



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



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*Denver Skyline*



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# GENERAL NEWS

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## Letter From The President



By now most everyone has heard that United has received a Single Operating Certificate from the FAA. So as we begin 2012, United will operate as a single airline and the name Continental Airlines will be in the past. But the new way of doing business will be very much the Continental way as most of the new management comes from that airline. More information will be forthcoming about the “hows” of the new pass policy. Most of the old policies will remain in effect until PSS Day 1 (Passenger Service System). That is when the company transitions from Apollo to Shares as the reservation system. This is expected to happen sometime in March.

Many of you have let me know that Skynet is showing that you have 24 companion passes for 2012. This is partly true. These passes may be used until PSS Day 1, as travel must be completed by that day. The company has been ambiguous as to when in March ... the first or the thirty-first. United co-workers have been given an allotment of the old Continental-type vacation passes ... this is due to the fact that Continental co-workers will be able to carryover any vacation passes they have not used. These passes are different in that they are only good for one traveler, one way. United retirees have been excluded from this enhancement. But on PSS Day 1, we retirees along with all the employees will receive an allotment of 8 vacation passes each year with a five year life for any that are unused. These passes are one way but all eligibles can travel on the one pass providing that all are going to the same destination.

I have mentioned many times in the past about having a computer or access to a computer. This cannot be emphasized enough. The new management finds that their preferred way to communicate with co-workers and retirees is via the internet. Like it or not, it is the future. If you have retiree friends that are not a RUAEA member, let's try to encourage them to join us. It will help them keep up to date with what is going on with all the many changes and happenings.

On a more positive note, let's remember the good times we have had and the great friendships we have made over the years. These can be re-ignited at our Convention in October. We hope that everyone has had a wonderful holiday season ... whatever holidays you celebrate. Best wishes for a most healthy and happy 2012.

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

## 2012 Benefits Reminder



Effective January 1, 2012, the United Airlines Benefits Center – managed by Aon Hewitt is United's new administrator for most of the company's benefit programs. Remember to contact the United Airlines Benefits Center for any 2012 benefits related questions. You may also go online at [flyingtogether.ual.com](http://flyingtogether.ual.com) on Flying Together> Employee Services> Your Benefits Resources to access the system. Find other benefit resources under the Employee Services tab and select the 2012 Benefits link.

At the Your Benefits Resources™ (YBR) web site, you can access personal benefits information, including:

- ❖ Health plan comparison charts
- ❖ Read information about the benefit plans
- ❖ Manage your Direct Bill arrangement
- ❖ Access life event information

If you have a complex benefit question, you can speak to a trained benefit representative at the Benefit Center. Contact the United Airlines Benefits Center at 1-800-651-1007 between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Central time, Monday through Friday. For help or for answers to questions about logging in to Flying Together, contact the Help Desk at (847) 700-5800 and (800) 255-5801.

### **Report details errors in pension plan valuation**



The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) recently completed a report describing errors in the way the agency valued assets in retirement plans it assumed from United during its bankruptcy.

If the PBGC has underpaid co-workers who participated in the terminated plans, PBGC said it will pay the overdue amount with interest. If it overpaid co-workers, PBGC said it will adjust future payments gradually, without interest or penalty.

If you have questions please visit the PBGC Q&A document for United plans at <http://www.pbgc.gov/wr/bulletin/info/unitedfaq.html> or call the PBGC from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, at 1-800-400-7242 or email [mypension@pbgc.gov](mailto:mypension@pbgc.gov).

### **CO co-workers may register travel companions for 2012 pass travel**



Eligible CO subsidiary co-workers may register a new travel companion to receive pass travel privileges in 2012. To update your travel companions, go to Flying Together >All About Me >Pass Riders by December 30 at 7:00PM Central Time. If you do not take action, your 2011 designations will remain in effect.

To enter 2012 without a travel companion, you must modify your enrollment by December 30 and leave your elections blank. This will allow you to select a travel companion later.

Eligible UA co-workers may update enrolled friends on a rolling calendar-year basis. UA co-workers may manage enrolled friends through [UALbenefits.com](http://UALbenefits.com). On January 1, 2012, UA co-workers will use All About Me to make any updates. United will provide more information about using All About Me soon.

United will introduce additional elements of the enrolled friend program, including the ability to add a second enrolled friend, when the company introduces the new pass travel program toward the end of the first quarter in 2012. For more information, visit the [Program Chart](#) under Travel tab on Flying Together.

### **Employee/Retiree Bulletin: Pass Travel – What to expect in 2012**



**UNITED**

As United announced last March, the company is introducing a new pass travel program for all co-workers and retirees in 2012. United expects to implement the new program to coincide with its migration to a single reservation system, also known as the passenger service system (PSS). United anticipates PSS Day 1 to occur toward the end of the first quarter in 2012.

United recognizes that many co-workers and retirees would like to make 2012 travel plans with the current and future pass travel programs in mind. To accommodate these plans, the company is outlining what changes will take place on January 1, 2012. Programs which are not addressed below will continue as they do today on each subsidiary carrier.

**Vacation Passes:** All United subsidiary and Continental subsidiary co-workers will receive eight one-way special interim vacation passes under the original Continental program to use on any Continental flight. Each vacation pass provides for one-way travel in any cabin - with service charges and ticket taxes waived - to any Continental destination for one pass rider. Departure taxes and fees may still apply. These vacation passes are only valid for trips starting on or after January 1, 2012, and completed by March 31, 2012. On PSS Day 1, active co-workers and retirees will receive a full allotment of new United vacation passes.

Due to system limitations, United subsidiary co-workers did not receive vacation passes on January 1, 2011, while Continental subsidiary co-workers did. As a result, United subsidiary co-workers will retroactively receive an annual allotment of (8) vacation passes under the previous Continental subsidiary's vacation pass program. These "old" vacation passes can be used on any Continental flight through March 31 and on any United and Continental flight after PSS Day 1 through December 31, 2015.

United subsidiary co-workers using these vacation passes on Continental flights will continue to board at their current leisure boarding priority until PSS Day 1. For travel on Continental flights through PSS Day 1 and on any United and Continental flight afterwards, boarding within leisure pass classes will be based on year of hire and then by the time of check-in. View the Continental subsidiary vacation pass policy for more information.



**Buddy and companion passes:** All co-workers will receive their typical buddy pass (CO) or companion pass (UA) allotments for use on their respective carriers. In addition, United subsidiary retirees will receive their typical companion pass allotment. However, these buddy and companion passes will only be valid through PSS Day 1. On PSS Day 1, active co-workers will receive their full allotment of 24 buddy pass segments

**Leisure boarding priorities:** Starting in January, United will intermingle boarding priorities for coworkers when traveling on each other's carriers. All United subsidiary co-workers and their accompanied pass riders will board at SA3P with their board year on Continental flights and all Continental subsidiary co-workers and their accompanied pass riders will board at BP8A on United flights until PSS Day 1. Retirees and unaccompanied pass riders will retain current boarding priorities on both carriers until PSS Day 1.

**Eligible Pass Riders Profile:** In January, co-workers and retirees may view or update their eligible pass riders through All About Me. United will carry over lists of eligible dependents for United subsidiary co-workers and retirees from ADP to All About Me. Effective in January, to update eligible pass riders, co-workers and retirees will go to Flying Together, select All About Me and then "Pass Riders." Like today, current enrolled friends, travel companions and parents, if applicable, will roll over on January 1 and will continue to be eligible for pass travel. There will be no need to make any changes. United encourages co-workers to view their travel eligible pass riders by going to employeeRES and selecting the Employee Profile link.

United appreciates your patience as it works through the many changes necessary to provide a more consistent pass travel experience. United is committed to building a great program for its coworkers and retirees, and the company is pleased to share with you some of its most recent enhancements. United has:

- Introduced fee-waived pass travel in economy class on all U.S. domestic flights, including Alaska and Hawaii. Fee-waived economy travel also applies to flights within the Micronesian islands, as well as between Guam and the Micronesian islands.
- Increased the discount from 33 percent to 50 percent on zonal employee discount (ZED) fares for travel in premium classes on United or Continental and other economy travel for locations not mentioned above.
- Combined United and Continental flight schedules that are available in employeeRES to make it easier to view all pass travel flying options in one location.
- Granted dependent, unmarried children the ability to use their parent's travel privileges until they turn age 26.
- For complete details of the new pass travel program, see the Employee Bulletin on March 30, 2011, or view the program chart for the new program on Flying Together.

United will continue to provide pass travel procedures and information leading up to the implementation of the new program in March. Please continue to view United Daily and Flying Together for any new updates. If you have questions, please send an email to [ETC@coair.com](mailto:ETC@coair.com).

### **Welcome to your new homepage!**

Your new Flying Together homepage offers enhanced navigation, customization options and a comprehensive search tool. For help navigating the new site, check out the [quick reference guide](#) or see the [Flying Together Support](#) page.

If you don't find what you're looking for right away, a simple search in the new search tool will help you quickly locate the information you need. This new search function finds information posted to Flying Together, Insidecoair and SkyNet.

Looking for quicker access to the information you use most on the intranet? The new Flying Together offers "My tools" and "My favorites" to personalize your experience. These customized links follow you throughout the site for easy, one-click access. United has already included some of the most popular tools and a link to the [Flying Together Support](#) page to get you started.

To edit your tools, click the "My tools" edit button to edit, remove and add your preferred tools. Many Flying Together content pages may be added to "My Favorites". When you visit a page you'd like to add, simply scroll to the bottom of the page and click "Add to my Favorites". The link will then appear in your "My Favorites" section. Click the edit button in this section to remove or organize your links.

United was previously operating on three homepages - Flying Together, SkyNet and Insidecoair, which made finding information cumbersome and time-consuming. Bringing the information and resources together through a single entry point, Flying Together, is the next step as United works to operate as a single airline.



The Insidecoair and SkyNet homepages are no longer available; however, the information you need from those intranets is still accessible directly through Flying Together.

### **United is flying together under FAA single operating certificate**



Thanks to 18 months of hard work by co-workers, United received approval on November 30, from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for a single operating certificate (SOC).

The SOC gives the FAA a single point of oversight for UA's combined operations. More than 500 co-workers participated in aligning policies and procedures across the two subsidiaries to obtain SOC.

The first subsidiary CO flight to depart with a UA call sign was Flight 1284, which departed IAH for DEN at 6:02AM, Central time. The last flight to arrive at its destination with a CO call sign, CO Flight 86, departed Shanghai (PVG), China and arrived at EWR at 5:35PM Eastern time.

### **United reached tentative labor contract with IBT for UA mechanics**



United reached a tentative agreement on a labor contract with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) for UA mechanics.

*"We are pleased we could reach an agreement that recognizes the hard work of our co-workers,"* said Technical Operations SVP Jim Keenan. *"This agreement is an essential step toward aligning our mechanic employees and getting a joint agreement for both our United and Continental mechanics."*

The agreement covers approximately 5,500 UA mechanics and related co-workers in the United States. CO mechanics represented by the IBT ratified their collective bargaining agreement in November of 2010.

### **Industry news: Hawaiian to compete with New York nonstops**



Hawaiian Airlines (HA) will begin nonstop service between New York-Kennedy (JFK) and Honolulu (HNL) next June. Currently, United is the only airline in the market, with daily CO nonstops from EWR. HA will operate the 10-hour flights with Airbus A330s that have 18 seats in first class and 276 in economy.

### **Jeff meets with president, journalists and co-workers in Mexico**

Jeff met with Mexico's President Felipe Calderon, Secretary of Tourism Gloria Guevara and Secretary of Communication and Transport Dionisio Perez Jacome. He also had an opportunity to talk with the media and co-workers from Mexico City (MEX) and other Mexican and Central American locations. In all venues, Jeff discussed the good progress United is making toward becoming one airline and stressed the importance of Mexico to its network.



At the CEO Exchange at MEX, Jeff talked with more than 260 co-workers about merger-related issues and the state of the airline industry. He answered questions on topics ranging from outsourcing to future deployment of regional jets, which are an important part of United's industry-leading service to Mexico.

*"Thanks in part to capacity discipline and our powerful network, we are well positioned to be successful even in these tough economic times,"* he said.

Jeff told President Calderon about the company's 45 years of service to Mexico and discussed ways to work with tourism

officials to increase tourism and business travel to Mexico. An example is the “Three Perfect Days in Mexico City” article from United’s November Hemispheres.

Jeff also met with U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Anthony Wayne and key media during his visit. He provided the leaders and media with an overview of the leadership role United plays in global aviation and how Mexico is an important part of United’s network for both business and leisure travelers.

United is the largest carrier between the United States and Mexico. It operates to 30 cities in Mexico with an average of 90 flights a day and account for 25 percent of the traffic. United is still growing in the market. Earlier this year, United launched nonstop service between Guadalajara (GDL), Mexico, and its LAX and SFO hubs. United announced nonstop service between LAX and Durango (DGO), Mexico, beginning March 2012.

### **U.S. DOT levies tarmac delay fines**



The U. S. Department of Transportation (DOT) fined American Eagle Airlines \$900,000 for lengthy tarmac delays that took place at ORD on May 29. On that day, American Eagle had 15 flights with tarmac delays of more than three hours.

This is the first fine that DOT has imposed since the three-hour cap on tarmac delays for domestic flights became effective in April 2010. DOT still has a number of open investigations into tarmac delays involving other airlines, including CO, UA and United’s regional partners. Earlier this year, the DOT expanded the rules to include international flights.

The DOT fine of American Eagle makes clear that enforcement will involve substantial and escalating costs to airlines that violate the tarmac delay rules. United is working together to remain vigilant and compliant with its tarmac delay procedures, which outline how to deplane and provide for passengers after no longer than three hours on domestic and four hours on international flights.

*“Making sure we are working together to avoid long tarmac delays on all flights is more important than ever,”* said EVP Pete McDonald. *“While safety is always our first priority for every flight, we’re committed to full compliance with the tarmac delay rules.”*

### **Airlines gain support in Congress**



U.S. House of Representatives members Gene Green of Texas, Mike Rogers of Alabama and more than 70 of their Congressional colleagues have signed a letter to House/Senate Leadership and Supercommittee Leadership opposing an increase in the passenger security tax. Members of United’s Government Affairs team helped gather support for the letter and secure the signatures.

The Obama administration has proposed increasing this fee from \$2.50 to \$7.50 per segment. This increase alone would cost the industry \$25 billion over the next 10 years - an industry that has lost \$55 billion in the last decade.

The letter reads, *“Increasing this fee now would only further exacerbate an already weak travel and tourism industry - an industry that is vital to creating jobs and economic recovery.”*

To learn more about the proposed taxes and to take action, visit [www.stopairtaxnow.com](http://www.stopairtaxnow.com). You may read the full letter by going to this story on [Flying Together](#).

### **First CO aircraft with Economy Plus re-enters service**



United introduced Economy Plus to the CO fleet recently as part of a \$550 million investment in its onboard experience. The first aircraft with the extra-legroom economy seating, reentered service on November 19.

The Boeing 767-400 will also feature new flat-bed seats in BusinessFirst and new touchscreen seat-back monitors in Economy. In addition, the aircraft will be the first in the CO fleet to feature the



popular Channel 9 air traffic control communications. Customers in both cabins also will have advanced audio/video on demand.

*“Our merger gives us the unique opportunity to build an airline with industry-leading products and services that customers value and are willing to pay for,”* said EVP and Chief Revenue Officer Jim Compton. *“Economy Plus customers consistently tell us they are more satisfied with their travel experiences, and we are excited to expand this option to more customers.”*

UA currently offers Economy Plus seating on all mainline aircraft and more than 150 larger United Express regional jets. A multi-year conversion process will add Economy Plus to the entire CO mainline fleet and Q400 regional aircraft.

When Economy Plus is fully deployed on the CO fleets, United will offer its customers more than 122,000 extra-legroom economy class seats a day, more than any airline in the world.

### **Boeing begins assembly process for United’s third 787**



This photo shows one of United’s earlier 787s in the first position on the Boeing assembly line. United’s third airframe has now entered this phase of assembly and a fourth will enter in early December.

Boeing started assembly on United’s third Boeing 787 at its facility in Everett, WA. In this, the first of four positions of the assembly process, Boeing joins major sections of the airplane that companies around the world have fabricated and delivered to Everett for final assembly. Boeing has scheduled United’s fourth 787 to enter its final body join in early December. When that happens, for the first time United will have three 787s in final assembly.

United’s first 787 is off the assembly line and awaits more work, including final cabin configuration, engine installation and painting. Due to the delays of the 787 program, the aircraft is in queue for rework and it will be several months before Boeing completes this work.

United has a total of 50 Dreamliners on order. Boeing’s first 787 has been flying for United’s Star Alliance partner ANA (NH) for several weeks now with positive reviews. Customers laud passenger comfort on the new airplane. The 787 is pressurized to an altitude of 6,000 feet, instead of 8,000 feet. Higher humidity and new filtration systems provide cleaner cabin air for customers and crew.

### **First nonstop to Lagos**



United now offers daily nonstops between the global energy centers of Houston and Lagos, Nigeria. The inaugural CO Flight 142 left IAH at 7:05PM Central time November 16<sup>th</sup>, after gate ceremonies featuring Nigerian music and dance.

United is flying this new route, the first-ever nonstop between Texas and Africa, using Boeing 777 aircraft with 50 seats in BusinessFirst and 226 seats in Economy.

*“The new flights offer convenient nonstop access to Lagos for travelers from Houston’s vibrant energy sector and large Nigerian community, reducing round-trip travel time by more than six hours,”* said EVP and Chief Revenue Officer Jim Compton.

IAH Hub VP Stephanie Buchanan and Adebawale Adefuye, Nigeria’s Ambassador to the United States, also spoke at the launch party.

