



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



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MAY 2017

## *RUAEA Board Meeting, March 2017*

**F**ifteen RUAEA board members attended a board meeting in March. We met at the Palace Station Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada, the location of our September Convention. We met with Convention committee members, including **Don Rutkowski**, the chairman of the convention committee. This gave us the opportunity to greet old friends, make new friends, and to learn about Las Vegas and the features of the hotel.

We spent hours in meetings discussing the business and the future of RUAEA. Besides taking care of business, we also enjoyed socializing, of course. Two new directors, **Sonda Sandstedt**, regional director of northern California/Nevada and **Claudia Blancett**, regional director of Southern California attended for the first time.

Consider becoming active on the national level and joining the RUAEA board. Please read the article on page 2 by **Hank Gosselin**, our past president, who is seeking candidates for our upcoming election.



# GENERAL NEWS

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

### Letter From The President



Virgil Gooselaw

We have had a busy month. The Officers and Directors of RUAEA gathered in Las Vegas for our "Midterm" Board of Directors Meeting. We were able to take care of the current business and do some planning for the future of RUAEA. The up-coming Convention in Las Vegas was discussed in depth and we all got a better understanding of the amount of work that goes in to putting on a Convention.

Many of the Las Vegas Silverliners were able to have dinner on Tuesday evening with the Board Members. We had a good visit with them and we were able to get some insight on how we could help. The good planning and amount of effort put forth from this chapter is greatly appreciated. There will be more regarding the Convention in the June issue of the Newsletter. The June issue is our Convention issue and contains all planned activities and the information needed to attend.

During the Board meeting we discussed the coming meetings with Oscar. The next meeting (4/12/2017) will be history by the time this Newsletter is in your hands. The major agenda item will be Pass Travel. We have supplied to the company the three major items concerning retiree pass travel. RUAEA's items are very similar to the rest of the retiree groups. I don't know what the result will be or change if any. We have to remember that we have no bargaining power and must rely on the best possible presentation of our desires and hope that the appeal to fairness will take effect. I'll have more to say about how the meeting went in the June issue. We also discussed the progress on moving RUAEA to a 501 (c) (3) from a (c) (7). We reviewed the forms that must be submitted and the change in our by-laws that will be needed. After review, we had a few minor changes and it became apparent that the wording seemed to fit into things that we are currently doing. The change will be transparent, but it will enhance our ability to communicate with other like organizations and most of our contributions to RUAEA will become tax deductible.

It's with pleasure that I mention that **Veronica Domaratius** accepted the position of RUAEA Newsletter "Editor". **Francis & Veronica** have worked together on the newsletter and have done a tremendous job. It has been assumed that the Newsletter Manager also did the editing. Veronica has played a key role in the production of our Newsletter and is deserving of the recognition of

being appointed as the Editor. We all want to thank Veronica for the time she puts in doing the Newsletter and the professional results she brings, it is greatly appreciated!

Virgil Gooselaw  
RUAEA President

### A Message From Past President Hank Gosselin



Hank Gosselin

Hi Folks, as Past President, I am charged with obtaining candidates for the elected positions within RUAEA. First of all, I want to thank all our elected officers and past officers for their dedication by volunteering to fill their respective positions. Without you, RUAEA would not exist. With that said, I will be looking for

candidates for our next election.

The candidates I will be seeking are for the following positions;

- ❖ Director – Northwest
- ❖ Director – Mountain
- ❖ Director – Arizona
- ❖ Director – Northeast
- ❖ Director – Southeast

As a director, you will be a Member of the Board of Directors. Your most important responsibility will be monitoring the Arrears List; you will also be a liaison with Chapters in your region.

At this point, I am sorry to report that **Treatie Karwoski** is unable to continue as Northeast Director due to health reasons. I am happy to report that **Norma Betters** has agreed to accept the position of Northeast director.

Included on our nominating committee are **Sonda Sandstedt** and **Diane Webb**.

I know this letter is early in the process, but I need your help to accomplish this. Hopefully, the incumbents in these positions continue to be on the ballot along with new candidates. You will be hearing from us as the time gets closer for nominating candidates. Please feel free to contact any of us on the Nominating Committee for more information and most importantly, to commit to run for one of the above positions.

Hank Gosselin  
RUAEA Past President

### Correction to front cover of March 2017

*The Director Regional Map gave an incorrect region for the state of Arkansas. Arkansas should be included in the RUAEA Florida Region.*



## Pass Travel Update From Kirk Moore



### **1) Two Free Checked Bags Policy**

~ Retirees/employees are allowed to check up to two bags (up to 70 lbs each) free of charge on United and United Express flights ONLY when traveling space-available or on a confirmed myUADiscount ticket. All other tickets purchased directly from [united.com](http://united.com) or other websites, including tickets purchased using Mileage-

Plus miles, do NOT qualify for the free baggage allowance. The eTicket receipt you receive when listing for passes or buying myUADiscount tickets will show the cost of two checked bags as \$0. If you feel you were unfairly charged for bags, submit a "Checked bag refund" request form via [united.com](http://united.com) > Reservations > [Refund/cancellation policy](#). Next, use the drop down arrow under "Select a refund type" to choose "Checked bag refund" and fill out the request form. At the end of the process, you'll receive a Refund Request Number that you can use to check the status of your refund directly from [united.com](http://united.com).

### **2) Domestic growth plan & Atlantic summer seasonal flying**

New destinations for standby travel! Effective February 16<sup>th</sup>, United now has new service from DEN and SFO to BUR (Burbank). Also announced; new flights from EWR to AVL (Asheville, North Carolina), TYS (Knoxville, Tennessee) and SAV (Savannah).

Effective February 17<sup>th</sup>, United's "Bay to Bay" service began with daily roundtrip 737-900 service from SFO to TPA (Tampa, FL).

Effective March 10<sup>th</sup>, daily service from SJC (San Jose, CA) will include ORD and EWR. Also, daily service EWR to MYR (Ft Meyers, S.C.) has begun for the summer season.

On February 27<sup>th</sup>, Scott Kirby wrote about United's routes and growth plan. We are going on the OFFENSE and there will be 4 new domestic destinations this summer: CMI (Champaign, IL), COU (Columbia, MO), RST (Rochester, MN) and STS (Santa Rosa, CA). Read more on FlyingTogether: [https://flyingtogether.ual.com/web/content.jsp?SID=News&path=/Leadership/170227\\_Blog-UA-GrowthPlan.jsp](https://flyingtogether.ual.com/web/content.jsp?SID=News&path=/Leadership/170227_Blog-UA-GrowthPlan.jsp).

United has announced new summer seasonal service and added frequency across the Atlantic from EWR, IAD, ORD, IAH and SFO.

Exciting for SFO: a non-stop to MUNICH! Read about all the flights & effective dates here: [https://flyingtogether.ual.com/web/content.jsp?SID=News&path=UnitedDaily/NewsPage\\_OtherStories/170303\\_5summerRoutes.jsp](https://flyingtogether.ual.com/web/content.jsp?SID=News&path=UnitedDaily/NewsPage_OtherStories/170303_5summerRoutes.jsp)

**3) Mexico Tourist Tax collected by invoice** ~ Prior to October 2016, the Mexico Tourist Tax was collected at the Mexican airport as you departed (unless you were using a Mexican passport). Now the tax is no longer collected at the airport; retirees/employees who are not using

a Mexican passport will be sent an invoice for it. At this time the technology is not in place to pre-pay the Mexico Tourist Tax in employeeRES. However, when listing for flights departing Mexico you will be required to pre-pay Mexican Departure Tax; the Mexico Tourist Tax is in addition to the departure tax.

**4) More info: Basic Economy fares** ~ Basic Economy tickets are now on sale to/from MSP (Minneapolis) and will expand to other markets later this quarter. First travel date: April 18<sup>th</sup>. Employees/retirees may buy myUADiscount tickets with BE fares, subject to fare rules and restrictions.

United is educating the public about BE via the Big Metal Bird series. To watch the video (it may take a while to load) go to this link: [https://flyingtogether.ual.com/web/content.jsp?SID=News&path=UnitedDaily/2017/02\\_February/170221\\_9beFaresOnSale.jsp](https://flyingtogether.ual.com/web/content.jsp?SID=News&path=UnitedDaily/2017/02_February/170221_9beFaresOnSale.jsp)

For further "Basic Economy" information, visit FlyingTogether > Company > Products&Networks > "BasicEconomy".

**5) Got questions? Use "United ServiceAnywhere"** ~ Retirees may use USAW to get answers about Pass Travel, HR policies and Employee Service Center items (retiree badge, name changes, etc.). Requests may be submitted online, 24/7. It's like a Google search within Flying Together; check it out!

Access "United ServiceAnywhere" by either:

1) On FlyingTogether "Home" page, scroll the tiles below the picture horizontally by clicking the YELLOW arrow buttons; find dark purple United ServiceAnywhere tile, click!

2) On Flying Together > "Employee Services" page, click on the dark purple United ServiceAnywhere box.

3) On Flying Together > "Travel" page, scroll down the RIGHT column to find the dark purple United ServiceAnywhere box, click!

## Changes regarding employee access to the United Polaris lounge from Janet Tyse



The response from customers, the media and employees toward United Polaris since its December debut has been nothing short of overwhelming. As many of you have seen firsthand, we truly have set the standard for business class travel, not only with our inflight amenities, but with the on-the-ground product as well. Our United Polaris lounge at ORD, the first of nine such lounges, has become so popular that customers are spending more time there than we predicted - which is great testament to how we are exceeding our customers' expectations. Because of that, however, we've experienced overcrowding, particularly during peak times, and we need your help: We invite employees traveling positive space (PS) or space available

(SA) with a seat assignment in United Polaris first or United Polaris business class to visit the United Club instead of the United Polaris lounge. Beginning on April 3, employees traveling PS or SA will no longer be allowed access to the United Polaris lounge. As we add new lounge locations, we will re-evaluate employee access and update you on any changes to that policy.

**Torgy's Travel Tips – May 2017**  
**Honolulu Sights by Public Bus**



**Kathie Torgison**

Aloha! I just returned from a 15 day cruise Long Beach/San Pedro to Hawaii and back again. Four days at sea, 4 days stopping at different islands, then 5 days at sea plus 1 day in Ensenada, Mexico and finally back to Long Beach/San Pedro. For some, this may be too many sea days and not enough stopping, but it definitely was relaxing. The stopovers in

Hilo, Lahaina and Nawiliwili (Kauai) were about 8 to 9 hours each but we had a generous 16 hour stop in Honolulu. Having already been to HNL several times, we just wanted to revisit some favorite spots. So we decided to “do our own thing” by using the The Bus – Honolulu’s public bus system. It was fun, easy on the budget and got us around the entire island for the grand total of \$2 per person! We had lots of time to spare, too.

Here are some tips on sightseeing by bus in Honolulu that you can use whether you arrive by air or ship. Bus fare is only \$1 for those 65+ (the Hawaiian culture really honors elders) and \$2.50 for those 64 and under. Each ticket comes with 2 transfers that can be used within a 2-hour window. Very convenient!

Bus #19 travels between HNL airport, the Aloha Tower ship terminal and Waikiki. Although large luggage is discouraged, we saw numerous folks with slightly bigger than carry-on size bags boarding this bus. You can’t get lost if Waikiki is your destination as you can clearly see Diamond Head all the way. The route uses Kuhio Ave. in Waikiki in both directions. We boarded near the Aloha Tower and alighted at the end of the line at Kapiolani Park/Zoo. After dipping our toes in the water at Kuhio Beach near the Duke Kahanamoku statue and strolling along the beach, we crossed Kalakaua Ave to visit the newly revamped International Market Place. What a disappointment! Yes, the beautiful 100 year old banyan tree is still there, but the entire local flavor has vanished, replaced by a 2 story mall-like affair containing high-end stores like Burberry, Saks 5th Ave and Michael Kors. Gone are the small vendor carts with puka shell necklaces, eel-skin wallets or colorful leis.

Wanting to escape the shopping crowds and enjoy the beautiful views, we decided to ride to North Shore for shave ice at famous Matsumoto’s General Store. So, we

hopped aboard Bus #8 on Kuhio street (the back entrance to the Intl Mkt Place), direction Ala Moana, where we transferred to the #52 direction Haleiwa. Our transfers from our initial ticket were still valid so no additional fare was collected. Now the #52 is a wonderfully, long ride up the beautiful and verdant Pali Highway, through the tunnels and down to the shoreline on the back side of Diamond Head, then all the way up around the top of Oahu, ending in Haleiwa, North Shore. Beautiful beaches and small towns dot the highway. You might want to stop at the food trucks near Turtle Bay for great Huli-Huli chicken or Kahuku shrimp. The locals swarm to these trucks so it must be good! The famous waves at North Shore draw the crowds to surfboard or just watch and sea turtles are often seen right near the beach.

Matsumoto’s General Store has been making shave ice (bowls of ice cream topped by 2 or 3 huge scoops of multi-flavored shaved ice) since 1951. The store has been enlarged over the years and today the waiting line still averages 30-40 people long. But no worry brudda, they are fast and friendly and no trip to North Shore is complete with Matsumoto’s Shave Ice.

Now for your trip back to town, take the #55 from Haleiwa. It passes Waimea Falls, another wonderful place to stop and use your transfer. (The entrance fee is \$12 for 62+ or \$16 for others. A paved walkway to the falls is provided and changing rooms are clean.) The bus continues down through Mililani Town, past Pearl Harbor and back to Ala Moana Shopping Center. All for \$1.00!

Speaking of Pearl Harbor, here are some tips for visiting this historic site. Go to [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) and type in Pearl Harbor in the search box. You will find that the US Navy offers 3 tours:

Tour 1 – Free. Includes a 23 min film at the Visitor’s Center, boat ride to the USS Arizona Memorial with 1 hour to visit and boat ride back. To book up to 2 months in advance for a specific day costs \$1.50pp. Total time start to finish is 1:15.

Tour 2 - \$7.50. Includes all of Tour 1 along with an excellent audio headset and extra time at the Memorial. Total time is 2:15.

Tour 3 - \$65. Full day 6-8 hours at the site. Includes all of the above, plus entrance to the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum & Park, Pacific Aviation Museum and the Battleship Missouri. \$10 extra if you wish to return for more time within 7 days.

You can reach the Visitor Center by taking bus #42 Ewa Beach, or bus #20 Airport/Pearl Ridge. The Ewa Beach bus is quicker. Another nice outing is Moana Falls. Take bus #5 from Ala Moana all the way to the end. The falls are beautiful and there is no charge to visit/swim. It is quite a hike (about 1.5 hrs) and there can be loose rocks, but you’ll feel the real Hawaii here.

So, if you want to avoid the costly ship-sponsored shore excursions, or you’re just ready for a day trip from your HNL hotel or condo, you can save a ton of money and have a lot more fun by doing it yourself. Go ahead, give it try!

## 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 **Dave Voit** at 507 Hunting Whip Road, Glen Mills, PA 19342-2223.*

### Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter



All articles submitted for publishing in the Newsletter are due in the Denver Office on the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month. This includes chapter reports, letters for the "Letters" Column, obituary listings (*Note: Rules for submitting an obituary notice is listed in the Obits section of this Newsletter*), and in general, any item for inclusion into the current Newsletter. All items received after the 7<sup>th</sup> are subject to be considered for the next Newsletter. Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to [2ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:2ruaea@qwestoffice.net), please copy Francis Domaratius at [ruaeaneewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaeaneewsletter@surewest.net) and John Chu at [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com). If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd, Denver, CO 80207-2433. Please allow for postal delay. We cannot extend the deadline! *Please note that all submitted articles are subject to editing and approval by the Newsletter Manager.* Once they are published in the RUAEA Newsletter, they become the property of RUAEA. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me. My contact information is listed in the Newsletter.

