



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



ISSUE NO. 503

JULY 2016

## Recognition of Local Chapter Officers (Las Vegas and Tampa Bay)



### Las Vegas Silverliners, NV

Left to Right:

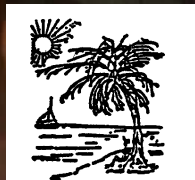
*Eleanor Vasko -  
Hospitality  
Chris Czaplewski -  
Secretary  
George Fox -  
Vice President.  
Rosemarie Restivo -  
President  
Christine Earl -  
Treasurer*

### Tampa Bay, FL

Left to Right:

*Jan Lindstrom - 50/50 Coord.  
Bob Lindstrom - Vice President  
Beverly Alderdice - President  
Jean Linehan - Membership  
Don & Volrie Fusina - Picnic  
Chairpersons  
Lillian Sawyer - Treasurer*

*(Not In Picture ~ Terri Breslin - Christmas Party Chairperson & Sunshine Lady;  
Audrey Kutilek - Secretary)*



# RUAEA ELECTION 2016 ISSUE

*Election Section which includes the Candidates' Bios and Ballot starts on page 30*

# GENERAL NEWS

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

## Letter From The President



**Hank Gosselin**

**Hank Gosselin  
RUAEA President**

Hi Folks,

I hope you all have had time to check out the convention package for Seattle. The tours are the most coveted tours in Seattle. The hotel is an all-suite hotel, recently remodeled. Remember breakfast is included in the room price along with free parking, if needed.

There are also many sites to see in Seattle not included in the tours. Transportation in and about Seattle is great with light rail, bus service, and by car if you wish to rent, or if you have your own car. Southcenter Mall is a short walk away, offering great shopping and many restaurants to choose from. Please plan on coming to the 2016 Convention in Seattle. If you have time, make it your vacation destination this year. Looking forward to seeing many of you there!

## RUAEA 2016 Election



It is election time for RUAEA. Members will find in this issue the bios for the candidates running for the various offices open for election this year. In addition, you will find a ballot which can be used to vote by mail. But, the easiest way to cast your vote is to do it via the RUAEA website at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org). By voting electronically, you can cast your vote in the privacy of your own home, and take the time to consider your choices and save the postage.

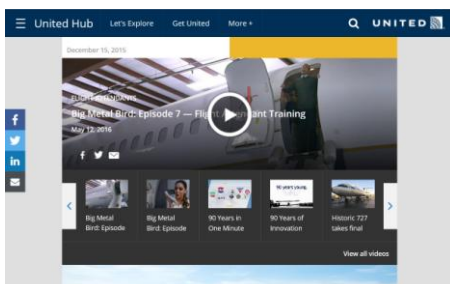
This year's ballot is a bit unusual in that we have two contested positions and two positions where we were unable to attract a candidate. We are offering the options to Write-In a candidate for each office. The criteria is that a Write-In candidate must be a member of RUAEA and willing and able to take on the responsibility of the position.

Voting electronically is really quite easy. **You do not have to be registered for the online Newsletter in order to vote via the website.** Here are the 6 easy steps to vote on the website;

1. Go to [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org)
2. Click on the RUAEA Election link
3. Click on the icon RUAEA Ballot
4. Enter your last name, last three digits of your file number and email address
5. Make your selections by checking the appropriate box and Write-In a candidate if needed
6. Click the "SUBMIT BALLOT" button.

You will receive a confirmation that your ballot has been accepted.

## United Hub debuts mobile-friendly design



The United Hub, UAL's external website that introduces flyer-friendly innovations and highlights United's employees and business, recently had a makeover, introducing a mobile-friendly experience to make it easier to explore on the go.

Customers can expect to find engaging content, including travel photography, infographics, videos and great stories featuring United's employees. United also made it easier for visitors to discover new and popular content and share it on social media channels.

*"Content marketing clearly has become an important part of almost*

any marketing strategy,” said Marketing and Product Development Managing Director Mark Krolick. *“The redesigned United Hub allows United to be a thought leader in travel while providing customers with relevant, shareable content that they are seeking.”*

The goal with United Hub is to inspire travel, educate, entertain and also go behind the scenes at United to explore its culture through shows like Big Metal Bird, videos about United’s partnership with Team USA and much more.

**From The Newsletter Manager:** Big Metal Bird, mentioned in the article above, was first posted on December 15, 2015. But, we think many retirees are not aware of this enjoyable, informative series. Want to learn about heavy maintenance visits? Watch the episode on SFMC, posted March 9, 2016. Learn about Inflight Services, (May 12, 2016) or watch as Big Metal Bird flies with flight attendants, (April 12, 2016). Read the article below, posted December 15, 2015, for more information.

### **Big Metal Bird takes off**



How many times have you said to yourself, *“If customers only understood what it takes to run an airline?”* That’s the complex issue that Big Metal Bird will address. Big Metal Bird is a new video series United is launching to help explain United’s business to its customers in an entertaining and memorable way.

*“We wanted to engage customers and answer their questions,”* said Marketing and Product Development Managing Director Mark Krolick. *“We have a fascinating business that everyone is interested in.”*

Each “webisode” of Big Metal Bird will feature a behind-the-scenes look at an aspect of travel that may be hidden, mysterious or confusing to customers. The first two webisodes cover checked baggage and route planning.

*“Many customers have no idea how we choose routes,”* said International Planning Managing Director Andy Buchanan, who is featured in the video. *“They do not understand the elements that make a route not only profitable but compatible with our aircraft mix, customer base, slot availability and so much more.”*

United believes the fun and engaging style of Big Metal Bird will help. Each episode is hosted by Katie Nolan, the host of the popular sports show “Garbage Time” on Fox Sports 1, with field reporting by Rob Anderson, a Chicago Improv performer, who add personality and continuity to the series. *“This is how our customers like to get their information, easy to consume, easy to understand and easy to share,”* said Mark.

Big Metal Bird also features United’s employees in their workspaces. Look for Andy, ORD Ramp Service Manager Dennis Parrish and more in these first ones.

The series will be available on the [United hub](#) and United’s [YouTube](#) channel.

### **Route exits, suspensions effective this summer and fall**



As part of United’s ongoing process of reallocating flying where there’s the most profitable demand, the company is implementing several route exits and suspensions this summer and fall.

On June 30, United will end service between IAH and ONT (Ontario, California) and between IAH and YUL (Montreal, Canada). United plans to upgauge DEN-ONT to mainline starting with the September schedule to accommodate demand from the exited IAH market.

Also on June 30, United will end service to YEG (Edmonton, Canada) from SFO and ORD. The company will continue to serve YEG from DEN and IAH, upgauging the DEN-YEG flight to mainline during the September schedule period and adding a second DEN express round trip starting with the October schedule to accommodate demand from the exited SFO and ORD markets.

LAX-MSY (New Orleans) ends August 16. United serves MSY from DEN, EWR, IAD, IAH and ORD and has seasonal service to and from SFO.

With United’s continued focus on upgauging regional jet flying, the company plans to offer more mainline service on these routes this fall.

Service from ORD to ANC (Anchorage, Alaska) will be suspended October 5 and will resume December 16; United will continue to serve ANC via DEN. United is also suspending SFO-FLL (Fort Lauderdale,



Florida) on September 7 eastbound and September 8 westbound, resuming October 29. United will fly there daily from EWR, IAH and ORD and from DEN (except in September and October, when DEN-FLL will be Saturdays only).

### **United Polaris business class**



With the aspiration of making weary business travel a relic of the past, United has unveiled the all-new United Polaris business class, United's most significant product transformation in more than a decade, featuring a reimagined, sleep-enhancing, departure-to-landing experience for intercontinental travelers.

Named after the North Star, Polaris is the shining new star of business class travel that flyers can turn to for a tranquil and restful journey. This completely reconceived experience exemplifies the new spirit of United and the innovation, excitement and operational

momentum across its airline.

The United Polaris experience is the result of more than two years of research with hundreds of customers and front-line employees. Through seat testing and simulated flights, United's customer surveys indicated that true comfort and the ability to sleep on board are what matter most.

So United designed everything about the United Polaris experience to accommodate that, with:

- New dedicated business class lounges that provide an oasis to relax and even enjoy a full meal prior to flight so they have more time to sleep on board.
- Luxury bedding by Saks Fifth Avenue, including new duvets, day-blankets, mattress pads and large and small pillows.
- Lie-flat, direct-aisle-access seats in individual, suite-like pods that provide personal space and increased privacy.
- Sleep-focused amenities including pajamas and slippers, an ergonomically designed eye-shade and Cowshed lavender/calming pillow mist.
- New service flow featuring combined courses and pre-plated tray service to shorten meal service and allow customers more quality sleep time.

And that's not all. Every detail - as large as an entirely new menu created with The Trotter Project's critically acclaimed chefs, and as small as under-ottoman stowage for a purse or computer bag - has been thoughtfully created.

### **Torgy's Travel Tips – Xi'an**



A must see on your proverbial bucket list is Xi'an, China. One of our newest destinations, Xi'an is a real triumph for United, as no other airline flies non-stop between this marvelous city and the US. Located 672 miles southwest of Beijing and 859 miles west of Shanghai, Xi'an is an inland megacity of over 8 million people. Before Beijing was China's capital, Xi'an held that honor for hundreds of years. Pronounced "she ann", the name means perpetual peace. I had the pleasure of a 3 day visit to Xi'an and I would like to share the highlights of that trip with you.



The most famous attraction, of course, is the Terra Cotta Warriors. Dating from 210 BC, thousands of life-sized sculptures, each detailed differently, are believed to have been created as guards to the afterlife for the emperor. Discovered in 1974, the excavation is so vast that work will continue for many more years to come. Currently, there are 3 buildings which cover the "pits". Pit 1 contains over 6,000 sculptures and not all are yet completely exposed. The building itself is over 3 football fields long and visitors walk the elevated perimeter allowing for excellent viewing of the sculptures as well as the archaeologists at work below.

You can visit all 3 pits as well as an accessory pit containing hundreds of bronze horses and chariots. Allow a full day at this World Heritage site located 45 minutes northwest of the city. The large tour groups usually

arrive early in the morning, so come just a tad later and it will not be nearly so crowded. Avoid the many “guides” outside the main gate vying for your money and instead, proceed to the admission gate (tickets are 150 CNY, about 25 USD) and then rent a headset. You can take tourist bus #306 from the Xi’an railway station to travel to/from this truly amazing place.



The old walled city in the center of Xi’an is another full-day’s adventure. You can walk the entire perimeter on the top of the wall, or even rent a bicycle and ride on the wall. There are 4 gates where you can ascend/descend and the view is great. The famous Bell Tower is always in view and provides an excellent compass point whether you are on the wall or on the ground. Since Xi’an was the start of the Silk Road (remember your grade school history lessons) it was open to trade with many cultures. In 651AD the emperor allowed Muslims to settle in Xi’an and a thriving community developed. Today, the Muslim Quarter is another must-see in the walled city. You can’t find a better area for food and activity.

Follow the streets to the Great Mosque. Built in 742AD it is divided into 4 courtyards, beautifully landscaped and carefully maintained, it is a tranquil oasis inside a bustling city. Do go and visit.

Outside the walled city and easily reached by bus or taxi, are several more wonderful sites. Make a full day of it by first visiting Xingqinggong Park. A lake surrounded by a paved pathway lined with wonderful and interesting gems of Chinese culture. You can walk or rent a pedi-cab to cover the full circumference, stopping frequently to appreciate the bronze sculptures, pagodas, wildlife and fruit/snack stands. There’s even a monorail if you get tired. At night, this is a safe, family oriented venue beautifully lighted and alive with music. The Big Wild Goose Pagoda is next on the list and don’t miss the park directly across the street which contains several sets of colorful life-like actors portraying scenes from famous Chinese operas/plays. Notice the dragon motif of the light poles – almost like totem poles.

And for your evening pleasure, the largest music fountain show in Asia is located just a few blocks away at the Tang Dynasty Theme Square. Walk or drive up and down the boulevard after dark to take in this spectacular event. All free. FYI, taxi fares are very reasonable and it is recommended to hire the official “Green Top” cabs. Always carry the name of your destination and hotel in Chinese, as English is not widely spoken by taxi drivers.

United’s service to Xi’an is offered three times a week out of SFO, using the oh-so comfortable 787 Dreamliner. The flight departs SFO every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday at 1:35PM arriving in Xi’an at 5:30PM the next day. Upon arrival you can purchase a bus ticket to the city for 26 CNY. Taxi fare is negotiable, but should be around 150 CNY. Subway fare is 5 CNY and runs in the city only, not to the airport at this point in time.

Now if you find that travel to China is too much for you to handle, here’s a tip for you: the Terra Cotta Warriors are on a traveling exhibit until January 8, 2017 at Chicago’s Field Museum. Look for me there!

### **Flight 93 Memorial Chapel**

*Donations to maintain the Flight 93 Memorial Chapel are still needed and greatly appreciated. Please continue your support and make a check to United Airlines Flight 93 Memorial Chapel and mail to Frank Egges at 3405 West Chester Pike B307, Newtown Square, PA 19073-4252.*

### **Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter**



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

Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to [2ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:2ruaea@qwestoffice.net), please copy Francis Domaratius at [ruaenewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaenewsletter@surewest.net) and John Chu at [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com) or by FAX. FAX number is (303) 780-5667. If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401 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](mailto:ruaenewsletter@surewest.net)

## LOCAL NEWS

### ARIZONA

#### PHOENIX AZURES

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Greetings from sunny Arizona!

**Mel Hofer's** memorial service on Tuesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> was well attended by Azures: **Richard & Joan Aaronson, Ziggy & Pat Butkiewicz, Carol & Vic Liltz, Joe & Lisa Hopkins, Vivian Klick**, and some past members, **Joan Sheffield, Olive Crowthers**, and **Don & Jeanne Sellon**. It was a wonderful tribute to his life of 93 years. This June 22, Millie & Mel would have celebrated 73 years of marriage. He was a World War II veteran rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He worked for United Airlines for over 30 years in Denver Pilot Training and retired from DENTK. For cards, the Hofers address is: Mrs. **Mildred Hofer**, 13373 Plaza Del Rio Blvd #7722, Peoria, AZ 85381.

July Birthdays: **Norma Lutzinger** (7/7), **Claudia Richards** (7/19), **Joan Aaronson** (7/21), and **Sonny Carns** (7/25). Happy Birthday!

Breakfast Reminder: We have breakfast every other Tuesday at 8:30 at Lou's Tivoli Gardens in Sun City West and all are invited. The dates are July 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>. The address is: 12535 W. Bell Rd, Surprise, AZ, (623) 974-8224. RSVP: Please call **Sherry Muoio** a day or so if you want to attend, (623) 572-4828, [phx22@cox.net](mailto:phx22@cox.net).



## **PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S**

Liz Tollefsen  
9034 E. Citrus Ln. N.  
Sun Lakes, AZ 85248  
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Happy Fourth Of July! This is always a festive time with parades, community events, fireworks, and picnics with family and friends. It's a special time to celebrate our great country!

Our Re-United's Chapter continues to meet for Breakfast every month on the fourth Friday of every month at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline Rd. in Gilbert, starting at 9:15 a.m. If you're in the area, we would love to have you join us. You'll find our members are fun and friendly. All you need to do is contact Vice President **Peg Snowdall** to let her know you would like to come. She can be reached at (480) 396-3317, or by e-mail at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net). Let her know a couple of days before, so she can let the restaurant know how many to expect at our breakfast. We have a private room, to the left of the main entrance as you come into the restaurant. Our July Breakfast is July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Our May Breakfast had 14 people there. We talked about the upcoming RUAEA Convention in Seattle, Washington from September 21 through September 24 at the Double Tree Suites by Hilton Seattle Airport/Southcenter. There's free parking and free Airport Transportation to/from Sea-Tac International Airport. There's an Indoor Pool, whirlpool and sauna there. The Westfield/Southcenter Shopping Mall is just across the street, a 5-10 minute walk. There's a lot of great tours available also, so take advantage of them while you're there, such as the Boeing Museum, Mt. Rainier, Boeing Everett Plant, Waterfront, and the Seattle Center. The deadline for registration is August 31<sup>st</sup>, and the Hotel Registration Cutoff date is September 4<sup>th</sup>. All of a sudden, these dates are coming up fast, so definitely start making your plans now, as you know how time flies.

The reservations for the hotel can be made by calling 800-222-Tree. Please mention the Retired United Airlines Employees Association to receive the discounted rate of \$129 plus tax, which covers breakfast for two. You can find all the information about the upcoming Convention on the internet at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org). The information is also in the June issue of the RUAEA Newsletter. Hope to see everyone there!

**Peg Snowdall** mentioned at the Breakfast that our chapter sent a monetary Memorial gift in memory of **Bud Hubbard** who passed away in April, and also advised them that a Memorial Service for **Bob Hallden** was held May 21 in Reno.

