



Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

WWW.RUAEA.ORG



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2016 RUAEA Seattle Convention



The SEAMM Team (L to R): Joyce Harrison, Hank Gosselin, Jim Fauber, Dale Glidewell, Chuck Cole, Sharon Cole, Larry Schmick and Bill Game



Nancy Chaves, Ruth Larson, Barbara Bertacini and Myriam Takamatsu



Juliana Alfonso, Carol Bare, Kathie Torgison and Sharon Burbank

GENERAL NEWS

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Letter From The President



As I'm working on this article, three things come to mind, the end of 2016, the 75th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor and some of the challenges of 2017.

The end of 2016 is in sight and I trust that everyone has had a very fulfilling year. The Holiday season that is now upon us is a time that I'm sure we all have fond memories of when we were children. The anticipation of getting a few presents kept all of us on our toes and the meals that Mom and Grandma prepared for the family and friends were great. Everyone was in good spirits and looking forward to the next year. The year was full of activities. We had a great Convention in Seattle and we learned that our CEO **Oscar Munoz** has an interest in retirees and their concerns. The leaders of our retiree organizations were invited to Chicago for a meeting dubbed the "Retiree Summit". I represented RUAEA. We look forward to future meetings

when we can discuss areas that are of concern to UAL and retirees. I'm thankful for the opportunity to participate.

Most of us grew up during the tail end of the "Great Depression" and during the Second World War. As I write this letter on December 7, the 75th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, I'm reminded of the war and our nation at that time. When Pearl Harbor was bombed and we declared war on the Japanese, I can remember our family and a few of the neighbors, who didn't have radios, sitting around my grandparents radio listening to President Roosevelt's speech about the attack and a few days later the declaration of war. Little did I know at that time, as I was just 4 years old, of the seriousness of the situation. I now look back and am in awe at the dedication of our nation to stick together and come out victorious. For all of you who served, and are still serving our nation in the military service, "Thank You for your Service". Because of you, it is great to be an American!

As we move into 2017, we will have challenges as always; if we didn't life would be pretty dull. This starts my first full year as your president and I look forward to a productive term. We are in the final stages of working out the plans for our convention in Las Vegas. As **Ron Bertacini** reported in the last Newsletter, we have had a few hitches with the first hotel we picked and a second has been selected, Palace Station Hotel and Casino, in Las Vegas, NV and as everything comes together more information will come forth. It's not too early to make plans for the convention which will be in the last week of September 2017, final dates and information on hotel booking will be forthcoming.

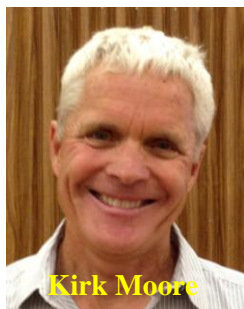
Challenges: As a retiree organization, we all need to be aware of the need to recruit new and old retirees to join or rejoin RUAEA. Our numbers have been declining both in membership and also in convention attendance. In talking with folks from across the country, they report that the attendance for their normal get-togethers is also declining. Some of this is due to the passing of older members and age related hindrances. But for the most part, I find the attitude is a "can do" or "want to do more, if able." I personally appreciate each of you and I'm open to any suggestions that may help us reverse the trend. We have a lot of new retirees and I'm hopeful that we can interest some of them to become involved.

In closing out the year, on behalf of the Officers and Directors of RUAEA I wish all of you a Happy Holiday and the best for the New Year.

Respectively Yours,

Virgil Gooselaw
RUAEA President

Pass Travel Update From Kirk Moore



Kirk Moore

1) Register your Enrolled Friends for 2017 *now!*

The enrollment period is December 1st until December 30th at 1900 CST.

To keep your 2016 EFs for 2017, no action is necessary; they automatically rollover.

To change your EFs for 2017, you must take action by 1900 CST on December 30th.

Access the Pass Travel Enrollment screen on **FlyingTogether>Travel> “Update pass riders and buddies”** (It’s the second blue tile under the photo on the Travel page).

Note: You will have to sign in again with your file number and password.

Here’s a step-by-step enrollment guide for retirees:

https://flyingtogether.ual.com/web/content.jspSID=Travel&path=/Integration/documents/Pass_Travel_Enrollment_retirees.pdf

Important notes for RETIREES:

Retirees do NOT have regular buddies or extended family buddies.

Retirees can NOT designate a “primary friend”.

Retirees’ eligible pass riders are: Spouse or Domestic Partner, up to two Enrolled Friends, Children until age 26 and up to two Parents.

During the Pass Travel Enrollment period (December 1st - December 30th 1900 CST) retirees may:

Choose new Enrolled Friend(s) to fly on 1/1/2017.

Remove EF(s) to open available slot(s) so you can add someone later in 2017. To remove EF(s), uncheck the box in the “Keep for 2017” column.

Note: To change your 2016 Enrolled Friend for a new EF in 2017: First remove the 2016 EF by unchecking their names inside the 2017 election tool, then click “confirm and continue”, then click “Add 2017 Pass Riders” and proceed to certify your new Enrolled Friend.

United will send you an email when you successfully complete enrollment.

Oops! Made a mistake? You can make changes until 1900 CST on December 30th.

After 1900 CST on December 30th, NO CHANGES will be allowed until the enrollment period in December 2017 for travel on 1/1/2018.

However, IF you left slot(s) open before 1900 CST on December 30th, you can fill the slot(s) with Enrolled Friend(s) anytime in 2017.

IMPORTANT: 2016 Enrolled Friend(s) who you change or remove for 2017 must complete all travel by 12/31/2016.

You don’t know what an Enrolled Friend is? Here’s the information on Flying Together:

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com/web/content.jsp?SID=Travel&path=/Integration/enrolledFriend/index.jsp>

2) Get Google Trips; it’s free!

“Google Trips” is a new app to help you travel; especially to new places! Download the app to your IOS or Android mobile device; select a destination and it will show you lots of useful information including suggested sights, day plans, getting around, money, tipping, food, emergencies, etc. Add your own reservation info and friends’ recommendations then click “download” to have it all accessible on your phone or tablet *without using wifi!* Get the app and more information here: <https://get.google.com/trips/>

3) Reminder from the ETC: myUADiscount and space-available

“Retirees and their pass riders are reminded of these three important guidelines when booking myUADiscount travel:

1. Do not hold a confirmed reservation (myUADiscount, revenue, mileage) and space-available booking over the same routing for the same trip
2. You cannot travel standby on the same day that you have confirmed reservation for the same routing or same trip.
3. Once purchased, you may not cancel the confirmed reservation to revert back to a space-available listing on the same day, same trip”.

Basic Economy offers customers more choices



Responding to strong consumer demand for more choices, United is introducing Basic Economy, a new fare option for United's most price-sensitive customers. While the company will continue to offer products like United Polaris and standard economy, Basic Economy allows United to compete effectively with ultra-low-cost and mainline carriers who also offer similar products.

While Basic Economy fares have some important, additional restrictions compared to United's standard economy fares, customers will enjoy the same United Economy® cabin experience and services, including dining options, Wi-Fi and inflight entertainment. However, the following differences do apply:

- Automated seat assignments will be given at check-in, and passengers acknowledge at the point of a multi-seat purchase that seating together is not guaranteed.
- Carry-on bags are limited to one personal item, unless the customer is a MileagePlus® Premier® member, primary cardmember of a qualifying MileagePlus credit card or Star Alliance™ Gold member.
- There will be no voluntary ticket changes except as stated in the United 24-hour flexible booking policy.
- MileagePlus program members will earn redeemable award miles; however they will not earn Premier qualifying credit (miles, segments, or dollars), no lifetime miles, and no contribution to four segment minimum.
- Customers will not be eligible for Economy Plus or premium cabin upgrades.
- Customers will board in the last boarding group (currently Group 5) unless they're a MileagePlus Premier member, primary cardmember of a qualifying MileagePlus credit card or Star Alliance Gold member.
- No combinability with regular economy fares or partner carriers. Interline travel is not permitted.

Delta launched its Basic Economy product in select markets in 2012 and expanded to most domestic markets in 2015, while American has announced a similar product to launch in the first half of 2017. United's Basic Economy will be very similar to Delta's Basic Economy, with the exception of earning Premier qualifying credits and carry-on bags, neither of which United's product will allow. This operational benefit will simplify the boarding process and create more overhead space onboard, therefore helping to improve United's on-time departure performance.

United does not anticipate Basic Economy will impact your ability to pass travel any more than existing fare products affect load factors. It's important to note that Basic Economy isn't discounting seats that have not sold; these price points exist today. Because customers who want to select seats or be eligible for upgrades are likely to choose a different fare product, United anticipates no impact on system load factors or on your ability to enjoy your pass travel privileges. The Basic Economy price point tickets will not be eligible for upgrade, which could enhance the employee travel experience. If you choose to purchase Basic Economy fares, you may use myUAdiscount but the same conditions apply (no advance seat assignment, no carry-on, etc.).

So that customers make the right purchasing decision with no surprises, United is including very clear and prominent messaging throughout the booking path of United.com, customer contact centers, online travel agencies and corporate booking tools. They will see and acknowledge messages at booking, when they try to assign a seat or change their flight, and during check-in. Detailed information will be available on United.com as well.

Basic Economy will be available for sale in January, with travel starting in the second quarter of 2017. Before then, Customer Service and Contact Center employees will receive the training and resources they need to care for United's customers and answer their questions.

To learn more about Basic Economy and how it fits into our overall strategy to become the world's best airline, visit United's Jetbridge to What's Next site, where a series of infographics and videos from Oscar and EVP and Chief Commercial Officer, Julia Haywood, put United's product segmentation strategy into a broader context. You can also find an overview of Basic Economy and a helpful Q&A.

Fortune spotlights 'miracle comeback' at United



Fortune highlighted what it called United's "miracle comeback" in a seven-page feature story in its December print issue. It also featured a 10-minute interview with Oscar on Fortune Live.

The article notes that the “comeback at United promises to substantially shift the balance of power in the \$700 billion global airlines industry.”

More importantly, Oscar underscored the opportunity United has to build a great company that’s good for investors but also good for customers and employees. *“It’s a great, thriving business investment and great company, but it comes with heart and a friendly smile,”* Oscar said. *“People have gotten sour over time over who we are as corporations, but I think you can build a great company with heart.”* *Fortune* praised United’s improved on-time performance, newly negotiated labor contracts and improved stock price in naming Oscar number 20 on its Business Person of the Year annual ranking.

United reached settlement with the SEC



On December 2, 2016 United resolved an investigation by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission into United’s institution of a flight route in 2011 between EWR and CAE (Columbia, South Carolina). United agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$2.4 million and consented to certain reporting obligations. United is pleased to resolve this matter and to move forward, and to build the best airline in the world for our employees, customers and shareholders.

It just seemed like a no-brainer



“There I was, standing under the baggage carousel display board for what seemed like the millionth time when it dawned on me,” said ORD Customer Service Manager Ziv Russell. *“Our United app has all this great information - why can’t it tell me which carousel my baggage is going to?”*

That’s when Ziv grabbed his phone and sent the idea to a fellow employee at the Chicago Corporate Support Center.

“To me, I believe customer service is more than just making a customer smile,” said Ziv. *“It’s about giving customers the tools to make their trips more enjoyable from A to Z.”*

With the newest release of the United app available, customers can now find their baggage carousel number under “flight status.”

Customers are noticing the new updates, too. *“The United app has been my one-stop travel app for years,”* said Premier 1K MileagePlus member and ORD Customer Service Supervisor Gregory Ramin. *“Having the baggage claim information available on it, too, is icing on the cake!”*

A half century in the making: Two nations once again ‘United’



On November 29, 2016 United’s long-awaited first flight to HAV (Havana) in more than fifty years departed from EWR, ending the decades-long travel restriction and providing the large number of Cuban-Americans in the New York/Newark region access to their homeland. United will operate daily nonstop flights to the Cuban capital from EWR, and Saturday nonstop service from IAH.

Writer’s Column - Thoughts of an Old Man by Bob Duensing

Driving ~ My wife and I are in our mid 80’s and still driving. That statement alone makes relatives, friends, neighbors, acquaintances and young drivers pale. They’ll call, and in polite conversation interject, “So Bob, plan on motoring today, eh?” If I say no, they can then plan their driving while we are at home and off the road.

Their apprehension is compounded when I tell them that we are four time graduates of Defensive Driving School. They are thinking, “Wow, these folks are really slow learners.” I have to explain to them that the insurance company requires us to take the course every three years to re-qualify for a discount on our policy.

I think that all of this concern is unfounded. If you were to ask me, I would tell you that I still have the reflexes of a cat.

My wife and I feel that with our background in defensive driving education, we are certainly qualified to critique other drivers on the road as we drive.

“That driver didn’t use his turn signal to change lanes!” “That car behind us is following too closely!” “Did you see that? He made an illegal left turn by turning onto the outside lane! Where are the cops when you need them?” “That guy is waiting to make a left turn and is stopped with his wheels turned. If he is rear ended, it will force him into the oncoming lane. Tsk, Tsk!”

Back to reality: Driving has always tended to relax me. When I was working and under a lot of stress, I would oftentimes take long drives after work to unwind. A lot of friends in my age group shy away from driving on crowded freeways. I am not intimidated by that. We venture everywhere in our car.

It is unfortunate that driving classes are no longer readily available in high schools, without excessive cost. Drivers are most likely taught by friends or family members. Come to think of it, I was taught by my brother and I have taught other people.

My wife and I are looking forward to the day when we are eligible to attend the safe driving course for the fifth time (said no one ever). Meanwhile, “Happy Motoring”. While vacationing in Bulgaria, you could wish a motorist “Nek NbT”! (pronounced Lek pat).

I think my mind is unraveling.

Age ~ I am 83 years old and every time I look in a mirror, I see my dad. I am used to seeing that face and don’t necessarily see the ravages of time. I have a wonderful family, I work out, I am mobile, I volunteer, and I travel with my wife.

Some of the situations that shock me into reality are:

- ❖ I see myself in photographs of family gatherings, etc. “Can that old man really be me?”
- ❖ My wife and I walk up to a building and someone rushes up from behind and says, “Let me get the door for you”.
- ❖ We board a bus from the airport parking lot to the terminal and as people see us board, there is motion observed and we are provided room to sit down.
- ❖ Boarding an aircraft, someone offers to place our carry-on in the bin.

