

# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER



**ISSUE NO. 367** 

**EDITOR-JO MADDEN** 

**MARCH-2005** 

# **HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD!**

The famous Hollywood sign originally read "Hollywoodland." It was erected in 1923 to advertise a new housing development in the hills above Hollywood. For several years the sign was left to deteriorate. In 1949, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce stepped in, offered to remove the last four letters and repair the rest. The sign, located at the top of Mount Lee, is now a registered trademark of the Chamber of Commerce, who also manages the venerable Walk of Fame. The sign can be easily seen from the levels of the area at the rear of Hollywood & Highland, also on two levels are viewing telescopes for a close up look.

Another interesting landmark in the area is the famous Capitol Records building, on Vine Street just north of Hollywood Blvd. It is a recording studio not open to the public, but its unique circular design looks like a stack of old 45 RPM records. Yet another location to record with your camera. Bring lots of film (or a digital camera).

By now, you will have received the Registration packet in the Feb. RUAEA Newsletter. <u>Please look it over carefully as there is lots to offer - make your choices, return it quickly to lock in your favorite events.</u> **Please include on your check & your registration form your UA file number - if you are an Associate, make sure to put the letter A in front of the file number.** Save the pertinent pages to bring with you.

Our heartfelt thanks for all of you wonderfully talented persons who are so generous with your contributions to our Art Display, as it is a huge part of every Convention. We continue to solicit items from the "geniuses" within RUAEA for the Art Display. Thank you all for your tremendous assistance in this wonderful event. Keep up the good work!

<u>A SPECIAL NOTE</u>: Maria Gibbs- actress - will entertain/speak at the RUAEA Banquet on Saturday, May 28. Maria was a former UAL reservations agent who worked in both the Detroit & Los Angeles offices before pursuing her acting career. Maria has performed in many venues, is very well known for her role as Florence Johnston, the maid in the late 1970 TV series "The Jeffersons". She has also starred in episodes of "Judging Amy", "Touched by an Angel", "Roots", Dawson's Creek", "Empty Nest", & many others too numerous to mention here.

The RUAEA Convention 2005 dates are: May 22 – May 29, 2005. Also, if you are online, please check often the RUAEA website: <a href="https://www.RUAEA.ORG"><u>WWW.RUAEA.ORG</u></a>. There are a number of links at this website that give tons of information for your use.

Jim Ferrance
Publicity, RUAEA Convention 2005
<a href="mailto:RUAEA007@aol.com">RUAEA007@aol.com</a> (for convention comments or suggestions)

# **GENERAL NEWS**

# **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

I assume you have been following the events in United's bankruptcy.

The Flight Attendants, Pilots, Meteorologists & Dispatchers have all reached agreements, the membership ratified the agreements & the bankruptcy judge approved the agreements. AMFA members rejected their tentative agreement; the IAM & United did not reach an agreement. Upon petition by United, the bankruptcy judge ordered an immediate pay reduction of 11.5% for the IAM & a 10% reduction for AMFA. The IAM & AMFA are in negotiations with United; are targeting to reach an agreement by April. All Salaried & Management employees' salaries were reduced from 4% to 14% on Jan. 1. In addition all Salaried & Management employees are paying part of their medical insurance, the number of Holidays has been reduced also vacations have been reduced.

Currently all the unions & United are in negotiations regarding the pension plans. The target date for resolving this issue is April.

The biggest impact on income & benefits is and will be on active employees.

A number of RUAEA members have suggested that RUAEA become more aggressive with the company, hire legal council, file suit in the bankruptcy court and become a principal in the bankruptcy proceedings. The key issues affecting retirees are travel, medical insurance & pension. Your RUAEA Officers have discussed this, assessed the cost/benefit we would realize in pursuing this direction. Frankly, our assessment is that we would have little if anything to gain. Since our membership voted for RUAEA to pursue a proactive stance with the company regarding retiree interests, issues & concerns we have established a formal presence in WHQ. Under the leadership of Ed Tolle, assisted by other retirees, he meets frequently & regularly with the principals responsible for retiree benefits & policies. In addition, Ed, Mort Wax & I meet regularly with Glenn Tilton & Sara Fields regarding these matters. Currently the status is:

<u>Travel</u>: The policy regarding travel, in which we pay a service charge, was implemented 2 years ago. There is no change; no change is planned. (The exception is the interline travel in which service charges are based on the ZED program rather than the ID 75, ID 90 & ID 95. These details are published in the newsletter, the RUAEA website & on Skynet.)

<u>Medical insurance</u>: Last summer all the insurance plans for retirees were negotiated with the company & approved by the bankruptcy judge. There is no change to this as long as United is a viable company. (Many members have asked what alternative plans are available in the marketplace in lieu of United's plans; secondly, what would be available to retirees in the event United does not survive. Refer to Mort's article in this newsletter regarding this issue.)

<u>Pensions</u>: As mentioned above, United is negotiating with all the unions regarding the pension plans. The ERISA Act of 1979 & the guidelines of the PBGC are very clear in the event of termination of the defined benefit plans. I wrote articles in the Nov. 2004 & in the Jan. 2005 Newsletters detailing what we retirees can expect upon termination of the plans.

I mentioned that we are working very closely with the top management & principals of United Airlines. We are being kept informed of the status and progress in bankruptcy; the impact on retiree benefits & policies. We have the opportunity to provide input regarding these matters. We have assessed that hiring legal representation and/or becoming an active player in the bankruptcy court proceedings would not change the status of our benefits, therefore we will continue to work in a positive, collaborative, problem-solving approach

directly with the principals of United. We will continue to maintain open communications re these issues. We will continue to support United in its survival struggle also assist in whatever ways we can to reach that goal.

We will continue to try our best to keep you informed.

Marlin Lade President - RUAEA

# FROM THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Especially over the past two months many retirees have been asking questions about our medical insurance. Members of RUAEA & RUPA are questioning:

- Is there a better alternative to United's existing health insurance group plan?
- What alternatives would be available in the event there is no United medical/prescription coverage plans?

Recently we jointly pursued answers to these 2 questions.

There are 2 organizations who have been providing assistance to furloughed United employees with needs involving health plans. We met with them on Jan. 20. Pres. Marlin Lade, RUAEA member Chick McErlean & I, together with Pres. Rich Bouska of RUPA & Dick Schultz of RUPA met with representatives of IMA of CO & AXA Advisors (some of them furloughed pilots) to receive information on what is available & what are our options.

First, what are better alternatives to United's existing health insurance group plan? By law an employer/employee relationship must exist for a group plan to be possible. For a different group plan, United would have to contribute as it does to the current retiree plan. There is no option for a group plan if United does not contribute. Neither RUAEA nor RUPA could be a sponsor because neither organization provides an "employer/employee relationship". (For example, AARP. AARP has worked with an insurance underwriter to provide insurance for its members, however, members join an insurance plan as an individual, not a group plan.)

IMA of CO researched health insurance plans offered by Aetna, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, CIGNA, UHC & Great West. Their analysis was that none offered benefits & costs that could compete with what United is currently offering. They supplied us with documentation of their findings. Their recommendation is "...stay with current United program."

Each of us has the prerogative to individually contract with any health insurance provider instead of United's group plan.

Second, what are the alternatives in the event there is no United medical/prescription coverage plan? For pre-65 retirees, the only options are individual programs that are individually underwritten, that vary based upon need and that vary in premium levels. Because these programs are individually underwritten, specific medical conditions & related complications can be excluded or can be entirely declined for coverage. In case the insurance coverage is declined, the only available option would be a State uninsured pool. For post-65 retirees, who are covered by Medicare A & B, there are 10 supplemental (Medigap) Standard plus Medicare Advantage plans available. Again, please note that in the event of United medical plan termination preexisting conditions covered under the canceled group plan will be covered only within 63 days of group plan termination when applying for a replacement supplemental plan.

If you are interested in reviewing options & costs available to you, we recommend that you access either or both the Defined Contribution Benefit Solutions & Medicare websites at

<u>www.chooseyourbenefits.com</u> or <u>www.medicare.gov</u>. You can compare your options & costs; advantages & limitations. Our advice is:

- 1. Be careful! There may be no guaranteed coverage upon selection of an individual contract carrier. Applicants may be required to go through the carrier's health screening process.
- 2. Be careful. Once you voluntarily suspend United's group plan you will not be able to re-enroll, unless you can provide proof that you had continuous coverage in an eligible plan while your United plan coverage was dropped. Eligible plans include another employer-sponsored health plan, a Medicare HMO or Medigap-"Plan J" & coverage through TriCare for active & retired military personnel plus their dependents. (See Section 2 of your United Summary Plan Description.)

Mort Wax
Executive Vice President

# **RUAEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

January 31, 2005

Pres. Marlin Lade opened the meeting and commented on areas of retirees concerns, namely: pensions, health insurance & travel benefits. The Policy & Procedure Manual has been amended. The By-Laws will also be amended pending the approval of the RUAEA members at the 2005 Annual Business meeting in Hollywood. The proposed By-Law changes will be published in the April 2005 edition of the Newsletter. This is necessary, to reflect the new RUAEA policy, changes in the Denver Office & incorporating the newly created appointed positions as Board members.

Executive VP Mort Wax reported that Newsletter typist Shirley Smith has retired & the position has been filled by John Chu. The number of Newsletter Membership Secretary personnel will be increased from 3 to 5, one for each day, due to the large volume of new membership. A Denver Procedures Manual is needed for the proposed new Denver Audit. The Reinstatement file will be changed. After one year in arrears, member will be dropped off the membership file. Upon reinstatement, old arrears member will be treated as a new member. An Associate member will retain the birth-date of the deceased RUAEA member. When the birthday falls within the first five months of the date from when an Associate membership application is processed in the DEN office, renewal of membership is not due until the next birthday.

Membership /Support Manager Howard Tress distributed a new member & membership renewal procedures to the Board. One for the RUAEA website is in development. Once your ID & password are established, there will be no need to use each sign when logging on to <a href="https://www.ruaea.com">www.ruaea.com</a> as security is assured.

Newsletter Manager Virgil Gooselaw reported an increase of new membership at 33% & an increase of costs for printing the Newsletter has risen 10% with projection to 20% for this year. Will limit the Newsletter to 52 pages. Expense would significantly decrease with sign-up for electronic copy (<a href="https://www.ruaea.com">www.ruaea.com</a>).

Website Manager Jim Sommerfield reported on possible new enhancements for the RUAEA website & requested additions to the proposed Website Managers Duties for the Policy and Procedures Manual.

Membership Secy. Harriet Ahr reported membership at 11,932 as of Jan. 29, 2005. Secretaries are still processing "beige " application forms.

Newsletter Editor – Jo Madden requested the deadline date for news items to be published in the Newsletter be moved back to the sixth  $(6^{th})$  of the month from the current thirteenth  $(13^{th})$  date. Motion made, seconded & carried. Effective with the April issue. The list of new members ended with the letter M; will be continued in the next issue due to Newsletter size constraints. Invitations will be sent to the Chapter correspondents for the Correspondents Breakfast at the Convention.

The Financial Statements for the 4th quarter & year-end 2004 were distributed & reported to the Board by Treasurer Charlie Lewis. The 2004 Annual Audit was completed. RUAEA is financially sound. Motion made, seconded & carried to accept the 2005 Budget as amended to increase the proposed cost of printing the Newsletter due to large number of new members.

Convention Chairman Hal Klobe made a progress report for the 2005 Hollywood Convention. All convention activities are on schedule. VP of Conventions Bud Hubbard reported that the 2006 Convention city will be announced at the 2005 Hollywood Convention. The Site Selection Committee has begun the search for the 2007 Convention city.

The nominating committee is selecting the slate of candidates for the office of Regional Directors for the Northwest Region & Arizona Region. These Directors have served two, 2 year terms, also candidates for the Mountain Region & Northeast Region Directors who are up for reelection. Please contact the Nominating Committee Chairman Jim Fauber, committee members Helen Cauwels or Gordon Starr or a Regional Director if you are interested ASAP. Phone numbers are available on the back of the Newsletter. The RUAEA Denver office now has an e-mail address that you can use for change of address, membership records, articles & items to be published in the Newsletter. **ruaea@aol.com** 

A reminder, the surviving spouse will receive free Newsletters for 2 months after the death of a RUAEA member, then must sign up as an Associate member to continue to receive the Newsletter.

Regional Directors attended the Board meeting & submitted their Chapter reports for their respective regions. Reminder that we have a travel desk in PDX (800 number for six months #1-888-278-7038) also SEA Travel Desk for retirees.

We urge all of you to attend the 2005 Hollywood convention.

Respectfully submitted Helen Cauwels - RUAEA Secretary

#### UNITED MAKES INTERLINE TRAVEL MORE AFFORDABLE

United announces the initial rollout of even more affordable interline rates through the Zonal Employee Discount (ZED) program -- an interline fare program widely used by other carriers. United employees & retirees are eligible to purchase ZED reduced-rate interline tickets initially only on Lufthansa, with other carriers to be added as agreements & automation are completed.

ZED fares replace industry discount ID90/95 fares for interline travel, simplify & significantly reduce pricing for non-revenue space-available interline pleasure travel. For example, the ZED fare for travel from Munich to Chicago is \$96.69 compared to the current ID95 fare of \$280.69 -- a 66% savings. For details on how to find out what ZED fares will cost, visit the Apollo profile S\*UPE/INTERLINE-ZED.

ZED pricing is based on mileage between the origin & destination per segment rather than a percentage of the market fare. ZED fares also offer a larger discount in part because surcharges on interline pleasure travel are eliminated, except for government-mandated fees.

To start, adult ZED fares will apply to all eligible interline travels, including children & infants; however, future enhancements to the program will include child & infant discount fares.

Offering fares using the ZED formula is a positive benefit for all employees & retirees also adds no incremental cost to the company.

Eligible employees & retirees purchase ZED tickets & request refunds the same way they currently do for ID90/95s. Current interline policies remain the same. Initially, ZED fares are available to United employees/retirees traveling on Lufthansa interline tickets. The ZED team -- comprised of Onboard Service, Flight Operations, Worldwide Sales Performance & International Support, Information Services Division, Revenue Management, Reservations Planning, Customer Service Planning & Human Resources -- is working to add other carriers in the near future.

United is pursuing ZED agreement with numerous other carriers worldwide that use the ZED systems; will add airlines to its ZED program as quickly as possible, focusing on carriers that employees use most frequently for interline travel. United initially implemented ZED on Lufthansa, because it's the most used carrier among employees & retirees for interline travel.