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## LOCAL NEWS

### ARIZONA



### PHOENIX AZURES

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Greetings from sunny Arizona!

Happy Birthday to **Suzanne Hughes** (5/6), **Boris Spitz** (5/6), **Cheri Innis** (5/6), **Thomas Kerman** (5/12), **Bob Adams** (5/13) and **Chuck Reynolds** (5/14).

Happy Anniversary to **Ann & Don Bergstrom** (5/16).

Twenty eight members all loved the barbecue at Famous Dave's. The 50/50 winners were **Vivian Klick** and **Marge Hinnners**. The Hinnners are leaving for Illinois this month, see you in the Fall!

We had visitors from the Oregon Dewers at last Wednesday's breakfast, **Len & Jerri Blodgett**.

We welcome new members **Arlene & Earl Taylor** from the Ohio Buckeyes.

By the time you read this, we will have had our last lunch meeting until the fall at Abuelos Restaurant (April 6).

Breakfast Reminder: We have breakfast every other Wednesday at 8:30 at Lou's Tivoli Gardens in Sun City West and all are invited. The dates for May are May 3, 17 & 31. The address is 12535 W Bell Rd, Surprise, AZ, (623) 974-8224. RSVP: Please call **Sherry Muoio** a day or so before you want to attend, (623) 572-4828, [phx22@cox.net](mailto:phx22@cox.net).

### PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S

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It's Spring, but feels more like Summer here in AZ. We've been in the 80's and 90's already, but we're not complaining as we know it's a lot different elsewhere. Most of the "Snowbirds" have flown out, but we still have a lot of our members stay around all year. We continue to meet every month for Breakfast on the fourth Friday at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline Rd. in Gilbert, starting at 9:15 a.m. If you're in the area at any time, please consider joining us. Just give our VP **Peg Snowdall** a call at (480) 396-3317, or contact her by e-mail at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net). She will be glad to give you directions and any other information you may need. We're open to any one that has worked for United or Continental Airlines at any time and 55 years old or older. We're a very friendly and fun group, so come and join us, we would love to see you!

We are highlighting this month one of our members, **Bob Irwin**, who has been an active member of our Re-United Chapter for a long time. Bob was born in Chicago, Illinois on September 9, 1929 at his Grandmother's home on LeMoyné Street. This was during the depression time. His parents had a little general store in Lake Como, Wisconsin. The family moved to Elmhurst, IL, where Bob attended Hawthorne grammar school and York Community High School. He graduated from York in 1947. He then attended the University of Chicago at Navy Pier for two years. In 1951, he took a job with Borden Dairy Company delivering milk to homes.

He got married on April 20, 1963 to **Ann** and had a son, **Roger**, born on March 25, 1968. The family lived in Forest Park for two years. They moved to Villa Park in 1965. His son, Roger, is a Chicago Policeman and lives in Chicago. He and his wife have three children. They are involved in various sporting activities, which Bob likes to attend.

Bob's career with United Airlines started on November 4, 1968 as an air freight agent at Chicago's O'Hare Field. In 1971, he was furloughed to Newark Airport for about 3 months. A short time later he was furloughed again to LaGuardia for about a year. He was commuting on week-ends back to Villa Park.

When he returned to O'Hare, he worked as a Manpower Clerk, and all was well at United until 1981, when he was furloughed again to Kennedy Airport for three years. He came back to O'Hare in 1984, and worked as a telephone sales agent. Not long after that, United merged all of the telephone freight sales to EXO, and we became WHQFF (World Headquarters Freight). He worked there as a technical support representative and retired ten years later on September 30, 1994.

His wife died in 1994. After that he became a "Snowbird" and spent his time between Mesa, Arizona and Lombard, Illinois, where he bought a condo in 2007. While living in Mesa, he discovered senior softball and played until 2015. He played on a team of 75 year-olds, called the Mesa Cardinals, which won the Winter World Championship in Las Vegas in November 2006. He also played softball in Chicago with a team called the Geezers. He played in many tournaments from Pensacola, Florida to Seattle, Washington. After he quit playing, he coached up until 2016. He loved coaching, but in June 2017, he had a heart attack and double bypass surgery, and later that same year, he fell and broke his hip.

Bob recovered from that, and came back to Mesa, Arizona the end of this February, and was able to join our Re-United members at our Chicago Cubs/White Sox game, and a recent breakfast. We're glad that he's back with us once again as a "Snowbird", as we all enjoy seeing him when he's back in Arizona.

Our March Breakfast had 31 people attending. We had two guests, one was **Gwen Martin**, step daughter of **Bob Irwin**, and another was **Arthur Anderson**, he's **Ame Esan's** fiancée. We're always happy to see guests, and look forward to seeing more in the future. President **Shirley Claggett** opened the meeting by welcoming the guests and mentioned beginning March 31, United will no longer offer

Duty-free items on board the airplanes. Our annual picnic will again be at the Crescent Run Park, 8500 E. Southern Avenue in Mesa, on April 6, starting at 11:00 a.m., with lunch being served at noon. The cost is \$5 for members. We were sorry to hear one of our very faithful members, **Jay Hartough**, was recently in the hospital due to some blood clots and other issues, but he plans on being at the picnic, so we were glad to hear that, but, he will be having Chemo treatments starting April 23. Another member, **Marjorie Matteson**, is done with her last Chemo treatment, but will be having surgery in April. Our thoughts and prayers are with both of them.

Our member, **John Griffin**, made arrangements for a Rhythm Cats Rock and Roll Oldies show and buffet at the Silver Star Theater in Mesa on March 25. We had about 30 people attend. What a great show! It was our kind of music, and everyone really had a good time. Thanks John & JoAnn for making all the arrangements!

We have the following birthdays in May: **Victor Kostecki** (5/5), **Bill Betz** (5/9), **Oscar Aguilar** (5/12), **John Griffin** (5/13), **JoAnne Griffin** (5/16), **Gary Gerstung** (5/22) and **Kathy Brigante** (5/25). Happy Birthday to all of you! Those members having Wedding Anniversaries are **Linda Cooper-Koltz & Steve** (5/4/85), **Carol & Brian Hinkle** (5/11/97), **Jeannette & Victor Kostecki** (5/18/68), and **Ginny & Fred Rockenhauser** (5/23/70). Congratulations to all the couples!

#### Calendar:

**May 26** – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline Rd. in Gilbert, AZ, starting at 9:15 a.m. Please let **Peg Snowdall** know if you will be attending at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net), or by phone at (480) 396-3317 by Wednesday, May 24.

**June 23** – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner, Gilbert, AZ

**July 28** – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner, Gilbert, AZ



#### TALL PINES

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Greetings from the Prescott Tall Pines chapter. Our April luncheon/meeting was attended by seven members. Some of our members are still far and wide in their travels. No business was discussed but our luncheon was great none the less. Our May meeting will be on the 16<sup>th</sup> at the Lone Spur Café, time is 11 AM. We extend all our best wishes to our retired brothers and sisters.





## CALIFORNIA

### CENTRAL COASTERS

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Our Chapter did not meet in March. I did not hear from any of our members so this report will be short.

In the April issue of the Newsletter, **Donna Klobe** of the Re-LAX-ers, said that the original member of the Central Coasters, **Dana Noyes**, passed away. It wasn't Dana, but her husband Bill. They were very active in our Chapter, until they moved to Missouri to be near family. They maintained their membership and kept in touch with us. Our President **Mike Zoldak** keeps in touch with her and he'll keep us informed of her activities.

Our next meeting will be April 20<sup>th</sup>, hosted by the **Rybars**.



### DESERT SUNBIRDS

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On a beautiful, warm day, thirty one Desert Sunbirds met at the Fisherman's Restaurant & Bar in Rancho Mirage for our March Luncheon. **Pat Wiclawski** hosted the Luncheon, ably assisted by **Gay Traber**.

The **Brunkens**, regular attendees, had to miss the Luncheon as they were enjoying the sights and sounds of someplace called ... Kona.

Sad news, long-time member **Barbara Rowe** passed away sometime in March. We were informed by President **Mike Bailardo**, who, among other Sunbirds, had been trying to contact Barbara for quite some time. Barbara usually attends two or three meetings a year, but had not been to one in over a year. We were informed of Barbara's passing by fellow member **Mary Butler**, who usually rode with Barbara to the meetings, but we have no other information at this time.

The **Lergs** finally went on that vacation (Hawaiian Islands) that they had planned in November. (Melinda fell and broke her wrist the morning they were to leave.) However, things didn't go quite as planned. Melinda picked up a bad cold on the return, and is still trying to deal with it.

Three of our couples are celebrating Anniversaries in April: **Norm & Judy Burnett** (2 years on April 17<sup>th</sup>); **Ben & Shirley Schiewe** (35 years on April 3<sup>rd</sup>); and **Glen & Jan Voirol** (49 years on April 27<sup>th</sup>).

Our Birthday Lunch winner was **Shirley Schiewe**; and **Scoobie Wolfe** was \$50.00 richer in the 50/50 drawing. Two bottles of wine were added to the drawing, won by

**Shirley Schiewe** ... and **Ben Schiewe**. No, I don't make these things up!

**Gay Traber** is our featured Sunbird this month ~ UAL hired Gay in April of 1965 as a Flight Attendant. Her first base was LAX. In 1967, she got married, and transferred to ATLRR, as required in the "good old days". In 1968, Gay was granted a Leave of Absence. But it was rescinded in 1969, and she was terminated. She was rehired three months later in LAXTR.

From 1969 to 1971, Gay worked the normal rotation in Passenger Service - Ticket Counter, Gates, and Lost & Found. She also worked occasionally in the Red Carpet Room. Lastly, she worked as a PSR many times with **Isabel Angstadt** (a true Icon with UAL); Gay's words, but many TR people, including this reporter, agree. During this time, Gay had the opportunity to meet and greet many Hollywood and Political figures of the 60's and 70's. "*Exciting and amazing years!*"

In 1971, Gay transferred to Stewardess Service as an Inflight Service Director - on-board sales for everything related to travel, tickets, seating, and special services. Her duties started at check-in through baggage claim.

In the decade 1972 to 1981, Gay was an Inflight Service Supervisor, Appearance Supervisor, On-Board Supervisor of Inflight Services, and Crew Desk Supervisor.

Gay returned to flying as a Flight Attendant in 1981, and continued until she retired in April, 2003 - a 38 year career. She says her favorite destination to fly was Sydney!

Gay says, "*I loved every minute of my career, and the many wonderful people with whom I shared that time - truly an extended family!*"

### GOLD DIGGERS

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### SACRAMENTO

### GOLD DIGGERS



The Sacramento Gold Diggers held their monthly meeting on March 29 at Casa Las Katarinas in Grass Valley and was hosted by **Jack & Marge Raynor** and **Judi King**.

President **Ed Rheam** welcomed the 42 Gold Diggers and 1 guest: **Carla Moss** guest of **Forester & Jean Sinclair**. He thanked **Jack, Marge** and **Judi** for hosting the luncheon. He also thanked the members who brought items for the raffle. **Ed** introduced **Harold Mitchell** who was interested in learning how many Veterans were there who served during the Vietnam War between 1955 and 1975. He has information for these Veterans and will bring it to our next luncheon. Vice President **Ken Norton** announced we need hosts for May and July luncheons. He encouraged members to consider hosting one of our luncheons.

Our next luncheon will be held at Lucille's Smokehouse Barbeque in Rocklin on April 26 hosted by **Victoria Enriquez** and **George Taylor**.

Secretary **Rose Rheam** acknowledged the March Anniversaries: **Ed & Shirley Vanderzyl** (52 years), **Robert &**

**Judith Miller** (54 years), **Billy & Joanne Blizzard** (51 years) and **Marv & Jean Becker** (59 years).

Treasurer **Judi King** gave the financial report as of January 2016.

Sunshine Person **Angie Dellinger** sent a get well card to **Dorothy Stroud**. **Marv Becker** and **Harold Esola** are slowly recovering.

**Jack Raynor** advised the Members Directory will be available at next month's meeting.

Regional Director **Sonda Sandstedt** gave an update regarding the concerns that will be discussed at the April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of RUAEA President **Virgil Gooselaw** and **Oscar Munoz**, CEO United Airlines, along with other Retiree Association Presidents. Three main subjects to be discussed are increase the number for enrolled friends, boarding priority with active employees and improved benefits for widows/widowers.

Tickets purchased through UAdiscount (20% off) or travel as a non-rev you are allowed 2 free bags. There are no free bags if you purchase your ticket at [united.com](http://united.com).

A new program at flyingtogether is United Service Anywhere (USAW). You can contact their number anywhere in the world for help with travel related issues such as medical or other emergencies.

The meeting was adjourned followed by the raffle conducted by **Ken Norton**.



#### **HANGTOWN MINERS**

Jane Gibson

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As I sit down to write this, I remind myself that the first day of Spring was just 4 days ago. Outside the skies are gray and cloudy with a nice sprinkle of rain coming down, the trees are swaying in the wind and it is cold. I realize that we need this rain, but I think we are about to the point of "enough is enough"! However, the luncheon that was arranged by **Bill & Linda Dinette** for March at the Brookfield Restaurant in Rancho Cordova was full of fun, good food and lots and lots of green! Check out the picture of our very own Leprechaun! Bill, green works for you!

Since President **Bill Gibson** was in Oklahoma, Vice President **Rosemary Heier** was off on her first RV trip for 2017, and Treasurer **Tom Kenny** was working, that put yours truly, **Jane Gibson**, in charge! Scary as that may be, that's where we wound up! Jane said thanks to Bill & Linda for their enthusiasm and wonderful decorations – the table center pieces were part of our raffle. She then asked who we could say Happy Birthday to and found that **Cindy Blazius** and **Linda Dinette** are celebrating the start of a new year. **Kerry Kozelka** and **Ann Barton** are celebrating their anniversary, congratulations to you two. Jane extended our welcome to **Sonda Sandstedt**. Sonda is our new RUAEA representative and, thus, a new member. She is replacing **John Zoboli** who has taken on a different job in RUAEA – we send a Thank You to John for his years in that position.

*President* ~ **Bill Gibson** is off to Oklahoma this month.

*Vice President* ~ **Rosemary Heier** is on her way to a new adventure.

*Treasurer* ~ **Tom Kenny** is busy at work helping folks find just the right tool. However, Tom's efficient wife, Suzanne, brought his monthly update. We have received Thank You notes from 2 of the 3 charities we donated \$200.00 to this year; Snowline Hospice and El Dorado County Senior Legal Services.

*Secretary* ~ **Jane Gibson** switched hats and reminded everyone that she has a couple members who need a name tag. If you need/want a new one, get in touch with Jane as soon as you can so she can send off an order. These are really nice name tags that are magnetic so they won't damage your clothing. Last time I ordered them, they were \$6.50 each. Thank you, Suzanne for taking notes for me today.

*Sunshine* ~ **Suzanne Kenny** turned her hat around to give us her update on a couple of our members. She had a chance encounter with **Mary Lou Wagner** and learned that Mary Lou had fallen in her home, was not found for 29 hours! She spent a month in the hospital/care facility recuperating. She is doing better now, thank goodness. Suzanne reported that **Bob White** had also fallen and hit his head. Jane added that **Andre Cardineaux** has undergone surgery for bladder cancer. To each of you we send our best wishes and hope you're all feeling better. **Irv Wolfram** had cataract surgery and is doing fine.

