November 2008 meeting. After a few jokes by the two Dicks (**Hayes** and **Shryock**), President **Don Nessling** was able to restore order and welcomed guest RUAEA Executive Vice President **Ron Bertacini**. Treasurer **Dick Shryock** painfully announced to the group that the chapter had insufficient funds to subsidize the Christmas luncheon as in the past, and, after a raucous discussion, it was decided that we would simply order from the restaurant's menu and pay our own bills as at regular meetings.

Don appointed **Jack Hartman** and *Dick Shryock* as nominating committee for 2009 officers, but after another lively discussion, it was decided that the present officers would serve for another year: President - **Don Nessling**; Vice President - **Peggy Oakshott**; Recording Secretary - **Elida Rivas**; Sunshine Lady - **Donna Nessling**; Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary - **Dick Shryock**. **Ron Bertacini** brought us up to date on the BP6 rewards, RUAEA's concern with membership, UAL retiring all 737s and doing away with TED by mid-2009.

The Brazen Raisins' December 2008 meeting was hosted by everyone and no one! Sunshine Lady **Donna Nessling** reported sad news from **Bob & Ethelda Frost**: their daughter-in-law had died and Ethelda was ill; she also reported that **Curt Follansbee** had been in and out of the hospital but was doing better.

The subject of how to get new members arose, and **Dick Shryock** stated that he scanned the RUAEA Newsletter every month for new retirees in or near Fresno and sent them letters inviting them to attend a meeting; **Dick Hayes** said that at a party he attended he had approached some UAL retirees about joining, and some said they were willing to join (time will tell!). **John Oakshott** suggested considering raising the dues; **Dick Shryock** suggested waiting until later in the year to do this, and all agreed. Jokes were provided by **John Oakshott**, **Don Nessling**, **Dick Hayes** and **Dick Shryock**.

Now there are more overweight people in America than average-weight people. So overweight people are now average. Which means you've already met your New Year's resolution.

-Jay Leno

DESERT SUNBIRD

Donna Eads
424 Running Spring Drive
Palm Desert, CA 92211
(760) 568-1450
donnaeads@aol.com



The Desert Sunbirds had a great luncheon at Chicago Freddie's in Palm Desert in November. Our number of members attending is consistent about 30, but next month, we will have more at the Christmas party/luncheon at Monterey.

November marked the 20th anniversary of the Desert Sunbirds. The first gathering was a cocktail party at the Blue Skies Country Club in Yucca Valley. It was hosted by **John & Bobbie Diehl**. We are happy to have seven original members and they are **Elaine & Ron Aggson, Ray & Rose Rieke, Marge Eastman, and Vic Swanson**. In 20 years, only one month was missed for a luncheon and that was August of 1989! Added up - we have had 239 luncheons!

Our Christmas charities will be the Hemet Restart Program and the Coachella Valley Rescue Missions. The Sunbirds have given to these charities for years and continue to support them in these tough times.

Our Birthday luncheon winner was **Maureen Williams** and the 50/50 was won by **Jan Kellerhals**.

Our hosts list for next year is complete and the first 2009 luncheon will be at Desert Falls Country Club on January 14. **John & Maureen Schultz** will be our host.

Calendar:

January 14 – Luncheon at Desert Falls Country Club hosted by **John & Maureen Schultz**.



REDWOOD EMPIRE RETIREES

Joan Olsson, Secretary
45 Monterey
San Anselmo, CA 94960
olssons@aol.com

November's luncheon was held at Joseph's Restaurant in Santa Rosa's historic Railroad Square district. Thirty-eight members and guests attended. **Clem Shanahan** was the guest of **Barney & Clare Hagen** (good to see Clare back in attendance); **Prudy Wilcox** again attended with her Cloverdale buddy and our treasurer **Ted Bell** and **Karen Van Dyke** was there with **Ron & Joanne Huhn**.

Sad news was received on the passing of two former members: **Joyce Carey** who had recently moved to Montana with husband **Les**; and **Liz Ashworth**, a former member. Also unsettling was news that **Norma Stillman** had suffered a mild stroke and **Dan DeFord** is

recovering from a blood clot in his lung, discovered after a fall. But the good news was we had **Charlie & Bernice Anderson** back after many months absence.

There was a drawing for a complimentary lunch among the many November birthdays. **Elsie Kuhl** was the winner. Three November anniversaries were announced: **Richard & Marie Southon** (36 years); **Grover & Janice Blackburn** (33 years); and **Del & Iva Lou Clark** (57 years).

Our own **Roger Casterline**, RUAEA's Western Region Representative, spoke about 2009's convention in Phoenix and alerted us to the coming issue of RUAEA news which will feature a great deal of travel information, especially travel abroad.

Our 2009 calendar is still tentative as we try to schedule a day at Golden Gate Fields Race Track in Albany.

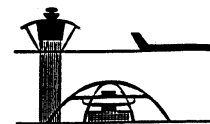
Calendar:

January 8 - Quail Inn, Oakmont, hosted by **George & Lois Schwind**

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

Re-LAX-ers

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



What a week this past one was! We went to the IAM Christmas party on 12/2 - a great turnout and terrific Christmas door prizes, all of which were gathered through the effort of **Lois Hamilton**. The party was at the Proud Bird overlooking the area where the planes are just a few yards from touch down. Besides enjoying the company of some folks I haven't seen in ages, I got the names of several who want to join the ReLAXers chapter, also. If there is no conflict of meeting dates, it will be great to see them at the ReLAXers gatherings.

Two days later - the ReLAXers Christmas party. For this gathering, we skipped the door prizes for members and brought gifts for the children of a wonderful Mar Vista charity organization which is located quite close to LAX. Those folks so truly appreciate our gifts for their kids (infants through teens) that they even come and pick up the load of gifts - sometimes enough to fill a couple of vans - two huge tables piled high this year. That was Thursday.

On Friday and Saturday was the preparation and running of the Fantasy Flight. This year's schedule included kids from several support groups as well as a group of mentally challenged folks ranging in age from

small children through middle age. The kids were first given Fantasy Flight tee shirts, and then bussed from the cargo area to T.6. They were then boarded on the plane where they had their lunch. From T.6, the plane was moved (via tow rather than a gas-guzzling taxi) to T.7, gate 76. (No actual flight this year - too expensive.). At T.7, the whole rotunda area is now Santa's Village where Santa's helpers greeted them with more food, entertainment and goody bags. Santa's helpers are a wonderful mix of volunteers - UAL employees and retirees, the L.A. County social workers who bring the kids, deputy sheriffs in uniform, donor company's employees plus lots of family members. Many thanks go to all the participants, and *especially* to the fantastic lady who has master-minded the effort for a number of years, **Laly Savoy**. Laly was furloughed earlier in the year and the whole affair was up in the air for awhile - but thanks to the efforts of many people, the show went on. Many, many thanks go to all. Some of us regulars missed out but hope to be able to participate next year.

Sadly, at the holiday season we have a few folks who are battling various ailments. One of our favorite regulars, **Olga Jean Barnes** who, a few days ago fainted while at the hairdresser, but she didn't check with the doctor. On the 1st, **Donna Klobe** went with her to the dentist and became very concerned about Olga Jean's shortness of breath, so Donna called the doctor. The Dr. told Donna to take her to the hospital -- now! She had some fluid in the lungs, some anemia, and possibly needed adjustment of the fibrillator she's had since heart surgery 2 yrs ago. She has returned home and can be reached at (310) 670-7538. Cards, of course, are welcome (do they make fun get-well at Christmas cards?) - 7024 Flight Av., Westchester, CA 90045.

We got a note from **Jim Moore** telling us how *not* to end up a fishing trip. He fell and broke his femur at the hip. The result is a stay in a rehab place in FAT until sometime in Jan. He advises it's not a bad place (but never heard of a good one), and the food is a bit above what is served to prisoners of war. Cards for him can go to Hy-PanaHouse, room 16B, 3510 E. Shields Av., Fresno, CA 93726 - (559) 222-1610.

For a person who has had such a run of surgeries and accompanying pains, **Tarina Murray** is the most up-beat person I have ever known. In mid-Oct., she had surgery on her neck which was estimated to be about a 2 to 3 day hospital stay. But luck would have it that she had a seizure, very high blood pressure and got stuck in intensive care for days. She has no recall of the 7 days after surgery. After about 2 weeks she was able to go home (still putting up with neck pain) and she discovered a lump on her breast. Her mammogram was scheduled for Jan 19, so she called the Dr. on Nov 10 to speed things up. I got all this info in a full page, beautifully hand written letter for which she apologized - she can't

take trying the position of typing on the computer. Call her for updates at (323) 758-2710.

Another member with severe neck problems is **Mary Howard**, our "ex-pat" now living in AZ. I received an email from her cousin, Roma, who's helping to keep her email under control. In Oct., Mary had surgery for arthritis in her neck. A steel plate was pinned in to fuse a couple of vertebrae. She was in rehab for 3 weeks and will have a long recovery, but is coming along. She cannot use the computer, so you should correspond by mail to 6760 N. Spring Wagon Dr., Tucson, AZ 85743 - (520) 682-9776.

Joan Hoffman's husband is recovering from heart surgery. His surgery was just in time as the artery was 100% blocked! "Card her" at 7063 Alcove Av., No. Hollywood, CA 91605 - (818) 765-5162.

Needless to say, the prayers and best wishes from the whole group are extended for these folks and any others I may missed.

It was a relief to hear that **Henry Pietrzak** is not related in any way with some criminals - very bad guys - recently in very bad trouble in one of the outlying areas of L.A. County. Hank was as shocked as the rest of us to see his very uncommon name pop up in such a startling way!

News about LAX employee parking - the price is still holding. I am still able to get the parking tags every Thursdays (with some exceptions).

Here's hoping you all have a great Christmas - I'll be in LAS with friends.

"Life isn't about how to survive the storm, but how to dance in the rain".

Calendar:

Feb. 5 - Valentine Luncheon

April 2 - Spring Luncheon

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

May 17-24 - Let's all go to PHX!



Re-Sans

Marian Owens

17680 Caminito Balata

San Diego, CA 92128

(858) 451-2926

nanikins@dslextreme.com

I'm sorry to report that **Chuck Green** passed away in November. A memorial service will be held Dec.

20th at 11:00 am at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 4324 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego. Our deepest sympathy goes to **Nancy** and family.

On a lighter note, I'm happy to report that **Peter & Shirley Criscione** are on the mend, after many illnesses and surgeries this past year. Good health to you both.

We expect a good turnout for the ReSans Holiday party on December 9th. Happy Holidays to all.

GOLDEN GATERS **SFO - BAY AREA**

Helen M. Cain
163 Francisco Drive
South San Francisco, CA 94080
musicalcain@sbcglobal.net



It's the beginning of a New Year and our chapter has been blessed once again: Some of our officers kindly stayed on board ... three dropped out and two dropped in! Thank you, **Ben Vietz** for replacing one of our three Auditors. And bless you, **Ralph Trullinger** for returning to our midst as 1st Vice President.

Here we go again: Yep, folks, we are still hurting for **new** people to come forward and relieve those of us who feel like we have been there forever and are tired of playing "musical chairs". Please remember those of us on the Board and on various committees are **retirees** too. Our 2009 Board of Officers is now complete, but our committee people **always** need help. We are now missing a **day tour Travel Coordinator** and can use two or more people to handle that fun position. Remember: "**If You Guide, You Ride** (free)". If no one volunteers, sadly that will be the end of all of our **day tours** ... what a shame.

Our 2009 incoming Board of Officers reads as follows: President **Bob Taiclet**, 1st Vice President **Ralph Trullinger**, 2nd Vice President **Kathlyn Hutt**, Recording Secretary **Donna Taiclet**, Corresponding Secretary **Helen Cain**, Treasurer **Arthur Barrett**, Membership Secretary **Barbara Underhill**, and Auditors **Jerry Milner**, **Ben Vietz** and **Eugene Walter**. Please give them your support.

One of our cute couples just recently celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary ... **Ken & Rita Wahl**, how DO you do it?

Our annual picnic was a ball, as usual, close to 100 in attendance in beautiful **Flood Park** in **Menlo Park**, an absolutely great way to feed your face while you're greeting old friends and making new ones. We understand **County** park group reservations will cost more next year, but then, what doesn't! I wonder if that makes **US** more valuable as well next year?

Roger Casterline, RUAEA Western Region Director was able to offer us encouragement and personally share his busy life with us for a few hours recently.

Such a busy man and yet he "made time" to be with us, thank you, **Roger!** In these times when our minds are wondering how we can possibly stretch that dollar a little farther when a dollar isn't worth that much anymore, your personal attention was much appreciated.

Instead of our usual potluck lunch following our last General meeting, Kitchen Coordinators **Vera & Walt Kina** recently planned and produced catered **sandwiches** for us! Individual cooking for a monthly potluck gets boring after a while so the **Kinas** have been changing the pace a bit with occasional catered **Chinese** food and patriotic **hot dog** lunches (before July 4th). Our next catered **Chinese** lunch will be on **March 23rd**, 2009. **June 22** will get us ready for fireworks and The Fourth with a **hot dog** lunch. **September 28** is our picnic lunch at a nearby park and **November 23** will usher back the catered **sandwich** lunches. Is your stomach growling yet?