It all started sometime back when young people started calling me “Sir”, or someone addresses me as “Young Man” (which I don’t like) or salesladies call me “Honey”, “Sweetheart” or “Darling” (which I do like). There are other instances I could mention.

While the courtesies are very much appreciated, looking from the inside out I don’t see the necessity. That is, until I see a glimpse of myself in a picture.

Torgy’s Travel Tips – January, 2017



Come January 20th, a new resident will call 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. home. Public housing has a different connotation when we remember that the White House, as well as so much of Washington, D.C. belongs “to the people”. With that in mind, I made a visit just prior to the election to remind myself of all that this country honors and protects.

Beyond the visual grandeur of the recently refurbished Capitol building, sitting rather majestically atop The Hill, are the equally exquisite Library of Congress and the stately Supreme Court. Underground passageways link the buildings so inclement weather won’t hamper your visit. The waiting lines for the guided tour of Congress are so superbly handled that you wonder why airport security can’t run as smoothly! Each visitor group dons a headset and only your own tour guide can be heard despite there being 8 other groups with their tour guides close by. At the

Supreme Court, you can line up in the exterior plaza for a first-come, first-served opportunity to hear an entire argument or a 3-minute observation, when Court is in session. When not in session, a lecture is given in the Courtroom every hour on the half-hour between 9:30am – 3:30pm. This is a not-to-be-missed opportunity. And the Library of Congress can captivate you for hours. The architecture and interior décor are stunning. Catch good views of the Capitol from the 2nd floor and find some of Washington’s best bargains by attending a chamber music concert, literary program, lecture or cartoon art events that are presented frequently. Everything I’ve described so far is **free**.

Moving towards the Washington Monument, The Mall’s verdant squares of open space provide unobstructed views of the 555 ft tall monolith as well as of the Capitol behind you. This is a perfect spot for photographs at sunset. The monument’s elevator was still not in operation, having been damaged in the earthquake of 2011, but the hardy can climb the 897 steps by picking up an entrance ticket at the booth on the east side of the monument, near 15th street. Anchoring both sides of The Mall between 3rd and 14th streets are 10

Smithsonian Museums and Galleries including the National Air and Space Museum, American History Museum, Natural History Museum, National Gallery of Art, and the American Indian Museum. The stunning new National Museum of African American History and Culture is located just steps away from the Washington Monument. Obtain tickets to this fantastic new museum **before** you come to DC or you will not get in. Go to www.nmaahc.si.edu for ticket info. Once again, all of this is **free**.

Sandwiched between the National Gallery of Art and the Natural History Museum on Constitution Ave is the National Archives, depository for the safekeeping of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights as well as an original copy of the Magna Carta. Did I mention that it's **free**?

"The buck stops here" said President Harry Truman, but it actually starts here at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing at 14th and C streets, where you can watch millions of dollar bills being printed. The whole process unfolds before your watchful eyes on the FREE guided tour. There is a clear box containing a million dollars of real \$10 bills in the lobby and various unique gifts can be purchased at the end of the tour.

On a much more somber note, the US Holocaust Museum next door is an experience like no other, in my opinion. I have visited both Yad Vashem in Israel and NYC's Holocaust Museum but the profound impact of Washington's museum is without measure. Do not rush. Read the displays. Listen to the voices. Give yourself time to absorb the enormity of this tragedy. And if you're like me, you may even have to find a corner to let your emotions spill out. Note: If you are bringing grandchildren on your DC trip, all visitors to this museum must be over 11 years old. Admission is **free**.

The White House can be viewed through the wrought iron fences from The Ellipse on Pennsylvania Ave (near the National Christmas Tree) as well as from the other side on New York Ave. at Lafayette Park. Free public tours are given, subject to last-minute cancellation, however you must make a written request through your senator or representative **in advance**. Submission requests are accepted up to 6 months in advance and tickets are approved approximately 3 weeks before the requested date. Non US citizens must make their request through their closest US Embassy or Consulate.

Next are the war memorials honoring those who fought in World War II, Vietnam and Korea. You may encounter a volunteer on a ladder at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial reverently making a pencil etching of a soldier's name on the wall. The etching will be mailed to a family who cannot make the trip in person. The Vietnam Women's Memorial pays tribute to the 265,000 women who served there. And overlooking all of this is the Lincoln Memorial and Reflecting Pond. Standing here, I remembered the thousands of ordinary citizens who surrounded the pool in solidarity during the March on Washington in 1963. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech rang out from this site and he is honored in a dramatic setting a few steps away on the Tidal Basin along with FDR and Thomas Jefferson.

I know this all sounds exhausting, but the good news is that The DC Circulator, a color-coded 6-route bus system will transport you nearly everywhere you want to go for 50¢ a ride (senior rate). Much cheaper than the ubiquitous hop on/off buses, these clean, efficient buses operate every 10 minutes in looping patterns. Most routes connect at Union Station, another not-to-be-missed architectural gem with lots of dining options. And don't forget the superb Metro subway system. Fly into/out of DCA and the green or yellow line will have you at The Mall in less than 15 minutes. Pick up a senior discount card at Metro Center.

I can't think of a more important place to visit as we enter 2017. Bring your grandchildren (the National Zoo is **free** and has pandas!) or take an educational trip on your own. Either way it will be memorable and easy on the budget.

Flight 93 Memorial Chapel by Frank Eggles



I'd like to thank the retirees of United Airlines for your support and dedication to Flight 93 Memorial Chapel. Father Al would be proud of you for your effort and continued donations. As you know, father Al is no longer with us but he would most appreciate your support of over \$5,000. That's right, over \$5,000 donation for the Chapel fund.

I have been dealing with health issues and have to retire from the position of Chairman of the Flight 93 Memorial Chapel Fund; **Dave Voit** will be taking over my position. *Please continue your support and make a check to United Airlines Flight 93 Memorial Chapel and mail to **Dave Voit**, 507 Hunting Whip Road, Glen Mills, PA 19342-2223*

Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter



All articles submitted for publishing in the Newsletter are due in the Denver Office on **the 7th of 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 7th are subject to be considered for the next Newsletter.

Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to 2ruaea@qwestoffice.net, please copy Francis Domaratius at ruaenewsletter@surewest.net and John Chu at johnqchu@hotmail.com. If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd, Denver, CO 80207-2433. Please allow for postal delay. We cannot extend the deadline!

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

Francis Domaratius
Newsletter Manager
ruaenewsletter@surewest.net

LOCAL NEWS

ALABAMA



SWEET HOME ALABAMA

Joe E. Jones, Ret. ORDFO
12115 County Road 29
Clanton, AL 35045
autiger@centurytel.net

Our Birmingham chapter met Monday, December 5th at The Club atop Red Mountain with the following: **Herb & Carol Wilbanks, Ken & Beverly Yeager, Jim & Donna Gooch, Travis Glass, David & Terissa Mendum, Bobby & Jean Cox, Gay Fowler, Joe & Jane Jones** and their guests Dr. **Kent Johns** and wife **Belva Johns**.

November birthdays ~ **Jim Gooch** (11th), **Joe Duncan** (20th), **Marie Duncan** (29th) and **Terissa Mendum** (28th). December birthdays ~ **Charlotte Gibson** (1st), **Joann Benton** (2nd), **Herb Wilbanks** (8th), **Bobby Cox** (30th), and **Travis Glass** (31st).

The table decorations of poinsettias and gift boxes of peanuts were furnished by **Ken and Beverly Yeager**. They were won by **Jane Jones, Belva Johns, Travis Glass, Donna Gooch** and **Jean Cox**. The 50/50 drawing was won by **Jean Cox**.

The group decided to make a \$300.00 contribution to the American Cancer Society Joe Lee Hope Lodge in Birmingham.

We wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

ARIZONA

PHOENIX AZURES

Lynn Cline
Recording Secretary
2690 North 162nd Lane
Goodyear, AZ 85395
(623) 444-9084
lynncline1@cox.net



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from the Azures in Arizona!

November's lucky 50/50 winners were **Warren Allen**, **Bob Maloney** and **Jean Kerman**. Good time, good crowd at Angela's Kitchen in Sun City Grand.

Vic & Carol Liltz traveled again to Illinois on November 17 for their Thanksgiving celebration with family. They returned to Arizona on Black Friday along with the **Neals**.

December's Christmas Party is being held at Arrowhead Country Club on Thursday, December 15th in Glendale, and is always a wonderful venue. The January luncheon will be held at PebbleCreek; Eagle's Nest Country Club, Goodyear, AZ

January birthdays ~ **Jim Ehas** (1/3), **Pam Paliwoda** (1/5), **Joe Hopkins** (1/13), **Sherry Muoio** (1/24), and **Sally Illingworth** (1/30).

The Azure's biweekly breakfasts have been changed to Wednesdays; December dates: 14th & 28th, January dates: 11th & 25th. Location: Tivoli Gardens, 12535 West Bell Road, Surprise AZ, (623) 974-8224, Time: 8:30am, please RSVP to **Sherry Muoio**, (623) 572-4828.



PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S

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

Happy New Year! We hope the New Year will be happy, healthy, and eventful for you and your families. It's a start of new things to come. We hope our Re-United's Chapter will continue to grow, along with RUAEA, as it is an important connection with United Airlines as to what will be happening in the months and years to come. Our connection, as retirees, is very important to keep up-to-date on current and future plans for the company.

With our wonderful weather we have here in Phoenix, we're hoping any retirees from United or Continental Airlines, may want to join us at one of our monthly breakfasts or luncheons. Our breakfasts are normally on the fourth Friday of each month at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline Rd. in Gilbert, starting at 9:15 a. m. We have a private room, inside to the left of the main entrance. Our monthly luncheons are held at different restaurants, hosted by members of our chapter. If anyone wants further information, please contact our President, **Shirley Claggett** at (480) 354-7610, or by e-mail at Indind75@yahoo.com, or our Vice-President, **Peg Snowdall** at (480) 396-3317, or by e-mail at phomfeldt@cox.net. They will be more than happy to assist you with your inquiries.

Our November luncheon had 25 people attending at the Golden Corral in Gilbert. There is always a nice variety of food to choose from there. No one can leave there feeling still hungry. President **Shirley Claggett** recognized six of our members who were Veterans, as we celebrated Veterans Day the next day on November 11th. We are very proud that they are members of our Re-United's Chapter. Shirley brought up the fact that United Airlines will no longer be at Terminal Two, starting in the fall of 2019. **Peg Snowdall** also reported that next year we will be holding our Christmas Fantasy Flight in a different area of the airport, which has not been announced as to where yet. One of our members, **Pam Gerstung**, was in an auto accident recently. We hope she recovers real soon and is able to join us. **Ron Paluch** announced the Chicago Cubs/White Sox Spring training game in Sloan Park in Mesa will be held on February 27, and will let us know the price of tickets when it is announced. Thanks to **Ginny & Fred Rockenhauser** for being good hosts for this luncheon.

Our November breakfast was held a week earlier than normal because of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Since it was only about a week before when we met for the luncheon, we only had 17 members present. We talked

about the cheap airfare United is proposing to compete with Southwest, Allegiant, etc. United's CEO, Oscar Munoz, recently met with seven retiree organizations to find better ways to engage with retirees, listen to their opinions and ideas, and thank them for the role they played in making United the great airline that it is today. RUAEA President **Virgil Gooselaw** said, "*This meeting is a high point*". They plan to meet again during the first quarter of 2017.

One of our members, **Valerie Forsberg**, recently returned to their winter home, but on Wednesday evening, November 16, had a heart attack and was transported to Banner Heart Hospital. She had major blockage, but a stent was put in and she is feeling much better. Cards can be sent to Valerie at 8126 E. Nopal Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85209-6718.

Peg Snowdall updated us on the Fantasy Flight, scheduled for December 2. We plan on having 106 children there. An inventory will be taken of what has been brought in so far on November 25, and last minute decorating will take place on November 30.

Our Christmas Luncheon, held on December 7, at the Palo Verde Country Club in Sun Lakes, hosted by **Pat & Buss Nicholaisen**, will be reported on next month. It's always a very festive luncheon and puts everyone in the Holiday mood.

Our January luncheon is going to be held on January 18 at the Stonebridge Manor Bistro, 4012 E. Palm Street in Mesa. It's a mansion, where the family had 9 children, with each having their own bedroom. It's in the area of Greenfield and McDowell, with beautiful grounds and a pool. It sounds like a beautiful place to meet for our luncheon. Our hosts will be **Cindy & Ferrol Hilsabeck**. They will be sending out further information soon. Mark your calendars for this luncheon, so you don't miss out!

A reminder that our 2017 dues of \$5.00 each are now due. Please give your money to **Ferrol** and/or **Cindy Hilsabeck**, who are our Treasurers. You can hand it to them at one of our meetings, or mail it to them at 2625 N. Hogan Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85215-1302. Be sure to update them with changes in your address, e-mail, or phone, as we need to have the correct information for our membership directory, which comes out in April. Thanks for your help in getting this done quickly.

We have the following birthdays in January of our members and spouses, **John Gaudio** (1/05), **Jane Miller** (1/14), **Molly Norwood** (1/14), **Ferrol Hilsabeck** (1/15), **Judy McFarland** (1/22), **Barb Paymaster** (1/22), **Carol Hinkle** (1/24), **Linda Cooper-Koltz** (1/25), and **Dakota Morris-Terry** (1/28). Happy Birthday to you! We also have two couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversary in January, **Dillon & Dakota Morris-Terry** on 1/8, and **Jay & Barbara Hartough** on (1/16-71). Congratulations to both couples!

Calendar:

January 18 – Luncheon at a mansion at Stonebridge Manor Bistro, 4012 E. Palm Street in Mesa, hosted by **Cindy & Ferrol Hilsabeck**. Further information will be sent to our members.

January 27 – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline Rd. in Gilbert, starting at 9:15 a.m. Please let **Peg Snowdall** know if you will be attending at phomfeldt@cox.net, or by phone at (480) 396-3317 by Wednesday, January 25.

February 9 - Luncheon at Floridino's, 590 N. Alma School Rd. in Chandler, hosted by **Donna Pedone** and **Dakota Morris-Terry**.

February 27 – Chicago Cubs/White Sox Spring Training Game in Mesa, starting at 1:05 p.m.

TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Tucson, Arizona

Doris Clark

desertdoris@q.com



Thank you, **Loretta & Wayne Norman** for planning our luncheon. There were 17 members in attendance. In the absence of President **Charli Nicholson**, **Pat DiLallo** was gracious enough to run the 50/50. There was one winner of \$25.00 and that was **Ed Kokot**. He even won last month. Lucky you.

The calendar was passed around for members to sign up for hosting the monthly luncheons. January, and a couple others were not taken so expect the luncheon sheet will be passed around again at the December luncheon, and then we probably will know who will be hosting in January.

Pat & Rich DiLallo are hosting February. We will be going to the Tree Ring Laboratory by the U of A. and the luncheon will follow. Sounds like a fun and interesting outing. (As a preview, the Arizona Daily Star's

front page article on Sunday, Nov. 12, introduced the impact of tree aging on our lives). Pat also announced that **Bill & Bonnie Royal** are leaving Arizona. We will surely miss them.

Thanks to **Claire Byle** for taking the notes in my absence.

December Anniversary ~ **Carolyn & Merritt McGlothin** (11/13/1968).

December Birthdays ~ **Carolyn DiSanto** (5th), **Suzanne Fehseke** (7th), **James Hafterson** (10th), **Doris Clark** (19th), **Bill Royle** (21st), **Frank Disanto** (27th), and **Claire Byle** (29th).

CALIFORNIA

CENTRAL COASTERS



Avila Beach, CA

Al Rybar

P.O. Box 2298

Avila Beach, CA 93424

(805) 595-2532

papawow@charter.net

We did not meet in November and I hope all our members had a wonderful Thanksgiving.

The rain we received made it feel more like fall and it was greatly appreciated.

I received an E-mail from our President **Mike Zoldak** informing our members that we have a new Southern California RUAEA Director. Her name is **Claudia Blancett**. Mike sent her information about our chapter and she has an open invitation to visit us any time she can work it into her busy schedule. We always enjoyed seeing our former Director **Hal Klobe** & his wife **Donna**, when they were able to attend our meetings.

Our next meeting will be on December 21st at the Spyglass Restaurant in Pismo Beach hosted by **Mike & Bridget Zoldak**. This will also include our usual gift exchange.

DESERT SUNBIRDS

Palm Springs Area

Chuck Lamas

P.O. Box 149

Palm Desert, CA 92261

(760) 772-5960

chucklamas@gmail.com



Siv Adams hosted the Desert Sunbirds' November Luncheon. We met at A. J.'s on the Green in Cathedral City. However, there was a Major League mix-up! Apparently, the restaurant had the 9th of December scheduled for the Luncheon. So, when thirty of our group showed up on the 9th of November, they scrambled to accommodate us, and did a yeoman's job in serving us (with all of our correct orders). And only a few minutes late. Unfortunately, some of our attendees left when they first heard the news, as they had prior commitments shortly after the Luncheon.

Siv had five guests: **Sheila O'Brien** (retired from PAA); **Winnie Sher** (worked for PAA and UAL); **Bev & John Greenslade** (between the two of them, worked for CO, SW, AS, and Air NZ); and a non-airline friend, **Monique Fay**.

Melinda & Ron Lerg had planned a trip to three of the Islands of Hawaii, Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii on November 17th. Instead, Melinda headed to the hospital for an operation on her fractured wrist (due to a fall on the 13th). We hope to see them at our Christmas Luncheon (December 7th), and they will tell us that they've re-scheduled their Hawaii trip.

Shirley Schiewe gave up fighting the pain in her shoulder and had a replacement. I understand the surgery went well, so we hope to see her and Ben at the Christmas Luncheon also.

Dee Whately won the Birthday Lunch; **Siv Adams** took home \$50.00 from the 50/50 drawing.

Brad Zittel - our featured Sunbird this month. As a small boy, laying in the grass in his back yard, he fantasized about being on the planes flying overhead, and he knew that's what he wanted to do. He wanted to fly.

Brad graduated High School in 1960. At the age of 20, he (with 3 friends) headed out Route 66 from Saginaw, Mich., to California. They arrived in Beverly Hills, and his job was with Robinson's Department Store, selling Art Prints. His first customer was Mrs. Clark Gable.

He soon noticed there was a UAL Ticket Office in the Beverly Hilton Hotel. This was May of 1962. Brad went to the counter, and asked for a job. They referred him to the Personnel Office. He climbed on a bus, and by the end of the day, was a UAL employee in Reservations.

In 1965, Brad transferred to the LA Airport as a Ticket Agent. But Brad wanted to fly. In August, 1970, he was called into a meeting with many UAL VIP's, and was told that UAL wanted to have a Management Representative on board their new airplane - the 747. Brad would become United's first Inflight Service Supervisor. His sign-in number ... #1!

Brad says that this period as an I.S.S. was the best days of his career. But he had a feeling the job would not last. When the Courts said that the Airlines had to hire "female" Pilots and "male" Flight Attendants, Brad saw the end of the I.S.S. Program.

In February, 1977, he applied for and was accepted for Flight Attendant School. After finishing the training, he was assigned to CLESW.

Eventually he transferred back to LAX. In 1991, he was awarded the honor of "Flight Attendant of the System". Brad says, "*One of my biggest honors.*"

In July, 2003, Brad (along with 2600 others, accepted a buyout, and retired. Brad says, "*I wish I had not retired when I did, but do I regret one day in those 41 years? Only the last one! United totally changed my life, but more so, it opened the world to me ... and my parents. They (my parents) were as proud of me as if I had been President. So, thank you, United Air Lines. You made a small boy's dream come true.*"

SACRAMENTO



GOLD DIGGERS

GOLD DIGGERS

Sacramento, CA

Terry Greenacre, Secretary

1976 Monterey Pines Dr.

Roseville, CA 95747

(916) 786-6143

terpengre@surewest.net

The Sacramento Gold Diggers held their Annual Christmas Luncheon on Wednesday, December 7 at Turkey Creek Golf Club hosted by **Len & LaVerne Haubl**. Chapter President **Sonda Sandstedt** welcomed the 55 Gold Diggers in attendance and all of the members thanked the Haubls for hosting. Sonda thanked everyone who brought Toys for Tots this year.

Vice President **Rose Wikstad** announced that the first meeting in 2017 will be on January 25th at Awful Annies' in Auburn and will be hosted by **Ray & Lorna Andrejewski**.

Secretary **Terry Greenacre** acknowledged the Gold Diggers celebrating Wedding Anniversaries in November: **Charles & Martha Szekretar** (53 years), **Ed & Rose Rheam** (64 years), and **Ray & Lynn Reinmiller** (47 years). The group sang Happy Anniversary to the couples. We also acknowledged **Frank Uhl**'s birthday.

Treasurer **Judie King** gave the chapter financial report. The December meeting marks the time when dues are due for the following year. Judie commented that this is the first December meeting that all of those attending paid their 2017 dues at the luncheon. Hopefully all other members will follow suit.

Sunshine Person **Angie Dellinger** sent a get well card to **Karl Stammnitz** who recently had surgery. Angie reported that she will be sending Christmas cards to members who have been ill and unable to attend our luncheons.

Historian **Stephanie Norton** had nothing to report this month. Roster Chairman **Jack Raynor** asked everyone to send him any changes to your contact information that he would need to update the Gold Digger member's roster.

The Gold Digger Officers for next year were installed. Sonda announced the Officers for 2017; President ~ **Ed Rheam**, Vice President ~ **Ken Norton**, Secretary ~ **Rose Rheam**, Treasurer ~ **Judie King**, Sunshine Person ~ **Angie Dellinger**, Historian ~ **Stephanie Norton**, and Roster Keeper ~ **Jack Raynor**. Sonda also thanked the 2016 Officers and passed the gavel over to Ed.

The meeting was adjourned followed by two raffles. In addition to our regular raffle, we had a separate raffle for the people who brought Toys for Tots today. The toys will be distributed to children in the area.

HANGTOWN MINERS

Jane Gibson

tired-dogs@comcast.net



Okay, so we were too early for the traditional meal for November – Turkey! But, the choices that **Pati & Bill Kenney** gave the Hangtown Miners to choose from were delicious! The Jack Russell Brewery was our destination this month. Easy to find, nicely decorated, they had a room set up for us and let me tell you, when you seat 34 people in a long row you can just barely see from one end of the table(s) to the other! Of course, the conversations were fun and loud. **Rudy Blazius** extended our thanks to Pati & Bill then asked if anyone celebrates a birthday in November: **Lynda Lima, Mikki Dalleske, Joe Lima, Jim Raber** and **Pati Kenney**! Happy Birthday to each of you! No anniversaries this month. We had two guests join us; the Kenney's daughter, Bobbie joined us as well as Kay Moulin. Welcome to you both.

President ~ **Rudy Blazius** has been the Hangtown Miners president for the past 4 years. Since we do not (traditionally) have a (formal) meeting in December, Rudy took the opportunity at this one to thank everyone for allowing him to be our President.

Rudy passed along the information that was covered in the RUAEA Newsletter.

Vice President ~ **Bill Dinette** did not have a report this month, but, Bill did want to thank **Gary & Mikki Dalleske** for a delightful boat trip on their yacht.

Secretary ~ **Jane Gibson** brought copies of our current roster. **Thom Biro** does a great job keeping track of the information regarding our members, however, Jane took a little time to type that info into a different format. She passed those rosters around to have everyone look over their information, be sure it is accurate, and make any changes needed. Jane will make any corrections needed and get a roster to everyone.

Treasurer ~ **Tom Kenny** was able to join us today! Really good to see you, Tom.

Sunshine ~ **Suzanne Kenny** said that all seems to be well with our members. **Ed Akin** was able to join us for lunch and is feeling pretty good. **Lindalee Akin** is recovering from her second knee replacement surgery. Please, keep us up on what's going on in your world, or if you hear of someone having good things happening or may need some support.

Historian ~ **Lynda Lima** did not have anything new to report.

Old Business ~ Vote was taken and these are your officers for next year, 2017: President ~ **Bill Gibson**, Vice President ~ **Rosemary Heier**, Treasurer ~ **Tom Kenny**, Secretary ~ **Jane Gibson**, Sunshine ~ **Suzanne Kenny**, Historian ~ **Thom Biro**.

Hangtown Miners Shirts: Just a reminder that we have a source for really nice shirts – various styles and colors. **Bill Voetsch** is handling the orders for these shirts. Be sure to put what shirt you want on your “Santa List” and get it to Bill.

Dues: It's that time of the year again! Hangtown Miners gives one of the sweetest deals around! It's our annual dues of \$10.00. You can bring your dues to our luncheon and give it to our treasurer (or his representative) or mail your dues – if a check, make it out to Hangtown Miners and send it to: **Tom Kenny**, 3481 Parleys Canyon, Placerville, CA 95667.

New Business ~ 2017 Hosting: With a New Year racing up on us, it is time to sign up for hosting our luncheons. A sheet with each month was passed around so members could choose the month that works best for them. We have only 3 months still open! The list will be passed again on December 12th, so look at your schedules! Hosting is not difficult – no, really! You get to choose a favorite restaurant then you make the arrangements. Our “normal” meeting day is the second Monday of each month, but if you need to move it to a different day that should be okay. We like to try to keep the cost to around \$17.00 or so but if you host at a restaurant where everyone chooses from the menu and pays directly, that works too! If you have not hosted before, our members who are “old hats” at it are willing to advise you. It can be fun!

Rudy brought the meeting to a close and our Drawing Of Opportunity began. Thanks to all who brought items: **Kenny** – serving tray; **Blazius** – glass prism; **Heier** – wine cover; **Lima** – basket; **Fitzpatrick** – wine; **Ridsdale** – table decoration; **Gibson** – cobbler mix; **Kenny** – pumpkin bread mix; **Dinette** – R & B wine; **Kozelka** – Dr. Kaufman wine; **Moulin** – wine; **Ouchi** – salt & pepper shakers; **Dalleske** – Bogle wine.



REDWOOD EMPIRE

RETIREEES

Santa Rosa, California
Mary Wilson, Secretary
3623 Aaron Dr.
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
marywilson333@sbcglobal.net

On November 10, our Redwood Empire Retirees Group met for lunch at The Villa Restaurant in Santa Rosa; the fall colors of the trees and vegetation on the hills surrounding the restaurant were very pretty! The Italian cuisine included Chicken Cacciatore, Lasagna Bolognese, Eggplant Parmigiana, and Salmon Piccata. President **Larry Wilson** opened the meeting by thanking **Jerry & Barbara Underhill**, Vice President and spouse for hosting the luncheon, and decorating the tables with colorfully wrapped bottles of wine for the raffle. Larry also welcomed back **George & Lois Schwind**, who have been out for a few months during George's chemo treatments and recent hospitalization. Everyone was happy to see them and greeted them warmly!

Vice President **Jerry Underhill** announced that **Carol Turek** was the only visitor present, guest of **Doug Sanders**. **Barney & Clare Hagen** had to cancel attendance at the luncheon due to the flu at the last moment; we hope to see them at the December Holiday luncheon and hear about their recent trip to Canada. **Roger Casterline** also was not in attendance to give us a report on the recent United Airlines Convention in Seattle, but it was announced that next year's convention will be held in Las Vegas!

Treasurer **Valerie Hulsey** brought us an update on our General and Charity accounts, which total \$1388.59 as of October 13th. She also mentioned that at our December luncheon a distribution will be made to the favorite charities of the four members who passed away this last year: **Oscar Chambers**, **Brandon Maus**, **Naomi Tolf**, and **Nick van Kruining**. The families of these members have been invited to be with us at the meeting to see these donations awarded in their memory! Valerie also reminded us that next year's dues of \$20 each are due and will be continued to be collected next month. A letter from **Pat Maus** was read, which included her dues for next year; we look forward to seeing her in the New Year.

In place of our Sunshine Lady, **Verda Burr** who was visiting family for the month, I read the birthdays and Anniversary for the month of November. The birthdays were **Don Edwards**, **Clare Hagen**, **Carol Hanna**, **Maddy McKinnis**, **Norma Stillman** and **Ernie Stuckey**. The one Anniversary mentioned was for **Richard & Maria Southen**, of Illinois. No year was listed. The winner of the free birthday lunch was **Don Edwards**! Also there was an invitation read from the South Bay RUAEA chapter in Santa Clara to their Christmas luncheon for any who would like to attend. **Herb Johnson** shared a few jokes in Verda's absence, which were well appreciated; **Don Edwards** also had a joke to share with us! We have a lot of talent in the group.