*Historian* ~ **Thom Biro** wanted to thank **Lynda Lima** once more for doing such a wonderful job as our Historian. The books she made are excellent. Thom has created a new website for the Hangtown Miners. Lynda had one on weebly but Thom has opened one for us on Shutterfly. He said we just go to the Shutterfly website, set up an "account" for ourselves (it's free) with our own password. Once we do that we can/will have access to our site (Hangtown Miners) and can also visit other sites where we may have interests. Thank you, Thom, for doing this. Just as an "aside", I hope that you plan to keep the albums Lynda put together updated. It is so nice to be able to browse thru them at our get-togethers.

*Old Business* ~ Well, you will not be surprised to hear, yet another, reminder that our annual dues of \$10.00 are due now. Looking at the list of "paid/not paid", I see that there are some of you who have been dealing with medical issues, some of you have been members from the beginning. It is important for us to know if you intend to continue being a part of our group. If you're not sure if you have paid or not, call or email **Tom Kenny** or myself and we will let you know your status. If you are thumping yourself on the forehead, realizing that you haven't sent that check in yet, please do so today. Make your \$10.00 check out to Hangtown Miners and mail it to **Tom Kenny**, 3481 Parley's Canyon Road, Placerville, CA 95667. You don't want to miss out on the information that we relay to you each month.

Also, if you know of anyone who is retired from UAL but is not yet a member of our chapter, invite them to join us at a monthly lunch/meeting.

If you haven't attended the annual Retired UAL Me-



chanics get together in Minden NV before, you really need to do so. Last year there were about 100 or more mechanics attending. Some folks come from other states to join in the fun. There are good hotel rates at the Carson Valley Inn. You can contact Darlene by email, [imthemama57@msn.com](mailto:imthemama57@msn.com).

*New Business* ~ Jane did not have information to report at this meeting. **Thom & Sherry Biro** will be hosting the May luncheon. Thom polled our members to see if we would be interested in something a bit different. He already has plans at Poor Reds in Placerville but he presented the choice for that or going to a River Cats game. The game would be \$15.00 and include a hot dog lunch and the game. It would have to be on a Tuesday and we would need to carpool. While this sounds like a fun thing to do, it was not the choice for now. Maybe another time – it could be a fun group trip.

*RUAEA Director* ~ Welcome to our new director, **Sonda Sandstedt**. A reminder that the RUAEA 2017 convention will be in Las Vegas beginning Monday September 25<sup>th</sup> and conclude on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. Special room rates are available at the Palace Station Hotel & Casino. If you are not already a RUAEA member, we encourage you to join. The monthly newsletter they put together is chock full of information that is very valuable to us all. Torgy's Travel Tips will give you many ways to make your travel easier. They have information you will find very valuable.

**Bill Dinette** wanted to let us know about a nifty way to save money! Always a good thing. Bill found out that when flying out of Sacramento Airport, you can leave/park your car at the Econo Lodge for just \$7.00 a day! They have a shuttle that will transport you to (and from) the airport quickly. For more info do a search "reduced parking at SAC Airport". Their parking area is secured too. Thank you, Bill, ways to save are always welcome.

Jane brought the meeting to a close and **Rudy Blazius** began our raffle. Winner of the donator's prize was Kerry and Ann. I neglected to get the list of donators, but thanks to each of you!

## **REDWOOD EMPIRE**

### **RETIREES**

Santa Rosa, California  
Mary Wilson, Secretary  
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We enjoyed our March (almost spring) luncheon at the LaGare Restaurant in Santa Rosa, CA on March 9, hosted by **Barney & Clare Hagen** and **Ron & Joanne Huhn**. They had the tables decorated in St. Patrick's Day themed leprechaun hats and clover- leaf shaped chocolate candies, as well as nice wines in foil bags along the length of each table. We had choices of short rib, chicken and filet of sole entrees and a special spring mix green salad with creamy Italian dressing and a wonderful lemon bar dessert with coffee and tea.

President **Larry Wilson** opened our meeting by thanking our hosts and acknowledging the great St. Patrick's Day decorations. Vice President **Jerry Underhill** reported that there were 19 members and 3 guests present, including **Lynn Cassil**, guest of **Barney & Clare Hagen**, **Janine Lane**, guest of **Dick & Carol Hanna**, and **Carol Turek**, guest of **Doug Sanders**. **Joanne Huhn** gave us updates on absent members, one of which is **Norma Stillman** to whom she recently sent a card; Joanne said that she would enjoy getting a card or e-mail from any of us. She announced that she received word from Roger that **Zelma Kibler** was under Hospice care after sustaining a bleed on her brain, possibly from an aneurysm; Roger had been visiting her every day at her home, and her nieces were there to take care of her! We have since learned that on March 11<sup>th</sup> Zelma passed away. She was an important person in the history of RUAEA, and served as the president of the National RUAEA group. We are waiting for information on a memorial service for Zelma. **Pat Ortega** gave some information on **Helen Furbur**, that she has been admitted to an assisted living facility in Billings, MT; many shared that they remembered working with Helen. A card from us will be sent to her by Joanne. We just received an email this week from **Marge Bauer's** daughter Corey that Marge has been moved into a retirement home too; she has no email, but her phone is (707) 763-2539.

RER Pass Travel expert **Barney Hagen** said that he frequents the Pilots and the Flight attendants websites for ID90 info on pass travel and getting discounts on other related airlines. He said he found that the RAFA (flight attendant's website) is an easier link to the Flying Together website for access to info on ID90 discounts.

Treasurer **Valerie Hulsey** gave us an update on our chapter's General and Charity funds; she tells us that our total in both accounts is over \$1300. The Charity fund is coming back from the distribution during the holidays to a total of \$228.34. Valerie stated there are a few outstanding memberships that still need to be paid.

I announced the March birthdays in **Verda Burr's** absence, who is visiting family in Oregon; they were **Jack Donahue**, **Chris Eberle**, **Barney Hagen**, **Richard Sothern**, and **Herb Johnson**. There were no anniversaries celebrated for March. The winner of the free birthday lunch was **Herb Johnson**! Verda will be going to Georgia in April to visit the other family there, and will be back with us hopefully in May.

The Raffle for wine and See's candies was held next; everyone seemed pleased with their winnings.

It was announced that the next month's luncheon will be held at the Union Hotel, Santa Rosa, hosted by **Valerie Hulsey**, **Clare Hagen** and **Maddie McKinnis**.

President **Larry Wilson** and VPs **Jerry & Barbara Underhill** are working to fill in the gaps in the year for hosting a luncheon at the various restaurants; there will be some changes made to the schedule and rearranging of hosts for some months, so an updated schedule for the rest of the year will hopefully be ready to hand out copies for all our members by our next luncheon on April 13<sup>th</sup>.

Best Wishes for a nice Spring!



## **RESANS**

San Diego, CA  
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The newsletter this month will be brief. Our monthly breakfast and our Spring Fling Lunch will occur after this newsletter's deadline.

**Al Soderberg** is doing well and is settled in to his new home. A Senior Assisted Living Facility where he says everyone is so nice and friendly and his apartment is cozy. He looks forward to having visitors.

**Peggy Van Sickle** has just undergone surgery of her right hip and is at home, she's glad it is over. Peggy is getting around the house with a walker and will begin physical therapy in the next couple of weeks. She is in good spirits and only has minor pain.

I plan on having a good newsy letter for you next month. Stay well and come and visit us in sunny San Diego!

### Calendar:

**May 4** – Pt. Loma Café, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA. 92106 -2394, (619) 226-0255.

## **GOLDEN GATERS**

SFO – Bay Area  
Ginger Dahlberg  
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Our March meeting was called to order by President **Vera Kina**. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was followed by a few moments of silence for our military forces both here and abroad. Today the Green Leprechauns (aka the Board) brewed up Corned Beef and Cabbage for hungry members (who brought their favorite “Pot Luck” dishes to enhance the meal.) Why is it that **food** brings out members? We had a good showing but, alas, no green beer could be seen anywhere! This has become a tradition as it is a fun day, good food and lots of shared laughter. Here's what is on the menu for the next 3 months:

April 24 – BUOBL (“Bring ur own bag lunch” – A “Cup O’ Soup” will be available for those who enjoy a nice, hot accompaniment.) **Jim Goodwine** will remind us that we are celebrating our 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary – maybe we will get a famous Blums’ cake to enjoy. (You are all old enough to remember the Fairmont Hotels’ fantastic bakery!) Come and see! May 29 - BUOBL – Bingo after lunch so rob the piggy bank and maybe you'll be a big winner. (Previous winners splurged and ate out at McDonalds – no French fries though.) June 26 – Our early 4<sup>th</sup> of July Hot Dog and all the trimmings feast – Red, White, and Blue is the color of the day.

Treasurer **Art Barrett** was taking in yearly dues of

\$12.00 per person, **Ginger Dahlberg** nagged at everyone last month, it worked. We welcomed back **Tak & Nancy Handa** and **Bert Niedermaier**. We are still missing some of our “young timers”, we miss you and hope to see you soon!

Secretary **Ginger Dahlberg**, Pro-Tem, read the minutes which were approved as read.

Membership: **Barbara Underhill** was unable to get to the meeting as hubby, **Jerome**, had an appointment with his Doctor, hope all is well; are you building a new wing onto the local Hospital? **Pam Russell** spent a short time in the hospital, is better now! We welcomed new member **Charlie Bogert**, glad to have you on board! Blowing out birthday candles: **Emily Turner** and **Bill Heinrich**. No one would ‘fes up to an anniversary. We had 39 people in attendance today. **Roger Casterline**, Western Region Director, gave us an update on the Convention in Las Vegas.

Auditors **Gene Walter**, **Dorothy Reuszer**, and **Ben Vietz** presented the 2017 Budget. Figures were based on 90 able-bodied members – our numbers are dwindling. **Gene Walter** is working on revising the By-Laws. Our thanks to the dynamic trio, hammering out the finances takes skill and we appreciate the time and energy they have put into the job.

Ticket Coordinator **Harriet Kunze** doled out the 20%/20% winnings to **Diane Heinrich** and **Bert Niedermaier** (see **Bert** – it pays to come back into the fold!)

Travel Coordinator **Ginger Dahlberg** recapped the 2017 trips. We are off to the graduation for The Guide Dogs for the Blind - a three handkerchief event as the dogs will meet their new owners and the trainers will turn them over to happy recipients. A Cache Creek Casino outing is planned for June 13<sup>th</sup> – flyers are available. Email [gingersfo@aol.com](mailto:gingersfo@aol.com) or call (650) 224-1865 to get a flyer or to be put on the interest lists which were recapped in the March RUAEA newsletter.

With great sadness we regret to inform you all of the passing of **Zelma Kibler**. An Honorary Member of the Golden Gaters, Past President of RUAEA and the Golden Gaters, a world traveler, a member of the Coyote Point Yacht Club and avid sailor and a devoted member who was always ready and willing to help – we will truly miss her. So many wonderful memories – rest in peace gracious lady!

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





# **SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY**

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We had a wonderful time at our Spring Luncheon held on March 21. A big thank you to **George & Julie Midwin** and **Ben & Cheri Scales** for hosting this event. The decorations were fun, cheery, and springy. Sixty-one people were signed up to attend. It's always a joy to see and catch up with members and their guests at our luncheons who aren't able to come to our weekly breakfasts. **Jean Jenkins** and **Lynn Bucholtz** contributed a beautiful strawberry-filled decadently decorated cake for our delightful enjoyment after the delicious entrée served by The Fish Market. Several attendees brought school supplies for children receiving treatment at the Shriner's Hospital. Sunshine Lady **Maureen Snyder**, High Priestess of the local chapter of Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America, and our contact for this organization, expressed appreciation for the donations. We enjoyed distribution of gifts through our fun raffle at the end of our lunch. A lovely day was had both inside and out with clear, blue, sunny skies to greet us afterward.

Several from our chapter visited the Wings of History Air Museum located to the south of us in San Martin on April 4. They are a non-profit organization dedicated to aviation history through education, preservation, restoration, and flight. We were given a tour of their facility and enjoyed a box lunch al fresco. The story this month is actually from our visit to the museum or more personally involves my father, **Vaughn Lamb**, who at the time of the story had loaned a 1903 full-size Wright Flyer replica to the museum. The story is called "The Baker Caper" and United Airlines is also connected.

*On Friday, April 4, 1997 (20 years ago to the day of our visit), a group of museum volunteers disassembled the Wright Flyer and loaded it into a 48' big rig for a trip to Baker, California. On Saturday afternoon a final check-out was done in the motel parking lot in Baker and all went well. So Sunday it continued on its journey traveling 40 miles north before encountering four additional miles of washboard dirt road that would bring it to the base camp at Dumont Dunes located just outside the southern boundary of Death Valley National Monument.*

*All of this activity had been triggered several weeks earlier by an inquiry from a film production company about the possibility of using the Wright Flyer in a TV commercial for United Airlines. Since the commercial would give some good exposure to the museum, produce substantial compensation, and give volunteers an outing, it was decided to go ahead with the endeavor. Arrangements were made and even details of having the propellers rotating during the filming in the desert were worked out.*

*A set construction group from Los Angeles worked like troopers all week with the museum crew assisting. With*

*their leadership a carrying cradle was fitted to the Flyer and a dune buggy trailer was adapted to carry the fully assembled airplane out onto the dunes. Throughout the week the trailer was towed by a four-wheel-drive Carryall many miles into and out of the windblown valleys within the dunes. On occasion the trailer needed to be backed down the entire length of a valley in order to keep the Flyer facing into the wind—the museum crew walking each of those miles whether the trailer was being pushed or pulled.*

*Monday turned out to be an off day and the crew left the Flyer stored in the big rig at the dunes (security was in place) while they visited Hoover Dam, an excellent antique car collection at the Imperial Palace, and took in a good meal in Las Vegas since the culinary delights in Baker were meager to non-existent. Tuesday was another slow day with the production crews finally starting to show up and final preparations getting underway. Wednesday, however, was a different story as things shifted into high gear. The Flyer was removed from the big rig, assembled, and put onto the transport trailer and by 0630 hours it was on its way with the museum crew moving it to the first shooting site about two miles away from base camp. A veritable army of technicians, actors, and support personnel were eagerly waiting when the Flyer arrived. After off-loading the airplane and setting it on the rail, the filming focus shifted from a nearby sand dune to the Flyer and an entourage of actors in 1900-era clothing swirled about the airplane. There was even a 1912 Chalmers automobile chugging across the sand with periodic assistance from the extras. Filming was accomplished and then with a bullhorn crying "Reset, Reset," the filming was repeated all over again. The museum crew in observance of all of this chaos from the sidelines marveled that anything rational could be salvaged from all the activity, much less a focused commercial. Suddenly, it was lunchtime and everyone disappeared. Everyone, that is, except the Flyer and the transport crew tasked with moving the airplane to the afternoon filming site, another two miles away up a different valley amidst the dunes. The afternoon filming site looked almost identical to that in the morning which brought some curiosity as to why a move was necessary. After a while all those constituting the morning's army showed up and more filming was underway. Filming of various scenes continued right up to the setting sun so the director could take advantage of the "golden hour." Luckily, the Flyer wasn't needed during that last hour of filming so the museum crew was able to trudge back to base camp and load the airplane into the big rig for the night while there was still daylight.*

*Throughout the week there was much concern about wind gusts and directional changes as the wind swirled about the dunes. Wednesday morning produced some anxious moments, particularly when a heavy tailwind gust depressed the trailing edge of both wings far beyond their capability and broke some ribs near the rear spars. But field repairs were accomplished that resulted in a presentable airplane and the shooting continued. Another moment occurred when the propellers were free-wheeling in a moderate breeze for an action shot and a sudden gust cranked the rpm up substantially, dislodging one of the rudder supports*



which hit the propeller blade shattering the support and cracking the blade. Again, field repairs were made that allowed filming to continue. Insurance carried specifically for this activity was hoped to cover all of the damage.