Our Chapter Treasurer has several unclaimed Re-United name badges that have accumulated over the years, so if you have ordered one and haven't received yours, we would appreciate it if you would contact Treasurer **Ferrol Hilsabeck** at (480) 924-8118, or by e-mail at [ferrol22@gmail.com](mailto:ferrol22@gmail.com). He has 17 personalized badges that haven't been claimed by present and/or former members. Be sure and contact Ferrol, if you may have ordered one in the past and forgot about it afterwards.

A reminder to continue picking up items for the children involved in our Fantasy Flight, such as stadium-size fleece blankets, socks, gloves, hats, cute cuddly stuffed animals, plus any small shampoo or lotion bottles. These items are for the children who are in Kindergarten and up to second grade. Please give these items to **Peg Snowdall** who will accumulate these items for us. If you have any questions about any of these items, please contact Peg at (480) 396-3317, or by e-mail at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net).

July Birthdays, some of these are spouses of our members: **Veronica Kundit** (7/7), **Paul Paymaster** (7/7), **Ted Higley** (7/9), **Pam Betz** (7/12), **Donna Smiley** (7/13), **Fred Rockenhauser** (7/14), **Barbara Hartough** (7/16), **Gayle Stanley** (7/16), **Pinky Kubiak** (7/27), **Steve Cooper** (7/28), and **Liz Wilson** (7/29). Happy Birthday to each one of you! We have no known July Anniversaries

### Calendar:

**July 22** – 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 are planning on attending at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net), or by phone at (480) 396-3317 by Wednesday, July 20.

**August 26** – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner

**September 21-24** – RUAEA Convention in Seattle, WA

## TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Tucson, Arizona  
Doris Clark  
[desertdoris@q.com](mailto:desertdoris@q.com)



There were 28 Roadrunners for lunch at the Claim Jumper on Thursday, May 19, which offered a nice variety of food to choose from the menu along with good, attentive service from the wait staff. It was a beautiful, warm, but a not too hot Tucson, day. As lunch was coming to an end, the 50/25/25 raffle tickets were drawn. The winners were **Ed Kokot** and **Emmit Doyle** - Congratulations.

Charli thanked **Lee & Jackie Benner** for hosting the luncheon at the Claim Jumper. As there was quite a din in this place, Charli spoke to small groups individually to make her information known. She wants to know if members are interested in socializing more. And/or taking short local trips in the area, such as Tubac, Kitt Peak, Nogales, Mexico, or others. She suggested coffees or happy hours in local areas such as Green Valley, Oro Valley, SaddleBrooke, or Central Tucson. She also suggested sharing our experiences from our own trips including information on hotels, restaurants, etc. Also, sharing our own personal information and advice on what we know about FlyingTogether.Ual.Com, and how to purchase tickets and list ourselves on other airlines. She passed around a list to gauge interest or what other suggestions there were.

United is flying to Spain: Madrid via Newark and Barcelona via Washington-Dulles. The Tarjeta Dorada (Golden Card) offers train discounts for seniors in Spain.

Also, there is some good news and some not so good news. **John Bennats**, former Roadrunner President and RUAEA correspondent, has sold his home in Marana, which will close on June 30, good news. However, he isn't sure where he is going from there. The not-so-good news is that he is thinking about heading East (not permanently) visiting friends and places of interest including Massena, NY on the St. Lawrence River where his family formerly resided. The main reason for his moving is allergies to much of the plant life here.

Next month's luncheon will be on Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Oro Valley Community & Recreation Center, formerly known as at the El Conquistador Country Club, at 10555 N. La Canada Dr. Park in front and there will be information where to go after entering the building. RSVP to **Roger & Lyn Callihan** at (520) 825-1423 or [callynrog@comcast.net](mailto:callynrog@comcast.net) by June 10.

June Anniversaries - **Loretta & Wayne Norman** (6/6/1959), **Alice & Pete Lopez** (6/15/1968), **Carolyn & Frank Di Santo** (6/17/1961).

June Birthdays - **Pat DiLallo** (6/16), **John Bennatts** (6/23), **Phyllis Potsic** (6/20), **Wayne Norman** (6/24), **JoAnn Livingston** (6/29).

## CALIFORNIA

### CENTRAL COASTERS

Avila Beach, CA  
Al Rybar  
P.O. Box 2298  
Avila Beach, CA 93424  
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We did not meet in May, so again there has been no news from our members. I did get a phone call from Veronica of the RUAEA Newsletter. She told me that **Hal Klobe** will no longer be the So. Calif. Regional Director for our area. She was wondering if any one of our members might be interested. I forwarded her inquiry to our president, **Mike Zoldak**. Hal and his wife visited our meetings a few times during the year and he was always able to inform us of any news affecting RUAEA members.

The June issue of the RUAEA Newsletter keeps getting better and better each month. The color pictures of chapter members seems to bring us closer together when we all worked for an amazing airline. Too bad those days will never return.

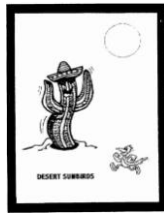
### Calendar:

**June 15** – Next meeting hosted by **Bob & Marcia Stanger**.



## DESERT SUNBIRDS

Palm Springs Area  
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On another beautiful warm day in our desert (probably the last time I can say that for 5 or 6 months), thirty six Sunbirds and guests met at the French Corner Café in Palm Desert for our monthly luncheon/meeting. The French Corner Café is relatively small, so our group shared the only room with other patrons. President Mike elected not to set up his sound system.

**Barb Harrison** was our gracious hostess, and our group was favored with four guests: **Hal & Donna Klobe** brought a many times guest, **Peter Schuster**; **Carol Paquin** brought **Shelly Pilkvist**; **Maureen Williams** brought her daughter, **Jane Miller**; and **Merv Myers**, making his annual visit (his Birthday month), brought his friend, **Chris Noel**.

We have a short “sick list” this month. **John Schultz**, who hosted our April Luncheon, took a fall, and injured his hip. Maureen says he’s on the mend, and will recover quickly. **Louie Horvath** fell off his bike, and broke his ankle. How do you fall off a three-wheeler, Louie? **Melinda Lerg** was not expected to be at the May Luncheon, as she had hip-replacement surgery recently. But, trooper that she is, she and Ron both made an appearance.

Our featured Sunbird this month is **Sandy Sereno ~ Sandy Spangler** graduated High School in 1954. She used her typing and shorthand skills to land a job with a Surgical Supply Company, and later with Thompson Ramo Wooldridge (TRW). But Sandy had always longed to be a Stewardess. Her life changed drastically when she was hired by United Air Lines in February, 1961. After completing training, she was assigned to the Stewardess base in New York and flew out of Idlewild for five years. In order to afford her studio apartment, Sandy worked on her days off for Kelly Girls, a Temp Secretarial Agency. In 1964 (at United’s request), she conducted a six week training course for Flight Attendants at the Chicago Training Center.

Sandy transferred to LAX in July, 1966, and was there until her retirement in February, 1998, after 37 years.

In the late 60’s, Sandy met and married a passenger, **Thomas Sereno** (we knew him as T. J.). T. J. and Sandy lived in Van Nuys, Brentwood, Malibu, and Marina Del Rey - until T. J. retired. They then moved to our Desert in Cathedral City, so T. J. could play as much golf as he wanted, and they both joined the Desert Sunbirds. Sadly, T. J. passed away in January of 2013, after 46 years of marriage.

Sandy still uses her typing skills by printing the Desert Sunbirds’ monthly Newsletter, and our Roster.

In closing, Sandy says, *“I don’t want to close this biography without saying that I will be forever grateful for all the life lessons I learned as a Flight Attendant, and for the many opportunities that were afforded me. My heart is just so full of many exciting memories.”*

Our Birthday winner was **Brad Zittel**. **Flo Silvestri** took home \$50.00 in the 50/50 drawing. **Elaine Aggson** contributed 2 bottles of wine and a box of candy to the raffle. **Kathy Wilson** won the candy; **Brad Zittel** and **Shelly Pilkvist** each took home a bottle of wine.

## **SACRAMENTO**



## **GOLD DIGGERS**

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The Sacramento Gold Diggers had a busy May. We joined many other United Airlines retirees to say goodbye to one of our early members **Bob Hallden**. Also, we continue to hope and pray for some of our members who are having a difficult time with health issues. We look forward to our early June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting with the Hangtown Miners Chapter who were formed on August 27, 2007. Many of the original 23 charter members were previously members of the Sacramento Gold Diggers and many have joint memberships in both Chapters.

The Sacramento Gold Diggers met on May 25 at China Buffet in Citrus Heights hosted by **Colleen & Harold Esola**. Chapter Vice-President **Rose Wikstad** was filling in for President **Sonda Sandstedt**. Rose welcomed those attending and everyone thanked the Esolas for hosting. Rose announced that we had 38 members and 1 guest attending. We all welcomed **Lorry Hukill**, guest of **Orville & Carolyn Harshbarger**.

Vice President **Rose Wikstad** gave us a list of the upcoming Luncheons. On June 13, we will be joining the Hangtown Miners at the Akin Ranch in Placerville, hosted by **Ed & Lindalee Akin** and **Suzie Quinnell** from the Hangtown Miners, and **Angie & Frank Dellinger** from the Sacramento Gold Diggers. Rose listed the remaining Luncheons for 2016. All dates are filled but some Luncheon details have not been finalized. Once the details are finalized the list will be published. Rose mentioned that there will be no raffle at the June 13<sup>th</sup> Luncheon. Rose stated that Special Convention pins were available for \$2.00 and one pin will be included in today's raffle.

Secretary **Terry Greenacre** announced the members celebrating Wedding Anniversaries in May who were **Colleen & Harold Esola** (26 years) and **Terry & Penny Greenacre** (54 years). The group sang Happy Anniversary to the couples.

Treasurer **Judie King** gave the Chapters financial report.

Sunshine Person **Angie Dellinger** has been very busy sending out emails keeping everyone informed of the members who are still "under the weather" and facing some challenges with their recovery issues. She mentioned that she had a card for everyone to sign for **Ron King** who is facing a tough time right now. We thank Angie for her fine efforts and we all wish the best for our convalescing Gold Diggers.

Historian **Stephanie Norton** didn't have anything to report and our Roster Chairman **Jack Raynor** was not present.

RUAEA Past President and V.P. of Conventions **Ron Bertacini** announced that the RUAEA Convention package is in the June Newsletter. He gave a brief summary of the tours, banquet, and the great accommodations for us to enjoy.

Ron mentioned that RUAEA election information will be in the July RUAEA Newsletter and he recommended that you vote on line. There are three Gold Diggers running for offices; **Sonda Sandstedt** for Northern California/Nevada Director, **Jim Simon** for Executive Vice President, and **John Zoboli** for Vice President of Conventions. Ron added that he is retiring.

Ron also reported that a Memorial was held in Reno Nevada for **Bob Hallden**, a longtime member of the Gold Diggers and very active in the RUAEA association. Several of the Gold Diggers that knew Bob for many years attended the Memorial.

Our meeting adjourned and the raffle followed.

#### Calendar:

**June 13** – Meeting with the Hangtown Miners at the Akins Ranch in Placerville

#### HANGTOWN MINERS

Jane Gibson

tired-dogs@comcast.net



The month of May is so full of good "things". We've enjoyed much needed rain, sunshine, spring flowers, hills/mountains that are lush and green. But, one of the main events for May is Mother's Day. **Thom & Sherry Biro** hosted this luncheon and wanted to honor the Moms who attended. They had for each lady a carnation and a picture of said lady in a frame with the word "Mom" on it. This was such a nice, personal touch and very appreciated by all. Thanks were extended from our great president **Rudy Blazius** for all of us. Rudy then inquired about birthdays to which **Thom Biro**, **Bill Voetsch** and **Lindalee Akin** admitted they were May babies. When it came to anniversaries, **Jon & Alice Somplack** claim 36 years together. Rudy also welcomed our guests: the **Somplacks** brought **John & Monica Dumanovsky** and **Bill & Mary Voetsch** brought **Jim & Donna Bradford**. Great to have you here, hope you will be back!

*President ~ Rudy Blazius* fills up these minutes throughout with information.

*Vice President ~ Bill Dinette* was at the dentist (ugh), tho, he did make an appearance with a somewhat crooked grin at the end of the luncheon.

*Secretary* ~ **Jane Gibson** did not have a report as she sent along letters from members to our Sunshine lady **Suzanne Kenny**.

*Treasurer* ~ **Tom Kenny** was working today, so Suzanne brought the report for him. Our balance stands at \$1,006.99.

*Sunshine* ~ **Suzanne Kenny** had information on a couple of our members and gathered more. **Judie Leimer** is doing pretty well. She looks great, which is wonderful considering the treatment(s) she is going thru. **Mary Buschman** isn't doing as well as hoped. **Pati Kenney** reported that Mary did not return to her home as was hoped. It is suspected that she may be experiencing small strokes. Sometimes she recognizes friends who visit, but not always. She was moved to a long term convalescent facility. Her daughter is applying for conservancy for Mary. New member **Andre Cardineaux** just went thru knee replacement last Friday (6<sup>th</sup>) on both knees! **Ed Akin** reported that **Lindalee** also had a knee replacement recently; she is in a rehab facility in Sacramento. I spoke to **Jon Somplack** about long time member, **Dick Czapkay**. Dick was moved to a full assist facility in Sunol and is doing as expected for a person dealing with dementia. Our thoughts, prayers and best wishes go out to all.

*Historian* ~ **Lynda Lima** is still on a quest for pictures from our January luncheon/meeting. If you should still have the minutes on your computer, would you please forward it to her. Now, Lynda would like some feedback regarding the website she set up on Weebly. She is trying to see if it can be set up so that our members (you) can also put pictures on the site for others to enjoy. **Thom Biro** suggested trying Shutterfly to see if they have that service available. If you have not gone to our website yet, take a moment after reading our minutes and check it out – <http://hangtownminers.weebly.com>. Lynda asked if we wanted her to continue keeping the albums up to date and bringing them in to look thru, or just stay with the website only, or both! The majority felt that sticking to just the website would be the way to go. Lynda does a bang up job with keeping our chapter's history, big Thank You, Lynda.

*Old Business* ~ **Bill Voetsch** is handling the orders for our chapter shirts. If you don't have one (or two) yet, get in touch with Bill. There are several styles, many colors and choices on the amount of embroidery that goes on the shirts. We have such a distinctive logo to adorn the shirts with our name too, of course. He has an order just about ready to submit so get in touch with him quickly. You won't be disappointed.

Our June luncheon will be at the Akin Ranch on Monday, June 13. This year we will again join forces with the Gold Diggers. Oh, there will **not** be a raffle at that luncheon. **Angie Dellinger** is our connection with the Gold Diggers for this event. She says that they will be taking care of the table decorations and dessert.

*New Business* ~ This is passed along regarding **Gene Lawler**. Gene's wife, **Joan**, related that after a surgery Gene had, he suffered a stroke and then apparently developed Alzheimer's. He can't read due to the stroke and is unable to do much else. Nonetheless, cards from his buddies at United may boost his spirits and lend strength to Joan. If you know Gene and would like to send your good wishes to him, you can send those to **Gene Lawler** at 1890 Cordilleras Road, Redwood City, CA 94062.

Rudy brought our meeting to a close. The winner of the donators' ticket was **Linda Dinette**. A big "thanks" to all who brought items to be raffled: **Lima** – flowers; **Blazius** – Candle holders; **Dalleske** – wine; **Dinette** – wine; **Kenney** – recipe book holder; **Ouchi** – measuring spoons & cutting mats; **Biro** – wine; **Kenny** – wine.

Our next luncheon/meeting will be Monday, June 13 at the Akin Ranch and we will be welcoming the Gold Diggers.



## **REDWOOD EMPIRE**

### **RETIREES**

Santa Rosa, California  
Mary Wilson, Secretary  
3623 Aaron Drive  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

We were all assembled at The Villa Restaurant, Santa Rosa for our May luncheon on Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. We had a private room set up for us facing the east hills view from the window; the grasses were still pretty green, being the spring season and a very nice setting for our May luncheon. The decorations brought for the centerpieces were tissue-wrapped bottles of wine in pastel colors tied with ribbons for the raffle!

After greeting each other for our social hour, we all found our places to start the salads followed by our choices of Salmon, Lasagna, Beef Stroganoff, and Chicken Cacciatore entrées which were generous portions and very delicious. The staff of the Villa, including the manager, Enrique and his wife Sofia were wonderful to

us all, making sure we were well served and happy with everything. Our dessert was provided by **Herb Johnson**, tasty blackberry pies from Costco (the dessert is not included at this restaurant).