While the raffle numbers were being drawn for the wines and See's candies, we all enjoyed a slice of **Valerie Hulsey's** famous Sherry Bundt Cake she made for us!

President **Larry Wilson** reminded us that our December holiday luncheon will be held at the La Gare restaurant on December 8th, hosted by all the officers. We were asked to bring one unwrapped toy for our annual Toys for Tots toy drive; also stating that our Charity Box contents will be divided then, including whatever is donated today.

See you next month at the La Gare Holiday Luncheon Party.

RE-LAX-ERS

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



We are looking forward to our Christmas Luncheon and yearly toy drive for Vista del Mar, a local organization for children needing training and personal care. Treasurer **Judi Dunworth**, and her husband **Roger**, arrived back in L.A. from their camping trip, with just a week to prepare her duties for the luncheon.

The Re-LAX-ers are sad to share the passing of **Jeri Burley** and **Lois Hamilton**, who were close friends and were very loyal members of our group.

We received a call from **Eleanor Jones**, who now lives in Texas. She just wanted to say "*Hi ya'll, I sure do miss you guys*". Well, Eleanor we miss you too! Eleanor said that some members of her family might drive her to California next year. Wouldn't that be great!

On some "check-up" calls, **Ann Chorbi** said she and her husband **Andy**, with family members, **Art & Pat Cottrell** will be in town and able to attend luncheon at the Tin Roof.

Harry Takaki will be traveling to beautiful Hawaii to attend the funeral services of his wife's sister and will miss the holiday services with us.

We made a friendly call to **Phyllis Easley** over the Thanksgiving Holiday to say Happy Birthday and we miss you. She asked us to forward her good wishes to all. We are praying for the good outcome of heart surgery for **Peter Schuster**. His wife **Barbara**, said he is just as perky as ever, just a day after the surgery was complete.

We are praying for the good health of our group so all can enjoy the holiday season.



RESANS

San Diego, CA
Barbara Drews
5642 Amaya Drive #99
La Mesa, CA. 91942
sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com

Our December breakfast was attended by fifteen members and I believe the numbers are low because our annual Christmas Lunch is being held next on December 8th.

We were sad to hear of the passing of **Arlene Richardson Roberts'** husband, who passed away in July. Arlene has cancelled her email and moved to be with her granddaughter so we have not been in contact. We are hoping to see Arlene at our Christmas Lunch. She hopes to celebrate her 93rd birthday with us.

John Cunningham joined us after a long absence and more surgery. It was good to have him and catch up on all the news.

We also learned of the passing of **Anne Dewart Medve's** husband, Dick who passed away on November 28th. Our thoughts and prayers are with Ann at this sad and difficult time.

Paul Zadrozny was the winner of the 50/50 raffle for this month and he walked out the door with a smile and extra money for Christmas shopping!

All of the existing Board members were unanimously re-elected for the upcoming year, 2017 ~ **Betty Tomaino** will continue as President along with the following officers: Vice President **Debby Taylor**, Treasurer **Louis Semon**, and Secretary **Barbara Drews**. It has been a good year and we continue to serve you through another good year in 2017!

Come and visit us in January. We don't get snow here so you can go surfing and sunbathing while the snow is falling at home!

Calendar:

January 5 - Pt Loma Café, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA. 92106 -2394, (619) 226-0255.

GOLDEN GATERS

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



Well ... 2016 is winding down and the New Year approacheth! President **Vera Kina** opened our final meeting of the year with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a few moments of silence remembering our military forces here and abroad. A small group of members – a surprise as we had a great Pot Luck luncheon to look forward to ... good food always brings out more members. Ah well, the food was very tasty and people enjoyed seconds. We go into this season and look forward to the New Year and wish to say Kudos' to those who keep this group going. President **Vera Kina** is the glue that holds us together – because of the many hats she wears, she is now known as the Super Glue holder! She can out-do the Energizer Bunny. **Art Barrett** has done a sterling job of guarding our treasury – those coffee cans in his back yard are well hidden. Because of our Auditors, **Dorothy Reuszer**, **Ben Vietz** and **Gene Walter** - they have kept us under budget, a mean feat and one our government envies. That dynamic trio could probably give lessons to those back East. **Barbara Underhill**

has done a dandy job keeping our members in the forefront. Keeping tabs on special occasions, especially those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries and wondering how many of those birthdays **Ben Vietz** really has had. Our Historian, **Jim Goodwine**, lets us know that we are quite old (as if we needed reminding!), the group has been around over 50 years and is still keeping up with the times. **Harriet Kunze** has delivered food and unused toys to our local Shelter Network charity. She thanks all of those who generously donated, she also handles the raffles for us.

Barbara Underhill brought us up to date with happy birthdays to **Dorothy Reuszer**, **Ella Mae Donovan** and **Don Hughes**. On a sad note, **Bob Clinton** passed away shortly after our last meeting. Our condolences go out to **Roz** and the family. **Paul Larson** has had a bout of pneumonia and graced the hospital for a visit; he is home now and, hopefully, feeling better. **Jerome Underhill** is still undergoing tests. Get well you two; we are thinking good thoughts for you.

As no one leaped up to assume Board positions, our usual Transition Luncheon went kaput! Same old, same old Board Members – so instead, the Board decided to have a Christmas get-together at a local restaurant and have every one of the Gaters join in – so off we go next week.

Ginger Dahlberg wrapped up the 2016 December trips and re-capped the 2017 trips - she will put you on the interest list and flyers will be at the meetings or sent to you. You can Email her at gingersfo@aol.com or call her at (650) 224-1865.

So, from me to you - “Yes, **Virginia** (that be me,) there is a Santa Claus!”

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



SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

San Jose, CA

www.southbayruaea.org

Robin Garland

1917 Farndon Ave.

Los Altos, CA 94024

(650) 969-9530

robin_garland@yahoo.com



Our service morning with Second Harvest Food Bank got moved up a day to December 6 just so I can report it in this article. Well, not quite. Seems there were so many people from other organizations wanting to help out at this time of year that our day got shifted one day earlier. Not a bad thing. Despite needing to be flexible we had a great turnout with 18 from our RUAEA group joining in on a project of sorting many types of bagged bread from large bins to smaller boxes—a total of about 500 boxes! Thank you **Boyd Sweet** for your ongoing service to this organization and for setting up this opportunity for our group to participate as well.

As we decided to cancel meeting the day after Thanksgiving, we had a nice turnout for the first Friday in December with 40 in attendance. It was great to have **Dave Walb** join us if only for the breakfast part. We miss you and hope to see you again soon!

A story was told at a recent breakfast meeting that sounded like typical happenings at United. Others chimed in that they did something similar so I thought it would be fun to share. This story is about **Otto Schaller** who was mentioned last month as being an early president of our chapter. Otto was **Ben Scales** Ramp Service Lead early on in Ben's career with United and it was noted that Otto actually hired on before Ben was born in 1941. One day Otto was at United working when it was his day off so Ben asked him why he was there. Otto told him that he was going to take his wife, Geneva, to New York for their anniversary so Ben assumed that he was working overtime to have a little vacation while in New York. However, when Otto showed up for work the very next day, Ben was confused. So he said to Otto, “I thought you were taking your wife to New York.” To which Otto replied, “I did. We flew to New York, had dinner, and flew back.” (I wonder if they even got off the plane for the return flight!)

Our Christmas Luncheon on December 13 is after the deadline for this article so will be shared about in next month's newsletter. At press time 70+ people are planning to attend and we are looking forward to an exciting and fun time together.

We have some sad news. Longtime member **Geneva Schaller** has been diagnosed with kidney failure and is not expected to be with us very much longer. Her daughters and granddaughter joined us for breakfast and updated us on her illness. They were very appreciative of the outpouring of love and encouragement their family has received from our group at this difficult time. President **George Midwin** also read a note received from **Billie Cramb** expressing gratefulness for our chapter's support after Sam's passing.

Vern Snyder is on the mend after a short stay in the hospital and **Jack Jenkins** has been in the hospital as well to have some medication adjustments. We hope you both will be with us again very soon!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All!

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

Calendar:

December 13 – Christmas Luncheon at Mariani's Restaurant

SAN JOAQUINERS

Stockton, California

Barbara Edkin

1616 Sapphire Dr

Livingston, CA 95334-9486

(209) 394-1770

aedkin@gvni.com



The November meeting was held at Angelino's Restaurant in Manteca and was hosted by **Ken Wesela** and **Carol Ann Valdez**. President **Joe Schwirian** issued a hearty thank you for arranging this luncheon to Ken and Carol.

President Joe opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by some witty remarks and stories by **Don Nesja** to set the happy mood for the meeting.

Steve & Jackie Foster were introduced. Steve is a 42 year employee now at SFO Base and Line Maintenance, and is planning his retirement (in the very near future). The couple was welcomed and seemed quite comfortable with the group and our format (such as it is).

Under old business, President Joe proposed that the chapter install Vice President **Bob Scoble**, as President Joe is moving to Hawaii quite soon. A show of hands confirmed the resignation as President by Joe, and the election of new President **Bob Scoble**.

The 2017 positions were elected as follows: President ~ **Bob Scoble**; Vice President ~ **Joe Schwerin**; Treasurer ~ **Rudy Reyna**; Secretary ~ **Pat Scoble**; and Humorist ~ **Don Nesja**.

Retiring President Joe thanked all the volunteers willing to take on their respective jobs.

A special thank you was given to **Bob & Sandy Brooks** for their support of the group, taking many leadership jobs and volunteering when/where there was a need. A large round of well-earned applause was given them.

Treasurer **Rudy Reyna** reported all income received and expenses paid as of October, leaving a balance of over \$700.00.

The sign-up sheet for 2017 meetings was passed around. January is "black", and we have open dates for March 9, April 13, and November 9. Please think about it and consider hosting a meeting.

Birthdays were **Bobby Woods** and **Ken Wesela**. Anniversaries were for **Rudy & Elma Reyna** and **Bobby & Sandy Woods**.

Raffle gifts were provided by **Ken Wesela** and **Carol Ann Valdez**. Thank you, guys.

President **Joe Schwirian** closed his last meeting as President, thanked all those attending, and wishing all of them safe travels until we meet again.

Next meeting is December at the Fruit Yard restaurant in Modesto.

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



EAST BAY DIABLOS

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

Our November meeting was held at El Tapatio with 32 members in attendance. It was a larger than usual group for us which was great. We welcomed back **Cheryl Kincaid**, **Pat McEnaney** as well as **Susan & Ed VanEmster**. Our candy lady, **Carol Parks**, is also back. So good to have our group together again.

Treasurer **Rich Bouska** stated the dues collection for 2017 has been a great success.

Cashier **Tom Cunningham** is not always available because of his other RUAEA duties, a call out for a backup was answered by **Wilma Leather** and **Jan Soderstrom**. Wilma took over the responsibilities from Diane this meeting with Jan observing for a 2nd backup. Thank you both so much.

Howard & Jo Payne and Diane met with Tony at Zeo Fredo's to firm up our annual Christmas Party. Menu selections will be Prime Rib, Salmon or Chicken Cordon Bleu. It should be a resounding success with so much generosity from our members for the Toys for Tots. We addressed a few issues from last year and Tony was very generous in his plans.

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

- January 9 – Old Spaghetti Factory
- February 13 – Old Spaghetti Factory
- March 13 – El Tapatio

COLORADO

DENVER **MILE HIGHERS**

Bob Duensing
(303) 457 3917
Rd5280@hotmail.com



The December breakfast was attended by 33 members. The 50/50 winners who returned their winnings to the chapter were **Gary Trujillo** (DENMM), **Paul Miller** (DENMM) twice, **Walt Hansen** (DENMM), **Don Burbank** (Chapter Pres.) and **Cas Spokas** (DENMM). The 50/50 drawing helps support the chapter since this chapter does not collect dues.

President **Don Burbank** opened the meeting. He reminded people to bring aluminum cans for recycling. The money from recycling is used to partially fund the chapter. President Burbank also congratulated **Tom** (Chapter Pres. Ret.) & **Nancy Goodyear** who recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Don announced that **Marilyn Hansen** is giving up the treasurer's job and has asked for a volunteer to fill that post. The investigation into Caremark, CVS & SilverScript is still on-going. In some places it works perfect and in some places it doesn't work at all. Overcharging is one of the problems. Don also announced that he is going to be the sole representative for retirees to deal with Human Resources when there are questions about anything. This is one of the outcomes from the recent meeting with UAL CEO Oscar Munoz by the retiree group's representatives.

RUAEA President **Virgil Gooselaw** presented **Don Burbank** with a plaque from the recent convention recognizing Don's dedication to RUAEA. President Gooselaw also presented Don with a *United We Remember* pin which is a commemorative pin that was commissioned by the company after the 9/11 incident. Virgil mentioned that he maintains an E-mail list that currently has approximately 70 names and is used to notify members of news, events, etc. If you wish to be added to the list, the best way is to send Virgil an E-mail so he has an accurate address to place on the list. Concerning the remodel of the Training Center, he noted that the RUAEA and UAHF moves are continuing and a cubicle in the temporary trailers will be assigned sometime in January or February. Virgil also spoke about the 2017 and 2018 conventions plans. The 2017 convention which

will be held in Las Vegas and he and the convention committee are currently working on a contract with the Palace Station Hotel & Casino. Concerning the 2018 convention, planning is in the works.

Tom Goodyear briefed us on some of the highlights of the recent meeting at WHQ with retiree groups and CEO Oscar Munoz.

The next RUAEA breakfast will be held at 9am on January 7th in the DENTK cafeteria.

Andrew J. Lohr (DENTK) passed away on November 17, 2016. Andy was a member of the Greatest Generation and saw combat across France and Germany in WWII. His career with United Airlines spanned almost 40 years. He was a pioneer in simulation with United having worked on the first simulator in Chicago and continued well past the beginning of the digital age at the Flight Center in Denver.

Roy Martin (DENMM) passed away on November 16, 2016. Roy lived in Cascade, MT at the time of his passing. His address was #5 Meadow Lane, Cascade, MT 59421. He will be laid to rest in the Cemetery of the National Alleghenies in Bridgeville, PA.

Russell R. Strandberg (DENOZ) passed away on October 31st. His career with UAL began in 1959 and included service in Chicago and Denver.