Thursday's activity was even more intense than the previous day. The museum crew was at base camp bright and early and by 0600 they were well on their way to the morning filming site. Again, the Flyer was placed on the rail and filming was done with a plethora of actors milling around and the 1912 Chalmers sputtering along trying to avoid soft spots in the sand. For some shots, the propellers were rotated with an electric drive motor using generator power while the airplane was being pushed along the rail by actors in period attire. Filming continued all morning. During the noontime move to another (but very similar) valley in the dunes, the wind was quite variable, and a short but heavy tailwind gust lifted the trailing edge of both wings (the upper wing especially) to nearly vertical, snapping the remaining ribs at the rear spar and breaking the upper rudder supports again. While the structural damage appeared substantial, the fabric was not torn, and again the airplane was repairable with little visual impact. As long as the Flyer was facing into the wind there was no apparent problem, but even a slight tailwind showed a substantial trailing edge droop. The Flyer was placed, as nearly as possible, into the wind for the afternoon filming and the schedule was performed as planned. The wind cooperated, and although it varied substantially, it never did become a tailwind. Filming continued right up until dusk, and this day the Flyer was the star, so the trek back to base camp was in the twilight. Thankfully, the filming had been successfully completed and there would be no need to return to the valleys amongst the dunes. This boosted crew morale substantially. The disassembly, stowage, and securing of the airplane for the return trip to San Martin was done in the dark with portable lighting and when the museum crew left Dumont Dunes that night for Baker, the big rig carrying the Flyer was right behind. The next day, Friday, the museum crew headed home with the big rig on the road long before them. They arrived at San Martin relieved to see that the Flyer had been safely delivered and unloaded by Vaughn and others. The "Baker Caper" had been a memorable experience for all, but not one that any wished to repeat. Note: The Wright Flyer is now on permanent display at the Wings of History museum.

In March we lost two of our dear long-time members—**Zelma Kibler** on March 11 and **Russ Currier** on March 18. While working for United, **Zelma Kibler** was the secretary for VP of Engineering, Weldon E. "Dusty" Rhoades, who was the personal pilot for General MacArthur during WWII. She typed up the manuscript of his diaries which have been published in the book "Flying MacArthur to Victory." **Russ Currier** was in the U.S. Army Air Corp during WWII. By the time he was 20 years old he had flown 35 missions as a B-17 Engineer. He entered the war toward the end otherwise he may not have made it. Others are continuing to heal from various ailments and surgeries and our thoughts and prayers go out to you.

We meet every Friday at Holder's Country Inn on

DeAnza Blvd. in San Jose across from Home Depot. Breakfast is at 8am with a short meeting following at 9am. Please join us.

#### Calendar:

**June 14** – Summer Picnic at Vasona Park, Los Gatos

#### SAN JOAQUINERS

Stockton, California

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Our March meeting was on the 9<sup>th</sup> and held at the Pine Tree Restaurant in Sonora, hosted by **Max & Chris Fountain**. President **Bob Scoble** opened the meeting with the Pledge of Alliance, which always puts us in a good mood. That was followed by our club joker, **Don Nesja**, offering humor to continue our great mood.

We had three members we hadn't seen for a while join us again. **Hans Weber** and **Nancy Buddington** came with smiles and received many welcoming hugs and high fives. **Guy Hoffman** equally shared in the welcome and updated us on **Nancy's** condition. It was wonderful to have the old gang (dare I call them that?) back in the fold.

The future lunch location list was passed around and is now completed for the rest of the year.

A reminder about the National Convention in Las Vegas (September 25-28) at the Palace Station Hotel, was brought up and attendance was encouraged. Call the hotel at 1-800-634-3101, using code PCIRUAE for the special RUAEA rate. Also brought up was the Mechanics Reunion in Minden at the Carson Valley Inn (June 20-23). The Barbeque is scheduled for Wednesday, the 21<sup>st</sup>. Hotel reservations may be made at (775) 782-9711. RV spaces are also available.

Under New Business, President Bob brought up the meeting guidelines we have been using, suggesting a change of meal prices to read from \$17.00 to \$20.00, which would include tax and tip. After the group reviewed the proposed guidelines, the consensus was that it was what we wanted. President Bob will make copies of the new Guidelines for the file.

**Max Fountain** offered feedback on the TSA Pre-Check (for \$85.00 for 5 year coverage). He went to the TSA office in the Port of Stockton that will accept your application. He commented that it does make it through the Terminal check in lines at most major airports.

Treasurer **Rudy Reyna** gave his report indicating all bills were paid and all funds received before the meeting had been deposited. Our balance is in the black and growing. We have 40 members who have paid their 2017 dues.

Birthdays in the group are **Mel Oberg**, **Jack Walls**, **Pat McGee**, **Evelyn Price**, **Rudy Reyna** and **Bob Brooks**. All were wished a happy birthday. **Jack & Rosie Walls** celebrated their anniversary this month, and we all celebrated with them.

The raffle gifts were donated by **Max & Chris Fountain**. This is always a great part of the luncheon.

President Bob closed the meeting, reminding all that the next meeting would be April 13<sup>th</sup>.

We would like to issue an open invitation to anyone living/visiting in our area to join us. We meet for lunch the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month (our next meeting is Thursday, April 13, but, since we meet at various places, you can call our President **Bob Scoble** at (209) 626-5308 for information.



#### **EAST BAY DIABLOS**

Contra Costa County

Diane Griego

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We met at El Tapatio restaurant for Mexican food this month. Great turnout of 30. I might add the Margaritas were excellent! A beautiful sunny and warm day signaled the beginning of spring.

We were saddened by hearing of the passing of **Zelma Kibler**, longtime RUAEA officer. We had just seen her at our luncheon in February. Another sad note, **Cheryl Kinkaid** was absent due to the passing of her mother, Ruth.

Among our group, **Jo Payne** was missing. She had suffered a stroke several days before, but is doing fine and should be home soon. **Barbara & Jerry Underhill** returned and Barbara enthusiastically took over the 50/50 for Jo and did a wonderful job.

**Diane Griego's** sister-in-law, **Renie Pedregon**, was a guest from Albuquerque. It was great to see **Susan VonEmster** and her husband **Ed**. Hope to see them each month!

Oh, and by the way – Diane did not win the 50/50 cash **again!**

We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. The patients at the hospitals are most appreciative. **Barbara Cunningham**, our Sunshine Lady, has kindly offered to accept and distribute the Christmas cards. In addition to books and magazines, **Diane Griego** has offered to accept any of your shampoo, shower gel, etc. that we many times bring home from our trips for a wonderful Domestic Violence Prevention organization that was created by one of our special UA ramp employees.

#### **Calendar:**

**May 8** – Old Spaghetti Factory

**June 12** – Annual Picnic – Manny & Diane's home

**July** – No meeting



#### **CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS**

Chico, California

Sharon Simonton, Secretary

P.O. Box 2257

Paradise, CA 95967

(530) 872-7992

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



Spring is here in Northern California with more water in the lakes, a little fishing and boating! Lots of problems with the Oroville Dam but it looks like it is now OK and the lake is nice and full for lots of summer activities.

Our March 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting was held at the Mill Creek Café in Los Molinos, CA. Again, the group enjoyed the meal very much. **Merritt Odor** called the meeting to order and thanked **Bill & Sharon Simonton** for setting up our luncheon. We had 20 retirees and spouses in attendance. Merritt asked if there were any birthdays or anniversaries. **Vincent Neidlinger** and **Dick Hooning** both celebrated birthdays in March and Sharon led a rousing birthday song in their honor. **John Isbell** celebrated his anniversary with United in March. We missed some of our members due to traveling, etc. **Charlotte Puryear**, our senior member, could not make the meeting but stays in touch with the members and **Sharon Simonton** had lunch with her earlier in the week at Sycamore Glen Retirement Community. Sharon said Charlotte looks wonderful and wants to come back soon and lunch with the Northstaters.

Merritt spoke about the convention in Las Vegas and encouraged all Northstaters members to attend. The tour and event information will be available shortly. Merritt again invited everyone to join RUAEA for only \$27.00 a year. He spoke about representation for the retirees and what RUAEA contributes.

Sharon spoke with the Northern California/Nevada Regional Director, **Sonda Sandstedt**, she was busy on this date with RUAEA business but plans to come to our May meeting.

Lots of events are happening in the north state in the next few weeks. "Kool April Nights" in Redding will be held April 27-30. There are a lot of show cars and activities that take place during the weekend. "Gold Nugget Days" in Paradise will be held April 28-30 also. Lots of crafts, food, and a parade. There will be lots of activities at the Gold Nugget Museum which is one of the best local museums in the North state.

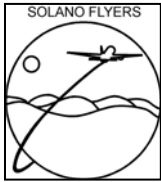
Merritt again encouraged anyone that has a story to tell, a hobby to share or any travels to share to please do so at our meetings.

**Don Arndt** won the 50/50 raffle and **John Isbell** won the \$15.00 lunch certificate.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> in Redding at the Holiday Inn Express. **Kay Neidlinger** offered to contact the restaurant to set up the meeting.

#### **Calendar:**

**May 24** - Wednesday at 11:30 AM at the Holiday Inn Express on Cypress Ave. Come and Join Us! Happy Spring!



## **SOLANO FLYERS**

Allan Pochop  
119 Carlsbad Circle  
Vacaville, Ca. 95687  
(707) 447-4980  
apochop@aol.com

The Solano Flyers met on March 15<sup>th</sup> at the Vacaville Denny's restaurant. President **Deno Poolos** brought the meeting to order. The following members were in attendance, **Joanne & Bill Blizzard, James Ellison, John Francis, Eileen & Pad Gardner, Linda & Jack Hornfischer, Stewart McCale, Barbara & Harold Mitchell, Luci & Diosnel Perez, Allan Pochop, Bob Ritchie, Jamie Schwafel, Frank Uhl, and Robert Zirzow**. Guests attending were **Helen Ayola, Brenda Crawford, and Ken Fitchhorn**.

Anniversary ~ Congratulation to **Stewart & Elanor McCale**, 58 years.

Congratulations to **Bob Zirzow**, our 50/50 Winner.

FYI: Allan's wife Peggy has vascular dementia, with short term memory loss. In October, she fell and broke her hip, since then she has to use a walker for stability. The [Caring.com](http://Caring.com) website has a posting mentioning that a memory pill did wonders, so he decided to purchase and try it out.

One or more of the five ingredients in the pill did stimulate brain function, but to his detriment. Before the pill, she was comfortable sitting in her transport or lift chair, but after taking this pill for a week, she would then get up and walk off to another location or chair, without the walker. This resulted in her falling to the floor twice. He has since stopped giving her the pill, but now has to use the restraining strap on transport chair and has put one the lift chair. His desire to help, did nothing but create new problems.

This pill maybe useful for a person will mild cognitive inability, or the early stage of dementia, find it on the web as Thrive Natural Memory Pill.

Oklahoma City, why is the Airport named after a person killed in a plane crash? Will Rogers.

President Deno suggested and the group approved the April 19 meeting at the Black Bear restaurant in Suisun City, at 11 am.

## **COLORADO**

### **DENVER**

#### **MILE HIGHERS**

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



The March breakfast was attended by 32 members. The 50/50 winners who returned their winnings to the chapter were **Charlie Hassler (2x) DENMM, Nancy Goodyear (2x), Jim Spate (DENMM), Don Burbank (2x), Ray Shultz (2x) DENMM and Walt Hanson (DENMM)**. The 50/50 drawing, along with the sale of aluminum cans, helps support the chapter since this chapter does not collect dues.

Aluminum is still needed for recycling to help finance the chapter. **Nancy Goodyear** pointed out that any clean aluminum can be recycled, such as; aluminum pie plates, aluminum foil, aluminum car parts, etc.

President **Don Burbank** opened the meeting. He announced that the decision on meeting permanently at Ted's Place will be put on hold until the construction is finished at the Flight Center which could take six months or a year. A show of hands indicated that everyone is happy with Ted's Place. **Cas Spokas (DENMM)** will continue for foreseeable future to offer help with accessing Flyingtogether. If Cas isn't available, **Don Burbank** offered his services to help any individual that requests it. Don pointed out that a person can also go to any public library and will be given help accessing the internet, if they need it. President Burbank asked for a show of hands for the spring luncheon to be held at Cinzzetti's in North Glenn, probably in May. The majority agreed. If you are not on Virgil's E-mail list, please offer up your address so you can be included in mailings of interest. Don also spoke about the Mileage Plus app. If you put that in your profile, all you have to do is click and select "book flight" and you will have a choice of selecting SA, 20% discount and it will go right there. If you click on My UA Discount, it will display the flights and the price. If you click again, it will book you on the flight and bill your credit card. Don mentioned that he had an inquiry about UAL surviving spouse benefits to ship their remains upon their death to a destination for burial. UAL does provide the travel benefit. Flyingtogether has a link to UATRUST to handle the arrangements, or the mortuary can also make the arrangements through UATRUST.

RUAEA President **Virgil Gooselaw** spoke of the importance of being proficient on navigating Flyingtogether. Almost any question on travel can be answered on line. It is well laid out concerning benefits for retiree travel. If a direct flight is oversold, Flyingtogether offers alternate routes to get you to your destination. Virgil recommended using vacation passes for travel. You lose some boarding priority if you use a personal pass. Virgil and **Tom Goodyear**, along with representatives of other retiree groups have a meeting with Oscar Munoz on April 12<sup>th</sup>. At that time they will offer suggestions to improve retiree pass privileges. After polling RUAEA members, the three top concerns were: Pass Boarding (seniority, date of hire or years of service), Vacation passes (increase the number) and Enrolled Friends (revise enrolled friends during the year plus additional number of enrolled friends). The question was raised about enrolled friends traveling alone. In this situation, the enrolled friend drops in boarding priority. Virgil also spoke of the upcoming convention in LAS at the Palace Station, September 25 – 28. Room prices are \$68 per night. The food at the casino is reasonably priced food of good quality.

Former Chapter President **Tom Goodyear** offered an update on the Flight Center progress. All simulators from the facility in Houston are now in DENTK and will be installed according to the schedule. The executive offices are now on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the F building. While the cafeteria is being remodeled, food at the Flight Center is provided by lunch wagons in the parking lot. Tom and Virgil are mostly



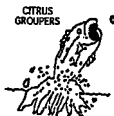
working from home due to the confines of the 6'x6' cubicle they were provided. The Link Trainer will possibly be loaned to San Francisco for display. The propeller that was on display in the cafeteria is now in storage.

**Jim Takeuchi** (DENMM) left us on March 13<sup>th</sup>. He is survived by **Elaine Takeuchi**.

**Joseph Bain** (DENMM) left us on January 16<sup>th</sup>. He is survived by **Nancy Bain**, 2459 S. Moline Way, Aurora, CO 80014.

Keep in mind, the next RUAEA Breakfast Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 9am at Ted's Place Restaurant in Commerce City, 5271 E. 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Commerce City; (303) 287-7544. Directions: Go North on Dahlia St. off I-70 to 52<sup>nd</sup> and turn back East to the address. Going West on I-70, exit on Holly Street and take the frontage road to get to Dahlia.