More information on Zonal Employee Discount fares, as well as purchasing interline tickets, is located on the "Interline Travel Benefits" Skynet section.

# STANDBY TRAVEL BETWEEN BRAZIL & U.S. WILL BE DIFFICULT THROUGH MARCH

Standby travelers will find it challenging to fly between the US & Rio de Janeiro & Sao Paulo from now until the Easter holiday, due to the Carnival festivities in Brazil. Although flights may appear to have seats open, weight & balance restrictions are also affecting the number of passengers who can board.

Employees & Retirees who have eligible dependents or unaccompanied companions planning to travel on these routes should advise them that space-available travel may be difficult during this high-volume period.

# **CUSTOMERS EARN MILES IN UNITED PET CLASS**

Pets are eligible for top-notch travel perks, just like their owners. With the introduction of United Pet Class, Mileage Plus members can earn miles for flying with companions who bark, meow & chirp.

United transports approximately 150,000 animals per year for a fee. Pet carrying fees range from \$80 each way for in-cabin carrying to \$200 each way for large kennels transported in the cargo hold. Along with the fees, all United policies on pet travel remain the same, including in-cabin capacity limits.

United's Pet Class program kicks off with a special offer for Mileage Plus members to earn 1,200 bonus miles when their pets fly with them. This offer is good through May 27, 2005.

Whether shipping pets as checked baggage or riding with them in the cabin, Pet Class customers who register for the offer will earn the bonus miles when they purchase & complete one paid, qualifying roundtrip flight to any United destination worldwide, so long as the pets accompany them on at least one segment of the same itinerary.

United also is the Official Airline of the American Kennel Club (AKC), which recently held a nationally sponsored dog show championship in Tampa, FL., where United promoted its new program to a full house of media representatives & potential customers. In addition, the popular AKC Website provides a united.com link.

For more information on traveling with pets & the Mileage Plus bonus offer, visit <u>united.com</u>.

# UNITED ADDS 3 MORE NONSTOP CHI/HONG KONG FLIGHTS TO WEEKLY SCHEDULE

United is adding 3 more flights to our existing daily CHI/Hong Kong schedule. In early June, the CHI/Hong Kong route will have 10 daily nonstop flights per week.

Beginning Jun. 7, United Flight 829 will depart CHI on Tues., Fri. & Sun. at 3:10 p.m., arrive in Hong Kong 7:45 p.m. the next day. Starting Jun. 10, United Flight 828 will depart Hong Kong Tues., Fri. & Sun., 10:10 a.m., arrive in CHI 11:40 a.m. the same day.

# TED TO ENTER LOW-COST MARKET AT CHICAGO MIDWAY AIRPORT

Ted will launch 3 daily flights to DEN & 2 daily flights to Washington Dulles from CHI Midway Airport, the heart of Chicago's low-cost carrier market. Beginning Apr. 3, United is expanding its Ted service to Midway Airport, located on the city's southwest side. United will operate the new Ted service using 156-seat Airbus A320 aircraft.

#### **UNITED TO RECALL 150 PILOTS**

150 pilots previously laid off will be called back to work this year to offset pilot retirements.

United expects to recall 75 pilots in the spring & 75 later in the year.

The Company has about 6,400 active pilots; 2133 pilots on furlough, according to the Air Line Pilot Association.

# <u>CLERR - 15 YEAR REUNION</u> <u>Friday June 24, 2005 - Albion Woods Metropark picnic grounds in Strongville</u> <u>1000-2200</u>

We are planning a reunion to remember the closing of CLERR 14 years ago. We need a preliminary count, so if you are interested in attending please contact Arlene Brahm ASAP. Details about cost etc. will be forthcoming soon. Hope to see you all there!

Arlene Brahm

acbrahm@aol.com

(440) 356-4197 20325 Bonnie Bank Rocky River, OH 44016

If sending email, please add CLERR Reunion to the subject field.

# POSSIBLE RUAEA CHAPTER IN MILWAUKEE, WI

Irene Scheuerell, a retired Flight Attendant based in ORD for 35 years would like to start a RUAEA Chapter in Milwaukee, WI. If you are interested in becoming part of the new MKE Chapter, please contact Irene. Send an e-mail to <a href="mailto:scheuerells@aol.com">scheuerells@aol.com</a> or phone # (414) 764-8190.

# **RUAEA CANDIDATES YEAR 2005**

# <u> Director - Northwest Region</u>

Henry (Hank) Gosselin - began his career with United Airlines Mar. 17, 1960 as an A&P Line Mechanic in New York (JFK), received an Award of Merit, was Shuttle Maintenance Coordinator, MM Representative for Employee Assistance Program; is active in volunteer work (FOE) Eagles Trustee - raising funds for various charities and did a great job as General Chairman of RUAEA's 2004 convention in SEA. Retired from UAL 4/30/2000 as Team Leader in SEAMM.

His leisure activities include fishing, boating & dancing!

# **Director - Northwest Region**

**George (Jack) Hoober** - started his airline career with UAL as a Pilot at ORDFO (Chicago) 2/21/66 & retired as a Captain in LAXFO, 9/4/93. Jack was Line Check Airman 1985-1989. He has been very active in RUAEA; Oregon DEW-ERS a member since 1993, Pres. of the Chapter 2000 to 2004.

Volunteer involvement: Commissioner - Clark County Fire District One 1993 - present, Commissioner East County Fire & Rescue - Jan. 2004 to present. Leisure activities include Vancouver Rifle & Pistol Club, reading, travel & taking care of 5 acres in the country. He was a naval aviator 1955 - 1959 (active duty), naval aviator (reserve) 1960-1972, General Motors - AC Electronics Division, Apollo Program Inertial Navigations System Engineer 1960-1965, NROTC National Pistol Champion 1954-1955.

# Director - Arizona Region

Ron Robertson - began his career with United Airlines 1/17/66 as a Management Trainee in the Customer Service Dept. in Omaha, retired 11/30/00 as the General Manager of the Mileage Plus Dept. in Tucson. During his career Ron received 2 UA Awards of Merit, San Diego Airline Managers' Association Award, Taiwan International Airlines Association Recognition, & Taiwan American Chamber of Commerce Award. Ron is the Pres. of the Tucson Roadrunners Chapter. Volunteer involvements: Board of Directors Friends of Western Art, Chairman FWA Artist of the year 2004 Annual Fundraiser, Board of Directors - Los Arroyos HOA, Past VP & Treas.

Leisure activities: Community Service, golf & travel.

# <u>Director - Northeast Region</u>

**Jeri Juth** - began her career with United Airlines 5/25/59 as a Customer Service Trainer in Pittsburgh & retired as a CS Supervisor 12/31/91. Jeri was awarded the honor as Agent of the year, also received 5 Awards of Merit.

She has been active in the "Pittsburgh Pit Stoppers" Chapter as VP & Pres. She has been Chapter Correspondent to the RUAEA Newsletter for several years.

Jeri joined the U.S. Marine Corps May 1956, retired 5/19/59 with the rank of Staff Sgt. Leisure activities are reading, walking & fishing.

# **NEWSLETTER CORRESPONDENTS**

Chapter reports for April are due in DEN Mar. 4 (deadline date has been moved to the 6<sup>th</sup> of the month as listed in the minutes of the RUAEA Board meeting held 1/31/05. This will allow the Newsletter to be mailed much earlier in the month.)

Mar. 6 is a Sun; which required date to be Fri. 3/4, May reports by 4/6, June reports by 5/6. Reports may be sent by FAX. FAX number is (303) 780-5667 - Attention: Jo Madden. Reports may also be sent by e-mail to <a href="mailto:ruaea@aol.com">ruaea@aol.com</a>. Please list Chapter name at top of each page; also please use 12 points (pica) type - anything smaller is hard to read. If sent by US Mail, address to: Jo Madden, Newsletter Editor, 7401 E. MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433. Allow for postal delays.

# **SPECIAL NOTICE**

During the RUAEA Convention in Los Angeles - Hollywood, Chapter Correspondents meeting will be held Fri. May 27, 7:00 AM - 10:00 AM in the Franklin Hills Room, Continental breakfast will be served. All correspondents are invited to attend. If regular correspondent cannot attend, please appoint an alternate. Another report will be in the April Newsletter to ask for a definite RSVP. Plan to attend. See you there!

Jo Madden Newsletter Editor

#### **LOCAL NEWS**

#### ARIZONA

# **PHOENIX AZURES**

Sherry Muoio 20108 N. 110<sup>th</sup> Ave. Sun City, AZ 85373 (623) 572-4828 phx2@cs.com

Breakfast at Coco's & Mimi's had 20 folks at each meeting. It is so good to see all of you getting out and networking.

For those of you who are NOT on the regulars list & plan to attend the breakfast meetings at Coco's & or Mimi's, you must call in advance. Please call Pat Butkiewicz before 5:00pm of the Mon. prior to the breakfast; her number is (623) 935-9235. At our Jan. 17 meeting we had a new member join our group. Welcome to Liz Cairns (SEARR) now living in Sun City.

The new Azures South breakfast meeting was off to a great start on 1/11/05, 20

members attended the breakfast. The Mimi's menu was great. The decision was made to meet once a month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tue. at Mimi's Cafe near Lowe's & I-10 on Dysart in Pebble Creek. Please contact Pat Butkiewicz (Mon. by 5pm) at the above phone number, as she will be coordinating both breakfast lists.

Our Jan. luncheon at Briarwood was such fun. We had our annual white elephant-fund-raiser, with 68 attendees, thanks to your generosity we raised funds for our yearly charities. Bruce Rosch was there arriving in his newest vehicle (wheelchair.) He was golfing, fell & broke his ankle. George Klick attended his 1<sup>st</sup> luncheon in quite a while, everyone was so pleased to see him. Jack Bonesteel had kidney surgery, now doing well. Vi Mummah had hip surgery, we wish her a speedy recovery.

As a reminder the Azures have canceled the annual meeting at CASA GRANDE for 2005.

# Calendar

Coco's breakfast meetings:

Mar. 1 - Azures North - Coco's

Mar. 8 - Azures South - Mimi's (proposed)

Mar. 15 - Azures North - Coco's

Mar. 29 - Azures North - Coco's

Scheduled Luncheons:

Mar. 17 - Casa Grande - canceled

April 9 - End-of-the-year cookout at Luke Air Force Base Officers Club

# **PHOENIX RE-UNITEDS**

Submitted by Jo Anne Gaudioso 9105 East Diamond Drive Sun Lakes, AZ 85248 (480) 802-2973 jandj@robsoncom.net

The Re-United's Jan. 12 luncheon meeting, hosted by Ed & Marie Conlon was held at the Cottonwood Country Club.

Jim Fauber updated the group on the Bankruptcy Status. He advised that the company had come to an agreement with unions & that the court did not endorse the agreement reached by the pilots' union. That contract will have to be renegotiated. Once all the agreements have been approved, the pension issues will be discussed.

Jim advised that the recent membership mailing added over a thousand new members in RUAEA bringing the membership to over 11,000 members.

Jim impressed upon us the importance of the United Airlines Archives. UA was the first U.S. airline & the history of the airline is important. He advised that the position of Archives Manager had recently been eliminated. He stressed the importance of RUAEA in association with the Historical Foundation preserving our past.

Jim also asked if there were any members interested in being a candidate for the Director of AZ area.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Nancy Mullan (new retiree from Washington, D.C. & guest of Jo Anne Gaudioso & Bonnie Fauber.)

Beginning Jan. 26, the Re-Uniteds who are interested met for breakfast once a month. The 1<sup>st</sup> breakfast was held at Ollie's Omelets in Mesa & had a large turnout.

Member News: Ed & Loretta Dahl are recovering from an automobile accident which

occurred in early Dec, Ted & Liz Tolleson had a serious fire in their home; are currently staying in IL to oversee the repairs. They were not home at the time of the fire.

# **TALL PINES**

Ann Tomasic 604 Mockingbird Court Prescott, AZ 86301 (928) 717-1550

Our 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the New Year was held on Jan. 25 at the Plaza Café on the square in downtown Prescott with 16 in attendance & a lot of friendly conversation going on. A welcome was extended to newcomers Mona & Mike Grogan who both were employed by United, retired from LAS, now reside in Chino Valley. Also, another friendly face we haven't seen for a while was Nikki Krause – welcome back.

Jeannie Risdon would like to know if we want to continue to meet at the Plaza Café for the month of April. We also have to decide on where we want to meet in May, due to the fact that Plaza Café will not be able to handle our group from May through Aug. So come on retirees, put on your thinking caps & have some good suggestions for our next meeting.

#### Calendar:

Mar. 22 – Plaza Café April 26 – To be determined

# **TUCSON ROADRUNNER**

Ray & Ann Wood 2936 Player Avenue Sierra Vista, AZ 85650 (520) 378-4699 rwood8@cox.net

For our 2004 Christmas project we chose to help the students & teachers at a Title One school; it was a rousing success. Donna Kuehn, who coordinated the operation, says the principal was completely overwhelmed when she delivered copious school supplies & a check for \$750. The principal's exact words were, "You cannot imagine how happy you are going to make a lot of kids." As Donna says, "What a great job all of you Roadrunners did. Thank you for your generosity."

I picture children nestled all snug in their beds, while visions of sugar plums & No. 2 pencils dance in their heads. I also picture children doing better in school.

Lou & Hank Dykhuis, Lyn & Roger Callihan, and Ann & Ray Wood spent Christmas & New Year's Day on the high seas on Holland America's *ms Statendam* on a cruise from SAN to SAN with stops at several Hawaiian ports of call. The Dykhuises & the Callihans had made the trip before. It is a great way to travel, Getting there is more than half the fun.

On a somber note, many of the *Statendam's* crew were Indonesians. Our hearts went out to them when we learned of the devastating tsunami that ravaged parts of their land which left them with deep concern & worry about their families & friends.

If you haven't already done so, get out the check book & pay your Roadrunner dues. Make your checks to the Roadrunners, send them to Sybil Collins.

On Jan. 20, 35 Roadrunners had lunch at the Viscount Suite Hotel. Thanks to Pat & Rich DiLallo we had an entertaining & informative speaker from the Oro Valley Police Department, Officer Mike Schuh. He spoke about the growing crime of ID theft, pointed out that AZ is #1 in the nation in ID theft. He gave us several tips on how to protect ourselves, as senior citizens, from ID theft & credit card fraud. The tips would also be useful to junior citizens.

