



Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

WWW.RUAFA.ORG



ISSUE NO. 499

MARCH 2016

The Final Flight of N7001U by Robert Bogash



ROBERT BOGASH | PHOTO

The criteria for this restoration and Final Flight of the 727 prototype airplane is Safety, Safety, Safety. The flight will be made when the restoration is complete, the airplane is deemed safe for the proposed flight, approvals are received from the FAA, the Pilot is happy and - especially - when the weather is good. We have a lot of knowledgeable people supporting this endeavor.

The process we are involved in is called (thank you SOAR Leader David Wittrig) – “Waking up the airplane”. We are waking up an airplane that first flew 52 years ago, and that has been “sleeping” for the past 25 years. But, especially for me, I began my affair with her 32 years ago - she is still an airplane that has the magic of Flight embedded in her genes and we intend to let her experience that Magic one more time. And we will savor the experience along with her. It is, in a nutshell why I do what I do.

People who know me, or hear my many talks, know that I continually talk about airplanes as “Living Things”, not just a collection of glass, rubber, and aluminum. A measly “machine”. Airplanes have souls, this airplane certainly has one. People who design, build, fly or work on airplanes don’t have to be told that. And, after sleeping for a quarter of a century, much of it lonely, unnoticed and unloved, in the winter rains, in the dark summer night, she is, once again as in the days of her youth, (and our youth), the center of attention, prodded and probed, coddled and pampered, as a beehive of activity surrounds her still beautiful body. She knows this, of course, and responds by coming alive and proving to all who are watching that her heart beats still.

To view further information and many photos of the restoration, you may go to the Internet at <http://www.rbogash.com/ual727tx.htm>.

Article and Photo Copyright Robert Bogash, used with permission. By the time you read this, the final flight may have occurred. However, if it has, in the future, you may view the aircraft at the Museum of Flight. After being flown into Boeing Field, it will go into a huge new building the museum is constructing and will be opening next summer in celebration of Boeing’s 100th birthday. Come to the RUAFA Seattle Convention and include N7001U in your list of places/things to visit.✂

GENERAL NEWS

WWW.RUAEA.ORG

Letter From The President



Hank Gosselin

Hi Folks,

We, the RUAEA officers, are about to convene a Board Meeting in March. One of our main discussion items will be the Health of RUAEA. By that I mean, Membership, Financial, Candidates for Elections, Conventions, Cost Savings, among other items.

I inform you all of this to let you know we, as officers, are constantly working for RUAEA. Not to worry at this point, we are OK, RUAEA is alive. However, times are changing and we must adapt the best we can. The main change we see is declining membership. In this area we really need your help. As a member you know the benefits of membership. Sell RUAEA, let others know the benefits of membership. Encourage them to join and assist them in the simple process. By going to www.ruaea.org, you can download an application or

new members can join online using a credit card. If you prefer a paper application, we will be happy to send you as many as you want. In closing, I will let you know results of our Board Meeting in a future issue. Again please help.

Hank Gosselin
President RUAEA

You're Invited to the All Arizona Luncheon



Come Join Your Friends on March 17, 2016 at the All Arizona Luncheon "FOR THE LUCKY 2 B UNITED", Holiday Inn, 777 N. Pinal Ave., Casa Grande, AZ 85122. Social Hour 1100 AM, Lunch Buffet 1200 noon.

Scheduled Speaker - Don Burbank, RUAEA Airline Liaison, Entertainment by The Re-United's Musical Men Performance plus Raffle and Prizes. All this for only \$25.00 per person for a grand afternoon!

Lunch Buffet: Tossed salad with dressing on the side, Warm rolls and butter, Sautéed chicken breast with garlic rosemary sauce, Corn beef and cabbage, Sautéed fresh seasonal vegetables, Steamed parsley red potatoes, Assorted desserts and Iced tea, coffee, water.

Be lucky and send your name and funds by **March 10th**, to **Rita Zarek**, 823 W. 14th Ave., Apache Junction, AZ 85120 – 6250, (480) 288-6685.

See you all in the "POT OF GOLD".

Book your myUADiscount tickets with new united.com



Employees and retirees will now experience the newly redesigned united.com when shopping for myUADiscount tickets.

You will continue to access the discounted tickets by clicking the [Book](#) link on the [myUADiscount page](#) of the Travel tab on Flying Together. Once on the new united.com site, you'll begin by entering your desired cities and dates of travel. Check out additional search preferences, like connecting cities you'd prefer to avoid.

Once your results page appears, you'll see new tools like "expanded" view of flight results or "list" view to see more flights at-a-glance. Interact with the filters to slide for departure/arrival times, check off connecting airports or even choose the inflight experience like choosing a flight with Wi-Fi.

Imputed Taxes (aka “Pass Tax Value”)

Compiled by Kirk Moore, RAFA Travel Benefits Committee



Info and examples: FlyingTogether>Travel>Service Charges (pages 6 & 7).

Background information: Before the new pass travel policy took effect in March 2012, United retirees may not have paid a lot of imputed taxes because service charges on that travel offset the taxes. Now, many pass riders fly “service charge waived” system-wide, so imputed taxes can add up fast.

The U.S. government deems pass travel by certain pass riders as a “taxable benefit”; which triggers “imputed taxes”. They accrue whenever your taxable pass riders use personal passes, vacation passes, or MyUADiscount passes. IRS regulations indicate the “taxable value” of that travel equals “10% of the unrestricted B or Y economy fare in effect on the date of travel minus any service charges** paid”.

Note: Departure taxes, customs fees, duties, etc. cannot be deducted; only service charges** paid can be deducted.

Example: If the unrestricted Y fare on a certain date from SFO to KOA is \$1,000 then the “pass tax value” of that segment on that day is \$100. It doesn’t matter if your taxable pass rider flew in Y, BC, or FC, the “pass tax value” is still \$100. As unrestricted Y fares may change daily, so will the “pass tax value”. However, if your pass rider paid a svc charge to fly in a premium cabin (~ \$60), then \$40 of pass tax value would accrue (\$100-60= \$40).

By law, United must keep track of each employee/retiree’s “Pass Tax Value”. If your “taxable pass riders” accrue \$600 or more “Pass Tax Value” in a year, then United must issue a 1099-MISC form and you must declare that value on your tax return as income.

What gets taxed? Pass travel by the retiree’s “taxable pass riders”: domestic partner, enrolled friends and same-gender parents who are in a domestic partnership (employees also pay tax on buddy travel).

What does NOT get taxed? Pass travel by “non-taxable pass riders”: the retiree, spouse, children <26 yrs old and opposite-gender parents.

How is the “pass tax” computed? The IRS says “Pass Tax Value” equals 10% of the unrestricted B or Y economy fare on every flight flown during the fiscal year by your taxable pass riders, minus any svc charges** paid. NOTE: United’s Fiscal Year is November 1st to October 31st.

Who pays the IRS? **You** do (the retiree); but only if \$600 or more Pass Tax Value is accrued in a fiscal year. You must declare the “Pass Tax Value” on the 1099 as income on your income tax return.

For retirees: United will send a 1099-MISC form to each retiree whose “taxable pass riders” together accrued a total of \$600 or more “pass tax value” in the last fiscal year (November 1st thru October 31st). The total “Pass Tax Value” will be in Box 3 on the 1099 and the forms should be mailed by United on January 31st; allow 10 business days to receive yours. If you do not receive a 1099-MISC from United it means your pass riders did not accrue \$600 or more total “pass tax value” during that period, so you do not owe the IRS any imputed taxes.

Important: To make sure the 1099-MISC is correct, retirees should obtain their Pass Travel Report online by clicking the “Pass Travel Report” box on the FlyingTogether>Travel page. Input the date range November 1, 2014 to October 31, 2015. Use the arrows at the top of the report to view multiple pages. Use the symbol at the top of the page to download a copy of the report in the format you desire (pdf, etc.). Adding up the “Pass Tax Value” amounts on the left side of the Pass Travel Report should equal the amount on your 1099. If they don’t match, read on ...

Pass Travel Report amounts do not match your 1099? The problem may be dates flown versus dates billed.

The taxable amount on your 2015 1099 form is calculated from trips **flown** between the dates of November 1, 2014 and October 31, 2015. Trips on the Pass Travel Report are displayed by dates **billed**.

If your 1099 amount is greater than the total Pass Tax Values on your Pass Travel Reports through October 2015, then check your Pass Travel Report for November and December 2015.

Often trips **flown** in mid or late October will show up on the Pass Travel Report in November or December.

Pay attention to the dates the trips were flown, not the dates those trips were billed. Likewise, if your 2015 1099 amount is less than your Pass Travel Report total, check your November 2014 report. There may be trips listed there that were actually flown in October 2014. Those trips may have been on your 2014 1099; they would not count toward your 2015 1099 amount.

If you still have a discrepancy about the amount in box 3 on your 1099: E-mail etc@united.com, put “2015 1099” in the subject line and include the following in the body of the email: retiree name, retiree ID number, ticket details (ticket #, date of travel, passenger name) and any comments/questions.

How much will you have to pay the IRS due to “imputed taxes”? That will depend on how much travel your taxable pass riders did, your applicable Federal and State tax rates, your tax bracket and your other income.

To obtain a rough **estimate**, add up the “Tax Withholdings” amounts on the right side of the Pass Travel Report. This estimate is based on state income tax (if applicable), 7.65% FICA and 25% Federal tax; your rates may vary. A more accurate method is to do your taxes including the 1099 imputed income United sent, then do your taxes without that imputed income; the difference in tax owed equals what your pass riders’ travel actually cost you. Then you can either ask your pass riders for the \$\$\$... or not.

Footnotes:

** *Service charges*: Retirees with less than 25 years of service pay service charges for pass travel in premium cabins. See the “Service Charges” link in FlyingTogether>Travel.

United reported \$4.5 billion full-year 2015 profit



United reported its full-year 2015 financial results, including a record fourth-quarter profit. Employees earned a record \$698 million in profit sharing for full-year 2015.

In addition, the company announced it would take delivery of 40 new Boeing 737-700 aircraft, which will enter the fleet beginning in mid-2017. These aircraft will partially replace flying currently done by United’s regional partners, as the company expects to reduce by half the number of 50-seat aircraft in its fleet by 2019.

United reported full-year net income of \$4.5 billion, or \$11.88 per diluted share, excluding special items. For the quarter, United reported net income of \$934 million, or \$2.54 per diluted share, excluding special items.

Including special items, United reported full-year net income of \$7.3 billion and fourth-quarter net income of \$823 million. The full-year results include a one-time non-cash benefit associated with the reversal of the company’s income tax valuation allowance.

GetTheStroop as United takes off with free snacks



Free snacks are back effective February 1, with thousands of customers enjoying the scent of cinnamon and caramel in the morning as they indulged in complimentary stroopwafels. United is now offering the Dutch-made toasted waffle treats to United Economy customers on flights within North America, to and from Central America and between HNL (Honolulu) and GUM on flights departing before 9:45 a.m.

If you really want to be like the Dutch, warm your stroopwafel on top of your coffee cup. Soon, United will offer its customers the ability to pair their stroopwafel with an Italian favorite – United will be rolling out its illy coffee complimentary on every flight worldwide this summer.

On flights after 9:45 a.m., United began offering an Asian-style snack mix of rice crackers, sesame sticks and wasabi peas, or a zesty ranch mix of mini pretzel sticks, Cajun corn sticks and ranch soy nuts.

How cold is that airplane?



In late 2015, United began adding a small piece of technology to aircraft remaining overnight at DEN, EWR and ORD as part of an innovative program to track the temperature of its aircraft.

The temperature sensor is about the size of two CD cases stacked on top of each other. The goal is to prevent frozen aircraft - which can lead to frozen water lines and possible water leaks. These issues can cause departure delays and even out-of-service aircraft, depending on the severity of the freeze. Typically, when

United knows the temperature will drop below freezing overnight, it runs the auxiliary power unit (APU) to warm up the aircraft. With these new sensors, United can more accurately determine when and for how long it’s necessary to run the APU.

Here's how it works: When the temperature drops to 40 degrees, an alert is sent to the night supervisors on duty (or another employee selected to get alerts). At that point, someone can turn on the APU to prevent the aircraft from freezing, then turn it off again once the aircraft has warmed up to a safe temperature.

By only running the APU when necessary, United cuts down on not only emissions, but also reduces fuel costs and cuts down on maintenance costs related to freezing. Overall, United will be able to provide a better cabin environment to both employees and customers.

This program is currently still in a testing phase – United is working to find the most effective place in the aircraft to store the temperature sensor to get the most accurate reading.

“We’re excited about the possibilities of this program,” said Ground Operations Fuel Efficiency Senior Program Manager Graham Smith. *“No one else is using the sensors in this way. If the test program is successful, we’ll consider using the sensors in the summer, too, to deliver cooler aircraft to the gates.”*

The FAA has already approved the use of this device inside aircraft.

Torgy’s Travel Tips – March 2016



Kathie Torgison


I’ve heard that some retirees have experienced problems with the Enrolled Friend program for 2016. Each year in December there is the open enrollment period. That is the opportunity to do 1 of 3 things:

1. Carry over current enrolled friends to the new year – OR -
2. Change the names to new people – OR -
3. Delete any old names and leave the slots open to fill at your leisure in the new year

We all know that you can never delete a name mid-way through the year and sign up someone new. But if you never had anyone on your list January 1st, you are allowed to add a friend during the year. Then you are “stuck” with that person until the next open enrollment.

So, if you decided not to carry-over your previous friends into this year’s program and you correctly deactivated their names during December’s open enrollment you may find the system still will not allow you to add a new friend this year. Allow me to explain what is happening and how you can fix it.

Click on the *Travel* tab in FlyingTogether. Then click on *Update Pass Riders & Buddies* below the photo. This brings you to a screen with 3 sections: Notifications, Dependents and Detail Summary. Look at the Dependents section and click on the *Enrolled Friends* tab. If you deactivated one or both friends during open enrollment in December 2015, you may still see their names with a status code *Inactive* in the right column. And that’s the problem: The computer knows they are not eligible for 2016 travel but they are occupying the slots allocated for your 2016 friends. You need to *remove* these names to open up the slot for your new friends. Here’s how.

Click on the small purple  symbol to the left of the traveler’s name. Then select the command *Remove*. The system will verify that you really do want to remove the name. Click OK and the slot will now be empty. (You may see a pop-up window indicating that removing a name does not allow you to replace it with another choice until the next open enrollment period. That is true **ONLY** if you are removing an active enrolled friend, not an inactive friend from 2015.)

Once your Enrolled Friends field is empty of old, inactive names you are then ready to enroll your new 2016 choice(s). Look up at the Notification section near the top of this same screen. In the upper right corner is a blue plus sign (+) stating “Click here to add new Dependents or Pass Riders”. Clicking the plus sign (+) brings you to screen 1 of 5. You’re in the correct place. Click [NEXT] to accept the verification instructions and proceed to the Enroll Dependent/Pass Rider screen. Fill out the required name and birth date information and then click the Relationship box. The first option will be Enrolled Friend. Select that and proceed through the remainder screens. Your enrolled friend will be good to go within 48 hours. Remember, this only applies to those of you who did not carry-over previous enrolled friends or who never had any enrolled friends from 2015.

Now that you’ve got your friends enrolled, how about taking a little trip? Happy Travels!

Flight 93 Memorial Chapel

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

Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter



Francis Domaratius

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

Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to 2ruaea@qwestoffice.net, please copy Francis Domaratius at ruaenewsletter@surewest.net and John Chu at johnqchu@hotmail.com or by FAX. FAX number is (303) 780-5667. If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd, Denver, CO 80207-2433. Please allow for postal delay. We cannot extend the deadline!

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

Francis Domaratius
Newsletter Manager
ruaenewsletter@surewest.net

LOCAL NEWS

ALABAMA



SWEET HOME ALABAMA

Joe E. Jones, Retired ORDFO
12115 County Rd. 29
Clanton, AL 35045
205-646-3825
autiger@centurytel.net

Our Birmingham chapter met Monday, February 8th at Grille 29 in the Brookwood Mall in Homewood. Attending were **Gay Fowler, Ken & Beverly Yeager, Bobby & Jean Cox, Joe & Jane Jones, Joe Duncan, Herb Wilbanks, Donna & Jim Gooch, Travis, Zoe & Terissa Mendum**, Travis' brother and his wife, **Terry & Anita Brasher**. Travis is retired from Eastern and it's a pleasure having them at our luncheon and invite them back any time. We were happy to have **Herb Wilbanks** drive up from Auburn where he & wife Carol have recently moved into their new home.