## FLORIDA



### CITRUS GROUPEES

The Villages, FL

Kathy Faust

[kathyandbob.faust@gmail.com](mailto:kathyandbob.faust@gmail.com)

Twenty two members met at Chef's of Napoli III for a very delicious lunch and meeting. The highlight was an appreciation award plaque and cake presented to **Ralph Brick** for his service as president of the Citrus Groupers from 2011-2016.

To begin our meeting, Ralph led us with the pledge of allegiance. Thank you again Ralph for all your efforts on our behalf. Now you can relax and you and Mary Jo can enjoy. We are all happy you're not going anywhere.

We welcomed four new members to our chapter. **John & Beate Lutkenhouse** and **Richard & Maddy Capozzi**. Before the meeting ended, Maddy agreed to be our Sunshine lady - thank you Maddy.

There was a discussion about RUAEA's next meeting with Oscar Munoz. The top three items of greatest concern were travel related. Pass boarding by seniority by date of hire or years of service seniority, so all are treated equal. Vacation passes and enrolled friends. Hopefully it can be agreed to.

RUPA Retired United Pilots Association, a sister group to ours, shared travel news and is expanding relationship with ID90 travel to give great discounts on hotels, cruises resorts and rental cars when you travel for leisure - not business. You can save as much as 60 percent off. These discounts apply to employees and retirees as well as any of their travel eligible pass riders. Call toll free 1-877-298-5233 or send an email to [customersupport@id90travel.com](mailto:customersupport@id90travel.com).

We had a vote on not having meetings or activities in July, August and November. It was a big yes to many things going on during the summer months.

Treasurer **Joan Brandonisio** reported that the chapter has \$231.15 in our account.

**Maddy Capozzi** won the 50/50. There were also three Irish T-shirts raffled and the winners were **Dee La Chance**,

**Isabel Buchanan** and **Maddy Capozzi**. Congratulations to all.

RUAEA Director for Florida **Ray Jensen** will be our guest at our next meeting which will be on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at VKI Japanese Steakhouse, 1004 Old Mill Run, The Villages, FL 32162, (352) 259 9887. See you all there.

If anyone has questions or would like to join our group, please contact our president **Tita Dumagsa** at [titaqd@gmail.com](mailto:titaqd@gmail.com).

### THE ORLANDO REAL McCOYS

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



Cypress Grove Park was, once again, the location for our April Picnic and the pavilion was filled almost to capacity! 53 retirees gathered to enjoy the tasty burgers and dogs grilled to perfection by Pres. Al and flag-bearer, **Ernie Vosges**! Not to be outdone, yummy "side dishes", brought by all who attended, filled two tables to near overflowing! Our personal Easter Bunny, **Lisa Leighty**, filled small porcelain "United" bowls with jelly beans to place on the tables ☺ And we were all encouraged to take home as many bowls as we wanted! (shhhh I took 6!) No, she didn't steal them - she bought them!

I always list our attendees at the picnic firstly 'cause there's too much talking to take any decent minutes AND secondly, so you can see who came and think ... Mmmm, it'd be nice to catch up with some of these folks from my not-so-distant past. So, in no particular order, our list goes like this: **Linda Agnello & Bob Olsen, Diane Lewis, Patti & Monty Clark, Laura & Darrel Bork, Mary & Bob McNeill, Dan Raciak, Karen Carlson, Joe & Barb Fitak, Gene Hall & Eleanor, Tom & Peg Cannata, Al & Lois Fields, Stan & Barb Halterman, Ted & Charlotte LeGrand, Richard & Gloria Armistead, Rich & Cathy Llewellyn, Ernie & Cheryl Vosges, Angel & Julia Montalvo, Joanne & Al Mollet, Dee Francis, Lisa Leighty, Tom Deckrow, Cliff Hill & Jerry Crosby, Jim & Pat Hernandez, Jim Mummah, Ken & Shelby Michels, Mack Chandler, Bobbie Gay, Betty Davidson, Laura & John Lofgren, Barbara Creighton** and brother, **Bill Demsey, Susan Ulman**, and yours truly, **Elaine Tillman-Mannella**.

President Al reminded us that reps from the various UA retiree groups are scheduled to meet with Oscar Munoz in April and our RUAEA President Virgil will be there representing us. A quick plug for the RUAEA Convention was made by Elaine! Of special note is that this convention will be held during the week vs. the weekend. Wanna know when? Check your RUAEA Newsletter. Don't GET the Newsletter? Sign up today! [www.RUAEA.org](http://www.RUAEA.org)

The Real McCoy's meet the first Tuesday of each month at 1pm at the Golden Corral on So. Semoran Blvd. Our next luncheon meeting at the Corral is May 2<sup>nd</sup> and June 6<sup>th</sup>! Stop in and visit - we'd love to see you!



### THE SAND DOLLARS

Bradenton, FL  
Judy Macklin,  
840 Bird Bay Dr. W., #202  
Venice, FL 34285  
(941) 214-0252  
[bjmacklin@comcast.net](mailto:bjmacklin@comcast.net)

We had 28 Sand Dollars attending our last luncheon, held at the new SPACCO Italian Grill in Sarasota. After **Ginger Hyde** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, she welcomed our Special Guest, **Ray Jensen**, RUAFA Florida Regional Director. **Ray** had a varied career with United, including assignments at JFK, HNL, NY Sales, EXO, MDW, finally retiring in 2003. **Ray** said he sees a big improvement in management/retiree cooperation under Oscar Munoz, and he is optimistic about progress at the forthcoming meetings between the two groups. He promised to keep us fully informed, sending out information as and when it is developed. The questions raised with him were mostly about benefits, boarding priorities for standby travel, and health insurance. **Ray** also said that no more 777s will be ordered until the new advanced planes become available, and the last 747 flight will be in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of this year.

**Ginger Hyde** welcomed a new Sand Dollars member, **Maria Santangelo**, who was executive assistant to **Sara Fields**, Sr. VP Onboard Services at WHQSW. We were glad to welcome back **Betty Woods-White**, now that her health problems are somewhat resolved. **Betty** brought her friend **Carol** to the luncheon. It was good to see **Lee & Diane Hoffer** and **Bob & Lisa Young**. **George & Jeanne Sudol** had to cancel along with **Paul & Shelly Grossman** due to health issues. We are sorry they missed the luncheon, and sincerely hope **George** and **Paul** will be feeling better soon so they can attend next month's meeting.

**Bob & Kay Frye** took an interesting trip recently when they celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary with family members. They took the new St. Petersburg-Tampa ferry, and they say if you haven't tried this ferry, it is a MUST! On arrival at the Tampa dock they took a street car ride to the Columbia Restaurant for a fitting celebration of 60 years. **Bob & Lisa Young**, having recently returned from their Kauai trip, are now planning to head for Amsterdam. They remind us that United now has a daily non-stop from TPA-SFO.

Birthday wishes in May went to **Alice D'Souza** (2<sup>nd</sup>), **Rupert White** (4<sup>th</sup>), **Inge Phillips** (8<sup>th</sup>), **Harvey Rucker** (15<sup>th</sup>), **Doug Horuczi** (20<sup>th</sup>), and **Russ Wasser** (27<sup>th</sup>). Anniversary congratulations for May go to **Skip & Cindy Irwin** (40 years on the 20<sup>th</sup>), **Joanne & Russ Wasser** (27 years on the 26<sup>th</sup>), and **Lee & Diane Hoffer** on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Our 50/50 was won by **Vince & Norma Malena** (\$20), **Bob & Lisa Young** (\$15) and **Nancy Gibbs** (\$9). Attendance Drawing – **Lou Balista** was not present so another \$5.00 will be added next month. A special door prize for a \$30 coupon to be used at Spacco was won by **Doug & Sandy Horuczi**.

If you are in the Bradenton/Sarasota area we would enjoy having you join us. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month. For more information please contact **Ginger**

**Hyde**, (941) 360-6671, or [drjekyl.hyde@aol.com](mailto:drjekyl.hyde@aol.com).

*"If the lessons of history teach us anything, it is that nobody learns the lessons that history teaches us." Anon.*

### TAMPA BAY CHAPTER

Anderson Park  
Carolyn Lodge  
Acting Secretary  
(813) 994-7839  
[dizfanmom1@aol.com](mailto:dizfanmom1@aol.com)



Meeting was called to order at 11:10 by President **Beverly Alderdice**. The Pledge of Allegiance was said followed by a prayer by **Jim Hottel**. There were 24 in attendance.

**Carolyn Lodge** read the March minutes which were approved as read. **Lillian Sawyer** gave the Treasurers report which was approved as read.

**Carol Starr** has the only birthday in April and it was on the 13<sup>th</sup>. **Jim & Pat Hottel** celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on April 19<sup>th</sup> and Pat's present was knee surgery that same day.

**Jean Linehan** distributed the membership dues forms due in before August 2017.

**Terri Breslin** stated that she sent a get well card to **Mary Judd** and a sympathy card for **Elsie Rogers Morris**.

Travel was taken by **Dave & Carolyn Lodge**. They traveled from Ft. Lauderdale on the new ship from Holland America to the ABC islands. **Naomi Guzman** traveled by pass on UAL to Mexico with no problems and stayed for two months. **Bill & Jean Linehan's** son traveled by pass and had some issues.

**Bob & Jan Lindstrom** informed us that their oldest son will be working for United as a mechanic.

Beverly thanked **Jan Lindstrom** for sending out reminder notices to all for the meetings. She also thanked **Don & Volarie Fusina** for putting together the picnic.

Discussion was held regarding UAL dress code for pass holders. **Jon Wilkinson** told all about the new airplane that UAL has acquired.

There being no further business, the meeting was dismissed at 11:40 and our picnic lunch took place shortly after. It was a beautiful day for a picnic.

### Calendar:

**May 1** – IHOP, 10:30

**June & July** - No Meetings

**August 7** – IHOP, 10:30

**December 6** - Christmas Party at Heritage Springs. One and all are invited, bring your friends.





## TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL.  
 Mary Kay Wetherington  
 8849 Egret Isle Point  
 Lake Worth, FL 33467  
 (561) 345-6373  
[mwether7044@att.net](mailto:mwether7044@att.net)

Our April meeting was held at Duffy's, South Stuart with 21 members and 2 guests in attendance. **Jim Morehead** brought two guests, **Ted Collins** and **Bob Burdis**. Ted's father was a pilot for United and Capital. Ted is a current pilot with American Airlines. **Bob Burdis** shared his extensive airline career with us. Prior to his 30+ years with United he served in the Air Force during the Vietnam War. We all thank you for your service. Bob lives in Melbourne, Florida. We hope to see him at future gatherings.

President **Al Popek** introduced RUAEA's regional director, **Ray Jensen**. Ray drove over from Fort Meyers to join us. After giving us his United background, he briefly spoke about the upcoming convention in Las Vegas in September which several of our chapter members plan to attend. He told us about an upcoming meeting with Oscar Munoz at WHQ in Chicago. All of United's retiree organization leaders have been invited to come with their questions and concerns. We discussed the top concerns on our list. Everyone would like our pass travel and priority boarding to be addressed. We learned that Ray is a train buff. What a great retirement activity.

Several of our members have traveled on United recently. The majority had very positive reactions to the service and employee interaction. They remarked about many improvements they had seen.

We hope that "**Dino**" **Xifaras** and **Mari Hirjak** are well. We haven't had contact with them in sometime.

**Ron Brodis** has been quite ill. He and **Diane** have not been able to attend recently. **Anne Kenda** is also unable to attend due to illness. We all wish you folks well and hope to see you soon.

50/50 was won by **M. Jane Kerr**. We were so happy to have her with us this month.

The Progressive continues to grow. **Carolyn Lindgren** was not present to accept her winnings.

The tables were decorated for Easter by **Al & Janice Popek**. Each member picked an egg when they arrived. Two eggs contained a golden wrapped chocolate. The winners were **Millie Rossi** and **Pat Williams**.

The baskets of flowers were won by **Sharon Kirk**, **Barbara Dodenhoff** and **Diane Liebisch**. Thank you Al and Janice for having great decorations for us each month.

Celebrations this month include several birthdays. **Don Smith** on the 14<sup>th</sup>, **Paul Liebisch** on the 25<sup>th</sup>, **Sharon Marone** on the 26<sup>th</sup> and **Carolyn Lindgren** and **Barbara Dodenhoff** on the 28<sup>th</sup>. **Don & Joyce Smith** will celebrate their anniversary on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

**May 2** - Luncheon/Meeting at Duffy's, South Stuart, 12:30

**June 6** - Luncheon/Meeting at Duffy's, South Stuart, 12:30

**July 4** - Luncheon/Meeting at Duffy's, South Stuart, 12:30

## HAWAII

### HONOLULU MENEHUNES

Patricia Thomson, Treasurer  
 P.O. Box 1709  
 Honolulu, HI 96806-1709  
 (808) 946-7847  
[HNLRLUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNLRLUA@gmail.com)



Aloha! The Honolulu Menehunes is an active chapter and we meet for lunch at various Honolulu restaurants on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of February, June, and September. All retirees are welcome to join us. If you are planning to be in Honolulu and would like to attend, just send your email address to [HNLRLUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNLRLUA@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](mailto: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](mailto:annmedve@aol.com) and/or call **Ann Medve** at (808) 889-1636.

## INDIANA

### INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN  
 Margie Bregante  
 Historian  
[margiebregante@gmail.com](mailto:margiebregante@gmail.com)



In Indiana, during the months of January and February, the weather is usually brutal, with hazardous roads. Hence, Indy Racers members decided to forego having meetings during those months, resuming activities in March. Who would have thought that our weather in January and February would be more like March and April, with a reverse effect in March. Our first meeting of 2017 on March 14<sup>th</sup> was met with grey skies, strong winds, cold temps, and snow showers!

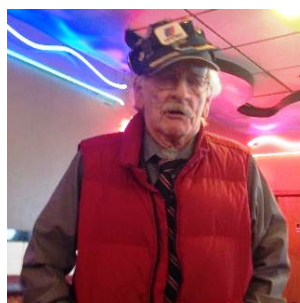
While the weather didn't dampen our spirits, our first meeting of the year was bitter sweet. On January 20, 2017, long-time member, **Sharon (Shary) Johnston** lost her valiant battle with major health issues. Sharon's husband, **Chris**, wrote "*Shary died as she lived, with a desire to help*



other people. To this end, prior to her death, she arranged for her mortal remains to be donated to the IU Anatomical Research Program. After the program, Sharon was cremated and her cre-mains were buried at Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis. The burial was attended by family, as was Shary's final wish."

A memorial for **Sharon Johnston** will be held Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00-5:30pm with a reception following at 5:30-7:00pm. Both events will be held at Broadway United Methodist Church, 609 E 29<sup>th</sup> St., Indianapolis, IN 46205. In lieu of floral tributes, a donation may be made in Shary's name to the Humane Society of Indianapolis, 7929 N. Michigan Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46268.

Sharon, along with her husband **Chris Johnston**, were part of the founding members of Indy Racers.



March's meeting was hosted by **Charles Theiss**. Charles presented a program on airline memorabilia, featuring United and Continental Airlines. Attendees swapped nostalgic stories and brought items to share, such as articles of clothing issued by United. In attendance were **Hanelore Brabo, Mario &**

**Margie Bregante, Wanda Bryce, Jack & Carol Conway, Bob Duty, Chris Johnston, Ed Loftus, Frank & Rita Prins, Dimple Rihel, Anthony Theiss, Charles Theiss, and Tony & Barb Urbanovic.**

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at Gray Brother's Cafeteria, 555 S. Indiana Street, Mooresville, Indiana. Lunch begins at 11:30AM.