Donna Kuehn reports, with a great deal of sadness, the deaths of 2 of our members. Shirley Martin passed away the end of Dec. & Katy Hunter passed away in Jan. We send our prayers & love to both Gil Martin & Howard Hunter. Both ladies will be missed by their United family.

Ken Kuehn is still among the lame; he has been moved from the hospital to the Sabino Canyon Rehab Health Center. We look forward to having him back in action.

Donna Kuehn has been for a few years our Secy. Actually, she is our General Factotum, arranger of our meetings, doer-of-everything. Recently she has had her hands full with Ken's lamentable misfortunes, so many of her tasks are being handled temporarily & probably inadequately by others. Ann & I are sending the monthly reports for the RUAEA Newsletter; Alice Belzer is sending email reports to our online members keeping everyone up-to-date about what's going on with members (believe me, Alice knows what's going on); reservations for our Feb. meeting at Chad's Steak House, a new venue for us, were handled by Lyn & Roger Callihan. We salute Donna & thank her for the extraordinary job she has done for our Chapter over the years; look forward to her full resumption of activities as soon as possible. Donna, you're the greatest!

Our Mar. meeting is usually the All AZ meeting in Casa Grande, which our AZ Chapters take turns in sponsoring. This year's sponsor, the Azures, have had to cancel the meeting. We are hoping the RE-Uniteds can reestablish the annual event next year. In the meantime, if anyone is in town & would like to attend our Mar. meeting, give us a call, we'll let you know the details. Pat & Rich DiLallo are working on them now. Might be a Colorado Rockies spring training game.

Here in the Great Southwest we have a lot of Hispanic culture, so we close with this proverb: El huesped y el pez hieden al tercer dia.

# **CALIFORNIA**

# **CENTRAL COASTERS**

Pismo Beach, CA Wilma Sandy 223 Perry St. Milpitas, CA 95035-5711 (408) 262-1548

The April luncheon meeting for the Central Coasters will take place on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Bill & Dana Noyes will be the hosts (805) 964-9057. Details in flyer For Chapter info, contact Pres. Bob Stanger (805) 929-2901

# FRESNO, CA - BRAZEN RAISINS

Dick Shryock 39379 Hidden Oak Drive Oakhurst, CA 93644-9530 (559) 683-2728

New Brazen Raisins Pres. Peggy Oakshott conducted our Jan. meeting hosted by Charles & Millie Barnett. Sunshine Lady Donna Nessling was absent with a cold, so no sunshine report. Dick Shryock read a card from Elaine & Don Fahrni who had moved to AZ. Several discussions regarding United's situation broke out, including the ultimate fate of retirees' benefits. Peggy & Pam Hartman entertained with stories about their dogs. Jokes by Bob Frost, Ethelda Frost & Elida Rivas.

The Brazen Raisins' Feb. meeting was held at the Pacific Seafood Restaurant in Fresno, hosted by Robert & Ethelda Frost. There were various discussions about UAL's situation. There were also conversations about old times in Fresno. Ethelda Frost conducted a contest about "putting a broken heart back together", a small jigsaw puzzle; Reuben Rivas was the first to do so & won a candy kiss as prize. Jokes were contributed by Nile Jones, Robert Frost & Elida Rivas.

# **DESERT SUNBIRDS**

Miriam (Ozzie) Osgood Hemet, CA 92544-9106 Ph: (909) 927-0067

Fax: (909) 927-0067 ozziejohn@netzon.net

The Jan. 12 meeting of the Desert Sunbirds was held in Hemet under sunny skies (finally). Attendance wasn't great because of fear of flooded roads, but we had 20, that was good. Not much news came out of the meeting but it appears that I'm back as the correspondent. No big deal. I don't know what traveling others have done. We had a nice trip to Branson, MO early Dec, saw several great shows. Now we're thinking what to do next.

The PDX, OR travel desk now has a toll free number (888) 278-7038. We use them a lot to list for flights because they give you schedules & load information. They operate Mon., Wed., Fri.; from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Please tell the volunteer that you're using the (888) number. RUAEA is subsidizing this number.

# Calendar:

Mar. 9 – Tom & Karen Tischler (951) 845-6282

**April 13** – Sandy Sereno (760) 325-5805

**May 11** – Wally & Karen Schmidt (760) 343-1566

# THE SACRAMENTO GOLD DIGGERS

Alice McPeak, Secy. (pro tem) P.O. Box 215 Penryn, CA 95663 (916) 663-1906 amcpeak@sbcglobal.net

OK, so it was showery, but is there anything prettier than the Sierra Foothills this time of year?

We met at the Alta Sierra Country Club, after a very good lunch our new Pres. Harold Esola, thanked Forester & Jean Sinclair for hosting today. There were 113 members & guests in attendance including a number of new members. Harold asked each to give a short resume of their time at United.

V.P. Jeanette D'Amico announced that Hosts are needed for Jul., Aug. 2005 and Jan. 2006.

Treas. Judie King was "Snow birding" in AZ so Forester Sinclair was her stand in; as we would expect of him, gave an outrageous report before becoming serious & telling us we are still solvent. Members are reminded that annual dues must be paid if they are to be on the 2005 mailing list & roster.

Secy. pro tem Alice McPeak said that after the mailing by RUAEA to all retirees last fall there was a huge number of new RUAEA members; she gleaned the ones from our area, sent 18 letters & applications in Jan. & will send 19 more this month.

Sunshine Chairman Francis Domaratius told us that Donna DeLage had a knee replacement & is doing well. Orville Harshbarger had brain surgery for removal of a tumor on Jan. 5. Through the miracle of modern medial technology, he is recovered & is with us today. Bob Sample had heart surgery Dec. 29. He had breathing problems & was readmitted to the hospital due to gallstones. He is now home, prognosis is good & hopes to be at the luncheon next month.

RUAEA Regional Director Bob Cuff brought us up-to-date on the state of affairs at UAL. There is a lot of information available at National RUAEA. Ron Bertacini forwards updates by email. Bob suggests that if you receive this information & know of people who do not have access to the Internet, pass it along so as to keep everyone informed.

We have lost another "Old Timer". Mike Stough, who was Pres. in 1986, died Jan. 11. Mike & Velma his wife are both UAL retirees & faithfully attended the meetings until his poor health made it too hard to manage.

E-mail address change: Pres. Harold & Colleen Esola: <a href="https://hcesola@comcast.net">hcesola@comcast.net</a>

#### Calendar:

Mar. 30 – Meeting

Hosts: Dick & Sonda Sanstedt Place: To be announced

# REDWOOD EMPIRE RETIREES

Judy DeFord 2426 Kamloops Ct Santa Rosa, CA 95405-8352 djd4d@sbcglobal.net

The Jan. 2005 meeting of Redwood Empire Retirees was held at Los Robles Lodge in Santa Rosa. After lunch, Pres. Les Carey called the meeting to order. He thanked Barney & Clare Hagen, who were ably assisted by Patrick Cadden, Lee Trevelyan, Bernice & Charlie Anderson, for hosting the luncheon also for doing a lovely decorating job.

Pres. Carey thanked the outgoing officers, our sunshine lady & photographer for tirelessly conducting the affairs during the past year.

V.P. Norm Burnett introduced the guests: Lee Trevelyan, guest of Clare & Barney Hagen also Doris Medlin, guest of Ruth Loy.

There will soon be a meeting of the new officers. If anyone has a subject that they feel should be looked at & discussed by the officers, please submit the information to one of the officers.

Items of interest: Five years ago lunch at Los Robles cost \$15, this year it is \$20. If the cost of lunch continues to increase at \$1 per year, in the year 2020 the cost will be \$35 for the same lunch.

Treas. Oscar Chambers reported that our Chapter is solvent.

Sunshine Lady, Verda Burr, announce 18 birthdays for Jan. Ruth Loy was the winner of the lunch. There are 5 wedding anniversaries this month. Notable for celebrating over 50 years are Harry & Amy Rogers, 59 years, Robert & Elizabeth Schilling, 54 years. A card was received from Elaine Kristin thanking members for their concern, she hopes to be able to attend a meeting soon. A card & picture were received from Jim Lea, who recently moved to LAS, saying he moved there because it was warm, but recently it has snowed!

# Thought for the month: DON'T DO WHAT YOU WILL HAVE TO FIND AN EXCUSE FOR.

#### Calendar:

Mar. 10 - La Gare, Santa Rosa - Les & Joyce Carey

# Re-LAX-ers

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

In the past month we've heard of a number of people items for you. First, I must make a correction to an item which appeared in the Jan. issue, along with a sincere apology for such an error. Jan. Kessler called in shock after reading the item about the death of the son of her & former husband Frank Birch. The death in the family was that of their daughter,

Colleen. You can't believe how mortified I was that I had made such a mistake, I cannot apologize enough. She died in Nov. You can reach Jan. at (310) 372-3872.

One of our favorite members, Retired Captain Charlie Barnard, passed away suddenly & unexpectedly Jan.19. The family has asked that memorial gifts be made to the Knox Presbyterian Church, 5840 La Tijera Blvd., LA, CA 90056. Condolences can be sent to Margaret Barnard, 5410 Belford Ave., LA, CA 90056. Charlie & Margaret were able to join us on several tours. We enjoyed his wonderful sense of humor. He will be missed.

Many of you will remember Fred Mahan who died on Jan. 27; as far as we've been able to find out. He was in a care facility in Glendora. Apparently Natalie Frayne was the one most in touch with him prior to his death. She advised that he had Alzheimer's among other ailments, but she was able to communicate fairly well with him by phone until her call a few weeks before his death & said he was not able to get out a whole sentence, but seemed to know her. No next of kin information is available at this point.

The son of Rosalee Scoggins called to advise that his mom died Feb. 6, memorial services held Feb. 18. Rosalee worked in the Flight Kitchen in LAX before retiring & moving to Leisure World in Seal Beach. She kept up her membership in RUAEA & ReLAXers although health problems prevented her from attending many functions. Condolences can be sent to Larry Scoggins, 3357 Iroquois Ave., Long Beach, CA 90808, (562) 429-3761 or <a href="mailto:larry123@charter.net">larry123@charter.net</a>

It was good to hear from George Brown, but sorry that his call had to be to convey sad news. He had heard of the death of Joe Barker on Jan. 26 of pneumonia. He had been plagued with it for some time, having been in and out of the hospital. Condolences for Joe can be sent to his daughter Kathy Kam, 11941 Sierra Lane, Northridge, CA 91326, (818) 363-0335.

Marjorie Willis from LAXRR passed away Nov. 23 at her home in SAN. She had many friends in the UA community who will wish to express their sympathies; send them to her daughter & son-in-law, Bill & Lea Lowe, 115 Gleneagles Ter., Costa Mesa, CA 92627, or <a href="mailto:lealowe@onebox.com">lealowe@onebox.com</a>.

Dan MacDonald, husband of Hazel MacDonald who retired from LAXRR & was in LAXSS Accounting before it was disbanded, died at age 102. They were both in a care facility where Hazel will remain. She is suffering from Alzheimer's; those closer to her feel that she doesn't really know what's going on.

Former members of the LAXRR "family" had setbacks. Kathy Reed (13716 Bay St., Fontana, CA 92236) lost her long time friend & companion, Tony Sousa.

Regina Van Cura was visiting in CHI in Nov. when she suffered a brain aneurysm. She had surgery to repair the damage, went through intensive rehab & has had a "miraculous" recovery according to her doctors. Her friends report that her sense of humor has helped carry her through & she continues to make progress. At present she can be reached at Rehabilitation Institute of CHI, 345 E. Superior St., CHI, IL 60611. Cards & notes would be welcome. Our deepest sympathy for Kathy's loss & for Regina's setback.

We've been keeping up with Tarina Murray's shoulder operations – four of them! She is now finished, she hopes, is undergoing therapy at home, 7619 S. Victoria Ave., Inglewood, CA 90305. It was good to see her & her husband at the Feb. 10 luncheon, sling & all.

Jim Ferrance is very close to his family in the CHI area, has been extremely concerned with the illness of his sister Eleanor in Dec. & the surgery of her husband, Rocco which was quite complicated. Here's hoping they are on the road to recovery, Jim. Write him at <a href="mailto:resrat@aol.com">resrat@aol.com</a>.

Sandy Ortiz is doing therapy after her 2<sup>nd</sup> knee replacement, says it's wonderful to be able to walk again.

Ken Skare reports he is in remission from his cancer bout a year ago, which we're happy to hear.

Sharon Carey had foot surgery Dec. 28 but managed to "hobble" to the Convention Committee meetings (via the Metro Rail) & the ReLAXers luncheon 2/10.

Jackie Abel had a long bout with pneumonia; was allowed to stay at home if she stayed in bed; she's over it now, ready to help us with the Convention. But she gave up her car so will need transportation to the convention. Huntington Beach & vicinity residents take note – give her a call if you can possibly help (714) 846-2119.

Anne Daley was at the 2/10 luncheon, still working with her doctors for pain relief for the problem in her left arm. John was not at the meeting as he is having quite a battle with pain here & there which the doc's can't seem to get a handle on. Best wishes to both of you!

Cidy Edson the 2<sup>nd</sup> in command for the Convention computer operations, Gary Edson, was hit with a nasty case of the flu at the worst time of the year – Dec. How she got through that with all the usual Dec. pressure is amazing - thank goodness she did.

JoAnn Briggs also was a victim of the winter flu but her remedy seemed to work better than everyone else's – she said to (bleep) with it & got outta town – on a cruise to HWI. She, husband George, friends had a grand time.

We were happy to see Helen Moore at the luncheon; reported she feels fine; this is good news after all the suffering she had with a back problem.

DUES for ReLAXers were due Jan. 1. This is the \$5 amount for your local chapter, not to be confused with the \$20 dues for the national RUAEA, payable on your birthday & mailed to DEN. Notice that our local chapter dues are the same as when I joined in 1984! Now that's a bargain! Check your checkbooks. Don't pay twice, but be sure you paid once. If you forgot, send a \$5 check, payable to ReLAXers, mail it to JoAnn Briggs, 21303 Legend Ave., Carson, CA 90745. Secy./Treas. & yours truly get together any day now & zap your name if you didn't pay. Well, we'll give you a break; make that if you haven't paid by Mar. 1. Thank you very much.