President **Larry Wilson** brought the meeting to order after our meal, acknowledging that he and I were hosting the luncheon. Vice President **Jerry Underhill** revealed that there were 22 members attending, including **Pat Maus**, whom we were thrilled to have back with us! There were no guests for the day. Some of the members out were **Nick Van Kruining**, who was in the hospital after suffering a stroke recently; his wife **Maria Van Kruining** is by his side; also **Norma Stillman** was out ill and had to cancel her reservation.

Treasurer **Valerie Hulsey** brought us the treasurer's report which shows us at \$756.17 total; the general account happens to be less than the Charity account, and she "encouraged" us to buy more raffle tickets each time, as that is the primary way we grow the general account! Many of us who hadn't yet bought some, and some who bought more complied with her wishes in the support of our chapter.

Larry asked for **Don Davis**, one of our members to share about his 35 years working at United Airlines as a sheet metal mechanic, and as a foreman. As he worked nights most of the time, he also worked as a commercial fisherman out of Half Moon Bay during those years. He had known many of the other RER members during his career. We all enjoyed his many stories of his years at UAL.

Travel Pass expert and photo historian **Barney Hagen** reminded us to use the 20% discount available to the United Airlines retirees especially when there are increased loads and less frequent flights occurring with the exchange of the older smaller planes with the larger capacity planes. He said that he and Clare take advantage of this discount often.

RUAEA Western Regional Director **Roger Casterline** reminded us that there are still rooms available at the Seattle Convention site Double Tree Suites Hotel for September 21<sup>st</sup> through the 24<sup>th</sup>. He also gave a report on the history of the non-profit ORBIS eye surgery hospital (medical flights for impoverished countries) that UAL helped get started with a donation of a DC-8 that Roger had worked with. He gave a warm mention of the memorial for **Brandon Maus** that was held at his San Leandro church and also at his son's home attended by over 200 people who came from far distances including Hawaii. He said that Brandon was mentioned in a recent RUAEA Newsletter's "obit" section along with some other names that our chapter had known.

The Birthday and Anniversary list was read by me, **Mary Wilson**, in place of Sunshine Lady **Verda Burr** who was away visiting her daughter in Georgia. The birthdays for May were **Maria Van Kruining**, **Joanne Huhn**, and **Jerry Underhill**. The anniversary being celebrated was for **Don & Norma Davis** (35 years). The winner of the birthday lunch was **Jerry Underhill**! **Joanne Huhn** stepped up to the mike to announce that she finally heard from **Charlie Anderson**, who sent her his address. He recently broke his ankle and was wearing a cast boot on his leg to get around; he said that he has moved to Willits, CA and wishes he could get down to join us at a luncheon sometime soon. His address is Redwood Meadows, 1475 Baechtel Rd. Willits, CA 95490. Joanne also will be sending out cards to **Norma Stillman** and **Nick Van Kruining**, who were out ill and had to cancel their reservations for this luncheon.

Our next luncheon will be held at the Quail Inn in Oakmont, on June 9<sup>th</sup>, hosted by **Pat Ortega**, and **Barbara Underhill**. **Larry Wilson** led us in a discussion about finding new members to try to keep our attendance at 25 plus members to meet the requirements of some of the restaurants to keep the cost per plate affordable and the special room set aside for us. Larry and Valerie will be meeting with the restaurant manager of the Quail Inn soon.

## **RESANS**

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



A beautiful day in San Diego and we had twenty one in attendance at our June breakfast. **Carmen di Gregorio** is celebrating a birthday this month and it is his first with us as a new retiree.

**Paul Zadrozny** is back with us after under going quadruple bypass surgery and he looks as good as ever. We missed his humor and so glad he is doing so well.

Skip was the winner of the month's 50/50 raffle.

**Betty Tomaino** talked about the importance of being a member of RUAEA. They represent us retirees and keep us advised about what is going on with United and other retirees around the United system.



**Barbara Drews** mentioned that if you are doing any international travel this summer, it is most important that you advise your bank that you will have transactions coming from out of the country or they may not be accepted; also, the importance of using a card with a chip. Many of the older cards, still acceptable here, are not accepted out of the country.

**Herb Jackson**, not yet a retiree, but known by many of us in San Diego Customer Service, has just made Captain at Southwest Airlines. His dream was to fly and we wish him the very best. If you are going to be flying Southwest in your future, check out who is in the cockpit, it just might be Herb!

A reminder if you have not made plans for the RUAEA Convention in Seattle, September 21- 24<sup>th</sup>, give it some serious thought. As a native Seattleite, I can tell you the weather is usually good and this is a prime time to visit the beautiful Pacific Northwest. The tours the Seattle team has planned are going to go fast, the hotel is in a prime location to get just about anywhere. What a great opportunity to connect with your United family.

If your travel plans bring you to San Diego, drop in and see us and enjoy our beautiful beaches and sunshine. We would love to have you visit!

#### Calendar:

**July 7** - Pt Loma Café, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA. 92106 -2394, (619) 226-0255.



#### **GOLDEN GATERS**

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

Here we are - the half way mark for 2016, time is flying by and summer is almost upon us. President **Vera Kina** called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and moments of silence honoring our Veterans and military troops both here and abroad.

Vera wanted to remind everyone of our 3 month Menu selections:

- ❖ June 27 - We are getting a head start on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July with Hot Dogs and all the fixings. Please call **Dorothy Reuszer**, (650) 341-5765, to let her know that you will coming, cut-off date is the 24<sup>th</sup> of June. Pay at the door - \$5 per person for members, \$10 per person for guests.
- ❖ July 25 - This is a BYOL (Bring your own Lunch). We will have Bingo so bring your wallets!
- ❖ August 22 - Big Time Pizza Party with salad (and a surprise dessert). We will have sign up lists at the June/July meetings. Pricing to follow. We will have Bingo after lunch if time permits, we are looking at an Auction event also.

Our special thanks to Vera for providing our Cup O' Noodles luncheon today, which was really generous of you.

Reports from fellow Board Members:

Treasurer: **Art Barrett** is hunting up the other half of the members who have not paid their dues. We are trying to get a roster put together and we want to have an up-to-date list so please send in your dues. Art does a sterling job keeping us solvent.

Vice President: This dandy job is still available for all of you who want to volunteer. We need your help so belly up to the Board Bar and join a very elite group that keeps our group running.

Secretary: Interim volunteer, **Ginger Dahlberg**, will be reading the April and May minutes next month (she goofed and forgot the April minutes - Mea Culpa!)

Membership Secretary: **Barbara Underhill** was unable to attend the meeting. Her surgery was a success; however, her hubby, **Jerome**, must have been jealous of the wonderful food she had in the hospital as he spent many days in ICU at our local Mills/Peninsula Hospital Hotel, medications played havoc with him so Barbara was home watching over him! Get well Jerome! **Gene Walter** is going in for surgery; one shoulder is being repaired, the other one will be done at a later date. So many have metal replacements, it's a wonder all the bells and whistles still work when we go through security at the Aerodromes! **Gene & Carol Walter** are celebrating their 52 years of wedding bliss. We even had some birthdays: **Janina Pietrzrk**, **Betty Bliss**, **Don Reuszer**, **Helen Goodwine**, (and can you hear me now?) **Margaret Reelfs**. Snappy Birthday to you all! While not a current member, we were saddened to hear the **Joe Cotton** passed away recently. He was a Test Pilot for United. His group arranged for me to have a trip on the Dirigible out of OAK years ago, what an experience!

It has been noted that attendance is falling, we miss those of you who haven't been attending.

Travel: **Ginger Dahlberg** reported that most trips for the rest of the year are on a wait-list basis. If you want on the wait-list, please let Ginger know and she will let you know if space opens up. A date for the Christmas lights and Dinner will be announced shortly. Make sure you send in the booking form along with your check as trips fill up quickly.

Historian: **Jim Goodwine**, with the help of **Gene Walter**, presented an up-date Policy Manual, discussion will be held at the next Board meeting. Jim reminded us of a big event, our retirees groups started out in 1962 so Happy Anniversary to us!

Ticket Coordinator: **Hariett Kunze** handed out winnings to **Rex Reelfs** and **Jerry Milner**, **Bill Heinrich** and **Shirley Dickinson**.

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

### **SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY**

San Jose, CA

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

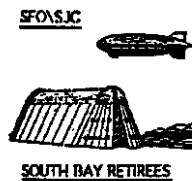
Robin Garland

1917 Farndon Ave.

Los Altos, CA 94024

(650) 969-9530

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



Our chapter had an outing to the Niles Canyon Railway in mid-May. Several of our members met in the town of Niles (next to Fremont) and hopped aboard this delightful train up to Sunol. With both enclosed and open-air cars to travel in we enjoyed the al fresco option as it was a sunny day with spring wildflowers still in bloom for viewing. The railway, its right-of-way, and its associated structures are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the train operates along a portion of the First Transcontinental Railroad constructed in the 1860's. The rail line through Niles Canyon was amongst the earliest to be built in California and provided the first rail connection between San Francisco Bay and the rest of the nation. After the hour and a half excursion we took in lunch at Bronco Billy's Pizza Palace in Niles which we all thoroughly enjoyed.

**Vern Snyder** shared about a recent visit to the Castle Air Museum located in Atwater, CA adjacent to the site of the former Castle Air Force Base. He shared about learning to work on many of the planes that were on display there with his favorite being the Curtiss C-46D Commando aka "Honey Girl." Unfortunately, on the day he went he could only view the aircraft that were outside as they were replacing the flooring inside the museum and it was closed. **Jay Caccioppo** also worked at the base on B52s for a year before hiring on with United in 1964. He mentioned that he would be pleased to take Vern there anytime he wanted to go again.

A couple of months ago we shared about the former Almaden Air Force Station that had been located on Mt. Umunhum. A radar tower that had been used during the Cold War years of 1962-1980 remains on the site. Some were proposing removal of the tower however we received news that "Santa Clara County officials sided with fans ... granting a "historic" designation that all but guarantees the landmark is there to stay. The Board of Supervisors decision was unanimous. Very exciting indeed!

With our president and his lovely wife taking travels both far and wide during May, we relied on Vice President **Boyd Sweet** and former President **Dave Garland** to lead several of our breakfast meetings. Both did a great job!

**George & Julie Midwin**, after returning from Milan, flew to Las Vegas with friends to see Celine Dion. They were very impressed with her performance, however, next year they say they will just send money to Vegas and save the agony of watching it disappear so quickly. This was not the end of their travels because no sooner were they home than they were off to the Gold Country (in the Sierra Mountains.) for a big extended family weekend. Others in our chapter have also been traveling. **Keith & Ann Olthof** shared of their adventures during a recent trip to the Netherlands, Germany, and Austria with their time in Vienna being especially enjoyable. **Greg & Hiroko Caster** were in Maui for their son's wedding. **Ben & Cheri Scales** visited Cheri's sister in Oregon's eastern high desert. **Maureen Snyder** attended a convention in Orange County (So. Calif.) to represent the local chapter of the Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America as she is High Priestess this year. Maureen said the convention was good, but she's just not the traveler she used to be. **Dave**

& **Robin Garland** also were on the go with a lovely cruise up Alaska's inside passage and extended train trip from Anchorage to Fairbanks with a couple day stop at Denali National Park.

In May, our chapter had another volunteer event at the Second Harvest Food Bank in our area with seven members participating. During the two hour time frame, they counted out 18,000 plastic bags (in groups of 50) which are to be used for distributing fruits and vegetables to Santa Clara County recipients. Those in attendance were **Jay Cacioppo, Karen & Bob Devlin, Irene Lloyd, George Midwin, and Merle & Boyd Sweet.**

We were saddened with news of the death of **Goldie Purdy.** Goldie and her husband, **Joe,** were early members of our RUAEA Chapter and Joe was a former President.

On June 14 we are looking forward to our annual summer picnic at Vasona Park in Los Gatos with the theme being Flag Day and then a tour of Sam Mazza's Castle in Pacifica on June 18. Other events are being planned for the summer and will be announced when they are firmed up. With these outings and additional special events we are investigating the possibility of having special attire to designate our chapter's affiliation and it sounds like progress is being made with a sample being available perhaps by the day of our picnic. Yeah!

Thought for the Month – Measure twice, cut once.

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

#### Calendar:

**September 14** – Fall Luncheon

**December 13** – Christmas Luncheon



#### CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS

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

Hot! Hot! Hot! Summer is here. The lakes are full and boating and fishing is underway. We hope the fires stay away and we have a great summer in the North state.

Our May 25<sup>th</sup> meeting was held at Italian Cottage in Chico. This was a new restaurant for the group and with its separate room and good meal and prices; it looks like we could come back to this one when we return to Chico. We rotate our schedule between Redding, Los Molinos and Chico.

**Merritt Odor** called the meeting to order and thanked **Kent & Billie Jorgensen** for setting up our luncheon. We had 26 retirees and spouses in attendance. Merritt welcomed members **Gaylen** and **Katherine Eslinger** who we haven't seen for a long time. **Gaylen Eslinger** worked at SFOOV and it was good to see them again. Our Northstater Regional Director **John Zoboli** was also welcomed to the meeting.

Merritt thanked **Kent & Billie Jorgensen** for bringing some United memorabilia including pins and cups to the meeting as well as **Gaylen Eslinger** who shared some tools and articles for everyone to enjoy. He also brought a United hat to raffle off.

Merritt asked if there were any birthdays or anniversaries. **Vanessa Pratt, Jim Stuart** and **John Isbell** will all have birthdays in June and July. **Jim & Bunnie Stuart** celebrated their 35 years of marriage and **Don & Ursula Arndt** will be celebrating 50 years of marriage.

**John Zoboli** spoke about the upcoming convention to be held September 21-24 in Seattle. He brought a copy of the convention package to pass around that included information about the tours. He reminded everyone that they do not have to be a member of RUAEA to attend the convention.

John spoke about the election of new officers for RUAEA that will be held in July. He reminded those that are members to please vote by mail or e-mail.

John spoke about rumors that United will be cancelling the retiree pass privileges. This is a false rumor. John also spoke a great deal about the security of a boarding pass. He believes that customer service employees at the gate are not aware of how much information is included on the bar codes of the boarding passes and that the boarding pass should be torn up through the bar code portion of the boarding pass. The airlines do not shred paperwork generated at the gate. It is the airport that is responsible to pick up the containers for trash disposal therefore information could be accessed.

**Sharon Simonton** invited a barber shop quartet, "Gesundheit," to entertain. They were very well received by the group, very funny and entertaining and we all enjoyed the show.

Our next meeting will be July 27<sup>th</sup>. It will be at **Kent & Billie Jorgensen's** beautiful home in Lake Almanor. **Bill Simonton** and **Kent Jorgensen** agreed to provide their boats for a tour of the lake. Sharon will be sending out a flyer with information about the day.

Merritt again encouraged everyone to join RUAEA and that the \$27.00 per year fee is well worth the information that is provided.

Merritt also discussed the next meeting after Lake Almanor and it was decided that it would be back in Los Molinos at the Mill Creek Café on Wed., Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>. Sharon volunteered to set up that luncheon.

**Jim Stuart** won the 50-50 raffle, **Vreny Grundherr** won the \$15.00 lunch voucher and **Gaylen Eslinger** won the United hat. The luncheon/meeting was truly enjoyable!

#### Calendar:

**July 27 - 10:00 AM, Kent & Billie Jorgensen's** home at Lake Almanor. Come and join us to have fun at one of the best lakes in Northern California.

### COLORADO

#### DENVER MILE HIGHERS

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



The Denver Chapter monthly meeting was held on June 4<sup>th</sup> with 40 in attendance. One guest, **Cameron** (from the **Connors** family) was present. The 50/50 drawing winners were **Dwayne McKinney** (DENTK), **Don Burbank** (President), **R. Roebuck** (DENFF), **Orland Baldwin** (DENMM) and **Yumi Trujillo**.

President **Don Burbank** called the meeting to order and read the minutes of the last meeting. Don spoke of the upcoming convention in Seattle and encouraged everyone to attend. He also asked for volunteers to help with the setup for the upcoming Wings Over the Rockies luncheon which will take place on Wednesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>. Don noted that the preplanning is still taking place for the possible 2017 convention in Denver. He reminded everyone of the next RUAEA breakfast on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. There was also some discussion about Caremark – Silverscript - CVS prescription cost discrepancies that Don is going to investigate. **Don Burbank** underwent hip surgery recently, he is recovering nicely and was able to conduct this meeting.

Vice President **Gary Trujillo** announced the next mechanics breakfast will be held on June 18<sup>th</sup> at Charlotte's Web (Ted's Place) and after a poll, the attendees will order off the menu rather than the buffet.

**Nancy Goodyear** and her daughter **Amy Bruchs** went to Germany for a week. The international travel was in business first in both directions. They stayed in a small hotel near the North Sea which had been a Burghermeister's house. They also took a fishing boat sightseeing trip in the area and saw a couple hundred seals relaxing at low tide.