Treasurer **Ken Yeager** gave a brief report that we need more money in the account which reminded him we needed to pay our dues. The 50/50 drawing was won by **Herb Wilbanks**. Our senior member, **Bill Preston** has

been in and out of a local hospital and has not been able to attend. We wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to having him back soon.

February birthdays are **Bill Glenn** (10th), **Beverly Yeager** (13th), **Hank Thompson** (14th), **Joe Singleton** (16th), **Bill Preston** (17th), and **Ken Yeager** (22nd). Anniversaries: **Joe & Jane Jones** (27th).

Our next meeting will be April 11th at 11:30 at a local restaurant. For more information, call **Charlotte Gibson** (205) 661-6288 or **Beverly Yeager** (256) 775-1711.

ARIZONA

PHOENIX AZURES

Carol J. Liltz
Correspondent
16437 West Alvarado Drive
Goodyear, AZ 85395
(623) 935-7640
vichcj1@aol.com



Warmer weather is coming to the Valleys of the Sun soon. We are awaiting the opportunity to entertain on our patios and enjoy the Arizona spring with blooming cacti and flowering shrubs. Our citrus trees are still bearing grapefruit, oranges, lemons, tangelos and limes for our much needed Vitamin C after our winter season of colds and flu.

Angela's Kitchen in Sun City Grand was the site of our January luncheon. We were seated on the enclosed patio which offered beautiful views of the golf course and fairway. There were 42 members in attendance. We had our usual 50/50 raffle and the winners were **Sonny Carnes** and **Carole Brei**. Maybe others, I can't remember. **Vivian Klick** bought various lottery tickets for raffle. **Carol Liltz** won one which paid \$20.00, but not enough to buy a "round" of drinks, unfortunately.

Our February luncheon was held at Golden Corral, 17674 North Litchfield, Surprise, AZ. The price was \$8.91 plus drink price individually at the door with option for a \$3.00 take home box. They've reserved their private room for us. Further information will appear in the April newsletter.

Please send cards, prayers and loving thoughts to our member, **Jean Kerman**, IADCS/IADRR, who slipped in her driveway and badly fractured her hip and had to have surgery. She had been caregiving for her friend, Tom, since November when he developed pneumonia from his heart problems after their trip to Texas for Thanksgiving. Jean's address is 16217 North Desert Holly Drive, Sun City, AZ 85351. We wish them speedy recoveries.

Our February and March birthdays are **Vic Liltz** (2/4); **Millie Hofer** (2/11); **Ann Bergstrom** (2/21); **Don Brei** (3/5); **Jean Kerman** (3/6); **Bob Lutzinger** (3/17); **Mel Hofer** (3/21); **Susan Spitz** (3/28). March anniversaries: **Sonny & Barbara Carns** (3/12); **Don & Carole Brei** (3/19). Best wishes to all.

If you are a member for RUAEA and would like information on Azures membership or if you know of someone in the area that might be interested, please email or call me at the above contacts and I'll be glad to send you a membership form. If you would like to just "try us out", I will give you information on our next luncheon where we can meet and enjoy a casual lunch together. We love to get new members and hear your United stories. We have members who have worked from LAX to BOS. It's a United camaraderie that we feel is important to maintain after retirement.

The Azures meet every other Tuesday morning at 8:30am at Lou's Tivoli Gardens, 12555 West Bell Road in Surprise, AZ. March dates are 3/8 and 3/22. Usually about 15 to 18 members attend, now that the "sunbirds" are back. If anyone is interested in joining the group for breakfast, they should call **Sherry Muoio**, (623) 572-4828 by the night before so she can call in the attendance count to the restaurant and they can set up our tables. It's a popular place with good food and excellent prices including coffee and it gets very crowded.

A small group of Azures members from Pebblecreek lunched at Verrado Grill in Buckeye, AZ on Friday, February 5. Attendees were **Joe & Lisa Hopkins**, **Carol & Vic Liltz**, **Pat Buckewicz** and daughter, **Julie** (**Ziggy** was in bed with a bad cold), **Richard & Joan Aaronson**, **Rose Barry**, **Marge Mullman**, **Lowell & Pat Neal**, **Marge & Gene Hinnners**, and **Bob & Norma Lutzinger**. Everyone reconvened at Casa Liltz for a birthday celebration for **Vic Liltz**. **Vivian Klick** joined us later and we all enjoyed birthday cake and cupcakes and special libations in Vic's honor.

Remember to make your reservations for the All Arizona Luncheon on March 17, at the Holiday Inn, 777 North Pinal Avenue Casa Grande, AZ. Social hour start at 11:00 am and lunch at noon. Price is \$25.00/person. Send your checks to **Rita Zarek**, 823 West 14th Avenue, Apache Junction, AZ 85120-6250. Her contact phone

number is (480) 288-6685. Lunch includes: salad, rolls & butter, corned beef & cabbage, vegetables, parsley red potatoes. Also, assorted desserts with iced tea, coffee and water. Entertainment will be a performance by The Re-United's Musical Men which, if you've attended the luncheons in the past hosted by the Re-United's, you'll know these guys are a "hoot" and very entertaining. (Just remembering the hula performance or "by the sea" review. Great fun!)

That's it for now. Stay United!



PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S

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

It's almost Spring, and our chapter is hosting the All-Arizona Luncheon in March. Where does the time go? The All-Arizona Luncheon is always a special event where we get to be with all the members from the other chapters in Arizona and have a great time. Where else can you go to have great food, great entertainment, great prizes and raffles, great speakers, and have so much fun? The date is March 17th (St. Patrick's Day) at the Holiday Inn, 777 N. Pinal Avenue, Casa Grande, AZ, starting at 11:00 a.m. with the social hour and the buffet lunch at noon. The cost is \$25.00 per person. Please send your money to **Rita Zarek**, 823 W. 14th Avenue, Apache Junction, AZ 85120-6250. It is due by March 10th. The lunch buffet consists of a tossed salad, rolls, Sautéed Chicken Breast, Corn Beef and Cabbage, fresh vegetables, red potatoes, assorted desserts, and ice tea, coffee, and water. Our speaker is **Don Burbank**, RUAEA Airlines Liaison. One of the big attractions this year will be a performance from our Re-United's Musical Men. They have a reputation to maintain and I am sure you will enjoy them. Be sure and get your reservation and money in on time. We're looking forward to seeing a good crowd.

Our January Luncheon in Florence, AZ was great as usual. There were 21 people in attendance including several guests, **John Greenawalt** and **Stena Warne**, niece of **Judy Burtner**; **Beverly Nowey**, sister of **Linda Cooper-Koltz**, **Doris Goveia** and **Don Rood** (who played the guitar and sang), who were friends of **Natasha Schmidt**, the hostess for the luncheon. The food was excellent and plentiful and we also enjoyed desserts furnished by **Natasha** and **Doris**. Thanks **Natasha** for being such a good hostess. We talked about the heart transplant that UAL President Oscar Munoz recently went through and happy to hear he is doing fine and plans on being back soon. The Cubs/Sox game tickets are going fast. Contact **Ron Paluch** to see if he has any left. The funeral for **Tony Ribeiro**, who died December 22, was held January 23 at St. Stevens Catholic Church in Sun Lakes, AZ. We had a nice turn out from our members. We have a new Sunshine person, due to the death of **Tony**, and that is **Dakota Morris-Terry**. We're happy she accepted. She will make a great Sunshine person for our chapter.

Our January 22nd Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner had 31 people present, with two guests, **Gordon Comrie**, **Bill Betz**'s neighbor and **Luba Polus**, who worked at WHQSS, guest of **Judie Preston**. We got word that **Fred Rockenhauser** had some medical procedure done, and happy to report everything is great, and **Ginny Rockenhauser** is walking now, but with a boot on, and getting along better. We discussed the upcoming All-Arizona Luncheon and getting donations of table decorations, gift cards, and items for the raffle. Our speaker will be **Don Burbank**, Airlines Liaison from Denver, CO, plus **Hank Gosselin** and **Virgil Gooselaw**, from RUAEA, will also be there. Our President, **Shirley Claggett**, mentioned the airline event to be held Friday, March 25, called "Wings Over Arizona". This is from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Arizona Heritage Center, 1300 N. College Avenue in Tempe, AZ. An Open House will be held at Falcon Field on March 26. This also is a special event.

We recently heard some sad news, **Bob Hallden**, passed away on January 27th in Sonoma, CA. He recently moved to California from Sun Lakes, AZ, to be closer to his daughter. Bob was a long time member of RUAEA, served as Regional Director, Assistant VP of Conventions, was on the Site Committee, and President of Re-United's in 2001. He was a wonderful man and will be greatly missed. Sympathy cards can be sent to his daughter, **Judy Hallden**, 59 Park Lane, Sonoma, CA 95476.

March birthdays ~ **Nancy Luby** (3/2), **Richard Fezekas** (3/8), **Janet Vehring** (3/10), **John Smiley** (3/14), **Olga Aguilar** (3/20), **Rita Krist** (3/20), and **Graham Snediker** (3/21). Happy Birthday to each of you. We have one Wedding Anniversary in March, **Pinky & Gordy Kubiak** on March 11, 1961. Congratulations!

Calendar:

March 12 – Cubs/Sox Spring Training Game in Mesa

March 17 – All-Arizona Luncheon, hosted by Re-United's, at the Holiday Inn in Casa Grande, AZ, starting at 11:00 a.m. for Social Hour with the Buffet at 12:00 noon. Contact **Rita Zarek** with your reservation by March 10. Her address is 823 W. 14th Ave., Apache Junction, AZ 85120, (480) 288-6685.

March 25 – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline Rd. in Gilbert, starting at 9:15 a.m. Please contact Vice President **Peg Snowdall** with your reservations at phomfield@cox.net by Wednesday, March 23, or by phone at (480) 396-3317.

April 7 – Annual Picnic, hosted by **Shirley Claggett** and **Ron Paluch**, in Mesa.

TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Tucson, Arizona

Doris Clark

desertdoris@q.com



There were thirty-seven Roadrunners and two guests on Thursday, January 20, for lunch at the Gallery Grille adjacent to the Gallery Golf Club in Marana, AZ. The luncheon was hosted by **Jinny & Clyde Cable**. It was a beautiful day and the vistas from the Gallery area were spectacular.

As we are still leaderless and waiting for someone to step up to be President of our group; in lieu of that, Treasurer **Pat DiLallo**, led the short meeting. She thanked the Cables for arranging lunch. She also presented a gift of appreciation to our past President **Sandy Lawyer** for her two years of service. Pat also introduced our two guests, **Carl & Lois Gruenburg**, from Portland, Oregon, who were checking out the Tucson area. We received a thank you from Seniors for Kids for our gift of \$600. They adopted five families and were able to make their Holidays brighter. One of our members, **Carolyn McGlothlin** fell in her home in December and will be receiving therapy for the next couple months. In addition, our Treasurer reminded us that dues of \$5.00 per person must be in by February 28.

After lunch, the 50/25/25 raffle tickets were pulled and the winners were **Ed Kokot** and our guest **Lois Gruenburg**. In addition, **Jinny & Clyde Cable** donated a bottle of wine and a book The Age of Flight, A History of America's Pioneering Airline to be included in the raffle: **Ray Potsic** won the wine and **Doris Clark** won the book.

Next month's Luncheon will be on Thursday, February 18 at Bianchis Italian at 3620 W. Tangerine, NE corner of Tangerine and Thornydale, behind McDonalds. Please RSVP by Feb.15 to **Bonnie & Bill Royle**.

A big reminder: The All Arizona Luncheon will be Thursday, March 17, 2016, at the Holiday Inn in Casa Grande hosted by the ReUnited's. There will be a buffet lunch served at a cost of \$25. More information will be forthcoming.

February Birthdays ~ **Tom Worker** (5), **Alice Belzer** (11), **Erika Williams** (11), **Gary Rayburn** (14), and **Beverly Worker** (16).

February Anniversaries ~ **Eileen & Bob Loshbaugh** (2/8/1958),

CALIFORNIA

CENTRAL COASTERS

Avila Beach, CA

Al Rybar

P.O. Box 2298

Avila Beach, CA 93424

(805) 595-2532

papawow@charter.net



Our Chapter did not meet in January. The only news I received was from our President **Mike Zoldak**. He informed me that one of our oldest members, **Wayne Foster**, is now under Hospice care. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Wayne and his wife Jean. I hope to have more information next month.

Calendar:

February 17 – Next meeting hosted by **Esther & Bob Bartlett**.

DESERT SUNBIRDS

Palm Springs Area
Chuck Lamas
P.O. Box 149
Palm Desert, CA 92261
(760) 772-5960
chucklamas@gmail.com



Sandy Sereno hosted the Desert Sunbirds' January Luncheon at A. J.'s on the Green in Cathedral City. The restaurant is located in the Date Palm Country Club, and overlooks the Golf Course. So, along with good food, thirty seven members and guests enjoyed a wonderful view while dining. On a personal note, I sure miss golf, having played my last round sometime in 2006. Leg and back problems – 'Nuf said.

One guest this month; **Siv Adams** brought **Sheila O'Brien**, a many times guest of Siv.

The Sunbirds have a new member, **Kay Crabb**. Kay was a Flight Attendant, flying out of LAX for many years; and always flew with her twin sister, May. Perhaps another new member shortly?

Sad news. **Rowe Prideaux**, long-time Manager at LAXSW, passed away. I don't have any details, but as Rowe was a member of the Re-LAX-ers, perhaps **Donna Klobe** will have more information in her report.

President Mike reminded the members that dues are due April 1st. The list for volunteers to host the Luncheons in 2016 was misplaced (or lost), so we started anew, with a new blank sheet. Results in next month's report!

Mike Bailardo won the Birthday Lunch, **Tom Sabo** won \$50.00, and **Siv Adams** \$30.00 in the 50/50 drawing. Lastly, everyone enjoyed chocolate cookies provided by our Hostess, Sandy.

SACRAMENTO



GOLD DIGGERS

GOLD DIGGERS

Sacramento, CA
Colleen Esola, Secretary
8080 Sunrise East Way #6
Citrus Heights, CA 95610
(916) 241-9467

The Sacramento Gold Diggers met on Wednesday, January 27, at the Grill & Smokehouse in Auburn. This was hosted by **Ron & Judie King**. We had 47 Gold Diggers and two guests; **George Taylor** and **Vicky Enriquez**, guest of **Orville & Carolyn Harshbarger**. Our new Chapter President welcomed those attending. The members thanked the Kings for hosting. **Vicky Enriquez** told us about her time at United. She was hired in 1976. She was the first female sheet metal mechanic. She later transferred to Oakland as a lead mechanic, she enjoyed her many years at United.

Officers Reports:

President ~ **Sonda Sandstedt** opened our meeting by thanking the Kings for hosting. Sonda thanked **Terry & Penny Greenacre** for mentoring her.

Vice President ~ **Rose Wikstad** informed us that all the months have been covered for hosting. Our 35th anniversary luncheon honoring our Past Presidents will be February 24th at Paul Martin's in Roseville, hosted by **Terry & Penny Greenacre**.

Secretary ~ **Colleen Esola** was not here so **Angie Dellinger** read the anniversaries for January; **Sydney & Sherrill Morgan** – 55 years and **Robert & Michiko Allen** – 43 years. Congratulations!

Treasurer ~ **Judie King** gave our Chapter's balance.

Roster Chairman ~ **Jack Raynor** had nothing to report

Sunshine ~ **Angie Dellinger** said she sent a card to **Martha Szekretar** and **Bob Hallden** (has since passed away). **Bob Eggert** is now at home and would like visitors. They ask that you call before visiting.

Historian ~ **Stephanie Norton** will take a picture of our new members.

Past President & Vice-President of Conventions, **Ron Bertacini** told us that the RUAEA convention is to be held September 21st to 25th in Seattle, WA at the Double Tree Suites near the airport. Price will be \$129 plus tax/person per night. This will include breakfast and free parking.

Francis Domaratius asked if anyone was interested in going to the Roseville Telephone museum to email him. He also mentioned that information on an ID90 was in the RUAEA newsletter. He was asked by several people where he got his hat. At the Mainliner Club for \$17.95. Starting February, you will need an escort to visit there and on the base.