FLORIDA



CITRUS GROUPERS

The Villages, FL
Ralph Brick
(352) 219-0289
brickralph@cox.net

Submitted by Kathy Faust

Our monthly meeting and Christmas luncheon was held Thursday, December 1st at Nancy Lopez Country Club in the Villages. The tables were beautifully decorated with four Christmas Center pieces made by **Elaine Lils**, later to be won by lucky ticket holders.

Tita brought delicious egg rolls and sauce which everyone enjoyed before lunch. She also brought yummy Christmas cookies for dessert. Thank you again, they were so good.

After a wonderful lunch attended by 18 members, President **Ralph Brick** started the festivities with the Pledge of Allegiance, then the drawings. **Joan, Tita, Terri** and **Kathy** were the lucky winners of the Christmas center pieces. **Mary Jo** won a beautiful sweater and **Kathy** a lap blanket; thank you Santa. The 50/50 winner was **Elaine**. She made the beautiful centerpieces. It's true that what goes around comes around. Congratulations to all.

We make a charitable donation every year at this time and this year everyone voted to donate \$150.00 for postage for operation shoebox.

Here's wishing one and all a very Merry Christmas and a healthy Happy New Year.

Birthdays being celebrated in December ~ **Mary Nellans** (12/14). Anniversaries ~ **Phyllis & John Whalen** (12/3). Birthdays being celebrated in January ~ **John Walen** (1/3), **Phyllis Walen** (1/12), and **Terri Davis** (1/20).

Our next meeting and luncheon will be at Arnold Palmer Legends Country Club in the Villages at 11:30 AM on Thursday, January 26th. The address is 1635 Palmer Way, (352) 750-4499. It is located off of Buena Vista Boulevard, 2 miles South of CR 466. You can see their menu and directions at palmerlegendssc.com.

If anyone has questions or would like to join our group, please contact President **Ralph Brick** at brickralph@cox.net.



THE ORLANDO REAL MCCOYS

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

Bonefish Grill was all decked out for Christmas and we added our own little touches - tinsel garland, red placemats and brightly colored mini gift boxes, along with the ever-popular Hershey kisses and peppermints at

each place setting! It was *beginning* to look a lot like Christmas outside too. A gray wintry sky. You know the type that looks like it's gonna snow? Did I have you going for a minute? We had a balmy 82 degrees and a bit of rain!

Before our lunch was served, President Al called our meeting to order and everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer of thanks to God for our families, friends, loved ones lost this year, and for the wonderful food we were about to share together.

Along with several members giving their 50/50 winnings back to the chapter to add to the Charity Fund, our 50/50 raffles during 2016 were pretty sizeable. The membership was able to send our three favorite charities a nice check for Christmas this year: Hospice of the Comforter, The Russell Home for Atypical Children and the local Veterans Rehabilitation Center.

December Birthday Balloons to **Charlie Ringer** (10th), **Jim Hernandez** (17th), **Gloria Armistead** (24th), and **Dan Raciak** (30th)! Make a big wish and blow out those candles!

Anniversary Congrats & Best Wishes for many more go out to **Angel & Julia Montalvo** (46 years on the 12th), **David & Lisa Leighty** (26 years on the 15th), **Barb & Stan Halterman** (58 years on the 29th) and ... drum roll, **Ted & Charlotte LeGrand** celebrating 61 years on the 31st! What's your secret, Ted? Could it be ... "Yes, Dear?!!" Just joking. It Takes Two to Tango!

SW PELICANS DROP-INS

Margie Burg
15791 Prentiss Pointe Circle #102
Fort Myers, FL 33908
(239) 400-2544
burgmarge@aol.com



Even though some of our members were out of town or ill, we still managed to have a lively group of 14 for lunch at Duffy's in Cape Coral. Attending were **Wallis Alves, Lynna Baker, Maxine Brown, Bill & Margie Burg, Gary & Janice Crittenden, Ray Jensen, Nancy Kopp, Ric Marton, Jerry & Sandy Pryde, Roger Schonewiser., and Rick Juster.**

We didn't have a 50/50 drawing because of the time needed for the Christmas gift exchange. The right/left story was read by **Margie Burg**, to pass the gifts. It's been enjoyed by our group for many years.

We also had a game on paper at each place setting for diners to guess 22 different pictures depicting a Christmas song. The answers were read after just before lunch.

Two guests attended the meeting: **Roger Schonewise** from Fort Myers and **Rick Juster** from Naples. Both worked at WHQ and knew **Bill Burg** and **Jerry Pryde**. We were pleased to have them and hope they'll return.

It was agreed to have the next meeting on **January 13** with the hope that all members will be back from their holiday trips. We'll resume our regular "first Friday of the month" schedule in February.

Calendar:

First Friday of the month October through May.



TAMPA BAY CHAPTER

Loretta Marvett
3535 Birkdale Ln
Palm Harbor FL 34684
(727) 797-9383
loretmarve@aol.com

Our November meeting was called to order by President **Beverly Alderdice** with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. We also observed a moment of silence for all of our veterans for their service to our country. Our meeting was at the IHOP in Trinity, FL with 14 members in attendance. Beverly introduced our guest speaker "Charley" who gave a very informative presentation about insurance plans! She was very knowledgeable seeing that she represents a number of companies. She also spoke highly about the plan that most of us have with UAL!

There were no birthdays this month nor anniversaries. No minutes of the October were read. The Treasurer's report was given and approved.

Our Christmas Luncheon will be at Heritage Springs on December 7. Entertainment at the luncheon was discussed.

We wish all of our UAL friends a happy and safe holiday season.

2nd Report submitted by Carolyn Lodge:

Our Christmas luncheon meeting was called to order by President **Beverly Alderdice** at 11:45 with 19 attendees. After the Pledge of Allegiance, **Bob Lindstrom** gave the invocation and a moment of silence was observed for Pearl Harbor. **Jean Linehan** read the minutes for November meeting.

Lillian Sawyer gave the Treasurers report.

Terri Breslin stated that **Les Manuel** had broken his hip.

Beverly asked for approval to have Shanksville (Flight 93) be our charity for 2017 and we will send the money we collected for 2016.

There were no birthdays and no anniversaries.

Jon Wilkinson reported on the latest United Airline news and **Bob Lindstrom** also added some news.

Jon Wilkinson told everyone about the Kids and Kubs softball games which will be at Brighthouse stadium in February 2017 and about the club. Jon is the President.

Bob & Jan Lindstrom introduced Michael DiRoma who sang and led us in singing Christmas carols.

Jon Wilkinson suggested looking for a meeting place in east Tampa to accommodate more members and maybe alternating between west and east sides for meetings. President Beverly stated that will be something we can look at in 2017.

The meeting was adjourned at noon so we could start our Christmas luncheon. Beverly wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Calendar:

January 9 - I HOP Restaurant at 10:30.



TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL

M. Jane Kerr

1372 SW California Blvd.

Port St. Lucie, FL 34953

(772) 343-0709

jane Kerr13@comcast.net

Well folks, this is my last Newsletter after a long stint as secretary for the Treasure Coast of Florida Chapter. I must say I have mixed feelings but every good thing must come to an end as they say. I have enjoyed working with the group of our board and giving everyone a little bit of "The Lighter Side".

We did not have a regular meeting in December since our Christmas/Holiday Party was held on December 8 at the Twisted Tuna. Everyone that attended last year's party enjoyed it so much that we decided to have it there again this year. We also have lots of toys for Tots. In next month's Newsletter, we will discuss more happenings and a blurb about the party etc.

Birthdays for the month of December ~ **Dick Knapp** (12/2), **Millie Rossi** (12/28). Happy Birthday! One Anniversary, **Jack & Glenda Boisseau** on 12/1. Happy Anniversary!

We would like to extend a very Merry Christmas, a Blessed Hanukkah and a Very Happy New Year to all and may the year coming be filled with good Health and Happiness.

On the Lighter side:

Live, Laugh and Love, the clock is ticking.

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

Don't wait until tomorrow to do the things and say the things you like to do and say the things you want to say.

Calendar:

January 3 - 1230PM Luncheon/meeting, Duffy's, South Stuart

February 7 - 1230PM Luncheon/meeting, Duffy's, South Stuart

March 7 – Noon Picnic, more information to follow.

GEORGIA



DIXIE FLYERS

Metro Atlanta Georgia
Ron Heider
935 City Park Dr.
McDonough, GA 30252
(770) 320-8890 (H)
(678) 575-9217 (C)
janicec1121@yahoo.com

On December 7, the Dixie Flyers met for a festive luncheon. **Fred Cron** offered blessings of the meal. **Bill Elk** and **Andy Ryabik** led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. We had 20 in attendance.

Fred Cron and **Bogie Wallace** conducted the 50/50 drawing and the winner was drawn by **Sybil Voss**. \$20 was won by **Joanne Presley**, guest of **Sandy Lis**. She returned \$15 to the Ladies in Distress.

Mary Broderson told of good flights from Atlanta to San Francisco to San Luis Obispo and will return in January.

Happy birthday to **Joyce Blair** (12/18) and **Eva Mace** (12/14). **Fred Cron's** Retirement Anniversary on December 31st, 1996.

Re-vamping the routes on the west coast, changing the ordering of the airplanes was a little bit of a discussion. We have a new president of UAL, very well-versed on airplane business. He came over from American Airlines. It would be nice if we could revert to the BP6 boarding priority that United had for many years.

The next luncheon will be January 4 at the Broadway Diner, Fayetteville, Georgia, 2 PM. All United and Continental retirees welcome.

HAWAII



HONOLULU MENEHUNES

Patricia Thomson, Treasurer
P.O. Box 1709
Honolulu, HI 96806-1709
(808) 946-7847
HNLRUA@gmail.com

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

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

PAU HANA KUPUNA

(Hawaii, The Big Island)
Ann Eaton Medve
P. O. Box 126
Kapa'au, HI 96755-0126
(808) 889-1636
annmedve@aol.com



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

IDAHO



BOISE GEMS

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

For David and me, the convention was the first planned destination stop of our 6-week, 6158-mile trip in our reliable Subaru outback. Every state was displaying its own kind of autumn beauty, as far east as Oshkosh, Wisconsin. We wish that more of our group could have joined us at this very well planned, enjoyable convention. We're glad that **Rick & Shirley Dempsey** were able to be there with us. Thanks go to all of you in Seattle who prepared for your many guests! David and I chose Tour 1, the Boeing Museum of Flight, and found it to be quite spectacular. We were even allowed to go on board test plane #3, the newest aircraft of Boeing's 787's. Can you envision 9 seats across with 2 aisles? When David spotted the 727 aircraft #7001, he quickly recalled having worked it here in Boise.

I attended the Correspondents meeting while David was at the Presidents meeting. They are always well worth the time. The sharing is valuable. I will admit being a little envious of those who are part of a much larger group than ours. It was so good to see our RUEA Northwest Regional Director, **Tom Cunningham** and his wife **Barbara** seated near our table Saturday evening at the wonderful banquet, food and entertainment! David and I so enjoyed our time with Tom and Barbara while they were in Boise earlier this year.

We were told that membership is decreasing (aging, dying, etc.) and that word needs to get out to new retirees. Area directors are available for meetings.

The convention chair was **Ken Storey**, one of twenty on the committee. Again, many thanks!

Calendar:

January 11 - 11:30 - Black Bear Boise

ILLINOIS



CHICAGO SKYLINERS

www.chicagoskyliners.org
Chicagomainliner.com
Jan Gawenda
920 Ridge Sq. #208
Elk Grove, IL 60007-4196
(847) 437-7073
jawenda@gmail.com

January 2017—Last year in January, I wrote, ‘The beginning of a new year, a new journal, a new day in our lives, a new sunrise. Let’s see if we can get this right, or attempt to. Well, we must be doing something right to have lived this long. What will the year hold?’ And, here we are again, with the same questions. What are we hoping for this year? Continued good health, or at least not worse? No falls, no major health problems. Maybe a trip somewhere, experience the new United Polaris experience. I’d love to try that myself, it looks so luxurious. Traveling over ‘The Pond’ seems to be the only time we get in Business or First anymore. I’m hoping for a quiet year, no drama, no major illness, less deaths of friends and family, more cash on hand, ha, wouldn’t that be nice? Maybe another World Series win! Shouldn’t be greedy, now, should I? I’m still smiling for my Cubbies, even bought blue sequined sneakers! Maybe the Blackhawks will come through for us again! We have good teams in Chicago, The Bulls could wake up, too! Moving on ... January 20 ushers in a whole new government. Prayers and a positive attitude are needed to get our country in a good place. Whether we like the people or not, every four years, we have to work together for change and an even greater nation. After all, we are the best country in the world, we’ve been doing this for over 240 years, and people are lined up wanting to live here. What is it that makes others want to be in the USA? I know, it’s US! We make us great! God bless America!!

Northside breakfast was all abuzz with the results of the election the day before. Yes, it was quite an election year. We all knew it would be different, but wow, this was truly different! First the Cubs, then Trump! Some of us are still spinning, happy spin and sad spin. But, that happens every four years, too. We had two newbies join us, **Ralph Thinnies** and **Dennis Higdon**, EXOKA. **Bill Bergner** also returned for the morning laughs. Please think about joining us next month.

At the ORDMM breakfast, two couples celebrated their 50th wedding anniversaries. **Frank & Agnes Wenig**, commemorated the day with their family and friends. The **Bob Palm**'s sailed the Pacific Ocean on a Hawaiian cruise. Congratulations to you both on the first 50, I heard they're the hardest!

The Southside breakfast had some sad news of our regulars. **LaVonne Halach** fell down a few months ago and broke her hip. She's still in a rehab facility recuperating. **Gwen Brookins** fell while in LAS celebrating her birthday. Her cousin drove her and her husband **Bill**, out to the 'Welcome to Las Vegas' sign, she started to walk toward Elvis, not noticing a cement block in the lot. Fell right over it, bruising her left toe, right hip, and dislocating her left shoulder, with a possible fracture. Off they went to the ER where they re-located that shoulder. Her left arm is in a sling, and Bill is now doing all the work. Cooking, cleaning and dressing Gwen. She said, 'for 58 years, he's been undressing me, now he has to learn to put my clothes back on'. Don't lose that sense of humor Gwen. The raffle was won by **Barb Wesemann**, **Perry Pahl**, and **Jan Gawenda**. There will be a small grab bag at the next breakfast 12/27, for those who wish to participate.