### **IATA: Europe debt crisis could drive airlines' losses to \$8 billion next year**



The International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced revisions to its industry outlook for 2012. *"The biggest risk facing airline profitability over the next year is the economic turmoil that would result from a failure of governments to resolve the Eurozone sovereign debt crisis. Such an outcome could lead to losses of over \$8 billion - the largest since the 2008 financial crisis,"* said Tony Tyler, IATA's Director General and CEO.

IATA also noted that for 2011 profitability remains *"weak but unchanged at \$6.9 billion"* for a net margin of 1.2 percent. *"But regional differences have widened, reflecting the very different economic environments facing airlines in different parts of the world. And the overall margin of 1.2 percent tells you just how difficult the battle for profitability in this business is,"* said Tyler.

### **Star Alliance partner to fly A380 to IAH**



United's Star Alliance partner Lufthansa (LH) announced it will be the first airline to offer scheduled Airbus A380 service to Texas. LH will begin daily A380 flights between Frankfurt (FRA), Germany, and United's biggest hub, IAH, on Aug. 1, 2012. LH already flies the double-decker A380 to Miami (MIA), New York-JFK and SFO.

### **United flights to Venezuela temporarily halted**



As United resolves some issues concerning the operating authority in Venezuela, the company has temporarily suspended service to Caracas (CCS), Venezuela. United is working to update its records to operate as United in the country and to re-accommodate customers on other flights. United has a daily round trip flight from IAH to CCS. Four have been canceled since the issue began on December 4.

### **Human Rights Campaign gives United top rating for LGBT-friendly record**



The Human Rights Campaign (HRC) rated United 100 percent in the 2012 Corporate Equality Index, which ranks companies based on their inclusion of and policies affecting lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) employees.

United is one of only two airlines and 190 companies to earn the highest rating among 850 surveyed.

*"This is a tremendous honor and a testament to the culture of dignity, respect and inclusion we foster at United Airlines,"* said Human Resources and Labor Relations EVP Mike Bonds. *"As a global company, we value the diversity of our co-workers and are very proud the Human Rights Campaign recognized us for our commitment to making United a great place to work."*

The HRC is America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality



## **Flight 93 Memorial Chapel Complex Foundation, Inc. by Frank Egges**



The Flight 93 Memorial Chapel is now incorporated. The official name is Flight 93 Memorial Chapel Complex Foundation, Inc. All assets have been turned over to the corporation. The officers are: President - Bishop Mascherino, Vice President - Gary Gorski, Secretary/Treasurer - Bruce Miller, Chapel Chairman and RUAEA representative - Frank J. Egges.

The reason for the incorporation is to protect all assets of the Flight 93 Memorial Chapel ~ An agreement has been signed to purchase property approximately one mile from ground zero. The Chapel building will be moved to this site and a new building, the Chapel Complex, will be constructed to enclose the Chapel itself. This will protect it from environmental damage. The daring and inspiring building concept is the creation of Gary Gorski, registered architect, who has dedicated his full time and talent toward accomplishing the final structure. It will include a Visitors Reception Center, Museum, Auditorium and Dining Room.

This new structure will enable the Flight 93 Memorial Chapel Complex Foundation to achieve its mission, to preserve the Flight 93 Memorial Chapel in perpetuity. Future generations may experience the effort of this generation to honor the Heroes of Flight 93 and to perpetuate the memory of the courage they demonstrated aboard Flight 93.

### **Ask the pharmacist: E-Prescribing**



#### **Q: What is e-prescribing and how can it benefit me?**

**A:** Electronic prescribing (e-prescribing) is when your doctor transmits your prescription electronically to the pharmacy. By replacing handwritten prescriptions, e-prescribing virtually eliminates medication errors caused by illegible handwriting. E-prescribing can improve patient safety, streamline prescription processes, and reduce healthcare costs.

According to the Institute of Medicine, each year preventable medication errors tragically result in 7,000 deaths and 1.5 million injuries. Preventable errors include items such as inaccurate dosages, incorrect drugs, and complications due to drug interactions.

A physician "wired" for e-prescribing uses a desktop computer, handheld device, or personal computer tablet to electronically acquire and transmit the patient's medication information. The e-prescribing system sends the patient's medication information to the physician in a unique one-time transaction.

As your doctor is writing an electronic prescription, the e-prescribing system alerts him or her to any potential adverse drug reaction (drug-to-drug interactions or drug allergies). In addition, e-prescribing gives the physician the patient's medication history, health insurance information, and the health plan's formulary. If, as the physician is filling out the prescription, there are concerns regarding the use or cost of the medicine, the patient can discuss them with the physician while still in the examination room.

Once any issues have been resolved, the physician will send the prescription to the pharmacy - either the patient's local pharmacy or a mail-order pharmacy, such as Medco.

Doctors benefit from e-prescribing because the technology saves time, since they receive fewer phone calls and faxes to clarify what was prescribed or deal with various health plan coverage issues. In a recent survey of 500 physician practices using e-prescribing in the Detroit metropolitan area, more than 70 percent of respondents said they were very satisfied with e-prescribing technology.

To encourage more physicians to adopt e-prescribing, the U.S. government is offering increased reimbursements to doctors who electronically transmit prescriptions for Medicare patients. In 2012, the government will begin to reduce its reimbursements to physicians who do not use e-prescribing.

Because patient safety is its number-one concern, Medco, your health plan's pharmacy care provider, is working on many different fronts to promote e-prescribing.

## “EASY DOES IT” Recipe Column – Christmas 2011



Helen Cain

This holiday season, we are all as busy as Santa Claus and his Christmas elves. So here is the simplest dessert recipe I could find, popular with my whole family. It all starts with a purchased box of cake mix. And you also get to “taste test” one of the ingredients. I’ll let you guess which one!

### Lorraine’s Cheery Sherry Christmas Cake

**Preheat** oven to 350F.

**Prepare** bundt, tube or 9x12” metal or glass pan: Grease inside of pan with butter or spray with cooking spray, then, lightly coat with flour. Shake off excess flour.

#### **Assemble:**

- One pkg. (16.25 oz.) yellow cake mix
- 1 small pkg. (3.4 oz.) vanilla instant pudding & pie filling
- 4 eggs
- ¾ cup vegetable oil
- ¾ cup **cream** sherry (add a bit more if you like). Do **not** substitute with **cooking** sherry.
- Your choice: Add 2 Tablespoons poppy seeds or finely chopped almonds at this time.

**Mix** thoroughly with electric beater if you have one.

**Pour** into prepared pan.

**Bake** 40 – 45 minutes.

**Let** cool.

**Sprinkle** powdered (confectioner’s) sugar over the top. Don’t want to get messy? Skip this last ingredient. This makes a beautifully flavored cake.

## Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter



Francis Domaratius

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

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

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

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# LOCAL NEWS

## ALABAMA



### GULF COAST CHAPTER

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Our Gulf Coast Chapter met on Thursday, November 17, 2011, at 11:30AM in our favorite spot for lunch, which is the Cubi Bar Café in the Aviation Museum in Pensacola, FL. Once again we had our fantastic waiter, Donald, whom we had requested for our group. He is so efficient and friendly and we love having him. We had 20 members attend this month which is one of our largest groups ever. What a great time we had! Members in attendance were: **Jim & Penny Alston, Bill & Ann Delavan, Conrad Hamilton, Bill Hayden, Rick & Carol Herrick, Doug & Edna Horne, Park & Billie Learned, Jeanne Reinoehl, Mary Renfroe, Bob & Yvonne Schwartz, Barbara Serra, Ed Southworth, Harold Stofko and Steve Wilkey.**

**Bob Schwartz**, President, called our meeting to order at 1:00PM after delicious warm chocolate chip & peanut butter cookies brought to us by our waiter. (We told you we loved him!) Minutes and Financial Reports were emailed to everyone and they were approved as sent. **Bill Hayden & Barbara Serra** sold the raffle tickets and our winner this month was **Jeanne Reinoehl**. She was very happy since she was leaving the next day to visit her grandchildren, so she said it would be well spent!

**Billie Learned** brought pictures for everyone she had taken when we were at their house for our June meeting. They showed all of us picking blueberries at their many bushes. The blueberries were delicious and some of us are still enjoying them!

Everyone was reminded to email their picture in uniform to **Annie Kirkpatrick-Wilkey**, so she can continue to work on the new name tags she is making for us. **Steve Wilkey** brought a few of the new name tags that have been completed to show us what they will look like. **Annie** was absent due to an appointment and we really missed her!

Our December meeting was discussed and it was decided that our \$10.00 Dirty Santa gift will be a gourmet food item. We are all looking forward to playing the game and finding out what type of gourmet food we will receive.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding making donations to several non-profit groups. We decided to make a donation to the Pearl Harbor Honor Flight. It will be taking several Pensacola Veterans that were stationed at Pearl Harbor the day of the attack to Hawaii for the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in December. **Steve & Annie Kirkpatrick Wilkey's** sons' school is taking donations to help so they will deliver our donation. **Conrad Hamilton** told us about Manna Food Bank in Pensacola that gives food to hundreds of needy people every month. He said they are set right now until January but will desperately need funds then. We also decided we would make a donation to the Naval Aviation Museum since we meet in one of their rooms each month at no cost. We will decide at our December meeting how much we will donate to these two places.

Our next meeting dates are December 15<sup>th</sup> and then January 19<sup>th</sup> in 2012! If you are planning to come down to the Gulf Coast to escape the ice and snow where you live, we welcome you to come join us for one of our very informal and chatty meetings. Our meetings are the third Thursday of each month and we always meet at the Cubi Bar Café in the National Naval Aviation Museum at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, FL.

### Calendar:

**December 15** – Meeting



## SWEET HOME ALABAMA

Judy Slover  
3 Mystic Moss Street  
Pike Road, AL 36064  
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For the month of November, we met at the Irondale Café in Irondale, Alabama near Birmingham. This location was used as the set for the wonderful novel and movie “Fried Green Tomatoes”, featuring it as the “WhistleStop Café”. For those of you planning to visit the Birmingham area, this café is a must for the true “Southern Cuisine” experience. The café was first opened in 1928 and remains true to the architecture and decor of that era – and it is located next to the old train station and tracks which are still in use (lots of train whistles were heard throughout our meal). This is a classic southern cafeteria style with a menu that changes daily and that offers a “meat and three vegetables” for a very reasonable price. For those of us growing up in the South, it is always great to be able to select such vegetables as fried green tomatoes, okra and tomato fritters, rutabagas, turnip greens, field peas, cornbread dressing and stewed squash. Entrees also offer a Southerner’s delight of choices such as fried chicken, fried chicken livers, fried catfish and fried country steak. Desserts are spectacular – chocolate chess pie, buttermilk pie, pecan pie and various cobblers. Too Southern for you? They do have a lot of other selections that can be checked out on their website – Irondale Café: The original WhistleStop Café. They post a daily menu. The website also gives a complete history of the café that is very interesting.

We had a really great turn out of retirees, family members and friends for this meeting. After being seated in a private dining area, we started our meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag. **Joe Duncan** offered the blessing for our lunch. After lunch and a period of “catching up” on everyone’s news, we held our drawing. **Zoe Glass** was the lucky winner.

**Joe & Jane Jones** brought a basket of home grown lemons to share with all of us. They were delicious – all of our members are really great about sharing things they grow or make. Thanks Joe & Jane!

Our president, **Herb Wilbanks**, announced plans to hold a joint retiree meeting with Eastern, American, Delta and United retirees in the Birmingham area early next year. The only hold up at this point is finding a location large enough to accommodate the large number of retirees family members and guests that we expect to attend this event. Anyone with suggestions on a location can contact **Herb Wilbanks** at [carolwilla@aol.com](mailto:carolwilla@aol.com) or **Judy Slover** at [judyslover@mindspring.com](mailto:judyslover@mindspring.com).

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

December Birthdays: **Charlotte Gibson** (12/1), **Herb Wilbanks** (12/8), **Bobby Cox** (12/30), **Travis Glass** (12/31)

December Anniversary: **Donna & Jim Gooch** (12/20)

Calendar:

**January 9** - Meeting - 11:30AM - TBA

## ARIZONA

### PHOENIX AZURES



Carol Liltz, Correspondent  
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Goodyear, AZ 85395  
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Happy New Year! The Azures enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving luncheon on November 12 at Pebblecreek Golf Resort in the Chianti Room. We had a small group of 28 attendees but all enjoyed the turkey plate with all the trimmings and, of course, pumpkin pie for dessert. Our next luncheon will be at Briarwood Country Club in Sun City West on December 10. As of this date, we have 38 members and guests attending. Briarwood has always given us a wonderful meal. This time, we had a choice of Beef Kabob or Chicken Picata.

We'll report next month on the Arizona Broadway Theatre's production of "Miracle on 34th Street", 28 Azures are signed up to attend.

Our January 14 luncheon will be held at the home of **Tim & Nita Everhart** in Sun City West. We will have a potluck with maybe a little catering, not decided yet. It was very nice of Tim & Nita to offer up their home for the day. I guess Tim has done a lot of remodeling and wants to show off the results. And, we're pleased to accommodate him.

I got word that **Sally Illingworth** is having another back surgery on December 7, she will be recuperating for a few months. Please keep Sally in your prayers for a speedy recovery. For cards, Sally's address is 12522 Prospect Drive, Sun City West, AZ 85375.

**Don Bergstrom** is doing well since his knee replacement in October, good nursing from Anne is the key.

Our every-other week group at Coco's is reporting between 10 and 15 attendees at breakfast. Maybe after the holidays, the attendance will go up. For now, that's a good turnout.

#### Calendar:

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

**January 14** (tentative date) - **Tim & Nita Everhart's** house party - 12923 West Paintbrush Drive, Sun City West, AZ

**February 11** - TBA

#### PHOENIX RE-UNITED

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



**Happy New Year!** We hope everyone will have a happy and healthy New Year. We have many things going on each month, and hopefully new people will join us and meet our friendly group. We meet for Breakfast and Lunch each month until next spring. We're open to anyone who has worked for United or Continental Airlines at any time and is of retirement age of 55. Please contact our President, **Jim Brigante** at (480) 443-0031 or by e-mail at [jbrigante@lostshadow.com](mailto:jbrigante@lostshadow.com), or our Vice President, **Peg Snowdall** at (480) 396-3317 or by e-mail at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net), if you have any questions. Start the New Year out right and check us out.

Our Fantasy Flight, which was held, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, was again a huge success. Thanks to all who volunteered and worked hard to benefit all the children. It turned out just great!

The Christmas luncheon at Palo Verde Country Club in Sun Lakes was really nice. Everyone enjoyed themselves. Thanks to the hosts, **Carol & Skip Ward**, for doing their usual good job in setting this up.

We had 41 people attend our November 10<sup>th</sup> luncheon at the Golden Corral in Gilbert. Our speaker was our own, **Jim Fauber**, who spoke about people in the aviation industry and RUAEA. Everyone enjoyed the delicious buffet. Thanks to **Ginny & Fred Rockenhauser** for making all the arrangements.

At our breakfast on November 18<sup>th</sup>, we heard that **Hank Falk** had a heart attack and passed away suddenly. There were 26 people attending the breakfast, with one new couple, **Bob & Valerie Forsberg**. **Valerie** retired from Denver. **Pat Nicholaisen** asked for donations of plastic bags, from the grocery stores, which she uses to make bed pads for homeless people. What a good idea!

Don't forget to get your annual dues of \$5.00 each to **Rita Zarek**, our Treasurer. You can bring it with you at a breakfast or luncheon, or mail a check to **Rita** at 823 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Apache Junction, AZ 85120.

Nominations for officers will be held this month, with the election being held in February. Please consider taking an office.

Our sympathy goes out to **Irma Furtney** on the death of her husband, **Tom Stack** on November 19<sup>th</sup>. **Hank Falk's** funeral was held on November 28<sup>th</sup> at the Dayspring United Methodist Church in Tempe. **Hank** was a very active member. We will miss him very much.

Our January 12<sup>th</sup> luncheon is at the Grand View Steakhouse at Painted Mountain Golf Resort in Mesa.

Information was sent to you by **Ferrol & Cindy Hilsabeck**. Look forward to seeing everyone there.

We have a lot of birthdays in January. They are **John Gaudio** (1/5), **Jane Miller** (1/14), **Molly Norwood** (1/14), **Ferrol Hilsabeck** (1/15), **Judy McFarland** (1/22), **Barb Paymaster** (1/22), **Rose Rheam**

(1/23), **Linda Cooper-Koltz** (1/25), **Dakota Morris-Terry** (1/28), and **Skip Ward** (1/28). Happy Birthday to all of you! We have three Wedding Anniversaries this month. They are **Dakota Morris-Terry** (1/8), **Donna & Ron Pedone** (1/10/80) and **Barbara & Jay Hartough**, (1/16/71). Happy Anniversary!

I'm still looking for birthdays and anniversary dates from some of our members. Please let me know as we would like to recognize you.

Calendar:

**January 12** – Luncheon at Grandview Steak House, hosted by **Cindy & Ferrol Hilsabeck**. If you need more information, contact them at (480) 924-8118, or by e-mail at [ferrol2@juno.com](mailto:ferrol2@juno.com).

**January 27** – Breakfast at Crackers, 13258 N. Greenfield Rd in Mesa, starting at 9:00AM. Contact **Peg Snowdall** by January 25<sup>th</sup> with your reservation at (480) 396-3317, or by e-mail at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net).

**February 9** – Luncheon TBA, hosted by **Natasha Schmidt**.

**February 24** – Breakfast at Crackers



**TALL PINES**

Joe Tomasic  
604 Mockingbird Court  
Prescott, AZ 86301  
(928)717-1550  
[anjo2736@cableone.net](mailto:anjo2736@cableone.net)

Greetings to all from the Prescott Arizona Tall Pines Chapter! At our November meeting, fourteen happy members gathered for lunch at the Lone Spur Cafe.