It was suggested that the minutes and luncheon information be sent by email. Hard copies will be mailed to those who do not have an email listed. All approved.

Treasurer will subsidize a small amount towards our Past Presidents' luncheon. There will not be a raffle at our next meeting. We are going to try a 50/50 and possibly replace our raffle with this at future meetings.

Don't forget to pay your dues, \$10.00 per family. Judie prefers checks but will take cash. Make the check payable to Gold Diggers.

Calendar:

February 24 – Paul Martin's in Roseville - 35th Gold Diggers anniversary – hosted by **Terry & Penny Greenacre**

HANGTOWN MINERS

Jane Gibson

tired-dogs@comcast.net



Submitted by Suzanne Kenny

I would say that our first monthly luncheon was a great success. All of the Hangtown Miners who attended had a good time and enjoyed the delicious Mexican food served by Los Pinos. We have been to this restaurant several times before and always leave full and contented.

President **Rudy Blazius** brought our meeting to order and welcomed everyone after our meal. We all extended a heartfelt Thank You to Cindy & Rudy for arranging everything for us and providing the decorations with candy for our tables (these were part of the DOO drawing).

In answer to his birthday question, **Dan Ouchi** and **Angie Dillinger** owned up to celebrating a birthday in January. I also noticed that **Mary Buschman**, **Bill Gibson** and **Jon Somplack** who were not in attendance today also have a birthday in January. Congratulations to all of you! We didn't have any anniversaries.

President ~ Rudy Blazius brought several items to our attention. Most of the information he shares with us comes from RUAEA Monthly Newsletters.

Vice President ~ Bill Dinette did not have a report. On behalf of our wonderful Historian **Linda Lima** he brought up discussion regarding all of our special scrap books. Since we don't have a permanent home for our meetings each month, what should we do with them? **Judy Fitzpatrick** suggested that going forward perhaps we might go digital with a web page and put our photos online. Maybe a Facebook page. **Thom Biro** suggested looking into Shutterfly. With all the talent in the room, I am sure we will have some good suggestions at our next meeting.

Secretary ~ Jane Gibson and husband **Bill** are out of town helping a friend move. Jane, I really missed you today and wish you and Bill safe travels home.

Treasurer ~ Tom Kenny reports that after our Christmas luncheon expenses and sending our donations to the three chosen charities in the amount of \$100 each, our balance for the beginning of 2016 is \$606.91. This does not include the money from today's raffle nor any dues paid today. He shared details for the total amount of our Christmas luncheon last year. The rental for the American Legion Hall was \$200.00 and catering from Cork & Fork was \$900.00 for a total of \$1,100.00 or for our 39 members attending the cost was \$28.00 each per plate. Not including appetizers and yummy desserts that were provided by members. Our Christmas luncheon couldn't have been any better, but just wanted to share the cost with us. Also, to keep our eyes and ears open for opportunities for this coming year.

Sunshine ~ Should you hear of any member experiencing difficulties or needing a little "sunshine" please let **Suzanne Kenny** (530) 626-5660 know so she can relay the information.

Historian ~ Lynda Lima extended the invitation to anyone that would like to take home the books for viewing or safe keeping to please let her know.

Old Business ~ Dues: January is the month for Hangtown Miners' dues to be paid. Many of our members have already paid their \$10.00 dues, but there are several members who have not paid yet. Please send your check – made out to Hangtown Miners to **Tom Kenny**, 3481 Parleys Canyon Road, Placerville, CA 95667.

Charities - Rudy Blazius reported that we donated 114 pounds of food to the El Dorado Food Bank from all of your generous contributions at our Christmas luncheon.

Jane Gibson shared a Thank you letter from the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association for the donations that our chapter made during the Christmas season. **Tom Kenny** shared a thank you letter from Snowline Hospice and one from the El Dorado County - Senior Legal Services

Hosting: A big Thank You to all who came forward to host a luncheon in 2016. January - **Rudy & Cindy Blazius**, February - **Bill & Linda Dinette**, March - **John Muir**, April - **Dan & Roberta Ouchi**, May - **Thom & Sherry Biro**, June - **Ed & Lindalee Akin**, July - **Irv & Sherrie Wolfram**, August - **Bill & Linda Dinette** (again), September - **Gary & Mikki Dalleske**, October - **Joe and Lynda Lima**, November - **Bill and Pati Kenney**, December – “United Effort”.

Rudy closed our meeting and the Drawing Of Opportunity began. Winner of the donators' prize was **Suzie Quinnell**. Thank you to those who brought items to raffle: **Blazius** - candy dish; **Lima** – basket; **Kenney** - scarf basket; **Wolfram** - bird house; **Biro** - 1.3 Billion Powerball Tickets; **Fitzparick** - candy; **Quinnell** - relish fork; **Ouchi** - wine; **Kenny** - wine with ornament; **Heier** - reed diffuser.



REDWOOD EMPIRE

RETIREES

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

Our first of the 2016 year luncheon meeting was held at the LaGare restaurant, hosted by **Barney & Clare Hagen**, who decorated the tables with colorful Cyclamen plants; we had a nice time catching up with each other since the winter holidays. Our luncheon was served with a tasty cream of mushroom soup made by the expert La Gare chef, and a nice Caesar salad, along with our pre-selected choice of Salmon Filet, Breast of Chicken in a creamy brandy mushroom sauce, Pork Schnitzel, or a Vegetarian stuffed pastry dish, followed by a brandy soaked Tiramisu dessert with coffee or tea.

After lunch, President **Larry Wilson** started the meeting with mention of an e-mail invitation by **Jill Schratz**, daughter of **Oscar Chambers**, who recently passed away in December, to a memorial of his life on Monday January 18th, at the Marin Humane Society in Novato, where he spent the last 25 yrs. volunteering time in care of the animals there. Larry led us in a moment of silence in honor of Oscar, and copies of the e-mail directions to the memorial were handed out.

Vice President **Jerry Underhill** announced and greeted the members with guests, **Maggie & Ed Nelson**, guests of **Barney & Clare Hagen**; **Sam & Shirley Anderson**, guests of **Maddy McKinnis**; and **Dan Williams**, guest of **Helen Furber** and **Jan Baty** (her daughter and recently added member). A total of 36 members and guests were present. It was noted that **Al Bentham** was out ill with the flu, and **Joanne Huhn** will send him a card. Also it is also noted that Sheila is home with back problems, and we hope to see her and Lou soon at a future luncheon. Some members have been keeping tabs on the Legnittos and will send them our regards!

Don Nelson announced that he recently attended a memorial for **Russ Elias**, age 96, who came to SFO from Denver in 1976 to work in “Avionics”, having received his training and certification in Radio and Electronics through his time serving in the Navy. Don was able to assist the family recover and release Russ’ Pension and insurance info by filing his death certificate with United Airlines.

The Treasurer’s report was presented by newly installed RER treasurer **Valery Hulsey**, who shared with us the transition she had to go through with the bank to make it official, and she looks forward to the very healthy standing of our RER chapter this year. Our current balance is \$820.83 between the General and Charity accounts.

Travel Pass Advisor **Barney Hagen** announced to us that the Travel Page has just been updated, and for us to log on and check out any new changes to prepare for your travel plans for this year.

Jan Blackburn encouraged us to check into the new CVS/ Silver Scripts to see that all prescriptions have been transferred from Express Scripts and that any refills have followed and on schedule to be released. Be sure to update your credit card payment and phone info as well. And lastly, that all your doctors receive a copy of the new Silver Scripts card sent to you.

Sunshine Lady **Verda Burr** was back with us after her holiday visits with family and helping her son recover from surgery just before our last luncheon in December. She announced the January birthdays and one anniversary; the birthdays were **Ted Bell**, **Pat Ortega**, **Pat Maus**, **Sheila Legnitto** and **Cindy Hiroshima**. The winner of the free lunch was **Pat Ortega**; the one Wedding Anniversary being celebrated was for **Heino &**

Inara Witt, 36 years! She shared with us a couple of great jokes for our entertainment, which we all enjoyed. Welcome back Verda!

An address for **Elsie Kuhl**, who moved last year to Connecticut, was made available for anyone wanting to send her a card; I will try to remember to send her a greeting from us as a group. I have the address, if you will call me to get it.

The Raffle for the fine bottles of wines brought by **Jerry & Barbara Underhill**, See's Candy brought by **Ron & Joanne Huhn**, and the Cyclamen plant centerpieces provided by our hosts **Barney & Clare Hagen**, finished up our time together for our first luncheon of the New Year.

Barbara Underhill asked for volunteers to host with **Larry Wilson** for the month of May; then we will have all the months covered for the year. Copies of the schedule will be handed out at our next luncheon on February 11th at the Quail Inn, hosted by **George & Lois Schwind**. See you all then!

RESANS

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



We are getting our year off to a good start with two new members! **Ed Knight** and **Robin Munsey**. They are warmly welcomed to our Resans family.

Carmen & Lucy Di Gregario brought Girl Scout cookies to sell for their granddaughter and many of us indulged in the chance to help a good cause, the Girl Scouts.

Gloria Macey joined us after a long absence. We are so happy she made the drive from Valley Center.

Charles Onesko, from the Re-LAX-ers also made the drive to join us. We remember how helpful he was at our convention and it was good to have him with us for breakfast.

Carmen Di Gregario won the 50/50 raffle and it was a nice way to repay him for bringing in all the cookies! Nice going Carmen!

Al Soderberg joined us after an absence of several months. **Helen** is still feeling much too weak to attend and we still keep her in our prayers. It was so good to have Al with us at breakfast.

Our website has changed again so if you haven't signed in lately you might need a password reset to log in and check out the new site.

If you are going to be in the area please join us for our next breakfast. We love having you drop in.

Calendar:

March 3 - Pt. Loma Café, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA. 92106 -2394. Phone (619) 226-0255.



GOLDEN GATERS

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

The SFO Golden Gaters ushered in 2016, (home of the 50th Super Bowl – and endless traffic woes!) with our new President **Vera Kina** leading us in The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. **Vera** will also be our Foster City Liaison – she and hubby, **Walter**, have been long time residents of Foster City and have been very active in the community so she brings along lots of good ideas for our group. We welcome the new Board and look forward to a successful year. Vera introduced the Board, mostly old-comers, and heard reports from the following:

Vice President: We still need someone to fill this spot – you'll have plenty of help so let **Vera** know that you are willing and able!

Treasurer: **Art Barrett** is continuing on as our intrepid money watcher. He has paid our "rent" for the use of the beautiful room (overlooking the lagoon) we use during the year. Because of our dwindling membership,

several commitments have been eliminated. We have to raise our dues to \$12.00 per member / \$24.00 per couple – these are due now for 2016.

Secretary: **Dee Henning** was unable to be at the meeting so **Ginger Dahlberg** stepped in – pen in hand.

Membership: **Barbara Underhill** will stay on as secretary but will no longer send out postcards nor phone members regarding their status as continuing members. We will no longer have a roster so save your 2015 list. 2 December / 2 January birthdays. And congrats to **Bob & Ella Mae Donovan** for their December 68th anniversary – all I can say is WOW!

Auditors: **Dorothy Reuszer, Ben Vietz and Gene Walter** remain the same.

Travel Coordinator: **Ginger Dahlberg** – several trips coming up – if you are interested, sign the interest list or call **Ginger**. In the offing: June 18th Beach Blanket Babylon with dinner at Original Joes' in North Beach, a tour of Sams' Castle with lunch in the Half Moon Bay/Pacifica area date/time TBA, Oct. 8 or 9th a day on the Bay to watch the Blue Angels perform, lunch –date/time TBA – these are day trips. A trip down to the Laguna Beach area for the Pageant of the Masters presentation, a day over to Catalina Island, a Medieval times dinner, Reagan Library and Santa Barbara – a 4/5 day trip with lots of goodies. Call **Ginger** at (650) 224-1865 or email her at gingersfo@aol.com if you want to be on the interest list. When flyers are done, you will receive one in the mail. Come join us – we laugh a lot and manage to have fun!

Luncheon treats - the next 3 month calendar will be:

February 22nd will be a Chinese New Years' luncheon (chop sticks optional,) \$10.00 per person, guest \$15.00 per person – cut-off date is February 19th – you must call **Dorothy Reuszer** at (650) 341-5765 if you plan to attend. You will pay at the door (correct change is really appreciated.)

March 22nd will be a St. Paddys' day meal Pot Luck. Meal information details to follow at our February meeting. We ask that you arrive before 11:30am as we will be having a speaker from the Foster City Fire Department.

April 25th will be BYOBB – bring your own brown bag. The rest of 2016 to be advised.

Historian Coordinator: **Jim Goodwine** – was out gallivanting around the world. We'll see him in February. We will be updating the by-laws and will need a committee to help him.

Ticket Coordinator: **Harriet Kunze** – will be handling ticket sales. Her previous job as Memorials & Charities saw our 2015 donations of \$200.00 each to Call Primrose, Samaritan House, Guide Dogs for the Blind, and St. Jude's. Our special thanks to those of you who helped make life a little easier for people needing assistance. She had 9 bags of new toys that were donated to Shelter Network – an organization that helps families, with children, get back on their feet. She will still be collecting canned/boxed food for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays – so put some aside for those events.

People needing some TLC: **Barbara Underhill** will be having her knee surgery shortly – her address is 106 Cabrillo Way, San Bruno, CA 94066. **Carol Walter** fell and hit her head but showed up at our meeting with a big bandage on her head – can't keep a good gal down! **Al Christian** is now at home here with 24/7 care around the clock. He would love a card or two: 433 22nd Ave., San Mateo, CA 94403 (a Masonic Shriner Clown for umpteen years!) And it was great to see **Mary Hughes** back with us – glad you are feeling better! Stay well y'all and know that we are thinking of you as you recoup!

New Business: **Vera** requested that the Board of Directors List be known as the Executive Board with Coordinators all being able to vote. A motion was made, seconded and passed that this information go into our by-laws. Unless we get someone to volunteer to help make coffee for our meetings, we may not have that available. We will play Bingo at most of our meetings.

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

SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

San Jose, CA

www.southbayruaea.org

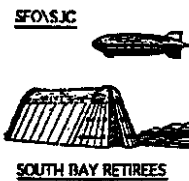
Robin Garland

1917 Farndon Ave.

Los Altos, CA 94024

(650) 969-9530

robin_garland@yahoo.com



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Did you know there's a Flight 93 Memorial in Union City, California? Former Marine Michael L. Emerson of Hayward spearheaded an extensive effort to create the memorial which was dedicated on December 8, 2007. Located in Sugar Mill Landing Park, one of our members recently visited the memorial which is a beautifully designed and meaningful tribute to the 33 passengers and seven crew members of Flight 93, who fought back against terrorists hijacking the plane. For more information and/or to see pictures of this memorial go to: www.93memorial.com/.

Boyd Sweet is organizing an outing for our chapter to volunteer at the Second Harvest Food Bank in San Jose. He has been a volunteer there for 13 years now, 2-3 days a week. We'll be doing a couple hours of light-duty work on February 24 to help out the organization. If you are interested in joining us, please contact either Boyd or our president, **George Midwin**.

Dave & Robin Garland were recently at SFO heading for a flight to visit family in Oregon when they ran into **Roger Casterline** heading south to Puerto Vallarta. He and **Zelma Kibler**, both members of our chapter, were taking a 2-week vacation with family and friends joining them for some fun in the sun. Roger shared that he's been going there for over 40 years since his daughter was little. We're glad you had a lovely time and safe travels!

We were recently informed that to visit the maintenance base at SFO an escort is required. This requirement has been in effect for some time but is now enforced as of February 1st. Several of our members visit the mainliner club, credit union, and other departments from time to time which may be a little more cumbersome now. For the credit union there is an alternate branch site in San Mateo at 700 Concar Drive.

We were in the middle of Super Bowl hype early in February since our RUAEA chapter is in the heart of Silicon Valley where Super Bowl 50 was being played. We were subjected to an amazing amount of trivia; everything from the top ten plays in Super Bowl history to the top ten performances of the national anthem. There was more hype for this Super Bowl than for Super Bowl XIX which was hosted here in 1985. Some interesting comparisons between 1985 and 2016 include the following: The median price for a home in Santa Clara County was \$140,000, now it's \$940,000; the number one grossing movie was "Back to the Future," now it's "Star Wars: The Force Awakens"; the cost of a 30-second commercial spot was \$525,000, now it's \$4.5 million; the average cost for a ticket was \$60, now it's \$2,862. It was reported that some luxury box seats were selling for as much as \$300,000. Do you wonder who would be able to pay that much? Perhaps some of those arriving in the 1,200 executive jets that flew into area airports. Congratulations to the Denver Broncos for winning this year's exciting showdown!