Many Christmas parties going on in December. The IAM Local 1487, had a grand luncheon for 160, at The Seville. **Karen Carney**, president, and her group really know how to throw a wing-ding of a party. The raffle table alone was unreal, there were gift baskets, liquor, gift cards, jewelry, sporting equipment, and always popular, money. They also had a collection for a food pantry. The food was delicious and always good to see happy faces of coworkers we haven't seen in a while. Another bash of a party was the Skyliners luncheon at the Avalon for 200, planned by **Virginia Monaco**, and her team. The Avalon has treated us so well over the years. There also was a raffle, with half of the proceeds going to the Elk Grove Food Pantry, the remainder going back to the people. We had entertainment, The Buffalo Grove Singers, Encore, a repeat from last year. They are a very spirited group, complete with scarves, bells, lights, and choreography. We joined them in a sing-along. A newbie was **Janet Tyse**, the employees' relations rep, from the Willis. She helped **Diane Webb** with the tours we went on this year. Two guests were **Janet Evans** and **Debra Sakosky**, friends of **Diane Thompson**. Janet also said a few words about the meeting Oscar Munoz had a few months ago with the presidents of the different retiree groups from United. He was very impressed and wants to meet quarterly next year. Oscar heard ideas that never crossed his mind before. It's a start of a beautiful friendship, isn't it? It's nice to know that he actually is interested in the people who helped bring this airline to what it is today. I don't recall any of our other presidents even trying to meet with us. Unfortunately, I heard a long time ago that the BP6 is a 'long time passing'. So, we're not going back that far with changes, but he is listening to new possibilities. Ah, yes, BP6, good times.

Now for the Departure Listing, from ORDCG, **Greg McComb**, and **Manuel Porrez**; **Beatrice O'Brien**, ORDCS, **Sam VanTreese**, ORDFF, **William Braden**, EXOAD, **Lou Orlow**, mostly MM related, and two friends of mine, **Al Broderson**, ORDJL, husband of Esther, EXOPZ, and **Marty Bergmark**, ORDMM. Also gone from our world are Leonard Cohen, Robert Vaughn, Tammy Grimes, Kay Starr, Bobby Vee, Tom Hayden, Ron Glass, Grant Tinker, Van Williams, James Galanos, Kevin Meaney, the intelligent Gwen Ifill, the beautiful, Florence Henderson, and Chicago's own, Herb Kent, radio's 103.3 DJ. Rest in beautiful peace.

Wishing you all a very healthy New Year, filled with laughter and good friends. I'd like to thank you all for your calls, cards and emails thanking me for writing the Chicago column. I'm touched that you would take the time to acknowledge my dissertations. I enjoy doing this, I'm glad it shows. The nuns that taught me would be so proud, probably after they said, 'Really?' Again, thank you.

Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Elly's Restaurant, 8:30 A.M., 372 E. Golf Rd., Arlington Heights, IL (**January 11**). Second Wednesday of the month.

Southside Breakfast - Jedi's Restaurant, 9:30 A.M., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn. (**January 31**). Last Tuesday of the month.

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

INDIANA

INDY RACERS

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



December was a fun month for the Indy Racers. We met at Maggiano's Italian Restaurant for a holiday luncheon and Secret Santa Exchange. We also collected three large boxes of toys for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program that makes sure children in families who have fallen on hard times can have a Christmas present under the tree. The Racers have been supporting the Marine Corps Toys for Tots program for over 10 years. **Ray Brabo** and his wife **Hannelore** made the initial connections between our group and the Marines, and we have enjoyed a great partnership ever since.



Pictured getting the toys ready for delivery to the Marines are **Bill Conway, Jr.**, **Charles Theiss**, **Bill Conway, Sr.** (a United Airlines retiree and member of the Marine Corp Reserves), Pete Romas, manager of Emmy's Restaurant, and Indy Racer President **Mario Bregante**. Mr. Romas has been very supportive of our effort to get toys contributed to the program. For the past four years, he has allowed us to place collection containers in his restaurant, where we hold monthly meetings, during the months of

October and November so that other patrons can donate items.

Based on By-Laws changes that were approved last fall, the Indy Racers approved **Tony Urbanovic** to fill the position of Finance and **Margie Bregante** to serve as Historian during 2017. The By-Laws also called for no meetings to be held in January or February, so the Indy Racers will re-convene on the Second Tuesday in March.

Attending the November Indy Racers meeting were **Hannelore Brabo**, **Wanda Bryce**, **Jack & Carol Conway**, Jack's brother **William Conway, Sr.** and his son **William Conway, Jr.**, **Ruth**, **Bob** and **Ed Duffey**, **Bob & Mert Duty**, **Jim Gibson**, **Ed Loftus**, **Frank & Rita Prins**, **Dimple Rihel**, **Charles Theiss** and his son **Anthony**, and **Tony & Barb Urbanovic**. Winner of the 50/50 raffle was **Bob Duty**.

Happy Birthday to our members who celebrate in January and February. **Dimple Rihel** (1/22), **Jack Conway** (2/4), **Jeanne Matlak** (2/12), **Joan Romano** (2/17), and **Ed Duffey** (2/18). Happy Anniversary to **Chris & Shary Johnston** (1/2) and **Ed & Concisa Loftus** (2/28).

Calendar:

December 13 - Holiday Luncheon and Secret Santa Gift Exchange at Maggiano's Restaurant at Keystone at the Crossing Shopping Mall, beginning at 11:30 a.m.

January & February 2017 - No meetings scheduled. Regularly scheduled meetings on the second Tuesday of the month will resume in March.

MASSACHUSETTS

NOR'EASTERS

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



The Nor'Easters Christmas party brought out 31 members to the Danvers Port Yacht Club in Danvers, MA. A far cry from just a few years ago when our Christmas luncheon brought out 100 members. Unable to attend

due to illness at the last minute, our Treasurer, **Bill Vanderwal**. I can't remember Bill ever missing a meeting. We missed him! Not seen in some time **Charlie Enos**, PVD, BOS, ORD, MHT, as well as **Eric Fairweather**, MHTCS. First timer, whom I haven't seen in 30 years, **Lorna Cogan**, BOSCS as a guest. Hope she becomes a Nor'Easter in 2017.

Two members had conflicting X-mas luncheons, **Kathy Robinson** and **Ron Suga**. We got one Kathy and missed one, Ron. You got to do what you got to do!

Our accommodations, meals & wait staff were all great! Smaller room than we are accustomed to, but still roomy and great view. Camaraderie even better! The 50/50s were won by **Don Latter** and **Ron Heiseler**. Wine & Champagne won by **Norma Betters**, **Mercedes Hersom**, **Patti Mix**, **Sarah Pitt-Wooll**, & **Dayle Vee**. Scratch tickets won by **Don Latter**, **Patti Mix**, **Helmut Umbley** and **Eric Fairweather**, who won \$5 on his. Free lunches were won by **Elaine Vanderwal** and **Don Latter**. Elaine and Don have replaced deceased **Bill Shailor** as regular winners!

President **Carleen Eddy** is all moved into her new home, furniture wise, which all fit. There's still the small things to work out. Carleen loves being all on one floor, no more up and down. Bruce likes it, but because of the smaller size, he says there's no place to hide! Even their dog likes it!

Andy & Carol Montalto were showing pictures of their four month old grand -daughter, with lovely rosy cheeks. Truly a beautiful baby!

Last month I noted that **Mercedes Hersom** had her first tattoo. Well, as predicted, everyone wanted to see it. Merc has an "angel on her shoulder"!

Two of our most senior members, **Peter Fusco** and **Oscar Bauerle**, have both been in attendance this year. It's good to see them, despite how hard it is to get around without the aid of family or friends. Keep it up guys! Good to see you!

Due to the lack of member participation at meetings, we've decided to plan only four meetings this year, the first Tuesday of March, June, September and December. These preplanned dates should make it easy for members to plan other appointments around them.

Mother Nature has been especially nice to us in the North East. Other than the lack of rain thru the summer months, November has been the warmest on recorded for many years. Statistics say, a warm November is usually followed by a mild winter. So far only one snow storm, four inches. One can only hope!

A reminder from our Treasurer, **Bill Vanderwal**; when mailing checks for luncheons or dues, please make them to "Nor'Easter" and not to Bill!

I hope no one made New Year's resolutions they will be sorry about or can't possibly fulfill! Hope the coming year with a new President works out great!

January's birthdays ~ **Bruce Eddy**, **Don Lewis**, **Jim Murray**, **Frank Procopio** and **Sarah Pitt-Wooll**.

January's anniversaries ~ **John & Peggy Dellelo** (58 years), **John & Joyce Lagadinos** (53) and **Joan & Larry Meister** (32).

Always believe something good is going to happen! With all our ups and downs, never take a day for granted. Smile, cherish the moment and little things and hug the ones you love!

Calendar:

January & February - No meetings

MICHIGAN

GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Gwen Dyc-Schwendenmann

(248) 667-9258

bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net



Our December luncheon was held at the Pegasus Taverna in St. Clair Shores hosted by **Mary Moir**. We had a few new faces joining our group. It was good to see some of our old friends.

Peggy Walsh Shubnell's husband, **Paul**, passed away on November 18 in Pennsylvania. Peggy was the former manager of DTWRR before she retired. Our sincere condolences go out to Peggy and her family.

Wishing all a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy New Year.

MINNESOTA



NORTHERN LITES

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

20 Northern Lites came for lunch and visiting on a warm, gorgeous day in November. That month is notorious in the upper Midwest for nasty weather, so the populace is lapping up every minute of the mild conditions we've been enjoying for weeks. Global warming? 'S OK, we know the other shoe will drop sometime soon.

There was a bit of a surprise when we got to the restaurant and found that there'd been a management change and our little alcove we'd had reserved for us each month wasn't. After a bit of a scramble, things were resolved and our group settled down for lunch and visiting. We didn't have our usual special menu, but we flexible airline people had no problem with that.

There were a few holes in our attendance that day; among the missing were **Bernie Hazekamp**, recovering from back surgery; **Mary Brennan**, who'd had knee replacement surgery just the day before, and **Al Gunderson**, having moved from his home and residing in a nursing facility.

Regarding our missing members, **Lee Storlie** had called Bernie to see if he was able to come if Lee picked him up, but he declined for this month. **Jim Brennan** reported that **Mary's** surgery went well and that he was heading over to the hospital after our lunch and meeting was over. **Al Gunderson** had a bunch of visitors lately, namely, **Lee, Gordy Olson, Wayne Cole, Dick Haag** and **Fred Stang**. All said that they'd really enjoyed their visit with Al and that his attitude is very uplifting. He's been one of our most dedicated members and we miss having a chance to visit with him regularly.

We received a "thank you" note from the local representative of the Haitian Relief Fund to which we donated \$170 last month. He's a local retired pilot who spearheads the effort through the church in River Falls, WI. **Jo & Bud Ayres** are backers and contributors to that effort. Jo sews shorts made of printed tee shirts for boys of all sizes. She had brought some of them in to show us and we were all impressed how great they looked. Most of the items made are shirts or dresses, so the boys' shorts will be quite a hit, I'm sure.

The raffle winners were **Marty Arnold, Janet Meyer** and **Steve Mayo**. Better luck next month, Sonja.

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

NEBRASKA

OMAHA GOLDENEARS

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



We continue to have warm, sunny days into November this year. Our luncheon in Fort Calhoun on the 1st at the Long Horn Bar and Grill was made to order. Twenty retirees ventured north and enjoyed a wonderful lunch and social time, hosted by **Betsy Anderson**. She also arranged for a speaker from the Fort Calhoun nuclear power plant. Tim Uehling, the Manager of Site Training joined us and gave a very interesting talk about the status of nuclear power in America and the process of taking the plant at Fort Calhoun off line and removing all the spent fuel and fuel rods. The plant was shut down on October 24th but now the job of removing the rods and waste is an ongoing process. It can take up to 60 years to complete the process. He did not think it would take that long. Employees are being assisted in finding new jobs or transfers within the system. When asked where power would come from now he stated that wind energy is becoming more prevalent. He also stated that two coal plants in Omaha are converting to natural gas. There is still a nuclear plant at Brownsville, Nebraska. The total number of employees at the plant in its prime was 700+. When all is said and done a base core of about

100 people will be on site until the grounds are returned to green space. We really appreciate Tim coming to talk to us and thanks to Betsy for arranging such an interesting speaker.

We were happy to see some people there who have not been in attendance lately. **Larry Nollette** was a welcome sight and **Pam & Ray Ziebarth** were in attendance. Pam is a member of our chapter and the RUAEA Treasurer.

The winners of the 50/50 were **Sid Schneider** and **Harry Hansen**. Each received \$11.

This is the time of year that we review and make any changes we want to our insurance plans. If you are with the United plan, the literature we receive states that if we are making NO changes, we need to do nothing. All information will be carried over from last year. It is probably a good idea to call the Benefits Center 1-800-651-1007 and just verify that they have the correct information and you and your spouse are correctly identified.

We received word from **Dick Weak** that **Marilyn** is no longer receiving treatment and is now at home on hospice care. Our hearts and prayers go out to you both.

Our next meeting will be our Christmas luncheon at Anthony's Steakhouse, 72nd and F Street at 11:00 am, hosted by **Ev & Shirley Payton**. Cocktails at 11 and lunch will be served at 11:30, with entertainment and bingo to follow. For the Christmas bingo please bring a \$5.00 unisex gift for prizes.

Change of Address: **Hilda Schwan**, 915 S. 42nd Street, Omaha, NE 68107, (C) (402) 446-2106 or (H) (402) 344-3481. Hilda no longer has an email address so take that off your list. She is living with her son Corbin Bennett.

December Birthdays ~ **Mel Harrison** (12), **Stan Longmeyer** (20), **Sharon DeLong** (21), **Ralph Bichel** (25). A very Happy Birthday to each of you on your special day.

We also give a giant "Thank You" to all the veterans in our organization, and to all the active military around the world. We owe you all a debt of gratitude.

Calendar:

January 3 - Golden Corral, 6006 N. 72nd Street, Omaha

NEVADA



LAS VEGAS

SILVER LINERS

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

The Las Vegas Silverliners did not hold a meeting in November. It was a quiet month where everyone enjoyed family and friends during the Thanksgiving Holiday. We are preparing for our December Christmas Luncheon, we expect to have **John Zoboli** and **Ron Bertacini** attend and talk more about the upcoming 2017 National Convention here in Las Vegas.