May's gathering is back at Emmy's Pancake House in Avon, with **Tony Urbanovic** presenting a program on Pass Travel.

For more information regarding Indy Racers, please contact **Margie Bregante**, Historian, at (317) 418-8243.

## ILLINOIS

### CHICAGO SKYLINERS

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

[Chicagomainliner.com](mailto:Chicagomainliner.com)

Jan Gawenda

920 Ridge Sq. #208

Elk Grove, IL 60007-4196

(847) 437-7073

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



May - Pretty little May, just like that song from Carousel, 'June is Busting out all over'. We might be old, but at least we had good music, good bands and great singers! Most of them are gone, but there are still some around, look at Tony Bennett, wow, that old guy is still singing his heart out. My first NRSA trip was to SFO, just because of his song, 'I Left my Heart in San Francisco'. Almost froze my butt off there, too. Who needed a coat, it was California. Almost lost my job too, coming home, got the last two seats in coach, **Jackie Clarke**, and me. Anybody remember her,

beautiful girl. Just as they were closing the door, they called my name, yep, they pulled me off. Jackie came running behind me because she was afraid I wouldn't know what to do, or where to go. Wrong! We were stranded in SFO from 6:00 A.M. until the redeye flight, got home at 5:40 A.M. Our supervisor, **Bill Carson**, read us the riot act that morning. We were never to do that again, working in the same department, there was nobody else to do our jobs. I was Jackie's backup at work, and she was backing me up with my heart in San Francisco, with no coat, to boot! How could I ever forget my first trip pass on UAL? Never!

We had a newbie and a returnee at the Northside breakfast. **Vicky Heuer**, CHIRR, Rate Desk, joined us at Elly's in Arlington Heights. **Marlene Anderson**, was able to wake up early Wednesday and meet with us. We missed Marlene, she always has that beautiful smile on her face. There was some cruising going on last month. **Joan & Joe Teister**, and **Jerry Tipperreiter** and **Pam**, went on a Decades of Rock and Roll cruise in the Caribbean. Now that sounds like fun. That ship must have been a rockin' to all of those islands. Don't you find it more enjoyable when you're with our own age group at lunches, etc.? All you have to do is mention an ache or medicine, and another person says, 'Oh, I had that,' or, 'I took that, I broke out in hives'. Ah, yes, the rusty years, or the golden years, but there ain't no gold, so, stop looking. The only metals I have are in my body, keeping my knees working, how about you?

The Southside breakfast welcomed back the **Roaks, Marie & Wes**, ORDF. How nice to see them again. We had a whopping 15 people join us. **Bill & Gwen Brookins**, spent the night at Harrah's Casino in Joliet to celebrate Bill's 79<sup>th</sup> birthday. Unfortunately, they didn't win any money, but had fun spending it. That's all that counts at that age! **Marge Schmitt** told me her old homestead in Lacrosse, WI was blown away in a tornado last month. The house, three barns, and a silo, all over 150 years old, gone in minutes. Her nephew and family still lived there. Sad to hear that the home you grew up in is gone, with lot of its memories. Well, I guess the memories are always in your heart. The raffle was won by **Perry Pahl, Marie Roak, Jan Gawenda**, and **Sylvester Gant**. **Bill Corbett** wanted me to correct his employer and job title. He works for the Lansing Police Department and is a school crossing guard. Sorry Bill, I'll have to recall who told me you drove a school bus and beat them severely about the head and chest. If I could just remember who it was. Senior moment disease, CRS.

The IAM Luncheon served hot dogs and home-grown desserts. **Vicky Heuer** was there, too. She's making the rounds of all the luncheons she can come to. She asked a good question. Why doesn't UAL put in information in the retirement package about the Skyliners, IAM, and RUAEA so the new retirees have an idea of the clubs that are available to them? Excellent question, Vicky! We've been asking that for seven years. Ever since the CO/UA merger when all that information stopped being available to the new retirees. It might help our membership if they entered that info. The May 4 meeting will celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a Mexican luncheon.

One of the perks of this job is that I get to hear from people that I haven't seen or heard from in ages. I love hearing from all of you, it's so wonderful! Example, **Gerry Meierkort** and **Georgeanne Auer**, from CHIRR, now in LAS. **Jack Schramm**, ORDMM, living in Ft. Pierce, FL, who is going to celebrate a mid-80's birthday on 5/20. **Paul Weatherford**, whose wife, **Regina**, worked in EXOIN, writes every so often, just to keep in touch, lives in OK. Also, **Russ Cormier**, OPBCM, who asked a good question about insurance coverage outside the USA. I checked with Aetna, and Medicare pays nothing, of course. But,, if you have an emergency, broken leg, etc., you pay for all of your expenses overseas, when you return home, you send the bills to Aetna, they will reimburse you 80%. Or if you pay for your ticket with a major credit card, they have their own insurance you can check with them about. Also, there is an International Insurance that you can look into with a travel agency, or, I googled it, and you can check it that way. Good to pre-check before you leave.

Speaking of traveling, there was quite a big deal a few months ago about going to Cuba. News now is that JetBlue, Silver, Frontier and American Airlines have cut back their flights, or switched to smaller jets. The Chicago Tribune said there are still US restrictions, and no airlines are promoting Cuba. Apparently, some of the accommodations are not what you would expect, hotels are expensive, they don't take credit cards, and crimes are growing. Maybe you should check before you make final arrangements.

We had too many of our friends leave us this month, **Joan Kortage**, EXOKF, **Bill Moore**, 100, EXOAS, past president of RUAEA and Chicago Skyliners, a wonderful, kind and humorous man. Many from ORDMM, **Andy Lekki**, **Frank Preininger**, **Tom Peters**, **Helen Lancor**, wife of **Ron**, and **Mary Rita Savage**, 29, daughter of **Mike**. Also gone from our world, some big names, Jimmy Breslin, Chuck Barris, Joni Sledge, Chicago's Jerry Krause, Dallas Green, and Lonnie Brooks, the fabulous Chuck Berry, and Mr. Warmth, Don Rickles.

#### Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Elly's Restaurant, 8:30 A.M., 372 E. Golf Rd., Arlington Heights, IL (**May 10**). Second Wednesday of the month.

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

**June 19** - Summer Picnic. Monday, 11:00, Chandler's Restaurant, Roselle Road, Schaumburg



## MASSACHUSETTS

### NOR'EASTERS

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



Our first meeting of the year was held at Jeveli's Italian restaurant in East Boston, close to Logan Airport, a place most employees have frequented. They treat us well and provided good food to the 25 members and guests in attendance. Last minute no-show with a family emergency, **Ellen Rizzo**, our newest member, would have been her first meeting.



**Oscar Bauerle's** three daughters, Giesla, Ingrid, Elinore (up from Maryland), and nephew Bruno & wife, each occasional attendees, accompanied him. Oscar (pictured), BOSHH pastry chef, at 88 years young, still bakes daily. Caregivers who come to his home as well as family members are treated regularly to freshly baked pastries. Giesla says it's almost an obsession with him to keep busy. Maybe we can talk him into baking goodies for our next luncheon.

**Susan DePippo** and **Lucinda Suga** won the 50/50's. **Carol Montalto** won both Champagne and Macadamia nuts. **Joan Meisner** won both free lunches. **Don Lewis** was picked for the progressive, but wasn't present. Next time it'll be \$30. Be there to win!

The DePippos are returning to Alaska this month. Flying into YVR, ship to ANC and land tour to Seward and Denali. Then on to FAI, from where they'll fly home. Enjoy that 24 hours of daylight! (All you retirees out there get these city codes?)

**Norma Better**s accepted the vacant position of RUAEA's Northeast Regional Director until elections at the LAS convention. Norma & husband Bill (deceased) had many active years at RUAEA activities, and will bring that knowledge with her.

Our own **Don Latter** had a mild stroke, was hospitalized and is now home. He says he's doing fine and feeling well! I tried contacting several of our older members who haven't attended meetings in some time. Left a lot of messages, but so far, none have returned my calls. I'm worried.

**Andy Montalto** noted that this is the first meeting without **Peter Fusco**, a regular for many years. Peter left us for the Friendly Skies in January.

Our own **Charlie Staula**, BOSCTO, fell in early March, was hospitalized and ended up in a nursing home. The prognosis isn't very good. His niece, Arlene, who has been driving him to meetings, is worried that he may not see his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in June. Charlie, a Nor'Easter founding member, was active in the 1998 RUAEA Convention in Boston and regularly attended meetings until he couldn't drive anymore. Charlie, a good man, and will be missed.

More sad news! Again, one of the Nor'Easter's founding members, **Francis "Franny" Mathews**, BOSCG, passed away on March 14 at 94 years old. Franny was a veteran of the US Navy, serving during WWII. He also was active during the RUAEA Convention of 1998 in Boston. His joy was singing and dancing, and of late, rescuing senior canines. Franny attended meetings until the last few years. Another member who will be missed.

Again, bragging how Mother Nature has been easy on southern New England, well, so far this season, Auburn, NH got 95 inches of the white stuff. One inch shy of eight feet!

May's birthdays: **John Dellelo, Peggy Dellelo, Ron Heiseler, Audrey Joyce, Joan Meister, Patti Flanigan Mix, Andy Montalto, Jayne Regan, Lewis Shakley and Kenneth Washburn.**

May's anniversaries: **Bob & Susan Depippo** (33 years), **Mary Beth & Staley McDermet** (46), **Thomas & Liliana Snyder** (32) and **Bill & Elaine Vanderwal** (47).

*Lord, grant me the strength to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can and the friends to post my bail when I finally snap!*

Calendar:

**June 6** - Next meeting, to be announced

### MICHIGAN



#### GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Gwen Dyc-Schwendemann  
(248) 667-9258  
[bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net)

**Lynn Manzi** did a great job hosting our March luncheon at Craft Brew City in Farmington Hills. Yep, Brew is spelled with 2 w's. In attendance were **Nancy Woolen, Suzie Friedman, Lynn Atkinson, Bill & Camille Wade, Marlene Heaney, Patty Gates, Trudy Hall, Marie Cook** and her niece, **Michelle Petry, Carol Shaffner, Marguerite Venn, Lynn Manzi** and **Rick & I.**

It was like a five day sleep over. **Bill & Camille Wade** lost power at their house on Wednesday, March 8 during that wind storm that we had in SE Michigan. They endured the cold until Thursday evening and then said "uncle". The hotels were all filled and their car did not seem like a good option. They gave us a call and the reservation was made for our guest bedroom. At least it was warm and dry. The things in their refrigerator and freezer did not fare as well.

A total loss! They were one of the very last homes in Dearborn Heights to regain power and that was on Monday evening.

So, did you check out the unclaimed property for Michigan that I mentioned in the March newsletter? Did you find any lost money? Let us know!

**Marie Cook, Jeen Kobb**, her daughter, and I met for lunch the other day at Marie's second favorite restaurant, Empire Dynasty. (Station 885 in Plymouth is her absolute favorite). It was fun getting together without any time restraints. We had plenty of time to chat and enjoy the food.

**Marlene Heaney** said that a great time was had at **Beverly Barfield's** retirement party. It was so much fun to see everyone. Many retirees also attended and Beverly looked very happy to see all of us there. Wishing her only the best in her retirement!

Thought for the month: *People don't always need advice. Sometimes all they really need is a hand to hold, an ear to listen, and a heart to understand them.*

### MINNESOTA

#### NORTHERN LITES

Connie Glattly  
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Willow River, MN 55795  
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Sorry there's no news this time as I was unable to attend (cataract surgery) and secretary "**Mai-tai**" **Mary Brennan** was basking in the sun and balmy breezes of Kona.

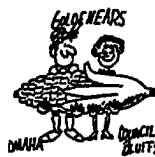
I guess no news is good news since no one passed anything along!

Lunch at 11:00 a.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at the Old Country Buffet, 7425 Currell Blvd., Woodbury, MN. Take I-494 to Exit 59 (Valley Creek Rd.) east to Queens Dr., left to Currell Blvd, right to the first driveway on the right.

### NEBRASKA

#### OMAHA GOLDENEARS

Jan Cornish  
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[kcornish6031@msn.com](mailto:kcornish6031@msn.com)



We had twenty four of our retirees gather at Johnny Sortino's Pizza place hosted by **Barb & Clair Soseman**. The food was great, very inexpensive, the space was generous and the service convenient. We were very happy to see some people we have not seen for a while. **Larry Nollette, Andy Vassios** and **Myrtis Olds** joined us. We hope that we will see each of you at more future gatherings.

The 50/50 was won by **Kathy Janus** and **Dick Weak**, each received \$15. I think these two have been lucky winners in the past.



I had a call from **Bob Faust** from Florida a week or so ago. He called to find a phone number, which I didn't have, but we had a nice visit. He said 2016 had not been a particularly good year for him. He had three surgeries, left behind a kidney and gall bladder but all in all was feeling pretty good. No aches or pains other than the usual so life is good. Kathy said to tell everyone "Hello."

**Marge Edwards** had news that **Jake Hutchinson** passed away on March 5. He was a former Manager of Operations here in Omaha. He had been living near his daughter Sue Hutchinson, 6182 Mile Run Road, Monticello, Minnesota, 55362. He was 90 years old. There was to be no services at this time but they will have a family service in June in Colorado.

Marge let me know she is going to have hip replacement surgery on April 17. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Our next meeting will be April 4<sup>th</sup> at the Olive Garden 7505 Dodge St. Omaha, hosted by **Tony & Jackie Sortino**. We will order off the menu so there is no need to call to let Tony know you are coming. Just show up.

Birthdays for the month of April are: **Arnie Mahoney** (1), **Bill Anderson** (1), **Keith Cornish** (2), **Kathy Janus** (6), **Evan Holly** (9), **Allen Purkapile** (10), **Clair Soseman** (10), **Bob Glover** (13), **Denny Pierson** (14), **Glen Saffer** (14), **Hilde Schwan** (14), **Angela Hansen** (15), **Penny Sophir** (16), **Virginia Nollette** (18), **Tony Sortino** (22), and **Ray Ziebarth** (24). That's a lot of birthdays. Happy, Happy day to each one of you.

#### Calendar:

**May 2** - Elmwood Tower, hosted by **Judy Nekonchuk** and **Mel Harrison**

**June 6** - Cooper Farm, hosted by **Toddy Manson** and **Keith Cornish**

**July 11** - Pizza Ranch 3010 S. 84<sup>th</sup> St., Omaha, hosted by **Marge Edwards**

### NEVADA

#### LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

Don Rutkowski  
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Las Vegas, NV 89134  
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The Silverliners will have their regular Luncheon meeting at Giuseppe's Italian Grill. Our Vice President **Chris Czaplewski** will open the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. **Jeannie Rolland** our Treasurer will present the financial report to the membership. Our Sunshine Lady **Eleanor Vasko** will go over the Anniversaries and Birthdays of our members. Our Vice President Chris will introduce our guest, **Shirley Claggett**, a member of the Emerald City Slickers of Seattle, and also president of the Phoenix Re-United's in Arizona, accompanying Shirley, **Ron Paluch**.

A number of our Convention Volunteers did attend a Tasting of the Convention Food Menu on March 21 at the Palace Station. At that time we were introduced to the RUAEA Executive Board and went over expectations for the upcoming Convention. I can say it was a very good evening for all.