We are sorry to hear of member **Harry Willever**'s back surgery. We hope you're up and about and have full recovery soon. Our president's wife, **Julie Midwin**, is continuing to recover from hip surgery. We're praying for decreased pain and complete mobility and for your spirits to be lifted. We look forward to seeing your smiling faces soon and enjoy time with you again. We were saddened to hear of **Roger Casterline**'s sister-in-law's passing. Our heartfelt condolences go out to you and your family.

Al & MaryLou Rogers were in The Philippines in February for MaryLou's 50th college class reunion. A 3-week trip, they looked forward to visiting family and renew friendships with classmates from long ago. We hope you had a wonderful time!

Watch out for scams! One of our members received one of those "your grandson is in jail in Mexico" calls and was scammed out of \$1,000. When he received the second call for \$5,000, he wized up. We've heard from several members receiving calls about helping with computer problems (what computer problems?) and IRS issues (don't notices come in the mail?). Watch out in your neighborhoods for unfamiliar gardeners and packages being stolen also.

We are looking forward to our Spring Luncheon to be held March 16th at The Fish Market's Santa Clara location. Salmon, Mahi Mahi, and Chicken will be served. We will have our normal (or perhaps anything but

normal) raffle after lunch. Please visit our website to find out more about this fun St. Patrick's Day-themed gathering.

We were very happy to see former president, **Dave Walb**, and friend, **Peggy Kitting**, at one of our recent breakfast meetings and hear they enjoyed a 12-day Ft. Lauderdale trip and cruise to the eastern Caribbean. We miss you both but wish you well in your additional upcoming travels.

Longtime member, **Leon Manou**, recently celebrated his 80th birthday while packing up to move to Lake Oswego, Oregon. He and wife, **Katrina**, were moving to be close to their daughter's family (including adorable grandsons). Our loss will be their gain. We wish you both well and hope you are happy and getting settled in your new digs!

Congratulations to **Keith & Ann Olthof** in celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary on March 4th! We hope you have a lovely time celebrating your special day!

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

Calendar:

February 24 – Volunteering at Second Harvest Food Bank, San Jose

March 16 – Spring Luncheon at The Fish Market, Santa Clara

June 14 – Summer BBQ at Vasona Park, Los Gatos



EAST BAY DIABLOS

Contra Costa County

Diane Griego

1634 Nuala Street

Concord, CA 94518

(925) 676-6097

diangriego@aol.com

We greeted 2016 by returning to the Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord with 24 in attendance. It was a sunny winter day typical of Northern California; a great place to spend time with old friends.

We discussed some new options to try and as mentioned last month, **Howard & Jo Payne** have kindly arranged for us to try Mimi's Café in Concord. We have heard their food is good and we will be ordering from the menu with individual checks.

Treasurer **Rich Bouska** is collecting dues for 2016.

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

Calendar:

March 14 – Old Spaghetti Factory

April 11 – to be announced

May 16 – to be announced

June 13 – Annual Picnic at Diane & Manny's house

July – No Meeting

CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS

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



The lakes are filling up with water! Yes, lots of rain in the Northern State and we want it to keep raining.

Our January 27th meeting was held at one of our favorite places, Mill Creek Café in Los Molinos. It is located half way between Redding and Chico and we always have a great turn out and good food. President **Merritt Odor** greeted everyone and thanked **Bill & Sharon Simonton** for reserving the room. Merritt welcomed our Northern California Regional Director, **John Zoboli**, to the meeting. We had 28 retirees and spouses in attendance.

Merritt did ask if there were any birthdays or anniversaries. **Sharon Simonton, Billie Jorgensen, Merritt Odor**, and **John Delaney** all celebrated birthdays in January.

Merritt again invited everyone to join RUAEA for only \$27.00 a year. Also, he spoke about the Maintenance Base at SFO. Retirees can no longer go onto the base or to the Credit Union without an escort effective 2/1/2016.

John Zoboli gave a presentation concerning many items. Again, speaking about the Maintenance Base, for those retirees that need to visit the Credit Union, there is an office at 700 Concar Dr. in San Mateo and also at the SFO Terminal #3.

John told us the Reno Chapter's annual picnic date has been set for August 19, 2016 at the Plaza Pavilion at Bartley Ranch in Reno, NV. All are welcome to attend.

Also, the annual reunion held at Carson Valley Inn, in Minden, NV will be held June 21-24. A hold has been placed on rooms and RV spots. The BBQ picnic will be on Wed. June 22. All are invited to attend.

John spoke a great deal about the upcoming annual RUAEA Convention which will be held Sept. 21-24 in Seattle, WA at the Double Tree Suites. More details will be following concerning the convention activities.

As always, John had great information and Merritt thanked John for his attendance.

Merritt spoke about some celebrities that used to work for United. Several were mentioned including actor Tom Selleck and ex-Mouseketeer Joey Costarella. Others also mentioned celebrities they knew that once worked for United. Everyone enjoyed the discussion.

Dick Hooning mentioned issues with the new Silver Scripts prescription drug program. Some people are having issues. Dick suggests calling Silver Scripts directly to start the prescription program.

Merritt again encouraged anyone that has a story to tell, a hobby, to share or any travels to share to please do so at our meetings.

Don Arndt won the 50/50 raffle and **Richard Skelly** won the \$15.00 lunch certificate.

Calendar:

March 23 - Wednesday at 11:30 AM Holiday Inn in Redding. Come and join us!

COLORADO



DENVER MILE HIGHERS

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

The February breakfast was attended by 37 people. **Sam Vasicko** (DENTK) was a first time attendee. I hadn't seen Sam in 20 years. Also attending after a long pause were **Don Clark** (DENCG) and **Lew Fontana** (DENTK). I worked with Lew at TK and it was good seeing him again. The lucky winners of the 50/50 drawing were **Gary Trujillo** (DENMM), **Dwayne McKinney** (DENTK) twice, **Charles Hassler** (DENMM), twice, **Sam Vasicko** (DENTK) three and **Marilyn Hansen**. The 50/50 drawing helps support the chapter since this chapter does not collect dues.

Tom Goodyear asked for volunteers to assume responsibilities for his, Nancy's and Laura's position as next month will be their last. Tom & Nancy have served this chapter for the last 18 to 20 years. Please come forward and donate your time.

Tom received a nice letter from the Flight 93 Memorial group acknowledging this Chapter's \$500 donation. The money was used to repair the roof of the memorial. **Sam Vasicko** spoke briefly mentioning that he worked in several areas during his career retiring in 97 and now lives in Delta, Colorado which he said is semi-arid and similar to weather in Arizona. He spends his time building hot rods, restoring cars and going to auto shows, etc. Also attending after a long pause was **Don Clark** (DENCG). He moved to Missouri for three years after retiring and then moved back to the area and drives a school bus and generally keeps busy. Tom listed the number of United aircraft in active service which totals into the hundreds and assured us that we will probably have no problems using passes for trips. He also noted that service to Cuba has been approved.

Don Burbank (DENMM) spoke about the 1099's resulting from companion travel. The amounts must be added to your gross income for tax purposes. You can also get a pass travel report from the company if desired. Don also spoke about the reduced fare positive space tickets we are eligible for. The prices for these tickets are similar in price to the over 65 fares on Southwest.

Star companions are available (8 per year) on other airlines and the recipients do not need to be registered as enrolled friends.

Don and Virgil also mentioned passwords for FlyingTogether. They expire every 90 days. If you are traveling, it is wise to change it just before you leave so you don't have the hassle of having to change it while you are traveling.

Obituaries ~ **Dave Ballash** (DENTR) passed away on January 19th. There will be a celebration of life in May. **Diane Graham**, **Roy Graham's** (DENMM) wife passed away on January 10th. Cards can be sent to the family at 270 N. 14th Ave., Brighton, CO 80601. Roy had passed away in October of last year. **Frank Murdock** (SLCSZ) passed away recently. He started with Continental and then moved to United. Don was a station manager at IDL, SFO, PIT and retired from SLC. Frank was 95 and passed in January. There was no service.

Illnesses ~ **Don LeFurge** (Continental) fell Thursday at the Flight Center and has shoulder and hip problems. **Ed Eson** (DENMM) fell at the Flight Center and required 11 stitches. Cards can be sent to 4902 W. 29th, Unit 6D, Greeley, CO 80634.

Our next quarterly event will be a Spring Luncheon at the same place we had it last year, Cinzetti's Italian Market at 281 West 104th Ave., Northglenn, CO. It will be on April 13th at 11:30 am. If you are planning on attending, please send your reservation and checks made out to "RUAEA Denver Chapter" to **Martha Gooselaw** at 973 Uvalda St., Aurora, CO 80011. Guests are also welcome and please include their names on your check. The cost is \$18.00 per person. That includes all you can eat buffet and a non alcoholic drink & gratuity. There will be cocktails for purchase, if desired. The money should be in by April 8th.

A breakfast is held at 9am the first Saturday of every month in the cafeteria at the Flight Center (DENTK). The cafeteria is staffed with a Chef and there are a variety of breakfast items. It is a good opportunity to visit with old friends and make new ones. I encourage you to consider attending. Don't forget to bring aluminum for recycling.

The March breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 5th.

FLORIDA

CITRUS GROUPERS

The Villages, FL
Kathy Faust
Correspondent



Submitted by Ralph Brick

The Citrus Groupers of the Villages held their monthly meeting on Thursday, January 28th at the Legacy Restaurant, Nancy Lopez Golf Course, located in the Villages, FL. Seventeen members attended the Luncheon/meeting with lots of conversations during the lunch.

After the meal, President **Ralph Brick** started by having all of us join in the Pledge of Allegiance. Treasurer **Joan Brandinisio's** report was accepted. Secretary **Kathy Faust** was not present because her husband **Bob** will be having surgery the day after our meeting.

The winner of the 50/50 drawing was **Karl Besteder** who is one of our snowbirds, who usually spends 4-5 months with us during winter, balance of the year, he is up in the great state of PA.

The meeting was adjourned with a plan to meet again on February 25.

Thanks for all the good work that RUAEA does for us. If you want more info about the Citrus Groupers of the Villages, contact President **Ralph Brick**, (352) 219-0289, brickralph@cox.net.



THE ORLANDO
REAL McCOYS

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

President **Al Fields** began our February meeting at 2:15pm with 49 members and guests honoring our flag with the Pledge of Allegiance (flag bearer **Ernie Vosges**). Every seat was taken in our private room at the Golden Corral and, once again, quite a few surprises! We regulars don't ever get any recognition ... Mmmm! All our "surprises" joined the Real McCoys Chapter - a big welcome to **Montague Martin, Freddie DuPree**, and **Laura Lofgren**. Also the MCOCG trio of **John Wiseman, Bob Duszynski** and **Jim Feeney**, along with **Edna Gooseman, Tom & Holly Deckrow** and **Danny & Marlene Raciak** came to pay their dues! Raciaks' reserved table included MCO retirees **Ben & Marilyn Bogucki** and **Al & Nancy Vershowske**! So much to catch up on and not enough time. Hope to see all of you again in 2016!

Our February Birthday Guys are **Al Mollet** (18th) and **Bob Duszynski** (24th) and a very Happy Anniversary to **Fred & Olive DuPree**!

Treasurer **Charlotte LeGrand** gave her report and Secretary Elaine read three very nice "thank you" letters from the charities we donated to at Christmas. President Al told all of us that we should be very proud of the retiree organization we have built here in Orlando. Retiree groups from AA & DL also meet here for a monthly lunch and their groups are very small. We had our "moments" but we remained friends and enjoy getting together and reminiscing about the "Company"!

We were reminded that our annual picnic will be on April 5th and Cypress Grove Park has again been reserved from 10-3pm that day. Details will be finalized at the March meeting.

Calendar:

First Tuesday of every month at 1:00pm, Golden Corral on South Semoran Blvd.

March 1 – Luncheon

April 5 – Picnic

May 3 – Luncheon

June 7 – Luncheon

July 5 - Luncheon

SW PELICAN DROP-INS

Fort Myers, FL

Margie Burg

15791 Prentiss Pointe Circle #102

(239) 400-2544

burgmarge@aol.com



Due to various circumstances, I haven't submitted a column for a few months. Time to catch up. It's been necessary to move our luncheon meetings to a new location: Duffy's Sports Grill, 627 Cape Coral Pkwy W., Cape Coral, FL 33914.

We've welcomed some new members: **Raymond Jensen, Connie Duerwald, Terry & Karen Hall, Wes & Nancy Fetzer**, and **Lynna Baker**. Sadly, **Ray Winterhalter**, passed away after a long illness. He was active in our chapter for many years.

Attending our February meeting and enjoying the food and 50/50 were **Dick Allen, Wallis Alves, Lynna Baker, Rosemary Blake, Maxine Brown, Bill & Margie Burg, Ed & Judy Clarke, Gary & Janice Crittenden, Connie Duerwald, Wes & Nancy Fetzer, Ray Jensen, Jerry & Peggy Kliner, Nancy Kopp, Ric**

& **Jane Marton, Bee McCarthy, Tony & Darlene Novak, Paul & Ingrid Olson, Jerry & Sandy Pryde, Pat Reid, Diane Roberts, Wanda Schmoyer, and Mel & Linda Volz.**

We always have a lot of lively conversation. Even with all the ups and downs of the last few years, we're still "family". There was even some talk of having summer get-togethers.

Calendar:

First Friday of the month October through May.



TAMPA BAY CHAPTER

Audrey Kutilek
1334 Camelot Ct.
Palm Harbor, FL
(727) 789-3301
audgolf@aol.com

We feel badly about all the crummy weather most of the country is having. You can't beat Florida for good weather this year. I must confess that I recently had to turn my air conditioning on. We've got more snowbirds down here this year than we've had in quite a while. We hope that anyone from United who is down here for the winter will join us at our next meeting.

No one has done any traveling recently. There was only one birthday, **Marti Fitzgerald** on February 20.

There was some discussion about where we were going to send our contribution this year and it was decided unanimously that the Shanksville Memorial would replace Juvenile Diabetes which we had helped for several years.

We talked a bit about the new drug plan. The consensus was that long term prescriptions are better done through the mail. Local CVS stores prefer that we use them for the 30 day or less type.

Our next picnic will be at Anderson Park on April 4. This will be a picnic that we pay for. **Don & Volrie Fusina** will be handling it. Anyone not attending our regular meetings should contact Volrie. Her email address is volriej@gmail.com.

As long as I'm mentioning dates in the future, we plan on having our December Holiday party on December 7. Members might want to put the date in their calendars.

Since we don't meet in June or July, our \$10 chapter dues will be collected in May.

TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL
M. Jane Kerr
1372 SW California Blvd.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34953
(772) 343-0709
jane Kerr13@comcast.net



Our meeting on February 2 was attended by 25 members and one guest. **Jo LaRocca** lost her husband **Jerry** the beginning of January and before he passed away, he asked Jo to promise she would continue coming to the meetings. So she brought her friend **Dorothy Decaro** who also hails from Vero Beach. Jerry loved coming to the meetings according to Jo so she wanted to abide with his wishes. If you know the area of Vero Beach and Stuart, it is quite a ride and many of our members also drive quite a distance especially the members coming up from Ft. Lauderdale and Boynton Beach, etc. How very lucky we are to have such dedicated members. We will truly miss Jerry and our wish is for him to Rest in Peace. Dorothy's Dad worked for BA at JFK as a mechanic and she travelled extensively to Australia and Hong Kong on United Airlines. So very nice to have you as our guest Dorothy, please come any time with Jo.

As usual after everyone finished eating the talking again resumes, what a bunch.

One of the patrons asked Al who we were since she was amazed at the friendliness and camaraderie among the group, what a nice compliment from a stranger to give us and what a plus for United Airlines.

President **Al Popek** began the meeting with the Pledge Allegiance to our Flag and in respect for **Jerry LaRocca**, we all held a minute of silence in his honor and memory. Al presented Jo with an Orchid Garden Dish and a sympathy card from the chapter, she was deeply moved and so were we.