We have had a few of our members go through some medical procedures this past month. **Mike Vasko** had his left knee replaced on 11/16/16 and is recuperating at home with wife **Eleanor** (Our Sun Shine Lady) playing nurse. **Ingeborg Levy** is waiting for authorization for back surgery this month. **Mary Ann Tricolti** was advised by doctors that her husband **Tony's** tumor has reappeared; all our members' thoughts and prayers go out to them. **Winnie Stone** is recuperating at home and getting stronger each day. **Jeannie Rolland** is still recuperating from a severe case of the flu.

The Silverliners hold our meetings on the second Thursday of every even month. The meetings are held at Giuseppe's Italian Grill at 6065 Durango Road, Las Vegas, NV 89113. If you are in Las Vegas and or planning a trip here you are more than welcome to come to our meeting and visit with our members, you may even know or worked with one of them. Email **Don Rutkowski** at geodon1192@centurylink.net or call him at (702) 300-4038, we will be glad to see you.

RENO SIERRA **ROUNDUP**

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



There were 16 members at our November meeting at the Black Bear Diner. It's good to see **Larry & Donna Reid** and **June & John Roe** down from the Lake, especially as the weather seems to be finally turning more winter-like.

The Christmas Luncheon on Friday, December 9 at Tamarack Junction will be covered in next month's report.

November birthdays were celebrated by **Allen Robbins**. The lucky winter of the 50/50 was **June Roe**, who had also won it at the October meeting. She generously asked that another number be drawn and **Pat Nettles** was then the happy winner. Thank you, June.

OHIO

OHIO BUCKEYES

www.ualohiobuckeyes.com
Kay Preston
25846 Royalton Road
Columbia Station, OH 44028
katybird0108@roadrunner.com



Our November 2nd luncheon was held at Tony K's Restaurant where the food and service is always wonderful. However, with more members "Flying South for the winter", illnesses, and surgeries, we had only 51 members in attendance. But what a good time we all had. Checkout our website/PastMeetings for the slideshow of this and other luncheons we have had.

President **Dolly Taucher** said Grace before a delicious lunch was served.

Dave & Marie Placko chair the 50/50 drawing, and they do a fabulous job. After lunch, Dave held the 50/50 drawing and the winners were **Tom LeMasters** and **Marie Placko**.

Dolly then started the meeting by asking everyone to join her in thanking **Tom & Helen Hockett** for volunteering to host this luncheon. The meeting was turned over to **Tom Hockett** who, with the impending "Veteran's Day" on November 11th, requested that all veterans stand so that we could acknowledge all Veterans (and there were many) and thank them for their service to our country. Then Tom continued by leading us in "The Pledge of Allegiance", which was followed by singing "God Bless America". What a wonderful ceremony.

We want to thank Tony & Joanne Kleem (owners of Tony K's for mounting their American Flag on the wall assisting us in the ceremony. Also, Dolly had provided for display her father's U. S. Army uniform and a 48 Star American Flag. Both remained on display for viewing.

Some sad news: On October 12, 2016 member **Virginia Plascak** passed away. She was wife of **Andy Plascak**, CLECG. Both have been loyal members for the past 15 years.

November Anniversaries ~ No celebrants present, however Dolly acknowledged **Joe & Mary Kavcar** who were married for 70 years (can you imagine) but were unable to attend due to many medical issues. A card signed by all was sent to the Kavcars who have also been loyal members for the past 20 years.

Everyone is dealing with some kind of issue, whether medical or whatever. Therefore, it was asked to keep all members and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

November Birthdays ~ For those in attendance we sang "Happy Birthday" to **Carol Hamlin, Nancy Oncu, Dave Placko, Jack Preston, Lee Rak** and **Lillian Schabel**.

It was suggested to all who are not currently members, to join RUAEA. For the small amount of \$27.00 a year (USA) you can obtain a wealth of knowledge and all updates on United.

Patience is the ability to let your light shine after your fuse has blown....

Calendar:

January - Winter Break, no luncheon.

February 1 - Fuji Restaurant, hosted by the Tauchers

OREGON



OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland

Terry Hotchkin

20201 NE 179th Court

Battle Ground, WA 98604

(360) 687-3465

tthotchkin@gmail.com

Our attendance was up a bit at our November meeting with 63 folks gathering for our monthly lunch meeting. We were delighted to have 2 guests join us this month: Keri Galligan, daughter of **Patty Cox-Hollosy** and Jeff Johnson, friend of **Charlie Stemper**.

Announcements ~ President **Dennis Cline** acknowledge all our Veterans and thanked them for their military service to our country. Treasurer **Rosalie Betschart**, a member of Clipped Wings, an organization of current and former United Airlines/Continental Airlines Stewardesses/Flight Attendants, reported that **Dona Jennison**, the National President of Clipped Wings and also from Portland, went with a group, representing a variety of retirees, to Chicago recently and met with Oscar Munoz, CEO of United Airlines. He stated that he wants to bring back "The Friendly Skies" and make the company more personal again. It was reported to be a very good meeting. **Linda Tracy** announced that the next National RUAEA Convention will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada in September, 2017.

Cliff Blare once again regaled us with jokes and lots of laughs. A big thank was given to **Ruth Larson** for her Autumn/Thanksgiving themed table decorations. The person at each table who drew the lunch number for their table took home the lovely centerpiece.

Anniversaries ~ **Bill & Sara Petersen** - 55 years.

Birthdays ~ **Anita Donaldson** (77), **Sarah Blare**, **Sara Petersen**, **Lorene Ludeman**, **Bill Petersen** and **Harvey Larkin**.

Drawing Winners ~ Lunch/ Door Prize - **Bruce DeFord**, Men's Birthday - **Bill Petersen**, Women's Birthday - **Sara Petersen**, 50/50 - **Emily Pittman-Newberry**.

Calendar:

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

December 14 – Christmas Social

January 11 – Social

February 8 - Social

OUR CLUB

(Oregon United Retirees)

Grants Pass, Oregon

Gidget Walcha - Secretary

(541) 474-6414



What a start to December we had. Our Christmas Party was held at the home of **Bob & Peggy Wright** on December 3rd. It was like being in Santa Claus land with all the festive decorations and holiday spirit. From the front yard throughout the entire house, it was dressed out in cheer with stockings, ribbons, ornaments, collections of elves and large moose and a bear decked out for the rest of the year. We ate at a Christmas table fit for the royals. It was a potluck that none of us will soon forget. We played games and had a drawing for prizes. No business this time. It was a full blown party to celebrate this wonderful time of year and to be grateful for all we have. I want to give a huge THANK YOU to both Bob & Peggy for having us all to their beautiful home and sharing it with each of us. The lucky winners from our drawing were **Doe Pope**, **Sonnica Appleton** and our host **Peggy Wright**.

Sonnia Appleton had returned from visiting her family in Peru and it was nice catching up with her. One of the games we played was writing down something that no one knows about you and then we had to guess who that person was. We had some good ones.

It was nice seeing **Alberta Randall** there and **Bob Rogers**. There were several of us who had attended **Ida Rogers'** memorial service just a couple weeks ago. The one thing that always came up was what a generous and kind lady she was. She loved all of God's creatures and took care of those she found and nursed back to health. She volunteered time at the Rogue Valley Humane Society and also adopted several animals from this wonderful shelter. In her honor, the chapter made a donation in Ida's memory.

We had snow on the mountains this morning and weather warnings so it is official whether the calendar admits it or not, it is winter already. I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Wonderful New Year. This may be my last newsletter as hopefully new officers will take office in 2017. It has been fun writing articles and being the Secretary, keeper of the roster and luncheon list organizer. God Bless you all and stay safe but have fun.

PENNSYLVANIA

THE INDEPENDENTS



Philadelphia, PA
Joyce Lindenmuth
208 Stull Rd.
Ridley Park, PA 19078
(610) 521-2291
joycewlindenmuth@gmail.com

I thought I better get some news out as we begin 2017. Health wise, it has not been a good year for some of us retirees. Hopefully I am back in the saddle again, almost!

I took a backwards tumble down the steps in September. I was like the commercial as I fell and could not get up. I lay there 2 days till I missed a grandson's soccer game and my son thought he should check on me. I got good care and surgery on my fractured neck at Crozer Hospital. Praising God that I am not paralyzed. I still have pain and cannot drive till I can move my neck to see around corners.

We received word that **Alexander "Murphy" Boyd** died October 14th. Our condolences to his family.

Our sick list is still lengthy: **Dee Burrs** is recovering from a serious illness, **Carol Rose**, **John Hassiepen**, **Lynne Sonderman**, **Bob Fox**, **Al Edwards**, and **Kathy Edwards** remain under the weather.

Frank Eggles has retired as the flight 93 committee chairman. We thank him for his years of dedicated service. **Dave Voit** was elected to be his replacement.

We have donated to worthy causes, thank you for your generosity. Loaves and Fishes food pantry received donations of nonperishables for Thanksgiving. The veterans of Coatesville received Christmas boxes. **Matt Sonderman** was presented with a check for \$300.00 to be used by Operation first response for injured soldiers. Ronald McDonald House of Wilmington was given \$250.00 to aid in their assistance to patients and families at A.I. DuPont Children Hospital.

We had a wonderful Christmas luncheon again. Thanks all for coming.

Our next luncheon will be on March 13 at the Clarion Hotel in Essington. Mark your calendar now.

TENNESSEE

TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS

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



Our luncheon and business meeting on November 17th had 30 members and guest in attendance. We had an excellent luncheon and beautiful view at the Lakeside Tavern in Knoxville. Our hosts were **Barbara & Mike Chapin**. Not only was the food excellent, the view was beautiful and the table decorations were super.

The business meeting was conducted by President **Pollie Klosky**. Under old business, we discussed UAL news: Member **Mary Gilbert** mentioned that the Long Care Term insurance premiums are being frozen on the recipient's retirement date.

New business ~ we have six new members: **Duane & Terry Ylvesaker**, Duane is a retired pilot; **Nancy Smith** retired from customer service, **David & Glenda Zane**, David retired in 2001 as 747 Captain and **Gloria Odenhal** who retired from the Red Carpet Room at Dulles airport.

Secretary **Robbie Corbin** read the minutes from our September meeting. Members voted to approve as recorded. Treasurer **Mike Chapin** reported that we have \$382.96 in our bank account and our dues are due. Vice President **Betty Shipe** conducted the 50/50 drawing.

President Pollie asked members to sign up to host our 2017 meeting locations. She also reminded us that we are having Officers election at our January meeting.

On December 15th at 10:30 am is a breakfast event at the First Watch restaurant (AKA The Egg & I) located at 111 Lovell Road, Farragut, TN; all members agreed to bring two cans of food for the needy.

Wishing all RUAEA members a Happy Holiday and a Great New Year!

WASHINGTON

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS



Seattle, WA

Gay Liesse

104 South 296th Place

Federal Way, WA 98003-3626

gllesse@aol.com

November 8 saw 52 members of the Emerald City Slickers meeting for lunch at Angelo's Ristorante in Burien. President **Ken Storey** called the meeting to order by ringing an old-fashioned hand-held school bell provided by **Bob Brumfield**. **Bob** explained that the bell had belonged to his grandmother, a former teacher, who had used it regularly in her classroom in the late 1800s. What a great way to grab the group's attention – certainly more effective than banging silverware against water glasses.

Treasurer **Jackie Stenger** noted that while the chapter's finances were in good shape, membership was down from 150 at this time in 2015 to only 133 in 2016. She'll be collecting chapter membership dues at the January luncheon. Remember that local dues do not indicate membership in RUAEA, our national organization. We encourage membership in both!

We enjoyed meeting new member **Mary Hoy**, former flight attendant with assignments at JFK, SFO, DEN, and ALAX/HNL. She retired from the FAA in 2007. Welcome, **Mary**!

Mary Ann Andersen resumed her duties as secretary after missing the October meeting the day she received a new knee. A composite of information from **Mary Ann**, **John Haferbecker** and **Gay Liesse** formed the basis of the November "Meeting Report." Our meetings are not formal enough to call them "Minutes," which sounds so much more official.

Final contributions to the second annual food and toy drive were collected by **Ed & Gay Liesse** and subsequently delivered to the Northwest Harvest Food Bank and Marine Toys 4 Tots. Staff at both locations were surprised by the generous donations.

It was good to have **Mary Luke** with us again. We had missed her for several months while she recuperated from a seriously broken ankle and rehab, followed by the untimely death of her husband, **John Luke**. **Mary**'s long-range plans include a move back to her native Minnesota, but we look forward to enjoying her company until then.

We've lost another long-time member of the Seattle chapter with the death of **Dick Wiesner** (SEAFO). Our condolences to **Dick**'s family.

Phyllis Bowman, chapter vice president, congratulated those observing November and December birthdays and anniversaries. **Phyllis**, herself, reached the ripe old age of 90 December 16. Congratulations, **Phyllis**! Winner of the 50/50 drawing was **Bill Gordius** (yes, again), and he generously donated half his winnings to the treasury, turning it into a 75/25 win. Or is that 25/75? Thanks, **Bill**.

Phyllis held back a couple surprise door prizes until the end. Our chapter newsletter editor, **Vicki Shumaker**, had donated two gift cards to Salty's, a high-end local restaurant, as she and her husband were getting ready for their snowbird return to Arizona. The first number drawn for this special prize belonged to our

assistant treasurer, **Noreen Krawczyk**. The second lucky number was held by **Ed Liesse**. The two couples are good friends, so **Richard Devereux, Noreen, Ed & Gay** met for a delicious lunch at Salty's in Redondo.

A special PowerPoint presentation, "Building a Better World Book-by-Book and Brick-by-Brick" featured **Tom Holford's** summer educational missionary trip to Kenya, sponsored by his Episcopal church, which supports the Books and Bricks Organization. After flying United from SEA to ORD to FRA and Lufthansa to NBO (Nairobi), Tom moved on to Mulundi, a small village about 84 miles east of Nairobi.

Kenya follows European systems of schooling and higher levels of education are considered a privilege. Bilingual students in Mulundi learn both Swahili and English, so **Tom** was able to briefly teach both primary and secondary grades and work with the adults assisting them. Students pay for their own books, supplies and uniforms in what we in the United States would consider primitive conditions, so outside support is necessary and valued. As **Tom's** photos showed, his experience surely was as rewarding for him as it was for the African villagers.

As in past years, the Emerald City Slickers did not meet in December, so we look forward to reconvening at Angelo's on the second Tuesday in January. We hope everyone enjoyed festive holidays and are ready to face the New Year. 2017? You're kidding.