RUAEA Exec. VP **Virgil Gooselaw** completed his bi-annual trip to Ft. Bragg on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and back on the 27<sup>th</sup>. The 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne was holding exercises at Ft. Bragg that he was able to witness. His group had a good time and no problems were incurred with travel or TSA lines.

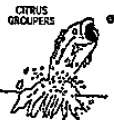
Tom Goodyear (DENO) offered a Flight Center update: The initial decision on building a new flight center in Chicago put the cost at 1 billion versus 800 thousand or less to update the Denver facility. The temporary structures in the parking lot are housing the folks from F building while it is being remodeled. After F building is complete, A & B buildings will be remodeled. The remodeling projects are expected to be completed near the end of 2017.

**Rich Conner** had surgery recently and is doing well. Cards can be sent to **Richard Conner**, 1218 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Johnstown, CO 80534.

**Merrill Hofer**, retired DENTK instructor, passed away on May 19, 2016.



## FLORIDA



### CITRUS GROUPE

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

#### Submitted by Kathy Faust

Our monthly meeting and luncheon was held Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at Nancy Lopez Country Club in the Villages. After a delicious lunch attended by 12 members, **Don Nellans**, standing in for **Ralph Brick**, started our meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Don talked about the 2016 RUAEA Convention being held in Seattle from September 21-24. Seattle is a fascinating city and there are many tours planned.

A big welcome to our new member now making his home in the Villages, **Julius Di Staso**, he worked for United in Newark for 37 years.

We will be taking July and August off so hope to see everyone at our June 23<sup>rd</sup> luncheon and meeting. Same place same time. If anyone has questions or would like to join our group, please contact President **Ralph Brick** at [brickralph@cox.net](mailto:brickralph@cox.net).

#### Calendar:

Meeting at Nancy Lopez Legacy Restaurant, The Villages, FL  
**June 23 - 11:30 AM**

### THE ORLANDO

#### REAL McCOYS

Elaine Tillman-Mannella  
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Our monthly meeting day, June 7<sup>th</sup> dawned, cloudy, windy and rainy. Tropical Storm/Hurricane Colin arrived in the gulf just days into our official hurricane season and Orlando was not spared. Just 32 members braved the weather (umbrellas in hand!) and gathered for lunch today. Very welcome guests and new members **Bob & Diane O'Hara** joined us. Bob retired from MCOCS in 2003. Actually, as **Diane Lewis** remembered it, "*Bob retired when he transferred to MCO in 1993, then worked for 10 years!*" Many of us (this writer included) remember Orlando as being a nice, happy place to work. We were truly blessed, I think.

After the Pledge, Ernie wished the dads in the group a Happy Father's Day and thanked them for all they have done to help raise good solid citizens! Discussions followed on info sent to retirees who still have dollars in their 401k managed by Fidelity thru United. Then talk turned to one of the major charities we McCoys support annually – Russel Home for Atypical Children in south Orlando. The first nonprofit institution in the country for brain-damaged children, it has thrived since 1951 with no federal, state or local government funding. 2000 children have been nurtured and thrived there. Suddenly, the government is interested in "regulating" it. Imagine that! If you would like to help the Russell home survive this attack, go to [Change.org](http://Change.org) Save the Russell Home. Let's make our voices heard! Read about this amazing home and sign the petition today!

June Birthdays include **Ernie Vosges**, **Edna Gooseman**, **Peg Cannata**, **Rich Llewellyn** and **Joanne Mollet**. Our Loving Couples? **Joe & Barb Fitak** with 55 years and **Ernie & Cheryl Vosges** with 35 years! You are truly an inspiration to us all! Congratulations & many more!

#### Calendar:

First Tuesday of every month at 1:00pm, Golden Corral on South Semoran Blvd.  
**July 5 - Luncheon**  
**August 2 - Luncheon**



### TREASURE COAST

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After hearing the severe weather from our Tropical Storm Colin affecting our State, President **Al Popek** decided to cancel our Luncheon/Meeting on June 7 in order to protect our members, especially those travelling from the North and South of us.

June Birthdays ~ **Janice Popek** (6/1), **Ron Brodis** and **Sharon Kolibab** (6/12). Happy Birthday to all! Anniversaries ~ **Frank & Mary Jane Wise** (6/11) and **Arnold & Dee Lakso** (6/20). Happy Anniversary to both couples!

We would like to take this opportunity to give a big thank you for all the hard work and dedication shown by **Francis & Veronica Domaratius** on the Newsletters. We should also not forget **John Chu**. What a team indeed.

On the Lighter Side: Love, Live and Laugh, the clock is ticking. Time waits for no one, treasure every moment you have.

### Calendar:

**July 5** - 1230PM Luncheon/Meeting, Duffy's, South Stuart

**August 2** - 1230PM Luncheon/meeting, Duffy's, South Stuart

**September 6** - 1230PM Luncheon/Meeting, Duffy's South Stuart. Officer Nominations at this meeting.

### HAWAII

### HONOLULU MENEHUNES

Patricia Thomson, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 1709  
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[HNL RUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNL RUA@gmail.com)



Aloha! The Honolulu Menehunes is an active chapter and we meet for lunch at various Honolulu restaurants on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of February, June, and September. All retirees are welcome to join us. If you are planning to be in Honolulu and would like to attend, just send your email address to [HNL RUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNL RUA@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)  
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I am still trying to get a RUAEA group going on the Big Island. RUPA has a big group in Kona and Hilo.

Now and then I talk to some of our "old timers" around town. **Art "Papa" Chang** and his wife, **Maggie**, are pictured here at a Christmas party they hosted for Pau Hana Kupuna a few years ago. I run into them all the time at COSTCO in Kona as they enjoy people watching while sipping drinks. Papa grew up on the Big Island in the valleys speaking only Chinese and Hawaiian. His time with UAL spanned decades in HNL Maintenance. Many of his innovative ideas were implemented by the company. While he was working at United, he managed to have a bee business ... yes, bee hives which were spread out across the Pacific in parts of



Indonesia and elsewhere. Papa is a God loving man whose community of friends here on the Big Island and elsewhere is vast.

If you are interested in helping renew a Pau Hana Kupuna group, please send your email address to [annmedve@aol.com](mailto:annmedve@aol.com) and/or call **Ann Medve** at (808) 889-1636.

Mahalo and aloha nut loa.

## ILLINOIS

### CHICAGO SKYLINERS

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

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

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July - half the year is over. Well, what have you done with your first six months? Been active? Saved anybody's life? Maybe just by holding your temper and not slapping them silly? But really, the year is going way too fast. I can't believe it! It's already the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, sparklers are the accessory of the day and night! The 14<sup>th</sup> is Bastille Day, when the peasants of France got angry at Louis the 16<sup>th</sup> for taxing them, spending their money on his foolish whims and chopped off his head, with a guillotine. The 23<sup>rd</sup> is National Hot Dog Day! What is more American than a hot dog, even if it did originate in Germany? Did you ever see how they make those puppies? Ugh, you'd never eat another one! There are some major holidays and wacky day celebrations this month. But I'll get down to the two big ones that we've all been waiting for these last 18 months, the Republican and Democratic Conventions. I hear a loud concerted and contrived groan. Yes, people, it's finally here. In all my years, I have never seen or heard anything like this before. Whom do we blame or point fingers at for this? Social media? Internet? Millennials? Politicians? Main stream media? The Republicans will meet at the Quicken Loan Arena, July 18-21. It's expected that over 70,000 delegates, staffers, media and visitors will converge on poor little Cleveland that week. Then on July 25-28, the Democrats will meet in the Wells Fargo Center, in Philadelphia. It's estimated there will be about the same amount of attendees at this convention also, maybe more. If the Liberty Bell weren't already cracked, it probably would be after all those visitors left. As one comedian said, 'Folks, the real problem is, one of them is going to win'. Let's hope for a good, peaceful two weeks. All joking aside, this is a serious time in our lives.

We had two Newbies at our Northside breakfast, **Judy Solis** from EXOHH and **Nancy Kaye**, EXOHR. Welcome, hope you enjoyed our little group and come back again, and again. **Judi Felde** from Cargo Sales and OPBCM, became a great grandmother, again, to a little charmer, David. **Jim Sommerfield**, EXOKF, and **Shirley Johnson** will be going on an Alaskan cruise in July. **Helen Cauwels**, our Midwest Director, had a car accident in May. She sustained injuries to the right side of her body, mostly her ribs. Helen was in a rehab facility for a few weeks before they let her loose. But, you know Helen, you can't keep her down for long, she shall arise again! Both cars were totaled. The State of Illinois is changing our driver's licenses again. After July, when you go into the DMV to renew your license, you pay the fee, pass the appropriate tests, you then will receive a temporary, secure paper license, valid for 45 days. It will serve as proof of ID and your driver's license, until your permanent state ID arrives in 15 days. Apparently, the State wants to make our licenses more secure and fraud-free. We will receive a notice from the state 60-90 days prior to the expiration of our driver's license, unlike the car sticker license, which is still up to you to police, excuse the pun. **Jesse White** will have to start paying me for making his announcements.

At the ORDMM breakfasts, **Bob Hardin** and **Paul Nordmeyer** are back from Arizona. Also returned after a brief absence are **John DeGrange** and **Cas Paprocki**. All are well and looking good.

Our Southside Breakfast had 15 retirees. Raffle winners were **Ed Ward**, **Jan Gawenda**, **Perry Pahl**, and **Sylvester Gant**. **Bill Corbett**, who was in 'The Beverly Playhouses', 'The Graduate', last month, he said it was the highest attended play they ever performed. We're sure they came to see Bill. **Ed Ward** spends relaxing time with his family in Michigan at their summer cabin. Nice to get away, isn't it?

I have to make some corrections here. I have to correct **Juanita Schrecongost**'s name. I had two G's in her name. I've only known her since 1979, duh. In addition, **Ed Adam**'s name is really **Ed Ward**. I've only known him since 2013, understandable. Sorry people, must have been the gin.

Last month, I mentioned that one of our faithful members passed away, **Tina Acoba**, wife of **Tony**, who passed away 11 years ago. Tina, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and told she had two weeks to live. She had an older sister in LAX, **Sinaida Pascua**, who was diagnosed with lung cancer. When she found out about Tina, she mustered all the strength she could, flew out to Chicago, so they could spend their last few days together. After Sinaida flew back to LAX, she passed away the next day. This is an incredible story of love and devotion between sisters. How Sinaida found the strength to get here, is astonishing. Tina lasted about another week. She gave instructions not to have any service until June because she didn't want her grandchildren to miss any days from school. This is the fiber, the crux of the lovely woman she was, the friend that we lost. She will be buried next to her Tony in Maui on a hill, overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Back together again, Tina & Tony, God Bless.

Now for the sad paragraph, our dearly departed, **Karen Zeivel**, **Jim's** wife, also, **Jeffery Klosky**, son of **Terry**, both from ORDMM. **Joe Laria**, husband of **Pat**, who worked in ORDCS and RSWCS. **Ed Englehardt**, ORDFO, **Lois Johnson**, OPBSP, and **Regina Fraser**, EXOAD, not only an executive in marketing, but also the founder of 'Grannies on Safari', an Emmy award winning cable travel series. Also, current employee, 25 year old **Camille Barrletta**, ORDSW, who was killed by a car in EWR, getting ice cream. Prayers to all of their families. Also gone from our world, Morley Safer, Beth Howland, Julius LaRosa, Julia Meade, Alan Young, and, 'The Greatest', Mohammad Ali, certainly one of the most influential and unforgettable people in our lives of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Don't forget the RUAEA Convention in Seattle September 21-24

#### Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Elly's Restaurant, 8:30 A.M., 372 E. Golf Rd., Arlington Heights, IL (**July 13**). Second Wednesday of the month.

Southside Breakfast - Jedi's Restaurant, 9:30 A.M., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn. (**July 26**). Last Tuesday of the month.

**September 13** - Fall Luncheon, Tuesday, Belvedere Restaurant, 1170 W. Devon Ave. Elk Grove, 11:00 cocktails, 12:00 lunch

### INDIANA



#### INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN  
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The Indy Racers hope each of you enjoyed a safe and happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. Our members celebrated with family picnics, small town parades, and fireworks displays throughout Central Indiana. Now we are looking forward to our Summer Picnic Celebration at the Twin Bridges Lodge in Danville, IN on Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. The "Tex-Mex" themed festivities begin at 1 p.m. Cost for non-members is \$5.00. Watch for a picture in the September issue of the RUAEA Newsletter. (There will be no regularly schedule Indy Racer Business Meeting in July.)

Some of our Racers are also attending "Happy Days: A New Musical" at the Myers Dinner Theater in Hillsboro, IN and considering a day trip to the Grissom Air Force Museum in Peru, IN later this summer. Our Christmas lunch will be at Maggiano's Restaurant in Indianapolis on Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

Members attending our May meeting where other events and side trips were discussed included: **Hannelore Brabo**, **Wanda Bryce**, **Jack & Carol Conway**, **Bob & Myrt Duty**, **Bob**, **Ruth**, and **Ed Duffey**, **Jim Gibson**, **Mike Matlak**, **Frank & Rita Prins**, **Charles Theiss** and his son Anthony, and **Tony Urbanovic**. **Hannelore Brabo** won the 50/50 drawing for the second month in a row.

Our group continues to enjoy traveling. **Dimple Rihel** recently visited her mother in West Virginia, **Jack & Carol Conway** enjoyed Anna Marie Island in Florida, **Frank & Rita Prins** are planning a trip to Alaska and **Chris Johnston** returned to his home town, Cheyenne, WY for his mother's burial.

Happy Birthday to our members celebrating in July: **Carol Conway** and **Rita Prins** (7/6), **Ray Brabo** (7/16) and **Wanda Bryce** (7/30).



Anniversaries: **Carol & Jack Conway** (7/9) and **Ken & Deanna Boeke** (7/17).

Calendar:

**July 16** - No regular meeting in July, picnic at Twin Bridges Lodge

## MASSACHUSETTS

### NOR'EASTERS

New England  
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The Nor'Easter June 7 luncheon at a new venue, Reds Restaurant in Peabody, MA, brought out 25 members. We selected 3 dishes for members to choose from. All agreed their meal was great; the accommodations were good with excellent staff. It looks like we'll be visiting to Reds again soon.

The 50/50s were won by **Ron Heiseler** and **Peter Fusco**. Free lunches won by **Joyce Heiseler** and **Carol Montalto**. One pound of macadamia nuts was won by **Janet DeStefano** and **Frank DeStefano** won the wine. The progressive would have been won by **Lynn O'Hara**. You have to be present to win.

Our own **Richard (Dick) Woodworth**, BOSCG, passed into the friendly skies late May. He was one of those individuals who always smiled and had a good word. One could tell he enjoyed life and before his long illness, he was a regular at meetings. Dick will be missed.

**Margot Dunbar Blier**, BOSRR, also passed into the friendly skies in early February. She had a long fight with cancer. We were fellow workers way back in the 60's before the RES office was closed. Although Margot wasn't a Nor'Easter, she too will still be missed.

July's birthdays ~ **Elizabeth Palmer** and **Joan Twing**.

July's anniversaries ~ **Ron & Joyce Heiseler** (58 years), **Don & Kathy Latter** (21 years), **Paul & Eileen O'Mara** (50 years) and **Elizabeth & Joe Palmer** (49 years).

*I may not look like, nor be as strong as Wonder Woman, but I can do things that will make you wonder!*

## MICHIGAN



### GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

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Happy 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday, Great Lakes escapees! June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1995 is the official date. It was on that date when 17 United friends gathered together at the City Tavern in Dearborn, MI and started our monthly get-togethers. Those attending were **Agatha Kelley**, **Barbara Harry**, **Betty Martinez**, **Carol Cant**, **Dee Hegle**, **Lois Hewelt**, **Marge Nicholas**, **Marie Kady**, **Marie Loftis**, **Marie Cook**, **Maxine Raymond**, **Rhea Jay**, **Rose Tobin**, **Sallie Reithel**, **Sharon Jacob**, **Sharon McComb** and **Suzie Hicks**. Thanks to **Marie Cook** for starting, and more importantly, keeping our group together for 21 years.

A big thank you to **Lynn Manzi** and her husband **Ken** for hosting our May luncheon at Ginapolis' restaurant in Farmington Hills. What fun! **Mary Lou West** joined us for the very first time since her retirement. And we celebrated **Marie Cook**'s birthday.

**Gay Givens** wrote about old United friends getting together: **Trudi & Bob Helgeson** stopped in Allen Park to see **Kathy Franz** on their way to Alaska where they'll spend the summer seeing the sights in their motor home. They plan to go up through Canada and then wander down. Her granddaughter will fly up to join them after school lets out.