Many thanks to the members of our group who supported the Phoenix Fantasy Flight, a once in a lifetime thrill for many underprivileged children.

Best wishes to all our brother and sister retirees for a healthy, happy New Year.

Calendar:

**January 20** – 11:00AM, Luncheon at the Lone Spur Café

**TUCSON ROADRUNNERS**

Tucson, AZ  
Roger & Lyn Callihan  
2262 E. Gerbera Way  
Oro Valley, AZ 85755  
[Callynrog@Comcast.net](mailto:Callynrog@Comcast.net)



A Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our friends out there across the country. May the holiday spirit continue through the New Year.

Thank you Alice and Donna for arranging our November 17<sup>th</sup> luncheon at the Tanque Verde Ranch. The 33 Roadrunners in attendance really enjoyed the fine buffet. The food was ample and with the dessert, many of us did not need much for dinner.

We all welcomed **Sandy & Jeff Lawyer** as new members. Both worked at WHQ and have recently retired to the Tucson area. We hope to see you at many more gatherings. Once again, Welcome aboard!

Lest I forget, the 50/50 drawing was won by **Lyn Callihan**.

Our annual Christmas giving this year will be to the Seniors for Kids organization that provides toys and other items for the needy in the area. Checks should be sent to **Pat DiLallo** in any amount you feel appropriate and she will then present a check to the President of the organization (Jean Sax) from the United retirees.

**Pat Dilallo** wants to advise every one that your 2012 membership dues are now due. Please send your checks in the amount of \$5.00 p/p to Pat. Her address is 14740 N. Palmwood Dr. Or you can give her the dues at the Christmas luncheon at the Oro Valley Country Club. The Country Club has become an annual venue for our Christmas holiday meeting and has been well attended by our members.

A Celebration of Life for **Jerry Byle** was held on November 12<sup>th</sup> at the Cortaro Vista Community Church. Jerry passed away on November 1<sup>st</sup>. He had many friends and was very active with his church activities. He will be sorely missed by all of us.

**Ed Kokot** will host the January Luncheon on the 19<sup>th</sup> of the month. Details to follow in the next newsletter.



Calendar:

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

**February 16** - Thunder Canyon Brewery

## CALIFORNIA

### CENTRAL COASTERS



Avila Beach, CA

Al Rybar

P.O. Box 2298

Avila Beach, CA 93424

(805) 595-2532

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

We did not meet during November, but we will have our Christmas lunch and meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup> at the Spyglass Restaurant. This will also include our traditional gift exchange. **John & Barbara Stilwell** will be the hosts again. John goes to various gift stores right after Christmas and gets the table treats for next year. He stores them for a year, so we are all anxious to see what he provides this time.

I didn't see any company news that was worth repeating at this time. There was something in the newspapers and Internet regarding the new first class seating and I think they will be installed in the 747. It looks like this idea is to attract long distant flight travelers and also the cost of fares. It will be a challenge for retirees to be able to use this first class once the new and improved pass policy goes into effect.

By the time you read this, Thanksgiving will be over and Christmas is around the corner and then New Years 2012. Has the year flown by for you as it has for me?

**Mike Zoldak** sent me some interesting news. He and his wife **Bridget** flew from LAX to IAH using the CO/UAL boarding system. They made all their flights and so did their baggage. Mike did say that parking at LAX long-term parking lot "B" for \$8.00 per day is no longer. It is for employees only. The closest lot cost him \$12.95 per day. Is this what we have to look forward to as Retirees? Good Luck to all of us that continue to fly as we have in the past.

Have a Merry Christmas and New Year filled with Health and Happiness.

Calendar:

**December 14** - Hosted by **John & Barbara Stilwell**

### DESERT SUNBIRDS

Palm Springs Area

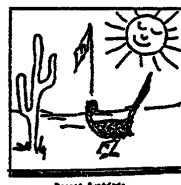
Chuck Lamas

38708 Bautista Canyon Way

Palm Desert, CA 92260

(760) 776-0812

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



**Fred & Jan Kellerhals** were the hosts for our Chapter's November Luncheon, held at the Casino Morongo in Cabazon. Twenty seven members and guests enjoyed what might be the best buffet in the Desert Area.

**Barb Harrison** made an appearance, first time in many months. **Siv Adams** brought her and our friend, **Sheila O'Brien**. **Bill Heller** was **Brad Zittel's** guest, and we were delighted to meet **John Fultz** and **Sharon Schlotthauer**, Snowbirds here, but members of the Denver Mile-Highers.

**Gay Traber** missed the luncheon, as she was vacationing in Sydney.

**Liz & Jim Clapper** also missed the luncheon, as Liz spent four days in the hospital with kidney failure, five days back home (released too early, as it turned out), then back to the hospital, where her "dosage" of medicine was re-evaluated. She is home now, recuperating, with Jim playing nurse. I spoke to her today (11/30), and she is planning to be at our Christmas Luncheon on 12/14.

**Dee Whately** was the Birthday lunch winner, and **Ron Lerg** won the 50/50. By the way, this was the third time the Lergs have won the 50/50 this year - Melinda won in March and July. There will be an investigation!

*A good Pun is its own reward:*

- ☺ *Dijon vu - the same mustard as before.*
- ☺ *A Freudian slip is when you say one thing but mean your mother.*
- ☺ *If electricity comes from electrons, does that mean that morality comes from morons?*
- ☺ *A gossip is someone with a great sense of rumor.*
- ☺ *When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.*

Calendar:

**January 11** – TBA, hosted by **John & Maureen Schultz**

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



**HANGTOWN MINERS**

Bill Kenney – Secretary

(530) 672-1591

[kenneys@pacbell.net](mailto:kenneys@pacbell.net)

The December Hangtown Miners luncheon was held December 6<sup>th</sup> at Sequoia at the Bee-Bennett House in Placerville. The food at Sequoia is always good and today's meal was no exception. Thanks to **Peggy Bonetti** and **Pat Razura** for hosting the lunch.

The meeting was called to order by President **Jon Somplack**.

Old Business ~ We need a Vice President and a Secretary for next year.

New Business ~ We still need a Vice President and a Secretary for next year.

Treasurer's Report: \$333.90.

There is no luncheon/meeting in January. **Jon & Alice Somplack** will host the February luncheon. Location will be announced. We still need hosts for May and November.

Dues are due and payable in February.

Comments\* from former president **Rosemary Heier**: *"We are all members of the Miners. Without active participation of the membership, we cannot function. Step up and do something. Volunteer for an office."*

\* I couldn't quote Rosemary's comments exactly but I think I reported the gist of her comments. Thanks for the comments Rosemary.

Meeting adjourned for the raffle. After the raffle, there were some guests/prospective members introduced. I couldn't hear their names.

Not announced at the meeting were the December anniversaries. **John & Carolyn Campbell** (12/14 – 10 years), **Peter & Michelle Beese** (12/16 – 33 years), **Herbert & Kathy Prevost** (12/23 – 48 years), **JR & Rosemary Heier** (12/2 - 48 years)

Many thanks to the following people for donations for our raffle. **Wolfram** (toy truck); **Limas** (basket); **Czapkay** (wine); **Pat Guinn** (painted goblets); **Janette & Joe D'Amico** (white wine); **Tom & Suzanne Kenny** (candle); **Mary Lou Wagner** (serving dish); **Raynor** (wine); **Ouchi** (more wine); **Ed Akin** (still more wine); **D. Stroud** (lots more wine); **R. Heier** (ginger bread house); **M. Buschman** (candle sticks) and last but not least (more wine from **George Parkinson**).

Bill Kenney – Secretary (lame duck)

**REDWOOD EMPIRE**

**RETIREEES**

Mary C. Hill, Secretary

941 Helene Ct.

Rohnert Park, CA 94928

[mchill941@att.net](mailto:mchill941@att.net)



The November meeting for the Redwood Empire Retirees was held on the 10<sup>th</sup> at the Fountaingrove Inn in Santa Rosa. We had 36 members and guests attending and the weather was perfect. Our President **Joanne Huhn** called the meeting to order after a great lunch and thanked our hosts **Brandon & Pat Maus**. It was the second time at this restaurant and the food was just great.

Joanne asked for a moment of silence for another of our members who passed away recently. **Mel Grows'** daughter notified Joanne that Mel had moved to Colorado to be with family after Jane died earlier in the year. Joanne sent a card from our group.

Vice President **Barney Hagen** announced our guests. **Lee Trevelyan** and **Clem Shanahan**, guests of **Barney & Clare Hagen**; **Jeanne Peterson**, guest of **Elsie Kuhl**; **Tony & Sally Urso**, guests of **Maddy McKinnis** and **Ed & Marlene Van Borstel**, guests of **Naomi Tolf**.

Treasurer **Judy De Ford** gave us our monthly totals, which looked pretty good, before Barney invested in “a great buy on wine” for the raffles.

Sunshine Lady **Verda Burr** was away traveling to see family, so I tried to fill her shoes. Our birthdays for the month were **Ernie Stukey**, **George Smith**, **Maddy McKinnis**, **Elsie Kuhl**, **Norma Stilman**, **Clare Hagen**, **Carol Hanna**, **Bernice Anderson**, **Joan Lankusch** and **Bridget McDonald**. The winner of the Birthday Lunch was **Bernice Anderson**. We had two anniversaries this month, **Richard & Maria Sothern**, (39 years) and **Delbert & Ivy Clark**. Delbert & Ivy are celebrating their 60 years. Wonderful occasion and Joanne sent a card from the group. Our guests **Tony & Sally Urso** were also celebrating their 57<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They are from the South Bay Chapter and drove up to spend time with **Maddy Mc Kinnis**. We hope they won't be strangers and join us again soon.

**Charlie Anderson** has our officers for the next year all lined up, we took a vote and had a second. The new officers are: President ~ **Barney Hagen**, Vice President ~ **George Schwind**, Treasurer ~ **Jan Blackburn**, Secretary ~ **Val Hulsey**. Congratulations to All.

**Joan Olsen** has been busy traveling. Her last trip was to the Greek Islands, the Black Sea and ending the cruise in Rome. Sounds wonderful!

It was really good to see **Naomi Tolf** back after an emergency trip to the hospital. She is feeling much better and glad to be back.

**Norm Burnett** is not feeling well. He is making daily trips to the hospital for treatment. Norm would enjoy cards, but please no phone calls.

V.P. **Barney Hagen** reminded us we will be needing hosts for our January luncheon. It is scheduled to be at the LeGare. Please give Barney a call if you can do this.

Joanne reminded us of our “Charity Box” and to start shopping for our December Toy Drive. Remember to bring the toys unwrapped.

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

Los Angeles

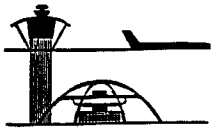
Barbara Smith

13721 El Dorado Dr. #20-H

Seal Beach, CA 90740

(562) 430-4886

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



#### Part I -- from Barb:

Well, the hand here is getting better, but still very slow and stiff. My tongue is pretty good - my nephew tells me he can understand me very well, but says I do sound a little drunk! (At times I wish!).

Now 'tis the time to finish Xmas tree, etc. - the leaves are still falling from nearby trees, the blossoms from the Christmas cactus (which booms at Thanksgiving) have all dropped and the 7th date is pushing me to finish this report!

The latest word I have is short. **Bob Curran**, a fellow retiree from LAXTO had a seizure/slight stroke a week or so ago, so he was hustled off to the hospital in short order. Among other things discovered by the Drs., there was a discovery of suspected cancer. But going by his voice and attitude on the phone, I must say he sounds great. He says with all the prayers by everyone for him and his doctors, he feels fine and that he's in very good hands. Of course cards are good at 781B Via Los Altos, Laguna Woods, CA 92653, (949) 951-7302, [curran781B@aol.com](mailto:curran781B@aol.com).

And more about members - **Jan LaStrape** passed away as a result of a stroke - only at age 69! The funeral is scheduled for 12/12, with a special bulletin by “resrat” Jim to all LAXRR retirees, who will be able to pass the word to other friends from other departments

I was so sorry to miss the Xmas luncheon - it is always extra nice (and a sit-down meal) (I hate buffets!) Per Donna's report, many folks not seen for awhile were there - I surely missed not seeing you all.

#### Part II - from Donna Klobe

Our Christmas luncheon came really early this year, December 1<sup>st</sup>! It was a beautiful sunny day, held at the Proud Bird that sits right off the end of the south runways.



We filled a large envelope with donations and gift certificates for Vista Del Mar Family Services organization and added many bags stuffed with toys, sports equipment and clothing for the children. It is a rewarding Christmas Donation.

It was a pleasure to welcome **Bob & Clarine Schmiedeke**, who brought family members **Jerry & Karleen Schmiedeke**. We had not seen them in a long time due to recoveries from various difficulties. Bob shared with us that he has macular degeneration and vertigo and Clarine is on oxygen. We were so happy they made the effort to share in our Christmas Celebration. Send good cheer to: 21021 Leisure Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92646.

Our dear friend and treasurer of Re-LAX-ers, **Joann Briggs** was able to come, supported by close friend, **Dee Wright**. Joann is fighting hard against relentless cancer. We're happy to see her so strong and looking great! Our love and support to Joann, 21303 Legend Ave, Carson, CA 90745.

We were also happy to see **Sandy Ortiz** with a personal assistant, **Kathy Areyan** and **Irma Minikle**, who was assisted by **Margarita Gutierrez**. What a pleasure to be able to see our friends through the efforts of these helpers.

**Ester & Louis Horompoly** were back in town after a fantastic trip to Europe and brought a guest, **Lucia Carzo**. They enjoyed visits with family members whom they had not seen in a long time.

**Tom & Carol LaBrow** made the long trip from Bullhead City. Tom still has a neck brace from his frightening roll-over accident. He has undergone several surgeries; but has that fabulous smile still visible. Send good cheer to 2039 Cactus Court, Bullhead City, AZ 86442.

**Frankie & Al Tschirhart** made an unusual appearance. So good to see them! Al doesn't venture out much due to problems with balance since his accident. Best wishes to you, Al, 1678 W. Chateau Pl., Anaheim, CA 92802.

We are still missing our fantastic correspondent, **Barbara Smith**, who is recovering from a stroke that inhibits her from joining us at the present time. We hope that she will be able to join us soon. Send encouragement to her at 13721 El Dorado Dr., #20H, Seal Beach, CA 90740.

A tremendous Thank You and Job Well Done to **Laly Savoy** for organizing another great Fantasy Flight. We also thank all the volunteers who helped in this incredible event!

It was a special treat to see so many of our friends and be able to wish them all a Merry Christmas and healthy New Year!

### **Re-Sans**

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



Our monthly meeting was a Christmas lunch instead of our regular breakfast. It was held at Hunter's Steakhouse in Mission Valley. There were thirty seven in attendance. In addition to our monthly 50/50 raffle, we also had gift cards that were given out for some fun things to do in San Diego, Starbuck's Cards, Barnes & Noble, Panera Restaurant and a few others.

We had three December birthdays, **Merry Card** and **Kit Fogelman** are celebrating eighty years of age and **Arlene Roberts** is celebrating eighty eight years of age. Merry flew in from Henderson Nevada to be with us at this special time.

**Walt Washington** was unable to join us as he is recovering from spinal surgery but he reports he is doing well and hopes to be joining us in the near future.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to **Bob Bowden** and his family. Bob is suffering from lung cancer that has metastasized into his brain. They are currently living in W. Virginia but I am in contact with **Kathy** and will keep you posted as to his outcome.

On the bright side, **Silvie Plesin**, one of our recent retirees, recently completed a twenty five mile hike at Mission Trails Regional Park including all of the five peaks that encompass the park. Silvie, a cancer survivor, was one of seven who completed the hike.

Next month, January, we are going back on our regular schedule of breakfast at Pt Loma Café. Hope to see you there.

### **Calendar:**

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



### **GOLDEN GATERS**

#### **SFO - BAY AREA**

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

What a marvelous way to begin the New Year: 4 new members ... **Bob and Irene Bryant, Jack and Ann Gardner, Ronald and Patricia Gurski, and Milton and Doris Schafer.** Welcome, friends!

I hope Santa Claus was good to you and filled your stockings with signs of good health and just maybe: better news from UAL/CO for 2012. You know, in Holland, if you've been bad, your stockings are filled with big black lumps of coal!

As usual, our busy Travel Coordinator **Ginger Dahlberg** is perfecting a round trip out of San Francisco to the **Hawaiian Islands**, cruising on the "Star Princess". This is set for October 6 – 21, 2012. Credit cards will be accepted. **Ginger** needs your money NOW. Call her at (650) 224-1865 or email [gingersfo@aol.com](mailto:gingersfo@aol.com). Another enticing adventure is offered for March 5 – 8, 2012: **Wonder Valley Ranch Resort, Sequoia National Park, Blossom Trail** with eagles "on call" if you're lucky! Call **Ginger** right now for pricing and a flyer. Yet another temptation: **The Best of Eastern Canada**, late April – early May 2012, i.e. **Montreal, Quebec City, Ottawa, rail to Toronto.**

We were again fortunate this year to be able to make our usual five year-end donations to 5 fairly local charities. We are blessed so that we can bless others.

**Personally Speaking:** As the frequently stressful holidays are coming to a conclusion, I just couldn't resist offering you this great little recipe:

**"Traditional Holiday Fruit Cake with Rum"**. Be sure to read the ingredients carefully: 1 C water, 1 C brown sugar, 2 C dried fruit, 1 tsp. baking soda, 1 C white sugar, 1 tsp. salt, lemon juice, 4 large eggs, nuts, and one bottle fine rum.