International Tour Coordinator **Ginger Dahlberg** announced that only 12 vacancies exist on her "**Klondike, Denali and Inside Passage Cruise and Tour of Alaska** due **29 August – 10 September 2009**. This tour requires a passport that does not expire for at least 6 months after your tour begins. If you need a new one, be sure to apply early. Some passports have been taking 4 - 6 months before being returned to you. Please Note: **Pam Russell** needs a roommate for this exciting **Alaskan** adventure. In addition, **Dahlberg** presently has a sign-up list for a **National Park** trip that would include the beautiful **Copper Canyon**. Contact her now by telephone at (650) 224-1865 or email gingersfo@aol.com.

Outgoing Domestic Tour Coordinator **Betty Garner** will have finished up her last tour of duty with us by the time this newsletter reaches you. We thank you, Betty for your enthusiasm and smiling face during the last 4 years and ... we'll miss you!

The following is In view of queries received lately from a number of UAL retirees as to whether or not our local Bay Area chapter has changed hours, meeting dates, etc. The confusion may be due to several recent articles published in unofficial UAL retiree articles entitled "UAL Luncheons" and promoted by **California** UAL retirees **Dick Langland** and **Jerry Marsala**. Their meeting dates are on Fridays. This is not US! We meet at 11 a.m. on the 4th Monday of every month in **Foster City, CA** and have brief business meetings, a charity raffle, then lunch, followed by various forms of entertainment. (No September or December meetings.) Our monthly attendance is close to 100 members and guests. (You will find further contact information at the end of this column under "Calendar".) I hope this clears matters up.

Personally Speaking:

If you are interested in "old" airplanes, my son,

Roger initiated and now maintains a very interesting, beautiful and well-documented pictorial website (free): www.sfahistory.org Roger is an aerial photographer and Vice-President of the Bay Area's "Society for Aviation History", P.O. Box 7081, San Carlos, CA 94070, telephone (650) 631-4207. An illustrated and well-written newsletter is published every other month. The organization's general meetings are every two months at a fairly local restaurant with a speaker(s) afterwards. (A highlight at one of the meetings last year was the very late appearance of their programmed speaker, an astronaut ... who got lost trying to find the restaurant!

She should have tried MapQuest!

Calendar:

Retirees General Meeting: 4th Monday, 11:30 a.m. business meeting, Wm. Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd. (Shell & East Hillsdale Blvd.), Foster City, CA. Lost? Call (650) 286-3380.) Mail should be sent to P.O. Box 4788, Foster City, CA 94404. (No meetings September or December.)

SFO/SJC



SOUTH BAY RETIREES

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

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

November was a quiet month, and no meeting was held the day after Thanksgiving. Many people were busy with the holidays, secretary **Alice Rostirolla** was away on a cruise.

On the 7th, Western Director **Roger Casterline** paid a visit; spoke about a trip to Denver and tour of the Training Center. He had a lot of interesting displays.

Many of our sick members continue to improve. **George Smith** had skin cancer surgery. **Gerald Frisch** is home from the hospital - shoulder is still giving him problems, but he is now taking brief walks outdoors after his hip surgery. **Marian Swanson** had pin removed from her wrist. **Keith Olthof** is recovering very well after his ankle replacement. **Elaine & Vic Kristen** are doing fine.

Floyd Phillips is starting chemo. Let's keep him in our prayers.

Calendar:

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

Breakfast starts at 8:00 AM with meeting at 9:00 am. All UA retirees are welcome. Please call our President, **Tony Urso**, (408) 264-8580 for details.

SAN JOAQUINERS

Rosie Walls
10416 9th Street
P.O. Box 1372
Jamestown, CA 95327-1372
(209) 984-5672
jawrmw@sbcglobal.net



Hope you all had a wonderful and Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to everyone. It is hard to believe the time is passing so quickly and 2009 is here.

We all enjoy a good lunch and that's exactly what we did on November 13th at the East Sonora Conference Center. We feasted on a Thanksgiving meal of turkey and all the trimmings.

Our luncheon was hosted by **Don & Joyce Temple** and **Jack & Rosie Walls**. And of course, we had a raffle and there were many winners of Christmas ornaments and items.

There were several guests and our guest speaker, **John Zoboli**, the RUAEA Director of Northern CA & NV Region, gave us some valuable information which affects all retirees. He told us about the 3 travel desks which are available to assist retirees in travel arrangements; the travel desks are located in Portland, Seattle & Chicago and gave us their toll-free numbers. He also told us about the next RUAEA Convention which will be held in May, 2009, in Phoenix, AZ; the increase in membership dues for RUAEA members; the 20% discount for Retirees on UAL flights, positive space. John also told us that **Tom Goodyear** is starting a collection of Capital Airlines memorabilia. We all want to thank John for the information he shared with us.

We had several members missing due to medical problems. **Fred Verbaere** was in the hospital for a procedure, **Doug Daniels** again was in the hospital due to a back infection. **Charlene Wood** was out of the hospital & recuperating at home. We wish you all a quick recovery and hope to see you at one of our gatherings.

The San Joaquiners meet the second Thursday of each month. New retirees are always welcome; come and join us. If you have any questions, please contact me or our President **Bob Brooks** at (209) 772-9814.

EAST BAY DIABLOS

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



Submitted by **Howard Payne**

As sometimes happens, plans for our last meeting changed as time went on. **Diane Griego** was in ABQ at

a family get-together, planned. **Howard Payne** was in the hospital for a short operation on his gall bladder, unplanned. **Vilma Patrick**, our Founder and current Sunshine Lady, stepped in and took over the meeting, while **Marilyn & Hoagie Harguth** filled in for Diane. **Jo Payne** kept the rest of things under control, with 20 in attendance. All in all, well done!

We welcomed a new retiree, **Frances Oda**, SFOHR and hope she will return. **Rich & Georgia Bouska** re-joined us after returning from a major cruise with 70 other United retirees. It was also good to see **Ken Price** back from one of his travels.

We look forward to our Christmas meeting, 12/8, which will include our annual Toys for Tots collection for the Marine Reserves.

We meet the second Monday of the month in Concord, and look forward to meeting some local retirees whom we have missed thus far. Give Diane a call and she will answer all your questions.

Second report by Diane Griego

Our December meeting was held on the 8th with 33 members and guests attending. This is our annual Christmas Party and Toys for Tots gathering. We were honored by the presence of two active duty Marines, Sgt. Cardon and Staff Sgt Donikowsky. The generosity of our members was overwhelming. The gifts were overflowing the tables. We had our 50/50 drawing - won by **Rose Spring** and many door prizes (two of which were won by our Marines)!

Our guests included **Roger Casterline** and his guest, **Donna**. **Ed Bingle** came with his son, Ed Bingle, Jr., **Ray Peterson** accompanied our member **Adeline Lee** and **Rose & Cleve Spring** came as guests of **Richard & Georgia Bouska**.

Sunshine Lady **Vilma Patrick** is the driving force behind the Marines attendance each year & the Toys for Tots. Unfortunately, she lost her brother the morning of the meeting and was unable to attend. Our sympathies go to her and our thanks for doing this, year after year.

We have heard from **Tom Costa** in Texas and he is doing fine, he extends his Holiday greetings to all. We have been searching for a replacement for Tom as Treasurer and are very pleased to announce that the Bouskas have accepted the position. Thank you both!

Calendar:

We meet the 2nd Monday of each month at Marie Callender's Restaurant in Concord. Social time from 11:00 to 12:00, then lunch and business. No need for reservations. We encourage you to all come and bring your significant others. We have a great group from all departments.

January 12 - Meeting

February 9 - Meeting

March 9 - Meeting

April 13 - Meeting

May 11 - Meeting

June 8 - (our annual picnic)

COLORADO

DENVER MILE HIGHERS

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



November and the first part of December were very busy for the Mile Highers. The Santa's Sleigh Ride committee asked if the Mile Highers would help wrap presents for the children. The following retirees gathered at the Denver Flight Training Center on Dec. 3 to play elves: **Tom Goodyear, Carol Bare, Dolores Cooreman, Carole Longbella, Lois Winkler, Barb Chapman, Laura Coats, Irma Atanasio, Teena Davis, Bonnie Ceperley, Frank & Dorothy Eymann, Barbara Bartlett** and **Thom Rowland**. Thom also took pictures of the event.

The Santa's Sleigh Ride event was organized for 75 children from the Star-Light Children Foundation, these children are seriously ill. **Tom Goodyear** was one of the Santas. The children boarded an Airbus 320 from a United Hangar and the plane taxied all the way to the North Pole, the trip took about one hour. At United's Hangar where they returned, each child received a large bag of gifts, donated by United's employees in Denver.

The December Mile Highers breakfast at United's Training Center (TK) had 50 in attendance. **Walt & Vee Hansen** brought their daughter-in-law **Marilyn Hansen**, who had just retired from Ramp Service. **Laura Coats** brought friend **Linda Failla** from FL. It was good to see **Joe & Nancy Bain**. Nancy recently had neck surgery and she looks great. **Nancy Goodyear** wants to thank all the folks that sent get well cards, she is doing very well after her knee replacement. **Earl Horner** had a knee replacement one week before Nancy. He is also doing great. **Gil Rohde** flew a Qantas Airbus 380 from LAX to Sydney. All he could say is "It's big!" 2 retirees returned their 50/50 winnings to the chapter, **Walt Hansen** and **Charlie Hassler**. Thanks folks.

Happy New Year!

Calendar:

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



PIKES PEAK

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

We held our regular meeting on Monday November 17th and had about 11 friends there for a late breakfast at The Village Inn. We finalized plans for our Christmas Luncheon and discussed plans for the next year. A proposal for nomination of officers and dues for 2009 will be heard in January so all should attend, weather permitting!

Greetings and welcome to first time attendee **Dan Czajkowski** (COSOZ-DENDD) who drove from Monument, CO. He and **Merle Winterton** shared past memories.

Absent today were **Rick & Billie Broome**. He usually works all night on commissioned aviation paintings and is very busy this holiday season.

Carol & Christopher Stuller recently flew DEN-DFW-DEN for an Air Force football game and had no trouble traveling. (We sponsor a senior cadet on the football team.) **Chuck & Carol Stuller** recently flew DEN-IAH-DEN to see son Naval Reserve Lt. **Chuck, Jr.** & his wife **Lisa** and **Will, III** and had great flights both ways!

Chuck, Carol & Christopher Stuller drove round-trip to Albuquerque for Thanksgiving and had perfect weather.

Our hearts go out to the family of Greeley, CO resident and DENSW flight attendant, 50 year old **Melanie Specht**. Melanie was killed on an icy road Saturday November 29th about 4:30 AM on her way to work. Many storms affected travel on Saturday and Sunday of the Thanksgiving weekend.

Our meetings are held the third Monday at 0830 at The Village Inn on Harrison Road near Circle and I-25. We are asking for all Southern Colorado retirees to e-mail us at UALCS35@Q.com and join us for our meetings.

Calendar:

New Years Party – Need a host

January 19 – Regular meeting

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



FLORIDA

SAND“DABS”

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



There were 15 Sand“DABS” gathered at the Red Lobster for our December meeting, on a beautiful sunny day in Florida as we thought about the snow and cold up north. Ho Ho Ho.

The **Hortons** were back from their trip to Texas in their motor home, the **Couglin**s back from Wisconsin, the **Moddles** enjoyed their Panama Canal cruise, **Jo Sanders** was back from Italy, the **Gammills** are back in Florida for the winter, but unable to get to the meeting, and **Bill Lowry** had a dental appointment. Can't miss that. Prez **Dick Coughlin** had news of *Jane Kress* and that she is home now and doing much better from her fall. We were glad to hear that and hope she will be back with us again soon.

There were no birthday celebrants present. Company Anniversary celebrant was **Larry Horton**, 18 years retired. There was no new company news.

After stopping for lunch and enjoying some Christmas decorated cookies I brought, we picked up again with our meeting. The 50/50 drawing was won by our Prez Dick and he warned us not to tell Frieda, so we'll all keep that a secret. We had two poinsettia plants which were won by **Bill Roy** and Herb Gardner. **Jo Sanders** won the fourth drawing for a package of hand made note cards.

Treasurer **Penny Logan** reported our treasury is building up again after we sent money to the Chapel 93 Memorial Fund. There will be NO MEETING in January. Our February meeting will be held at Halifax Yacht Club. If you plan to attend, get your money in to Frieda early as seating is limited. Cost is \$18.50 per person. Be at the Club by 11:30. Remember to bring your baby items for the Pregnancy Center to this meeting.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: *“When your roots go deep, there is no reason to fear the wind.”*

Calendar:

January – No meeting

February - 11:30 – Halifax Yacht Club

March - 11:30 - Red Lobster

“Youth is when you're allowed to stay up late on New Year's Eve. Middle age is when you're forced to.”