**Kathy Franz** hosted **Dollie Sellers**, **Pat Hoffman** and **Gay Givens** for a cookout to catch up. **Larry Franz** grilled burgers and made his famous baked beans, Kathy made potato salad and lemon bars. All were delicious.

Pat said Tom is due home from a stint in rehab soon, which enabled her to join us. Trudi looked great. Retirement looks good on her. She's had surgery on her right shoulder. Said the surgery was a breeze but the rehab almost killed her. I think Pat was the only one there with all her original parts. We all have our moments, but basically feel pretty well.

We are still recruiting a would-be journalist to take over the newsletter. Give me a call, email, write, telegram, or send an ESP message to Gwen at (248) 667-9258. As a reminder, if you have a new phone number, email address, home address etc, please let us know so that we can update our records.

Thought for the month: I'm not old, just been young a long time.

## MINNESOTA

### NORTHERN LITES

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It was a chilly, windy May day when the Lites met again, but weather usually doesn't keep us away unless it's *really* bad. We welcomed back **Jim Simon** and his friend, Myra; **Jim** is a former member who absconded a couple of years ago to California. He was our resident poet, if you remember, and true to form, he had one ready to let us know how much he'd missed being part of our group. It was good seeing him again.

**Lee Storlie's** daughter, Sally, has a job which takes her all over the world & **Lee** assured us that she is continuing to help keep the Company going by using UAL on her current trip to London. She's our best-known Mileage Plus member.

You may remember a couple of months ago that the group voted to give a worthy young man a graduation-from-college gift to reward his hard work and perseverance. **Bud & Jo Ayres** and **Tom & Judy Cafilisch** presented the cash gift to him at lunch one day recently. They had pictures to show us when we all met in May. Good luck to him!

According to Sir President, **Lee Storlie**, he had a conversation with **Dave Wiley** recently and he's doing well after going through a cancer protocol. We'll look forward to seeing him more frequently.

Since the idea of hosting the annual picnic has become a thing of the past, it was proposed that we once again do a boat trip out of Stillwater, MN on the St. Croix River. It's tentatively set for September 14<sup>th</sup>. More info will follow in the coming month or two. Save the date!

The Northwoods Loonies spring fling was another success in a long string of successes. **Joe & Arlene Kelley** hosted the event in Cloquet, MN (pronounced klo-kay). Learning experiences included a trip to Upper Lakes Foods, a wholesale food distributor, the University of MN forest research center, County Seat Theater (we got all the scoop on quick scenery and costume changes), K9 Garments (sports jerseys, particularly hockey and soccer) and Jarden Home Brands, who bought out the largest maker of strike-anywhere matches in the country, Diamond Matches. The food was good, the accommodations comfy and pleasant and the company stimulating. Great job, Kelleys!

A side note about the Loonies events ... there were Loonies from California and Colorado who made the trip "up North", so it's not just a regional group. Anyone who worked for UAL anywhere can be a Loonie. Even you! Consider coming to the next meeting in fall.

One table at lunch was raffle-lucky that day. Three of the four persons sitting there won \$10 prizes! There was a bit of good-natured grumbling heard. (**Sonja Gunderson** was absent that day, so it wasn't her grumbling).

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

## NEBRASKA



### OMAHA GOLDENEARS

Jan Cornish  
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A great time was had by all 36 of us at the Elmwood Tower on May 3. The food was great and for those who were within earshot were entertained by **Mary Winkler** and **Mel Harrison** about the early days with United Airlines. Mel started with United in 1943 in Seattle as a communication operator and Mary, near the same time in the same job in North Platte. They were the communication piece between the plane, load planning, control tower, etc. There may be others in our group that started that far back, but there can't be many.

There were three winners of the raffle this time because we divided the money up 25/25/25/25. Winners were **Shirley Mahoney**, **Betsy Anderson** and **Russ Meyer**. Each received \$20.

I just received word from **Frank Sesto** that **Roger Jensen** is in Methodist Hospital in room 621. He is undergoing more tests and would be happy to have cards and well wishes. He continues to recover from hip replacement surgery and cancer treatments. Roger's address is 15859 Rosewood, Apt. #4, Omaha, NE 68136-3285.

We have one address change that you need to note in your directory: **Patty Shook**, 918 Longview Court, Missouri Valley, Iowa 51555-1198. Telephone the same.

Birthdays for the month of June: **Jim Sophir** (14), **Rita Purkapile** (16), **Jim Braden** (29). Happy Birthday to all!

### Calendar:

**July 5** - The Back Forty, hosted by **Jim & Dorothy Braden**

**August 2** - Fernando's in Blair, hosted by **Patty Shook** and **Sid Schneider**

**September 6** - Manawa Fish and Game, hosted by **Larry & Sharon Farrell**

## NEVADA

### LAS VEGAS

#### SILVER LINERS

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Past President **John Albert** - LAS, flew to IAD to meet his sister and then both drove to Dayton, OH for John's Navy Squadron's Reunion on June 4<sup>th</sup>. We wish him a happy and safe trip. **Chris & Jim Czaplewski** are headed to Reno for a family wedding in nearby Graeagle, CA; on to Weed, CA to visit with Jim's cousin and then to visit with **Linda Tracy** at their beach house in Pacific City, OR and farm in Oregon City. Wow, then onto Kennewick, WA to visit with friends. The Board and members would like to give a shout out to Chris for her many years of gathering news and forwarding to RUAEA for us. Great job! Thank you again **Chris Czaplewski**.

Get well wishes to **Felix Cicco** who has been in the hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery. We are happy to hear that he and **Jeannie Rolland** will be attending our Western theme luncheon on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Prizes for western wearers! It looks like we'll be hosting 36+ guests on June 9<sup>th</sup> at Giuseppe's Italian Restaurant. Great food and friendly, happy atmosphere.

Yours truly and my hubby, **Woody**, will be celebrating our 19<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Celebrating birthdays this month are **Jeannie Rolland**, **Chris Czaplewski**, **George Fox** and **Mary LeChavalier**. Happy Birthday to all!

Calendar:

**August 11** - Hawaiian Theme

**October 13** - Halloween Theme

**December 8** - Christmas Theme



**RENO SIERRA**

**ROUNDUP**

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There were 15 members at our May meeting at The Black Bear Diner.

Reservations for the Plaza Pavilion at Bartley Ranch County Park have been made for our August summer picnic. The reservation date is Friday, August 19. If you have not been out there, you may want to stop by and check it out. As we get closer to the date, we will advise you of the program/exhibit running in the ranch house exhibit area.

May birthdays were celebrated by **Bonnie Royle**, **Nancy Hilz**, and **Geri Boutz**.

The 50/50 raffle was won by **Dottie Robbins**.

A memorial service was held in Reno for **Bob Hallden**, who also belonged to the Sacramento Gold Diggers. It was nicely done by his son Robert and daughter Judy. Bob was a nice guy, who started his UAL career in Reno, and he will be missed.

**NEW JERSEY**

**THE GARDEN STATERS**

Newark, New Jersey  
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Our meeting was opened with a flag salute by President **Frank Warzocha**. A moment of silence was held for all our veterans who are still with us and those who have passed on.

Just like three Kings looking for the holy one in Nazareth, **Rich Creighton**, brought three members from the union to the meeting: **Bill Gula**, VP of local lodge 914, **Rich Roberts**, storekeeper and on the grievance committee and **Mike Cyscon**, AGC of district 141. They gave a very good report of what is going on at Newark, and for anyone who thinks that EWR is a minor station, you'd better think again. With over 700 mechanics, and 2500 ramp men, you're talking some serious aviation activity.

In this meeting, our veterans talked about their experiences, and maybe old soldiers never die, I know they do fade away, since all those who have served will have those memories good and bad etched in time. **Frank Warzocha**, **John Deily** and **Marty Etler** talked about their time in the U.S. Air Force. My days go back to Korea, and it's hard to believe that it's been 65 years since I was discharged from Barksdale Air Force Base, in Shreveport, Louisiana after 4½ years of service. Enough said.

**Jim Schmidt** won the 50/50. Our next meeting will be on June 29, always at Snuffy's at 12 PM sharp.

*"For every complex problem there is an answer that is clear, simple, and wrong. But it doesn't mean that we should stop trying".*

## NEW YORK

### NEW YORK METROS



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

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, we had a request for prayers for **Alice O'Hagan**. After a fall on Mother's Day, she was hospitalized for two weeks and is now in a nursing home. Cards may be sent c/o **Una DeGeorge**, 30 Wolf Hill Rd., Melville, NY 11747. Call me if you'd like an update as Alice doesn't have her phone with her. Our best to you, dear friend!

We topped last month's attendance by one, with 26 present. **Donna Feingold** showed us how to get two desserts by asking for only "a sliver" of one, so of course the waitress asked if she'd like to try a small slice of another. It worked for her so our whole table did the same. How many calories in cheese cake and tiramisu?

Our most loyal attendees **Dee & Lee Talochino** celebrated their 59<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Congratulations and very best wishes! Those present and celebrating birthdays were **Lillian Cohen** (6/16) and **Harold Koch** (6/25). **Alice O'Hagan's** is 6/29, send a card.

50/50 winners, in order, **Margaret Hansen, John Klos, Paul Cohen**, not to be confused with the "**Lillian Cohen**", who won in February, March and May! Not that I'm keeping record, but of course, as secretary, I am. You deserve it, you sweet thing.

I only bet on the Triple Crown races at the OTB, but don't think I don't hear my parents' voices saying "*What are you doing in a place like this?*" Two down, one to go, I almost won the Exacta at the Preakness.

Get out those aprons, guys. Picnic time is here. We'll meet at Wantagh State Park July 6<sup>th</sup> and August 3<sup>rd</sup>. We want to see all you absentees there. We always luck out on the weather so let's hope for a great turnout.

#### Calendar:

**July 6** – Wantagh State Park

## NORTHWOODS

### NORTHWOODS LOONIES

Clyde Johnson  
967N County Road 440  
Manistique, Mi. 49854  
(906) 341-3130 / (906) 286-1270  
[cejdcj@charter.net](mailto:cejdcj@charter.net)



The Loonies' May meeting was a complete success, thanks to **Arlene & Joe Kelley** who hosted it in their lovely town of Cloquet, Minnesota. One might think it strange that most of our meetings are in smaller towns and cities, but then you would miss the idea that there is so much to be seen and experienced among the locals that make up the heart of America. For instance, during our four days in Cloquet, (we arrived Tuesday afternoon, had Wednesday and Thursday for sightseeing and enjoying one another's company, and left Friday after breakfast,) we visited several interesting locations. One was the Jardin Brands Company who have been established in Cloquet for several generations due to the close proximity of raw materials such as lumber for the making of wooden matches. That's right, matches. All of us retirees are familiar with the Diamond brand wooden kitchen matches that come in red, blue and gold boxes. They are also known as safety matches. They've been around for all of our lives. They also make what are called the penny matches that come in the smaller wooden boxes to be carried in your pocket, as well as the long wooden fireplace matches. They have also come up with a thing called Strike-a-fire which is a box of 8 fire starters shaped about like a carpenter's pencil but strikes like a match to start any wooden fire, really handy for your campfire or bonfire. Each starter burns for 12 minutes, so you can't miss. They have numerous other inventions that make our lives a little easier.

We also visited the Upper Lakes Foods Co. which are food distributors for that area where we saw the well planned distribution process, from where everything comes in to the plant for processing, to packaging, to shipping out on the trucks. You become aware of the great care taken in the handling of the food brought to our restaurants and groceries.



We visited the K1 sports shop where they make the jerseys for most of the high school and college hockey teams as well as some minor league pro hockey teams. As you might know, Hockey is huge in the cold country. Let's face it; it is pretty big all over the world these days.

Then there was the County Seat Theater where the young man who is the director of the Theater, (he also acts in and directs many of the productions chosen) is so enthusiastic about his community of players and the support he gets from the people of the area, that he actually stirs something within each of us as we hear him talk. He loves his craft.

Another who loves his craft was the ranger at the Cloquet Forestry Center where they gave us a good presentation on the wild life and history of the area before taking us for a ride on a wagon (much like our old hay rides, but not so romantic or boisterous,) and stopping every so often to explain the age and type of growth. That young ranger has been involved in these trees for several years now, but recently became key to the planning of these forests for the best possible outcome for a hundred, (that's *hundred*) years from now, as well as looking back and explaining what we were looking at now.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention that most of us in attendance were from Minnesota and Wisconsin (Northern Lights folks,) and Michigan. We were particularly pleased to have **Lee Storlie** and **Hope Hayden** and her daughter Kelly back in attendance after too long of an absence, and to have in attendance from Colorado **Carol & Bob Faust** and **Jim Simon** from California. That's no easy trek to get here.

We even got space on page two in Carlton County's newspaper the Pine Journal, telling of our plans and describing us very accurately. Good job, Ar.

So what strikes us about all these places was the friendliness and cheerful demeanor in all the people who were our guides, as well as all the good folks at the motel and the restaurants we frequented while we were there. It couldn't have been better, but then, that's how it usually turns out at the places our people come from who host these Loonies meetings. Thanks to Joe & Arlene, the Loonies have entered the 20<sup>th</sup> year of existence, and the fall meeting will complete it under the good care of **Bud & Jo Ayres** who have volunteered to host it in spite of a very busy summer planned for them.

## OHIO



### OHIO BUCKEYES

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

Kay Preston

25846 Royalton Road

Columbia Station, OH 44028

[katybird0108@roadrunner.com](mailto:katybird0108@roadrunner.com)

Our meeting was held in Middleburg Heights at Tavolo 72 (Crown Plaza Hotel) on a dry, sunny day, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Our gracious hostess was **Barb Vauls** who opened with grace after being introduced by President **Dolly Taucher**. Dinner was exceptional and served with very generous portions on heated plates. The service was above reproach. We will visit Tavolo 72 in 2017. An inordinate amount of negotiations and time went into this lunch. Kudos to Barb and Dolly.

Sixty four members were in attendance. After dinner, **Dave Placko** conducted the 50/50 Raffle. Ladies ruled with **Nancy Carter**, **Ellen Skinner** and **Lillian Schabel** being the happy winners.

Our secretary for the past six years, **Mary Lou Kuretz**, passed away on April 20<sup>th</sup>. She was an excellent officer and will be missed by our membership. She was a loving and caring person and friend. Rest in peace, Mary Lou.

**Sam Gaultier**, for the past two years, has suffered with many health issues. We are sorry to say that he passed away on May 12, 2016.

Please keep both families in your prayers.

May Birthdays were celebrated by **George Oncu** and **John Taucher**.

May Wedding Anniversaries ~ **Dave & Marie Placko** (55 years); **Jack & Kay Preston** (57 years); **Steve & Cathy Pytel** (56 years); and **John & Dolly Taucher** (53 years).

*"Today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday."*

### Calendar:

**July 13** - Williams On-The-Lake, Medina, OH. Hosted by **Arlene & Earl Taylor**. Please note that the meeting is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

## OREGON

### OREGON DEW-ER'S

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



Our May luncheon was the smallest group we've had in quite some time, with only 62 folks attending.

*Illness/Deaths* ~ Dew-er's member, **John Carter**, retired PDXMM, passed away on Tuesday, April 12, 2016. We have no further information at this time. **Wally Wright**, retired PDXMM, passed away on March 29, 2016. He had moved to California and spent his last few years in a care facility. Sympathy cards can be sent to his niece, **Mary Eklund**, 1508 Granada Street, Vallejo, CA 94591. **Veulah Lorts** is now residing at Taber Crest Residential Care at 7430 SE Division St., Portland, OR 97206. The phone to the facility is (503) 771-8058. She has a private line into her room (503) 771-1494 and welcomes calls and visitors. She misses her friends and hopes to one day be able to return home but after another recent fall that seems unlikely anytime soon.

*Announcements/New Business* ~ Dennis is still working on having a guest speaker from the Port of Portland to talk about the PDX extensions. Plans are still in flux and they have tentatively agreed to come once plans are finalized. We will keep you posted. **Dave Smith** is attempting to arrange a speaker on cyber security, scams and internet safety. Nothing definite yet.

*Anniversaries* ~ No one in attendance had a May anniversary.

*Birthdays* ~ **Harvey Larkin**, **Dennis Scheuerell**, **Roy DeCamara**, **Carol DeFord**, **Anita Uhl** and **Anna Miller**.

*Drawing Winners* ~ Lunch/ Door Prize - **Pat Townsend**, Men's Birthday - **Harvey Larkin**, Women's Birthday - **Carol DeFord** and 50/50 - \$70.00 to **Jeri Blodgett**.