Our discussion centered on the problems members are having with Silver Scripts and CVS. I for one am still having difficulty with my order of Meds since January 8 and it is still not resolved. I have just about had it with them and if you think you can just walk into a CVS and pick up your Meds at the going rate think again folks.

Al mentioned that our picnic will be at Dubois Park, FL again this year on March 1 so we will not have a regular meeting, please mark your calendar and a slip was passed around for items to bring and committees for decorating, cooking and cleaning up etc. For anyone who was not at the meeting, when you call to say you will be attending you will be given the chance to make your selection, also an invitation will be sent, so watch your emails.

Diane Brodis took the floor and gave us a wonderful summary of phone numbers and ideas that she came up with dealing with Silver Scripts and CVS. Hopefully, it will help some of us. What a gal, she even went to the trouble of printing a copy for each of us, change for the sake of change is not good business.

The 50/50 was won by **Barbara Blauschild** and the Progressive was won by **Anne Kenda**, and since she was not in attendance, the money goes back for the next drawing.

Birthdays ~ **David Damon** (2/17) and **Gene Student** (2/22). Happy Birthday! The 53rd Wedding Anniversary for **David & Carolyn Lindgren** was the day of our meeting so with the sadness, we also had joy. Happy Anniversary!

Keep loving, laughing and living to the maximum, the clock is ticking and remember love is not just an emotion it is also an action.

Calendar:

March 1 – 12 Noon Picnic, Dubois Park, Jupiter, FL

April 5 - 1230PM Luncheon/Meeting, Duffy's, South Stuart, FL

May 3 - 1230PM Luncheon/Meeting Duffy's, South Stuart, FL

GEORGIA



DIXIE FLYERS

DIXIE FLYERS

Metro Atlanta Georgia

Ron Heider

935 City Park Dr.

(770) 320-8890

janicec1121@yahoo.com

The Dixie Flyers met on February 2, Ground Hog Day. We had a lovely 55 temperature day and sunny, so our hog saw his shadow, so happy early spring.

Our usual 20 Flyers including Melba, guest of **Fred Cron** and **Jerry Austin**, son-in-law of **Don "Sully" Sullivan**, filled in for **Colleen Austin**. We always enjoy seeing guests at our luncheon.

Jerry drew our 50/50, winning ticket belonging to **Frank Russy** for \$13.00, and donation was made to The Ladies of Distress, battered women in Fayetteville. GA.

Fred Cron gave The Blessing of the meal, followed by The Pledge of Allegiance. He also informed us of the passing of **Wayne "Pat" Patterson**, former ATL Operations Agent. **Larry Newsome** keeps a file on all ATL deceased workers since 1955, 200 names, you can contact him at zot@bellsouth.net.

Shelley's ATL yearly reunion picnic will be April 6. We hope all out-of-towners will come and enjoy food, fun and hearing tall tales. It will be a fun time and we hope for a good turn out.

There are Get-Well wishes to Oscar, our CEO, after recent heart surgery, speedy healing and good health, may he take the helm of our great company. And many thanks to temporary CEO, who is doing a great job.

UAL is in discussion of getting 100 seat airplanes for our express flights. Or even using the B737, which would be nice. This large plane has been under consideration for 2 yrs; let's hope it happens this leap year of February 29!

Birthdays ~ **Young Paille** (1), **Sybil Voss** (13), **Elaine Harris** (14), **Richard Thompson** (17), **Marge Heider** (20), and **Herb Burke** (29).

And let me also recognize my upcoming Anniversary of 65 yrs. on February 10, to my lovely wife **Marge Heider**. She requested Olive Garden, so after 65 yrs, you just say yes ma'am!

Calendar:

March 2 – 2PM at the Broadway Diner, 535 Glynn St. S., Fayetteville, GA 30214, (770) 716-2628.

HAWAII

HONOLULU MENEHUNES

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



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

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



PAU HANA KUPUNA

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

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

IDAHO

BOISE GEMS

Carol Adams
2630 W. Inglewood Dr.
Boise, ID 83705
(208) 344-6897
dadams208@aol.com



Greetings from Boise! Although only four of us gathered for our January meeting, we enjoyed good conversation. **Lois Rodriguez** says, "Hello from Boise and Happy New Year 2016." **Denny Snyder** has been flying his Cessna 172. **Bob Sarnoff** came without his wife, **Palmer**, who was at their homeowner's association meeting. They had a "quiet, but fun New Year with **Denny Snyder**." **Bob** passes on a Hawaiian Happy New Year greeting to you – Hau'oli Maka Hiki Hou. They lived in Hawaii before moving to California, then Idaho.

My hubby, **David Adams**, is driving one of two buses from Boise at the Super Bowl where they are transporting the families of the players. Should be fun! We recently received news from **Tom Cunningham**, RUAEA Northwest Regional Director, that he will join us for our March meeting.

Passed on to us some years back is a 3-ring binder filled with old stories from former employees. I think you will truly enjoy them, one at a time throughout the next months. The first is from our beloved **Bill Heath** titled, "True Tall Tales":

"I was on a flight to Chicago one day. We were delayed leaving and would miss a number of connections for passengers going beyond. The flight attendant, being very conscientious, obtained (with help of the cockpit crew) a list of backup flights the connecting passengers could use if the delayed arrival failed to connect with their regularly scheduled flights from O'Hare."

She then proceeded to explain over the plane's public address system the options to each group of connecting passengers. It was a long and tedious explanation, but the F/A kept her cool and waded through the explanations until her very last announcement.

There, she tripped over her tongue, and what came out clear and strong was, 'For you Pissburg pattengers, we have a later flight.' She never finished! When she realized what she had said, she broke down in uncontrollable laughter. So did her passengers."

Calendar:

March 9 - 11:30 – Black Bear Café, 1731 S. Entertainment Ave.

ILLINOIS



CHICAGO SKYLINERS

www.chicagoskyliners.org

Chicagomainliner.com

Jan Gawenda

920 Ridge Sq. #208

Elk Grove, IL 60007-4196

(847) 437-7073

jawenda@gmail.com

March - spring is definitely in the air. The groundhog is hiding somewhere in North Carolina, just in case he was wrong. Turns out he's right only 61% of the time, but he's a legend. That's all, some druid or Etruscan long ago thought it would be funny to make up a little animal to predict the end of winter. Times must have been boring back then to put stock in a marmot to predict the weather. Can it predict elections? Would probably need a bigger ground rat! Now they call them pundits and they're on TV. Primary time is here. Register, then vote on March 15, the Ides of March yes, the day the Senate stabbed Caesar in the back. Rather fitting to have an election on that day, isn't it? Join the fun and see who will be in the running for the top spot in Washington. Who got us in this mess? Millard Fillmore? He wasn't a Republican or Democrat. Yeah, let's blame him. Or William Henry Harrison, only in office 31 days before pneumonia did him in. Think before you push the button. We old timers have more power than we think. It's not our first rodeo, you know. And we don't need tuition for college.

The Elly's Restaurant people on the Northside had 22 lovelies come in. **Rich Maionchi** returned after an absence, having had surgeries. In January, his wife, passed from cancer. **Jerry Tipperreiter**, and his friend, **Pam** put on 3,200 miles from Chicago, Kansas City, Orlando, to Chicago, after attending his nephew Keith Teister's retirement from the Air Force. As mentioned before, Keith, will be joining UAL as a A320 pilot at DENTK. Heard rumors of trip planning, it must be Spring.

Meanwhile, down on the Southside ranch, 11 people came to Jedi's for breakfast. Some of our regulars have been missing, we'll have to check on them. It's a small group so we are concerned when they are not around. It looks like our friend **Mel Fisher** has left the area and settled in Arkansas. Our raffle was won by **Gwen Brookins, Tom Hurley and Jan Gawenda**.

Ellie & Jack Teresinski, ORDMM, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends. They are now in their Florida-Snow-Bird-Mansion-by-the-Sea.

Helen Cauwels will be selling Cubs-Milwaukee Brewer tickets for their August 18 game at Wrigley Field, 1:20 start. I'll have more info regarding cost next month. She will sell them by mail and at our Spring Luncheon. Keep the date open.

The 2016 RUAEA Convention will be held in Seattle this year, from September 21 through 26, at the Seattle Double Tree South Center Hotel. The events will be in the Convention section of the Newsletter. Another Save The Date!

Departing from our UAL family; EXORA, **Ele Syoen's** husband. **Don**, and **Dawn Hartley Sulek**, from ORDCG, **Robert Keating**, father of **Darren Keating**, and **Larry Tibbets**. From ORDMM, "**Big John**" **Verambeck**, passed from heart failure in New York. John was a very easygoing person and a pleasure to work with. Last month, because of space constraints, we had to cut out the famous persons deaths. I'm just going to go through the big ones quickly because there were so many losses that were close to our past. Lillian Vernon, Chicago's Bishop Joseph Imesh and Jim Conway, Meadowlark Lemon, Marjorie Lord, Wayne Rogers, Robert Stigwood, Pat Harrington, Dan Haggerty, Celine Dion's husband and brother, Abe Vigoda, Bob Elliott, Maurice

White, Natalie Cole, William Guest, David Bowie, Glenn Frye, Paul Kantner, and Alan Rickman. There were more, but holding for space. Way too many people of our age, and younger, are leaving us. Lesson, live and enjoy!

What happened to the good old days? Did we know they were the good old days when we were in those days? I don't think so. We were so busy running for the brass ring, getting a salary for those kids' school, shoes, food and our lavish vacations (ha). According to the Web, it's an era considered to be better than the current era, a form of nostalgic romanticism. Well, it was fun, and I think we agree we enjoyed those days. What did that famous guy say long ago, "Youth is wasted on the young?" My old friend, **Peter Gropp**, ORDFO, says it all, "Every day I wake up caring less about yesterday and even less today about what happened the day before yesterday ... then I get really excited about tomorrow". Every Saint has a past and every Sinner has a future' ... thank God, there's hope for me! Go out and enjoy those crocuses and tulips!

Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Elly's Restaurant, 8:30 A.M., 372 E. Golf Rd., Arlington Heights, IL (**March 9**). Second Wednesday of the month.

Southside Breakfast - Jedi's Restaurant, 9:30 A.M., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn. (**March 29**). Last Tuesday of the month.

April 5 - Spring Luncheon, 11:00 cocktails, 12:00 lunch. Cotillion Restaurant, 360 S. Creekside Dr., Palatine, IL

INDIANA

INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN

Shary Johnston, Correspondent

5374 Far Hill Rd.

Indianapolis, IN 46226

(317) 374-1389

sharyjohnston@aol.com



The Indy Racers didn't meet in January due to weather issues, but in February, we confirmed the election of 2016 officers. Our new Treasurer is **Tony Urbanovic**, (pictured) who is our only member who has worked for both United Airlines and Continental Airlines, and then went back as a retiree in a consulting capacity to help with the reservations system when the two airlines merged.

Tony, who was born in Dearborn Michigan and grew up in smaller, nearby Michigan communities, says his attraction to airplanes started when, shortly after the end of WW II, he saw a huge group of B-17's flying across the bay at the back of their home. Flying over the water at an altitude of no more than 500 feet, the planes kept coming. Tony remembers counting 79 planes, but that wasn't even half of them, he said. *"They flew across the bay to where the Detroit River empties into Lake Erie and then up the river to Selfridge AFB. It was a sight I will never forget."*



Tony's strong mid-western values can probably be attributed to the fact that he attended a small country school that had the 6th, 7th and 8th grades all in one room with one teacher. And like many young men of his era, Tony had a part-time pin-setter job at the bowling alley while he was in high school. He didn't relay any stories of injuries, but many of us remember that before "automation," re-setting the "pins" could be a hazardous job. At least he remained healthy enough to join the Air Force after high school and when discharged, was admitted to Eastern Michigan College in Ypsilanti between Detroit and Ann Arbor.

Again, Tony found himself juggling part-time work schedules with his studies. And the jobs he had while at Eastern Michigan had a profound impact on his life. While working part-time at a hospital, he met **Barbara Bucholz** who was a student at the University of Michigan. They eloped the second semester of her senior year. On March 29th, Barb & Tony will celebrate their 57th wedding anniversary. Also while at Eastern Michigan, Tony took a part time job with United Airlines. In the early 1960's he signed on to United and worked in the Reservations, Ticketing and Ramp departments for approximately two years until he had the opportunity to become an Air Traffic Controller in Indianapolis. He was an air traffic controller until August of 1981 when Pres. Reagan fired over 11,000 striking air traffic controllers. But Tony always lands on his feet, so

he took part-time jobs as a bartender and prison guard until he joined the Army National Guard and was able to get his federal retirement program benefits re-instated.

After working with the Guard for six and a half years, Tony retired as a civilian due to a knee injury. However, it wasn't long before this energetic 65-year-old determined he was bored and needed to get back into the work scene. *"As I was walking past the Continental counter at IND in 2000, I asked if they would hire 'old farts' and they did,"* Tony said. He worked the ticket counter, the gates and with airline customers for 10 years before retiring. Once United and Continental merged, the company asked Tony to assist as a consultant in making the reservation systems compatible.

These days, Tony & Barb enjoy traveling, and spending time in Florida while Indiana is experiencing cold and snowy weather. The Indy Racers are eager to hear about their recent trip to Israel when we see them at the March 8th meeting.

Birthday greeting go out to all of our members who were born in March: **Ed Loftus** (3/5), **Lenny Kurtz** (3/6), **Hannelore Brabo** (3/16), **Frank Prins** (3/24), **Charles Theiss** (3/27), **Bob Duty** (3/30), and **Ken Boeke** (3/31).

Congratulations to **Bob & Ruth Duffey** who celebrate a wedding anniversary on March 16th, and to **Tony & Barbara Urbanovic** on March 29th.

Calendar:

March 8 - Meeting at Emmy's Pancake House in Avon, IN. Lunch begins at 12:30 p.m. and the Business Meeting starts at 1:30 p.m.

MASSACHUSETTS



NOR'EASTERS

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

No February meeting, so no meeting news.

So far this winter with all the bad weather across our nation, Mother Nature has been very good to us in the Northeast. Other than the northern mountainous region, the only snow we've had was that late December storm. The Mid-Atlantic States got all the snow that normally would have come up here. I dare say we handle it a lot better, are well prepared and consider it 'just winter'. There is a difference though, because of their climate, their snow melts a lot faster. I still have snow on the ground from that one storm despite temperatures way above normal. The mildest winter I can remember. Thank you Mother Nature!

On a different note, when I started secretary duties in 2000, the cost of mailing flyers to our members was 51 cents. This included stamps, 2 size envelopes, paper and labels. Today the same costs 65 cents. And I didn't get a Social Security raise because the feds say there wasn't a cost of living increase last year. I wonder what planet they live on!

Ed Aldorisio has been under the weather and may require hospitalization. But he's a fighter and has an optimistic attitude. Bless you Ed!

Patricia Curtis, BOSCG, past Nor'Easter member, passed away on January 6 from kidney failure. She gave up membership when illness overcame abilities.

March's birthdays: **Bob Austin**, **Lee Lyon** and **Mary Beth McDermet**.

March's anniversaries: **Frederic & Rita Casey** (61 years), **Susie & Alex Dolgin** (20), **Marcia & David Kilpatrick** (22), **Gerald & Margaret Peters** (59) and **Louis & Sylvia Shakley** (53).

I tell everyone I don't have Alzheimer's. I have Some-timers! Some-times I remember and some-times I don't

Calendar:

March 29 - Jeveli's Restaurant, Chelsea St., East Boston, MA

MICHIGAN

GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Gwen Dyc-Schwendenmann
(248) 667-9258



It is official. It is an end of an era. DTWRR is closed. United reservations moved from the 11th floor of the Book Building in downtown Detroit to its new home in Dearborn, MI in July of 1972. The new facility was state of the art. No more colored lights indicating what city a call was coming in from - Detroit, Lansing, Flint, Grand Rapids in Michigan or Toledo, Ohio. Gone were the RES cards and conveyor belts. No more switchboards. It was a different world. Now we were able to take calls from more than our local area. An added bonus was free parking. Over time the calls expanded from general reservations and travel industry calls to include the specialties - meetings, groups, both domestic and international, aeromedical, premier, 1K's, small package dispatch, tour desk, military, TBM's charters, prepaid, rates, Apollo services and help desk, etc. Now it is all gone. Current employees were able to transfer to Houston reservations, work from home, retire, or terminate. There are now three reservation offices in the United States that are still open: Houston, Chicago and Honolulu. But HNLRR is scheduled to close next year.