-Bill Vaughn



**THE ORLANDO
REAL McCoy's**

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

What a wonderful time of year! The hall was filled with "Merry Christmas" wishes from the 35 Real McCoy members who gathered for our annual festive Christmas Luncheon. Poinsettias at every table and everyone in holiday attire! A turkey with all the trimmings was provided by Pres. **Rich Llewellyn** and wife, **Cathy**! A honey baked ham was brought by **Paul & Helga Brown**, and lots of delicious side dishes and desserts filled the tables! And we welcomed back **Jane Houston**, **Diane Lewis**, **Linda Agnello** and **George Vernau** to the ranks of "dues paying members"! **Gene & Joanne Hall** and **Dee Francis** came to see us all too! Welcome Back!

Charlie Ringer, **Jim Hernandez**, and **George Vernau** are our December Birthday boys and **Jane Houston** is our Christmas Day Baby! Two couples are celebrating an anniversary. **Angel & Julia Montalvo**. 38 years of wedded bliss on the 12th AND a Happy 53rd Anniversary to **Charlene & Ted LeGrand** on the 31st! Congratulations & Cheers!

Prayers and well wishes – cards too – for **Matt McNeill**, East Orlando Health & Rehab Center, Chickasaw Tr. Cell (407)-484-9795 & **Lou Gaydos** who had knee surgery recently.

A Retirement Party is being held on January 10, 2009 from 5:30pm – 9:00pm for our newest retiree, **Al Fields**. Anyone wishing more information, please contact **Tom Cannata** at (407) 365-5561 or **Elaine Tillman-Mannella** at (321) 287-4055 RIGHT AWAY!

The 2009 Real McCoy's Board: President **Richard Llewellyn**, Vice-President **Ken Michels**, Treasurer **Char LeGrand**, Secretary **Elaine Tillman-Mannella**

Mark your calendar:

- ✦ March 7 – Plaza Theater on Bumby "Driving Miss Daisy" Tickets \$32.00
- ✦ May 11-15 – Motor coach 5days/4nites: Savannah, Jekyll Island & Beaufort, 4 nights, 8 meals, tours in each city. Amazing at \$399/pp/dbl
- ✦ August 13-21 – Yosemite Trip, including SFO, LAX, SAN

Contact Stan at (407) 852-6773.

Calendar

1st Wed. of the Month – Luncheon meeting at the Golden Corral, 2323 S. Semoran Blvd. (just south of CurryFord Road) at 12:30 pm. Beginning again January 7, 2009

January 7 – Luncheon Meeting

February 7 – Luncheon Meeting

March 4 – Luncheon Meeting

Favorite Restaurant Dinner Nights will begin again soon!

**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
PELICAN DROP-INS**

Fort Myers, FL
Sandy Pryde
10275 Bismark PalmWay, #1121
Fort Myers, FL 33966-6968
(239)-418-1034
jspryde@msn.com



The Pelican Drop-Ins met at Sabal Spring Golf and Tennis Club at noon on Friday, December 5, for their annual Christmas luncheon. Sixteen members and guests attended. The tables were decorated with several poinsettia plants and centerpieces made of candy canes, creating a festive look. A delicious lunch was served and enjoyed by all.

President **Bill Burg** presided over the business meeting while waiting for lunch to be served. It was a unanimous decision to next meet on the second Friday of January 2009 (the 9th, a week later than usual) rather than the day after New Year's. He announced that **Terry Gikison**, a long time member and past officer of the Pelican Drop-Ins, died on November 19 at age 89. Terry worked for United at EXO in Chicago for many years. Much appreciation was expressed for all that he did for the chapter from its inception to the present. His wife **Joan** and his family held a memorial service on December 10 in Punta Gorda, FL. It was also announced that several members were absent from the luncheon due to illness and/or treatments. **Tom McNabb** was present and reported his wife **Marilyn** could not attend but is recovering slowly from colon surgery a month ago. Bill also announced that **Ron Schultz** is currently undergoing cancer treatments.

A gift exchange of white elephant gifts, passed around the room per a story line that moved them both "left and right" so many times, was a fun exercise ... and a lot of really nice gifts were brought rather than truly "white elephants". A drawing was held and the winners could choose a poinsettia plant or a centerpiece. Members also brought toys/gifts to donate to the Salvation Army for underprivileged children. A very nice assortment of gifts was displayed and immediately following the luncheon, they were delivered to the Salvation Army. It was a great day of "giving and receiving!"

Calendar

1st Friday of the Month

Luncheon meeting at: Sabal Springs Golf and Racquet

Club (October-May)
 Breakfast meeting at Perkins Restaurant, North Fort
 Myers (June-September)
 For more information call or email:
Marge Burg (Port Charlotte) (941) 697-8086 or burg-marge@aol.com
Sandy Pryde (Fort Myers) cell # (847) 331-5845 or
jspryde@msn.com



TAMPA BAY
 Palm Harbor, FL
 Ken Wilson
 2101 Sunset Point Rd. #303
 Clearwater, FL 33765
 (727) 642-6825
zulu770@aol.com

We held our annual Christmas Luncheon on December 8 at Spartan Manor in New Port Richey with 47 members present. After a social hour, a short meeting was held. President **Lindstrom** reminded everyone that we would have several items to attend to at the January 5th meeting, he spoke of the RUAEA Convention to be held in PHX May 17-24, 2009.

Sunshine report – “Get Well” card was sent to **Les Manuel** as he’s recovering from hip and shoulder replacement. “Thinking Of You” cards were sent to **Sadie Tuten** and **Harold & Mary Judd**. Harold suffered a heart attack on December 7.

John Riecss spoke of problems on their trip to HNL. His wife, **Barbara**, got the only seat out of TPA. John had printed boarding passes at home so a new set was issued to him at TPA but his boarding priority was changed from a 6b to 8b moving him from the top of the standby list to near the bottom. He had to have a CSR change it back to a 6b at TPA, ORD and SFO. No one could explain to him why this happened.

Meeting was adjourned and all enjoyed a very nice lunch. After lunch, we were entertained by the Hudson Middle School Jazz Band. They put on an excellent performance. All of the students are in grades 6 thru 8. It was a very enjoyable luncheon.

President Lindstrom wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Calendar:

January 5 - 10:00AM meeting at Tiffany’s.



TREASURE COAST

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



Submitted by Al Popek

Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah! 2008 has come to a close and I am sure everyone is looking for a much better 2009.

The Treasure Coast Chapter ended our December meeting with a very successful holiday cocktail/dinner party at Mulligans in Jensen Beach with 21 members and 1 guest in attendance. There was plenty of good food, drinks and laughs during the evening. **Mari Hirjak** was the big winner of the 50/50. There were lots of gifts from Santa for everyone to enjoy. During the raffle, we had 6 candles to be won. **Constantinos Xifaras** won the first candle but thought he won all six, somehow by the end of the raffle, he had all six candles on his table. It looked like a big birthday cake. **Ron Brodis** said one more candle and we could have made a Menorah with so many candles. When **Jane & Frank Wise** attend the meetings, it seems that their names are never picked for the progressive raffle but when they are absent from the meetings, their names are picked. Oh Well! And guess what? **M. Jane Kerr** who is always at the meetings was unable to attend this time, well her name was picked! What’s going on here?

M. Jane Kerr is doing better than last Newsletter, but she still has a long way to full recovery. The doctors say it will be at least 2 months till she can drive again. Take good care M. Jane, we hope to see you back in full speed real soon.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to **Luster Smith** whose daughter **Oma Carol (Smith) Petrocy** is very ill. Anything we can do Luster, please let us know.

Barbara Dodenhoff, Diane & Paul Leibisch are back from their trip to Australia and New Zealand. They said it was a trip of a lifetime and are finally adjusting to Eastern Time. Now they are off to Las Vegas to spend Christmas with their daughter, Sue. No grass grows under their feet.

One last note: The teacher asks the student “If you multiply 50 times 8 then divide by 4 – what would you get?” The student answers – “The wrong answer”.

Thanks to everyone for the Toys for Tots. 24 were donated. Birthdays for December: **Artie Frage** on 12/15. There is no Anniversary for the month of December.

Calendar:

January 6 – Mulligan’s, 12:30 PM Meeting/Luncheon

February 3 – Mulligan’s, 12:30 PM Meeting/Luncheon

IDAHO



BOISE GEMS

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

We weren't expecting a big turnout for our breakfast meeting on Dec. Nor were we disappointed, considering all the things going on in the Treasure Valley this time of the year, plus the fact that standby travel is practically out of the question. But it was a jolly group, nonetheless. The camaraderie & buffet breakfast made it all worthwhile.

Marlene Croghan did admit sneaking in a trip before the Thanksgiving rush. This time it was a trip to TUC to visit her daughter, **Marilyn**. She said the weather was beautiful, & her flights were all on time, even a bit early. But she's always a happy camper when away from home, & a happy flyer when visiting family.

Then of course there is the GEM with the restless legs, **Dave Adams**, who is always on the go. If he is not chauffeuring a tour bus of passengers from place to place, he is driving his car or flying one airline or another, visiting friends/relatives & attending reunions of one type or another. When Boise State University has a football game, he's in on it - busing team members, band members, or the team's boosters. Next it was a debate tournament out of town. In mid-Dec., **Dave & Carol Adams** will be flying to PDX to see daughter **Shauna**, son-in-law **Dave**, 3 granddaughters & a foster granddaughter. Over New Year's, **Dave**, the bus driver, is being chartered (along with his bus) by a family wanting to experience Disneyland & Knott's Berry Farm.

For want of greater news, my oldest son, **Tony Heath**, flew out from Chicago (Lyle, IL) for the weekend to visit the Old Man; his brother, **Gary**; & sister, **Ellen McCullough** & her family. Ellen's son, my teenage grandson, is named **Heath McCullough**. How's that for a handle? Tony asked me if there were still deer 10-15" from my home in Lakewood? I thought there might be. So we drove up the Boise River gorge to Lucky Peak Dam, where I pulled off on a side road. At the end of that road, we could view the south slopes of the hills making up the Boise Front. No deer, but we counted 25 pronghorns (incorrectly called antelope by those who don't know any better).

Calendar

January 5 - 9 a.m., Breakfast at JB's in Meridian.

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



ILLINOIS

CHICAGO SKYLINERS

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



November was a good month for weddings. Celebrating were **Doris & John Daleo**, the winners with 56 years. Trailing just a bit were **Rosa & Christobal Moreano**, **Pat & Ron Artman** with 53 years each. Third place went to **Ann & George Fudge** with 51 years.

I have been advised that **John Desmond** is doing very well after a second stroke. Get well greetings may be sent to him at Alden-Poplar Creek, 4545 N. Barrington Rd., Hoffman Estates, IL 60194. His room is 107.

Bill Churchill, recovering from a pinched nerve, has graduated from a walker to a cane. We hope for continued progress.

On a sad note, we report the death of **Charles O'Reilly** on November 2, 2008. Chuck retired from ORD but also worked at security at HDQ. Condolences to **Pat O'Reilly** at 155 N. Berteau Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126. **Ken Bergsma** is also grieving the death of his father on November 19, 2008. The Bergsma address is 2809 N. Dutch Circle, McHenry, IL 60050.

A few of our Skyliners are doing a bit of traveling. **Don Wagner** took a tour with the Arlington Heights Senior Citizen group on a Blue Ridge Mountain tour which included Kentucky, Georgia, and Tennessee.

Helen Cauwels spent Turkey Day in Albuquerque with her two sons and the families. **Ben & Linda Agena** are cruising to Mexico then to Barcelona and back to the U.S. in November. **Pat Muha** went a little further to So. Africa. Found Africa to be a very diverse country, visiting Johannesburg, the Capetown Krueger Reserve, and the Chobe Reserve in Botswana. She thought riding an elephant was awesome and highly recommends it.

We had a new member join us from WHQMK, **Sandra Piwowarczyk**, a 2001 retiree.

We had 22 at the Southside breakfast, plus one very entertaining six-year-old, Colton Johnson, grandson of **Ethel Johnson**. **Bill Brookins** won the raffle twice, **Al Broderson** and **Bob Pearson** only once. Our **Virginia Hilkins** is a local celebrity. She was crowned the "Queen of Hearts" under her photo in the Southtown newspaper. The pose was her studying her pinochle cards, all hearts of course.

We still need volunteers for the travel desk. One does not need Apollo experience, but you do need to be

able to use a computer. If interested, call **Carol Faust** at (847) 895-1232 or email at carbob7@hotmail.com.

Hope everybody had a Merry Christmas and looking forward to a blessed New Year.

Calendar:

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

Northsiders Breakfast – Artemis Restaurant (**December 10 & January 14**) at 9:00 a.m. Golf & Busse Hwy., Mt. Prospect, IL.

Food depository - First Tuesday (**Dec. 2 & Jan. 6**).



LOOP GROUP

Chicago

Lillian Mallstrom

1109 Cleveland Avenue

Park Ridge, IL 60068-5507

(847) 823-5062

Roenvy56@aol.com

The November luncheon had 15 retirees attending including **Stephanie Simpson**, back after her leg surgery last Spring. She is ready to dance and shop again. **Ray & Phyllis Potsic** were recently on a Grand Circle Tour and visited Finland and Norway with the highlight being a cruise through the Fjords in Norway.