Sample rum to check quality. Take a large bowl, check the rum again. To be sure it is of the highest quality, pour one level cup and drink. Repeat. Turn on the electric mixer. Beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl. Add one teaspoon of sugar. Beat again. At this point, it is best to make sure the rum is still OK. Try another cup just in case. Turn off the mixerer thingy. Break 2 leggs and add to the bowl and chuck in the cup of dried fruit. Pick the frigging fruit up off floor. Mix on the turner. If the fried druit gets stuck in the beaterers, just pry it loose with a screwdriver.

Sample the rum to check for tonsisticity. Next, sift two cups of salt. Or something. Check the rum. Now shift the lemon juice and strain your nuts. Add one table.

Add a spoon of sugar, or somefink. Whatever you canind, greash the oven. Turn the cake tin 360 F. degrees and try not to fall over. Don't forget to beat off the turner. Finally, throw the bowl through the window. Finish the run and wipe counter with the cat.

*(If I've made one person laugh, then my job is done.)*

#### **Calendar:**

Every SFO-Bay Area retiree meeting begins promptly at 11:30AM on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month. We'll see you at the William Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd. (Shell & East Hillsdale Blvd.), Foster City, CA 94404. Bring a retiree friend so that they can see what a good time we have! Lost? Call (650) 286-3380. Mail should be sent to UAL-SFO Bay Area Retirees, P.O. Box 4788, Foster City, CA 94404.

## SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

Joan Dahl & Rosemarie Reichard  
1169 Johnson Ave.  
San Jose, CA 95129  
[joandahl@att.net](mailto:joandahl@att.net) – (408) 996-2161  
[rosieandbill@gmail.com](mailto:rosieandbill@gmail.com) – (408) 257-9170



Happy New Year!

We'll start the New Year out with congratulating our new officers for 2012. Our President is **Sam Cramb**, Vice President - **Bill Reichard**, Secretaries - **Joan Dahl** and **Rosemarie Reichard**, Treasurer and Social Chairman **Dave Saso**, Sunshine Lady **La Donna Eggert** and Historian **George Sousa**. Special thanks to **Alex Klaus** for his service as President this past year. We appreciate his enthusiasm and dedication to this RUAEA chapter.

The ladies enjoyed a fabulous family style Chinese lunch and chocolate gift exchange at their annual Christmas lunch at Loon Wan's in San Jose. President **Alex Klaus** arrived with his elves to collect toys for the Salvation Army which the ladies had donated. The lunch was hosted by **Nancy Walb** and **Joan Dahl**. Tasty desserts were brought by **Jean Jenkins** and special sachets were created by **Cheri Scales** for each guest.

Our annual holiday luncheon extraordinaire was attended by 111 members and guests at Mariani's Inn and Restaurant in Santa Clara. Under the able leadership of our Social Chairman **Dave Saso** and his wife **Joanne**, with additional help by **Cheri & Ben Scales**, **Dave & Nancy Walb**, **Marian Swanson**, **Jay & Charlotte Cacioppo**, **Sam & Billie Cramb**, **Joan Dahl**, **Bill & Rosemarie Reichard**, **La Donna Eggert**, **George & Ella Sousa**, **Tony & Sally Urso**, **Thelma Graham**, **Clyde & Jean Jenkins** and **Margie & Alex Klaus**, the festive event was a huge success. President **Alex Klaus** thanked all the members that helped with various chapter events during the year and presented each woman with a bouquet of roses. In return, our Vice President **Sam Cramb** acknowledged and presented **Alex** with a plaque and pen set for his year of service. Classical and holiday music played table side by DAPHNA and vaudevillian master of ceremonies Tony Castle, entertained everyone. A silent auction and raffle gave guests the chance to bid on a variety of items. Members and guests were encouraged to bring unwrapped toys which were delivered by **President Alex Klaus** to Toys For Tots.

Our chapter's holiday food drive was spearheaded by **George & Ella Sousa** with donations going to the Salvation Army.

We hope the New Year 2012 will be full of new adventures, good health and first class travels for all RUAEA members.

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



## SAN JOAQUINERS

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

Gosh, I just realized that it's December 6<sup>th</sup> and I have not submitted my article for the National Newsletter. It seems as though there is just not enough time in a day to get everything done.

We are getting ready to celebrate Christmas and New Year. 2012 is just around the corner but you will be reading this article in the January newsletter. Our December luncheon will be our annual Christmas party hosted by the officers. We will not have a meeting in January so I won't be writing an article till after our February 9<sup>th</sup> luncheon/meeting.

Our last luncheon was held on November 10<sup>th</sup> at the Saddlecreek Inn in Copperopolis and there were 40 people in attendance. The luncheon was hosted by **George & Gloria Gemberling** and **Don & Kathy Rentzel**. We were very happy to see **Ken Silva** and **Fred Verbaere** attend the luncheon as they are both recovering from open heart surgery.

All of us in the San Joaquiners chapter wish each and every one of you a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year! May 2012 be a better year for all!



Our chapter always meets on the second Thursday of each month and we hope you will join us. We have a lot of fun and good food at all the different restaurants where we gather. If you need any information or if you have any questions, please call our President, **Don Nesja**, (209) 295-2104 or me, **Rosie Walls**, (209) 984-5672.

### **EAST BAY DIABLOS**

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



Our November meeting was held on the 14<sup>th</sup> with 26 members and guests attending. We were glad to welcome back **Caryl Payne** and **Carolyn Davis** who have not been able to be with us for some time. **Diane Griego** and her husband were among the missing while enjoying a lengthy cruise in Europe. **Ken Price** is still in Canada on an extended trip and our founding member, **Vilma Patrick**, was unable to join us because of a visit to the Doctor.

New members **Barbara & Jerry Underhill** were welcomed back. They are also active in the Golden Gaters group of retirees near SFO.

A letter was read from the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano counties thanking us for our generous donation. We also reviewed information about the new Clipper Card with special Senior rates for use on many forms of transit, including BART, around the Bay Area.

The group also thanked **Emma Lou Olson**, who has agreed to take on the meal ordering and cash collection at our meetings.

Don't forget our Toys for Tots collection with the Marine Corps in attendance at our next meeting!

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

#### Calendar:

**January 12**

**February 13**

**March 12**

**April 9**



### **CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS**

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

The Northstaters started the holiday season with a bang! What a wonderful meeting/luncheon we had at **John & Linda Delaney's** home. Beautiful decorations, great food and a wonderful group of 26 retirees and spouses enjoyed the day. **Merritt Odor**, our President, thanked John & Linda for inviting us to their home. Also, Merritt welcomed **John Zoboli**, our Regional Director, to the meeting.

Merritt asked if there were any birthdays or anniversaries. **Phyllis Burdick** will be celebrating her birthday in December as well as **John Delaney** and **Sharon Simonton** in January. **Kent & Billie Jorgensen** celebrated a wonderful 50 year anniversary and **Jim & Delores Bunton** celebrated 52 years of marriage.

Merritt reminded us of our dues that are due in January of 2012. Merritt also asked us about ideas for speakers, or proposed outings for the group.

**John Zoboli** gave a presentation on some updates concerning United Airlines. A new program reduces by 50% the discount on ZED Fares on UA & CO flights. Information can be found on Flying Together. The age for dependent children flight benefits will be extended to 26 years of age. A meeting is planned for early 2012.

with the Vice President of HR, Donna Towle and the retiree group leaders. The mechanics and Teamsters union have a tentative agreement to be voted on at the end of December. Starting November 30<sup>th</sup> and until December 16, there will be a benefits correcting period. Call or go on Flying Together to make changes. The FAA has issued the single operating certificate to UAL/CO. There is an employee bulletin regarding pass travel and what to expect. Any changes to the pass travel have been pushed back to March 1, 2012. John also talked about the computer enhancements in the flight deck. **John Delaney**, who is a pilot, spoke of these enhancements.

We then were taken on a wonderful tour of John & Linda's hangar which houses airplanes, helicopters and a lot of interesting things for a retired couple to enjoy.

Our member profile this month is **Hal Burdick** ~ Hal was born in Seattle, Washington and after 15 years of moving around, finally wound up in the SFO bay area. He enlisted in the USMC in 1946, and then took advantage of the GI Bill to attend A&E school in Glendale, California.

In 1951, he joined United Airlines in SFO at \$1.50 per hour where he spent the first seven years on graveyard shift. He worked out of the B-29 hangar on the west ramp, working mostly on DC-6 aircraft. The highlight of that era was in December of 1951, when Pat Patterson gave them all a day's extra pay for Christmas.

He really enjoyed the challenge of getting the planes repaired. The planes flew during the day; Swing shift picked them up and wrote up the gripes. Graveyard shift fixed them, ran the engines to check the work, gassed them and then taxied them to the terminal for the morning trips. There were a lot of maintenance items on the 2800s. Hal claimed that it was miserably cold but no management was on duty to interfere with the tasks at hand. Quite often they worked through lunches or breaks to get the planes finished and to the terminal on time.

Hal married Phyllis in 1953 and they found that the graveyard shift was very hard on their family life. The bright spot was rotating days off so they could do things during the week when everyone else was working. In 1958, Hal bid the HNL station to see if the family would like it. This turned out to be a mistake and it took a year for an opening to become available back in SFO. Hal again was on the line but this time there were B-720's and DC-8's. It was a different kind of maintenance and harder to get parts. Hal worked day shift at the Service Center and in the early 1970's, United acquired the DC-10 and Hal was one of the first to qualify for taxi and run up.

The last five years of his career, he worked the terminal on 727s, 737s and DC8s until he retired in 1987. Hal & Phyllis now live in Redding, California and enjoy their children and grandchildren. Hal does some beautiful woodworking projects which he has shared with the Northstaters.

There were a total of four raffles at our Christmas get together. A Lazy Susan, made by **Hal Burdick** was won by **Bill Simonton**. **John Isabell** won the coffee gift bag donated by **Merritt & Klaren Odor**. The lunch gift certificate was won by **Billie Jorgensen** and the 50-50 raffle was won by **Phyllis Burdick**.

The next meeting/luncheon will be held on Thursday, January 26 at 11:30 AM at the Holiday Inn in Redding. **Richard Skelly** will be setting up the arrangements.

Happy Holidays to All!

#### Calendar:

**January 26** - 11:30 AM, Holiday Inn in Redding, hosted by **Richard Skelly**.

### COLORADO

#### DENVER MILE HIGHERS

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



Winter has finally come to Colorado. The Mile Highers met on December 3 for breakfast at our usual hangout, the United Airlines Training Center. There were 26 brave souls who put aside the cold, wind and snow to attend the breakfast.

Talk about dedication, **Richard & Cleora Conner** drove 50 miles from Johnstown CO. Good show! It was good to meet first timer **Leah Lewis**, come on back and see us. **Dianne Adkins** brought **Martha & Virgil Gooselaw**, since Virgil isn't allowed to drive yet since his recent knee surgery. He's doing pretty good and walks with out a limp.

**Elaine Fluegel** is still having back problems; her address is 8674 West 84<sup>th</sup> Circle, Arvada, CO 80005, if you want to send her a card. Also **Herb Johnson** had surgery and if you want to send him a card his address is 14271 East Marina Drive, Aurora, CO 80014.

Tom and Virgil explained a few aspects of the health insurance for 2012. The point to remember is that you must contact the United Airlines Benefit Service Center if you want to confirm your information is correct. And you must make sure you have given the Benefits Center the authority to make a direct withdrawal from whatever financial account you use for your monthly insurance payments, if you use the direct withdrawal method. This is especially true if the dollar amount of your monthly premium has changed from 2011 to 2012.

Three folks returned their 50/50 winnings to the chapter: **Bill Brehmer**, **Charles Hassler** and **Ray Shoults**. Thanks folks.



On December 7, the Mile Highers had their annual Christmas Luncheon with 76 in attendance. First timer was **Liz Boswell**, **Frank & Cathryn Engert's** daughter. And we were pleased to have in attendance a lady, **Judy Schweppe**, who retired from Continental.

Honored guests were **Ron Bertacini**, the RUAEA National President and his wife, **Barbara**. Ron gave us a brief rundown on the current status of the merger and stated that more will be coming out in the near future. In other words, "Stay Tuned". We were also honored to have **Anne Plunkett Jackson** and her husband **John**. Anne's father, **Tom Plunkett**, was the first President of RUAEA (1975 to 1976). **Tom Plunkett** and **Murl Goodyear**, **Tom Goodyear's** father, started with NAT in 1928. Anne & Tom

reminded about the United of the past. Anne told us that she also worked for United and spent time with **Barbara Bertacini** when they were both stewardesses. It truly is a small world!

**Marvin Olson**, retired Maintenance Specialist, was present and he told us of his experience on December 7, 1941 in Pearl Harbor. His story was very moving and we are grateful to him and all those who served. He also told us of his later military assignments. Marvin served throughout the war in the Pacific and European Theaters. We also learned that **Anne Plunkett Jackson** had worked for Marvin and holds him in high regard. Again it truly is a small world!

**Tom Brunz** and **Stella Mendoza** gave thermal packs from the Alliant Credit Union to each retiree in attendance. We also learned that the Credit Union printed the new Mile High chapter directories which were given out to all present. Alliant, through Tom & Stella have been very generous to the retirees and it is greatly appreciated.

**Virgil Gooselaw** reported how important it is to contact the United Airlines Benefit Center regarding the direct withdrawal of funds for your health insurance premiums. He also encouraged all of us to get involved with the internet as it seems this is the tool UAL will be using in the future to communicate with the retirees.

Thanks for all the Christmas gifts for the Santa Sleigh Ride, they are greatly appreciated.

Happy New Year

#### Calendar:

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



### PIKES PEAK CHAPTER

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

A lot of retirees are out of town this November and December so our meetings are lightly attended. Pass Travel updates are forwarded to those with e-mail and word of mouth for the rest. Everyone should be looking at their Benefit re-enrollment in case there are changes to any of the individual plans, and there are quite a few. I will roll over my benefits and see what is offered in the way of new premiums.

United has issued RFP's for 100 Skywest stations and other airlines are doing the same. "Request For Proposals" are bids that Express carriers are to offer to handle operations at a station. American, Delta and US Air are offering it also. American Airlines has filed Chapter 11 **after spending 10 billion** of the employee's pension money to float the carrier for several years. We know where that is going!

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

#### Calendar:

**December 26** – No lunch, Merry Christmas

**January 23** - Regular lunch meeting

**February 27** – Regular lunch meeting

### FLORIDA

#### THE ORLANDO REAL MCCOYS

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



Our Real McCoys Christmas Luncheon was very well attended by 57 members and guests. We repeated the festivities we began last year with another wonderful luncheon at the Bonefish Grill! Our private party was complete with, not only delicious entrees and a "death by chocolate" dessert, but a very lucrative 50/50, won by **Lisa Leighty**, who donated her winnings back to the chapter. Tickets were also drawn for door prizes, including meal gift certificates from Bonefish! So nice of them!

The membership decided to vote for a sure thing and all the current Board members were re-elected. President - **Rich Llewellyn**, Vice-President - **Ken Michels**, Treasurer - **Char LeGrand**, Secretary - **Elaine Tillman-Mannella**, and Sunshine Lady - **Barb Halterman**.

We voted for our favorite charities to receive a Christmas donation from our chapter of \$350.00 each: The Russell Home for Atypical Children and Hospice of the Comforter.

Lots of December Happy Birthday Babies in our group: **Charlie Ringer**, **Gloria Armistead**, **Lou Gaydos**, and **Jane Houston**! And have we got some Wedded Bliss for you! **Char & Ted LeGrand** at 56 years! **Dave & Lisa Leighty** at 21 years! **Angel & Julia Montalvo** at 41 years! Congrats to you all!

Sincere Wishes to All for a Very Merry Christmas & A Happy Healthy 2012!

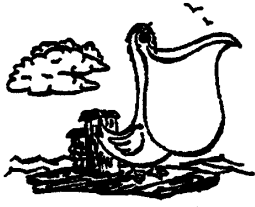
#### Calendar:

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

**January 3** – First luncheon of the New Year.

**February 7**





## **SOUTHWEST FLORIDA** **PELICAN DROP-INS**

Fort Myers, Florida  
Sandy Pryde  
10275 Bismark Palm Way, #1121  
Ft. Myers, FL 33966  
(239) 418-1034  
[jspryde@msn.com](mailto:jspryde@msn.com)

The Pelican Drop-Ins held its Christmas party/meeting on Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, at Sabal Springs Golf and Racquet Club in North Ft. Myers at noon. Attending were 19 members plus **Joan Gilkison**'s two daughters who were visiting their mother. All of us enjoyed a delicious Prime Rib or Chicken Cordon Bleu dinner.

While waiting for dinner to be served, President **Bill Burg** asked if the members would like to support the Harry Chapin Food Bank located in Ft. Myers. The need is great in the present economy. We decided to give \$200 from our treasury in support of the food bank. Also, there was agreement to reserve the first Friday of May to have a picnic/steak fry at **Mel Volz**'s picnic grove near Burnt Store. A monetary gift was also given to our waitress for the good care she gives us monthly.

The Christmas gift exchange was lots of fun, as usual. Everyone brought a wrapped gift, we sat in a circle and as the story was read, we passed our gifts "left" or "right" when those key words came up in the story about "Mr. & Mrs. Wright." That was very often until the story ended! It's always lots of fun and a good surprise to see what gift you end up with.

**Sandy Pryde** made Santa napkin rings as Christmas favors for everyone who attended the party.

We next meet on January 6, 2012. Our speaker will be a representative from Habitat for Humanity. Please join the Pelican Drop Ins if you're visiting in the Port Charlotte, Punta Gorda, Ft. Myers, or Naples area this winter/spring. We would welcome you.