CONVENTION ITEM – PRE-CRUISE PLANS – ALL READ: As with all big events, expect glitches along the way. Our biggy this time is with the planned QUEEN MARY HOTEL stay prior to the post-convention Mexico cruise. I will be (or have) reached all of you who have booked the cruise about a BIG problem with the hotel. When I first decided that this would be a fun & interesting thing to do for the one-day gap between convention finale & cruise departure, I called the Q. M. Hotel reservations to inquire about the rate. At that time, they quoted me an industry rate of \$70 or \$90 per night per room. I specifically asked if it is extended to retirees – was assured it is. I also asked if it were "capacity controlled", was assured it was not, that "it's available as long as there are rooms". I even called 2 more times to verify this info so there would be no surprises when guests went to check-in or to pay & each time was assured this information was correct. Well, to make a long story short – <u>WRONG!</u> I heard through passengers that they were getting a different story from the hotel res. Office. So I called (for the 4<sup>th</sup> time) & was given an entirely different story. The agent to whom I spoke was a bit impatient with me & gave me the voice mail of his boss.

She never called back. The bottom line is I decided to CANCEL THE QUEEN MARY STAY. Those of you who have booked the cruise have been called by me to advise of the revised plans for that Sun. The revised date & time for the transfer to the ship (Tour #25.) If you have not heard from me by the time you read this, <u>please call</u> or email me at ruaea05barb@aol.com.

I'm sure this is very frustrating to those of you already planning it this way – well I am more frustrated than you! BUT – THE <u>CRUISE DETAILS HAVE NOT</u> CHANGED. We will still get you to the dock on Mon. in time for lunch on board.

## Calendar:

**April 14** – The Harbour House. Luncheon & elections of officers. Before the luncheon, please call Hal Klobe to VOLUNTEER to be a not-hard-working-and-deeply-loved-officer. It really is an easy job & a great way to get to know other members. PLEASE. **May 22 - 29** – CONVENTION. Hooray for Hollywood

#### Re-Sans

San Diego Carolyn Hastings 8619 Lemon Ave., #8 La Mesa, CA 91941-5374 (619) 461-9937 CarolynH777@aol.com

The next meeting of our ReSans group will be in April at a location as yet to be determined. Announcement will appear in our Newsletter just as soon as a decision is made. Flyers will also be mailed to all of our members. Please remember that your dues are due on your birthday & are only \$5.

For those of you who intend to travel & are not Internet-savvy, SEA has its Traveldesk open Mon through Thurs. (206) 433-4218. PDX has its Traveldesk open Mon., Wed. & Fri. (503) 249-4142/4143. This is a big help & a big thanks to all of the volunteers who are helping.

PDX Traveldesk also has a Toll-free number 1-888-278-7038. Open 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Pacific Time.

# UNITED AIRLINES SFO AREA

Donna Taiclet 212 Lomitas Ave. South San Francisco, CA 94080 (650) 583-3360 d.taiclet@worldnet.att.net

We started the New Year with Pres. Ralph Trullinger calling our Jan. 24 meeting to order. We didn't have a Dec. meeting so it was good seeing everyone & getting back to "normal". Our official greeters were Joe & Olive Butera who greeted the 154 members & guests present.

Treas. Gene Walter reported that, so far, 434 have renewed their membership. Membership Secy. Carol Walter sent out 43 "invitation to join" cards & we have received 9 new members since the Nov. meeting. They include June Humphrey, John Devine, James & Dorothy Ellis, John & Faith Burgess, Bellinda & Bob Sims & Bill Marsh, a past member who rejoined. Butch & Joan Brochu, 55 years and Bob & Ella Mae Donovan 57 years celebrated wedding anniversaries.

We lost long time member Clifford Sullivan who passed away 12/27/04 at the age of 94. Condolences can be sent to his wife Mabel at 630 26<sup>th</sup> Ave., San Mateo, CA 94430. Tom Blair passed away peacefully 1/12/05. Cards can be sent to his wife Bonnie at 104 Cuesta Dr., Mountain View, CA 94040. We have a few members on our sick list. Mary Juett has had

back problems, Tony Hutt has been fighting pneumonia & Elenore Lindquist has had complications from cataract surgery. We wish them all a speedy recovery.

Member Bob Donovan informed the members of the benefits of the Veterans Administration Health System that can be used to supplement their regular health insurance. For more info call the VA at 1-877-222-8387 or go online <a href="https://www.va.gov">www.va.gov</a>.

Another Chinese Luncheon is planned for our Mar. 28 meeting. The deadline for telephone reservations is Mar. 21, tickets are \$5. This has been a very popular event but reservations are necessary. We will not be selling tickets at the door.

2<sup>nd</sup> Co-V.P. Kathy Hutt introduced our program, a repeat performance by "The Jewel Tones", a talented 10 piece ladies barbershop group. The last time they were with us they sang music from the '40s. This time they entertained us with some great songs from the '50s.

<u>Travel info</u>: Ginger Dahlberg has cancelled her English trip but the 9/2-9/12 Copenhagen – St. Petersburg Baltic Princess cruise is filling up. Give Ginger a call (650) 224-1865 or email <u>gingersfo@aol.com</u> if you are interested in this trip or any future trips. Betty Garner's Yosemite trip on 4/27-4/30 is full but she has a waiting list. Betty is planning a Mexican Riviera 10 night cruise out of SFO 10/1-10/11. Call Betty at (650) 355-4195 for more information.

# Calendar:

<u>Singles Club</u>: 1<sup>st</sup> Mon. each month, Crystal Springs United Methodist Church, 2145 Bunker Hill Dr., San Mateo, CA. Pres. Ellen Pearce – (650) 593-7328.

Retirees General Meeting: 4<sup>th</sup> Mon. each month, business meeting 11:30 AM at the Wm. Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd. (Shell & East Hillsdale Blvd.), Foster City, CA. Mail should be sent to P.O. Box 4788, Foster City, CA 94404.

# SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

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

Our year began with 2 new officers in the group, Garver Sandy (Pres) & Jack Fredricksen (V.P.). Gerald Frisch continues as Treas., & myself as Secy. Plans have been set up for the group's upcoming annual events.

The date for our Spring Luncheon is set for Mar. 9. It will be held at Michael's Shoreline in Mountain View. Marian Swanson, Gene & LaDonna Eggert are co-hosting this event.

Marion Gaevert brought up the possibility of a wine trip to Napa. Her trips are always a great deal of fun; most in the group indicated great interest. More information on this later.

Margie & Alex Klaus returned from their trip to Germany. Mary Anne Lock is back after spending 3 months in the East. Goldie Purdy was at our Jan. 14 meeting, after being in the hospital recovering from pneumonia. Several of our members who had been ill are continuing to recover. Dwayne Howze is doing well after his lung transplant. Elaine Kristen's health is improving. We hope to see Elaine at our Mar. luncheon. Marion Gaevert had knee surgery. Speedy recovery, Marion, come back soon. Keith Olthoff had a heart problem, but is at home now. Speedy recovery to you also, Keith.

This year promises to be a good one for our group. We encourage all fellow retirees to come & join us!

## Calendar:

Weekly breakfast meeting Fri. mornings at Holder's Country Inn, 988 DeAnza Blvd. (across from Home Depot), San Jose, CA. Breakfast starts at 7:00 am, meeting convenes at 8:30 am. Please contact our Pres. Garver Sandy (408) 262-1548, for more information.

# **UA-LOS DIABLOS**

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

Our Jan. meeting was held with 36 attendees. The weather cooperated & gave us our first rain free morning in a loooooong time.

We were pleased to see Red Klaren, Gus Mahler & Russ Kennedy back. Our new faces were Judy Tiu, SFOTO and Irene & Jack Fechter from SFOOV. Carol Payne brought Chris McGougheran from SFORR. He must have brought her luck, because she won our 50/50!

A discussion was held regarding the new SEA & PDX Retiree Travel desks. A recap of this should be in our newsletter.

Our annual picnic will be June 12 at the same location. We will be catering it this year – so no potluck or husbands doing the barbecuing.

Ed Bingle distributed a new address/email roster. If you were unable to attend our meeting & have had some changes, please let him know.

# Calendar:

**Feb. 14, Mar. 14, April 11, May 9, June 13** – We meet at Marie Callender's Restaurant in Concord the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. of each month. Social time from 11:45 to 12:00 – Lunch & business matters from 12:00. No need for reservations.

# **COLORADO**

# **DENVER MILE HIGHERS**

Jo Madden 910 Grape St. Denver, CO 80220-4427 (303) 377-0153

38 Mile Highers attended the Feb. 2 monthly breakfast at Park Hill Golf Course. We had a special guest, Phil Yarter, who worked with Mel Conine in CYS in the 1940's.

Nancy & Tom Goodyear reviewed their trip to the RUAEA Board Meeting in LAX where the 2005 Convention will be held; stated the Renaissance Hollywood Hotel is very nice & quiet. There are many things to do in the hotel area. A very good restaurant is "Mel's Diner" – which is near the hotel.

Two of the 50/50 winners returned their winnings to the stamp fund: Ray Kovall & Charles Hassler. Thanks, fellows.

Don't forget to bring in the Pop cans.

Thurman Eaton fell – did not break any bones (fortunately) BUT – did get "banged up" quite a bit – his address is 14233 E. Marina Dr., Aurora, CO 80014.

John "Bobbie" Lake has been in the hospital for an operation; is now home recuperating. Bobbie sure could use some "cheering-up" cards/notes. Address: 4740 W. 109<sup>th</sup> Ave., Westminster, CO 80031.

Ray Rardin had knee surgery – is now at home recuperating and looking forward to Ethel & his 56<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Mar. 20. Their address is: 15461 E. 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Aurora, CO 80011-1306.

Lyle Burkholder sends a big "**THANK YOU**" to all the Mile-Highers for the phone calls, letters & cards he received during his hospital & get-well time.

Cleo Fenske was a "first-timer" at the Feb. 5 Newsletter mailing. It was great to see you, Cleo, be sure to join us again soon.

<u>Spring Luncheon</u> - April 13 – Indian Tree Golf Course, 755 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada, CO. Social hour 11:00 AM – Lunch 12 noon. Wine \$4, Beer \$1.50, Bloody Mary \$5. <u>Menu choices</u> – Top Round of beef, baked potato, vegetable, salad, rolls, dessert, coffee/tea - \$11 all inclusive <u>OR</u> Baked Cornish hen, garlic mashed potato, salad, vegetable, rolls, dessert, coffee/tea - \$11. List menu choice on check. Send to Harriet Ahr, 4576 Hooker St., Denver, CO 80211-1354. Phone (303) 477-2918. Cutoff date April 4.

# Calendar:

Breakfast 1<sup>st</sup> Wed each month, 8:00 AM, Park Hill Golf Course, 35<sup>th</sup> & Colorado Blvd. Call Tom Goodyear for information, directions, (303) 696-7001.

**April 13** – Spring Luncheon - Details in column

# **FLORIDA**

# **CITRUS GROUPERS**

Inverness, FL Claus Brinnitzer 3014 S. Skyline Dr. Inverness, FL 34450-7424 (352) 637-1760

On Jan. 27, the Citrus Groupers met at the Pasta Faire, in Bellview, with 24 members in attendance. Our members like to travel & nothing discourages them! The Dulans spent 3 weeks during the Holidays in Rochester, NY; found a lot of snow & very cold temperatures. The Muirs are back from a Caribbean cruise, I am sure they did not shiver, as the Dulans did. Several of our members are planning to go on cruises in the next few months.

# Calendar:

Our Mar. meeting will take place at the Golden Corral, 2605 Gulf to Lake Hwy (SR 44 West) located in the Citrus Shopping Center, about 4 miles west of Hwy 41.

# THE ORLANDO REAL McCOYS

Gloria Armistead 370 Hamrick Dr. Poinciana, FL 34759 863-427-0635 gloriaarmistead@msn.com

A special THANK YOU to the Real McCoys for providing lunch for all those present today.

Pres. Sid Edelman called the meeting to order.

Secy. Linda Edelman read the minutes of the last meeting; Treas. Char LeGrand delivered the Treas. report. New rosters were made available; all were encouraged to pay their \$10 dues for 2005. Corresponding Secy. Gloria Armistead read a letter from Dick Riedel regarding the dissolution of the FL Newsletter.

Ernie Vosges reported on picnic Committee which will be located at Chrisom Park off of State Road 15 on April 6. A map with directions will be available at the next meeting.

V.P. Rich Lewellyn was the first to renew the "Take Me Out To Your Favorite Restaurant". It will be held on Feb. 16 at 4:00 PM at the <u>Fish on Fire</u> located at McCoy Road west of Tradeport.

Pres. Edelman reminded us that the RUAEA Convention will be in May at Hollywood, CA. After the meeting V.P. Rich Lewellyn will collect & transport all donations to the orphanage.

Regarding United Airlines: It seems the pilots & flight attendants have agreed to settle; ramp has an agreement but has not settled, the mechanics have not agreed.

Congratulations were extended to the Edelmans on the birth of their granddaughter Novee.

<u>Guests</u> were John Wiseman's daughter Bernadette & his father Jack, Jerry Crosby who attended with Cliff Hill & Lexie Milan, Shelby Michel's aunt.

New Member: Donna Brandt

#### Calendar:

Mar. 2 – Meeting at the Golden Corral 1:00 PM

April 6 – Picnic at Chisholm Park 12:00

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA PELICAN DROP-INS

Fort Myers, FL
Joan Gilkison
2521 West Marion Ave.
Unit 1012
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
(941) 637-9367
jqilkison@comcast.net

42 Pelican Drop-Ins, including 4 guests, enjoyed a delicious lunch & informative talk. Our speaker was William Rosemann from United Healthcare of FL, Inc. He presented information on Medicare Complete as another form of medical insurance.

Members & guests arrived 11 AM, we had a nice get-together & social hour. Lunch was served at noon in the lovely dining room of Salal Springs Golf & Racquet Club. Nancy Kopp was guest of Stella & Jim McCaffery. Nancy is a retired flight attendant from MIA; she is now a new member of our group. Rosemary Blake was also a guest & now a member. Rosemary is also a retired flight attendant from HNL. Sylvia & Herman Rose were also guests. Herman retired from IAD.

Marilyn McNabb read a nice thank you letter from Tice Elementary School. They were very grateful for the generous donations from the members of the Pelican Drop-Ins at Christmas time.

Sally Sciple wished Happy Birthday to the Feb. birthdays. Dick Miller & Harry Walton brought additional prizes for the drawings. Many members went home with nice prizes.