We all had a delicious lunch with superb service from the staff with Marco as our waiter and Alex, his assistant.

Since some of the Loop Group Snow Birds will be escaping the Chicago Winter, it has been decided to cancel the next Luncheon scheduled for January 21st.

However, we do plan to meet on our regular March 18th date with more members and Spring arriving.

Calendar:

January 21 – Luncheon Cancelled

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

INDIANA

INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN

Wanda Bryce, Correspondent

6801 Stanley Road

Camby, IN 46113

(317) 821-8862

Wnd190@cs.com



Happy New Year! May it be a healthy and prosperous year for us all.

I'm sure you are aware that we write these articles in advance, so at this writing, Indy Racers has not had their annual Christmas party, planned for the 20th of December. But, I for one am looking forward to it. **Judy & Alex Cameron** and **Jim Fields** and his wife (I apologize I don't know her name) are joining us. Judy and Alex were members of our group in earlier years, but with a busy work schedule haven't been able to attend our regular meetings. Holding our get together at the Twin Bridges Lodge offers a great setting with a roaring fire in the stone fireplace, and an intimate feeling in the festively decorated, cozy room for dinner. It's a pleasant way to enjoy the fellowship.

I recently enjoyed a mystery day trip, which visited a reindeer farm in Illinois. In addition to viewing and feeding treats to the reindeer, there was a scrumptious lunch served and entertainment by a country singer. Later we traveled to Bloomington, IL to tour the David Davis house, beautifully decorated in Victorian style for the holidays. David Davis was a close friend of Abraham Lincoln. Following that, we visited and toured a bed and breakfast with 32 rooms and enjoyed dinner there. Sadly, we learned because of the economy, many tourist attractions are having hours/days reduced. In addition to raising fuel costs, seniors, who previously volunteered, are now going back to work. Day trips are my thing. You don't have to pack, and yet, you learn and see many unique places that would have just been passed by both in this and surrounding states. And generally it isn't costly.

Keep **Hannalore Brabo**, **Terry Martin** and **Lilea Theiss** in your prayers. Hannalore recently broke a rib bone and has been in considerable pain.

Happy January birthday to **Dimple Rihel**.

Our condolences to **John Pionke** on the loss of his father, John F. Pionke. John was a store lead in ORD and IND. I was told his mother also had worked for UAL in EXO.

Calendar:

December 20 - Christmas party at Twin Bridges Lodge, 1670 S. 150 E. in Danville, IN, time to be announced.

January 12 - Regular meeting at Golden Corral, 2224 Hadley Road, Plainfield, IN. 3 PM, our room is available from 2 PM.

February 9 – Regular meeting.

March 9 – Regular meeting.

The proper behavior all through the holiday season is to be drunk. This drunkenness culminates on New Year's Eve, when you get so drunk you kiss the person you're married to.

P.J. O'Rourke

MASSACHUSETTS

NOR'EASTERS

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



The Nor'Easters didn't hold a November meeting. The following news comes from the replies to e-mails I sent to members. I got:

- ☞ **Jayne Regan** returned from Dubai with many tales. Shopping, desert safaris, Turkish coffee hours with water pipe smoking patrons, interesting culture and people, ski lift ride in an indoor ski hill, good food, camels and much more. She was most impressed by the new very large Burj Al Arab Hotel, shaped like a sail boat. Entry to the hotel is restricted, so she made an appointment with a hairdresser within to gain access. **Jayne & Jack** flew business class both ways, standing by on UA going and LH returning.
- ☞ Our own **Fran Mathews** has been on Public TV's commercial for the new converter box, necessary for your TV when the signal goes digital in 2009.
- ☞ **Lynn O'Hara** will watch Santa arrive on a fishing boat at Rockport Harbor, ME. Then, off to NYC for shopping, Christmas decorations and a Radio City Christmas Spectacular. For thirty years as a flight attendant, she always managed to get to the big city to enjoy its holiday splendor.
- ☞ **Paul & Mary Ward**, already snow birding in FL, get regular visits with their son, his wife and three grandsons. Christmas with family in Lithia and New Year's Eve on a beach in Naples, enjoying fine food and drink. Sounds good to me!
- ☞ **Pete & Peg Nichols** arrived in FL early December. Today they're harassing me with their 79 degree temp, knowing it's snowing this very minute in NH. Humph!
- ☞ **Pat & Bob Austin**, snow birding in FL, are coming to Boston for the holidays, via Las Vegas in both directions, to see Mama Mia, then Neil Diamond. Pat says, "*Love those passes*". Better bring warm clothing Pat!
- ☞ **Bill Vanderwal** has been commuting between Boston & Ft. Myers via Jet Blue to paint his parents condo. Elaine stays home to run things. Smart girl!
- ☞ **Frank DeStefano** will have had knee replace-

ment surgery by the time you read this. Good luck Frank!

- ☞ **Bruce Godfrey**, BOSCS, not a chapter member, but well known by most, has had some bad luck. He went to visit his kids in New Orleans and wound up in a hospital. He's been in intensive care since late November. No further news available yet.

January's birthdays: **Don Lewis, Bob Lincoln & Frank Procopio**

January's anniversary: **John & Peg Dellelo**, 51 years

Calendar:

January & February - No meeting

MICHIGAN

GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Detroit, Michigan
Marie Cook
9588 West Parkway
Redford, MI 48239-1331
(313) 534-0065
marie-cook@sbcglobal.net



20 Escapees gathered Dec. 4 at Jack's Waterfront Restaurant in St. Clair Shores, hosted by **Suzi Hicks (Gorenflo)**. We welcomed for the first time ever **Sharon & Ward Wagner** from Marietta, GA. Sharon is unique, I think, as she actually misses working and not just the folks she worked with, but also her job. She even wrote UA once and wanted to volunteer one day a week. Since UA would/could not grant her wish, she does stay busy volunteering at several other places including the animal shelter. We also welcomed for the first time **Denice Thorsby**, a new retiree who took the buy-out.

2008 has not been a good year as we have lost so many of our loved ones and sadly, I report that **Tom Bradley** passed away quietly, surrounded by family, late in the evening on Sunday, Nov. 30. Love and prayers to wife **Jean** and family at 1292 Lester, Ypsilanti, MI 48198-6478. I also heard that **Carol Dicker**, formally from DTWRR before she moved to DEN, is not doing well. I am sure she would love to hear from anyone who remembers her at 4294 S. Salida, Apt.3, Aurora CO 80013

Wishing all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous and healthy 2009.

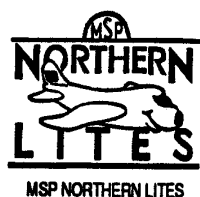
Calendar:

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

January 8 - A/C New Year's Day

MINNESOTA

NORTHERN LITES



MSP/St. Paul
Connie Glattly
82300 Wold Road
Willow River, MN 55795
(218) 372-3973
crglatty@frontiernet.net

We had unusually mild weather for November, which can be one of the most unpleasant weather months of the year in Minnesota (remember the Edmund Fitzgerald and “the gales of November”?). 33 Northern Lites gathered for food & camaraderie & to hear our guest, Lt. Col. (retired) Brad Nelson, veteran of Viet Nam & Iraq, speak. He is a good friend of **Ethel Johnson** & her late husband, **Bob**.

Col. Nelson is the 4th Congressional District leader of the “Vets for Freedom” organization, which publicizes the worth of our military & the good it has done around the world. It seems that only negativity about what the military does is published. The good they do never seems to make it into the news. Col. Nelson related an incident here in MN where the Vets were invited to speak to the students, but the invitation was rescinded when the parents of *two* students objected. The local American Legion post offered to host the speaker at their hall & many students attended with their parents’ blessing. More kids would have heard the message had it not been censored.

Jim & Mary Brennan were travelling again & had a very positive experience. They noticed that the UA pilots aren’t wearing their uniform hats in protest against Glenn Tilton’s receiving 10 times more than any other airline CEO.

Speaking of travelling ... **Gene & Kookie Delvaux** took another cruise & at the end of the week, were joined by **Lee & Diane Storlie** for another week of sailing! Some cruise line is going to name one of their ships after the Delvauxs pretty soon.

Jan Hannah’s Mom is having a rocky go of it again. She’s hoping to be able to stay in her home, but time will tell. In the meantime, **Jan & Bob** are making the trek over to Wisconsin frequently to check on her & tend to things for her.

Those of you who worked at MSP airport may remember Royal Zeno, the fellow who operated the shoe-shine shop in the back lobby. It’s my sad duty to report that he passed on recently. His laconic, gentle nod will be missed by many who worked there or were his customers.

Got emails from **Andy & Norma Holen** from their winter digs in AZ. **Norma** travelled with a group from her church to an African village north of Durban, where

they mixed cement & laid block for a new community building. The group took medical & school supplies and clothes for the children. They were there for a week & she can hardly wait to go back again next year. **Andy** stayed in MN for hunting season & had amazing luck ~ shot three deer within 10 minutes. They’re going to be having venison roast, venison steak, venison sausage, venison meatloaf, venison ... for months to come! Just goes to show you that the whitetail deer is a very prolific critter, when the state can allow more than one kill per license. We frequently see a doe with twins & triplets in the spring, & you KNOW that many, many fawns have the same Daddy.

All of the attendees had received their health insurance info. & it was curious to hear that some people’s premium went up & other’s went down (?). We supposed that it just depended upon whether their job had been a union-represented one or not; the date of retirement probably has something to do with it, also. This is the way they keep us all from nodding off, I guess.

Calendar:

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

NEVADA

LAS VEGAS

GAMBLERS

Chris Czaplewski, Secy.
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chriscz@cascadeaccess.com



HAPPY NEW YEAR! May 2009 bring blessings to this great country we live in; to our Leaders; and to the World. May we all be blessed with good health and good friends to enjoy in our retirement years. One of our blessings is the RUAEA Newsletter and all the good folks that volunteer their time and knowledge.

Report on the “Gamblers” Christmas luncheon will be in the next newsletter. One of our members, **LeRoy Hall**, passed away. Our condolences to **Brandy** and family. Cards may be sent to **Brandy Hall** at 5508 Flora Spray St., Las Vegas, NV 89130.

News on other Members: **John Albert** is under the weather at this writing, trying to ward off cold and flu. **Mike Vasko** had a close call with kidney failure. He went thru a Lithotripsy, which crushes kidney stones, thus eliminating them thru the bladder. I guess it’s quite painful, and he still has a very large stone that needs to be eliminated gradually. **Denny Gutwald** has been going through Chemo and radiation for lung cancer. **Lois**

Fox has finally had her other hip replacement, and going to rehab. She's been in a lot of pain, and was able to get in earlier than her scheduled January surgery. I've heard from **Margaret Hooker**, LASCs retiree. She's been battling lung cancer for some years. Her husband, **Art**, passed away a few years ago from the same dreaded disease. I wonder why all these good people have to suffer so much.

On the brighter side; **Winnie Stone** is slowly gaining back her strength from her cancer surgery, and the loss of her husband, Fred. Her son, Alex, has moved into a double-wide on her property, and is able to help Winnie out a lot.

Freddi Bieman is trying to find her ultimate place of retirement. She has a beautiful condo on Marco Island, FL which she rents out occasionally. She's lived in The Villages, FL, Mesquite, NV, Hathaway Pines, CA, and is now back in Florida. I think she'll end up back in Mesquite; this is a great place to live! We're looking forward to the RUAEA Convention in PHX this year. It's a great time to meet with our fellow retirees, and former co-workers. Our next luncheon/meeting will be on Feb 10th, 2009. No menu set up yet. We hope to have a guest speaker from the Association for the Blind.



RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

Pat Zoboli
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zobolilady@aol.com

With our healthy treasury balance, some of the funds were used to help subsidize our Christmas luncheon on December 8th. There were 25 members and one guest at our November meeting at the Palais de Jade.

United News: Open Enrollment period was October 28 through November 19. Beginning Oct. 31, a new program is available. You can access your electronic certificates good for 10% discount on United Economy & United Express for friends & Family. All itineraries must be booked via united.com. There is a new door-to-door baggage service available – overnight baggage shipping. United has also modified their prices for passengers' bags.

RUAEA: The 2009 Convention dates are May 17 - 24, the week before Memorial Day weekend – in Phoenix.

We are once again searching for a new meeting place. The Palais de Jade wanted to charge us for use of the separate room and was not receptive to our bringing and cutting our own cake on their premises. One of the biggest hurdles is finding a restaurant that is willing to do separate checks for a group that numbers any where

from 25 – 40 people.

The winner of the 50/50 was **Kathy Robinson**. Winners of the candy gifts were **Elizabeth Brown**, **Lynda Klemm** and **Ralph Mischker**. November birthdays were celebrated by: **Tom Diehl** and **Gary Fahl**. **Kathy & Joe Robinson** kindly donated they "mystery gift", won by **Nancy Scaife**.

Time to think about running and/or volunteering to take on an office for 2009. While John, Mary, Kathy and I have been doing it a while, we would be glad to share the fun! Offices are: President, Secretary and/or Newsletter Editor and Treasurer.