### Calendar:

1st Friday of the month

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

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

For more information call or email:

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

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

### **TAMPA BAY**

New Port Richey, FL  
Carolyn Lodge, Acting Secretary  
6326 Gentle Ben Circle  
Wesley Chapel, FL 33544  
(813) 994-7839  
[dizfanmom1@aol.com](mailto:dizfanmom1@aol.com)



December 5 meeting was held at Spartan Manor and called to order by Acting President **Bob Lindstrom** at 11:45. There were 27 attendees. **Barbara Reicss** could not be with us as her husband, John, will have cardiac surgery this week. The business meeting was postponed until after our Christmas lunch and our entertainment, the Hudson Middle School Jazz Band. They have performed for us for seven years.

We had three guests attending: **Jackie Dedman** and **Bob & Barb Seescholtz**, they were guests of **Jan & Bob Lindstrom**.

The minutes for the November meeting were read by **Carolyn Lodge** and correction was made that **Joan & Ed Hufnagel** traveled from Denver and got the last two seats on the plane and not **Jean & Bill Linehan**. The minutes were approved as corrected. The Treasurers report was read by Jean Linehan and approved.

New Business ~ **Bob Lindstrom** reported that PBGC was looking over all UAL employees pension amounts because some errors have been reported. **Beverly Alderdice** brought up that it would be a good idea to send some money to help the Hudson Middle School Jazz Band go to New York to play. It was decided that since we already paid them for the day and that our Treasury does not have any extra money at this time that we

would take up a collection at our January meeting. As individuals, we can make a check to the Hudson Middle School and we will send it to John Keon, Music Director.

Membership ~ **Mary Martin** reported that she has nothing to report at this time.

Annual Picnic ~ **Jon Wilkinson** stated that the picnic dates were all set for 2012 in April and October.

Sunshine ~ **Terri Breslin** stated that she sent a card to **John Riecse** for his heart surgery scheduled for this week.

#### Calendar:

**January 9** - IHOP at 10:30AM. (*Please note new date and time because of the New Year's Day Holiday*).

Our meetings will go back to the first Mondays of the month starting in February and will be at 10:30.

**February 6** - 10:30 at IHOP (regular date).



#### **TREASURE COAST**

Stuart, FL

M. Jane Kerr

1372 SW California Blvd.

Port St. Lucie, FL 34953

(772) 343-0709

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

What a wonderful Christmas/Holiday Party we had in lieu of our regular meeting on the evening of December 5 starting at 6PM and ending about 10PM at Mulligan's. From 6PM to 7PM, we had scallops with bacon wraps, Swedish meatballs and a cheese and fruit tray along with crackers, boy were they yummy! At 7PM we had a sit down dinner starting with a cup of soup or garden salad, then steak, cooked to order with baked potato and all the trimmings and broccoli.

Some members had Grilled Mahi Mahi with a choice of rice or potato and broccoli and Chicken Breast also with a choice of rice or potato and broccoli, substitution to Broccoli could be coleslaw or fries. I selected the steak which was cooked to perfection and tender as can be. We were also given a glass of wine; either white or red, ice cream with chocolate fudge sauce topped the meal. What a meal and everyone had a wonderful response to the service and meal, you couldn't ask for more. A total of 28 members joined in the fun conversation and delicious cuisine for a night to remember.

**Jim Moorehead** ran into so much traffic on Rte 95 that it took him almost 2 hrs to drive up from Pompano Beach, but others left also from as far south as Ft. Lauderdale. What dedication and loyalty! We have been so lucky as to have all these new members from further south of us to attend our meetings and functions, and 2 new members arrived last night for the party! All of us are delighted beyond words and as we have said many, many times, come join us you won't be disappointed.

Altogether, we had 26 members and 2 new members that hail from Lake Worth. They are none other than **David & Carolyn Lindgren** and David worked in ORD and FLL before he retired in 2003.

**Al & Janice Popek** furnished gifts for everyone which was a Desk Calendar which I have already started to fill. While at the dinner waiting for desert, **Jim Morehead** wrote in the next meeting info for 2012, way to go Jim! They also had assorted gifts which were selected by them pulling the stubs from the 50/50, and wouldn't you know, the 50/50 was won by none other than **David Lindgren** and the Progressive was won by **Jim Moorehead**.

Unfortunately, **Mary Jane & Frank Wise** could not attend since he had surgery on his eye. Also, **Mari Hirjak** could not attend because of illness and was just released from the hospital. Both are doing better and we hope to see them at a future meeting.

Happy Birthday to **Catherine Coate** on January 18, and Anniversary Wishes to **Al & Janice Popek** who will celebrate their big day on January 28.

Toys for Tots was also a wonderful response from those that participated, 37 toys were donated which were more than appreciated since donations are way down this year.

#### *On the lighter side:*

☺ *Live Honestly, Love Generously, Care Deeply and Speak Kindly.*

☺ *Life is too short for drama or petty things, so laugh hard, love truly and forgive quickly. Live while you are alive, forgive now those who made you cry, you might not get a second chance.*

☺ *Cherish your health; if it's good preserve it. If it's unstable improve it and if it's beyond what you can improve, get help!*

☺ *Tell the people that you love them at every opportunity. We all need to live life to its fullest each day.*  
Live, love and laugh, the clock is ticking

Calendar:

**January 3** - Mulligan's, Jensen Beach, 1230PM Luncheon/Meeting - Happy New Year

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

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

GEORGIA

DIXIE FLYERS

Metro Atlanta, GA  
Ron Heider  
935 City Park Dr.  
McDonough, GA 30252  
(770) 898-3293  
[heider.ronald@yahoo.com](mailto:heider.ronald@yahoo.com)



Dixie Flyers held our meeting at 2PM at Broadway Diner with 38 members in attendance and 4 guests, **Colleen Sullivan Austin, Jay Elk Marshall, Missy and Tina**, daughters of **Lyle & Joanna Myers**. Joanna says she'll be able to waltz shortly after having hip replacement. It was nice to see her up and about.

**Fred Cron** and **Bogie Wallace** did the 50/50 raffle. The winning ticket drawn by **Jay Marshall** was won by **Jodi Wallace** who donated her share of \$22.50 to the Promise Place, our local charity for ladies and children in distress.

**Marge Cebula** mental alertness remains status-quo after her bump on her head at the swimming pool. Let's pray for her quick and healthy recovery. **Mary Owen** took a 2 day drive trip to visit friends and relatives in Penn; Ray always takes care of the driving chores!

**Bill Elk** had a general discussion on UAL health care cost increases and different vision benefits and costs. It would be nice to have a dental benefit by UAL offered to retirees, but no such luck.

By a vote of hands, the Flyers voted to have Christmas luncheon at Broadway Diner at 2PM, bring your own table decorations. We thought it would be better to have a selection of your choice rather than a catered meal. Hope **Willie & Bobby Foles, Roy Cross** will rejoin us shortly. We've missed them the last 2 months.

IDAHO



BOISE GEMS

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

The luncheon meeting was held at JB's Restaurant on December 5. Those attending were **Ned Yundt, Marlene Croghan, Louise Duvall, Carol & Dave Adams, Bob & Palmer Sarnoff, Denny Snyder** and **Rick Dempsey**.

The Fantasy Flight was on December 2, with 98 children participating and 20 chaperones. They had a 45-minute flight from Boise to the North Pole. The children received their gifts from Santa Claus. The Boise Gems purchased presents for seven children. **Louise Duvall, Bob & Palmer Sarnoff, Carol Adams, and Rick Dempsey** served cocoa, coffee, cake and cookies to those participating in the Fantasy Flight and volunteers.

Our Christmas Party will be held on December 12 at the home of **Carol & Dave Adams**. It will be a potluck dinner with Carol & Dave providing the entrée and Boise Gems providing side dishes, appetizers, and dessert.

**Dave & Carol Adams** have volunteered to take the President and Correspondent positions for 2012. We will have a reception for Dave & Carol at the Golden Corral in Boise on Emerald on January 9 at 1:00 p.m. There will be no business luncheon meeting in January.

Calendar:

**January 9** - Luncheon Reception for Dave & Carol at the Golden Corral on Emerald, Boise at 1:00 p.m.

**ILLINOIS**

**CHICAGO SKYLINERS**

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



When Murphy's Law picked the last month to be in effect, it hit with a double whammy. First, due to an infected foot, I was not able to join the other fifteen Skyliners joining the Loonies in Galena, Illinois. My runners **Ginny Vlach** and **Mary Szabo** told me about the Mississippi cruise, the trolley ride through Galena, the haunted house tour, and the dinner on a mountain ski lodge that I missed out on. All events were great per all.

During that time, I ended up in the hospital for tests and foot surgery, losing my little toe and the one next to it. Then, later, Ginny had to have surgery for a back problem, which left Mary to do double duty at the breakfast and Galena. All agreed **Carol & Bob Faust** did a very good job hosting this Fall excursion.

**Barb Wesemann** advised she returned to working on a contract basis at HQ in Passenger Interline Accounting.

First timer **Tom Pelc** showed pictures of his two grandchildren. Hope he returns for the second time.

**Jim & Louise Somerfield** celebrated their forty-first anniversary with family and friends at Jameson's Char House.

**Bonnie & Ed Meyer**, along with his classmates, attended a fiftieth high school reunion. Said they felt young. Many were also grade school classmates.

**Don Hinman** spent time in Palos Park Hospital having a stent inserted to expand blood flow.

**Marge Daily**, who has been unresponsive following a stroke three months ago, has been moved to a senior center in Nebraska where her niece is an executive. She'll be close to relatives in Missouri and Kansas.

The Southside welcomed back a few who have been ailing, **Lydia & Ernie Codilis**, to tell us of a Vegas trip with 15 family members.

**Tom Hurley** drove to MCI for three days and toured the WWI Museum and the Truman Library.

**Gwen Brookins** reached 70 on November 11<sup>th</sup> and was treated to a big party.

Twenty-two attended the Southside Breakfast. **Mary Brandt**, **Lydia Codilis**, **Caryle Brandt**, and **Sylvester Gant** won the raffle contributed by the 22.

Christmas spirit was overflowing to all.

Calendar:

Southside Brunch – Breakfast at Jedi's Restaurant, 9:30 A.M., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn, (**January 31 & February 28**)

Northsiders Breakfast – Ritzzy's Café & Backereia, 9:00 A.M., 2765 Algonquin Rd., Rolling Meadows (**January 11 & February 8**)

Food Depository - First Tuesday, every month

**LOOP GROUP**

Chicago  
Lillian Mallstrom  
1109 Cleveland Avenue  
Park Ridge, IL 60068-5507  
(847) 823-5062  
[Roenvy56@aol.com](mailto:Roenvy56@aol.com)



Our November luncheon had 12 retirees attending on a cold, brisk day in Chicago. A first time attendee was **Lee Swanson Bozich** who retired as a Flight Attendant from ORDSW in 2002, **Lee** worked for UAL for 38 years.



**Ted & Agneta Jung** made a trip to Greece last Spring. Their itinerary was Chicago to Frankfurt via UAL (First Class), Lufthansa to Athens and Olympia to Crete. Four days were spent in Athens and a week on the island of Crete at their time share exploring the large historical island by car. Return to Chicago was the same route with first class on the UAL segment. All travel was mid week and on a stand by basis.

**Ginny Vlach** just had her third back surgery and will be recovering for the next month or so. Get well support can be sent to Ginny at: 404 S. Albert St., Mt. Prospect, IL 60056.

The next luncheon scheduled for January 18, 2012 has been canceled since some of the Loop Group will be escaping the Chicago Winter. However, we do plan to meet on our regular March 21, 2012 date with more members and Spring arriving.

Calendar:

**January 18** – Luncheon Canceled

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

**INDIANA**

**INDY RACERS**

Indianapolis, IN  
Cheri Innis, Correspondent  
1951 Abbey Lane  
Danville, IN 46122  
(317) 745-3332  
[cheriron2002@yahoo.com](mailto:cheriron2002@yahoo.com)



Happy Holidays! Ho Ho Ho to all our RUAEA friends! It seems as though it was just yesterday I was writing last year's holiday greetings letter, but here I am doing it once again. Where in the world has this year gone? It has gone just as quickly as the spring and summer months disappeared and just as rapidly as the cold wintry weather has appeared. Life just isn't fair! Today is damp, cold and gloomy and so is my disposition. For those of you living in the warmer states, I give you all permission to grin and wonder why in the heck I don't get out of Indy and settle down in a nicer climate. I also wonder why. Until that time comes along, I'll just have to wear layered clothing and warmer socks and bide my time.

November's meeting was large for us, approximately 27 people joined in for this very special day. This is the fifth year the Indy Racers have donated toys for the Marine Corps program that provides presents to needy children at Christmas to help them become "responsible, productive and patriotic citizens." During the meeting, Indy Racer members commended the Marines for organizing the Toys for Tots outreach program and celebrated the Corp's 236th Anniversary.



Indy Racers (from left) **Ray Brabo**, INDJJ, Chapter Secretary **Hannelore Brabo**, and President **Mike Matlak**, INDMM, presented nearly 100 new Toys for Tots gifts to Marine Staff Sergeant Maynard. **Ray Brabo** coordinates the gift collection for the Indy Racer group each year and is greatly appreciated for his dedication.

On December 3, the Indy Racers celebrated the holiday season with a beautiful buffet dinner served in a lovely decorated room in one of our nicer restaurants. We enjoyed non-stop foods, beginning with a house salad, two main entrées and two sides followed by a delicious dessert. We all enjoyed our meals and filled tummies and while letting our digestive system settle down, we had our annual gift exchange. I believe we have become quite well known in the Indianapolis area as being the loudest group to meet during the Christmas season. We love to extend our voices to high pitched threats as our "friends" try to take our newly opened gift, one that we really wanted to keep. Shortly after all the ruckus settles down, we forgive and forget while laughing over our childish behavior.

We will be missing our Indy Racers friends during the holidays as many of them are leaving to visit family. **Ray & Hannelore Brabo** are heading out west to be with family members, **Dimple Rihel** has already left for West Virginia to visit her mother then down south to Florida to spend the days with her son and his family and of course, our very own special snowbirds, **Gail & Warren Allen**, who are already enjoying the warmth of Texas. Sorry if I've missed (or forgotten) mentioning anyone else.

We have looked into future functions such as dinner plays, casino trips, and touring bus trips. As of now, the only thing that is definitely on the calendar is our June picnic which I look forward to since it means warm weather, sprouting gardens and well constructed margaritas shared outdoors with family and friends.

The Indy Racers would like to extend to each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas, a wonderful Holiday Season, and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year! Welcome 2012!

If you're wandering around out in the cold, we invite you to join us in the warmth of the IHOP Restaurant where you'll be so very welcomed during one of our following meetings, always held on the second Tuesday of each month.

Calendar:

**January 10** - IHOP, 10143 E. US 36 (Rockville Rd.) Avon. Meeting room is available from 1:30PM. Meeting begins at 3:00PM.

**February 14** - IHOP

**March 13** - IHOP

**MASSACHUSETTS**



**NOR'EASTERS**

New England

Dick Vee Vecchione

107 Bunker Hill Road

Auburn, NH 03032-3521

(603) 483-8204

[NH4Vee@aol.com](mailto:NH4Vee@aol.com)

The Nor'Easters held our Christmas Party on December 6 with 77 members and guests in attendance. This is the largest group we've had in a long time, even more than last Christmas. Always good to see old friends not often seen; **Charlie & Paulette Enos, John & Lois DeYoung, Frank & Natalie Procopio, Ralph & Elaine Torres, Joan Simard, Fran Mathews, Horace Smith, June Alberion**, plus first timers **Eddie Aldoriso & Joan Taylor**. Good to see again, **Kimberly, Bill Shailor's** daughter and **Abigail, Joe Duda's** daughter. It was like seeing a family get together. Everyone was so glad to see each other.

The 50/50 winners were **Joan Taylor, Anthony & Edwina Postale, Poly Ann Tramontozzi** and **Paul Newcomb**. Christmas gifts were won by **Ron Heiseler, Bill Rodenhizer, Don Latter, Norma Betters, Kkay Robinson** and **Gerald Peters**. Free lunches were won by **Bob Anderson** and **Helmut Umbley**. Our normal multi winner, **Bill Shailor**, was not lucky today. Sadly, no one stood up to vie for chapter officer positions. Another year for me!

There were 3 members who missed the luncheon because of illness: **Jack & Jayne Regan**, with Jack in the emergency room and **Josephine Pizzano** with a flu. Get better!

**June Alberino** just returned from a week in Mexico at the Hotel Bahia Principe Tulum, about an hour drive from Cancun. June says it's the best of all inclusive hotels ever, with all the amenities, catering to international travelers. Also, an easy flight on Jet Blue from Boston, with one free bag.

**Jayne & Jack Regan** spent a wonderful November week in Aruba at the Renaissance Ocean Suits, where they have a timeshare unit; the weather, a balmy 87 degrees with sunshine every day. Any rain lasted 10 minutes or less. Shortly, they'll be snow birding just south of Orlando. They will attend the Real McCoy's meetings (MCO) and visit with old UAL friends. Summer in NH and winter in FL. Ah, what a life!

I got an email from **Mary Beth McDermet** up in the Green Mountain State, VT. Living in the middle of the woods makes it hard to attend meetings. She advised she ran into **Jayne & Jack Regan** this fall while hiking in the White Mountains of NH. She went past them before she recognized who. Nice to bump into old friends! Mary Beth says "Hi" to her friends.

While asking members for Newsletter info, I got an email from **Lynn O'Hara** up in Maine. Lynn advised, *"Nothing to tell. I lead a boring life when not out hiking the Appalachian Trail. If I win the lottery, write a famous novel, or marry a prince, I'll let you know! Hell, I'll let the whole world know!"* Love the way you call it Lynn!