### Calendar:

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

**July 13** – Indoor Picnic Fun

**August 10** – Social

### OUR CLUB

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



We had a wonderful luncheon at the Black Forest Restaurant in Grants Pass on a very, very warm day. I hesitate to say hot day as it was only June 3<sup>rd</sup> and it should be too early to use the word hot. With that said, it was a very hot day. We missed **Bob & Peggy Wright** who went up north to Portland and did not make it back in time and also **Bob & Miriam Lindberg** who were in (hotter) Sacramento at their grandson's wedding. Our 50/50 drawing was held and President **Ric Walcha** had the winning number drawn by new member **Carole Widrig**. He didn't even give me a chance to grab the money out of Treasurer **Linda Althouse**'s hand. I must be slowing down or Ric has learned to be faster.



We had the privilege to have our own member and military hero, **Russ Randall**, give a spellbinding talk on his days in the military. Russ spent 42 years, 2 months and 22 days in the Marines and is a highly decorated Major with several Purple Hearts, five Flying Crosses and 248 Air Medals just to name a few. We were honored to have him speak of the times he flew many Medivac missions during his tours of Vietnam as well as flying 6 Fixed Wing Airplanes. Russ was also a POW and made numerous missions while in the military. It certainly is different reading these stories in the newspaper or hearing about our military heroes on the telly. When one is telling you about his actions and heroism face to face, it gives you a whole different perspective on what our military men and women go through to

keep this nation free.

To add another perspective, Russ's wife Alberta told of her times as a child in England during WWII and the horrific sights and sounds she saw and heard. We are so lucky we do not know the sounds of an air raid or have to worry about using a shelter. How lucky and blessed we are to live here. To all of you who are reading this and have served, may God Bless you and we all thank you for your service. We should feel this way all the time and not just around Memorial Day or the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Our next luncheon will be July 8<sup>th</sup> hosted by **Bob & Ida Rogers**. It will be held at The Wild Brewing Company in Grants Pass. Ric & I will be off on an adventure to the coast so there will be no July news from us. Look for the August newsletter for more fun here in Southern Oregon.

## PENNSYLVANIA

### THE INDEPENDENTS

Philadelphia, PA

Joyce Lindenmuth

208 Stull Rd.

Ridley Park, PA 19078

(610) 521-2291

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



Twenty friends and members of PHL retirees met May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Clarion for lunch. Our guest was **Al Caputo**, he is a Vietnam Vet. A Pulitzer Prize winning photographer, Larry Burrows, was on assignment and he took many photos of the soldiers. Al's photo was in the book "Vietnam" and on display at the Marine Corp Museum in Quantico, Virginia. The retirees are sending \$100.00 to Operation first response in honor of **Al Caputo**. In honor of Mother's Day, the meal price was covered by the treasury.

**Frank Egges, Al Edwards, Lynne Sonderman** and the **Fantos** remain on the sick list. We will miss **Lew Meyer**. He moved to California to be near his children.

Our last luncheon for the summer is June 13<sup>th</sup> at the Clarion. The program will be supplied by the gaming commission.

Start thinking about the convention held in Seattle this September.



### PITTSBURGH

#### PIT-STOPPERS

Paul & Betty Musko

21 Sunridge Dr.

Coraopolis, PA 15108

[Lesuex4@comcast.net](mailto:Lesuex4@comcast.net)

Welcome from Pittsburgh! Hope all of you are enjoying beautiful summer season, and looking forward to many happy and safe traveling events! For those of us who are unable due to health problems, wishing you strength to keep looking forward and being well soon! As you know, the Pittsburgh Penguins are honored to be in the Stanley Cup Final and Let's Go Bucs – Pittsburgh Pirates!

We are up and running again and we apologize to all who missed last month's article. Good news in May! We were all pleased that **Art Todd**, Pittsburgh Customer Service from Reno, NV came to Pittsburgh to visit for a week for his yearly checkup. Art was happy that eleven RUAEA Pittsburgh retirees and friends were able to meet at JW Hall's Restaurant for dinner. In attendance was our awesome RUAEA Director, Northeast, **Treatie Karwoski, Jim & Diane Weber, Paul & Betty Musko, Bill Redfern, Fred & Liz Reidel**, Art's mother-in-law **Mary Solomon**, and friend **Trish Dalton** (nice to see Trish since she was recovering from a heart problem). All had a great time with UAL stories and a lot of laughs! We also had a great lunch at the Meadow's Casino with Art and his brother-in-law! Art is planning on another trip to Pittsburgh in October and anyone who would like to join us, please call us! Hoping you will come home Art!

I talked to **JoAnn Juth (Jeri)** (Miss RUAEA Pittsburgh) and, I'm happy to say, she is progressing great and is in good spirits. She is still in St. Joe's Villa in Baden. She wanted to thank everyone for all the cards and well wishes. Being a positive lady, she is working towards attending the next dinner meeting, June 15, JW Hall' Restaurant, no matter what transportation she would have to take to attend the luncheon! Our wonderful lady,

another Miss Positive, **Treatie Karwoski**, coming along well and always with a smile and helps as much as she possibly can and still attends all of the events.

We are looking forward to our luncheon in June! Don't know what **Phyllis Smith** eats or does, but I would like to know, she just celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday! She acts, speaks, and moves as if she is in her twenties! You Go Girl! Phyllis started in Cleveland Reservations, last heard going to travel to Washington to see her grandson!

Also, good news, Retired Pittsburgh Supervisor **Russ Miller** moved back home to Pittsburgh to be with family. Russ lived in Walnut Creek, CA. I think he probably missed our winters and snow. Yeah -Don't think so! He will be attending our June 15<sup>th</sup> luncheon at 11:30 am!

Our bionic man and a source of information, **Jim Weber**, recently had another surgery; he's up and running once more! Wow, how does he do it! Keep trucking Jim, you are well liked, and loved by many. Best wishes from all of us PitStoppers.

On a sad note, we were saddened to learn the recent death of retired PIT Supervisor **Joe Scafoglio's** daughter, **Theresa** who passed away from health complications. She was just 55 years young. Our deepest sympathy and condolences can be sent to **Joe Scafoglio** Family, 8890 E. Carol Way, Scottsdale, AZ 85260. Your Pittsburgh friends extend our condolences.

Another unexpected sad sympathy, for those who worked with Ramp and Freight Agent **Alex Szallar**, in Pittsburgh, and Chicago O'Hare; we were shocked to hear that his son **Bryan Szallar** passed away suddenly, at the young age of 49. Pittsburgh RUAEA extend their deepest sympathy and condolences to the **Alex Szallar** Family, 20 Tanager Dr., McKees Rocks, PA 15136.

One final note - Thank You **Ken Wolfe** for keeping us informed of changes and emails, news about our RUAEA updates and sickness, whoever passed away, information of changes regarding RUAEA.

May Birthdays ~ **Ed Ike, Carl Chiocchi, Johnna Chicots, Barbara Guida, Dee Chiocchi, Harry Shirlely** and **Joe Scafaglia**.

June Birthdays ~ **Verna Alex, Jean Wolfe, Phyllis Smith** and **Jim Weber**. Wishing all of you many happy and healthy Birthdays!

May Anniversaries ~ **Carl & Dee Chiocchi, Rich & Barb Guida, Bill & Ruth Redford, Vic & Joan Ference**.

June Anniversaries ~ **JoAnn & Bernie Juth, Ken & Jean Wolfe** and **Dave & Gwen Detwiler**.

Happy Anniversary!

## WASHINGTON

### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle, WA

Gay Liesse

104 South 296<sup>th</sup> Place

Federal Way, WA 98003-3626

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



**John Haferbecker**, past president of the Emerald City Slickers, conducted the chapter's May meeting in the absence of President **Ken Storey**, who was busy playing "tour director." In keeping with **Ken's** custom, **John** opened the meeting with a couple of airline jokes. For example: When a passenger asked the ticket agent why there was mistletoe hanging above the counter, the agent replied, "It's in case you want to kiss your baggage good-bye."

May's luncheon at Angelo's in Burien, WA was a success, as 45 members and guests assembled for the last meeting of the chapter year (sort of from September to May). There may be extra gatherings over the summer, as we iron out details for the national convention here in Seattle September 21-24.

Treasurer **Jackie Stenger** presented her monthly report and announced that paid membership is now up to 126.

Secretary **Mary Ann Andersen** is getting her feet wet with the ins and outs of distributing her minutes via e-mail. This correspondent especially appreciates **Mary Ann's** notes.

**Ken Tank** reported on his April 18 mission to headquarters, Human Resources and Operations, to advocate for retirees and seek answers on confusing subjects like open enrollment, health and welfare, prescription plans and pass travel. We hope his perseverance sparked an interest in having questions answered and the answers explained during the Benefits Panel discussions on the Saturday of the RUAEA convention.

A special guest for the day was 103-year-old **Helen Ebert**, whose daughter and son-in-law escorted her over the mountains from their homes in Ellensburg. It's always a special treat to chat with **Helen**, who still is as sharp as a tack – healthy in mind and body.

**John** also introduced **Shirley Claggett**, who has returned to the Puget Sound area from Arizona for the hot summer months. **Shirley** is president of the Phoenix Re-Uniteds and currently serves as treasurer for the "Seattle Rain Dance" national convention. The convention packet, including forms, was in the June issue of this newsletter, so get your reservations in.

Let Convention Chair **Ken Storey** know if you'd be willing to work a shift at the Registration Desk in September. Volunteers to welcome conventioners in the Hospitality Room also would be appreciated by **Fran McAnulty**.

**Helen Clement** sold several copies of the coffee table books offered for sale by the West Seattle Rotary Club as a fund-raiser.

**Rita Reynolds** introduced **Anna Burns**, who represented a new retirement complex being developed nearby in Burien. Several members of the Seattle chapter have shown interest in space at the new facility, which is expected to open in October. There were serious and intelligent questions asked and answered, benefitting all of us "of a certain age."

**Gay Liesse** recommended that chapter members begin thinking about collecting food and toy donations for local food banks and Toys 4 Tots when we resume meeting in the fall. Last year's last-minute, impromptu drive was well-received, but this year's early reminder will give us two months to collect contributions. For those who don't wish to supply new "gifts," cash will be accepted.

Following two months in rehab after a serious fall, 9 screws, a plate, and the wearing of "the boot" to support her right ankle, **Mary Luke** is home with a small brace and carefully using a cane. We hope the physical therapist treating **Mary** at home whips her into shape and ready to dance in no time.

Local Reservations retirees held their semi-annual get-together June 4 at Billy Baroo's in Tukwila. **John Haferbecker** and **Ken Tank** took advantage of the opportunity to distribute information on the upcoming RUAEA convention here in Seattle (also actually in Tukwila).

With **John Haferbecker's** permission, here is an account of one fascinating story from the UAL career of the late **Paul Burton** (EXOH). **Paul** was the long-time friend and companion of our treasurer, **Jackie Stenger** and both had/have been active members of the Emerald City Slickers for years.

*"We have learned that **Paul Burton** passed away, May 31<sup>st</sup> following a long illness. He retired after working for United Airlines in Food Services in Memphis and EXO Headquarters, among other locations. One of his unique experiences was assisting with the food catering for Friendship One, the 747SP that set an around-the-world speed record of 36 hours, 54 minutes and 15 seconds after departing from Seattle's Boeing Field on January 29, 1988 and making refueling stops in Athens and Taipei before arriving back in Seattle the next day. Among the notable passengers on the flight were **Eddie Carlson**, **Neal Armstrong**, and **Moya Lear** (widow of Learjet founder, **Bill Lear**). The well-known United Captain **Clay Lacy** was the lead pilot for the flight. The flight raised money for children's charities." **Paul's** late son, **Richard Burton**, also had worked at UAL in the Flight Kitchen.*

Congratulations to **Herald & Phyllis Bowman**, who celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in June. What a special milestone!

Because we don't meet during June, July or August, Vice President **Phyllis Bowman** recognized chapter birthdays and wedding anniversaries that occur in those months – plus those in May. She was assisted by **Bob Brumfield** in distributing door prizes to the lucky winners. **Dick Clement** held the winning ticket for the 50/50 prize.

**See you at the RUAEA Convention in September! Register now.**



Calendar:

**July, August** – No regular meetings

**September 13** – Luncheon meeting

**September 21-24** – RUAEA Convention, Seattle



**LILAC CITY FLYERS**

Sharon Holmes  
5120 N. Riblet View Lane  
Spokane, WA 99212  
(509) 924.4959 (H)  
(509) 953.5088 (C)  
[ghshic@quixnet.net](mailto:ghshic@quixnet.net)

The Lilac City Flyers did not meet in May, however, our April get together was hosted by **David & Theresa Reisenauer** and they took us to Spangle, WA for lunch where we saw **Laney Wilson** (from Spangle) along with seventeen others. We all had a nice time visiting and “story telling”!

It appears that we will all be taking the summer off and we will resume our dinners in September. If that changes I will advise everyone.

We wish everyone a wonderful fun summer.

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**THE DULLES LOUNGERS**

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



Our May luncheon was very well attended. Everyone was excited that summer looked like it was finally here, and after 2 straight weeks of rain, it was greeted with enthusiasm. This luncheon was our last regular meeting of the year. We acknowledged **Judy Dunlap** with a bouquet of flowers for her service as our treasurer and wished her great fun on her upcoming cruise.

Everyone was talking about their summer plans. The majority of us were also looking forward to our Annual picnic in June. Last year’s picnic was at Barrel Oaks Winery in Delaplane, VA and was such a success that we are repeating it this year.

**Henry Ayers** was wished a very happy 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. He and **Dick Libby** will both be honored with cake and many candles at the picnic in June.

Our thanks go to both Glory Days and Uno's Restaurants for their continued sponsorship. Both establishments have been most generous by providing us with gift certificates to be used as door prizes. At a time in our lives that most of us are trying to rid ourselves of our “things”, a free meal is a very welcomed prize.

Vice President **Cathy Gilbert-Silva** gave **Cheryl MacDonald** her winnings from the 50/50 raffle.

The Dulles Loungers enjoy their get-togethers at the Golden Corral in Manassas, VA. We invite you to join us the second Wednesday of every month from September through May.



I will close for now so that I can write my annual check for membership to RUAEA. Our dear **Linda Scriven** has informed me that I am delinquent (LOL). So I will now remind each of you to check the back of your Newsletter, above your name and after your file number, is your dues due date. If you are late, you could miss out on a newsletter with lots of valuable information.

Until next month, be healthy and fly safe!



## NATIONAL

### CLIPPED WINGS

Trudy Engeldinger  
National Vice President  
3484 Hamlin Road  
Lafayette, CA 94549  
(925) 283-5439  
[flygirltoots@comcast.net](mailto:flygirltoots@comcast.net)



Hello RUAEA:

Wow, summer is here and it isn't June 21<sup>st</sup> yet. We have had some hot weather and now it is cool. However, some of you are having some bad weather and our hearts go out to those of you who have had so much rain and flooding.

We are getting very excited about our convention over Labor Day. We have been working hard on By-Laws, Resolutions and Chapter Reports. There will be a lot to do and it will be fun. Moving into the 21<sup>st</sup> century is a bit daunting on the computer, but the money saved will be monumental.

Enjoy your summer with family reunions, vacations and guests. It is a wonderful time of the year to be alive. Have fun!

## NEW MEMBERS

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

Butterworth, Kathleen E., 3419 Via Lido, Newport Beach, CA 92663  
Foster, Steven, MHTOZ, 6 Harmony Rd., Deerfield, NH 03037  
Haupt, George, HDQUS, 840 Villa Drive, Crystal Lake, IL 60014  
Houghton, Michael, LAXSN, 1055 Joy Lake Rd., Reno, NV 89511  
Isbell, John, SFOEG, 22489 Cloud Creek Place, Cottonwood, CA 96022  
Johnson, Marianne, SFOCS, 391 Burgoyne St., Mountain View, CA 94043  
Kaye, Nancy, HDQHR, 8 S. Hi Lusi Ave., Mt. Prospect, IL 60056  
Klosky, M. Pollie, ORDTK, 217 Tahlequah Drive, Loudon, TN 37774  
Mader, Penny, LASAS, 929 Lee Trevino, Belen, NM 87002  
Murphy, Jan, ORDSW, 140 E. Elm St., Kent, OH 44240  
Powell, Glen P, 1082 Chesterton Ave., Redwood City, CA 94061  
Solis, Judith, WHQHH, 524 Russell St., Wheeling, IL 60090  
Vanderzyl, Edward, SFOFO, 16710 River Ranch Rd., Grass Valley, CA 95949

## CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Elvira S. Adamis, Beverly Alderdice, Boyd L. Ashcraft, Mike L. Baird, Marian J. Beck, Jaime P. Berdal, Nancy J. Bessenbacher, Joseph A. Bilicki, Linda J. Bringas, Linda A. Brubaker, Donald L. Bryant, Kathleen E. Butterworth, Joyce A. Calderone, Bruce Carey, Dolores Carlson, Joseph A. Cicconi, John W. Coleman, Barry O. Constantine, Bobby A. Cox, Elizabeth I. Crabtree, Antoinette B. Crandall, Charles F. Cromling, Birgit Cuda, Beth Davis, Herbert E. Delker, Laverne Dice, Shirley R. Dickinson, Julius J. Distaso, William T. Dodds, Barbara L. Dodenhoff, Richard Dumosch, Robert L. England, Mary Ann Fazio, Per O. Fjugstad, Charlotte J. Flagg, Cathy J. Gilbert-Silva, Jean O. Grieb, Marilyn H. Hanson, Franklin S. Hayakawa, Sylvia A. Hirning, Kenneth A. Hoops, Michael Houghton, Suzanne K. Hughes, Peggy Jauregui, Henry S. Jazwinski, Louis C. Kelley, Raymond M. Klapatauskas, Joan M. Krolak, Kenneth Lee, Maria Lesiak, Walter Lorentsen, Carole Luyten, Lillian Mallstrom, Anjelina E. Martens, Stella M. Mccaffrey, Donald McCleary, Carl Meinzer, Paula S.