If there are any members of RUAEA in the southwest area of FL who are not members of the Pelican Drop-Ins they are more than welcome to join us for lunch. Just call or email one of the names listed & come to our next meeting.

#### Calendar:

**1<sup>st</sup> Fri. of Month** - Luncheon meeting at Sabal Springs Golf & Racquet Club (Oct-May). Guests are welcome ... but reservations must be made.

Breakfast meeting at Perkins Restaurant (Jun-Sep)

For more information call or email:

Marilyn McNabb (239) 482-3882 (Ft. Myers) - <u>UALMKE@aol.com</u> Joan Gilkison (941) 637-9367 (Punta Gorda) - <u>jgilkison@comcast.net</u> Carrie Belluso (239) 481-1450 (Ft. Myers) - <u>Tutupapa1@aol.com</u>

# THE SAND DOLLARS

Sarasota, FL Lori Moran 106 Carswell Circle Sun City Center, FL 33573-5805 (813) 633-5072

Jan. 20, the Sanddollars met at the Anna Maria Oyster Bar Landside in Bradenton with 37 people, including some new faces. Pres. Tim O'Donnell, welcomed all. We did not hear any negative comments about the food; the consensus was that we may meet more often during our season.

After lunch, Tim discussed the upcoming events. On Mar. 10, our Chapter will enjoy an evening at the Golden Apple Dinner Theater, where we will see the musical Cats.

Meals on Wheels chapters in Manatee County & Sarasota County thanked us for contributing to their worthy cause, which has been a yearly tradition of the Sanddollars.

Mr. & Mrs. Herm Kline are still "under the weather"; we wish them a speedy recovery.

Several of our Sanddollars had attended FL West Coast Luncheon on Jan. 17. Our Pres. covered all the topics that had been discussed.

#### TAMPA BAY

New Port Richey, FL Edith Polito 3224 Mc Math Dr. Palm Harbor, FL 34684-3433 (727) 787-1552

Pres. Mike Rice opened the meeting Feb. 7. Edith Polito introduced our speaker, Keven Judd, Detective from the Sheriff's office. Keven has served in many different divisions such as in the SWAT Team, DUI Instructor, Fraud Prevention & many others. He spoke on Exploitation of the Elderly plus other white collar offenses; advised us to list only our initials & not your full name in the telephone book, that Credit Cards are safer than Debit Cards. If a con man gets your number he can deplete your bank account before you are aware of it. Use your common sense, for instance, do not pay a repairman before the job is complete, be sure you have a contract before he does the work & other good advices.

We had 1 visitor - Eleanor Braun of Lewiston, MI who was visiting Shirley Schuknecht. Also 2 of our recent members Bruce & Joanne Kocenski of Spring Hill attended.

We are still on the look out for an Editor for the FL Newsletter as Dick & Sue Riedl resigned after many years of faithful reporting. We would like to hear from someone in one of the other FL Chapters.

A report of the "28<sup>th</sup> Annual West Coast Florida Luncheon" was given by Mike Marvette who was in charge. Our speaker was Marlin Lade, RUAEA Pres, who gave a very informative speech on how the negotiations with UAL & the court are going. Also, prospects of what to expect in the future regarding "Benefit Plans". The Company's revised business plan was to be presented to the Court in Jan. Past Pres. Jim Hottel presented Dick & Sue Riedl with a plaque for a job well done as Editor & Co-Editor of the FL Newsletter. The retirees from other Chapters were recognized; Jo Madden & Imme Barrows from DEN. The Luncheon ended with the drawings & many happy winners. Pres. Mike Rice thanked the many volunteers who worked very hard to make this event a success. Mike Marvette brought up the question "do we want to continue the Annual FL Luncheon". The attendance has been dropping the past few years. Also, we need to look for other places to hold the luncheon as the prices are going up each year.

At the Feb. meeting, there were 40 members plus 1 guest plus the speaker.

We were reminded our April meeting will be at Anderson Park, Shelter 4, 10:00 AM, Menu: BBQ Pork Sandwich, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Coleslaw & Desserts. Everything provided except drinks. Our TPA Chapter funds this picnic for members, guests will be charged \$5 per person, pre-paid. No Walk-ins. Please sign up at Mar. 7 meeting & list each person separately. Cut off date for reservations is Mar. 23. For questions or reservations call Beverly Alderdice (727) 376-5072 or email <a href="mailto:bcanprfl@aol.com">bcanprfl@aol.com</a> or Terri Breslin (727) 845-3605, email <a href="mailto:terrifl@webtv.net">terrifl@webtv.net</a>.

Mar. 7 meeting - We will have Mr. Doug Dunkin, Retired Customs Officer from Metro Crime Prevention of FL for our speaker. He will be speaking on how to protect ourselves physically.

We were reminded the Annual RUAEA Convention will be May 22-29 in Hollywood, CA at the Renaissance Hotel, the same site as the famous Academy Awards ceremonies. How lucky can we get? The renowned Chef, Wolfgang Puck will be preparing our meals. There also will be some great tours. Check your Feb. Newsletter for information. HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD!

Mike Rice closed our Feb. meeting by advising us there were 42 signed up & we have a total of 84 members paid up.

# Calendar:

Mar. 7 - Meeting at Buddy Freddy's - Hwy 19 - Holiday, FL 10:00AM April 4 - Picnic at Anderson Park - Shelter 4, US 19, South of Tarpon Springs

May 2 - Buddy Freddy's - US 19 - Holiday, FL 10:00AM

# TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL Helen Koerber 540 NW Waverly Cir. Port St. Lucie, FL 34983 (772) 344-1252 cataholic73@msn.com

There were 12 members present for our Feb. meeting. Our Mar. 1 gambling trip will be on the Palm Beach Princess & take the place of our Mar. meeting. We are all excited about how much money we will win. You never know!! The big winnings will be announced in our Mar. Newsletter. Diane Brodis investigated our question as to why BP-10 passes are offered to active employees & not retirees. The response was that the travel policy will be reviewed after UA emerges from bankruptcy. Let's hope this happens. Al Popek checked on flight status at PBI (West Palm Beach). Flights will change from one 737 daily to one 757 Sun. through Fri. & two 757's on Sat. With the increase in population in this area you'd think it would be an all year schedule. UA never listens. Mike Hirjak is still not up to par & was not at the meeting.

Judy & Artie Frage have an anniversary on the 29. There was some discussion as to just how many years they have been married as the 29 is Leap Year.

Here are the answers to our trivia questions. What was First Class, Standard & Coach originally called - Red, White & Blue. When did United start serving alcoholic beverages - 1956. We had an answer of "not soon enough". Anyway, Artie Frage answered correctly & won a 50/50 ticket which turned out to be the winner of this 50/50. See what can happen if you know the answers to the trivia questions! Here are the trivia questions for the next meeting: In what year was the "Mileage Plus" frequent flyer program started? From 1947-1957, United's first in-flight magazine was introduced & was called? As stated above, our next meeting will be onboard the Palm Beach Princess.

# **GEORGIA**

# **DIXIE FLYERS**

Metro Atlanta Bill Elk 150 Poplar Way Fayetteville, GA 30214 (770) 461-3130 Dixflyers@aol.com

35 Flyers & 2 guests, Steve Clark & 15 month old Aiden Cebula were present for the meeting & lunch at the IHOP Restaurant in Fayetteville, GA hosted by Frank & Barbara Russy. Steve Clark who worked for United enjoyed visiting with friends & former co-workers. Aiden the grandson of Stan & Marge Cebula toddled around & visited all the flyers, he was a delight. The IHOP provided us with our regular room in the back all to ourselves. Each one ordered from the menu, this time the service was good. Pres. Bruce Brodersen, started the meeting by acknowledging the thank you cards from Jane Brown & Eleanor Turner for our remembrances of their respective husbands. Jeanne Barber also sent a thank you for our kindnesses in expressing the Chapter's appreciation for all her hard work & service to the Dixie Flyers over the years. Barbara Russy, Treas., reported that the dues are coming in steadily; as a reminder the dues are due by Mar. 31. Our membership has many talented & giving people who are involved with the community. One of our Chapter's projects is to donate supplies to the Promise Place, a women's shelter, each month. A list of goods needed at the shelter is in our newsletter each month & the members bring items to the meeting. Jeanne Barber collects the supplies & takes them to the Promise Place. Bruce Brodersen is involved with the Piedmont-Fayette Community Hospital Auxiliary & expressed a need for volunteer drivers of golf carts to transport patients from the parking lots to the hospital & surrounding buildings. The carts are provided by the hospital. Drivers will be required to take a short safety course conducted by the Peachtree City Police Dept.

Ray & Mary Owen passed along information for those interested in a one-day trip from Atlanta to Fields of The Wood, a bible park located in Smokey Mountains between the Northeast corner of GA & Murphy, SC. Ray & Mary assured everyone that there are varied & interesting large biblical displays to view. Admission is free. Jean Knotts, wife of Barney Knotts, fell & broke her wrist also suffered a bruised hip & cracked pelvis. She is at home recovering. Joe Mahoney is at home in LaGrange & continues to recover. He is reported to be in good spirits.

The next meeting will be Mar. 2, 12:00 Noon hosted by Marie Sadlowski, Carol Webb & Dorislie Guckert at the Sage Woodfire Tavern, 11405 Haynes Bridge Road, Alpharetta, GA - (770) 569-9199. Hosts for upcoming meetings: April - Richard & Diayne Thompson; May is planned for a picnic, a host is needed; June - Don & Marge Shelley; Aug. - Jone Manley. Our newest member is Patricia Seymore from Bowman, GA. We welcome her aboard. General Beauregard saw his shadow so I guess we are in for 6 more weeks of winter.

# **HAWAII**

# **PAU HANA KUPUNA**

Big Island, HWI CeCe McMahon HCR 2, Box 6297 Keaau, HI 96749 (808) 966-7886 djsmiley@verizon.net

We started the New Year with a bang: With 29 in attendance at the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel, Queens Court Restaurant. We had a guest from Oahu who had retired from United & brought a friend; she even won our 50/50 raffle!

Pam Jones talked to us about the work the Hilo Missionary Church is doing for the Tsunami Relief efforts over Phang Nga, Thailand. Anyone wishing to donate, send your tax deductible donation check to Hilo Missionary Church, 1044 Komohana St., Hilo, HI 96720. Be sure to put, "Tsunami Relief" on the check. Mahalo in advance.

We mention that we lost one of our past members, Anne Abbriano. Our thoughts & prayers to Dominic & his family. Then a couple days later we lost another member, Lois Smith. Our sympathy to Richard at this most difficult time.

Our "free lunch" winner was Tess Tinker, lucky girl! We showed everyone the brochures for the cruise that Ginger Dahlberg is putting together to wonderful places like Britain, Scandinavia & Russia.

My jokes were a hit; I kept everyone laughing which is a "good thing!"

#### Calendar:

Mar. 17 - Firehouse Restaurant, Hilo (note change from Ken's)

April 21 - Rocky's Pizza, Kona

May 19 - Luquin's Mexican Restaurant, Pahoa

# **IDAHO**

#### **BOISE GEMS**

Bill Heath 361 Charlwood Ct. Boise, ID 83706 (208) 336-5359 wahboi@rmci.net

With an unavoidable, short-notice change of venue for our monthly meeting to the J.B.'s Restaurant in Meridian, it was a pleasant surprise to see such a good turnout. 35 members were present for the 9 a.m. meeting & breakfast. We will continue having our monthly meetings there, until such time as growth will require a larger room.

Since Ron Hamann has completed his term as Pres, & no one has come forward to volunteer to be our Chapter Pres, our correspondent said he likened our situation to a ship without a rudder. He said he'd nominate a person who has much invested in the Chapter & is fully qualified to be our leader. He didn't know that the person would accept, but it was worth a try. With that, he nominated Ned Yundt, to be our Pres. again. The move was

seconded. The voice vote was a resounding vote of confidence. Ned was declared our Chapter Pres. for the year 2005.

It was good to see Dave & Margrit Robertson, after too long an absence. Dave said he didn't know anyone of the group, but they all remembered him & paid their respects. Dave is one of UAL's senior seniors, with company seniority date going back to the 30's. Having served the airline in so many different capacities & in so many places, he is well known across the system.

Ossie Haugen explained why he & Louise missed our Christmas party & the last couple of meetings. He developed a serious lung condition, which caused him to be in & out of hospitals, also on & off oxygen. The doctors were baffled as to what it was, so his condition was undiagnosed. He believes it was a reaction to the prescription medicine that he had been taking.

A sign-up sheet was circulated to determine how many members would like to join a Harmon Travel tour of the Canadian Rockies & Calgary Stampede on July 14-20. Another sheet was passed around to see who would like to bus to Garden Valley as a group, with Dave Adams at the wheel, to see a Starlight Mountain Theatre show at some future date. We need to know early so we can arrange for a bus. Dave has already promised to do the driving.

Lil Jolly, as a reminder to all retirees, cautioned us not to take a tube of biscuits from the refrigerator, put it on the kitchen counter, while you go into the living room to watch the evening news. Lil will tell you from experience how loud the explosion & how far flung the damage. She is still cleaning particles of dough from the floor, ceiling, cabinets, table & chairs.

Will you be alive in 2099? Medco apparently thinks Marlene Croghan will still be here. Medications she has been taking for 20 years was suddenly declared "restricted." She would now need a doctor's verification for its use. Following 2 days of conversations, during which her name was lost on 2 occasions, the problem was finally solved. She received a letter from Medco stating "verification would not be needed until 2099!" Any GEMS still around in 2099 are invited to help her blow out her candles?

Stop Press: On Feb. 7, Wilma, wife of Fank Schell, suddenly became quite ill. She was taken to the ER at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center in Meridian, by Lil Jolly. There has not yet been a diagnosis as we prepare this offering for the Newsletter, but testing is under way & we will keep you informed as we receive further information.

#### Calendar:

Mar. 7 & April 4 - 9 a.m. breakfast at J.B's Restaurant in Meridian.

# **ILLINOIS**

# **LOOP GROUP**

Chicago Angie Malouhos 1542 W. Farwell Ave. Chicago, IL 60626 (773) 465-7420

OH MY! Before I get lost with words I owe an apology for the wrong date for the Jan. Loop Group Luncheon - it should have been Jan. 19 not 20. Sorry. On a lighter note, Beverly Connor, Mary Szabo, Norm Pearson, even my brother, Tony attended. It was a very lively group, much talk, good will, the food was delicious.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in Mar. Until then, be well & keep warm; spring is just around the corner!