NEW YORK

NEW YORK METROS

Long Island, NY
Jim Richardson
(Filling in for Rose Schneider)
619 80th St., Brooklyn, NY 11209
(718) 836-9614
ualjimbo@aol.com



NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

87 members and guests gathered at the Milleridge Inn in Jericho, NY for our annual Christmas Banquet. The Milleridge Inn was resplendent with Christmas decorations and lights putting all in a great holiday spirit.

President **Jim(bo) Richardson** started off the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by asking all to keep our recently deceased member, **Bob Gilson**, in our prayers. He also asked for prayers for a speedy recovery for **Lee & Lou Ricci**, **Mary Shepherd**, **Betty Vernillo**, **Mabel Bittar** and **Rose Schneider**. He asked that we remember those who appeared on the September Obituary List especially those who worked in the NYC area. Jim then suggested that we all enjoy each other's company and the wonderful lunch prepared for our group; and he would continue with the rest of his notes after we were watered and fed.

After dessert, Jim continued with his meeting notes by announcing December birthdays. **Ann Hluboky** won the birthday girl spot for this meeting. Jim announced that if the nurse's station had the radio on at the hospital where Ann was born, the nurses may have been swooning to one of the top hits of the day entitled, "More Than You Know" as sung by Helen Morgan. Ahh that brings back memories, doesn't it? Jim continued with announcing those couples celebrating their wedding anniversaries during the month of December. They were **Barbara & Walter Stobe** married on 12/1/84 and **Elizabeth & William Armstrong** who got hitched on 12/19/64. It was the same month and year actress Arlene Dahl said her "I do" to Alexis Lichine. Congrats to all whose special month is December.

Although everyone seemed to be having a good time, Jim still had more bad news to share with the chapter. **Mike Pasienza**, a past president of the NY Metros, was broken hearted to learn that his daughter Linda had passed away. Our hearts go out to Mike and his family as they deal with this tragedy.

Mary Shepherd and her two sons Ronnie and Dennis are annual guests at our Holiday Banquet and would normally present the ARTHUR SHEPHERD'S PRESIDENT AWARD to one of the chapter's outstanding members. However, Mary who recently fell and broke her hip was unable to come with her sons Ronnie and Dennis.

Last year, the NY Metros voted to cancel the January meeting, however, at the request of some members I was asked to have the membership vote again on the same proposition for 2009. The vote was still overwhelming in favor of leaving January as a month of R&R.

The NY Metros finished collecting unwrapped toys for the Marathon School in Little Neck, NY. The Marathon School is a NYC run school for children with handicaps. I might add that the NY Metros were very generous toward this school.

Some of our guests included retired people from United who have not yet joined our organization. They included **Carol Turner**, **Gerri Moran** and **Tom Yule**. We hope they'll consider joining our chapter in the near future.

After wishing everyone a Happy Chanukah, a Blessed and Merry Christmas and Health and Happiness in the New Year, Jim introduced **Charlie Kaczinski** who was in rare form and had the house in tears with his jokes. Charlie should really try out for Comedy Central some day.

Charlie then presented me with my own special tee-shirt with the name JIMBO in bright bold lettering across the front. I'll wear it proudly knowing it was Charlie K. that gave it to me.

It was then time to present the ARTHUR SHEPHERD'S PRESIDENT AWARD to **Edward Pozzi**, a very deserving and outstanding member of the NY Metros for the past few years. Congratulations Ed! Thanks for all your efforts and help during the year.

Calendar:

January 2009 - No meeting.

February 4 - 12 noon, Millerridge Inn

March 4 - 12 noon @ Milleridge Inn

April 1 - 12 noon @ Milleridge Inn



OHIO

BUCKEYES

Cleveland, OH

Sharon Garrah

43248 Kipton Nickel Plate Rd.

Lagrange, OH 44050

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There were 94 people in attendance including 2 guests at the Ohio Buckeyes Christmas luncheon on Dec. 3rd. The luncheon was held at Copper Top Restaurant in Medina. **Dave & Marie Placko** have hosted the month of December for the last four years. All had a great time. Thanks again Dave & Marie.

Pres. **Carol Hacker** opened the meeting while we were waiting for the buffet to be ready. **Vic & Betty Taylor** along with **Bob & Shari Herman** have had fund raising events for St. Herman's for some time. This year, unfortunately, they were not able to participate due to health problems. The decorated Christmas bag was passed around and \$331 was collected for St. Herman's. The proceeds will benefit the homeless shelter and its hot meal center. Many thanks to all for donating to this worthwhile cause. St Herman's not only benefit men, but also women and children. GOD Bless!

Birthdays were acknowledged along with introducing the visitors. **Mike & Sue Froster** were guests of her Mom & Dad, **Andy & Mary Striegl**. We were glad to hear that Mike & Sue are moving back & we will be seeing them quite often.

"Thinking about you" cards for **Emily & Dave Robinson**, **Ed & Adeline Kowalski**, **Bob & Shari Herman** were passed around for members to sign. We ask that you keep all them in your prayers. We miss seeing them & would enjoy having their company whenever possible.

In the recent month, two couples have become Great Grandparents. How nice. They are **Gene & Jacki Craig** and **John & Dolly Taucher**. Congratulations, how happy you must all be.

The 50/50 winners were **Don Elster & Sue Froster**. **Dave Placko** informed us that this was the largest 50/50 yet.

Our Pres. thanked all the people that were involved hosting a monthly event, callers, etc. She also announced that **Judith Spooner** would be standing in as a caller for **Bob Herman**.

We have lost many valuable members this past year. In January, long time member **John Reagan**. We also lost long time member **Marilyn Gschwend**. In March, member **Marianne Skala**'s beloved Mother passed away. In April, Vice- Pres. **Sharon Minelli** lost her sister-in-law, **Marietta Cappelletti**. Non-Member **Al**

Brandenburg passed away in April. ALL OF US RE-MEMBER **Jo Madden** who passed away this past May. **Paul Frye & John Salanski** also passed away in 2008. In Nov., **Sue Barkfelt**, wife of deceased mechanic **Howie Barkfelt** passed away. Please keep these people and their families and loved ones in your prayers.

The year of 2008 has seen many of our members dealing with minor as well as life threatening health problems. I know personally that the power of prayers and cards really do make a difference in a person's recovery.

Calendar:

January – No meeting

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

OREGON

OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland

Barbara M. Heidegger

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Portland, OR 97230

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What a wonderful Thanksgiving meeting we had. There were 82 of us having a turkey dinner followed by an elaborate display of delicious desserts made by some of the members. No one should have left the luncheon hungry. Winners of the prizes in November were **Frank Bullis**, door prize (free lunch); **Veulah Lorts**, birthday; **Bill & Mary Keys**, anniversary (one year) and **Mary Lou Falbo**, 50/50.

Mel Martin is one lucky guy. He went elk hunting and experienced chest pains. His companions encouraged him to go to the emergency hospital closest to them but he insisted he would be fine until he got home. **Barbara**, his wife finally convinced him the need to go to the ER. He was hospitalized and the next morning his heart stopped, the bells and whistles brought the response team and he was resuscitated. I believe he later had stents put in; however, there is a lot more to the story and to hear it correctly, please talk with Mel. Recovering from pneumonia is **Bob Boelter** and I understand **Sue Rommel** had surgery.

A Veteran's appreciation day is planned for one of the meetings in the near future and don't forget the Valentine's Day card exchange and Ice Cream Social in February. **Charlie Stemper** is looking for ideas for guest speakers and if you have a favorite topic you think the members would like to hear about or someone you think would give a good presentation, please give him a call.

Calendar:

Meetings at Refectory Restaurant 1618 NE 122nd Ave., Portland OR 11AM Social Hour, Lunch 12:00 PM

January 14, 2009 - Social

February 11 - Valentine Exchange and Ice Cream Social

March 11 - St. Patrick's Day celebration

OUR CLUB

Southern Oregon

Jane Frincke

1000 Peco Road

Grants Pass, OR 97526

(541) 472-9212

jjfor@rascal.cc



The December 5 holiday luncheon was held at The Brewery in Grants Pass. The turnout of 31 members and guests enjoyed a tasty buffet and the gracious hosting of **Alberta & Russ Randall**. The Randalls outdid themselves with beautiful decorations and prizes that made the luncheon a very festive affair and the perfect beginning of the holiday season.

Bob Lindberg arranged for a much-in-demand speaker, Gail Turner Bauer, to address the members. Ms. Bauer, a former kindergarten teacher, followed her passion for flying to become the first woman to build an experimental aircraft and fly it across the United States. The Fly Baby plane was bright pink and her jumpsuit was black lace. She was not only an entertaining speaker, she was also inspiring. One of her philosophies is "Every day is an adventure, so live it!"

Among the business conducted at the meeting was selection of a recipient for the chapter's annual charitable donation and election of 2009 officers. Next year's officers are:

- ★ President - **Neal Appleton**
- ★ Secretary - **Jane Frincke**
- ★ Treasurer - **Peggy Wilson**

Alberta Randall will continue as Social Secretary/Sunshine, **Laurie Jordan** will serve as luncheon Secretary, and **Jane Frincke** will maintain the membership records. As one of her last official acts, outgoing president, **Jane Frincke**, handed over the chapter gavel to incoming president, **Neal Appleton**, to adjourn the meeting.

It is with mixed emotions that we have bid the fondest farewell to **Robert & Judy Machado**. After deciding the time was ripe to live their dream of traveling as full-time RV-ers, they sold their home in Grants Pass (one day on the market!), bought a gorgeous new motor home, and hit the road. Although we'll miss them, our happiest wishes will always be with them as they enjoy adventures from coast to coast and the rare opportunity to make dreams become reality.



Calendar:

January 9 - TBA - **Harry & Barbara Horne**

February 6 - TBA - **Wayne Widrig**

March 6 - TBA - **Laurie Jordan**

PENNSYLVANIA

THE INDEPENDENTS

Philadelphia, PA
Dee Burrs
2618 Silverside Road
Wilmington, DE 19810
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Fax: (302) 478-1268



Our Christmas meeting was held on December 8th with 48 people in attendance. We were pleased to see several who came out that we have not seen for a long time. We now break for the winter and resume meeting again in March of 2009.

As we entered the room, we purchased tickets for the silent auction and were challenged by **Karen Fox** to participate in a bag toss. Next was a Christmas card toss. The winners of the bag toss were: **Bob Moir, Leo Neeland**, and **Bob Fox**. The card toss winners were **Marelene Manning** and **Leo Neeland**. Bingo was played after lunch and the winners were **Mona McNamee** and **Suzzane O'Neil**.

Bette Mudd Pyle got a prize for traveling the furthest and **Donna Lynne** won for living the closest. **Jim Fanto** received a prize for being the oldest and **Suzzane O'Neil** for being the youngest.

From the game center, we went "shopping" at the silent auction. Many beautiful hand crafted gifts and home made cookies and breads were available.

We are so happy to welcome four new members: **Joyce Scarfo**, formerly of PHLSW/EWRWSW, **Dorothy Korab** and **Cass Arthur** from the flight kitchen, and **Mike Fitzgerald's** sister, **Mary Allen Carney** from Cabin Service. It is so nice to see new people come out and join our group.

Another surprise came as **Barbara Fanto, Mona McNamee, Suzzane O'Neil, Marelene & Mel Manning** attended the party. Due to illness, we have not seen then in quite a while. Welcome back!

Treasurer **Tom Lyons** gave a quick update on our financial health and thanked everyone for their generous donations to the Christmas baskets.

Frank Egges asked me to join him as co-chairman of the Flight 93 Chapel Memorial Donation Committee. So I will try to keep you advised of our progress. It is confusing and a tough sell because we are "competing" with a national organization with impressive resources for donations for the memorial site itself. BUT, we are hanging in there. For those who have never been there,

the chapel is a small church that was renovated by volunteers on the way to the crash site. It contains photos and memorabilia and is dedicated to the memory of those who perished on Flight 93.

So, if you want to make a donation to the chapel fund, make a check payable to: "**Flight 93 Chapel Memorial**" and mail it to: **Frank Egges**, 3405 West Chester Pike B307, Newtown Square, PA 19073. Please be certain that your file number, name and address on your check. Thanks in advance.

Our dinner for the Ronald McDonald House was reviewed by **Kathy Edwards**. Apparently it was a roaring success. In spite of fewer than the 70 people we were expecting, eleven retirees including **Joe & Gail Bradley, Bernie McNamee, Tom & Pat Lyons, Shirley Roberts, Al & Kathy Edwards, Joyce Lindenmuth**, and **Frank & Marge Egges** made a delicious meal. As it turned out, the people that were scheduled to cook the next day, cancelled so the leftover food was put to good use a second day. It was so rewarding and so much appreciated that we have already set our date to do it again next year.

We all enjoyed the Christmas show in Lancaster again this year. Next year, we will do some better planning so we can sit together for the lunch before the show.

My back surgery went well. To my total surprise, they operate (fuse your spine) on one day, and you are in the parking lot on the way home 23 hours later! Yikes!

Please keep **Joe Brad** and **Dennis O'Neil** in your thoughts and prayers. We wish them a speedy and complete recovery.