Secretary **Don Rutkowski** and his wife **Georgia** will not be in attendance for this Luncheon because they are on a Panama Canal Cruise. On the date of the Luncheon, Don & Georgia will be at sea approaching the Panama Canal. So, Don is writing this Newsletter Article before the meeting as he knows it will and should occur. Georgia wants to thank **Mary Chandler** for taking care of the 50/50 Raffle while she is gone.

Don is planning ahead for the June 8<sup>th</sup> Luncheon, he will send out notices upon his return, to have all Convention Volunteers to stay after the Luncheon for a review meeting. At this meeting, we will have **Alex Klaus** take pictures of all volunteer members for the RUAEA Newsletter. We will also go over all that has been accomplished so far for the Convention and review what needs to be done before September and make proper assignments.

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



#### RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

Pat Zoboli  
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Reno, NV 89502  
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There were 13 members and 3 guests at our March meeting at The Black Bear Diner. The guests included **Camille Christisan**, companion to **Maurine Williams**, and **Al & Lola Ouska**, guests of **Larry & Barbara Leusing**.

Just a reminder that our picnic this year will be on Friday, September 22 at Bartley Ranch.

A March birthday was celebrated by **Maurine Williams**. The 50/50 raffle was won by **Barbara Leusing**. A special surprise gift was won by **June Roe**.

Our resident baker extraordinaire, **Bill Perkins**, brought mini carrot cakes for everyone.





## NEW JERSEY

### THE GARDEN STATERS

Newark, New Jersey  
Marty Etler  
15-12 Elmary Place  
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-2403  
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[vietler@verizon.net](mailto:vietler@verizon.net)



Our meeting opened with a flag salute led by President **Frank Worzocha**. Since we had good weather, we had a pretty good turnout at our luncheon. If you are ever headed down to Camden, New Jersey, you will find the battleship New Jersey waiting for your tour and inspection. **Bob Burke** and his son Mike reported that they just did that and what a great adventure it was. That ship has many decorations accrued from World War II and the Korean War. At any rate Bob says it's well worth the trip.

It was good to see some old friends and some new ones. **Barbara Cook** who has spent some 40 years as a stewardess was there, who said she started out with Caravels. We have a new member by the name of **Joanie Smith** of EWR customer service. It was also good to see **Frank Kokaska** and **Dick Confer**, "that spirit" is still there.

Our ever popular **Diane Johnson** brought in a couple of old photos of the new administration building that opened in Newark in 1955. It was a nice walk down memory lane. Does anybody remember the Newarker restaurant?

**George Whitman** won the 50/50, and our next meeting will be on April 26. As usual, we will be at Snuffy's at 12 PM. All who can, should make every effort to attend.

*Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass, it's learning how to "dance in the rain".*

## NEW YORK



**BUFFALO CHIPS**

### BUFFALO CHIPS

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

March 7, 17 Buffalo Chips met at the Statler Erie Room Restaurant of Erie Community College, North Campus for the Oktoberfest Themed lunch. The meal consisted of the Chef's choices: Chef's Salad, German Potato pancake, Breaded Pork Strips, Wienerschnitzel, Sour Bratten and Cheesecake with Raspberry Sauce. The student cooks, bakers and waiters really out did themselves. We only had 17 members present as 9 of the active group were on vacation in Florida or on cruises. Many days this winter we have been warmer than Florida.

Because we were in an open restaurant very little business was accomplished but we did introduce a new member **Carmen Scordo**, retired when BUF station was contracted out. Welcome Carmen and may we see you at many more get-togethers.

**Norm & Marlene Scheaffer** celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary November 24<sup>th</sup>. They have been absent as Norm has been undergoing chemotherapy and is now in remission. Hopefully, Norm & Marlene will join us for our next meeting in June.

Also have good news on my wife Donna, the Surgeon that did her lumpectomy told us on our visit this month not to come back as it is 5 years and no indication of any new surprises. Sometimes prayers do help.

The June meeting has not been set in stone but we do have a couple new restaurants that we need to try. Will have the word out in early May.

### NEW YORK METROS

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



We had twenty-seven Metros in attendance this beautiful spring day. Welcome back to those we had not seen in a while or for a meeting or two: **Evelyn & Mike Schroeder**, **Frank** (the snowbird) **Ferrara** and friend, **Lillian & Paul Cohen**, **George Riggi** and **Nick Manfredo**.

Sadly, we have the deaths of **Yvonne Guella** and **Desmond O'Hagen**, the brother of **Alice O'Hagen** and **Una DeGeorge**, to report. Our prayers and condolences to their families.

**Jordan Levine** is proud to announce the graduation from Purdue of his granddaughter with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. Way to go.

50/50 winners in order are: 1) **Evelyn Schroeder**, 2) **Harold Koch** and 3) **Ed Possi**.

Welcome home Mets. Good luck. Happy Passover and Happy Easter. Thanks, Paul, for the Kadeem cookies at our tables.

Calendar:

**May 3** – Meeting at Davenport Press

## OHIO

### OHIO BUCKEYES

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Again we have had a very interesting winter here. While all of our "Snow Birds" had flown south, we had some very good luncheons, and some extraordinary warm weather. On February 24 we shattered our all-time record high temp when we hit 74 degrees. Now the flowers are blooming everywhere. At our March 8<sup>th</sup> luncheon we gave a very special "Thank You" to our Hostess **Mary Lou Mack** for "Volunteering" to orchestrate the wonderful food and service at Carrie Cerino's. Our luncheon opened with 51 members attending. Many members did not attend be-

cause of a flu that spread through like wild fire. As usual, before lunch, we prayed together and said "Grace".

After lunch, **Dave Placko** conducted our Fifty/Fifty drawing. And our lucky winners were **Ed McCarthy** and **Bernie Garrah**.

President **Dolly Taucher** continued the meeting with the announcement of all UAL Retirees that had passed away since the beginning of the year. Chapter Members: Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> **Shirley Moses** (spouse of Joe Moses /CLEMM); Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> **Daniel Bracken** /CLECG and IADCG. And non-members: Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> **Albert Chappell** /CLECG and IADCG; Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> **Frances Marinaro** /CLEMM; Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> **Adeline Meredith** /CLERR; and Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> **Ron Satterwaite** /CLEOO. Then, because of the fact that some of our retirees had worked with **Walter Sondermann** in PHL, Dolly also announced the Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> passing of **Lynne Sondermann** (Walter's spouse).

Also mentioned were members on our sick and injured list. We wish them well.

March was a little strange because we did not have attendees with Anniversaries or Birthdays. But, because of a milestone anniversary had been reached, **Dolly** did announce that two of our "snow birds", **Vince & Norma Malena** are celebrating 50 years of wedded bliss! Congratulations from all of us!

We did have a visitor. **Linda Lackey**, sister of **Joe Moses**, had come to see what all of the hullabaloo was about (our luncheons). She now knows and said that she really enjoyed herself.

Dolly did announce that at Carrie Cerino's on April 7<sup>th</sup> is a lunch/show staring "The Atlantic City Boys" singing the songs of the "Four Seasons". Oh, how we love those oldies but goodies.

We wish everyone a safe and fun St. Patty's Day.

#### Calendar:

**May 3** - Tavolo72 at Crowne Plaza. Cost is \$20.

**June 7** - Rose Hill in Medina. Cost is \$20.

**July 12** - Shale Creek Clubhouse in Medina. Cost is \$20. (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday)

### OREGON

#### OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland

Terry Hotchkin

20201 NE 179<sup>th</sup> Court

Battle Ground, WA 98604

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tthotchkin@gmail.com



Our March meeting attendance was up with 63 folks joining us. **Ruth Larson** provided Irish themed table decorations and we were again regaled by **Cliff Blare** sharing multiple jokes. What a fun group we have! We are excited to announce that the PDX station manager, **Tom Cantrell**, will be our guest speaker next month. He plans to provide more details of the many changes happening at PDX.

We are sorry to report the death of **Bobbie Bills**, retired

PDXCS, customer service agent, and also former MFR agent. He and his wife, **Jill**, had moved to Arizona last year. He took a serious fall on March 1<sup>st</sup> and passed away on March 4<sup>th</sup>. The family plans to hold a service at Wilamette cemetery sometime near the end of May or beginning of June. No definite information is known at this time. Condolence cards can be sent to **Jill Bills**, 6665 S Weavers Needle Trail, Apache Junction, AZ 85218.

Anniversaries ~ **Sara & Bill Petersen** (57 years), **Anita & Kent Uhl** (49 years), **Kathy & Paul Russell** (52 years).

Birthdays ~ **Lorie King**.

Drawing Winners ~ Lunch/Door Prize - **Betty Alff**, Men's Birthday - none, Women's Birthday - **Lori King**, 50/50 - **Jim Connor**.

#### Calendar:

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

**May 10** - Social

**June 14** - Social



#### OUR CLUB

(Oregon United Retirees)

Grants Pass, Oregon

Gidget Walcha - Secretary

(541) 474-6414

Happy April to everyone! If it is indeed true that April showers ring in May Flowers then here in Southern Oregon we are going to have more flowers then we know what to do with. Since September, we have gotten four feet of rain. No typo here, 4 feet of rain.

We had our luncheon at, where else, Elmers, in Grants Pass our hostess being **Sonya Appleton**. There were 10 of us in attendance and as usual enjoyed the great food they always serve us. All you need is great food and good friends to enjoy two hours of conversation. I was surprised we all made it as we had high winds during the night that knocked out electricity to 77,000 homes, from as far away as Roseburg to the Medford area. At this luncheon Mr. **Rogers** won our 50/50. I am beginning to feel left out when it comes to our 50/50 drawings.

Ric and I will miss the next three months of meeting so a huge Thank you to **Linda Althouse** who will take over for us to make sure everyone has dates and locations of our luncheons.

You will not hear any news from our neck of the woods until August so we wish you all a very Happy Easter, 4<sup>th</sup> of July and any other holiday that may come along while we are gone.

God Bless You All and God Bless America.



## PENNSYLVANIA

### THE INDEPENDENTS

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Twenty retirees and guests met for our St. Patrick's day luncheon on March 13. Our informative speaker on the King Tut exhibit in the U. of Pennsylvania museum was Dr. Steven Phillips.

**Gail Bradley**, our president's wife, made Irish potatoes for all and gave us shamrock favors. Thanks to her.

**Paul Lynn** won the 50/50 and **Gail Bradley** won the free lunch.

I will report on the April news in the next newsletter.

See you at the Clarion on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday.

**Frank Egges** is celebrating a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Lord has richly blessed him and us for the privilege of knowing him.



### PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

Paul & Betty Musko  
21 Sunridge Dr.  
Coraopolis, PA 15108  
[Lesuex4@comcast.net](mailto:Lesuex4@comcast.net)

All of us here in Pittsburgh, the great RUAEA family and friends, are looking forward to Spring and Summer!

Hope all of the basketball lovers enjoyed the NCAA (March Madness Tournament). A lot of upsets serve to remind each of us that we are special and can overcome the odds and become winners. Congratulations to winner North Carolina and runner up Gonzaga for a fantastic game! Our focus here in the Burgh is on hockey and the Pittsburgh Penguins (last year's Stanley Cup Winners) to see if they can repeat the hard hitting, fast-paced, next 28 games in search of winning the Stanley Cup, again! It will be difficult with all the injuries the Penguins had, especially missing Chris Letang, (will not be able to play due to surgery). However, they are special and can overcome the odds and be a winner again.

Twenty-one RUAEA friends attended a great luncheon at JW Halls, on St. Patrick's Day week and enjoyed the food and gathering. We had a few RUAEA friends who were unable to attend. Unfortunately due to a fall, **Treatie Karwoski** could not attend the luncheon to celebrate her own 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. So sorry Treatie, but our great Treasurer, **Olga Karmazn** took cake of her home! Also in attendance was our lovely lady, **Joann** and husband, **Bernie Juth**! Joann is coming along well and looking forward to hearing from all of you!

Door prizes, imagine **Russ Miller** escorted by Joe Friend (son-in-law) picked the first door prize winner and it was his own ticket! Then, **Jim Weber** picked out 2<sup>nd</sup> door

prize and imagine it - **Jim Weber** won. At this point, everyone raised their hand wanting to pick out the next winner (smiles) so President **Dave Beatty** picked the 3<sup>rd</sup> one - it was **Lorraine Keith**!

I received a great email from **Bob Frye** (active member of Pit-Stoppers) and his wife **Kay** celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on March 2, 2017! Great to hear any good news - please feel free to send email to keep us informed of our RUAEA friends. His last job in PIT was catering rep, he moved to ORD for management training and then to DTW to open the new UA Flight Kitchen! Then four moves later, he arrived at WHQ and retired from UA after 38 years. Two days later **Mike Simon** called and asked him if he was interested in working for their company; 20 years later he finally retired, making his airline career a total of 58+ years. Accounts for Michael Lewis Co were UA and US in Europe where he spent much time working out of Manchester England. They now reside in downtown St Petersburg, FL, enjoying the lifestyle! What great news from our RUAEA friends!

**Barb Guida**, **Rich Guida**'s beloved wife is doing well. Her daughter and family had to move her to another home: Elmcroft of Chippewa, Healthland Village, Room 213, 104 Pappan Business Dr., Chippewa, PA 15010. Her health is great but her mind, not so much. She enjoys one moment at a time. Her daughter, Kathleen Cook, said she still loves flowers, word search puzzles, Neil Diamond and talking with the girls! Please send her a card. She loves to get mail!

March Anniversaries ~ **Barb & Max Seaholm** (11<sup>th</sup>) and **Bob & Kay Frye** (2<sup>nd</sup>).

April Birthdays ~ **Jeri Juth** (5<sup>th</sup>), **Mary Salamon** (10<sup>th</sup>), **Mitch Abbas** (14<sup>th</sup>) and **Dave Detwiler** (28<sup>th</sup>). May Birthdays ~ **Ed Ike** (3<sup>rd</sup>), **Johnna Chicots** (9<sup>th</sup>), **Carl Chiocchi** (7<sup>th</sup>), **Barbara Guida** (11<sup>th</sup>), **Dee Chiocchi** (16<sup>th</sup>) and **Joe Scafoglio** (17<sup>th</sup>)!

## TENNESSEE

### TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS

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



We had 21 members attend our March luncheon and meeting at the Long Horn Steak House in Farragut, TN. After lunch, President **Pollie Kiosky** called our March meeting to order at 1:30pm. We all thanked our host **Glynada & David Zane** for arranging a different meeting destination and the great St. Pats day decorations.

**Pollie** introduced our newest member, **Joan Tomlinson**. Joan's husband **Richard**, was a 36 year employee of UAL. We would all like to welcome **Joan** to the Tennessee Rocky Tops.

Secretary's report was approved as recorded.

Treasurer **Mike Chapin** reported that we have a bal-

ance of \$640.56. He reminded all that dues for 2017 were due. We voted to donate \$100.00 to Northside Christian Church, Knoxville, TN in memory of our member **Dave Leonhard** who passed away January 25<sup>th</sup>. We also voted to donate \$100.00 to Smokey Mt. Dogs training Service. At the 50/50 we made \$31.00.

We voted for our 2017 officers ~ President **Pollie Kiosky**, Vice President **Betty Shipe**, Secretary **Barb Chapin** and Treasurer **Mike Chapin**.

VP **Betty Shipe** is recovering nicely from her stroke, I talked with her recently and she stated that she is getting stronger every day. We sure miss her.

P. S. Our book and magazine exchange that was started three months ago is a big hit (we got the idea from reading the RUAEA newsletter.)