After our monthly retiree luncheon, which was held at Buddy's restaurant on January 7, the majority of the 40 people in attendance proceeded to DTWRR for a last goodbye. We gathered in the front of the building for a group picture about 200 strong. There were a lot of laughs and a lot of "do you remember?" There were pictures along the walls documenting the 44 years that we were in that building. What memories! Memories of the opening of the Dearborn office, Hawaii days, anniversaries, retirements, international days, and a special board to remember those that are no longer with us. It was very special to share those memories with our colleagues and friends.

Our luncheons are held on the first Thursday of the month (except when it falls on a holiday). The February 4 luncheon was held at Applebee's on Middlebelt road in Livonia, MI. **Joan Robinson** was the host. Since the location of each luncheon is determined by the host for the month, contact **Gwen Dyc** at bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net for the latest location. Hope you will join us soon.

Our dear friend, **Marie Cook**, has been the correspondent for RUAEA for over twenty years. Health issues have prevented her from submitting articles for several months. She is now living at Fairlane Assisted Living, 4085 Fairlane Drive, Bloomfield, MI 48301. She would love to hear from her old United friends.

MINNESOTA

NORTHERN LITES



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

It was a pretty cold and blustery day in January when the Lites got together. We'd had such a warm autumn and holiday season that we're not ready for normal MN January temperatures! We counted only 19 of us, what with all the snowbirds having flown south and **Gene & Kookie Delvaux** off cruising again.

The current officers agreed to continue in their positions for another year; given the huge salaries we all receive, was it any wonder? **Lee Storlie**, our president, had announced that he would step down if anyone else would like to step UP, but as **Mary Brennan** reported, the only offer came from Donald Trump.

Breaking News ~ The Old Country Buffet closed 7 of the Twin City stores, including the one in Woodbury. So we're on the hunt again for a monthly home for our gatherings. We had our February meeting at the OCB where we used to go in Burnsville, but that was just temporary since they turned their meeting room into a game room causing us to have a business meeting in the open restaurant. Get out and shake the bushes, call some places you know that have good food and a meeting (for free) that's centrally located. Our group includes people who drive as far as 140 miles each month to visit, so keep that in mind.

Health concerns:

Gladys Hazekamp is dealing with memory issues; **Bernie** told El Presidente that they have moved to an assisted living facility and that he probably won't be coming to the lunch meetings anymore; we'll miss them both!

Al Gunderson has completed his chemo and radiation regimen; was in attendance and optimistic.

Chuck Eichacker has also finished his chemo regimen; **JoAnn** is muddling along and trying to stay positive. She is still showing some sass, so we have high hopes.

Joe & Mitzi Balogh are struggling right now after Mitzi slipped on ice and broke her hip. In trying to help her up, Joe cracked a couple of vertebrae and is laid up while Mitzi's in a care center.

We're saddened by the death of **George "Doc" Anderson** who finally used up his 9th life. He provided us with many years of great stories, as his quirky nature and sense of humor were a fun part of our working relationship. An all 'round good guy who will be missed. Condolences may be sent to his wife, **Eunice**, at 600 Valley High Rd., Burnsville, MN 55337.

According to **Dee Eyestone**, **Alice Hendrix** has sold her home and moved to a senior center out in Shakopee, MN.

We're glad to hear that the MSP employees are going to start up the Mainliner Club again. Hopefully, this will bring the CO and UA factions together. It's been a long, bitter haul after the merger. Supposedly we'll be included in the midsummer picnic plans they're making for this year. Wouldn't it be nice if the CO retirees join us as well?

Each month we have a raffle, of course, but this time was special for **Arlene & Joe Kelley**. They bought 7 tickets and the last two digits of their tickets were 68 through 74. Those just happen to be the years' span of their children's births and to put a cap on it, Arlene won one of the prizes!

It was noted that with the change for the drug program from Express Scripts to Caremark, not all the prescriptions have been transferred from the old to the new. It might be wise to contact Caremark at (844) 635-3401 to double-check that your list of medications is correct in their records.

Lunch at 11:00 a.m. followed by a meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of every month, location TBD. Call either me (number above) or **Lee Storlie** (952) 890-5498.

NEBRASKA

OMAHA GOLDENEARS

Jan Cornish
6501 Rainwood Road
Omaha, NE 68152
(402) 571-6031



Our first luncheon of the New Year was held at the Golden Corral with 33 retirees in attendance. We were very happy to see **Hank & Betty Marquardt**. It has been some time since we had seen them and hope they will continue to join us regularly.

Much discussion was held regarding the change to Silver Scripts vs. Express Scripts. Tony had experienced the fact that his prescription information had been transferred but not personal data such as mailing address and credit card number. So it is in everyone's best interest to call the customer service number for Silver Scripts on the back of the card 1-844-819-3074 and make sure they have all of your information. The material states that you can pick up your prescriptions at either a CVS pharmacy or through mail order. You should also check to see if there is a limit to the particular CVS pharmacy you may choose. When I talked to them this week I was told you could access any CVS pharmacy. I was also told that only some of my prescriptions were transferred. She said I would need new prescriptions for all of my medications. I am sure it will take some time before we are all comfortable with the change.

The winners of the 50/50 were **Marilyn Weak** (again) and **Jackie Sortino**, a first time winner. Each received \$12. Marilyn is going for a record number of wins.

There are still a few people who have not sent in their dues. If you are not sure about your status, please contact **Eileen Holly** and get squared away.

As you can see, **Marge Edwards** is no longer the secretary for our group. She has done an outstanding job for 15 years and felt it was time to quit fighting with her computer. So I will try to fill these really big shoes and keep you in the loop of all that is happening with our members.

Bracston Olds has been in the hospital for several days recently due to some lung issues. He is home and is recovering, but as of this writing he is waiting for results of a biopsy.

We learned from **Betty Marquardt** that she received some coverage from Aetna for her hearing aids and glasses. So if you are purchasing either, have the provider check your insurance and see if there is a deduction coming for you.

February Birthdays ~ **Casey Casebeer** (3), **Pam Ziebarth** (6), **Larry Farrell** (19), **John Mason** (24), and **Myrtis Olds** (27). Have a wonderful day!

Our next meeting was to be hosted by **Bracston & Myrtis Olds**, but since Brack has been in the hospital, Tony & Jackie graciously stepped in to help.

Calendar:

March 1 – TBD, hosted by **Marva & Emery Dickinson**

April 5 – TBD, hosted by **Marge Edwards**

May 3 - Elmwood Tower, hosted by **Judy Nekonchuk** and **Mel Harrison**

NEVADA



LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

Chris Czaplewski
280 Cottonwood Dr
Mesquite, NV 89027
(702) 346-8877
msqchriscz@gmail.com

Las Vegas area is enjoying sunny days and unusually cold nights, in the 20's. We are lucky, with all the cold snowy weather in CO and other states. But the hot weather is coming, so hang in there!

I talked about the "Helping Hands Senior Necessities Program" that our Chapter has donated food and other items to in the past. They are a non-profit organization, and donations are given directly to the needy Seniors. They also have a volunteer program that our members in Las Vegas may want to help out with.

Our "N" list is pretty long this month. **Willie Bullinger** fell while cleaning her pool and broke her wrist. She is now out of cast and recouping. **Winnie Stone**, who missed the Christmas luncheon because of severe back problems, is now feeling much better. **Lois Miller** is now suffering from back problems. **Lamar Shreeve** saw the Dr. recently due to dizzy spells. **Mike Vasko** returned from the Mayo Clinic in PHX (for the 3rd time), and **Eleanor** reports that he is doing just fine. **Travis Whitley** (LASCS) had a slight stroke that affected his right arm. He is receiving physical therapy, so we wish him well.

Condolences to **Jim & Diana Heinz** who lost their young son (37 yrs) this past week. Cards may be sent to 1908 Piccolo Way, Las Vegas, NV 89146.

We are all looking forward to our first luncheon at Giuseppe's Bar and Grill; April 14, 1200 noon, 6065 Durango Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89113. I will report on this luncheon in the next newsletter.

RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

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



There were 8 members at our January meeting at The Black Bear Diner. Guess everyone was tired after the holiday festivities.

The date for our August summer picnic is Friday, August 19, at the Plaza Pavilion. If you have not been out there, you may want to stop by and check it out. We are hoping the weather cooperates the way it did last year and have a pleasant, not very hot day. The fee and \$100 cleaning deposit have been paid. The cleaning deposit will be refunded if we leave the pavilion clean. The \$500,000 insurance liability certificate will be acquired closer to the date.

January birthdays were celebrated by **Jean Stephens, Mary Withers, Duncan Scaife, Kathy Robinson, Nina Mischker** and **Ralph Mischker**. The 50/50 raffle was won by **Lynda Klemm**.

2016 dues are now payable, the cost remains the same - \$5.00/PP. Please mail the checks to **Kathy Robinson**, 3477 E. Hidden Valley Dr., Reno, NV 89502.

NEW JERSEY



THE GARDEN STATERS

Newark, New Jersey
Marty Etler
15-12 Elmary Place
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-2403
(201) 797-6610
vietler@verizon.net

The Garden Staters meeting was canceled on January 27 because of bad road conditions in South Jersey due to the storm.

NEW YORK

BUFFALO CHIPS

Jerry Stevens
130 Countryside Lane
Williamsville, NY 14221-1308
(716) 688-4613
jerste130@msn.com



BUFFALO CHIPS

23 Chips met at Jades Restaurant in Depew, NY, on December 7, for our Annual Christmas Luncheon. No business was planned as it was to be just a Holiday Lunch. It was great seeing **Clyde Butcher** after missing so many months. Apparently all are in good health as no one has reported in sick.

Table discussion was on the excellent food and a number of local war stories about the old UAL surfaced, surprisingly most were new to most of the gatherers.

Instead of our usual wine raffle, we previously decided to donate the money to The Make a Wish Foundation to aid the children. **Dick Wagner** volunteered to deliver our gift.

Our next gathering will be March 8th, at 1145 am, at Erie Statler Restaurant at Erie County Community College where their Hospitality School will prepare and serve our lunch. Theme will be Oktoberfest served family style. (Oktoberfest in March you say, well the school and dining room are closed.)

Visitors are welcome by calling my phone or email listed above. Call early as reservations for the lunch are limited.

NEW YORK METROS

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



Having been out priced at the Milleridge Inn, we have re-located to the Jones Beach Hotel restaurant, Per Un Angelo. In spite of a nasty weather report, 30 of us showed up looking good and all smiles. I think it's because we didn't get lost and end up in the Atlantic Ocean! It was great seeing **Roy Portelli** after a too long absence. Many thanks to **Ed & Marybeth Korn** for doing the chauffeuring.

Although not members of the New York Metros, several deaths reported of former JFK/LGA employees; **Joe Cantillo, Jake Jakubowsky, Gerard Wilson, and John Gaherin**. At least 3 were living out of state, so I have no further info. Our prayers to their families.

We celebrated **Jordan Levine's** 75th birthday with a candle in his dessert. Among others for the month, **Evelyn Schroeder**, hula dancing in Hawaii, and **Ursala Koch** who snuck over the fence and is jitterbugging with **Harold** on the Jones Beach Boardwalk. Keeps 'em young. Happy Birthday to **Vic Carnevale** and **Dale**

Deuber as well as the others. Anniversaries for the month; **Dom & Gerry Rizzo, Claire & Artie Wilsdorf** and **Donna & Ron Feingold**. Congrats and many more.

50/50 was won by: 1st - **John Green**, 2nd - **Lillian Cohen**, 3rd - **Ed Pozzi**. The Pozzis' daughter **Suzanne**, laid off by UAL after 23 years of service, graduated with "flying" colors to become a Jet Blue flight attendant. She "landed" on her feet, wouldn't you say? The Klos' granddaughters, Lauren, (future pilot) and 12 year old Krystayne doing well in the Civil Air Patrol, on the path to their careers. The Milazzos' granddaughter Olivia Reese, made Nassau All County in the music field-plays clarinet. So, the next generation is doing fine. Good work, you go girls!

While the blizzard buried us under 2 to 3 feet of snow, it's been the only snow so far. Temperatures as high as the 60's some days. My daffodils are up at least 4 inches, hope they survive.

I spoke too soon, 8 to 10 inches of snow is falling. I am housebound!

For anyone needing directions to Per Un Angelo, the # is (516) 785-2020.

Go Broncos!

Calendar:

March 2 – Meeting at Per Un Angelo

NORTHWOODS

NORTHWOODS LOONIES

Clyde Johnson
967N County Road 440
Manistique, MI 49854
(906) 341-3130
cejdcj@charter.net



First Alert! All you Loonies and wannabe Loonies mark your calendars for **May 17-20, 2016**. That's when **Arlene & Joe Kelley** are hosting us at Cloquet, Minnesota about 25 miles south of Duluth, MN. A mailing will be going out to all the Loonies sometime in the next month or so, when all is arranged. If you don't receive info in a couple of months, you can contact me at the above contacts, or if you want the real story, contact **Arlene & Joe Kelley**, (218) 879-6171, Kelley65@q.com.

OREGON

OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland
Terry Hotchkin
20201 NE 179th Court
Battle Ground, WA 98604
(360) 687-3465
tthotchkin@gmail.com



We had a smaller group of only 67 members at our January luncheon but were delighted to welcome new member **Mary Moran**, formerly from Ft. Meyers, Florida, and guests **Susan Meyers** (daughter of **Pat Ogden**) and **Dagmar Dettinger**.

Dick Marley passed away on Sunday, December 27th, and is survived by his wife **Frieda**. There was no service at his request. Sympathy cards can be sent to 527 NE 108th Ave., Portland, OR, 97220-3102.

Veulah Lorts is now residing at Tabor Crest Care Center, 7430 S. Division, Portland, OR 97206. **Dick Miller** broke his femur and required surgery for a steel rod to be inserted. We wish him a speedy recovery.

New board members, **Carol DeFord** and **Louise Robillard** were welcomed, and a huge thank you extended to outgoing board members **John Donaldson** and **Harold Miller** for their years of service.

All members were reminded that it's time to remit Chapter dues. If you have not already paid the \$5.00 per person, \$10.00 for a couple, please submit **before** March 15th to be listed in the current Member Roster. Checks should be made payable to RUAEA and sent to **Rosalie Betschart**, 220 NE 116th Ave., Portland, OR 97220-2333.

Anniversaries ~ **Bruce & Carol DeFord** (48 years), **Gen & Lori King** (53 years).

Birthdays ~ **Judy Jones** (75), **Patsy Ogden** (82), **Susie Clack** (71), **Johni Wilson** (84), **Roger Tuckett** (80) and **Cliff Blare** (76).

Drawing Winners ~ Lunch/Door prize - **Lori King**, Men's Birthday - **Roger Tuckett**, Women's Birthday - **Patsy Ogden**, 50/50 - **Ted Schloessler**.

Calendar:

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

March 9 - Social

April 13 - Social



OUR CLUB

(Oregon United Retirees)

Grants Pass, Oregon

Gidget Walcha - Secretary

(541) 474-6414

The luncheon today was hosted by **Laurie Jordan** and held at a new Italian restaurant. We had our own little room so we could be as loud as we wanted which is nice because at our age, hearing is one of the first things to go. We had ten members present with lots of conversation going from one end of the table to the other.

Bob Lindberg let us know even though **Miriam** could not make our luncheon, she was out and about at a birthday party for one of her long time friends. We were all thrilled she was out of the house and having a good time. **Doe Pope** reported her sons test results came back negative so we all were grateful to hear that. We missed **Alberta & Russ Randall** who did not make it today and also **Wayne Widrig**. I just called Wayne and he had been in the hospital so our prayers and concerns go out to him. This is why it is so important to stay in touch with each other. **Sonnica Appleton** was talking about her downsizing projects and asked what she could do with all her books. Lots of ideas were given to her that I never would have thought of. **Bob Wright**, the other half of Peggy & Bob, gave us the news he is going in for a knee replacement on Monday so our best wishes go out for a speedy recovery to Bob and also Peggy as she will be taking care of him. The caregivers never get enough credit so to all you who give that helping hand and patience to loved ones who need assistance – Thank You.