We will be holding an election in March for new officers. Interested? Please call **Kathy Edwards** at (610) 859-0980.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday. See you in March 2009.

Calendar:

February 23 - Committee meeting, 12:30PM at the Edwards

March 9 - General meeting, 12:30PM at the Ramada Inn



PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

Jeri Juth
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Happy 2009 – Let's hope the country gets moving in the right direction. The only good sign thus far, the

gas prices have come down to an affordable level.

Well, as the old saying goes "All good things must come to an end". The Juth annual open house is cancelled this year. Hard to believe there will not be number 36. Sorry to say I ran outta gas. The surgery I had last year left me with a surgical hernia. I will have to have it repaired, hopefully I can wait until Jan.

The Golden Girls Christmas luncheon was held on Dec. 4th. Northeast Director **Treatie Karwoski** hosted the event and from all reports she did another outstanding job. Yours truly was unable to attend but all reports were favorable. **Anita Pawlack** "Pineapple Princess" flew in from MCO and brought along as her guest **Audrey Evans**. Audrey was Secy. to Perry Taylor at the airport way back when. Gifts were presented to the attendees from **Treatie**, **Phyllis Smith** and **Mary Jane Stewart**.

The annual Christmas party on December 20 at Montour Country Club in conjunction with the PIT Interline Club will be covered next month. Hopefully by the time you read this issue, we'll be looking forward to a New Year and good health to all.

TENNESSEE

TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS

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On November 20, most of us traveled south to the Springbrook Golf and Country Club in Niota, Tennessee. We had 28 members and guests at our luncheon. **Jeannie Anderson** along with **Jack & Sue Ferrell** were our hosts. It was good to see **JoAnn Swallom** and **Roland & Donna Kreps** again after a long absence. After a delicious lunch and our meeting, Jeannie introduced **Charlie Nelson** who is the Founder and President of the Swift Museum located at the McMinn County Airport in Athens, TN. The museum was started back in December of 1968 by a fun bunch of Swift Owners after one of their annual get-togethers. He told us about the history of the museum and several amusing stories about flying the Swifts and how they got some of their parts and equipment; including how they convinced the Saudis to give them a plane which was restored at their expense. There are only 35 of these airplanes left in the world. We then traveled to the McMinn Airport to visit the museum. If anyone is in this area, they should stop and see the museum. You'll be amazed at the collection of planes that they have.

Cecil Adkins is currently in the hospital and hopes to be moved back to the rehab center later this week.

He has had a rough two months since he contracted viral meningitis and encephalitis. **Cal Anthony** is still having problems with his legs and recently put his back out. **Maxine Anthony** had recent cataract surgery.

Gerald Schaad won the 50/50 and he donated his share back to the Rocky Tops. Door prizes were won by **Jacque Jeacock**, **Patty Leonhard**, **JoAnn Swallom** and **Pat Thompson**.

Calendar:

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

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

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

UTAH



THE SALT LAKERS

Brigitte Murdock
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Salt Lake City, UT 84108-2844
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ettigirb24@q.com

On Dec. 2, 2008, 46 SLC chapter members met for a catered Christmas lunch at **Lila Maughan's** Condo Complex where the community hall was delightfully decorated in the traditional Christmas fashion. **Meier's Meat Market** brought in prepared delicacies, and everyone had enough food to take home with them.

Ever since the present team of chapter officers was elected (Pres. **Clair Anderson**, VP (Ms.) **Kip Lufkin**, and Treas. **Frank Christenson**) agreed to serve as our local chapter leaders, we have had a great influx of newly retired UAL'ers who have frequented our monthly chapter meetings. This chapter is now in existence for almost 25 years and we welcome new members with open arms. Thank you, **Clair**, **Kip**, and **Frank** for your collective efforts in getting our retired coworkers interested in joining us! It was our distinct pleasure to meet them.

New members: **Jerry & Jannine Snider**; **Al & MaryLou Cooke**; **Lori Brady** & friend **Mike**; **Laraine Darby Jordan** & husband **David**; **Ron & Shirley Jensen**. Also present were **Paul & Shirley Scoville**; **Rich & Elaine Papworth**; **Frank & Jaline Zoun**; and **Nina Johnston**, friend of former chapter Pres. **Grant Beutler**. After all these years, we finally had the pleasure of meeting **Bev Peterson**, wife of former chapter Pres. **Doug Peterson**.

Former longtime chapter Treas. **Bill Ottman**, now

residing in St. George/UT, spent Thanksgiving Day in SLC with his son & family, and we were glad to see him at the luncheon. World-travelers **Art Scott** & friend **Carol Finney** came, and so did **Aletha Cannon**, daughter **Shirlene Kohnlein** & granddaughter **Kimberly**. **Maureen Seikaly** related that husband **Simon** was not well, and we asked her to convey our good-health wishes to him. We welcomed **Kiyoko Olsen** who showed us cute photos of her only granddaughter (2). **Mike Brown**, our very own "*Kris Kringle*", donned his traditional attire and mingled with the celebrants, giving out candy. **Lorraine Olson** of Layton/UT was accompanied by her son **Craig**, visiting her from DCA.

Never left out of the equation are our faithful members who made this chapter what it is today. About 50 of them have departed to *Greener Fields* - and the ones left behind are still busy with making our meetings a warm & delightful get-together filled with their memories of **United**'s times gone-by!

Phone calls to absentees **Hank** & **Mary Bons** as well as **Tony Brown** reassured the **Murdocks** that all was well with them. The **Bons** had family obligations; Tony was out of town, visiting family members.

Calendar:

Jan. 6, 2009 - Coffee Time - Murray Heritage Ctr., 10 E. 6150 S. Murray.

WASHINGTON

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle

Dee O'Donnell

9311 NE 118th Ln., Unit 203

Kirkland, WA 98034

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EMERALD CITY SLICKERS



Our November 11th meeting at Fairwood Country Club was on Veterans' Day and we honored our veterans in attendance by having them stand or raise their hands, so we could applaud them for their service to our country. We singled out **John Lockhart**, a retired Air Force officer, who flew B-24s during WWII and who ended up in a Romanian POW camp, and also **Don Hanson** who wore his Navy uniform to the meeting - a uniform he last wore in service in 1946, and it still fits. How many of us can say that? We also thanked the USO volunteers who put in many hours at Sea-Tac Airport assisting our service people, such as **Evalena Hatcher**, who wore her USO hat to the meeting and **Doris Spence**, who was most likely on USO duty and couldn't attend the meeting.

John & **Mary Luke** hosted our November meeting, which drew 51 attendees. **Ed Clay**, our retired vice

president, was able to join us again, and we always enjoy having him with us.

John Haferbecker reported on the national convention planned for Phoenix in May, with a Grand Canyon Tour tacked on at the end for those who are interested. There are many other interesting tours scheduled, including the Pima Air Museum, displaying unusual aircraft, including a few presidential planes, and the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base "bone yard" of surplus aircraft. The "bone yard" tour is a narrated bus tour of the acres of mothballed military aircraft. Photographs are permitted.

We decided to move our January meeting to Wednesday, January 21 to avoid the conflict with the presidential inauguration. Thanks to **Helen Stanger** for pointing out the potential problem and to **Mary Luke** for meeting with Fairwood to make the change.

Are you up for a brain-teaser? During the meeting we tested our brains with some "global literacy" questions to see how good our general knowledge was. Overall we did pretty well. Here's a sample question: Which of the following contains the most calories? A. *Alcohol*, B. *Carbohydrates*, C. *Protein*, D. *Fat*. The correct answer is at the end of this column.

LSG Sky Chefs, a subsidiary of Lufthansa, is now catering United flights in Seattle - not the former United flight kitchen currently being operated by Gate Gourmet. United made the switch a couple of months ago. Also, the former United kitchen in Portland is closed, or is about to be closed.

Bob Brumfield spoke to our group about paying for checked baggage and pointed out that as retirees we are exempted from paying only when traveling as NRSAs. When we buy a ticket or use miles to obtain one, we must follow the tariff rules governing checked luggage and pay accordingly. Also, the pins issued for travel purposes are typically our birth dates expressed in eight digits (mmddyyyy) and if we need to have our pin reset, once it's given to us, it takes some time for it to become effective, so it can't be used immediately. As SAs we should try to avoid taking up agents' time, as they're there to serve paying passengers. If you have no alternative, outline your problem first and then let them know you're an SA to avoid an immediate brush-off.

Door prize winners at the meeting were **Fern Lockhart**, **Bob Brumfield**, **Gay Liesse**, **Ed Rousso**, **Adelaide Haferbecker**, **Don Hanson** and **Rita Reynolds**. This was Rita's lucky day, as she also won the 50/50.

Cris LeGassey and **Sue Crane** hosted another successful SEARR reunion November 1 at Kona Kitchen restaurant in Seattle. It was well-attended and photos of attendees have been posted at the E-vite site.

Retired SEARR employee **Helga Lindenberg**'s husband **Larry** passed away November 20 from colon cancer. Helga's address is 63403 E. Whispering Tree

Lane, Tucson, AZ 85739.

Member **Lyle Lindblad** was hospitalized for a week at the end of November and beginning of December and then released to recuperate at home under the watchful eye of his wife **Phyllis**.

Answer to the brain-teaser: Fat has the most calories.

Calendar:

January 21 - (double change to 3rd week of month & a Wednesday) - Luncheon Meeting, Fairwood Country Club, Renton, WA

February 10 - Luncheon Meeting, Fairwood Country Club, Renton, WA

March 10 - Luncheon Meeting, Fairwood Country Club, Renton, WA

NATIONAL



CLIPPED WINGS®

Barbara Vincent
National Vice President
81-837 Contento
La Quinta, CA 92253
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As our winter weather arrives and we prepare for this busiest of holiday seasons, we wish all of you a very happy holiday and a very prosperous New Year.

Clipped Wings® members are preparing to volunteer at the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Boise, Idaho, Feb. 6-13, 2009. For information, contact the Volunteer Coordinator **Rosalie Betschart**, PDX. Her email address is: swissrose@msn.com. When emailing her, please use the subject line "CWBOI". The Clipped Wings® hosted Family Reception will be Friday, Feb. 13. We will also participate in other volunteer opportunities during that week.

This month is the deadline for members to get dues paid and to submit their contact information to the national treasurer **Sheryl Yanken Schubert** (DEN) in order to be included in the new roster.

As the National Vice President, **Barbara Fisk Vincent** SEA, I will be happy to answer any membership questions from all prospective members. Please contact me at bvincentps@aol.com. Check out our website at www.clippedwings.com.



NEW MEMBERS

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

Burch, Patricia A., IADSW, 110 Artifact Ave., Winchester, VA 22603

Burns, Nancy, SFOSW, PO Box 70305, Pt. Richmond, CA 94807

Cunningham, Barbara L., SEASW, 11645 Holmes Point Dr. NE, Kirkland, WA 98034

Dave, Daksha, SFOPL, 249 Walter Hays Dr., Palo Alto, CA 94303

Deford, Bruce, PDXCG, 800 S.E. Columbia Ridge Dr., Vancouver, WA 98664

Fennell, Gloria J., SFOOX, 31352 Meadowbrook Ave., Hayward, CA 94544

Frykland, Mary Tesa, PDXJL, 3175 SE Evan Ave., Troutdale, OR 97060

Hadler, Kathleen M., IADCS, 7831 Hilltop Place, Marshall, VA 20115

Knott, Rita, DCASW, 1600 S. Eads St. Apt 612 So., Arlington, VA 22202

Lim, Joanne O. N., HNLCS, 2028 Alewa Dr., Honolulu, HI 96817

Lipford, Kinuko M., HNLCS, 410 Magellan Ave. #709, Honolulu, HI 96813

McCarthy, B. Carlene, IADRR, 36628 Woodmar Farm Dr., Purcellville, VA 20132

Muth, Kathleen M., SFOFH, PO Box 0207, Montara, CA 94037

Peloso, Anthony, HNLCS, 2277 Girls Rd. Apt. 2a, Honolulu, HI 98817

Reynolds, Jane, CHIRR, 7400 Nantucket Cove, Hanover Park, IL 60133

Richardson, Dave, DENCg, 429 Grey Squirrel Wy, Franktown, CO 80116

Seitz, Shirley J., IADRR, 1219 Chase Heritage Cir. Apt#203, Sterling, VA 20164

Wenig, Francis, ORDMM, 15w460 Diversey Pl., Elmhurst, IL 60126

Yanatov, Judy J., ORDSW, 480 Fox Trail Dr, Batavia, IL 60510

Ziesemer, Tom, DTWRR, 855 Mt. Pleasant, Ann Arbor, MI 48103



to the RUAEA family!