Thank you for the get-well cards I received; it was very nice & unexpected. All is well now.

# Calendar:

Mar. 16 - Palmer House, French Quarter 11:30 am.

#### **CHICAGO SKYLINERS**

R.I. Surma 10 Grow Lane Streamwood, IL 60107-1404 (630) 830-1279 Rich\_SURMA@JUNO.com

The Northsiders have had some low attendances because of cold temperatures; we hope to see many of them coming back with friends. Each month we look forward to these gatherings & meeting with new retirees & their spouses. I really enjoy the friendship that everyone has shown. With Spring around the corner, mark all the breakfasts or brunches that you will attend on your calendars - it's only once a month. Come on back, we all want you here. Two newcomers to the Northside Breakfast were: Ruth Heim of CHIRR who retired in Dec. 2004 from Contract Service Reservations at United Vacations with future plans of being busy; & John Weise of WHQSS from Marketing & Sales who retired Oct. 2002. John looks forward to meeting old friends & says he's enjoying retirement.

On the other hand, the Southsiders have been attending in strong numbers. Guess the snow doesn't fall as much on the south side of Chicago. John Kealy, a new comer from Hickory Hills, joined after working 35 years in ORDCS.

Now that our days are getting longer & brighter, it's time for us to look ahead & plan some retirement activities organized by our Skyliners Committee for our enjoyment throughout the year. Listed below are some of the activities that are scheduled or that are being planned for the year:

Northsiders Breakfast - Monthly, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed at Artemis Spring Luncheon - April at the Lexington House in Hickory Hills Annual RUAEA Convention - during the Memorial Day week in Hollywood, CA. Southsiders Breakfast - Monthly, last Tues at Grandma Sally's Loop Group - Bi-monthly Luncheon, the Palmer House downtown CHI Midway-Guys & Gals - "Twenty-Fourth Anniversary" Luncheon in Sept Chicago Food Depository - Monthly volunteer work (Free Transportation) Hawaiian Luau - (Planned for sometime in June) "Day Trip" summer venture - a fun ride to enjoy Skyliners October FALL Luncheon - Itasca Country Club Holiday Gift Sharing Project - A program sponsored through DCFS "CHICAGO CARES" - Volunteer programs available from World Headquarters Annual Christmas Luncheon - Dec. at Avalon Banquets

Updated information on these events will appear in future columns as they become available for our news column.

The family of Angie Wauun, our Sunshine Lady, has informed me that Angie was in the hospital. Angie is now recuperating at home. Your cards with good wishes to Angie would be appreciated. Her address is: 56 Forest Lane, Elk Grove Village, IL. 60007. We extend our wishes for a speedy recovery.

The Spring Luncheon hosted by the Skyliners Committee will be held at the Lexington House in Hickory Hills, 7717 West 95th. Street on April 5. Flyers are in the mail to <u>ALL</u> currently registered members. Come early & enjoy time with your friends during cocktail hour at 11:30, lunch promptly at 12:30.

Annual dues are still outstanding for some local chapter members. New Skyliners dues are \$5 & should be mailed as soon as possible to our Treas.: Ken Goetz, 722 Timothy Court, East Dundee, IL. 60018. File number must be noted on check. Also remember to invite your retired United friends to join both the Chicago Skyliners Chapter and & National RUAEA Association. Bring them to a Breakfast/Brunch for more information on signing up, or have them contact Ken Goetz at (847) 836-5157.

Thank You letters were received from the Schaumburg Township's Food Pantry for our donations of paper goods & groceries at the Nov. collection, which was distributed over 500 food baskets; also from the Elk Grove Township Food Pantry for our Holiday donation of \$430.00 from the 50/50 raffle at the Christmas Luncheon.

# Calendar:

**Mar. 9** – Come chat at breakfast with the Northsiders Group at 9:00 a.m. at Artemis Restaurant at Golf & Busse Rd. in Mt. Prospect, IL.

**Mar. 16** – Luncheon at *The French Quarter in* the Palmer House – Downtown Chicago 11:30 a.m. It's an open invite.

Mar. 29 – Breakfast at Grandma Sally's Pancake House at 10:00 a.m., 8500 South Harlem Ave., Bridgeview, IL.

# INDIANA

# **INDY RACERS**

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

Jan. was a busy month for the Indy Racers as we all shoveled out from a blustery snowstorm to attend our monthly meeting. Several important issues were to be voted upon, despite the weather, we had a nice turnout. Bylaws were written, signed & put into effect, yearly dues were agreed upon, & new officers were voted on.

# **NEW OFFICERS**

Pres. Wanda Bryce V.P. Mike Matlak Secy. Hannelore Brabo

Claire Byle Treas.

Correspondent Cheri Innis

A special "thank you" goes to Ray Brabo, our past president, for getting the Indy Racers up & running. Your time & endless energy are greatly appreciated.

#### <u>Calendar:</u>

Mar. 12, April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, Dec. 3 These meetings will be held on Sat. from 2:00 - 4:00 at the Paragon Restaurant, 118 S. Girls School Rd, Indianapolis.

# **MICHIGAN**

# **GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES**

Marie Cook 9588 West Parkway Redford, MI 48239-1331 (313) 534-0065 mariecook516@aol.com

Jan. 13, 20 Escapees & 1 quest gathered amongst hundreds of smiling faced snow-folks at yours truly, hosted by Marie & Sister; Joan. We welcomed first timer Marlene Presnell & special guest Helen Zenn, just 90 yrs young, Mom of Joanna O'Brien. Live entertainment was provided by Rhea Jay as she played melodies on her dulcimer & explained some history about the instrument.

Once again we thank Maxine Raymond for saving the day & hosting the Feb. meeting. 16 Escapees gathered at City Tavern including 2 new retirees; Gay Given & Pam Petricca. I hear Janey McCauley from DTWRR has also joined the good life.

#### Calendar:

1<sup>st</sup> Thurs. of month -- Location varies, please call or email

#### **MINNESOTA**

# **NORTHERN LITES**

MSP/St. Paul Connie Glattly 82300 Wold Road Willow River, MN 55795 crglatt@lcp2.net

Feb. gathering included 29 members. We were happy to see Joe Balogh back after a long absence. We missed seeing his bride Mitzi, but hope to see both next month.

We had to add another couple of names to the sick list; notes & good wishes were sent on greeting cards to all. Jerry Wilmes, John (Cindy) White & Wes Briest have all had problems that they're contending with; our thoughts are with them as well as Duane Carter, "Mort" Morton, Fred Christopherson, Frank Bower, Dick Haver and Clyde & Marion Anderson. We keep all in our prayers & hope for better news soon.

Joe & Dee Eyestone had pictures of their new grandbabies, which were proudly passed around for all to see. Joe & Arlene Kelley countered that with some pictures of their own little bundle of joy.

Those of us who choose to remain in the Great Frozen Tundra during the winter make short trips out into the warmer area of the world. There is much of that going on again in the winter of 2005. Cruises, trips to Mexico, HWI, FL, AZ & TX are on many agendas. Then there are those of us who don't mind the cold at all! This winter's weather has been a meteorologist's challenge, but there's never a lack of something to talk about!

#### Calendar:

**2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. of month** -- Lunch at Old Country Buffet, just North of Hwy 110 & Robert Street in West St. Paul at 11:15 a.m.

# **NEBRASKA**

#### **GOLDEN'EARS**

Omaha Marge Edwards 12727 W. Dodge, #132C Omaha, NE 68154 (402) 691-0960

Even with the weather forecast, there were 29 people who enjoyed the buffet at Millard Roadhouse. Thanks to Betty & Bob Hall for hosting also to Betty for the great nut cups.

Jake Hutchinson is moving from Aurora, CO to Monticello, MN which is right by the Twin Cities. His 4 kids & 4 grandkids have talked him in to moving closer to them, which is great.

Georgia Egr was in the hospital for 10 days in Oct. with her hiateal hernia. Doctors said it was very large. Georgia will be 90 next year, & the doctor said she was a star patient.

I had a call from Dave Letts, he & Teddy will be moving Feb. 1 to Immanuel Village at 6803 N 68 Plaza, Omaha, NE 68152. Phone number remains the same.

# Calendar:

Mar. 1 - House of Hunan, Hosted by Marge Edwards April 5 - USA Steak, Hosted by Larry & Sharon Farrell

# <u>NEVADA</u>

# **RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP**

Submitted by Pat Zoboli (775) 856-2044 <a href="mailto:zobolilady@aol.com">zobolilady@aol.com</a>

Jan. 20, the Sierra Round Up had 20 members attend the meeting at the Red Lobster Restaurant. There were no guests this month. Gerry & Ann Batty have rejoined the Chapter after an absence of 2 years; they now live in the Reno area.

We are saddened to note the passing of one of our long time members, Kurt Hilz. Kurt handled the 50/50 for quite a while. He passed away on Jan. 20, no service was held.

Our treasury balance is \$387.46 as of 1/20/05. Money will be spent securing the picnic area at Sand Park.

Larry Reid is recuperating from a hip operation. Weather conditions contributed to his mishap. A get well card has been sent from the Chapter.

Elizabeth Haws also reported that Steve Stephens appears to be doing well after his surgery, although recovery is going to be about 6 months.

Pres. John Zoboli was unable to attend the meeting due to a sprained ankle, which was also a result of icy pavements.

NEW ADDRESS: Gerry & Ann Batty, 860 W. Peckham Lane, Reno, NV 89509, (775) 825-4432.

# **NEW YORK**

# **GUYS AND DOLLS**

New York, NY Jeanne Leo 420 East 55<sup>th</sup> St. New York, NY 10022 (212) 753-6128

Feb. 1 felt like a "thaw" day, but the snow is still piled high along the streets. We were a small group at San Martin as many of our members have sought warmer waters! First time attendee was Betty Williams, new retiree from EWRSW.

Pres. Marge Segal gave an update on those on the sick list: They are Jean Bartosek, Ann Shaffer, & Karl Galda. We wish them a quick recovery; hope they will be able to join us soon.

Pam Jones told us about her trip to Patagonia & Chile which included a cruise around some icebergs - sounds exciting.

#### <u>Calendar:</u>

**April 5** - Luncheon at San Martin. Please RSVP to Jeanne Leo or Marge Segal (212) 355-1788

# **NEW YORK METROS**

Rose Schneider 37-15 255<sup>th</sup> St Little Neck, NY 11363 (718) 229-0626 semschn@yahoo.com

We had 6 members with 1 guest attending this month's meeting at the new Hyde Park Inn. Our guest was Carson Baker, Mabel Bittar & Yvonne Guella's chauffer.

Dan Duran still snowed in from last week's snow storm. He'll be at next month's meeting.

Anthony Manfre - (718) 461-2379 Jack Hellerman - (516) 785-8721 Fred Jones - (631) 667-4785

All 3 are home & anxious to hear from the friends from the Metro.

Jack Dowling is in Carillion Nursing Home: 830 Park Ave. Room 314, Huntington, NY 11743 (631) 630-0387. Once again, don't forget a note, a phone call & a prayer.

11 members are celebrating Feb. birthdays. On the top of the list is Mary Butera 81 years on Feb. 4. Frank Kittle 81 years on Feb. 9. Happy Birthday Wishes to all.

Happy Anniversary to Edith & Jack Hellerman married 55 years on Feb. 1. Also Geraldine & Dominick Rizzo 55 years of wedded bliss on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Joe Totaro opened the meeting with the "Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag", then a moment of silence for the passing of Erica Conaty, wife of Clem Conaty, Clem was maintenance manager in the New York area.

Paul Cohen is collecting \$5 dues for 2005.

Nell Napolitan, we hope you're recovered from your flu shot?

V.P. Charlie Kaczinski gave his monthly monologue of jokes & the depressing news of massive layoffs of mechanics throughout United's system.

Joe Totaro inquired about other restaurants for our monthly meetings in Suffolk & Nassau counties. All listed have higher luncheon prices than the new Hyde Park Inn.

#### Calendar:

Mar. 2 - 12 Noon, New Hyde Park Inn April 6 - 12 Noon, New Hyde Park Inn

# <u>OHIO</u>

# **BUCKEYES**

Cleveland, OH
Sharon Garrah
43248 Kipton Nickel Plate Rd.
Lagrange, OH 44050
(440) 775-3558
slgarrah@aol.com

Pres. Carol Hacker opened the first 2005 meeting at Demitri's Restaurant. There were 84 attendees. She welcomed new members Jack Wright & Darlene Cartwright to the group, welcomed back Bill Allman, also welcomed guest Angela Minelli, daughter of one of the members. Thank you Marilyn Gschwend for hosting this event. Carol said Sharon Minelli had volunteered to become the V.P. for the coming year, thanked her for doing so. I would also like to thank Sharon for doing such a great job in gathering the info for this month's newsletter since I was unable to attend.

Ray & Carol Waldron celebrated their 56<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

The packets containing the 1<sup>st</sup> 6 months information for the Chapter were available; the June sheet was missing from the packet because of a glitch with the bus company. When info becomes available all members will be advised by a separate mailing.

Carol also reminded the members not to forget to join RUAEA & remember to send in their dues during their birthday month. RUAEA's monthly newsletter contains information about the issues facing all of us in the future & is taking a more active role in representing our retirees. Carol also thanked John Taucher for all his diligent work in keeping the membership informed through his emails.

Please keep the following members in your thoughts & prayers during the coming months: Nick Brodella, Ann Brooks, Charlie Beers, Ellie Durbin, Carol Flickinger, Melinda Gayden, Mark Gatesman, Frank Frink, Helen Horvath & Elma Jess.

**Please note regarding May luncheon**: The correct address for John & Carrie Kercel is: 4290 Coral Gables Dr., Parma, OH 44134-6314. SORRY!

#### Calendar

**April 6** - Mahel's Restaurant, Forest Hills Plaza, 63 Pearl Rd., Brunswick. Maximum of 80. Pre-paid.

May 4 - Sterle's Slovenian Country House, 1401 East 55<sup>th</sup> Street, Cleveland. Pre-paid.

June - Info forth coming

July 13 - Albion Woods Reserved Picnic Area

Aug. 10 - The Twelfth Annual Northfield Night. Pre-paid.

# **OREGON**

#### **OREGON DEW-ERS**

Portland
Barbara M. Heidegger
13848 NE Milton
Portland, OR 97230
(503) 254-5018
DuaneBaba1@AOL.com

Because of the deadline for the newsletter last month I wasn't able to report on the Jan. meeting. Jack Hoober, our past Pres., was given a thank you gift from the membership for his contributions to our chapter. It was a model of a P2V-5F patrol bomber that he flew when he was in the Navy. Nancy, his wife, also received a small toy airplane filled with flowers for being his "helpmate" during his presidency.