Calendar:

January 10 – Luncheon meeting, Angelo's

February 14 – Luncheon meeting

March 14 – Luncheon meeting

NATIONAL

CLIPPED WINGS

Karen Williams, CW Vice President

P O Box 161

Highland, MD 20777

(301) 854-3934

cwkarenwilliams@gmail.com



Whether you're inside or outdoors as you read this, I hope it's warm and sunny wherever you are. Our Clipped Wings BWI Chapter will be doing our best to help children in many unfortunate circumstances in their young lives be warm and toasty at bedtime. At our annual January Pajama Party where we have the fun of attending in our "Best PJs", we bring new story books and pajamas of all sizes which are donated to the Pajama Program (www.pajamaprogram.org). Our donations help infants through teens to have cozy bedtimes in shelters, group homes and in foster care. Our hope is that this small gesture of kindness will help enable Better Bedtimes for Better Tomorrows for each child receiving our donations.

We support our national philanthropy, Special Olympics, on a year-round basis and the Pajama Program is just one of the many other ways that we reach out to help others while at the same time having fun, meeting new friends and staying connected with our current or former flying partners. If you'd like more information and are flying or flew as part of the Inflight crew at UAL/CO, just check out our website at www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org. We have chapters located throughout the USA and would love to have you join us.

Stay Toasty!

NEW MEMBERS

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

Brady, John, P.O. Box 160, Underwood, WA 98651

Diltz, Larry, SFOPD, 701 Soldier Creek Road, Grants Pass, OR 97526

Lutzinger, Robert, SFOIQ, 9504 Edwick Dr., Brentwood, TN 37027

Minehart, Francine, IADFO, 8509 Deer Path Ct., Stokesdale, NC 27357

Wilson, Susan, 1146 Country Shadows Way, Las Vegas, NV 89123

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Shirley R. Alexander, Joan L. Anderson, Marlene E. Anderson, Irma Atanasio, Sina H. Beck, Albert Bentham, Ronald Bertacini, Gabrielle S. Gae Bockelman, Sonia L. Simon Brousseau, William R. Bruso, Evelyn L. Lynn Clark, Kathleen Connelly, Barbara L. Creighton, John J. Deily, Jack H. Domosley, Donald G. Elster, Lawrence Gardner, Gerald M. Gossett, William J. Grubb, Jeanne Y. Betsy Hamblin, Arnold H. Hansen, Carl E. Hanson, Bruce I. Hanson, Mary S. Heath, Carroll W. Hedrick, Ronald L. Heiseler, Tom Heller, Barrie Hooley, Shirley A. House, Thomas J. Hurley, Ralph C. Jensen, William R. Johanson, John T. Kerbaugh, Marjorie A. Kum, Kathryn Lapointe, Charles L. Lewis, Robert Lutzinger, Vincent F. Maher, Caroline P. Manelski, Thomas W. McDonald, Claudia A. McCullough, Sharon A. Meier, Francine Minehart, Lacides Miranda, Frances M. Oda, Harold W. Ogle, Sam S. Oshiro, Richard M. Papp, Renee C. Prost, Andy Reid, Norm Reynolds, Harvey Samson, Milton D. Schafer, George J. Schnell, Ruth E. Short, Franz Sonnberger, Carl F. Stengele, Mary Jane Stewart, Charlene T. Takeguchi, Gary Tatum, Stanley T. Tsunemoto, Miriam Y. G. Ubben, Morton I. Wax, Barbara S. Webster, Mary K. Wetherington, Mary Alice Yando, Wallace F. Zuehl.

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, 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 – **Braden, William H.**, on 10/12/16, EXOAD, husband of Florence Braden, 703 Arlington Ave., Des Plaines, IL 60016

Retiree – **Broderson, Alfred F.**, on 11/16/2016, ORDJL, husband of Esther E. Broderson, WHQPZ (deceased) 51 Bonnie Lane, Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

Spouse – **Eikerts, Velta**, on 9/16/2016, wife of John Eikerts, DENTK (deceased), 1532 S. Leyden St., Denver, CO 80224

Retiree – **Fairchild, Ercell W.**, on 11/9/2016, SFOEG, husband of Juanita Fairchild (deceased), 1798 Shenandoah Ave., Milpitas, CA 95035

Retiree – **Gates, Harry M.**, on 10/7/2016, EUGOZ, husband of Virginia B. Gates, 3536 W. 25th Ave., Eugene, OR 97405

Retiree – **Gayny, Edmund J.**, on 10/11/2016, SFORQ, husband of Renate Gayny, 707 Elm St., Apt 211, San Carlos, CA 94070

Retiree – **Lohr, Andrew J.**, on 11/17/2016, DENTK, husband of Jean Lohr (deceased), 1354 Dayton St., Aurora, CO 80010

Retiree – **Martin, Ron W.** – on 11/16/2016, DENMM, brother of Alma Brittain (deceased), 5 Meadow Lane, Cascade, MT 59421

Retiree – **Pech, James A.**, on 10/31/2016, DENTK, husband of Rita F. Pech, 801 Hudson St., Denver, CO 80220
Retiree – **Riedl, Richard (Dick) E.**, on 10/5/2016, TPAPA, husband of Sue Riedl, 604 Hillpoint Way, Brandon, FL 33510
Retiree – **Strandberg, Russell R.**, on 10/31/2016 DENOZ, husband of Constance J. Strandberg of Littleton, CO
Retiree – **Taylor, James B.**, on 9/20/2016, SFOFO, husband of Evelyn D. Taylor (deceased), PO Box 147, Sierraville, CA 96126
Retiree – **Winterhalter, Ray M.**, on 11/26/2015, IADFF, brother of Don Winterhalter, 33869 N. 67th St., Scottsdale, AZ 85266

Letters & Notes



Martha Gooselaw

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

Martha Gooselaw
Letters/Notes Editor
7401 MLK Blvd.
Denver, CO 80207-2433
marthagoose@comcast.net

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

Irma Atanasio, Sina Beck, Betsy Hamblin, Jesse Hicks, Charles Lewis, Celena Nash, Kenneth Paulson, Rueben Rivas, Bernard Schmidt, Glenda Tiwana, Mona Walter.

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.)

Evelyn Clark, 459 N. Willow Wood Dr., Palatine, IL 60074

The November Newsletter arrived and it was a reminder that another year is passing by all too quickly. Since I am a Life Member, I am enclosing a contribution to the postal Fund.

I look forward to seeing colored pictures of officers, various chapters and recently the Seattle Convention. I enjoy keeping in touch with the happenings at United, the Chapters, and biographies of retirees. I especially enjoyed reading "Torgy's Travel Tips" of her 'walked England trip' and her adventures.

George and I have been unable to attend the Chicago Skyliners' luncheon and get-togethers this year. Last February, George had another bout of congestive heart failure and spent a number of visits in the hospital.

Since June, I have had two arterial blockages cleared in my left leg and I am presently going through a number of tests.

George and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in September. We had a delightful luncheon with George's sister, Phyllis and her husband and his sister, Lee, from Texas.

Thanks to all who are involved in publishing the Newsletter.

Donna Klobe, 4058 Alla Rd., Los Angeles, CA 90066

Ok, I am so glad that I saw the reminder that my dues were due.

I thank each and everyone who prepares the newsletter for us retirees.

My personal assignments for the publication are becoming less as we continue to lose members in our chapter.

Thank goodness, Hal's computer is there to assist me, as my old equipment can not do the job anymore.

The convention in Seattle was great and I am so glad next years will be closer, in Las Vegas.

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

Hello to all you hard working RUAEA People; thank you very much for all you do for us Retirees.

The years are slipping away too quickly. I can't believe I am now 87 years of age. My health is better than it was at this time last year. Of course, I still have issues but at least I can get about. However, I no longer travel. It takes too much gear to go anywhere; especially the 24/7 oxygen. It is just easier to stay home.

I hope all had a blessed Christmas; and I wish all will have a healthy and Happy New Year.

Notes

John Brady

I am a retired 400 Capt. I have been raising wine grapes & pears in the Columbia River Gorge.

Carol Burstein

This is like re-joining a lost family. Our airline family is unique and it will always be important to support each other while we each travel our path through life.

Charles Kennedy

I am enjoying retirement. The grandkids and family are the Light of My Life. I look forward to Association Newsletter; keep them coming!

Fred Kremerskotter

It has been another fast and busy year for me. I turned 81 this year, besides some minor aches and pains, I am doing alright. I still do a lot of hiking and also some traveling.

In April I went to Northern Greece, Macedonia and Albania, all very interesting places.

In June, my 17 year old grandson joined me on a small ship trip from Amsterdam to Vienna. It was his first trip out of the country and we had a good time exploring castles and old cities. We also managed to briefly visit some of my relatives in Germany.

In September, I made it once more across the pond, with my older son for another river trip sailing from Berlin to Prague. Since our return flight was from Munich, we stayed for a few days to celebrate Oktoberfest.

Miranda Lacides

I have been enjoying my retirement with travels over seas and in the US. In the last two years I have been blessed to have three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. I also enjoy watching soccer almost every day.

Robert Lutzinger

Norma and I are now living in Brentwood, Tennessee, after 15 years in Goodyear, Arizona. We are doing well and looking forward to contact with old friends. I have been retired now for 20 plus years. My last assignment was Standstead, England. We are very thankful for 37 wonderful years with the best airline and the best airline employees in the world.

Aurelia Nelson

I retired from UAL in 2013 after a long commute between LAS and ORD. Now I am a full time resident of Las Vegas. I work part time as a convention staffer as well as an usher for the Axis Theater at Planet Hollywood.

I am a volunteer for the American Red Cross for the Utah/Southern Nevada chapter also.

I just returned from a 16-day deployment in NC to help out after hurricane Matthew ravaged the area.

DON'T MISS IMPORTANT RESOURCES ON THE NEXT PAGE

Important Phone Numbers



Updated 10/2016

United Airlines Benefits Center (Central Time)

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

United Employee Service Center

1-877-825-3729, esc@united.com (email)

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

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

Employee Travel Center

1-877-825-3729, ETC@united.com (email)

Flying Together Help Desk

1-800-255-5801

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

Aetna 1-800-334-0110

BC/BS 1-800-535-9825

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

Social Security Administration

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

Alliant Credit Union

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

Medicare Hotline 1-800-633-4227

CVS/Caremark (Pharmacy)

1-844-635-3401

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

PRESIDENT

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

SECRETARY

Mary Jane Stewart
(724) 745-8703
stewartmaryjane@aol.com

TREASURER

Pam Ziebarth
ruaeatreasurer@qwestoffice.net

CORPORATE LIAISON

Ed Tolle
hedwardtolle55@gmail.com
(Home) - (224) 848-7207

EXECUTIVE V.P.

Jim Simon
(916) 644-1604
jimmvinc823@gmail.com

V.P. CONVENTIONS

John Zoboli
(775) 856-2044
johnzoboli@aol.com

PAST PRESIDENT

Hank Gosselin
(253) 939-4362
henrygosselin@comcast.net

AIRLINE LIAISON

Don Burbank
don8585@comcast.net
(Cell) - (303) 495-9941

DIRECTORS

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

MEMBERSHIP MGR - Cas Spokas

E-Mail casimir4321@q.com
HOME (303) 816-1358

NEWSLETTER MGR - Francis Domaratius

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

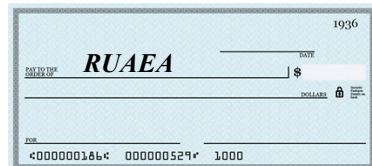
WEB MANAGERS -

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

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

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**INCLUDE FILE NUMBER IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE**

For all Membership & Newsletter Circulation issues, please contact Membership Secretaries:
Phone Number: (303) 780-5022

-or-

RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433
Email: ruaea@qwestoffice.net

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If it's time to renew your Membership, your Newsletter may contain one of the following Red Messages:

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"YOUR MEMBERSHIP WILL EXPIRE UNLESS YOUR DUES ARE RECEIVED."

"PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR DUES PAYMENT AT THIS TIME."

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**United Airlines
Historical Foundation**

**"Preserving the Past,
Inspiring the Future"**



Denver Municipal Airport was located on a large tract of rolling sand hills and grazing land. Among the “names” given the airport were “Rattlesnake Hollow” and “Stapleton’s Folly”.

In the Summer of 1928 construction began. The airport boundaries were Ulster Street on the West, East 26th Avenue on the South and East 38th to the North.

On October 18, 1929 Governor W. H. (Billy) Adams pressed a button and the “Eye of Denver”, a bright beacon on the tower began revolving. The Denver Municipal Airport was then officially open.

In 1930 Western Air Express changed its airmail route from Lowry Field (then East of Dahlia Street) and began carrying a few passengers. Two additional airlines that began serving Denver at time were United States Airways and Mid-Continent Airways.

By Marvin Berryman DENTK Retired - from the collection of UAHF.

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

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



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SFO Family Day - 2016

Once again, the annual United SFO Family Day was a huge success. Employees and retirees invited family and friends to join them at the event and the planning committee had something to make everyone happy. For children, there was a zip line, games, Star Wars warriors and more. For auto enthusiasts, there was a classic car display. For all, there was a variety of food vendors to choose from, the shops to tour, the plane pull and, of course, the airplanes available to walk through. The Patriots Jet Team was at the base prior to and following performing in the air show over San Francisco.

As in previous years, RUAEA had a table in a hanger, alongside Clipped Wings. Representing RUAEA were **Bill & Rosemarie Reichard**, **Ron Bertacini**, **Francis & Veronica Domaratius**. **Barbara Bertacini** did double duty representing RUAEA and Clipped Wings with **Connie & Bruce Chapman** assisting her at the Clipped Wings table. We were able to greet many people, explain RUAEA, hand out RUAEA brochures, newsletters, applications, and local chapter flyers. Some employees, approaching retirement, as well as some retirees

seemed interested in joining us. We all hope they do. We are happy to have this opportunity to meet current employees, and retirees to explain what RUAEA is about. The highlight for us was meeting **Oscar Munoz**. He graciously walked all over, shaking hands, posing for photos and chatting. We were fortunate to be among those who met him. **Ron Bertacini** presented him with a RUAEA newsletter as you can see in the photo. We met old friends and met many new people. We look forward to SFO Family Day 2017. ❧



*Ron Bertacini,
Oscar Munoz, and
Barbara Bertacini*