For their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November, **Paul & Mary Ward** with family enjoyed a cruise in the Caribbean, on board the new Oasis Of The Sea. With family, Way to go! Paul is at last as good as new since his knee replacement.

Our own **Ken Washburn** had a lung collapse and was hospitalized. He has phenomena in his left lung which they cannot seem to drain. He is not a candidate for a stent, so recovery is slow. He is not in pain, but he is bedridden. Send a get well to Ken at Kindred Rehabilitation, 400 Bolton Street, Marlborough, MA 01752. I'm sure he'd like to hear from his friends.

As of this writing, the temperatures around New England are in the mid 60's. Yet we had that surprise snow storm in mid October creating havoc, catching trees still with leaves. The extra weight just snapped branches off, pulling electric wires and poles down with them. In short, power outages lasted 1 to 3 weeks. Nightly newscasters tend to make it worse than it is. Here in rural NH, the average interviewee stated the obvious, downed trees. But on the other hand, no one wants to have their trees cut down, so we all just fire up our generators and live with it, no yelling, no screaming, and no carrying on. When the last home finally came on line, one of our state senators went on the news complaining about the utility companies, yet never followed thru or did anything about it. Just getting her face on the news I think. A real politician! Notice, not one Washington politician addressed Occupy Wall Street, Occupy America! Now they'll allow American Airlines to pull the same phony bankruptcy that United did, hurting more of us! My opinion, be a good American, don't re-elect any one of them in 2012.

January's birthday: **Bruce Eddy, Don Lewis, Bob Lincoln, Jim Murray, Norman Powers and Frank Procopio.**

January's anniversaries: **John & Peggy Dellelo** (53 years), **John & Joyce Lagadinos** (48 years) and **Joan & Larry Meister** (26 years).

*A diplomat is someone who tells you to go to hell in such a way, that you look forward to the trip!*

## MICHIGAN

### GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

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



15 Escapees gathered at Pegasus in St. Clair Shores December 1, hosted by **Mary Moir**. We welcomed for the first time this year; **Kathy Franz, Pam Petricca and Sheila Dean** who flew in that morning from California. Sheila never changes age-wise or otherwise and was as feisty as ever. **Geri Wimshurst** showed a beautiful bound book which her daughter made for her of their Mother Daughter trip to Germany, Russia, the Baltic Country and Sweden. What a wonderful way to preserve special memories and there wasn't a single picture of Geri that did not have a big smile on her face.

We learned that we had two new grandbabies in our Escapee family. **Sallie Reithel** and **Joni O'Brien** both had new little bundles of joy, to make their Christmases more enjoyable this year. Our Congratulation to both!

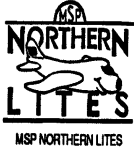
Our love and prayers this month to **Marcy Vance** @ 15901 Auburndale, Livonia, MI 48154 as she said her final goodbyes to her father-in-law as he joined the angels in heaven. Then, on November 8, as she was bike riding in Edward Hines Park, she went off the bike path because she was distracted with her Ipod. She broke her right foot; the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> metatarsals which displaced her 3 toes and chipped the bone on her big toe. She also fractured her right hip replacement. She cannot drive or put any weight on her right side for 2 to 3 months. Also Prayers to **Cathy Dewey** @ 1153 Heritage, Canton, MI 48188, whom I heard had a right hip replacement done on November 30. This is not the way to get ready for the holidays. Prayers for a speedy recovery.

Lastly, the Escapees send only Best Wishes for the Holidays to all our RUAEA family.

### Calendar:

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

## MINNESOTA



### NORTHERN LITES

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

We had a good turnout again for lunch in November; 35 of the hard-core Northern Lites met to visit and enjoy good food. We had hoped to have a visit from our Regional RUAEA representative, **Helen Cauwels**, but weather and load factors put a crimp in that again.

We were pleased to see **Joe Balogh**, the first president of our chapter back in 1990. He's been dealing with some nasty health issues, so we hadn't seen him in a long time. Welcome back, Joe!

As most of you know, our chapter saves the pop tops from aluminum soda & beer cans which benefits the Ronald McDonald House. Well, recently, **Wes & Bette Briest** *really* took that to heart when an acquaintance gave them bags & bags of cans ~ 328 lbs of them, to be exact! Those two intrepid pop top poppers sat in the driveway by their garage for four days, reaping the little harvest from the cans. They showed up at lunch with 2 gallon bags full of pop tops! They also had turned in the aluminum for cash to donate to the cause. Amazing!

The **Delvauxs** & the **Storlies** recently went cruising on the Royal Caribbean "Allure", the newest of the RC fleet. It's currently the largest cruise ship in the world & both couples were blown away by the sheer size of it, to say nothing about the amenities. The captain rides around the ship's decks on his motorcycle!

In honor of Veteran's Day, we again voted to donate \$100 to the Serviceman's Center at MSP. The volunteers there do a wonderful job of making layovers easy & restful for transiting service members, including free beverages, cookies, TV & beds.

**Mary Brennan** brought up a couple of important issues which affect those retirees who do not have computers, for whatever reason. With the transition in March to SHARES, Continental's reservation system, it's almost a given that the Travel Help Desks in SEA, PDX & ORD will be closed. The volunteers who staff them have not been given any indication at all that they'll be provided the computers or the training on SHARES. Also, it has become painfully obvious that communication with the New United Airlines will be entirely by computer in the future. A case in point, the last Benefits Election period in November.

Consequently, there's a need for a person from our chapter to assist the non computer- savvy members with information as it is communicated from the Company. Mary feels that it should be someone who is not currently an officer & that so much comes into email inboxes which is unnecessary that the person volunteering for this job wouldn't have to forward everything that comes from all sources, especially rumors. Since postage, computer paper and ink costs would be in play, she thought it would behoove anyone taking advantage of this service to pay an annual fee. The meeting had run a bit long at that point, so more discussion would take place at the December meeting.

Post-surgery notes: **JoAnn Eichacker** is recovering from back surgery and is just as testy as ever. Hopefully, healing will reach her disposition, too. **Rich Glattly** is also recovering from surgery and from everything I've seen at home, he's almost as sassy as before.

A reminder: it's time to pay your annual \$5 dues again. Send to **Arlene Kelley** at 3148 Magney Drive, Cloquet, MN 55720 or come to lunch and give it to her then!

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



## NEBRASKA

### GOLDEN'EARS

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



There will be no chapter report from the Golden'Ears this month.

Calendar:

**January 3** - TBD

## NEW YORK

### GUYS AND DOLLS

Barbara Hill  
155 W. 68<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10023  
(212) 799-8061  
[btristan96@aol.com](mailto:btristan96@aol.com)



Sleigh bells ring, are you listening? And NYC is teeming with happy revelers. Twenty-two jovial celebrants partook in our Holiday repast. We shared many laughs, as well as good food and champagne. We welcomed back many familiar faces who have been missing in action lately, among them **Joanne Tyner**, **Barbara Kaprowski**, **Ann Cannerella**, and **Jan Nonamaker**. We were also joined by former sales folks **Anne Windmuller** and **Joe Caruana**. **Dan Duran's** son, **Paul**, came down from Syracuse to accompany his dad. Paul worked part-time summers for UAL at JFK while attending college.

Many reported positive travel experiences on CO - no FC, but often exit row seating. **Betty Williams** shared that listing on CO was very easy on Skynet. **Marilyn Cheadle** said Red Carpet Clubs are now being re-branded United Clubs.

The PBGC benefit re-evaluation was mentioned by **Barbara Mueller**. The consensus is that it probably won't affect most of us.

**Audrey Smolik** and **April King** went to the Elizabeth Taylor auction at Christie's. They both said it was fabulous, especially the jewels.

Guys And Dolls made a contribution to the Flight 93 Memorial in **Jules Schneider's** honor. We received an acknowledgment from **Frank Egges**. **Jeanne Leo** reported that **Cecile Johnson** (JFKSW-Ret.) is recovering nicely from transplant surgery.

A Happy and Healthy Holiday season to all from Guys And Dolls.

Calendar:

**February 7** - 12noon - San Martin. Please RSVP to **Marge Segal** at (212) 355-1788 or **Barb Hill** at (212) 799-8061.

### NEW YORK METROS

Madeline Klos  
55 Friendly Road  
Hicksville, N.Y. 11801  
(516) 735-3066  
[Santak38@optonline.net](mailto:Santak38@optonline.net)



Although we had nasty weather (cold, damp, rain), we had a fabulous turnout of 97 retirees and guests for our annual Christmas Party. **Jim Richardson**, our outgoing President, led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and a silent prayer for those who have passed on or those who are ill or could not make the Party. Everyone looked so festive in their attire and the Milleridge Inn went out all out in their decorations for the Holiday Season. It was

good to see those who haven't attended in awhile. **Dan Duran's** son, Paul, drove down from Syracuse to bring his father to the Party. Dan has turned 95 years old, and was glad to be there. He still looked as sharp as ever.

**Paul Cohen** admitted to everyone that he was hospitalized recently for a period of time, but is now feeling much better. **Bobby Lee** was here today after a long absence, and he too admitted to being ill. Bobby is now on the road to recovery.

Birthdays for this month are: **Madeline Klos, William Schuler, Margaret Hansen, Maureen Pascale, Peter Korsch, Ann Hluboky, James McFadden, Walter Stobe, Werner Buck, Victor Auletta, Helene Ammon, Mary Shepherd, Frank LaPinto, Harvey Block, Laura Muller, Edward Sholander, and Angie Saviano.** Anniversaries for this month are **Barbara & Walter Stobe** and **William & Elizabeth Armstrong.**

Talk around the various tables was of people catching up on what's going on since we saw them last and then about the Benefits selections that have to be made, and any corrections. Mention was made of the new non-stop flights beginning next year and their destinations.

Anyone in need of hearing aids, mention was made of good deals available from Costco. More Pass travel programs still in works and hope to be fully integrated into the CO Reservation system in the first quarter of 2012. As of November 30<sup>th</sup>, UA and CO are operating under a Single Operating Certificate.

This year, as we did last year, we raffled off a 40" GE TV Set. 100 tickets were sold and the proceeds, \$561, went to the Marathon School. Included in the raffle were a JVC Waterproof Pocket Video Camera and a Certificate for two to Dinner at the Milleridge Inn. Thanks to all who purchased tickets for this raffle, where the proceeds went to a worthy cause.

At the November meeting, a nominating committee nominated **Madeline Klos** to be the recipient of the John Pucillo Award. I was totally surprised at my nomination. I wish to thank everyone. We all want to thank **Jimmy Richardson** for all his time and efforts he put into being President for all his years of service to the Metros. The newly elected officers for the coming year are: **Ed Pozzi** - President, **Charlie Kaczinski** - VP, **Caroline Manelski** - Secretary and **Paul Cohen** - Treasurer. We wish them well in their endeavor.

Wishing everyone a Happy Hanukah, Merry Christmas, a Joyous Kwanza and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

#### Calendar:

**January** - No Meeting

**February 1** – Noon, Milleridge Inn

**March 7** - 1200 Noon - Milleridge Inn

**April 4** - 1200 Noon - Milleridge Inn

### NORTHWOODS

#### NORTHWOODS LOONIES

Don Hayden  
5700 Hayden Drive  
East Jordan, MI 49727  
(231) 582-3119  
[dshayden@freeway.net](mailto:dshayden@freeway.net)



The biannual meeting of the Loonies will be held May 8-11, 2012. The get-together will be at the Terrace Inn in Bay View which is a suburb of Petoskey, MI. Bay View is directly north of Petoskey on US 31. This is a Victorian hotel that the group used two years ago.

Twenty five rooms have been reserved, five on the main floor and twenty on the second floor. No elevator.

Tentative activities include a visit to the former Loeb Farm (now called Castle Farm), glass blowing demonstration, visit to an antique car showroom and possible a fish hatchery, depending on the weather.

Pizza will be provided Tuesday evening and a sit-down dinner on Thursday night. Further information will be forthcoming by direct mail.

## OHIO

### OHIO BUCKEYES

Cleveland

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

Mary Lou Kuretz

10027 Priem Road

Strongsville, Ohio 44149

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



Our last meeting of 2011 was held on December 7 with a total of 83 members attending. Our hosts for this month were **Earl & Arlene Taylor** and we want to say “Thank You” both for setting everything up and making it possible for us to have a really great time.

Our luncheon was held at Williams On-The-Lake in Medina. Our meal was great and I think this has become one of our favorites for the beautiful setting and the service we receive, and add to that, a great meal ... can't ask for much more.

President **Dolly Taucher** welcomed everyone and opened our meeting. Our “thanks” to our Vice-President **Arlene Taylor** for leading us in a lovely prayer and saying Grace.

Before our meal, we had time to visit and do some Christmas homework! **Arlene** left some paper work at our tables to keep us all busy in between all the visiting. She comes up with some fun and great games like naming all Santa's reindeer, listing the twelve days of Christmas and answering some fun questions. No one wins or loses, but it is amazing when you find you (me) can't remember some things that we all think are embedded in our brains!

Santa showed up at the luncheon also. He spent a good deal of time talking to the ladies about their Christmas wishes and we all had a really happy time. He passed out candy canes just like he does to the little ones! Some people thought he sounded like **Steve Pytel**, our Treasurer, but they say everyone has a double somewhere. Santa had so much fun he stayed around and helped with our drawings etc. He did stay around for our 50/50 drawing. We had three winners this month and they were **Bill Althouse**, **Don Elster**, and **Bob Beish**. Congratulations to each of you! Lucky, lucky, lucky!

We wish “Happy Birthday” to all of our members who are December babies. We had a few in attendance this month and they are as follows: **Kay Baran**, **Hannah Beish**, **Nancy Cleary**, **Carole Mullen**, **Steve Pytel**, & **Carol Seifried**.

It was our pleasure to have guests this month. **Elda Jesky** brought her sister **Lois Walte**. **Arlene Taylor** brought her sister **Eleanor Kiehl** and daughter **Michele Adamczyk**. Hope you all enjoyed yourselves.

On a sad note, we lost two of our United friends this week. **Ray Hacker (Carol)**, CLECG, passed away 12/4/2011. **Ray Bashel (Dee)** CLEPV passed away 12/3/11.

Our deepest sympathies go out to their family and friends. We also have several members who have some serious health issues. Please keep them in your prayers.

*\*Blaming your faults on your nature doesn't change the nature of your faults*

### Calendar:

**January** - No Meeting

**February 1** - Dimitris Restaurant, hosted by **George & Mary Lou Kuretz**. Deadline - January 20<sup>th</sup>. Snow Date - February 2<sup>nd</sup>

**March 7** - Roadhouse/Brown Derby, hosted by **Gene & Jackie Craig**, Snow Date - March 8

## OREGON



### OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland  
Barbara M. Heidegger  
13848 NE Milton  
Portland, OR 97230  
(503) 254-5018  
[DuaneBabal@aol.com](mailto:DuaneBabal@aol.com)

We had a wonderful November meeting with 77 in attendance. **Connie Bauer** gave the invocation and **Dave Smith** led us in singing "We Gather Together". Our meal was turkey with dressing and all the extras plus delicious desserts brought by the members. For some reason, there wasn't enough pumpkin pie. My guess is everyone thought the other person would bring it which so often happens.

During the meeting, the chapter honored the Veterans who served in the armed forces by asking them to stand up when Paul called the branch of service. **Margaret Borbely** sang "Thanks for the Memories" using words she had written and afterward, **Dave Smith** lead us in singing "America". It was heartwarming to hear the group singing such a beautiful song.

It was nice to see members **Jerry & Judy Brower** at the meeting. Welcome back! **Johni Wilson** brought her daughter **Teri Jaeger**.

Our sunshine gal **Lois Pitman** had successful heart surgery last month but the recovery has been slow. They had to put in a pacemaker which delayed her coming home, but she and **Merle** (he is still struggling after dental surgery) are getting along fine. She can finally drive, which for some reason, lifts the spirits. I learned at the meeting **Harold Miller** had his gall bladder removed. **Joe Mortensen** is still struggling with the after effects of a stroke. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of them.

Winners of free lunches this month are as follows: Door Prize ~ **Chuck Falbo**, Men's Birthday ~ **Bill Peterson**, Women's Birthday ~ **Anita Donaldson**, Anniversary ~ **Bill & Sara Peterson** and 50/50 ~ **Marge Curtis**. Congratulations to Bill & Sara on celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

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

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

### Calendar:

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

**January 11** – Social

**February 8** - Valentine's Day and Ice Cream Social

**March 14** - Social

### OUR CLUB

Southern Oregon  
Jane Frincke  
1000 Peco Road  
Grants Pass, OR 97526  
(541) 472-9212  
[jjfor@rascal.cc](mailto:jjfor@rascal.cc)



OUR Club may be a small chapter, but we can be mighty. Eighteen members showed that at our annual Christmas luncheon on December 2 at Taprock Northwest Grill in Grants Pass. We missed everyone who couldn't come due to medical priorities and family emergencies, but spirit among those who attended was bright. **Ric & Gidget Walcha** even accompanied their singing Christmas hats with a little dance. **Jim & Jane Frincke** hosted the luncheon.

**Jane Frincke** stood in for acting president **Neal Appleton** to conduct the quarterly business meeting. The first order of business was for Jane to read a letter from Neal submitting his resignation as president-elect for

2012. Neal was recently diagnosed with a malignancy. Our hearts and prayers will be with Neal & Sonnia as Neal goes through a strenuous regimen of treatments in the coming months.

It was announced that another longstanding member has been diagnosed with lymphoma, and our constant support will also be with her.

At Neal's request, **Jane Frincke** was nominated to serve as president in 2012. The chapter elected the following slate of 2012 officers: President - **Jane Frincke**, Secretary - **Sue Osborn**, Treasurer - **Alberta Randall**.