After eating our yummy meals, we had the 50/50 and it was won by our Treasurer **Linda Althouse** who left with \$19.50; big thank you to **Marge Culkins** for assisting Linda with selling the tickets. Speaking of Marge, her new project is making the cutest clothing covers/protectors for those of us who shall I say spill our soup, etc. while eating. I think they would be good for gardening as well because they are large enough to wipe your dirty hands on. I would hate to get them dirty Marge as they are rather nice looking. How she comes up with these ideas I don't know. **Doe Pope** loved them so much she bought one. So even if Marge didn't win the 50/50 this time she still got a free lunch today. Our next luncheon will be hosted by **Bob & Miriam Lindberg** on March 4th and held at the Hong Kong Restaurant located in the City on the Rogue River.

Hope everyone is having a wonderful start to the New Year and God Bless.

PENNSYLVANIA

THE INDEPENDENTS

Philadelphia, PA

Joyce Lindenmuth

208 Stull Rd.

Ridley Park, PA 19078

(610) 521-2291

joycewildenmuth@gmail.com



Topsy turvy winter is almost over. I pray everyone remained on their feet during the ice and snow.

Our loyal friend **Tom Lyons** lost his brave battle with cancer on January 3rd. He is sadly missed and remembered for his dedication to RUAEA. Tom was our treasurer for many years. Our sympathy goes out to his wife **Pat** and the family.

Remember our sick. I have not got new names but our list includes **Al & Kathy Edwards**, **Lynne Sonderman**, **Frank Eggles**, **Jim & Barbara Fanto**, and **Mel Manning**.

Join us March 14th for our first spring meeting at the Clarion Hotel in Essington for lunch at 12:30.



PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

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

Looking to an early Spring (according to Punxsutawney Phil), our official Groundhog forecaster. Although I must say we in the 'burgh have had a mild winter, who would believe 60° in February.

Speaking of Spring, our group is scheduled to meet on St. Patrick's Day at JW Halls. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate and we will have a good turnout.

Seems like we always have some sad news to report: Our good friend and beloved former station manager **Frank Murdock** passed away on January 9th. Frank was living in SLC, he was 91 years old and the last of one of the "Good Guys".

You may recall in one of my previous columns honoring the "most handsome Managers in UAL". When Frank reported into PIT as our manager, he would stand in the lobby and observe the operation, always expecting the best in our customer service. Our Customer Service manager **Sam McDermott** had to ask Frank to "stay in the office" because the female CSRs (me being one of them) got sidetracked gazing at that handsome man in the lobby. Our sincere condolences go out to Brigitte and family. Cards can be sent to the family at 1505 S. Roxbury Rd., Salt Lake City, UT 84108.

Our goodwill ambassador **Jim Weber** may be scheduled to have spine surgery soon, we hope he is well enough to attend our luncheon.

Georgia Garcia and **Bob West** are in FL enjoying the weather. I hope they get back in time to collect Georgia's freebie.

March Anniversaries ~ **Barbara & Max Seaholm** (11th), and **Bob & Kay Frye** (2nd).

Happy Birthday wishes to **Dave Beatty** (1), **Dick Brinza** (3), **Ray Sellers** (3), **Ed Yauch** (4), **Treatie Karwoski** (15), **Lorraine Keith** (23), **Max Seaholm** (23) and **Barb Seaholm** (31).

Last but not least, congratulations to **Dave Detwiler** on his recent article on Flt. 93, published in last month's newsletter

Don't forget next RUAEA Convention in Seattle.

WASHINGTON

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle, WA
Gay Liesse
104 South 296th Place
Federal Way, WA 98003-3626
glliesse@aol.com



President **Ken Storey** conducted the January 12 meeting of Seattle's Emerald City Slickers at the Elks Club in Burien, Washington, our first meeting of 2016. Thirty-eight members enjoyed lunch after a social hour and browsing at the book exchange table. It appeared that a lot of reading went on over the holidays - or that members were beginning their spring cleaning a couple months early. **John Haferbecker** breathed a sigh of relief that he no longer will be "temporarily" responsible for making meeting notes available to our *Contrails* editor, **Vicki Shumaker**, and your correspondent. Thanks for pitching in, **John**.

Welcome, **Mary Ann Andersen**, who has volunteered to serve as our much-needed chapter secretary. **Mary Ann** prepared a great report of last fall's Correspondents' Meeting in Pittsburgh, and we look forward to more of her writing.

Vice President **Phyllis Bowman** congratulated those celebrating January birthdays and anniversaries before conducting the door prize drawing, with the help of **Betty Paul**. **Fred Frey** was the lucky 50/50 winner.

Jackie Stenger announced that we have 78 paid-up members. Deadline for this year's dues payment has passed, but checks will dribble in for a while longer. **Jackie's** treasurer's report indicated that we're in good shape financially.

Ken and other officers met after lunch to discuss chapter priorities and programs. It appears that most of us are thinking along the same lines, including suggestions to improve the door prize selection and reduce the time it takes to conduct the drawing, which has been so extensive in the past that almost everyone went home a winner.

National Convention business was relegated to a future get together after local chair **Ken Storey** and selected chapter members meet with **Ron Bertacini**, RUAEA Vice President/conventions, February 18 at the convention hotel. We look forward to having local duties defined.

Seattle chapter members and national reps (always subject to change), who will coordinate/cooperate on convention planning are: *Chair* – **Ken Storey**, *Treasurer* – **Shirley Claggett**, *Registrar* – **Ron Paluch**, *Publicity* – **Gay Liesse**, **John Haferbecker**, *Tours* – **Fred & Bonnie Frey**, **Dave Jones**, *Registration* – **Carol Lucarelli**, **Helen Cauwels**, *Banquet Decorations* – **Phil & Mary Ann Andersen**, *Raffle* (50/50 +) – **Frank & Fran McAnulty**, *Entertainment* – **Bob Brumfield**.

Congratulations to **Helen Ebert**, who celebrated her 103rd birthday February 13. **Helen** is the widow of **Wes Ebert**, former Flight Kitchen Operations Chief (perhaps an old designation). Now living in Ellensburg close to family, **Helen** has come back to Seattle to celebrate her birthday as recently as her 101st.

After 17 days in the hospital, **Herald Bowman** is recuperating at a local rehabilitation facility. **Phyllis** visits daily but is looking forward to **Herald's** being able to walk and going home, where she can "fatten him up" with some home cooking and TLC. Keep the **Bowmans** in your thoughts and prayers.

John Paulson is recovering from severe injuries suffered in a fall at the end of last year. He and **Edna** have been regular attendees at Emerald City Slickers meetings for many years, and we miss them!

Seattle's Museum of Flight, a major area attraction that is sure to be a hit during our September convention, is looking forward to the "Final Flight" of N7001U, which sat idle for 25 years before being refurbished at the Museum's Restoration Center and Reserve Collection at Paine Field in Everett, Washington. See this issue's cover – she looks brand new in current photos.

With only the pilot, co-pilot and engineer onboard, the 727 will be ferried to the Museum of Flight at Boeing Field, as the prototype Trijet joins prototypes Boeing 737 and Boeing 747 for exhibition in the Museum's new Aviation Pavilion this summer.

Log on to museumofflight.org to stay abreast of breaking news and further information on this historic event. To limit your search to N7001U, log on to <https://www.museumofflight.org/727-final-flight>. Most of us will have been over to check her out for ourselves before convention.

Calendar:

March 8 – Luncheon meeting, Burien Elks Club

April 12 – Luncheon meeting

May 10 – Luncheon meeting

(No meetings June through August unless called to order for convention business)



LILAC CITY FLYERS

Sharon Holmes
5120 N. Riblet View Lane
Spokane, WA 99212
(509) 924.4959 (h)
(509) 953.5088 (c)
ghshic@quixnet.net

January dinner hosted by **Arnold & Mary Ann Kayl** found 15 of us braving nasty weather: **Jerry & Edna Tefft**, **David & Theresa Reisenauer**, **Les & Vera Graham**, **Nada Morse**, **Ken & Myrtle Stoop** (Ken you got the date correct), and **Gary & Sharon Holmes**.

We were honored with a visit from **Tom & Barbara Cunningham**, RUAEA NW Regional Director, after going to the wrong restaurant. We were given good, interesting information from Tom; websites, insurance and explanation of the back pages of the monthly RUAEA Newsletter. Thank you for visiting our group.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE DULLES LOUNGERS

Mari McColl
1517 Hiddenbrook Dr.
Herndon, VA 20170
(703) 471-8218



Happy Valentine's Day everyone! I can recap January in DC with one simple word: snowstorm. For DC, our snowstorm was unusually abundant. We had 32 inches of the most beautiful white stuff you have ever seen. At least in my county, the Virginia Department of Transportation did a great job of keeping the roads clean. Of course when it started to rain two days later, they were not able to keep it from icing. But most of us had planned and were prepared for it. Now we are ready for spring.

Our January luncheon was well attended. We kept the business meeting short. We had only two birthdays to celebrate for that month, and very little new business. It was great seeing everyone, and hearing about their holidays.

We were all saddened to learn that our dear friend and member, **Patricia Shimp**, had passed away. She had lost her battle to leukemia. Patricia was the perfect flight attendant to the very end. She kept a smile on her face and made everyone around her comfortable.

Mid month we had an executive meeting to make plans for the rest of the year for our Dulles Loungers. In attendance were Vice President **Cathy Gilbert Silva**, Treasurer **Judy Dunlap**, outgoing President **Linda Scriven**, Advisor **Kerrie Schneider**, and myself, **Mari McColl**. We decided that two events from our previous year, the Barrel Oaks winery, in June was such a success that we plan to do it again this year. Also the Air Circus in October was so much fun that it also will be repeated this year. We discussed topics that we thought would be of interest and value to our members and plan to have at least three guest speakers during this year.

This is going to be a great year and I would like to invite all who are interested to join us. We meet the second Wednesday of every month at noon at the Golden Corral in Manassas Virginia.

Stay warm and fly safe!

NATIONAL

CLIPPED WINGS

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



Hello RUAEA:

I am sure this note will find some of you digging out and others enjoying the rain. We have been filling up our lakes and reservoirs here in California. We are also having a banner ski season. It is wonderful to see green grass on lawns and on the beautiful hills.

Our convention this year will be in SAN. We all are looking forward to being there and enjoying the friendship of our flying partners. This year is a year of progress and changes for Clipped Wings. We are eagerly trying to move into the 21st century with technological skills. We shall see!

I am sure spring can't come soon enough for some of you! Wishing everyone good health and sunshine.

NEW MEMBERS

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

Boner, Charles, P.O. Box 138, Brookings, OR 97415
Douglas, Bruce, IADFO, 31 Captains Walk, Palm Coast, FL 32137
Hall, Gregory, ORDJL, 1810 W. Cervantes St., Apt. 315, Pensacola, FL 32501

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Elda F. (Custer) Jeskey, Michelle Abbey, Mary Ann Amelse, Jacqueline M. Anderson, Bruce A. Aten, Betty Jane Ballash, Gary W. Bartlett, Everett M. Bell, Dola M. Boals, Charles Boner, Carmen C. Brandreth, Mary G. Brennan, Ralph L. Brick, Edward F. Burke, John H. Byers, Robert E. Byrd, Mildred M. Carl C/O Reid, Edward A. Carnes, Dennis F. Carroll, Victoriano Castaneda Goytia, Cathryn I. Catelain, Carol J. Christensen, Felix M. Cicco, Linda Cooper-Koltz, Elizabeth M. Correia, Joanne Craig, Denis A. Darida, Alan Davis, Gabrielle I. Dentraygues, Lydia Di Vito, Donna R. Diksis, Kevin L. Dillon, Carolyn R. Dillon, Maxine F. Dixon, Joseph M. Donnelly, Terry R. Doppler, Eloise C. A. Edwards, Richard W. Ems, Harris H. Freihon, Norbert L. Frickelton, Stephen O. Gray, John Hollowed, Allan F. Huber, Yoshimi Iwasa, R. Lee Johnson, Georgia A. Johnson, Susanne Johnson, Lloyd O. Johnson, Elsie P. Kaenel, Tom Kalfa, Laundry L. Kast, Harvard D. Kauffman, Kate G. King, William Kinson, Joann M. Koester, Norma M. Kopel, Robert M. Kostuk, William J. Krainak, Edward Kytta, John Lacey, John Larcher, Frank Leo, Julius Lepkowski, Warren A. Martin, Kenneth W. Mattus, Thomas W. McDonald, Frank P. McAnulty, Frederic M. McKenna, Edward F. McMartin, Keiko O. Mori, Alan S. Morishita, Cecile J. Myers, William R. Nibert, Stephanie Nichols Simpson, Betty J. Opbroek, Patricia Ortega, Donald E. Park, Leota L. Price, Ronald E. Pryer, David L. Reisenauer, Martha D. Rudolph, Bernard L. Sandner, Rechie S. Santander, Jim Sarsfield, Joseph F. Schauer, Juanita Schrecongost, Patricia J. Schultz, Josephine N. Shioji, Richard John Snyder, Daniel T. Takata, Charles F. Teasdale, Beverly K. Thompson, Geraldine L. Thompson, Mary E. Betty Tomaino, Eva U. Torres, Michaelinda Trahan, Maria K. Travella, Edward L. Van Patten, Josef H. Viereckl, Carol A. Ward, Robert L. Watson, Donald Watts, Gwendolyn Williams, Doris Ann Williams, Sylvia P. Wilson, Rudolph P. Wolf, Arnold M. Wong, Edward F. Yauch.

OBITUARIES

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

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

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

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

Retiree – **Alex, William H.**, on 11/12/2015, PITCS, husband of Verna Alex, 210 Lenore Dr., Mc Kees Rocks, PA 15136

Retiree – **Crisman, Helen M.**, on 1/19/2016, SFORR, 1529 Cedar St., San Carlos, CA 94070

Retiree – **Dalessandro, Mary H.**, on 10/21/2014, ORDHK, mother of Dennis Dalessandro, 1035 E. 81st St., Mesa, AZ 85208

Retiree – **Gerdes, Bob D.**, on 11/18/2015, SFOPI, husband of Jane and Beverly S. Gerdes (both Deceased), father of Joy W. Houts, 245 Cedar Forest Ct., Weldon Spring, MO 63304

Spouse – **Graham, Diane**, on 1/10/2016, wife of Roy F. Graham, DENMM (Deceased), 270 N 14th Ave., Brighton, CO 80601

Retiree – **Hallden, Nils R. (Bob)**, on 1/27/2016, SJCOZ, father of Judy Hallden, 9309 E. Cooper Hawk Dr., Sun Lakes, AZ 85248

Retiree – **Hammerstrom, Carl R.**, on 12/6/2015, SFOFH, husband of Kathryn Hammerstrom (Deceased) father of Gary A. Hammerstrom, 850 N. El Camino Real # 249, San Mateo, CA 94401

Retiree – **Lee, Clifford N.**, on 12/17/2015, SFOSH, husband of Wilma G. Lee, 1801 Castro Dr., San Jose, CA 95130

Spouse – **Maionchi, Louise**, on 1/4/2016, wife of Richard A. Maionchi, WHQKX, 985 George Towne Ln., Barrington, IL 60010

Retiree – **Murdock, Frank N.**, on 1/9/2016, SLCSA, husband of Brigitte I. Murdock, 1505 S. Roxbury Rd., Salt Lake City, UT 84108

Spouse – **Orchard, Carolyn L. (Cox)**, on 11/7/2015, wife of John W. Orchard, OMATJ, 2917 S. 113th St., Omaha, NE 66144

Retiree – **Pogreba, Lawrence J.**, on 12/19/2015, SFOMT, husband of Lillian Pogreba, 36 Williams Lane, San Carlos, CA 94070

Retiree – **Prideaux, Rowe H.**, on 1/5/2016, LAXOZ, husband of Patricia Prideaux, 4152 Via Solano, Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274

Retiree – **Regalado, Jose D.**, on 2/13/2015, LAXFF, 8992 Elizabeth Ave., South Gate, CA 90280

LETTERS



Martha Gooselaw

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

Martha Gooselaw
Letters Editor

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

Patricia Austin, Lindell Behlendorf, Robert Bledsoe, Mary Brennan, Stephanie DeBroux, John Byers, Robert Byrd, Edward Carnes, Carol Christensen, Frank Christenson, Dorsey Cooper, Russell Cormier, Lorraine Debartolo, Sharon Gaffor, LaVerne Gray, Carol Hatton, Guy Hoffman, John Hollowed, Mary Horan, Elsie Kaenel, Raymond Kern, Kate King, William Kinson, Geraldine Milner, Ron Pryer, John Orchard, Geraldine Pawley, Berna Rasmussen, Bernard Sandner, Juanita Schrecongost, Patricia Schultz, Betty Serviss, Michael Snyder, Frank Stout, Paul Tiwana, Joseph Tomasic, Lavonne Wilhoite, Gwen Williams.