Our new members are Gerald (Gerry) Clement SFOOV, Robert (PDXMM) & Rose Totten. It was announced at the Feb. meeting that Gerry will be the new Membership Chair. Thank you Gerry for stepping in to take over a very important job with the Dew-er's.

Billy Davis, one of the charter members of the Dew-er's, announced that he is moving to Atlanta, GA. OR loses a loyal member & good friend, I know all of us wish good health & happiness in his new adventure.

Everyone had a great time at the Feb. meeting, featuring a Valentine exchange & unexpected surprises in some of the cards. OR lottery tickets were inserted in the Board of Directors cards plus each centerpiece contained a lottery ticket; however I don't believe there were any "big" winners. This meeting was also our ice cream social. In addition to many flavors of ice cream, Pat Smith made heart shaped cookies for dessert. The left-over ice cream was donated to Shepherd's Door Portland Rescue Mission.

It was announced at the Jan. meeting that Jack Hoober will run for the Northwest Director's seat that becomes vacant when Tom Harvey's term expires in May. Let's remember to vote for him when the ballots are mailed in the April RUAEA Newsletter.

Get well cards were sent to Eric Brotherton, Dolly Margeson, Ophelia Nunley & Cleo Whitcomb who have had a variety of illnesses, plus Bob Anderson, S.M. Feely, Mary Nolan & Denny Walker underwent surgery.

This month is your last chance to renew your membership in the Dew-er's to have your name in the directory. Dues are \$10 for a couple, \$7.50 single membership. Send your money to Nancy Hoober, PO Box 286, Washougal, WA 98671.

The Mar. meeting will have our own Mike Thomas, Activities Chair, speak to us about Medicare & the new drug prescription program.

The travel desk at PDX is open 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Mon./Wed./Fri. - Tel # (503) 249-4142 & 249-4143 to assist you with listing & load information. Please remember that those outside the PDX area can call the toll free # 1-888-278-7038 for assistance.

#### <u>Calendar</u>

Meetings at Refectory Restaurant - 1618 NE 122<sup>nd</sup> Av., Portland, OR unless noted otherwise **Mar. 9** - Speaker on Medicare

April 9 - TBA May 11 - TBA

#### **PENNSYLVANIA**

#### THE INDEPENDENTS

Philadelphia, PA Dee Burrs 2618 Silverside Rd. Wilmington, DE 19810 Phone: (302) 478-2221

Fax: (302) 478-1268

29 Retirees attended our luncheon; guest speaker was Philadelphia General Manager, Jim King. Jim has been with United for 29 years. He'd worked in PHL 18 years ago. I was fortunate to have worked with him & delighted to be able to catch up news on his (now grown) family.

After lunch, Jim King gave us an upbeat update on what was happening with United at the airport. Although we lost some flights out of PHL, our loads are good & he is thrilled to see the high level of motivation of all the employees. Everyone is giving their best going the "extra mile". Jim told us that the service PHL to DEN, where passengers may purchase meals, is well received. He answered all of our questions, left us smiling. Thanks Jim.

Past Pres., Bernie McNamee officially turned over the "gavel" in the form of a suitcase to the new Pres, Joe Brad. Bernie should have been a comedian as the suitcase contained some pretty funny stuff. On a serious note, he read a letter from the Dept of Veterans Affairs thanking us for our gifts & contributions.

Joe Brad told us about an 800 number for employees to call for assistance with their space available travel - PDX Travel Desk, Toll Free # 1-888-278-7035, open Mon/Wed/Fri, 10:00AM - 2:00 PM Pacific Time. Our friend, Hal Zerbock, is one of the retirees who volunteers to help on this desk. Joe also confirmed the rumor that we lost a PHL legend, Bob Gepp (known as the Gepper) who died Sep. 13 after a long illness in a nursing home.

John Houser is back home. Ken Bressler broke his ankle, Polly Gavin's husband is now in hospice. Our thoughts & prayers are with you all. Dick Ems, who was scheduled to go to FL, had to postpone his trip due to the urgent need to replace his other hip. Good luck, Dick.

Frank Eggles gave his final Treas.' report for 2004. We were very generous over Christmas. Today we voted to donate \$1000 from our charity fund to UNICEF for the Tsunami victims. He then turned over the books & all the records to Tom Lyons.

Our Jan. 24 committee meeting was cancelled due to snow & road conditions. We met Jan. 31 at the home of Kathy & Al Edwards. Present, in addition to Kathy & Al, were: Frank & Marge Eggles, Treas., Tom Lyon & his wife Pat; Pres. Joe Brad; Past Pres. Bernie McNamee; Shirley Roberts & Dee Burrs.

We discussed the May Convention & cruise. The Independents will be well represented.

A thank you letter was received from Frank Eggles for the engraved plaque with a model of a DC10 & the surprise hotel/dinner gift. He said it would be a constant reminder of the many friends from UA retiree's group that he's met over the past 15 years, especially those who are no longer with us. He also thanked all of the officers for their hard work. In his letter, Frank mentioned the generosity of our group. Individuals contributed sums of \$15, \$25, \$40 & as much as \$50 for the Christmas baskets. This made the program a success. Over \$1000 was delivered to needy families for the holidays.

Plans for possible excursions & activities for the coming year were suggested. Lancaster County, New York City & Atlantic City seemed to be the most popular destinations. Al told us

about the Golden Eagle Pass for seniors for national parks & some state parks. We plan to have a picnic in June before we break for the summer.

The calendar & themes were set for the coming months. The Ramada is asking for an estimate of attendees for our monthly buffet. Tom Lyons volunteered to look up past attendance records in hopes of getting a good number for the restaurant.

The SEA & PDX Retiree Travel Desks were discussed, hours & numbers were distributed. Some of us have already called & been very happy with results.

We talked about contacting retirees that live in the Delaware Valley to invite them to our meetings. Ideas on ways to contact them were offered. This will be revisited next month.

Any suggestions for speakers for our meetings will be welcome.

In spite of the rain & sleet, we had 29 brave retirees show up for our Valentine's Day luncheon on Feb. 14. Shirley Roberts made Valentine centerpieces.

V.P. Bernie McNamee officially opened the meeting (just like old times). Pres. Joe Brad was unable to make the meeting due to the death of his Mother-in-Law. Also, Joe's Son-in-Law is terminally ill so please keep Joe & his family in your prayers.

Our guests for this meeting were particularly entertaining & a big change from our usual speakers. Jan. & John Haigis, husband & wife team, are singers/songwriters/musicians/historians & teachers. They were dressed in period costumes. They introduced, explained then played two very old musical instruments, a Mountain Dulcimer & a Hammer Dulcimer. The repertoire include a history lesson on Ground Hog Day, 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> century music also singing of Groundhog Day Carols. In addition to a sing-along (Yankee Doodle & The Man on the Flying Trapeze), they told stories, jokes & recited poetry. Our audience was captivated. A good time was had by all.

Carol Rose will be filling in for me the Mar. 14 meeting.

#### <u>Calendar</u>

Mar. 14 - General meeting - 1:00 PM at the Ramada Inn

## <u>PITTSBURGH</u> <u>PIT-STOPPERS</u>

Jeri Juth 1900 Truman Dr. Aliquippa, PA 15001 (724) 378-3316 jmjuth@hotmail.com

Sad to say our Steelers nor the Steagles won the Super Bowl. Wait 'till next year. One consolation the winners are still in the Northeast region.

The Valentine's Day luncheon held at Peters Place in Bridgeville was well attended; 38 Pit-Stoppers enjoyed a great luncheon. Mary Polinski stole the show with her Valentine attire. Great to see Earl & Darleen Overfield back in these parts. Yours truly gave a report on the Jan. Directors meeting & encouraged everyone to try to attend this year's Convention.

Pres. Barb Seaholm called the meeting to order & outlined the upcoming events for the year. V.P. Vic Ference gave a report on the upcoming picnic. Barb also invited all members to participate in hosting the luncheons for the year. Discussions about the upcoming events were voted on. Everyone seemed eager to attend a baseball game featuring "The Wild Things" vs. the Pirates (wonder why?)

We were all saddened to hear about the passing of former head ramp service man K.C. "Budda" Ross. Cards & notes can be addressed to Mrs. Ken Ross, 711 Sixth St. Exit, Chester, WV 26034-1501.

Our best wishes to Patti Ellis who has been under the weather since her return from CA. WV air is better for you Pat!

#### Calendar:

**April 15** – Luncheon J.W. Halls - Hopewell **May - June** - To be announced **July 15** - Annual Picnic - Robinson Park

#### **TENNESSEE**

#### **TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS**

Jerry Barr 216 Mingo Way Loudon, TN 37774-2952 (865) 458-0815 TNBarrs@aol.com

Fort Loudoun Marina in Lenoir City was reported to be the largest marina in TN a few years ago ... maybe still is. It was at a dock-side restaurant - Calhoun's - that 37 members & guests met on Jan. 20 for our bi-monthly meeting. Hosted by the Barrs & Tuttles, we had 2 guests: Pat & Ione Thompson, & our speaker from Fort Loudoun State Park.

After lunch, Will Kentland, an Interpretative Ranger from the park, wearing the authentic British uniform of the time, gave an entertaining presentation on the folklore & history of the Fort Loudoun. Established in 1754, the fort marked the Southwestern-most outpost of the British Colonies, was built to woo & protect the Cherokee Indians enlisted by the British as warriors in the French & Indian War. Long story short - the relationship collapsed, the original fort was burned down, the ominous signs were building toward a revolution. Fast forward - the fort was rebuilt, declared a historic landmark, now is part of a fascinating living-history presentation at the State Park. Well worth a visit.

The business meeting covered a myriad of issues that were current at the time but, because of the dynamics of an ever-changing situation at United, are no longer newsworthy. Let me summarize by saying that we all appreciate the ongoing pro-activeness of Marlin & the other RUAEA leaders in their efforts to carve out the best possible scenario for the retirees in these tenuous times.

For acquaintances of Doug Burger who saw his name misspelled as Berger in the last article & wondered if it was the same person they used to know, our apologies for adding another element of confusion in a sometimes all-too confusing world.

#### Calendar:

Mar. 17 – 12:30 pm EST, luncheon/meeting at Edison Park Restaurant in West Knoxville, hosted by the Swalloms.

**Apr. 21** - 10 am EDT, breakfast at Shoney's Restaurant on Lovell Road in West Knoxville. Take Exit 374 off I-40/75 toward Kingston Pike for one block.

May 19 – 12:30 pm EST, luncheon/meeting to be hosted by the Emmels in the Norris Lake area. Details to be announced.

#### **UTAH**

#### **THE SALT LAKERS**

Brigitte Murdock 1505 S. Roxbury Rd. Salt Lake City, UT 84108-2844 (801) 583-2346 MURDOCKFN@aol.com

On Jan. 19, 22 chapter members met at the Murray Heritage Center for coffee & donuts that, again, were donated by George Dalton. Thanks, George!

The Asian earthquake/tsunami disaster horrified us once again when our group viewed those devastating photos taken from the Internet & newspapers. Right after the events, United published a good internal article on where to donate money & services; at last count, 75 million Mileage Plus miles were donated to the tsunami victims' fund donations were made to UAL-suggested non-profit organizations.

Thanks, United Airlines, for getting involved!

SLC retiree Maria Apperson called from HOU to tell that she had permanently moved to TX to be near her daughter & family. For friends who'd like to call, # is: (281) 955-8064.

This correspondent also was in touch with former chapter Pres. Marge Ringer. Her UAL SFO-based F/A daughter Frankie is presently visiting her; it was good to chat with both of them. Marge would like to be remembered to her retiree-friends.

Earlier in the week, Andy Gallegos promised to join our group for coffee, but, unfortunately, he was otherwise engaged.

In the Dec. 2004 Christmas report, it was neglected to mention that Robert "Buck" Francis & wife Merline, a Delta retiree, had graced our company. We hope they will decide to join us more often.

Contacted by phone for a chat, Geo. McDonald's widow Ellen sounded chipper, seemed to be enjoying fairly good health, not considering a hip, broken in a fall some years ago. She says "hi" to the group.

We welcomed Frank Christensen who has not been to the meetings for a spell.

With the heavily flooded Virgin River around St. George, UT, we wondered how Chapter Treas. Bill Ottman & wife Shirley were doing with their 2<sup>nd</sup> home in Southern UT. Bill called to tell that "... we now have only a few feet of space between the back fence & the river's edge that falls away rather sharply - a regular river front property," he joked. They are doing all right, now that the floods are receding. Presently, they are helping 8 neighbors who lost their homes that collapsed into the river during its devastating flooding, as shown on the nightly news.

On a happier note: Chet Woolley celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, at the same time as he & wife Virginia commemorated their 67<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Congratulations to both of them!

Doug Schwartz enjoyed his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday on Jan. 26. Happy Birthday - any many more!

#### Calendar:

Mar. 16 – Lunch 2pm, Chuck-A-Rama, 212 S. 500 W., Bountiful, UT April 20 - Coffee 10am, Murray Heritage Ctr., 10 E. 6150 S., Murray, UT

#### **VIRGINIA**

#### **TIDEWATER SEAGULLS**

Mario Quaglietta 5421 Club Head Rd. Virginia Beach, VA 23455 (757) 490-7326

Luncheon held at Locks Point Jan. 20 with 22 in attendance, including guests Jim Lyola, Janet Price & grandson of Zeke Prahiem. Sick members included Hank Gilbert & Janet Price. We were all saddened by the death of Lou Drake after a long illness. Hosting the luncheon with table decorations were the Riggs. Pat Gieger announced 2 new grandchildren (11 altogether). Pres. Riggs spoke about the airline situation & the future. Teddy bears were table decorations - were won by several members.

## **WASHINGTON**

#### **EMERALD CITY SLICKERS**

Seattle Dee O'Donnell 9311 NE 118<sup>th</sup> Ln., Unit 203 Kirkland, WA 98034 (425) 820-9008

66 members attended our Feb. 8 luncheon/meeting at Fairwood Golf Club. We honored 10 past Pres. of the group. This is a popular place with our chapter because of the amenities: the size of the room, microphone, view of golf course, wonderful food, service, direct access into the room for handicap parking. One member whose wife couldn't come at the last minute, paid for her meal, took it home to her. They kept it warm, presented him with a large box plus dessert in a small box.