Additionally, **Alberta Randall** will continue as social/sunshine secretary and **Jane Frincke** will stay on as membership secretary and RUAEA Newsletter correspondent.

**Bob & Ida Rogers** won the 50/50 and also one of the door prizes. Other prizes were taken home by **Steve & Cyndi Austin** and **Ric & Gidget Walcha**.

After a unanimous vote, OUR Club members agreed to donate \$100.00 to Rogue Valley Humane Society as the chapter's annual charitable contribution. Thanks to additional individual donations from generous-hearted members, the chapter's \$100.00 contribution quickly grew to \$525.00.

As a reminder, 2012 OUR Club dues are payable in December. Anyone who missed submitting dues at the December 2 meeting can mail payment to treasurer **Alberta Randall** at her home address.

I'll be getting a spiffy new knee in January so will return to writing the OUR Club chapter reports by March. Best holiday wishes to all RUAEA members and as they say in seniors' texting, TTYL (talk to you louder).

#### Calendar:

**January 6 - Alberta & Russ Randall - TBA**

**February 3 - Bob & Ida Rogers - TBA**

**March 2 - Ric & Gidget Walcha - TBA**

### PENNSYLVANIA



#### THE INDEPENDENTS

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

Eighteen people turned up for our November 14 meeting. **Donna Lynn** won the free lunch. Mr. **Bill Jones** gave a presentation of the Living History of Redwood National Parks. We can better our attendance for our Christmas luncheon. It will be held December 12 and reservations must be made ahead of time. See Al & Kath's newsletter. See you then with your craft items for the silent auction. Bring a shoe box, unwrapped with items for the vets at Coatsville Hospital and gently used coats for the same.

Loaves and Fishes, held at Prospect Hill Baptist church, thank you for your November canned good donations.

**Dick Devinney's** wife is recovering from shoulder surgery. **Al Edwards** and **Dee Burrs** are still recovering from their surgeries.

We thank **Lew Meyer** for donating his 50/50 winnings to the flight 93 memorial.

We have no more meetings till March 12, 2012 which will be held at the Ramada Inn Essington at 12:30PM.

Make your reservation now for the Candlelight dinner theater April 15 to see the show "The Wedding Singer". Price is \$48.00. It will be an evening of fun and companionship. Call me as soon as possible so we can reserve enough tickets.

Even though we have no meetings till March, keep a committee member posted about any illness or needs that need addressing.

Enjoy your Retirement!

Keep the snow shovel handy.

#### Calendar:

**December 12** – Noon, our Christmas luncheon and silent auction at the Ramada Inn, Essington. The price is \$20.00 and must be paid in advance. Start making your items for the auction now. Bring a filled shoebox for our veterans in Coatesville.



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

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



There is no chapter report from the Pit-Stoppers this month since Treatie is under the weather.  
A Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

## **UTAH**

### **THE SALT LAKERS**



Laraine Jordan Darby  
438 Steep Mountain Dr.  
Draper UT 84020-5143  
(385) 226-6733  
[rainedarb@gmail.com](mailto:rainedarb@gmail.com)

It is with great sadness that we must report the loss of one of our chapter members, **Mr. Gray Lowery**. Gray was lost in a one-vehicle rollover just outside Wendover, NV, on Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 2011. He was 70 years old. Gray began working for UAL in New York in 1967. He transferred to Utah and attended BYU, graduating in 1970. He loved the mountains of Utah and was an avid fisherman. In 1980, he was transferred to Chicago for 5 years. When transferred back to SLC, he became one of the original members of the Intermountain Country Dance Association after being bitten by the country-dance bug. Gray retired from UAL in December 2002.

On a happier note, we had a great response to our Christmas Dinner letter that was mailed to all chapter members last month. By our last count, we number 121 members listed on our roster. We had 48 who respond with dues paid for the coming year and paying for the party. With only a couple of empty chairs, we all gathered at our new location, the Apple Spice Junction in Murray, Utah, and had a great time. The food was served up buffet style with the choice of salmon or roasted pork, mashed or au gratin potatoes, tossed green salad, fresh steamed veggies, fresh-baked rolls and butter, and cherry or apple pie ala mode. No one went away hungry! While serving up our dessert, the new officers stood and introduced themselves: President - **Rich Papworth**, VP - **Loralynn Brady**, Secretary - **Laraine Jordan Darby**, and Treasurer - **Bob Turgeon**. Then, a fun gift exchange game was played as **Loralynn & Bob** read numbers chosen earlier to open a gift of their choosing or take one from another retiree who had already opened their gift. Some of the gifts were switched up to 3 different times and it was fun to see who ended up with what. Poinsettia plants and Olive Garden gift cards were included in the winnings, so everyone seemed to go away happy they came.

Our Treasurer **Bob Turgeon** has submitted the following so we will know him better: *I joined UAL February 16, 1966. What a day that was. I was too shy to work on the ticket counter but, with the help of a great teacher, Mr. **Pete Loyola**, it only took 6+ months to get off only baggage check! Somewhere within the 35 years, 9 months, I did manage to get to all the wonderful functions of the Customer Service group; even those silly GOLD COATS for the lobby agents. I worked in SLC for about 17 years before the 1983 layoffs started and when a lot of people started to lose their jobs and transfer. I got to move to MCI (Kansas City) for a short four months, then I was laid off until moving to ORD (Chicago) for another four months. When someone finally retired (thanks **Lila Maughan**) I was recalled back to the SLC ticket counter. Somewhere around 1998 or 1999, I got to experience the life of an Air Freight agent. Good duty after all those ticket counter years. This all came to an end on Sept. 11, 2001. God bless those that were lost that day. Soon after, Nov. 1, 2001, was my last day with UAL. In my 35 plus years I met and got married to a wonderful cutie who worked in the UAL reservations office in SLC. Judy K. McFarland had come back to Utah after 5 years of flying for UAL, mostly based in SEA. She had way too much class for me, but ain't love grand! Of course, back in the day, the company didn't have to show much cause to bring someone back to work after a baby was born, and so ended the 10 plus year career with UAL for Judy. Just as well, because she raised two children, and helped with the seven grandkids. Thank you, Jude ... **Bob***

Our schedule for the New Year 2012 will begin February 7<sup>th</sup> for a Brunch at 10am at Johanna's Kitchen in Sandy, UT. So, we wish everyone a happy holiday season and a safe and happy new year.

## WASHINGTON

### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle  
Gay Liesse  
104 South 296<sup>th</sup> Place  
Federal Way, WA 98003-3626  
(253) 529-7405  
[gllesse@aol.com](mailto:gllesse@aol.com)



President **Frank McAnulty** greeted 56 members and guests at the November (we did not meet in December) luncheon meeting of the Emerald City Slickers at Fairwood Golf and Country Club, our "go to" meeting place, arranged by **John & Mary Luke**.

**Frank** recognized the dedication of officers and volunteers and thanked them for their continued support of the Seattle RUAEA chapter. Vice President **Phyllis Bowman** captains the ship in the president's absence and is responsible for production and distribution of the chapter newsletter (**Vicki Shumaker** is our able editor). **Frank's** former secretary, **Rita Reynolds** is once again taking meeting notes. **Helen Stanger** and **Noreen Krawczyk** keep the books and handle luncheon finances and records. **Gay Liesse** reports the news for this column, and **Marlene Nelson**, as Sunshine Lady, sends words of cheer to those who need them. **Chuck & Dona Westpfahl** deliver unclaimed books and magazines from the popular book table to Fred Hutchinson Hospital.

Members were pleased to receive copies of a new membership directory, produced by **Phyllis Bowman** and **Vicki Shumaker**. Cleverly arranged with chapter history and statistics, the up to date list of members is appreciated!

Our February meeting will be held at the Museum of Flight, where **Dave Jones**, who is a docent there, has made arrangements for the meal and a tour of the facilities.

Capt. **Al Haynes**, of Flight 232 fame, was the guest of **Chuck & Dona Westpfahl** at the November meeting. **Don Hanson's** picture was included in a photo display at Seattle's Museum of Flight. **John Haferbecker** is recovering from minor surgery.

Now living at Wesley Homes in Des Moines, Washington, **Ken Wagner** frequently sees fellow resident **Mary Wesener** and reports that she is doing well.

**Bob Brumfield** sang with the Seattle Men's Chorus in their holiday presentation of "Cool Yule." In addition to the concert at Benaroya Hall in Seattle and another later in Everett, one of their numbers was recorded during dress rehearsal and featured on a local television channel.

Chilly January wedding anniversaries are being celebrated by **Gary & Carol Moless-Maxwell** (5 years) and **Ted & Thelma Parks** (58 years). Congratulations!

Celebrating January birthdays are **Bob Brumfield**, **Paul Burton**, **Virginia Dice**, **Sidney Harris**, **John Reed** and **Steve Story**. We promised not to sing. The garnet serves as the January birthstone, and celebrants can wear carnations in their buttonholes.

**Jim Small** walked off with the November 50/50 drawing prize. Door prize winners included **Mike Bratovich**, **Paul Burton**, **Bud Dice**, **Bill Gordius**, **Al Haynes**, **Don Hanson**, **Evalena Hatcher**, **Dave Jones**, **Phyllis Lindblad**, **Dan Miles**, **Ted Parks**, **Helen Stanger**, **Dolores Steger**, **Jackie Stenger**, **Judy Storey**, **Ken Storey**, and **Ken Walters**. (We're a little heavy on names beginning with St, but that doesn't make them saints.) What was quickly chosen from the gift table? A gift card for Starbucks Coffee. Only in Seattle!

Just when the ongoing problem of abandoned shopping carts was making news, reporter Greg Allmain of the *Federal Way Mirror* published an article touting a local group that had been honored by the City Council for a successful year of serving on the volunteer Shopping Cart Recovery Team. United Retiree **Frank Gabreluk** (SEACS) is part of the five-person team who used a semi-retired police car and a trailer from the emergency operation center to locate and transport 3,456 shopping carts to their proper owners, saving those owners \$483,000 in replacement costs. In addition, 2,690 pounds of unidentifiable carts were recycled in the first year of the Team's operation.

**Frank & Fran McAnulty** have completed two recent trips on Continental Airlines and report that all went well for them and their itineraries.

Now that the holidays are behind us, we hope that you had a festive season with family and friends, whatever your faith. May the New Year bring you health, happiness, and adequate travel passes.

Calendar:

**January 10** – Luncheon meeting, Fairwood Golf & Country Club, Renton, WA

**February 8** – Luncheon and tour of The Museum of Flight, Seattle

**March 13** – Luncheon Meeting, Fairwood Golf & Country Club, Renton, WA

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**DULLES LOUNGERS**

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



Greetings from the Nations Capital!

By now, we should have recovered from the parties and social events that go along with Christmas and New Year's celebrations!

The luncheon meeting of the Dulles Loungers on November 9 was well attended and at least 60 retirees arrived at the Golden Corral Restaurant on a beautiful late fall day. After some announcements from our President **Linda Scriven**, many interesting door prizes were claimed and this correspondent won the 50/50 and went home \$26 richer!

Our pass policy has our retirees quite bewildered and we await news of a better plan for us all.

On December 1<sup>st</sup>, 35 retirees from DCARR/IADRR and NYCRR gathered at J. Gilberts Restaurant in McLean, VA for the annual Reservations Reunion. This was a larger crowd than usual and we were delighted to welcome the retirees from NYCRR. We saw many familiar faces who had never attended this event before.

One of our Dulles Loungers recently enjoyed a fabulous Mediterranean cruise that took him to many interesting ports in September 2011. **Les Lovestead** (IADCS) and his wife **Jane** flew in Business Class from Dulles to Madrid aboard the United/Air Lingus code share service. They enjoyed the sights of Madrid for 2 days and then flew on Spain Air to Barcelona where they boarded their cruise ship for 14 days sailing around the Mediterranean. The highlights were Nice, Monte Carlo, Livorno (Italy), Naples, Pireaus (Greece), Santorini and many other ports of interest. Les & Jane flew back from Barcelona to Newark on Continental in Business Class and then home to Dulles. A fantastic trip with many wonderful memories!

Calendar:

**January 11** - 12noon, Golden Corral Restaurant, 10801 Bulloch Dr., Manassas, VA

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

**NATIONAL**

**CLIPPED WINGS®**

Christel Hasenbring ILG  
National Vice President  
P.O. Box 432  
Capron, IL 61012-0432  
(815) 569-2312  
[omachristl@aol.com](mailto:omachristl@aol.com)



All of us in Clipped Wings® would like to wish you health and much happiness in this New Year, 2012. There is so much to look forward to, and so much to be thankful for.

Clipped Wings® ~ Our major event this year will be our National Clipped Wings Convention in Seattle, WA, September 19, to the 22, 2012.

On September 11, over 100 Clipped Wing® members attended the Memorial Service in Shanksville, PA and the dedication at the Memorial Chapel with Father Al. Clipped Wings donated \$4,000.00 to the chapel.

Another major contributor to the Chapel and the memorial to the crew of Flight 93 was the EWR (Newark) Chapter of Clipped Wings as well as the wonderful Flight Attendants of the Newark Base. Thank you to all of you.

In November, we celebrated our (Clipped Wings®) 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our organization. Seventy years is a milestone that very few organizations ever achieve. We are so proud of the history that unites us, and many thanks to our founder **Jackie Jos Ceaser**, for the foresight to keep us all together.

New Chapter ~ Under the leadership of **Mary Londahl**, we again have a Chapter in Cleveland, Ohio. **Barbara (Boll) Bertacini** and **Christel (Hasenbring) ILG** were in attendance for their first meeting. What a wonderful job Mary did in getting this Cleveland group together.

Meeting with the Golden Penguins: **Sandra (SAM) Good-Moor** and **Christel (Hasenbring) ILG** attended the November meeting of the Golden Penguins (Former and Present Continental Flight Attendants) in Houston, TX. We were welcomed by President **Judi Jagger** and former President **Ann Wall**, we wanted to introduce Clipped Wings to them, who we are and what we do nationally and internationally. We found out that we have so much in common, and it was great to get to know one another.

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

We are actively recruiting new members for Clipped Wings®. If you are a former Stewardess, for United or Capital Airways, or a present flight attendant and would like to be part of Clipped Wings®, please visit our website [www.clippedwings.com](http://www.clippedwings.com). As the National Vice President, I will be happy to answer any question you have about membership. Please contact me at [omachristl@aol.com](mailto:omachristl@aol.com). We look forward to having you join us.

## NEW MEMBERS

Durr, Berta, WHQUR, 596 Meadowview Dr., Wauconda, IL 60084  
Edson, Judith, SEARR, 8222 16<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98115  
Hargis, Jim, WJQAO, 2121 Poplar Ave., Hanover Park, IL 60122  
Henke, Wayne, DENMM, 15749 Harvest Mile Rd., Brighton, CO 80603  
Jensen-Hohl, Darlene, PDXHH, 2147 Fountain Springs Dr., Henderson, NV 89074  
Kostecki, Jeanette, 719 W. Forest Dr., Payson, AZ 85541  
Oleson, Gary, SFOFO, P.O. Box 4509, Avon, CO 81620  
Wallick, William, SFOLX, 1016 Anza Dr., Pacifica, CA 94044  
Young, Jo, SFOSW, 3930 Elisa Ct., Colorado Springs, CO 80904

## CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Jacqueline M. Anderson, Matthew Bingham, Gabrielle S. Gae Bockelman, Carmen C. Brandreth, Harvey H. Bruning, Daniel E. Bryant, John D. Cantieni, Kathleen A. Connelly, Florence H. Constance, Shirley T. Criscione, Christene Teena Davis, Jack H. Domosley, Philip J. Elliott, Charles J. Esqueda, Barbara J. Fleming, Daniel A. Foster, Cathie L. Frame, Francis Gibbons, Joseph A. Gillette, Marilyn A. Halt, Joe B. Harris, William Hourston, Wiley B. Jones, John H. Kalde, Tom Kalfa, Lynn Kalweit, Arnold E. Lakso, John P. Larson, Charles L. Lewis, Beverly Lipsey, E. Ann Mace, Marjorie L. Mc Call, Claudia A. McCullough, John M. Mcfadden, Douglas C. Merrick, Edward J. Meyer, H. O. Bud Mickelsen, Forrest G. Morris, James A. Nagy, Engelbert Niedermaier, Edwin H. Noyes, Kay E. O'brien, Manuel Ojeda, Gary Oleson, Hugh Ornduff, Sam S. Oshiro, Jane Perkinson, Janina Pietrzyk, Rance J. Powers, Donald Preston, Josephine L. Price, Delfin S. Santos, Jim Schmidt, Ronald L. Shepherd, Ruth E. Short, Jack Simmons, John L. Steinbuck, Carl F. Stengele, Patrick J. Stinson, Lorece Tolbert, Connie J. Trembly, Patricia Tremont, Stanley T. Tsunemoto, Emily Turner, Harold P

Turney, Lody Ronald Vanderpuil, Josef H. Viereckl, John R. Wade, Maureen C. Williams, Jane Williams, Charles R. Williams, Roland F. Wolbach, Rudolph P. Wolf, Thomas S. Worsham,

## OBITUARIES

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

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

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

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

Retiree – **Falk, Herbert Henry (Hank)**, on 11/14/11, PHXOZ, brother of Diane Riise, 2086 Fifth Street, Atwater, California 95301

Retiree – **Kinter, Richard G.**, on 10/25/11, EXO, husband of Helen L. Kinter, 131 Captiva St., Nokomis, FL 34275

Retiree – **La Brie Sr., Leo R.**, on 10/25/11, ORDDD, father of Annette La Brie, 1735 Epping Place, Schaumburg, IL 60194-4010