CONTRIBUTIONS

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Maurice E. (Mo) Alston, Margaret A. Amedeo, Richard W. Armistead, Carol Bare, Edmond A. Batres, Jerry L. Bell, Raymond E. Betz, Matthew Bingham, Michael Thomas Bowles, Doris E. Bravo, Juergen Brunke, Daniel E. Bryant, Lynn Buchholz, Norman E. Buczkowski, Donald S. Burda, John D. Cantieni, Anthony Caputo, John E. Carson, Jack V Casey, Duane S. (Stu) Chambers, Marilyn J. Cheadle, Theresa H. Chiparo, Margery Clark, Raymond Colavita, James W. Crouch, Robert D. Cunningham, Lloyd E. Dawson, Eddy L. Dent, Walter M. Doi, John F. Domalik, Jack H. Domosley, William J. Dubacher, Robert Duerr, Vernon R. Duley, Dorothy A. Eichers, Dorothy L. Engels, Charles J. Esqueda, Charles F. Evans, Lorraine Fasciano, Mary Ann Fazio, Barbara P. Fiske, James A. Foster, Cathie L. Frame, Francis Gibbons, Joseph A. Gillette, Rose Marie Gonzalez, William J. Grubb, Allen B. Grundmeier, Frank J. Harrison, Edgar F. Heinrich, Susan P. Henriksen, George F. Hooper, B. J. (Billy) Hopkins, Velma G. Horton, Shirley A. House, Glen C. Johnson, Robert L. Jordan, Robert G. Kaczor, Tom Kalfa, Robert V. Keefe, Paul I. Kern, John A. Kozlik, William J. Krainak, Kurt Kubatz, Leo R. Labrie, John Lacey, Clarice M. Larrick, John P. Larson, Corwin L. Liston, John M. Lyon, John B. Mahon, Spero G. Manu-
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OBITUARIES

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

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

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

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

Retiree – **ADAMS, Charles E.** (Chic) on 5/3/08, BOIOZ, husband of Roni, 2012 N. 24th St., Boise, ID 83702

Spouse – **BOEHME, Bettie Mae**, on 11/13/08, wife of Maxwell Paul Boehme, SFOKK DCSD, mother of Michael and Krystine, 171 Oak Island Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Retiree – **CANTONWINE, Merrill C.**, on 9/2/08, SLCOZ, father of Judy Anderson, 4939 Panamint Rd., West Valley City, UT 84120

Retiree – **CLINTON, Guy L.**, on 11/30/07, SFOWR, husband of Alice J., 2242 Azusa Ct, CA 95382

Retiree – **DAVIDSON, Roger**, on 10/4/08, SFOEG, 241 Church Apt #2, San Francisco, CA 94114

Retiree – **DEFORD, Daniel C.**, on 11/22/08, EWRFF, husband of Judith, 1829 Sandstone Dr, Petaluma, CA 94954

Retiree – **GILSON, Robert T.**, on 10/29/08, JFKMM, husband of Patricia M., 16 Richmond Place, Commack, NY 11725

Retiree - **HUTT, Anthony G.**, on 12/1/07, SFOPI, husband of Kathryn F., 1754 Borden Street, San Mateo, CA 94403

Retiree – **KELLEY, William L.**, on 11/11/08, SFOSH, father of William (Sandy) Kelley, Thurman (Dona) Kelley and Gayle Kelley, 1655 W Selby Ln., Redwood City, CA 94061

Retiree – **KNIGHTEN, Tyler C.**, on 9/30/08, SFOCY, husband of Alberta, 6125 Hazel Ave. Apt 107,

Orangevale, CA 95662

Retiree – **MOON, David S.**, on 2/13/08, ORDF, husband of Margaret, 41 Pego Cir., Hot Springs Village, AR 71909

Spouse – **MORSE, Norma J.**, on 10/6/08, wife of Charles L., LAXSK, 2023 Osprey Dr., Redmond, OR 97756

Retiree – **TAGARIELLO, Delores**, on 6/10/08, NYCRR, wife of James V., 14 Dover Trail, Peachtree, GA 30269

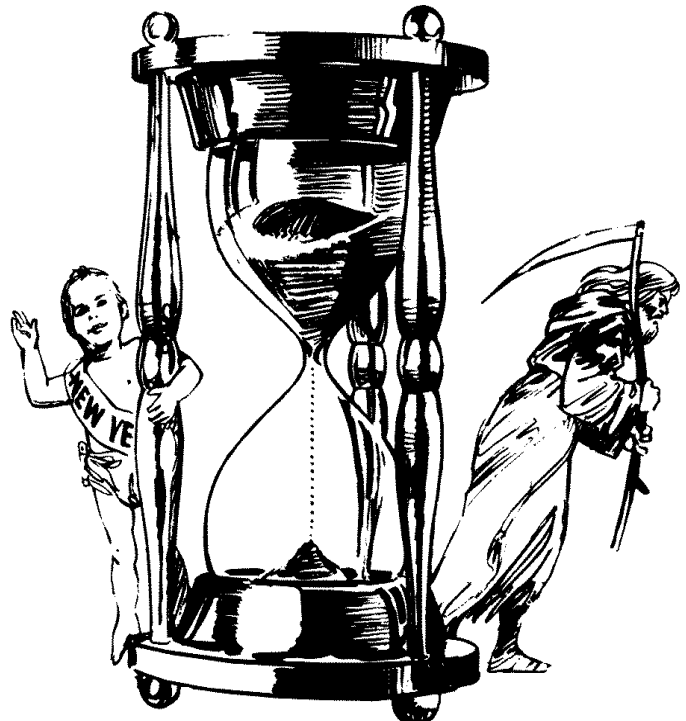
September 2008 Skynet Listing

ABRAMS, James H., SFOPD 09/14/08
ADAM, David J., MCOCG 09/19/08
ANTHONY, George W., SFOFO 09/28/08
BABCOCK, Richard W., SFOPD 09/22/08
BACON, Roger M., SFOLX 09/10/08
BLAIR, Charles W., SFOFO 09/30/08
BOYER, John R., OPBWX 07/16/08
BRADLEY, Paul J., BOSCS 09/09/08
BROOKS, Raymond J., ORDFO 09/12/08
BROWN JR., Alexius E., EWRMM 09/06/08
BURDA, Donald L., SFOVG 09/11/08
CANTONWINE, Merrill C., SLCCG 09/02/08
CLOUGH, John H., SFOMM 08/01/08
COMBS, Edwin R., JFKGQ 09/19/08
COX, Charles R., SFOLQ 09/10/08
CRAMER, David H., DENRR 09/17/08
DURRETT JR., Lonnie H., EWRFF 09/27/08
EVANS, William J., DENTK 09/16/08
FLITCRAFT, John C., CMHOZ 09/28/08
FOMBY, Cleophas, ORDCG 09/04/08
FRYE, Paul E., CLESS 09/30/08
GANTAN, Romeo M., SFOMK 09/06/08
GEHLBACH, Patricia D., SFOCS 09/30/08
GILLE, Lily Ann E., WHQAI 09/19/08
GILMORE, Gene L., SFOGS 09/30/08
GOHNERT, Ray, SFOEA 09/30/08
HASAN, John A., DENMK 09/10/08
HAUBENSTEIN, Donald F., SFOSN 09/29/08
HAYWARD, Edgar J., YVRSZ 09/14/08
JANIS, Lance P., ORDCG 09/11/08
KALIOPE, George William, HNLSW 09/07/08
KNIGHTEN, Tyler C., SFOJL 09/30/08
LAMPE, Claire M., ORDSW 09/23/08
LAUNIUS, Clifford G., ORDED 09/13/08
LLAMAS, Carmencita, ORDCS 09/22/08
MC WILLIAMS, Robert H., SFOOV 09/06/08
NICHOLSON, Thomas J., SFOFO 08/24/08
OLEYNIK, Paul, DTWRR 06/29/08
PARMENTER, Allen W., ORDFO 09/16/08
POWERS, Stanley, DENTK 09/19/08
ROHNER, William L., SEAMD 09/13/08
RUSSELL, Dale E., DENCN 09/05/08
SCHROEDER, Warren J., ORDDD 09/30/08

SEAMAN, Rita J., HNLRR 09/04/08
SHEARER, Albert, IADMM 07/22/08
STEWART, Sloan E., SFOPK 09/14/08
THIVIERGE, James L., SFOWR 09/01/08
TURNER, I. Ross, SFOIQ 09/27/08
WADE, Leyhe G., JFKSW 09/04/08
WEINAND, Richard J., SEAJL 09/18/08
WHITELEY, Leslie E., OAKEG 09/25/08
WILLIAMS, Donald L., DENMK 09/07/08
WILLIAMS, Earl L., SFOCS 09/12/08
YORK, Lawrence J., SFOPA 09/17/08



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LETTERS

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

Tina Acoba, Nancy Adams, Richard Armistead, Dola Boals, Michael Bowles, John Byers, Stu Chambers, Randall Cirksema, Margery Clark, Ray Colavita, Robert Cunningham, Rita D'Amico, Eddy Dent, William Elk, William Dubacher, Vernon Duley, Tokiko Engelman, Barbara Fiske, John Garrity, Louis Gaydos, Rose Marie Gonzales, Bill Hamilton, Ann Hluboky, Joan Hodgkins, Robert Kaczor, Candice Kelly, John Kozlik, Kurt Kubatz, Alfred Kubus, Ruth Marston, Frank McAnulty, Armando Molina, Celena Nash, Edwin Nelson, Morris Nelson, Henry Noland, Mary O'Prey, Helen Osburn, David Pearson, Harry Penny, Harold Phillips, Dottie Quick, Bill Reichard, Linda Rice, Mary Rusinko, Richie Santander, Maria Santangelo, Nalini Shah, Ruth Short, Ronald Shepherd, Bessie Tockstein, Gloria Vanhouten, Arnold Veryssel, Mort Wax, Tom Whittlesey, Doris Williams, Susan Williams, Thyron Withrow.

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.)

Jerry Barr, 22910 90th Avenue W., Sequoyah #C303, Edmonds, WA 98026-9413

Past President of the Rocky Tops

- WABarrs@comcast.net, (425) 582-8803

I'm saddened to think of the many retirees we've lost recently from the Rocky Tops brotherhood. Passing on in just the last three years were **Dave Mann, Bill Taylor, Tom Shipe, Les Swallom, Nancy Krop, Jim Jeskey** and, most recently, **Phyllis Dale**. TN's only chapter has never been a large one, so the impact of losing so many good people leaves a vacuum that is evident whenever members meet. **Herman & Bev Emmel** have done an excellent job of leading the Rocky Tops the last four years. If anyone in eastern TN hasn't yet established an affiliation with fellow retirees, I invite them to call the Emmels at 1 865-278-3482 and look in on this small, friendly group. If you don't have time to call, just show up.

Recognizing this as a rather lame segue, Mary Lou and I have also recently left the mid-South area, with very mixed feelings. The lakes, mountains, greenery, weather, culture and especially the people, have combined for an experience we will treasure forever. We certainly enjoyed living in that beautiful lakeside com-

munity the last 12 years, but felt it was time to move on. Some health issues and the slowing-down process that comes with aging persuaded us to lighten our load a little and move to a condo nearer to two of our daughters. So, we sold our home in Tellico Village (in two months, surprisingly) and bought a condo in Edmonds, WA. Between the two closings (on our house in TN October 9 and the condo on the 16th), we drove over 2600 miles, which gave us an opportunity to see more of this wonderful country of ours. We're enjoying the start of this "new adventure", as we like to remind each other, although we will certainly miss being so close to our many friends in East Tennessee.

Louis Bonetti, 4759 Live Oak Ct., Oceanside, CA 92056

I will be 95 next Feb. and have been retired for 32 years. I worked in Washington DC, then in Miami and finally at O'Hare in Chicago. Those were great years. I met a lot of nice people and also some not so nice!

We now live in Oceanside in sunny California, a short distance from the Pacific Ocean. It is also about 60 miles from the Palomar Observatory, where we have visited many times. It is hilly terrain and you are cautioned to stay on the walk way, as there are snakes in the grass. It is a very interesting area.

We are about 60 miles from Tijuana, Mexico. Caution is advised while travelling there. It is so sad to see how very impoverished the poor are and how very wealthy the rich.

Health wise, my wife, Lillian and I are still hanging in there in spite of our many problems. I can't remember the last time we've been on a plane. Poor health has kept us close to home.

Our two daughters live far from us. They travel a lot. Our older daughter, Carla, traveled to Peru, a very poor country and to Rowanda in Africa, where she had an encounter with a big gorilla. She worked for Heiffer International for many years but now works for Petsave.

Our Cyndi works for a resort in Idaho. We have a granddaughter in college in Idaho.

Thank you for all the good work you all do to keep all the retirees in touch with one another and to the happenings at United.

I'm sure everybody is very appreciative of your hard work.

Peter Bourlin, 3110 SE Chestnut St., Portland, OR 97267, Borisbear1@yahoo.com

Keep up your very unselfish and good work. Bless all of you at RUAEA.

I just turned 62 and am looking for a beautiful Christian widow between the ages of 55-61. One with very little baggage, no steamer trunks, just carry-on(s). Any takers?