We set up a table to exchange books, with Ken taking the leftovers to the Travel Desk lending library at SEATAC in the Cargo Bldg. Thanks Ken & Barb.

Paul Stoller who joined us in Jan. brought a special guest Pearl Yamamoto who joined our group. She was head of manpower in SEARR when PDXRR merged into SEARR Nov. 1, 1975; took 3 people to replace her when she transferred to SEARR!

Hank Gosselin & Bob Brumfield both have some artwork donated to the Convention in Hollywood May 22-29; both are excited & looking forward to it. Noreen Kraus & husband Richard also plan to partake. Happy to report that Wes Ebert is recovering from a heart attack in Dec. Brono Good also doing well from a stroke. Charlotte Rousso, wife of Eddie, unable to attend account knee surgery. Her good days are outnumbering the bad days. Pat Logue is still "under the weather" from a long illness & welcomes cards: 2606 W. Smith St., Seattle, WA 98199. She is not ready for visitors or calls yet. Vi Gray is still at home, but has had a few setbacks. She welcomes calls & cards. Ernie Nelson had surgery Feb. 7, is home now, cards & calls welcome: 23904 39<sup>th</sup> Ave S., Kent, WA 98032 - (206) 878-3696.

Any UAL retirees, newcomers to SEA area, widows, widowers, are welcome to our activities: Luncheon, tours, golf tournament in June & picnic in Aug. Contact Marlene

Nelson, Membership Chairman - (206) 878-3696. Address: 23904 39<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Kent, WA 98032 for an application.

Helen Stanger, Treas. is accepting dues at home: 2449 W. Mercer Way, Mercer Island, WA 98040. She can take dues at the Mar. luncheon also.

#### Calendar:

Mar. 8 – TBA

Mar. 20 - Sun Bus tour to Key Point, WA. Submarine base museum to hear the Navy band, a free concert, then on to dinner. Limited seating account expensive bus ride. I have taken all these day trips as the music is well worth it.

**April 12** - TBA **May 10** - TBA

#### **LILAC CITY FLYERS**

Spokane
Dottie Higgins
POB 30758
2125 East 46<sup>th</sup>
Spokane, WA 99223-3012
(509) 443-9000
LanceH414@aol.com

Our Jan. dinner was held at the Spokane House in the middle of a snowstorm. 21 of the 31 planned braved the elements. Dave & Theresa Reisenhauer hosted. Thank you for getting the gang together. Those that were able to attend had a great time. Since that time the snow has all melted & we are back to green lawns & temps in the 50's. We had a deepfreeze for a lengthy time with temps below zero, snow & more snow.

Jim & Dorothy Jones hosted the Feb. dinner at Wolf Lodge on the 6<sup>th</sup> of Feb. The Sun. dinners allow some retirees to attend that could not otherwise. It was held at the Wolf Lodge in Spokane's Tapio Center, not at the one in Coeur d'Alene. Thank you Jim & Dorothy for your time & effort hosting.

As everyone is aware Lance & I are in PSP until 3/16; we have a lot of drop-ins for a day or even a week quite often. On the 28<sup>th</sup> of Jan., 4 retired UAL employees visited us from PHX. They spent the night on their way to LAX to take a cruise. It was the first cruise for Chris & Lee Anders but not the first for their neighbors Bud & Joy Brown from Prescott, AZ. It was their 14<sup>th</sup> cruise. We also had a newly retired flight attendant, Susan McMullan & her husband John stop by. Earlier in the week had dinner with retired F/O Dick Smith & his wife Lily who reside just north of SFO but are also members of the same timeshare we own.

Our newest members, Sandy & Jeanette Johnson are in HWI until late Feb. but will return in time to host the Mar. dinner. You will be hearing from them with a time & place.

Willie & Frank Storey are vacationing in PSP until Mid-Mar. Lance & his soon to be 92 yr. old dad are playing golf 3 times a week.

Pauline Miller had to delay her knee surgery in Jan. as her son had quadruple bypass surgery. Good luck Pauline, our prayers are with you.

## **WASHINGTON, D.C.**

#### **THE DULLES LOUNGERS**

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

On Jan. 12, the Dulles Loungers were delighted to welcome Marlin Lade, Pres. of RUAEA to our monthly luncheon at the Golden Corral Restaurant in Manassas, VA. A record breaking crowd turned out to hear Mr. Lade & make him feel welcome. He spoke for over 40 minutes & gave us many interesting facts that relate to the current situation with the bankruptcy proceedings. Many interesting statistics were offered. We learned that domestic routes have been reduced by 14% & international routes have been increased by 10%. Our most profitable International routes are Japan, London & China. Our fleet has been reduced in size & more efficient use of fleet has been accomplished, however, with the high cost of aviation fuel & the general publics demand for low fares, it is becoming very difficult to return to profitability. Mr. Lade stated that with the help of the Union & a rebounding economy, we will see our way out of bankruptcy in 2005.

He also held a question & answer period; gave us an update on the negotiations pertaining to the bankruptcy hearings in CHI.

A warm round of applause from at least 90 "Dulles Loungers" showed him that we appreciated his visit.

There is a special toll free number for retirees to list themselves & companions for NRSA travel 1-888 278 7038; which is available 10am - 5pm Eastern time Mon-Wed-Fri.

Many of our "Dulles Loungers" are involved in special causes & our own Betty Lawrence participated in a 3-mile walk for Multiple Myeloma in Nov. 2004. Betty reports that 800 people gathered at the Lincoln Memorial, Washington DC for 7am registration. By the end of the day, the magnificent sum of \$150,000 had been raised! Well done Betty and all the other walkers!

We have a glowing report of a fabulous Christmas cruise from Jewell & Gus Guistozzi. They flew to Ft. Lauderdale Dec. 18 & boarded the m.v. Westerdam of Holland America Line for an 8-day Western Caribbean Cruise. Gus reports that there were many signs of damage from the recent hurricanes on Grand Cayman, but they saw repairs & restoration everywhere on the island.

This correspondent took the same cruise a year earlier aboard the Veendam (1200 passengers) & found it to be a wonderful experience.

We just learned of a fabulous train trip that "Dulles Loungers" Patti Nathan took in Nov. 2004, she departed from LAX aboard the American Orient Express.

We look forward to seeing all of you at Golden Corral.

## Calendar:

Mar. 9 – 12:30 pm, Golden Corral Restaurant, Manassas, VA April 13 – 12:30 pm, Golden Corral Restaurant, Manassas, VA

# **NEW MEMBERS**

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

Achenbaugh, Norval, SFOSW, 5920 Sonoma Ct, Naples, FL 34119-4608 Acuna, David, SFOMM, 828 Leith Av, Santa Clara, CA 95054-1948 Adams, Carolyn E, DCASW, 2991 S Columbus St #B2, Arlington, VA 22206-1420 Adams, Donald B, IADRR, 16815 Newport Ln, Middleburg Heights, OH 44130-8351 Adams, Frank E, SFOFO, 135 Harkins Rd, Woodside, CA 94062-4516 Adams, Michael M (Mike), SFOSY, 507 East View Way, Woodsid4e, CA 94062 Adams, Roger, ORDFO, 604 Luther Dr Apt 2, Byron, IL 61010-1408 Agena, Leilani R, HNLRR, 1261 Kaluawaa St, Honolulu, HI 96816 Agius, Felicia C., SFOGS, 127 Cypress Ave., San Bruno, CA 94066-5420 Agor, Harold, HNLSW, 557 W Camino Del Monte, Green Valley, AZ 85614 Ahern, Kenneth R, BOXCG, 14819 Darbbydale Ave, Woodbridge, VA 22193-2767, Cq Ahrens, Karla K, DENSW, 1001 East 28th Av, Torrington, WY 82240 Aitken, William, WHQFF, 4712 E Carob Dr, Gilbert, AZ 85297 Alberter, Margaret Ann, SFORR, 26 Fountain Of Youth Blvd, St Augustine, FL 32080-6415 Alcaraz, Remigio C, BWICS, 1019 Stiles St, Baltimore, MD 21202 Aldaya, Reynold, SFO9561 Teton Diablo Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89117-6740 Alexander, Barbara, SFOI?, 4185 Spril Dr, Wenatchee, WA 98801-9069 Alexander, Gloria J. DTWRR, Po Box 685 3935 Lovett, Inkster, MI 48141-0685 Allen, Audrey A, ORDCS, 9510 S Constance Apt #501, Chicago, IL 60617 Allen, Donald F, JFKGQ, 98 Grand Blvd, Islip, NY 11751 Allison, Patricia A, ORDFF, 21 W 325 Walnut Rd, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 Almendralo, Evelina, WHQFA, 1034 N Mozart, Chicago, IL 60622-3836 Amerman, Cheryl A, SFOSW, 16920 S E 30th St, Vancouver, WA 98683 Amici, Louis L, MCOOZ, 1702 Enrique Dr, The Vollages, FL 32159 Amimoto, Mable Y, HNLTO, 1630 Liholiho St Apt #1608, Honolulu, HI 96822 Anderson, Bobby R, HSVOZ, 278 Yancy Rd, Madison, AL 35758-8280 Anderson, Evelyn D., ORDSW, 4035 Azure Ln., Addison, TX 75001 Anderson, Rudolph J, ORDFF, W 4068 Lake Shore Dr, Lake Geneva, WI 53147 Andrade, Arlene F, HNLRR, 1566 Lehie St, Honolulu, HI 96818 Andrews, William T, SFOFO, 1187 Merrill Rd, San Juan Bautista, CA 95045-9602 Angst, Ernst I, SFOHK, 41097 Davila Ct, Fremont, CA 94539 Appelhans, Annette L, EXOTL, 13931 Rico Dr, Sun City West, AZ 85375-2800 Arndt, Donald L., SFOOR, P.O. Box 593, Bangor, CA 95914-0593 Arnold, James R, MIAFO, 7176 Bethel Way S, St Petersburg, FL 33712 Arnold, Robert A, EXOHH, 8004 Classic Dr, Jonesboro, GA 30236 Ashby, James W, SFOPD, 958 E Doubletree Ln, Springfield, MO 65810 Ashby, Malcolm W, EWRFO, 639 Glenwood Lane, West Chester, PA 19380 Atkins, Donald L, IADFF, 17657 Four Seasons Dr, Dumfries, VA 22026-1838 Au, Timothy C, HNLPS, 99-1156 Halawa Hts Rd Apt D-2, Aiea, HI 96701 Austin, Frances M, SFOCS, 240 Stonebeck Lane, Colorado Springs, CO 80906 Axelson, Sandra L., CHIRR, 690 Woodland Dr., Crystal Lake, IL 60014 Baczynski, John L, SFOFO, 4 Romero Ct, Novato, CA 94995-1626 Baird, David, SFOFO, Po Box 148, Heisson, WA 98622

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Bowman, Joseph B, ?????, 401 Goldfinch Ln, Fountain Valley, CA 92708-5816
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- Retiree- **KEHOE, Beata,** WHQ, on 11/26/04, mother of Karen Wiercioch, 163 Braintree Dr., Bloomingdale, IL 60108
- Spouse- KONOP, Anna L., on 1/1/05, wife of Raymond I., ORD, 787 Stanford Lane, Carol Stream, IL 60188
- Retiree- LANTZ, Ronald F., ABQ, on 12/11/04, husband of Fontaine S., 833 Lee Trevino Blvd, Belen, NM 87002
- Retiree- Mc BRIDE, Henry E., DCA, on 1/26/05, husband of Janet W., 20248 Gleedsville Rd, Leesburg, VA 20175
- Retiree- MELLOR, Dorothyann, ORD, on 1/26/05
- Retiree- MICHITANI, Kenneth T., KOA, on 2/2/05
- Retiree- MILLER, William E., DCA, on 12/27/04, father of William Miller, c/o Karen Hepburn, 825 Janice Drive, Annapolis, MD 21403
- Retiree- PINTO, Rose M., SFO, on 1/2/05
- Retiree- **SAKURAI**, **Joe Y.**, LAX, on 1/21/05, father of Joe Sakurai, c/o Linton Higa, 2554 West Roven St, Anaheim, CA 92804
- Retiree- **STOUGH, Francis H.,** SFO, on 1/11/05, husband of Velma I., 170 Treasurton St, Colfax, CA 95713
- Retiree- **SULLIVAN, Clifford T.,** SFO, on 12/27/04, husband of Mabel I., 630 26<sup>th</sup> Ave, San Mateo, CA 94403
- Spouse- **SWEETERS**, **Rita J.**, on 12/15/04, wife of Leon A., SFO, 5306 W. Fireopal Way, Tucson, AZ 85742
- Retiree- TURNER, M Anne, HNL, on 1/12/05
- Retiree- **UNRATH, Warren W.** ORD, on 1/4/05, husband of Marylee D., 7809 105 Ave., Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158
- Retiree- VOLL, Loren W., SFO, on 12/22/04, father of Loren Voll, 4900 Bennett Valley Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95404
- Retiree- **VOORHEES, Russell W.,** LAX, on 2/5/05, husband of Beatrice C., P.O. Box 2099, Palos Verdes Pen, CA 90274
- Retiree- **WEBSTER, Lynn D.,** SFO, on 12/27/04, husband of Marjorie M., 207 Clarence Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Retiree- WEDAR, Alvin N., SFO, on 9/12/04

Retiree- WHITE, Kathleen H., SFO, on 12/27/04, mother of Kristin H., 12425 E. Amherst Circle, Aurora, CO 80014

Retiree- **WILLIS**, **Marjorie D.**, LAX, on 11/23/04, mother of Marjorie, c/o Shirley Lowe, 1151 Gleneagles Terrace, Costa Mesa, CA 92627

# **LETTERS**

No letters will be published in March due to space restrictions in the printed newsletter.

#### OFFICERS, DIRECTORS & STAFF NATIONAL OFFICERS

#### **NATIONAL OFFICERS**

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Charlie Urbach 1979-1981\*
Pate Hutchens 1981-1983
Ralph Hoffmaster 1983-1986\*
Vance Harmon 1986-1986\*
Lewis Long 1986-1988
Elizabeth Ashton 1988-1990
William Moore 1990-1992
Jim Doty 1992-1994
Ed Piper 1994-1996
Howard Pollard 1996-1998
Zelma Kibler 1998-2000
Frank Murdock 2000-2002
Jim Fauber 2002-2004