Moody, Shirley Moromisato, John V. Murphy, Frank E. Murphy, Robert J. Nawotka, August Ochabauer, Joan H. O'hara, Betty K. Paul, James Pelletier, Norman A. Pettit, Rogelio O. Ramos, Ramon J. Rivera, Floyd D. Rose, Bernard V. Sanford, Maria C. Santangelo, Robert Schirtz, Charlotte Schultz, Robert C. Sheridan, Mary Lou Sorensen, Boris M. Spitz, Joan Strickfaden, Virginnia M. Swenson, Susan J. Thornton, Patricia Townsend, Jerome A. Watnemoe, Myrtle C. Wehman, Eldon D. Westendorf, Morris Wiener, Sue B. Williams, Wallace Wong, Judith W. Wright, Erwin Wyr, Robert M. Zweighardt.

## OBITUARIES

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

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

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

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

- Retiree – **Cotton, Joseph F.**, on 5/5/2016, SFOEG, husband of Rema Cotton, 20 Linda Vista Ave., Atherton, CA 94027
- Spouse – **Grancey, Olga**, on 3/10/2016, wife of Vincent F. Grancey LGANY (deceased), mother of Joyce Ball and Donna Fanning, 4017 N. Mitchell Dr., Arlington Heights, IL 60004
- Spouse – **Fong, Edwina L.**, on 4/18/2016, wife of Warren D. Fong, SFOOV, 541 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118
- Retiree – **Fraser, Regina F.**, on 5/6/2016, WHQAD, wife of Rev. Lt. Col. Thomas E. Fraser USAF (ret.) ULC, 6101 N. Sheridan Rd 16A, Chicago, IL 60660
- Retiree – **Hofer, Merrill H.**, on 5/19/2016, DENTK, husband of Mildred E. Hofer, 13373 Plaza Del Rio Blvd #7722, Peoria, AZ 85381
- Spouse – **Johnson, Lois**, 2/17/2016, OPBSP, wife of John L. Johnson, DENMK, 7756 S. Biloxi Way, Aurora, CO 80016
- Spouse – **Kuretz, Mary Lou**, on 4/20/2016, wife of George A. Kuretz, CLECG, 10027 Preim Rd., Strongsville, OH 44149
- Retiree – **Quinn, Jr., John J.**, on 5/24/2016, LAXFO, husband of Barbara Saganowich Quinn (deceased), 8504 Ardfour Lane, Annandale, VA 22003
- Retiree – **Renna, Philomena F.**, on 5/1/2016, NYCSS, wife of Frank Renna, 107 Mimosa Ln., Freehold, NJ 07728
- Retiree – **Tarleton, Woodrow W.**, on 12/27/2015, SFOPD, husband of Carrie R. Tarleton, 1174 Countless Ct., San Jose, CA 95129

## Letters & Notes



**Martha Gooselaw**

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

Martha Gooselaw  
Letters/Notes Editor  
7401 MLK Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80207-2433  
[marthagoose@comcast.net](mailto:marthagoose@comcast.net)

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

June Biagi, Bruce Carey, Bobby Cox, Birgit Cuda, Charlotte Flagg, Wayne Greenhill, Doris Haffey, Maria Lesiak, Edward Loftus, Angie Martens, Jan Murphy, Joan Pumbo, Midori Yokoyama.

### **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.)*

#### **Jan & Joan Butler, 811 N. 1<sup>st</sup> St., Knoxville, IA 50138-1403**

We so appreciate all the work you do in making this newsletter possible and available.

Between the newsletter and Facebook, we have been able to keep up with some of our United Airlines friends.

#### **Joseph F. Cotton, 94, WWII military pilot and United Airlines Test Pilot**



Joe Cotton was a test pilot both in the Air Force and for United Air Lines. (Photo courtesy Cotton family).

Joe Cotton, who survived a military crash landing on the German-occupied island of Corfu during World War II, then had a long career as a test pilot, died at his home in Atherton on May 5 surrounded by his family. He was 94.

The family plans a celebration of his life in July. A full military funeral was scheduled for May 13.

According to a biography of Mr. Cotton written by friend Brian Sheehan, Mr. Cotton was born in Rushville, Indiana, on Jan. 21, 1922. He played basketball at Manilla High School and was a 4-H Club member.

At 20, tired of working on the family farm, he learned how to fly. His first flight instructor, Bob Winter, told Mr. Cotton he didn't have the discipline to be a military pilot. "*Cotton would spend a lifetime disputing this challenge,*" Mr. Sheehan wrote.

In September 1942, Joe Cotton enlisted in the Army Air Corp, going to Texas for his pilot training.

According to a 1997 article in the Almanac, Mr. Cotton was still in flight training when he and many of his classmates were sent off to help crew American bombers.

He was sent on his first combat mission in November 1943, co-piloting a B-17 bomber with a target west of Athens, Greece. As the bombs reached their target, the plane was hit by anti-aircraft fire. Even though several of the engines were lost, the crew of 10 avoided German fighter planes and kept the bomber in the air for more than an hour before crash landing on the island of Corfu, Mr. Sheehan wrote.

*"We thought we could just get on a boat and go to Italy," Mr. Cotton told the Almanac. "What we didn't know was that there were about 3,000 Germans on the island."*

However, residents of the town of Lefkimmi found the crew before the Germans did and helped them hide for four months until the men were able to escape on an Italian sub chaser.

Mr. Cotton, his wife and their three children traveled to Corfu and Lefkimmi in 1997 to visit with the residents of the community, including some who had sheltered the Americans during the war.

That first mission turned out to be Mr. Cotton's last, as he was sent back to the U.S. to recover from malaria and return to flight school. Mr. Cotton then became a test pilot, flying the Bell RP-63A known as the "flying pinball machine", Mr. Sheehan writes. Bomber gunners shot at the heavily armored aircraft to improve their accuracy.

Mr. Cotton was chief of bomber tests at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio, and a pilot and later test director of the B-58 "Hustler" flight research and development program at Carswell Air Force Base in Texas. In 1962, as Air Force chief test pilot, he flew the first flight of the XB-70 at Edwards Air Force Base.

On April 12, 1966, Joe Cotton and Al White flew the XB-70A No. 2 at Mach 3.08 at 72,800 feet, a feat Mr. Sheehan said Mr. Cotton put at the top of his list of aviation accomplishments.

Later that same month, the two pilots became famous for quite a different feat, Mr. Sheehan writes. Shortly after takeoff, the landing gear of their expensive experimental plane jammed. Two touch-and-go's didn't jar it loose, and *"Cotton and White remained in the air as people on the ground pulled out plans and diagrams and devised a plan to knock the gear lose,"* Mr. Sheehan writes.

The men were advised to find a way to short-circuit the system, which Mr. Cotton did with a paper clamp from his briefcase. *"Several newspapers across the country exclaimed, a '39 cent paperclip saves \$750 million aircraft,"* Mr. Sheehan writes.

After retiring from the Air Force as a colonel, Mr. Cotton was an engineering flight test pilot for United Airlines in San Francisco for 13 years. Daughter Connie Jo Cotton says his flying time totals 16,000 hours in more than 80 different aircraft.

His honors include Pilot of the Year in 1966, the Legion of Merit, Air Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal and the Aerospace Walk of Honor. He retired in 1982.

Mr. Cotton is survived by his wife of more than 71 years, Rema Cotton of Atherton; children Chris Cotton of Atherton, Connie Jo Cotton of Palo Alto and Candy Kayne Cotton Farbstein of San Mateo; and five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

### **Charles Cromling, 5870 Clearwater Dr., Ft Calhoun, NE 68023**

I have had several medical problems since February 2015. On February 20, 2015, I lost the vision in my right eye. I was advised to go to an eye specialist. After reviewing a photo of my eye, he said that my eye had a stroke, my vision was over in that eye, and nothing could be done to change it. I thank God that I have one good eye.

On April of this year, I fell in my room and hit my head on the TV cabinet and cut my forehead. I live with my daughter and family; so they took me to the hospital. I had 4 staples to close the cut.

I am 91 years old and not a good typist. I have Parkinson's, so I can't write. I type my checks, and then have a clip board to hold it in place so I can use both hands to sign it.

Hopefully, all of this has not been boring.

### **Shirley Dickinson, 620 Barbara Way, Hillsborough, CA 94010-6706**

Thank you for all your time and work. It is greatly appreciated by all of the members.

There are so few names that I recognize any more. I like to see the loyalty and activities of the different chapters.

I am still active with the San Francisco group.

### **Robert England, 2758 Bowmont Drive, Eugene, OR 97405**

Whoa, Father Time! A short time ago, it was June 1944 and on my 17<sup>th</sup> birthday, I had joined Pat Patterson's UAL family at the base in San Francisco. All I had to do was to keep our fleet of DC-3's aloft. How was I to know that (interrupted by an 18 month hiatus in Germany with the Army Air Corps) United would



put me out to pasture? Wow! What a wonderful period it proved to be. I would have paid for the privilege. But don't tell that to the CFO.

At the present time, I am in the beautiful state of Oregon pursuing my usual hobbies of bugging local politicians. I also do wood crafting and volunteer for the Friends of the Library. I repair books for their annual sale. From jets to tomes, who would have known?

A hearty hello to any and all retirees from the SFOMB and hugs to all of our volunteers at RUAEA.

P.S. Let's hear from you retirees!

#### **Cathy Gilbert-Silva, PO Box 77, Delaplane, VA 20144**

There must be a theme in the notes and letters that you receive all having to do with how quickly time flies. Just because we served in the airline industry doesn't mean it has to fly so quickly. Couldn't it just roll by at a slower pace or even meander?

The second theme can't be said often enough thanking you for your many efforts on behalf of the RUAEA members and even those who aren't members. The non-members must not realize the wealth of information you share in each newsletter and on the website. I look forward to each issue. That being said, I am happy to receive the Newsletter in electronic format, to save postage and a few trees.

I am now serving as Vice President of the Dulles Loungers with **Mari McColl** as our President. Mind you, I was absent when elected, which will teach me not to miss a meeting. Mari and I have some very big shoes to fill as **Linda Scriven** (President), **Kerrie Schneider** (Editor in Chief) and **Judy Dunlap** (Treasurer) have stepped down. Fortunately, they will continue in other capacities being ever so generous with their offer to help.

Enclose please find my check for dues rounded up to help offset postage. Just think of the party we could have if everyone rounded up their dues payment!

#### **Frank Renna 107 Mimosa Ln., Freehold, NJ 07728**

**Philomena "Frances" Renna**, 81, of Freehold Township passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 1, 2016 at Bethesda Hospital East, Boynton Beach, Florida. Frances was born, raised, and had lived in Brooklyn before moving to Freehold Township in 1991. She was a secretary for the Northeast Sales Department of Eastern Airlines at JFK Airport until their closing. Frances then worked for United Airlines until her retirement. She was a former parishioner of St. Bernard's of Clairvaux Parish, Brooklyn. Along with her husband, Frank, they enjoyed the thrill of travel. Whether it was cruising the Caribbean, or traveling around the world, they loved to see it all.

Frances was predeceased by her twin sister, Ann; three sisters, Anna, Natalie, and Rose; two brothers, Sal and Joe; and a son-in-law, Charles. She is survived by her loving husband of 60 years, Frank; children, Linda Sobel of Colts Neck, Steven Renna and his wife, Lisa of Marlboro, and Janet Alario and her husband, Charlie of North Brunswick; eight grandchildren, Lauren Sobel, Jenna Sobel, Lindsey Sobel, Brianna Renna, Austin Renna, Anthony Alario, Nancy Beliveau and her husband, Ryan, and Linda Alario; two great grandchildren, Ana Julia, and Connor; numerous nieces and nephews; and dear friends.

Entombment was in St. Gabriel's Cemetery and Chapel Mausoleum. For those who desire, memorial contributions in Frances' name may be made to American Lung Association, 1600 Route 22 East, Union, NJ 07083.

#### **Virginia Swenson, 26088 145th St, New Richland, MN 56072**

Happiness is to enjoy spring with a cup of coffee and watch the birds return.

I am planning to do the Farmers Market again. Although it may be a one Vista Sister endeavor. My sister has had a hard year with cellulitis, then a pressure wound (bandaged too tight). We will do what we can.

I got a reply to last years inquiry of the bomb on Johnson Island. One of our retired pilots actually flew the bomb to the island while in the Air Force. July 8, 1962 was the detonation at 2.5 miles above sea level. The information was much appreciated thanks to you.

Also, I will miss remarks by **Colin Cooke**. He was unique.

#### **Lloyd Tomas, 409 W. Matterhorn St., Oro Valley, AZ 85737**

As a lifetime member of RUAEA, I still make a contribution on occasion.

I was pleased to see the front page of the May Newsletter with the picture of the old Link Trainer.

When I was a ramp serviceman in Denver, some of the good people in DENTK would give me free instruction in that Link Trainer, or one just like it. Nearly all of the training was on the low frequency range at that time. (For those of you from Rio Linda, that was the dit-da and da-dit.)

I am still thankful for those people that were so kind to me and helped me in my career as pilot from 1959 and on. I have now been retired for over 30 years.

I live in Oro Valley, AZ with my great wife of over 63 years. We have reasonable good health.

I thank all of the people that work on the Newsletter, you are great.

P.S. I am not an old timer, I came to work for UAL in LAX September, 1956, the month UAL retired the DC3's.

### **NOTES**

Note: If anyone has information regarding this question please send us information so we can publish it. Send to [marthagoose@comcast.net](mailto:marthagoose@comcast.net).

Because of security concerns, the San Francisco Mainliner club is not as accessible to retirees as it once was. They have a most unusual UA monogrammed Logo Port Authority hat for sale that is now, because of this real concern, difficult to acquire. In the 70's, before all the discount stores came to be, the price of luggage, film, film processing and countless other things was a bargain. I often visited the Mainliner Club store on my lunch ½ hour to see what unusual items were available to the UA Mainliner membership. The most unusual objects included items such as the 747 upper deck lounges that were sold at the SFO Store.

The SFO Mainliner club had many things to sell when UAL had "Family Day" at SFOMB. The Mainliner Club has also been represented at several of the RUAEA Conventions. In searching the internet, I only found Mainliner Club Websites for SFO, ORD & DEN.

In discussion with a few other retirees, it seems that there are still many Mainliner Clubs still operating out in the UA system. I don't know where all these Mainliner Clubs are located, what they sell or do, but would like to know where they still operate. I think Retirees support the Mainliner Club with their volunteer labor. Are there other retirees still supporting the mainliner clubs with their time throughout the different stations? Last if not least does anyone remember if there was a Mainliner Club in Cheyenne, WY?

### **Joan Strickfaden**

We spend our winters In Palm Desert, CA and return to WA in May. After a 2 BR condo, we come home to 2½ acres with a lot to do, but we love both places. We use AS to fly between PSP and PDX, what a great airline, too bad UAL is not more like them!

### **Susanne Hughes**

I love reading the news on flying and the individual chapter updates.

### **Roger Ehm**

Just had a nice luncheon today with about twenty five other retirees at Pleasant Hill, CA. There were round tables, and good conversations were held.

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

# Important Phone Numbers



*Updated 2/2016*

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

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

## **United Employee Service Center**

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

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

For flight information and to list or change listing

Password for Pass Line –your birthday, mmddyy

\$25 fee to create new booking

1-877-202-0263 (PIN Reset)

## **Employee Travel Center**

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

## **Flying Together Help Desk**

1-800-255-5801

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

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

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

**PBGC** - for all retiree pension questions

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

## **Social Security Administration**

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

## **Alliant Credit Union**

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

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

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

1-844-635-3401

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

# RUAEA CANDIDATES YEAR 2016

RUAEA is an organization of previous employees of United Airlines, Continental Airlines and their subsidiaries who have reached the age of retirement. It is also made up of spouses of members, widows/widowers of deceased members and active employees who have reached retirement age.