WE HAVE RECEIVED LETTERS FROM:

(Although we welcome the statements expressed in the many letters submitted, the comments & opinions expressed are not necessarily the convictions of the organization.)

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

I was just reading through the RUAEA newsletter for December; looking at all the faces of friends I missed at the Pittsburgh Convention; and while smiling at all the faces on the last page, I saw the words, "Your membership will expire ...!" So I sent check right away. I used to be a very responsible adult. I guess that word does not apply after the age of 80.

Thanks to everyone for keeping our RUAEA group together.

Naomi Tolf, 2444 Pratt St., #237, Longmont, CO 80501

Time sure flies. I missed beating the red stamp.

I want to politely state what has happened to United. I started in 1947 when there were about 6,000 employees and retired with 40 years in 1991, having lost 15 years. It was important to have 25 years and the retirement benefits.

There have been a number of strikes and mergers, some good and some not so good. As soon as promotions were made outside of the company, trouble began as the individual had no airline background. United could not be run like a hotel, etc.

The UA/CO merger was a disaster from the beginning as "heartless Jeff" put his people in charge, killing "family" feeling; many people were hurt emotionally and financially. It is no wonder chapter numbers are down and the annual Convention is getting smaller. The best news we got was CEO Jeff was fired! I hope there was no Golden Umbrella; all he deserved was a boot out the door.

Thanks to the RUAEA newsletter I am able to learn of future plans that United will come back to better status. I read "Oscar Says" and realized he was United's new CEO. I was sorry to learn of his heart attack. It sounds like he has only been with UA for a short time and no background was revealed.

Lets hear talk of reinstating the BP6 benefits and we will know we have a keeper.

Marianne Bryant, 19813 Lake City Rd., Nevada City, CA 95959

My brother, **John Polz**, retired from SFOWR. He has a Hooker cherry executive desk in its original shipping box, never opened, since 1994. He chose it from an awards catalog with points he and his fellow employees had earned with a very successful suggestion. Does anyone out there have a copy of this catalog? John has never opened the box in 22 years; I hesitate to think he would now. However, he needs to get rid of this desk. His garage is so full you can't put another thing in it, let alone a car. Maybe this is something bachelors do, I don't know.

Anyway if any one out there has a copy of this catalog and can email me a photo of said desk, it is possible that I can get John to sell it. I believe in miracles. Marianne Bryant (wife of retiree Bob Bryant SFOEA). marianne@vespa.gs

Marty Etler, 15-12 Elmary Pl., Fairlawn, NJ 07410

"Crop Dusting", from my memory.

Everyone who walks along life's highway usually encounters that famous fork in the road, and maybe few more. Then they spend the rest of their lives, thinking as to whether they had made the right decision or not. Mine came in early 1951, when I was still stationed at Barksdale Air Force Base, in Shreveport, Louisiana. I was 22 at the time, and getting pretty close to my discharge, after almost 4½ years of service. It seems that six of our pilots, had decided to go into the crop dusting business. Apparently they had contracts with cotton farmers in Texarkana, Arkansas and Lake Charles, Louisiana. So they all chipped in \$15,000 and bought five Army surplus PT 17s. These planes were ideally suited for crop dusting mainly because they can fly pretty slowly and as we say in the business they could turn on a dime. They were a bi wing fabric covered aircraft, and were used by both the Army and the Navy for primary training of all their pilots. They also had a position for two pilots forward and aft.

They then converted the front seat to a Hopper tank, the purpose of which was to drop dust onto the cotton, to kill the mighty "Bole weevil" and since these planes could safely carry about 500 pounds of dust, the best thing those poor insects could have done was to get out of town. Now they had the planes, and the contracts, what they didn't have was mechanics to maintain these planes. At any rate, they asked me and three other guys, if you want to make a little extra money we can help keep those planes in the air. The very first place we went was Texarkana which is about 60 miles North from Shreveport. We put all our stuff in the cars, usually left on

Friday afternoon, got set up to fly Saturday and Sunday, then came back late Sunday night. We all stayed at a boarding house and what an experience that was. Especially when it came to eating, you had to be pretty quick, and if you didn't take your portion off the plate, it was going to be gone by the next time around.

Our so-called landing fields were nothing but cow pastures, and yes there were many of them in the field when our guys came in to land or to take off. In fact, a good part of our time was chasing the cows down to the other end of the fields and meadows, so we could operate. The cotton fields that we had to dust were about 1000 acres, the problem was they were all surrounded by very tall trees, and not conducive to really safe flying, but business is business. In the early morning just like in the famous "Dawn patrol", we would get our planes ready to go, one of us would use a tractor to chase the cows, and the others would get the engines started. Pretty soon our guys were in the air, and were ready for "action". That was the easy part, when the planes came back; the first thing we had to do was chase the cows again. Where was Gene Autry singing "back in the saddle again", I could have used him to move those beasts to the other end of the field. I do remember one time, when chasing the cows there was one that would not move an inch. I pushed and shoved, but nothing seemed to move "Miss Elsie" while our guys were circling overhead and running low on fuel, in desperation I reached into my pocket and found a Baby Ruth candy bar. I quickly broke it in half and when that cow took the bait I think she would have followed me straight back to Shreveport. Yes, I did give her the other half when we got to the end of the field. When our planes finally came in and parked, you could see the damage that these guys had done. Coming to the end of the fields, they had to pull straight up and always seem to hit the trees; it ripped the fabric all along the bottom of the plane. We installed new fabric and brushed a special solution to make the fabric hard, then put gas and oil in and they were ready to go again.

After we finished there, we went to Lake Charles, which is about 200 miles away South of Shreveport. Those were bigger fields and required a lot more dusting. Anyway within four months, they had made their money back and had gotten some new contracts to dust wheat in Kansas. They wanted me to go with them after my discharge but actually I was tired of living like a Gypsy and all I wanted do was to go home. Looking back at that split in the road, I'm sure I made the right decision. I was soon to meet my wife, Violet and go on to a happy marriage of 57 years and start my career in aviation that lasted 38 years with United Airlines at Newark New Jersey, retiring in April 1991.

Lee Johnson, 6125 S. Kilkenny Dr., Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Each year seems to pass faster than the previous one, so I am glad you send reminders when it is renewal time.

I feel fortunate that my health is holding up and I am able to take care of my house and yard and get around without assistance. I am still working at a nearby golf course and able to play a bit of golf each week from early spring through fall.

One of my grandsons and his wife had a baby boy in November to go with his 2 year old sister.

My only granddaughter was married in a beautiful wedding at a winery near St. Charles, IL in August.

Another grandson will graduate this spring from Notre Dame and is fortunate to have a good job as soon as he graduates. His parents are really happy to see an end to the tuition payments and associated costs. I am always impressed that the Newsletter staff is able to consistently maintain the high quality of the publication over the years. I look forward to reading it each month. Keep up the good work!

Ruth Marston, 12422 E. Caspian Dr., Aurora, CO 80014

Another year – seems time moves so fast. This past year I have gained a granddaughter through marriage to my grandson Darren. I also gained two more great granddaughters. Total 20.

Health has improved but now I have need of a left shoulder replacement. The joys of Golden Years. I'll leave on Wednesday for Las Vegas – first trip in over a year.

Enjoyed my oldest son being nearby for the summer. They are full time RV'ers and will be here next summer again. Doing well at 85!

Chris Miller, 6780 E Exposition Ave., Denver, CO 80224

Time waits for no one. So, February 2016, it is the same song second verse.

Thanks, for the fine job you people accomplish. We look forward to the mail and the newsletter each month.

Lola and I are both enjoying retirement. We are staying Denver, near our extended family.

Our daughter and family live in the Stapleton Redevelopment area. She has 2 children, a son in High School and a daughter in Junior High.

Our son lives as Far East as one can travel in Centennial. He has 2 sons in grade school.

Betty Opbroek, 2664 Grand Forks Rd., Henderson, NV 89052

The dues are a great reminder that one more year has gone by.

Thanks for the RUAEA publication and all the hard work that goes with it. I really appreciate it. It brings back memories for me of my 40 years work experience.

I have a question that I have tried to get an answer to for a long time. The computer system is not friendly for me. So perhaps you (RUAEA) or some friendly retiree would be kind enough to answer for me, through publication or via e-mail.

“How does United compute the taxes on the Enrolled Friends Individual travel?” “How much tax there is on each trip?” (*Please read the article on imputed taxes by Kirk Moore in the General News.*)

Thanks in advance.

Newsletter Manager’s Note: *Please read the article on imputed taxes by Kirk Moore in the General News Section of this Newsletter.*

Ronald Smith, 3544 Muirfield At., New Prt Rchy, FL 34655

After reading the recent edition of the newsletter, I was taken back in time by the article pertaining to Flight 93 on 9/11. It was well written.

I see very few letters to the editor published by folks I worked with, getting old, I guess! When I do see letters from friends and associates, I try to respond by note or phone. Most recently were Joe Hegner (NYCSS) and Dick Sullivan (ATLCS), my mentor!

It is very comforting to know that friends are still alive and well. I hope to hear from more!

Pete Loyola, 364 E. Sandy Woods Ln., Midvale, UT 84047

A Tribute to Frank Murdock ~ Thanks for the memory, Bob Hope, and thanks, Frank Murdock, for the very good memories.

Frank served United Airlines in many positions, notably as Station Manager of PIT, IDL and SFO. When Frank arrived at each new assignment some of us thought, “Here’s a new sheriff in town”. Frank Murdock was never a “new sheriff in town”, United Airlines entire system was his town. Those fortunate to know Frank Murdock realized you did not work *for* Frank Murdock, you worked *with* Frank Murdock.

Frank’s management style was the epitome of class and commitment. Remember the “rule of five”? It was the era when flight travel was a glamorous experience for employees and passengers alike. Frank instilled in his co-workers, by example, the desire to provide the best possible service to the flying public and to United Airlines.

There are a few of us left to turn out the lights. It is okay, Frank, I’ll get the lights. Thank you.

Frank Murdock passed away January 9, 2016 (*Frank was President of RUAEA from 2000 – 2002*)

**Important Phone
Numbers Updated**

*Please note the important
phone numbers list has been
updated to reflect the latest
changes in health care providers*

Important Phone Numbers



Updated 2/2016

United Airlines Benefits Center (Central Time)

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

United Employee Service Center

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

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

For flight information and to list or change listing

Password for Pass Line –your birthday, mmddyy

\$25 fee to create new booking

1-877-202-0263 (PIN Reset)

Employee Travel Center

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

Flying Together Help Desk

1-800-255-5801

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

New United number: 877-825-3729 (International

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

Aetna 1-800-334-0110

BC/BS 1-800-535-9825

PBGC - for all retiree pension questions

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

Social Security Administration

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

Alliant Credit Union

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

Medicare Hotline 1-800-633-4227

CVS/Caremark (Pharmacy)

1-844-635-3401

VSP Vision Care (Pacific Time) 1-800-877-7195

(M-F 6AM-8PM, Sat 7AM-8PM, Sun 7AM-7PM)

PRESIDENT

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

SECRETARY

Diane Webb
(630) 963-3806
dgwebb334@hotmail.com

TREASURER

Pam Ziebarth
ruaeatreasurer@qwestoffice.net

CORPORATE LIAISON

Ed Tolle
hedwardtolle55@gmail.com
(Home) - (224) 848-7207
(Cell) - (224) 230-7942

EXECUTIVE V.P.

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

V.P. CONVENTIONS

Ron Bertacini
(916) 788-0468
bertacini@surewest.net

PAST PRESIDENT

Ron Bertacini
(916) 788-0468
bertacini@surewest.net

AIRLINE LIAISON

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

DIRECTORS

Chuck Cole	Arizona Region	(206) 919-2020
	ctcsle@q.com	
Hal Klobe	S. Calif. Region	(310) 306-7415
	haldonna@verizon.net	
John Zoboli	N. CA/NV Region	(775) 856-2044
	johnzoboli@aol.com	
Sharon Burbank	Mountain Region	(571) 330-7815
	rae1087@comcast.net	
Roger Casterline	Western Region	(650) 369-2456
	rogathome2@sbcglobal.net	
Tom Cunningham	Northwest Region	(925) 846-8123
	tbcunningham3556@gmail.com	
Treatie Karwoski	Northeast Region	(724) 843-7755
	treamoo2@comcast.net	
Linda Scriven	Southeast Region	(703) 729-8616
	ualemp5936@aol.com	
Don Nellans	Florida Region	(352) 861-8486
	nellansdon@aol.com	
Helen Cauwels	Midwest Region	(847) 358-8634
	hcauwels@yahoo.com	

MEMBERSHIP MGR - Cas Spokas

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

NEWSLETTER MGR - Francis Domaratius

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

WEB MANAGERS -

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

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

Retired United Airlines Employees Association Newsletter (USPS #009-922) is published monthly by Retired United Airlines Employees Association, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver CO 80207. Subscriptions are through membership in the association. Periodical postage is paid at Denver, CO Postmaster, send address changes to: Retired United Airlines Employees Association Newsletter, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433

You now have four ways to renew your RUAEA membership or donate to the Newsletter postal fund. The credit card option is available online at www.ruaea.org. Mail your check to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433.

**INCLUDE FILE NUMBER IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE**

For all Membership & Newsletter Circulation issues, please contact Membership Secretaries:
Phone Number: (303) 780-5022
Fax Number: (303) 780-5667 -or-
RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433
Email: ruaea@qwestoffice.net

	<i>Membership Dues</i>		
	<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Canada/Mexico</u>	<u>Foreign</u>
One year	\$27.00	\$47.00	\$52.00

Additional \$5.00 per year for both paper and Web deliveries. Note that this option is not available for Life Members.
Applications can be obtained via email, US mail or from www.ruaea.org. Send your dues to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433. Or, pay your dues online with credit cards (Visa, MC, Discover Card) at www.ruaea.org.

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

"IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP."
"DISREGARD THIS MESSAGE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID".

"YOUR MEMBERSHIP WILL EXPIRE UNLESS YOUR DUES ARE RECEIVED."
"PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR DUES PAYMENT AT THIS TIME."
"DISREGARD THIS NOTTICE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID."

Check your mailing label for Renewal Information

\$27 Domestic Subscription

You now have four ways to renew your RUAEA membership or donate to the Newsletter postal fund. The credit card option is available online at www.ruaea.org. Mail your check to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433.



**United Airlines
Historical Foundation**

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



On one of its last flights bearing United's colors, a Mainliner Stratocruiser served as a backdrop for this group photo of the Seattle Station. United's Stratocruiser fleet was sold to British Overseas Airways Corporation.

Front row from left: Tom Wilson, Jack Casey, Howard Glenn, Bob Heriot, Bill Tabbut, Darrell Harlow, Bob Brainerd, George Jansen, Leo Correa, John Poll, Stan Mills, Chris Christiansen, Tim Timmons, Bob Sandeno, Vern Seaberg, Bob Ellington, Duane Dahl, Joe Vergeyle and Bill Mohar.

Back row: Bob Hentschell, Don Hennes, Sam Kontos, Bob McKinnon, Lyle Lindblad, Ken Mayne, Mary Sample, Betty Fay, Jo Schmitz, Dot Corey, Nita Karman, Ron Ringwood, Rod Eaton, Pete Kane, Arnie Birkeland Bill Franklin, Jimmy Graves, Perry Stockard, Julian Hicks, Terry Goodwin and Norm Coleman.

Not pictured: Al Drake, Bob Jensen, Ernie DeRocher, Len Evans and Len Clark.

Gun Slingers from United's Los Angeles Dispatch and Flight Operations staged shooting contests in the



San Fernando Hills with 45s, 44s and a Kentucky rifle.

From Left: Bob Niemoeller, Bob Ahrens, Louis Dukes, Lee Bishop, Don Daniels and Dave Dunbar.

Marvin Berryman, DENTK Ret. from the January 1955 United Air Lines News.

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