### **September 2011 SkyNet Listing**

**Akin, Clark C.**, SFOPK 09/03/11

**Andersen, Earl**, SANCG 09/02/11

**Atup, Antonio S.**, LAXFF 09/09/11

**Baker, Donald P.**, SFOMM 09/21/11

**Beck, Richard**, ORDMM 09/12/11

**Bennett, Clifford L.**, WHQHR 09/30/11

**Blake, Charles E.**, SFOMM 09/05/11

**Bolton, Bruce W.**, HNLTTL 09/04/11

**Bratkovic, Donald M.**, WHQTD 09/30/11

**Brennan, Esther A.**, WHQAP 09/29/11

**Britton, Erle R.**, DENFO 09/26/11

**Buell, Herman J.**, OMACG 09/15/11

**Cameron, Charles R.**, SFOLQ 09/21/11

**Canfield, Henry M.**, EWRPM 09/04/11

**Carroll, Brian P.**, LAXFO 09/06/11

**Carter, James K.**, ORDFO 09/13/11

**Chinn Jr., Ernest**, IADMK 09/16/11

**Cichy, Elizabeth C.**, LAXSW 09/19/11

**Clipson, Robert E.**, DENTK 09/16/11

**Collins Jr., Richard A.**, ORDFO 08/03/11

**Conlon, Edgar P.**, OPBCM 09/05/11

**Cox, H. Jack**, SEARR 09/25/11

**Cruise, Kenneth T.**, SFOFF 09/07/11

**Cummins, Ronald K.**, ORDFO 09/27/11

**Diggs, Kenneth D.**, SFOEG 09/06/11

**Edwards, Edward J.**, ORDMM 09/27/11

**Egr, Georgia J.**, OMAHH 09/29/11



**Foerster, Richard T.**, EWRMM 09/02/11  
**Gallagher, William J.**, CHIDD 09/19/11  
**Griffiths, Max L.**, DENCg 09/13/11  
**Gross, James F.**, EWRFF 09/11/11  
**Harrington, Francis E.**, LAXFO 09/11/11  
**Hasselbach, Edward A.**, DENJL 09/15/11  
**Hemard, Yvon G.**, HNLMK 09/17/11  
**Huber, Steven C.**, PHLCG 09/26/11  
**Jundt, Howard W.**, SFOFO 09/13/11  
**Kapellas, Nicholas**, LAXCG 08/21/11  
**Keating, James B.**, SFOPD 09/15/11  
**Kneitz Jr., Henry R.**, SFOCG 09/24/11  
**Knight, John B.**, ORDFO 08/30/11  
**Langan, Daniel E.**, IADOO 09/23/11  
**Larson, Ray I.**, DENTK 09/02/11  
**Linehan, Ronald T.**, CLECG 09/05/11  
**Lionberger, Albert O.**, SFOMQ 09/01/11  
**Lopez, Alfredo E.**, DENMK 09/05/11  
**Lopez, Delores J.**, DENHH 09/07/11  
**Masters, Robert E.**, SFOMM 09/30/11  
**Miller, Alan S.**, ORDCG 09/16/11  
**Montagne, Robert J.**, SFOFO 09/09/11  
**Morrison, Roger W.**, SFOFO 09/11/11  
**Outten, Naomi**, WHQHF 09/12/11  
**Paci, Victor**, BOSHH 09/04/11  
**Reilly Jr., Edward J.**, ORDFO 08/08/11  
**Reis, Francis R.**, SFOIP 08/05/11  
**Schneider, Julius**, LGAMM 09/10/11  
**Seibold, Robert J.**, BOSCS 08/13/11  
**Seminario, Carl J.**, LGAMM 09/26/11  
**Silvers, Darrell D.**, SFOPB 09/29/11  
**Smith, Daniel J.**, WHQAB 09/21/11  
**Smolarski, William**, OPBSK 09/07/11  
**Steuri, Paul**, OMAHH 09/03/11  
**Stilman, Matt G.**, SEAPV 09/20/11  
**Treacy, James**, JFKFF 09/24/11  
**Turner, John I.**, DENFO 09/07/11  
**Turner, Kuniko**, SEAMK 09/17/11  
**Van Ravenswaay, Albert C.**, EWRPV 09/10/11  
**Wallaert, Michael H.**, OPBVV 09/07/11  
**Wasuta, Frank R.**, SFOOS 08/24/11  
**Wilkinson, Sandra A.**, SEASW 09/09/11  
**Yunker, Dorothy F.**, WHQKF 09/30/11

# LETTERS



**Martha Gooselaw**

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

Martha Gooselaw  
Letters Editor

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

Charlotte Adams, Shirley Alexander, Jacqueline Anderson, Betty Ballash, Cornelius Berghout, Nellie Brawner, John Byers, Sharon Castner, Beatrice Caudle, Ruth Christy, Elisabeth Concannon, Robert Cunningham, Richard Edwards, William Elk, Christina Gallagher, Susan Gibbs, Theodore Gielas, Bonnie Goodman, Helene Guay, Marilyn Halt, Betsy Hamblin, Sarah Harris, Donna Klobe, Ann Mace, Ernestine Manzo, Celena Nash, David Meyer, Huguette Meyer, Mildred Nelson, Sal Ortega, Sam Oshiro, Janina Pietrzyk, Jack Simmons, Ron Shepherd, John Steinbuck, James Touchstone, Pat Tremont, Kathleen Whiteman.

## **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.)*

### **Phyllis Kordecki, 736 Littleton Trl., Elgin, IL 60120**

We visited friends who live in Cincinnati in January. I took a "girly cruise" with 2 other retirees **Shirley Stenzel & Pat Sarritella** (CHIRR) and a non-airline friend of mine, on a cruise out of Dubai. I would be glad to go back there again to start a cruise. It is the most Ultra Beautiful Expensive City in the whole world. Then I spent a short couple of days in Vegas.

Another really great cruise we took was out of NY to the beautiful British Island of Bermuda. We went with family members and **Ken & Faith Kofink** (ORDMM) at the end of May. There were 10 of us on this cruise, but we paid the regular price.

I went with 2 gals to Paris in June, retirees **Sandra Forrester** (EXOCU) and **Marilyn Chaplin** (CHIRR) to visit a mutual friend who had moved there. It was our Egyptian Tour Guide we met in 2001 and kept in contact via e-mails; which by the way was **my best tour ever!**

I went back to lovely Paris with my granddaughter Maddie, & her mother in July. Both of these trips were for 1 week. We did all the touristy important things to see plus we attended a "Fashion Show" while in Paris. It was great! We take our grandkids on a trip anywhere in the world UA flies, when they turn 10 years old.

We celebrated our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on a 7-day cruise on a very fancy ship called the "Seabourn Spirit", with grand service. We spent a few days in Venice, and then cruised along the coast of Croatia, which were all new ports for us and were wonderful! We took this trip with **Jim Kristoff** (ORDMM) and his wife **Sandy**. This was cruise #90 for me.

It is too bad that Companion Passes are "taken away" from the Retirees. It was nice to take family or friends with us on a trip. I wonder why CO chose to take them away?

I asked my cousin where she would like to go on a trip and use her last companion pass. She decided to go to England, but since we both have been to London, we did not stay there. We went to Bath, Stratford On Avon, Birmingham (visited a girlfriend who lives there) and to Oxford. They had very hot weather while we were there; it even hit 85 degrees, a “*record for hottest day on October 1<sup>st</sup> in over a century*”. We were very thankful that we did not get rain.

A weekend will be spent in Quebec City with **Virginia Monaco** (ORDCS) & her husband. The first week of November will be another “girly trip”; this time only a 5-day Cruise from Miami with 7 gals and myself. We love our Travel Benefits & our Reduced A/L cruise rates. I am able to find them early since I am a part-time Cruise Travel Agent & they come up 30-90 days prior to sailing date.

A Happy & Healthy New Year to all of you.

**Jerry Pittman, 20300 Antioch Road, White City, OR 97503**

I moved to Oregon in June.

I just returned from a wonderful trip to Kauai, HI. I flew from SFO to LIH and got first class for the round trip. The service was great.

I have 51 years for boarding, but will only have 34 years starting in January with the new Pass Policy. We at United lost out when Continental took over United. We were sold out!

**Phyllis Singer 9346 Landings Ln., Unit 301, Des Plaines, IL 60016**

I enjoy my Newsletter; it keeps me updated on what’s doing and all the changes in the company. At our stage of the game, it doesn’t make much difference as I have my memories of all the traveling we did, thanks to United.

Now we appreciate each day.

Thanks for the good work.

**Velma Stough, 170 Treasurton St., Colfax, CA 95713-9023**

Another year has gone by and I think how much United has changed.

I hired on in March, 1944 at SFOMB.

I have kept an album of my VG-100’s with a rate of \$115 a month and resigned in June 1954 with a rate of \$200 for office clerk. I married my “mechanic” and he retired.

I have met so many wonderful people over all of this time. They know who they are!

I plan to move to Port Angeles, WA next year, just getting old.

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

My thanks and compliments to those who put out a wonderful newsletter, month after month.

Also, I extend greetings to our many friends around the system, especially those in the Chicago area and in Eastern TN. After retiring in 1993, we enjoyed 12 years in the lakeside community of Tellico Village near TYS. It was great to see retirees on a monthly basis in the Rocky Tops chapter, and I hope we will again be able to read chapter write-ups about their meetings and breakfasts. I’m reminded of the Mary Hopkin lyrics “Those were the days, my friend; we thought they’d never end.”

Then the aging process was making its presence more pronounced (I’m now 80) and we relocated to Edmonds three years ago to be nearer to two of our daughters, now just several miles away in SEA. We love the little seaside city of Edmonds, but have to admit to some difficulty in getting used to condo living. Mary Lou has the audacity to refer to it as our new “ender” home.

We’ve been able to attend only a few of the Emerald City Slickers lunches, as the Tuesday meetings conflict with my volunteer tutoring in ESL classes at Edmonds Community College. Even the college tutoring has been put on hold for awhile as I deal with some pesky, little early-stage melanomas and a subsequent skin graft. One more procedure and then it’s on to more healing time. This is the first time in 50 years or so that we haven’t been on a plane by this late in the year.

I have slowed down, maybe, but not stopped. Mary Lou and I have been playing minor roles in our church’s effort to get a new, free mobile health care clinic up and running. It’s a sad state that so many people must invest time and energy to accomplish what a universal health care system could do much more efficiently.

Anyway, we extend Christmas Greetings to all, and best wishes for the New Year.

**Larry Berryhill, 1209 Mountain Shadows Dr., Morganton, NC 28655-9613, lolaberr@bellsouth.net**

I so appreciate the hard work that you folks do to get this newsletter out. I really enjoy reading it. I celebrated my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in November and had a great party given by my six children. They, along with

some of the grandchildren and a great-grandchild came down to these hills in North Carolina for a few days of great family time.

My wife, Lois, and I are both doing well. We are 1 hour and 15 minutes from Charlotte but really don't travel much. It is a major annoyance to fly anymore, so it really has to be important for us to make a trip. I hope this retiree boarding priority gets changed but I doubt that it will. Continental seems to be running the show and puts us retirees in the upper balcony, so to speak.

**Harvey Bruning, 1010 N. Race Ave., Arlington Heights, IL 60004**

I just got the newsletter today with the renewal notice on it. Also, the local paper ran an obituary on another United retiree friend of mine, Wendell (Moe) Morris, a retired ORDMM Lead Mechanic.

Seems so many of my former United friends are retiring from this good earth. Although I hadn't seen him in years, I missed him at the mechanic's breakfast he used to attend years ago. I just thought I would pass this sad news on.

Thanks for keeping us informed about all things United and now Continental.

**Peter Criscione, Apt 210 453 W. El Norte Pkwy, Escondido, CA 92026-1929**

Shirley has been hit with heart, kidney problems and a lack of oxygen. Now she is stable and I am picking up all of Shirley's tasks, etc.

Thank you and Howard Lackey of Southern California for keeping us on track.

**Joe B. Harris, 703 Atlantic Ave. Apt 243, Alameda, CA 94501-2189**

When I was a teenager in Voth-Carbinville, Texas, across the road in front of where my grandmother's house stood a tall oak tree. In this oak tree was a hornet's nest that came up looking like a silver football. Those little bees lived in that football shaped hive for long time. One day when I was standing nearby, I looked up at that silvery football, and I saw one of those hornets leave out of the hole in the bottom of that football, heading in my direction. The hornet aimed straight to my forehead. It knocked me off my feet; I hit the ground after it had stung me. For more than 24 hours, I was in bed feeling very miserable. I learned a lesson the hard way.

I'll tell you, if you see something hanging high in a tree, built like a football, a very silvery case all over, stay clear of it for that object is a hornet's nest. Those hornets are watching you as you get close to their residence and they are ready to go to work on you. One strike and you will hit the ground. From that moment on for 24 hours you will feel very miserable! The venom from their sting can put you in bed for several days. So if you ever see something like a silvery football in a tree, don't go near it. No one had ever told me to stay clear of a silver looking football in a tree.

A few weeks after this, a strong wind came and blew that tree to the ground. So that area became safe to walk by again.

**Tom Kalfa, 16705 Jeanette Ave., Cerritos, CA 90703-1203**

Enclosed are my RUAEA membership dues. Your newsletter would be a bargain at virtually any price. It is a source of hard to find information and hard to beat entertainment. Who knew that all these years later, we would continue to be so closely tied to our UAL roots.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of our United family.

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

My birthday month is approaching, which is also a reminder that my annual dues need to be paid. I plan to spend my 76<sup>th</sup> in Maui, if I'm lucky, or at the airport if not. As always, the year went by too fast, but I managed to keep busy with travel and outdoor activities. Early this year, I decided to finally visit Israel, Jordan and Palestine in spite of the constant unrest in that part of the globe. Off again in May, I toured the beautiful Baltic capitals of Vilnius, Riga and Tallinn, finishing my trip with a visit to St. Petersburg.

In September, my oldest son joined me on a car trip through my native Germany. We visited many World Heritage towns and villages and also some relatives. Exceptionally pleasant weather made this a great vacation. I still enjoy getting out weekly on long hikes with my hiking group, but at age 76, some of those twenty milers are getting a little harder for this trekker. This Christmas will mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my retirement from United. Wow, what a ride it has been! Now, that I am widowed, I'll keep on trekking as best as I can.

In closing, I do like to express my many thanks to you all for your energy and hard work that you dedicate toward producing our superb newsletter. Although I recognize fewer names as time goes on, it is always a pleasure to read the monthly issue.

**Charles Lewis, 801 E. Thomas St., Arlington Heights, IL 60004**

I want to thank each and every one of you who man the Denver office and keep RUAEA humming. Until this year I had no idea of the time, energy, dedication, effort, accuracy, etc each and every one of you expend to keep the membership records accurate and up to date.

As treasurer of the Chicago Skyliners chapter for the past 9 months, I now have some small feel for what all you do on our behalf. So, again, thanks.

**Maureen Williams, 9757 Valencia Dr., Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240-1852**

Thank you so much for another splendid year of keeping us all informed. I was 82 on November 4, so it is time to send in the yearly check.

It has been a pretty tough year for me. In April, I had the shingles on the left side of my face, eye, ear, nose and throat. So glad I didn't lose my eyesight in my left eye. The shingles left me with PHM (Post herpetic neuralgia.) That is damage to the nerve fibers. It has the same symptoms as the shingles. But it lasts for years. The only thing that killed the pain was codeine. That left me sleepy and groggy all the time. Then a friend told me about a drink made from the Nopal cactus that is for inflammation. It is very pricey but I am functional as long as I drink it.

I had a new Great-grandson born on October 25. He is the 12<sup>th</sup> great-grandchild.

I am still busy raising funds for scholarships for our students to go on to college.

I wish everyone a wonderful year.

**Mary Alice Yando, 11453 N. Balboa Dr., Sun City, AZ 85351**

My thanks for the wonderful job you all do for RUAEA and the members.

It is always a pleasure to read the newsletter. I particularly enjoy the funny stories, which I share with a lot of other people.

I hope we never lose our sense of humor!

**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS FOLLOW ON THE NEXT PAGE**



# Important Phone Numbers



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

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

## **Blue Cross / Blue Shield (1-800-535-9825)**

<http://www.bcbs.com>

Traditional Plan information, claim status & forms.

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

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

1-877-202-0263 (PIN Reset)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **Social Security Administration**

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

## **Alliant Credit Union**

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

## **United Employee Service Center**

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

1-877-242-0075 (retirees)

## **Interline Ticketing Desk**

1-888-874-1581

## **Flying Together Help Desk**

1-800-255-5801

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

## **Medicare Hotline**

1-800-633-4227

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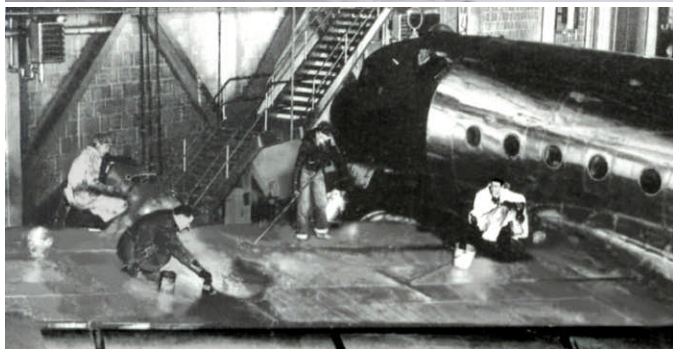
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Charlie Urbach	1979 – 1981*
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Vance Harmon	1986 – 10/2/86*(#)
(#) deceased – V.P. Lewis Long became Pres. 10/3/86	
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<u>*Deceased</u>	

Check your mailing label for Renewal Information

## United Airlines Historical Foundation



"Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future"



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