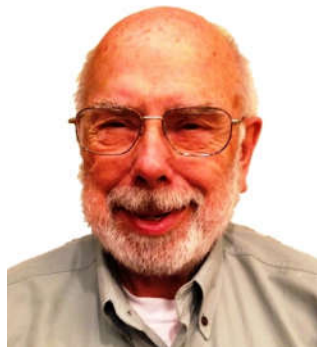
The management of RUAEA consists of six elected Officers and ten Regional Directors. One Officer, Past President – serves in this capacity by virtue of formerly being elected President. This year, all officers and five of the Regional Directors positions are to be filled for a two-year term. These fellow retirees, elected by RUAEA members, have the duties and responsibility of running the business of RUAEA – nationally and regionally. The business to further RUAEA as an organization of former United Airlines/Continental Airlines employees is:

- Proactive in its relations with United Airlines management;
- Effective and efficient in communicating happenings at United Airlines with members;
- Involved in and supporting local chapters;
- Developing features and benefits that are of value to retirees;
- Effective in marketing membership in RUAEA to all United Airlines, Continental Airlines and their subsidiaries.

We are very pleased with the quality of candidates who have agreed to run for office, for their interest, support and commitment. **Unfortunately we have two Regions where we were unable to attract a candidate. Consequently, we have provided the option for a Write-In candidate. Please only Write-In yourself or someone that agrees to fulfill the obligation for that office. Remember candidates must be a member of RUAEA.** With the challenges ahead for United, there are likely to be changes to come which will affect retirees. RUAEA must be in a position to meet these challenges and be an effective organization in its relations with the company as well as in its relations with retirees. Each of the candidates on the ballot can and will meet this obligation. Many times we have un-contested candidates but this year we have some folks vying for the same office. **Your involvement is to VOTE ... it will make a difference.** It is needed as a commitment of your support for these candidates and for RUAEA. **The voting period will be from June 15, 2016 through August 22, 2016.** You may vote by paper ballot and mail it in to the Audit Committee or you may vote by e-ballot on the RUAEA website.

Your Nominating Committee  
Ron Bertacini, Chairman  
Marilyn Marcy, Diane Griego and Mort Wax

## President



**Virgil Gooselaw** - Virgil retired from United Airlines in 1995 after 33 years of service, practically all served in Aircraft Maintenance. Virgil worked in all phases of the Maintenance Department and in the Station Control Center. The last three years were spent coordinating Aircraft Maintenance requirements for the New Airport (DIA), which opened on April 1<sup>st</sup> 1995. Virgil completed his part of the New Airport project in October of 1995 and retired. Virgil has worn many “hats” within RUAEA, Newsletter Manager, Membership Manager and currently has served the last two years as Executive Vice President. Virgil makes the following statement: *“My career was extremely satisfying and the people I worked with and for were great! After retirement, I joined RUAEA in 1995 and became deeply involved in 2003. I have worked in the Denver Office and in the production of the Newsletter and maintaining the Membership data base. I have overseen many changes that have enhanced our ability to produce a great Newsletter and distribution system. There are four volunteer secretaries, a letters editor and a great computer tech that work with me; we operate as a team. Also reporting to me are our outstanding Newsletter Managers. I*

*believe that with my company and RUAEA experience that I will be a great fit for the President position and I sincerely solicit your support and vote”.*

### **Executive Vice President**



**James Simon** – Jim started his career with United as a mechanic in San Francisco at SFOMG in July of 1965. During his 33 year career with United, Jim also worked in SFOOV, SFOEA and SFOPD. He retired from SFOPD as a Lead Maintenance Tech in August 1998. During his career, he received many letters of Commendation from management. Jim also completed many of United’s home study courses as well as receiving an AA degree in Business Administration. Other accomplishments were getting his pilot’s license and A & P license. Jim was a volunteer for the Rohnert Park School District and received an award as Volunteer of the Year at that location. Jim was also a member of the Sonoma County Search & Rescue Team and served as a pilot for the organization for six years. After retiring Jim moved to Wisconsin and was very active with Northern Lites chapter as well as the Northwoods Loonies. Jim was an active member of the Citizens Against Rising Taxes, a member of the Elks Club in Rice Lake, WI and volunteered at the local food bank and senior assistance programs. While in the Midwest Jim served as Director for the Midwest Region for RUAEA. Jim returned to California a few years ago and now resides in Lincoln, CA. He is a member of the Sacramento Gold Diggers and is active in the Roseville Elks Club.

### **Treasurer**



**Pam Troutman Ziebarth** – Pam was a stewardess for United Airlines from 1967 to 1969 based at O’Hare. Pam resides in Papillion, NE a suburb of Omaha. She is a 42 year member of the Omaha Chapter of Clipped Wings and has been a RUAEA member since 2009. In the Omaha Chapter of Clipped Wings, Pam has served on many occasions as President, Treasurer and Chapter Reporter along with other chapter officer positions. Pam was a high school business education teacher for over 30 years teaching computer applications. Pam has also been very active with Clipped Wings on the National level having served in all five National Officer Positions, as well as several chairmanships. She is also a lifetime member of the United Airlines Historical Foundation and has attended every RUAEA Convention since 2009. Pam has also been an active volunteer for the Nebraska Special Olympics as well as many International Special Olympics events since 1987. In her spare time she enjoys photography, computer activities, scrapbooking, reading and travel. Pam is also a collector of memorabilia including a large United Airlines collection. Pam is currently serving as the RUAEA Treasurer.

### **Secretary**



**Mary Jane Stewart** – Mary Jane started her airline career in March of 1958 with Capital Airlines in NYCRR as a Reservations Agent. She later worked in PITRR at the Mainliner Desk and was also a Senior Agent and Customer Correspondence. Then it was on to the Pittsburgh Airport as a Ticket Agent. Mary Jane later moved on to CLERR where she was a Reservationist Trainer, Sales Supervisor, Supervisor of Apollo Help Desk, International Desk, and Tour Desk. Mary Jane became the Apollo Services Great Lakes Regional Manager and retired as the Galileo Great Lakes Region Customer Service Manager in July of 2000. She received Employee of the Year Award while in CLERR. After retiring, Mary Jane returned to the Pittsburgh area and became a member the Pittsburgh Pit-Stoppers. She was active in the 2008 Pittsburgh convention with the registration and was Co-Chairman of the 2015 Pittsburgh Convention. Other volunteer activities for Mary Jane are: President of Charities Senior Citizens; Advisory Board Member for Southwestern



PA Aging Services; Co-Chairman Advisory Board Washington County Aging Services; Member of Special Events Task Force for Southwestern PA; Secretary of TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Houston, PA; Ladies Auxiliary Westland Sportsman Club and Judge of Elections for the primary and general elections for Washington County. In her free time, Mary Jane likes Zumba, line dancing, Red Hats luncheons, Citizen Games, Lectures and International Travel.

### **Vice President Conventions**



**John Zoboli** - John was hired in 1967 as an Engine Maintenance Mechanic in SFOPQ and retired in 1999 from SFOWR as a Foreman – Engine Maintenance, all at the Maintenance Base. During that time, John received many awards of recognition including a 10,000 Suggestion Award from Eddie Carlson, MOC Open House Award for Shop Displays, formal Awards of Appreciation, Employment West – Contributions to the School Program, Safety Department Certificate of Appreciation and Safety Gold Award in the Engine Maintenance Department. For the past six years, John has been RUAEA Regional Director – Northern California/Nevada. Also, John is the President of the Sierra Roundup chapter in RNO, as well as the Assistant VP of Conventions for RUAEA. John's wife, Patricia, is also a UAL retiree. In retirement, they continue to

be involved with their community volunteering at the local food bank. John & Patricia like to travel, read and explore Nevada. John sees the need for RUAEA to grow with new members and increase the number of local chapters as we recently have seen in Northern California. Increasing membership continues to be his primary focus as a RUAEA Director.



**William Bill Corbett** – Bill began his career with United in 1973 at MDWCS as a Ramp Serviceman. He spent all of his career in Chicago later on moving from MDW to ORDFH as a Cargo Lead. Bill received the Outstanding Service Award as Cargo Team Leader in 2001. In retirement, Bill is a member of the Chicago Skyliners Southside. He volunteers at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Chicago Area Runners Assoc., Arts & Business Council of Chicago. Bill also served on the Board of Governors at the Lansing Country Club as well as Treasurer at the Pono Kai Resort in Kauai. In his free time Bill enjoys reading, walking, running and swimming.

### **Director – Florida Region**

**No Candidate**

### **Director – Midwest Region**



**Janice Gawenda** – Jan started her career with United in 1961 at EXORT, in the waning days at MDW, as a Bookkeeping Machine Operator. Following that she went to OPBSP as a statistical planning clerk. During her career she worked in CHIRR as a Reservation Agent, in ORDFH as an Air Freight Clerk, in ORDMM as a Manpower Planning Clerk and in OPBCM as a Flight Operations Clerk. She retired from OPBCM as a crew scheduler in 1997. During her career she received an Award of Merit. In her retirement she has been very active in the Chicago Skyliners. With the Skyliners she is on the planning committee, coordinates raffles and is presently their correspondent for the RUAEA Newsletter. Jan has also been active as a Cook County Election Judge as well as being involved as her class representative of the Joliet Catholic Academy. She plans their Reunions and quarterly luncheons, as well as keeping the class up to date of fellow

colleague information. In both activities she has received awards, Judge of the year 2009 and Alumnus of the Year 2015. Jan has also been involved with the Loonies gatherings, including planning the gathering in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. In her free time she looks after her four cats. Jan is a movie buff as her cats are named Cary Grant, Clark Gable, Audrey Hepburn and Katharine Hepburn. She also attends concerts, plays and enjoys gardening.

### **Director – Southern California**

*No Candidate*

### **Director – Northern California/Nevada Region**



**Sonda Sandstedt** – Sonda began her career with United as a Customer Service Representative in San Francisco in August of 1987. She continued her career in Customer Service and in 1992 transferred to GSOOZ. Then, about a year later she moved on to CLTOZ. Both Greensboro and Charlotte were line stations so Sonda not only worked in Customer Service but also in Load Planning, Baggage Service and Ramp Service. She retired in 2003 from CLTOZ. Sonda returned to Northern California and became active in the Sacramento Gold Diggers. She was part of the 2007 RUAEA Convention Committee in Sacramento. Sonda has attended conventions since then and volunteered where needed. She is currently the President of the Sacramento Gold Diggers. Other activities include volunteering at the Information Booth at the Sacramento International Airport, being a board member at

her church concerning faith and personnel. Sonda is involved with the Firebelles, a local philanthropy, where she is past president and has served on many committees. In her spare time, Sonda likes gardening, golf, reading, card games and seeing her grandchildren.

### **Director – Western Region**



**Roger Casterline** - In 1965, Roger was hired into SFOEG as an Aircraft Engineer. From 1980-1991, Roger was Director of Aircraft Technical services and retired as Manager of Engineering Systems in 1994. Roger is a member of the Redwood Empire Chapter in Santa Rosa and the South Bay Chapter in San Jose. In his leisure time, he enjoys golf, travel and riding his motorcycle. For the past six years Roger has been RUAEA Western Region Director. Roger would like to get younger retirees to join and participate in RUAEA and local chapter activities since the existing chapter membership is aging and is not easily replaced.



**Tom Cunningham** – Tom started with United in 1963 as a clerk in the Maintenance Center in San Francisco. Transferred to RNOCS where he did ticketing, Air Freight and Ground Services. Transferred back to SFOTR where Tom worked the gates, ticketing and lost and found. Then moved on to SFOTO and worked several locations in San Francisco and the East Bay. Tom was later involved in Sales and Ticketing, receiving an award of Sales Agent of the Year. Tom worked with Tour Sales Group rating hotels and condos in Hawaii for Tour Sales. Tom's retirement began in 2003 from Walnut Creek Ticket Office. In retirement he has been involved with the East Bay Diablos, most recently as their Cashier. Tom's volunteer activities have been with the United Way, Past President of IAM Local 1781 for Customer Service Agents. In his leisure time Tom

enjoys gardening. Although he lives in California, Tom realizes the importance of RUAEA having personal contact with all the chapters. He volunteered for, was elected and is currently serving as Director of the

Northwest Region. If elected as the Western Region Director, he will also continue as Director of Northwest Region and will show both regions the interest and enthusiasm he has shown the Northwest Region.

# RUAEA NATIONAL ELECTION 2016 OFFICIAL BALLOT

All RUAEA members in good standing are eligible to vote and to hold office.

Please mark your ballot with an ☒ for your choice of candidates.

Sign the ballot, include your file number or member ID, enclose in an envelope and mail to the following address:

**RUAEA Audit Committee  
2702 Meadow Drive  
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008-1717**

**Ballots must be received by the Audit Committee by August 22, 2016!**

\*\*\*\*\*

Vote for one person per office – (\*) denotes that the candidate is an incumbent.

<u><b>President</b></u> <input type="checkbox"/> Virgil Gooselaw <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In _____	<u><b>Executive Vice President</b></u> <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Simon <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In _____	<u><b>Treasurer</b></u> <input type="checkbox"/> Pam Ziebarth (*) <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In _____
<u><b>Secretary</b></u> <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Jane Stewart <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In _____	<u><b>Vice President Conventions</b></u> <input type="checkbox"/> John Zoboli <input type="checkbox"/> William Corbett <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In _____	<u><b>Director – Western Region</b></u> <input type="checkbox"/> Roger Casterline (*) <input type="checkbox"/> Tom Cunningham <input type="checkbox"/> Write-In _____
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**VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE**

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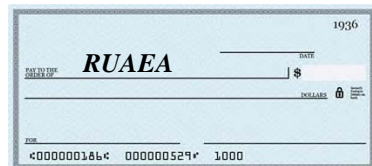
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## United Airlines Historical Foundation

"Preserving the Past,  
Inspiring the Future"

### **"Day in the Life" of a Station Agent.**

**A** Versatile is the word when you're talking about line station agents. To prove it, EXO Photographer Jim McWayne took these pictures of a day with South Bend's Rex Blyton, a Station Agent A. Rex has been with United since June 1955. His ambition is to become a United Flight Engineer and he is already accumulating flying hours.

In the course of an eight-hour shift, a station agent may do everything from selling tickets to sprucing up the station, from making reservations to meeting trips, from handling cargo to load planning.

With all that experience to be gained it's not surprising that many of United's present supervisors started at a line station.



(left photo) Our photo tour started about 7 a.m. when Rex opened the office. Other early arrivals (from the left) Lamarr Schmitt, Leonard Leffel, Ralph Stewart and Margaret Burton. Then at various times during the day Rex performed the other jobs pictured. (middle photo) He loaded a cargo cart prior to trip arrival. (right photo) He checked passengers aboard a Westbound flight to Chicago.



(left photo) Rex saluted the trip off to Chicago. (middle photo) He manned the ticket counter with Supervisor Adam Claus and Agent Leonard Leffel. (right photo) He unloaded inbound cargo.

"A Day in the life of a Station Agent" will be continued next month.

By Marvin Berryman, DENTK Retired, from the July 1957 United "Shield" magazine. Visit our website at [www.uahf.org](http://www.uahf.org).

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



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## *Seattle Rain Dance - Soak It Up*



**R**UAEA Convention Seattle, September 21-24, 2016 – With luck, no umbrellas will be needed. The Emerald City Slickers await your arrival to renew old friendships and make new friends at the annual Retired United Airline Employees Association's convention in Seattle, in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. Mountains, water, blue skies and airplanes augment the green trees of the Evergreen State.

Choose to visit glacier-crowned Mt. Rainier and/or to help Boeing celebrate 100 years of airplane manufacturing. Boeing's plant in Everett will provide an opportunity to see airplanes in-the-making.

The Museum of Flight at Boeing Field offers a look at airplanes from all eras, as well as the air history of World Wars I and II. The new outdoor Aviation Pavilion houses more modern planes, including the first 727 and a newly-added 247 (both UALs), for your viewing pleasure. Do you prefer staying closer to the city? Check out the waterfront activities (Pike Place Market) or visit Seattle Center (Space Needle).

Additional regional touring is readily available, but right at the convention hotel you can meet and greet in the Hospitality Room. Enjoy your raffle winnings. Learn more about RUAEA and UAL Retirees' benefits. Savor special treats and camaraderie at the Friday night Prop Wash Party and Saturday's banquet. One of the region's major shopping malls is close to the convention hotel.

Registration is open, so sign up now to be sure you don't miss out on your choice of tours. The convention packet was part of your June issue of the RUAEA Newsletter.

Welcome to the Emerald City!

**Gay Liesse and John Haferbecker, Publicity**