Jo Ann Briggs, 21303 Legend Ave., Carson, CA 90745

Hi all! Thanks again for all of your hard work in putting the newsletter together. For those Retirees who still have the UAL Supplemental Medical Insurance, I would recommend that they look into AARP sponsored medical plans. I joined Secure Horizons a few years back and it has been really great for us. There is no monthly fee. I was paying over \$300 for UAL's, for my husband and me. We have a \$10.00 co pay to see our doctor, \$15.00 for a specialist, \$50.00 for an emergency visit to the hospital and \$150.00 for a hospital stay (even for 34 days!) There is also a prescription service similar to Medco. There are many different plans out there and your doctor may even belong to one of the groups. Plus, most of the plans include a membership in a health club. There are different plans for different parts of the country. We also have Scan, Blue Shield 65, Healthnet Partners, Kaiser (which has a monthly fee) and others. Some can be found under AARP.com on the internet.

I read one of the letters where a member of RUAEA said he was going broke with medical bills and thought this might be of interest to our members. We did a bit on this at our last ReLAXers luncheon. I didn't mean to make this so long but I am an advocate of these plans as you can see. My husband was in the hospital for 17 days with pneumonia and all it cost me was \$150.00. I was sold! Happy Holidays,

Juergen Brunke, 8820 SE 130th Loop, Spruce Creek G. & C. Club, Summerfield, FL 34491

Not a milestone or moment to celebrate, but to realize, one more year has gone by and the Sun is setting deeper every time.

Living here in Florida, folks call it "God's Waiting Room". We do not have date stamps on our sleeves, determine or shelf dates, but we have such a good time, we wonder, could this be forever? Taking in as much golf as possible and saving the world at the 19th hole is so much fun. May our country be safe, God Bless America!

Deloris Burda, 1408 Knowlton Dr., Sunnyvale, CA 94087-3151

I've decided to keep the newsletter coming. I don't use a computer, so everything I do is by hand.

My husband, **Don Burda**, SFOOV passed away 9/11/08. His wishes were to have his ashes buried in our home town, Friend, NE. Then on his birthday, November 8th, we had a Celebration of Life at our church in Los Altos, CA.

He started his clowning career before he retired in 1993 and since that time was a very active clown. As a tribute to him, many clowns from our area, around the state and some from other states, attended his service.

Many were in their costumes. What a joyful day, just what he would have wanted, Be Happy.

Dorothy Engels, 5731 Northcott Ave., Chicago, IL 60631-3104

I enjoy the informative newsletter, Travel Tips By Bob, and especially the Letters from the retired ex-employees like myself. Regardless of age, job category, domicile or years of service (seniority), we all share a common proud family history.

Thank you for helping to keep the "old" extended family together, and the good memories we share, alive.

Inez Hoffman, 2282 Derrick Way, Escondido, CA 92029, inezhoffman@cox.net

My husband, **Roger W. Hoffman** was hired on 11/13/1945 and at that time, it was Capital Airlines and the airport was Washington National. They both changed later to United Airlines and it is now Reagan Airport. He worked there as a mechanic for 30 years and 7 months, at which time he retired.

He passed away 1/6/2003. I am his widow, living in Escondido, CA with my daughter and her husband.

I would like to correspond with anyone who might remember us.

John Larson, 3810 75th St. W., Apt. 130, Bradenton, FL 34209

Thanks to all who produce the monthly newsletter and to the many people who work so hard on the conventions.

The Phoenix convention will be our 24th consecutive convention and we have enjoyed every one.

Teresa McNamara, 103 Goodson Loop, Pawleys Isl., SC 29585

I am still enjoying "southern living" here in South Carolina. I haven't used UAL pass travel for several years. I just can't deal with the anxiety of wondering if I will get on flights. I just recently made a trip to SFO but I drove to Charlotte, NC and bought a UAL ticket non stop to SFO. The flights were full, so it was worth the expense.

Jim Nagy, 3073 Whispering Pines Ct., Spring Hill, FL 34606

That time of year again. 14 years of retirement have gone by fast. Thank you for the newsletter. We really enjoy reading it.

I would like to say Hello to all my old friends from DC, SFO and Cleveland. Doreen and I are doing well down here in Florida. We enjoy cruising and other trips.

Happy New Year

Myrtle Poggensee, 343 Marshall Rd., Bensenville, IL 60106-1451

Enclosed are my annual dues for 2009. This is the first time in the 28 years since my retirement that I forgot to pay the dues on time. Perhaps it is because my daughters, grand children and great grandchildren keep me active and happy so the days pass quickly.

I look forward to receiving the monthly newsletter and have happy memories of the days working at United and the nice people I worked with. It is amazing that so many of my friends have passed on and I am still "hanging in there".

Bernard "Bud" Simon, 836 Burns Ct., Pacifica, CA 94044-2908

As a "Life" member I do not get a reminder for dues but I do like to pay my share. I find that I did not make a contribution for 2008, so see the enclosed check. As my wife and I have physical problems, we travel very little and are not very active anymore, so I have little to write about. Through the newsletter (and especially the October 2008 issue) I see many familiar names of old friends, workers and people of note such as **Colin Cooke, Harris Freihon, Charlie Kaczinski** and **Mel Volz**. **Elmer Koldoff** wrote about the Commemorative Air Force and the WWII airplanes they restore and keep flying. A couple of years ago the "WWII Marine Bombers" held our reunion in Peachtree City and had the banquet in the hangar with the restored SBD Douglas Dauntless Dive Bomber (and the others) which was the plane the squadron, VMSB 244, that I belonged to from cadre at Santa Barbara, CA, to the Philippines.

Jerry Wakefield, 295 Oakridge Dr., Oakland, TN 38060

Well, I finally got my dream job that all my CS work at United prepared me for, a "People Greeter" at Wal-Mart. I know we used to kid about this all the time, but it really is a fun job.

I just finished fourteen performances in the play "A Miracle Worker". There is so much talent here in the Memphis area that I am just lucky to get a few small roles. We had over four thousand in attendance.

I was so sorry to hear about Rachel's death. She loved to play tricks on me on her turns here. My goodness, was that really that long?

Even though I don't travel much anymore, I do enjoy reading about everybody's trips and activities in the newsletter.

Does anybody know the whereabouts of **Ray Davis**?



Maureen Williams, 9757 Valencia Dr., Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240

What a year it has been! The convention in PIT was really great. I enjoyed all of the tours we took. Even though, it was very touching to go to the Memorial Chapel in Shanksville, as well as "The Site." Kudos to all that worked so hard to make it the success that it was. I am looking forward to the PHX Convention.

I keep busy with volunteering at our Chamber of Commerce, the Desert Hot Springs Women's Club, helping to raise funds for scholarships for our high school graduates and other needs for our youth. Last year we gave \$24,125.00. I also serve on the parks committee and the Christmas Parade Committee.

Two of my grandsons were married this year, one in SAN and one in PHX. So that required 2 short trips. They were both beautiful weddings.

A lot of my social life involves the Red Hat Society. I went to their SAN convention in Feb., another in Laughlin, NV. in Oct. It was great fun.

I took an unexpected trip to TX last Nov. due to the death of a son in law. I am so thankful for the "bereavement fare."

Last but not least, my most heartfelt gratitude to all of you that keep us connected with the newsletter.

John Domalik, 8619 Millstream Dr., Henrico, VA 23228

Thank you for the reminder. I guess with the state of all our country is going through, I forgot.

Thanks so much for all you do for all of us retirees. We are just glad the "friendly skies" still have us in them. United was my life for many years. I don't want anything to happen to it.

Fred Kremerskotter, 1430 Fallen Leaf Dr., Milpitas, CA 95035-6763

Another year older and starting my 18th year in retirement, it is also time to pay my dues and thank you all again for the great job producing our monthly newsletter. While a 100 point drop in the Dow these days seems almost like a good day on Wall Street, life goes on in spite of it.

Carol and I are in excellent health and we still enjoy traveling. But we have given up on standby travel, relying more on finding a reasonable web fare. In February, we toured northern Mexico, which also included a visit to the Copper Canyon. The Copper Canyon is beautiful and said to be larger than the Grand Canyon, but my preference lies still with the latter. So, it was in June that I returned to the Grand Canyon for a two-week 250-mile rafting trip down the Colorado River. Hanging on for dear life through the many rapids was a totally different experience than my two years earlier when I hiked rim to rim through that magnificent canyon. Our

small raft seated four people plus the boatman. We stopped often to explore some of the scenic, narrow side canyons, enjoying swimming in crystal clear pools, or just getting dowsed under a waterfall.

I still enjoy hiking year-round in our numerous Bay Area parks and occasionally venturing out into the Sierra Nevada Mountains for a little climbing.

Thank you again for a great job of keeping us informed.

Lili Pearson, 130 Par Pl., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

I would like to say that "Free Spirit Dave" would want to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and to enjoy every day.

It has been a tough year for many and let's hope things improve.

The newsletter is great. Thank you all.

Paul & Betty Rotenbery, 8269 Telegraph Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80920

It has been 17 years since Paul retired after 40 years service.

It has been 17 year for me also after 20 plus years with Frontier Airlines and 5 years with UAL, all in Reservations.

We were so fortunate to have worked during those years, plus with such wonderful people.

We were sorry to hear of **Dave Pearson's** passing.

We don't travel much anymore but UAL holds a special place in our hearts of the good years we spent with them.

A Happy New Year to all.

Donna Seago, 13952 E Marina Dr. #505, Aurora, CO 80014

Thank you all so much for keeping us up to date with United's news, good or bad. Your hard work is greatly appreciated.

Thank you also to the great people working the Portland and Seattle travel desks. They help me tremendously on making flights to departure and arrival cities, in conjunction with a recent cruise.

Ann Shaffer, 130 Glenwood Ave. Apt. 89, Yonkers, NY 10703

Another year has passed, how time flies.

I still keep very busy doing volunteer work at my church.

It was exciting to vote in my first Presidential election since becoming a US citizen last year.

I really enjoy the newsletter, and thank you for all your hard work.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Important Phone Numbers



United Retiree Service Center

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

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

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

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

Blue Cross / Blue Shield

1-800-535-9825

<http://www.bcbs.com>

Traditional Plan information, claim status & forms.

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

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

Glenn Tilton's message to employees & retirees

1-800-393-6682

Chicago Travel Desk - Toll Free

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

Portland Travel Desk - Toll Free

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

Seattle Travel Desk - Toll Free

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

PBGC

1-800-400-7242

<http://www.pbgc.gov>

Social Security Administration

1-800-772-1213

<http://www.ssa.gov>

Alliant Credit Union

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

Benefits Service Center

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

Interline Ticketing Desk at DTWRR - Toll Free

1-888-874-1581

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United Airlines Historical Foundation



"Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future"



The 247 design won Bill Boeing the 1934 Guggenheim Medal for "Successful pioneering and advancement in aircraft manufacturing and transport". The cockpit was equipped with dual controls, a two-way radio, the latest navigational devices, night-flying equipment, adjustable seats, sliding shatter-proof windows. One of the more unusual features was the forward-slanted windshield.

The twin supercharged Pratt & Whitney "Wasp" S1D1 engines were rated 550 h.p. at 5000 ft. Changing the 3-bladed fixed-pitch propellers to 2-bladed "variable-pitch" increased the top-speed from 180 to 190 m.p.h.

Boeing designers invented "trim-tabs". These small moveable surfaces on the ailerons, rudder and elevators

allowed the air-stream itself to help control the large surfaces. These servo-operated tabs were a major contribution to future airplane design.

Boeing "farmed-out" construction of the retractable landing-gear, tail-wheels and other small assemblies to Stearman Aircraft of Wichita, Kansas.

The 10 passengers sat in green whip-cord chairs with reclining backs, individual heating & ventilating ducts, ash trays, dome lights and reading lamps. Sound-

proofed cabin walls were upholstered with gray-green fabric.

In early 1932, while the plane was still in the mock-up stage, Boeing Air Transport placed an order for 60 of the planes. The 247 inaugural flights were in February 1933. Total deliveries to United Air Lines were: BAT - 20, NAT - 23, PAT - 9 and Varney - 7.

In October 1934, the 247-D entered service. It had a "new" backward-slanted windshield, "geared" S1H1-G "Wasp" engines developing 550 h.p. at 8000 ft. and was equipped with the new Hamilton-Standard 3-blade "controllable-pitch" propellers.

Ultimately, only seventy-five model 247s were built, including thirteen model 247-Ds. Thirty-two of United's earlier 247s were then converted to "D" standards. The single model 247-A became the United Aircraft & Transport Company's "Executive Plane" and had a fine 14-year-career before being scrapped in 1947. The final two model 247-Ds were sold to Lufthansa in 1934 and influenced German wartime aircraft design.

During WWII, twenty-seven 247s were "drafted" into the U.S. Army Air Force. Designated C-73, they were used for both pilot training and transport duty.

In Delford, England a 247-D, "Adaptable Annie", was the first plane to use an Instrument Landing System (ILS). Following the war, the 247s were either returned to the original airline owners or acquired by smaller U.S. and foreign airlines.

By Marvin Berryman, DENTK (Ret.)

This past month UAHF received contributions from **Charlie Lewis & M & M Quilters** (in memory of **Tom Angelos**) and donations from **John Albert, Ronald & Georgia Schafer, Charles Tormey, Ben Frederick, Joyce Olsen, Gail Edgren, Elizabeth Griffiths, Treatie Karwoski, Sandi Tomlin, William Royle, Frances Dixon & Marian Beck.**

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