#### Calendar:

**May 16** - Cumberland Play House and luncheon. For information contact **Robbie Corbin**, (931) 456-2790

**June 15** - Breakfast event location TBA, **Pollie Kiosky**, (847) 757-5261

**July 20** - Luncheon and meeting TBA, **Carolyn Harts-horn**, (865) 951-1117

### WASHINGTON

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS



#### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle, WA

Gay Liesse

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

Federal Way, WA 98003-3626

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

No snow in sight this month, but it appears that we'll have rain forever after. On beautifully clear days, "The Mountain is Out" is heard across the Puget Sound Region, as Mount Rainier gleams brilliantly in the sun.

Forty-two attendees were present when President **Ken Storey** conducted the March 14 meeting at Angelo's Italian Restaurant in Burien, which is near SeaTac Airport. Many observed the "Wearin' 'o' the Green" to honor St. Patrick's Day. In **Ken's** absence, Past President **John Haferbecker** will conduct the April meeting.

If you're traveling our way and can join us for a regular luncheon meeting, you can look forward to menu choices such as Seafood Cannelloni, Fettuccine Alfredo, Pollo Salad, or a Turkey Sandwich for those not interested in pasta. We will not meet June through August unless a summer event occurs, but if you're in the Seattle area from September through May (we skip December) next season, perhaps you could coordinate your trip to join the Emerald City Slickers for lunch. If you'll e-mail **Gay Liesse** at the address above, she'll put you in touch with the right source for making reservations.

Treasurer **Jackie Stenger** noted, with her having added six members beforehand that membership was up to 90 by the start of the meeting. As many chapters experience these days, this is a far cry from those "good old days," when United Airlines was in its glory. Latecomers tend to jump

aboard the bandwagon when they realize they no longer are eligible to receive our local newsletter.

Interesting tidbits on recent personal experiences traveling by air were shared by several members of the group. **Ken & Judy Storey** had a superior experience on Jet Blue. **Ken & Marcia Tank** flew SA on United to Grand Rapids, Michigan. **Tom Holford** mentioned the Global Entry ID, costing \$100 for a 5-year-life can speed the process through US Customs when traveling abroad. An appointment for an application interview has about a 6-month wait at SeaTac, but there are other alternatives. **Bonnie Frey** reminded us that, in the near future, ordinary Washington State Driver's Licenses will not be accepted as TSA ID for airline travel. Reminiscing on types of planes elicited some sorrow over the upcoming demise of the popular Boeing 747, coming up in October.

**Chuck Westphal** (SEAFO) is the next retiree to be profiled in *Contrails* by our chapter secretary, **Mary Ann Andersen**. Having grown up in the Ozarks, Chuck attended a two-year college in Kansas while working for a ladder company, whose owner offered him the opportunity to fly. It was suggested that Chuck join the Air Force, and, as they say, the rest is history, with his becoming an Air Force pilot in 1951 and hiring on with United in November of 1955.

During his Air Force years, Chuck flew B-29 tankers and KC-97s to Korea when General Curtis Le May was head of SAC. His United years ran from 1955 to his retirement in 1991. Chuck piloted a variety of planes, mainly up and down the Pacific coast, with his last years of assignments to the Orient, primarily Hong Kong, Singapore and Japan, during 16-hour flights and totaling 10 days. Among special passengers Chuck remembers are Brigadier General James Stewart (yes, *the* Jimmy Stewart) and Maureen Reagan on the night her father, President Ronald Reagan, was first inaugurated.

**Chuck & Dona Westpfahl**, both active members of RUAEA and the Emerald City Slickers formerly participated in Santa Flights and drove patients, some of whom flew in on various airlines or Angel Flights, to Fred Hutchinson Medical Center in Seattle. Both **Westpfahls** recommend volunteering, which kept Dona occupied while Chuck was busy elsewhere.

Mention was made in the April issue that **Vivian Anderson** (SEAFR) had been featured in *Contrails* in a brief biography composed by Secretary **Mary Ann Andersen**. During the March meeting, Vivian was congratulated upon joining our growing list of nonagenarians. Vice President **Phyllis Bowman** (also 90!) wished Happy Birthdays and Anniversaries to those celebrating in March and conducted the door prize drawing with the help of **Betty Paul**. **Ken Walters** claimed the 50/50 reward. (Can this be a coincidence? Those three travel together to our luncheons!)

We've lost yet another active member of the Seattle chapter with the March 25 death of **JoAnn Bernovich**, wife of **Jim Bernovich** (SEAGQ). Jim was a lead mechanic in ground equipment. JoAnn regularly attended chapter luncheons and will be missed.

Each year, retired Seattle Reservations Agents hold two reunions locally. Coming up soon is their next gathering on



Saturday, May 20, at Billy Baroo's at Foster Golf Links in Tukwila.

A special thank you to **Vicki Shumaker**, who efficiently edits *Contrails*, our Seattle newsletter that is published prior to each meeting. Available online or via snail mail to all valid members of the Emerald City Slickers, *Contrails* provides updates on meetings, lunch reservations, and United Airlines business information pertaining to retirees.

#### Calendar:

**May 9** – Luncheon meeting, Angelo's (Last meeting before the summer break)

No regular meetings June through August

#### LILAC CITY FLYERS

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



March was a rough month, lots of snow, rain and flooding. It's nice to see flowers poking up their little noses.

Our next meeting is on April 19 at 1130 in Spangle, WA at the Harvester restaurant, hosted by **David & Theresa Reisennauer**. Always go once a year, it's the only time we can break bread with **Laney Wilson**.

The major local Spokane action/event being that the Gonzaga men basketball team played for the NCAA championship kept everyone busy.

#### WASHINGTON, D.C.

##### THE DULLES LOUNGERS

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



We are happy to report that our membership is up to 87 and growing. It is always a joy to welcome new members to the group.



Our March luncheon was very festive. Everyone was decked out in green. The Golden Corral, our host restaurant, was also in the spirit of St Paddy's Day. They provided us with many Irish dishes and a selection of green desserts. Most of the door prizes were in the same theme. There were but two exceptions. One was the 50 year Dulles commemorative coin provided by our chapter historian, **Bob O'Roark**. The other was the envelope of gift certificates provided by Glory Days Sports Bar & Grille. Adam Bordeaux, the manager, (pictured) has been a constant supporter of the Dulles

Loungers for several years now. We are most grateful for their sponsorship.

In April, we will be celebrating Easter of course. Instead of passing out the usual tickets for a door prize, we will be passing out plastic Easter eggs filled with candy. Seven of those lucky eggs will also have a special note in them informing the recipient that they are door prize winners. I doubt that anyone will wear an Easter bonnet but I'm sure we will see many pastel outfits welcoming the Spring season to D.C.

The Dulles Loungers meet the second Wednesday of each month at the Golden Corral in Manassas, VA. All are welcome. Upcoming Lounger sponsored events are the picnic at the Barrel Oak Winery in Delaplane, VA and the Pot luck dinner at the Flying Circus in a Bealeton, VA. There is a small fee for non-members but I promise you will feel that it is money well spent. The event at the winery will be on June 14<sup>th</sup> at noon and the Flying Circus is scheduled for September 24<sup>th</sup>, also at noon. If you would like more information, please email me at the above address.

Until next time, fly and be safe.

#### NATIONAL

##### CLIPPED WINGS

Karen Williams, CW VP  
P O Box 161  
Highland, MD 20777  
(301) 854-3934  
[cwkarenwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:cwkarenwilliams@gmail.com)



"Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me brave in the attempt." This is the creed of some very special athletes who are coming in to SEA for the Special Olympics North America Golf Championship to be held on June 26–28, 2017. Special Olympics golfers of all ages and abilities will be competing in five different categories. CW members of our SEA Chapter and various other chapters will have the privilege of assisting at the tournament this year. The very giving and hard-working members of our SEA Chapter are also really busy making preparations to enable our CW organization to assist wherever needed when the June 2018 Special Olympics National Games are held in SEA. It's a great honor to be associated with these special athletes and their families.

If you are a current or former UAL/CO inflight crew member, we'd love to have you join us for fun, friendships and opportunities to be involved with Special Olympics or any of our many philanthropic opportunities throughout the USA. More information is available on our website at [www.clippedwingsinc.org](http://www.clippedwingsinc.org).

To those of you who are golfers, we wish you sunny days out on the courses and your best scores ever. And when you have an un-cooperative shot we do hope you'll think of the wise words from our special athlete friends and Be Brave in the Attempt!



## NEW MEMBERS

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

The following new members joined RUAEA during the month of **March 2017**:

Butcher, Kenneth, DENMM, 4349 Yarrow Ln., Johnstown, CO 80534  
Christianson, Charles B., SEACG, 15861 Grand Isle Way, Surprise, AZ 85374  
Colavita, Sandra C., DENTK, 13825 E. Chenango Dr., Aurora, CO 80015  
Dantas, Fernando, JFKHO, PO Box 932, Old Bridge, NJ 08857  
Dovel, Judith, IADCS, 3 Springcrest Dr., Lurey, VA 22835  
Dunn, Judy, IAH14 Beals Cove Rd., Apt. K, Hingham, MA 02043  
Gabert Milam, Margaret, SMFGM, 6760 Orleans Way, Sacramento, CA 95831  
Hewitt, Cynthia, DENCS, 117 N. 49<sup>th</sup> Ave., Greeley, CO 89634  
Kramer, Nadine, ORDFO, 15303 Ingersoll St., Plainfield, IL 60544  
Lehr, Donald J., SFOMM, PO Box 1295, La Vergne, TN 37086  
Logan, Carol, IADRR, 100 Pierce St., Apt. 910, Clearwater, FL 33756  
Mahoney, Ann, ORDCS, 101 C. Robroy Ln., Prospect Hts, IL 60070  
Ostos, Sarita, ORDCS, 705 Hillcrest Blvd., Hoffman Estates, IL 60169  
Page, Judy, ORDSW, 8176 E. 149<sup>th</sup> Place, Thornton, CO 80602  
Peterson, Warren, ANCAA, 4820 Catkin Circle, Anchorage, AK 99502  
Stone, Robert, DENMM, 11945 W. 20<sup>th</sup> Ave., Lakewood, CO 80215  
Vonier, Karen, LGBRR, 1687 Wellington Pl., Westlake Village, CA 91361  
White, Peggy, 11448 N. Miller Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
Whittaker, John, MIAL, 13370 SE 86<sup>th</sup> Cr, Summerfield, FL 34491  
Wilkerson, Ann, WHQHD, 1450 Michelline Ct., Hoffman Estates, IL 60192  
Woods, Herbert, LAXCS, 11260 Crestridge Ct., Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91737  
Yim, Andrea, HNLCS, 1288 Ala Moana Blvd., Unit 17G, Honolulu, HI 96814  
Zupko, Christa, ORDCS, 408 N. Russel Street, Mount Prospect, IL 60056 ■

## CONTRIBUTIONS

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

We appreciated monetary contributions from the following members during the month of **March 2017**:

William F. Alenson, Jacqueline M. Allen, James Andrews, George C. Arata, Michael L. Bailardo, Nancy M. Bain, Everett M. Bell, Harry A. Benson, Norma Betters, Joseph M. Boberek, Mary G. Brennan, Carolyn Bullington, La Verne M. Burke, Duane S. Stu Chambers, Frances I. Chambers, Donald S. Chang, Helen J. Christensen, Norma S. Ciarlariello, A. D. Cline, Sandra C. Colavita, Harvey J. Collin, Dorsey E. Cooper, Ricardo Corpuz, Douglas A. Cowan, Antoinette B. Crandall, David J. Cranfield, Charles F. Cromling, Terry R. Doppler, Albert Evaskitis, James E. Fauber, Mary Florent, Norbert L. Frickelton, Richard G. Gerk, Joseph A. Gillette, James A. Grafton, Cynthia M. Hader, Marilyn A. Halt, Sheila Haskin, Pamela Hussey, H. R. Ingram, Clyde J. Jenkins, Harlen J. Jesser, Frances J. Joseph, Barbara B. Kaczmarek, Irene Kaplan, Walter Kendall, Lyn M. Kerns, Harold F. Klobe, Larry A. Knaub, Nora Kocsis, Marlene Koerner Swift, Donald J. Lehr, Gary N. Leopold, Julius Lepkowski, Theodore S. Lipinski, Charles F. List, Edward A. Louis, James W. Lundy, Winifred J. Lyles, Suzy B. Lynch, Jose L. Martinez, Steven Mayo, James A. McCandless, Fred S. Miller, Keiko O. Mori, Yasuichi Moromisato, Robert M. Newlands, Gloria P. Odendhal, Matt Ohr, Phyllis D. Okawa, Betty J. Opbroek, Howard Y. Ota, Judy Page, Margaret A. Parry-Buske, Susan R. Patti, Lili Pearson, Richard R. Pendleton, Charlaire Peterson, Jerry A. Porter, Berna J. Rasmussen, Nancy G. Ritter, Josephine Roller, Richard A. Romshe, Donald P. Rutkowski, Pamela T. Saldanha, Bernard L. Sandner, Margaret M. Shimada, Albert Silva, Jean J. Smith, John M. Soja, James A. Sommerfield, Pascal C. Soriano, James H. Staib, Theresa Sullivan, George H. Tedder, James C. Tidman, Kay A. Towns, Norman Walton, Morton I. Wax, Douglas White, Gwendolyn Williams, Fred S. Wise, Arnold M. Wong, Erwin Wyr, Beverly A. Yeager, Esther M Zill.



# OBITUARIES

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

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

In addition, contact information must be included for one sending the information. If the obituary is received hand written and it is not legible, it will not be published until a clear and readable document is received in the Denver Office. The information may be sent by email (preferred) at [ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net), 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 – **Currier, Russell C.**, on 3/18/2017, SFOPI, husband of Joanne Currier (Deceased), 4177 Donald Dr., Palo Alto, CA 94306
- Spouse – **Gill, John J.**, on 4/4/2017, husband of Jean Gill, WHQOU, 1603 S. Harvard Ave., Arlington Heights, IL 60005
- Retiree – **Hekking, Johannes G.**, on 3/9/2017, SFOPK, husband of Anita L. Hekking, 7994 Elgin Lane, Dublin, CA 94568
- Retiree – **Houser, Joseph C.**, on 3/11/2017, SFOPD, husband of Kathy Houser, 10802 S. Santa Margarita Dr., Goodyear, AZ 85338
- Retiree – **Kibler, Zelma F.**, on 3/11/2017, SFOMH, wife of Joe Kibler and Francis Rosenthal (Both deceased), 1225 Vienna Dr. Spc 265, Sunnyvale, CA 94089
- Retiree – **Moore, William L. Jr.**, on 3/28/2017, WHQCJ, husband of Margaret D. Moore, 200 Village Dr., Apt. 249, Downers Grove, IL 60516
- Retiree – **Pena, Rutilo**, on 3/31/2017, LAXHH, husband of Araceli Rutilo, 21754 Luisa, San Antonio, TX 78259
- Retiree – **Yamamoto, Minoru**, on 2/13/2017, DENCg, father of Judith Yamamoto, 2659 W. 104<sup>th</sup> Ct., Westminster, CO 80234
- Retiree – **Ulmer, Marilyn J.**, on 12/9/2016, WHQWS, aunt of Todd Ulmer and Christine McCloy (Ulmer), 21724 Loch Haven Pass, Leesburg, FL 34748



# Letters & Notes



**Martha Gooselaw**

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

Hi members,  
I'm the person who edits the letters and notes you send for the Newsletter. Your letters and notes 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.

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

Nancy Bessenbacher, Sondra Conner, James Dickinson, Sherry Elms, Sharon Gaffor, Marilyn Halt, Iris Hastie, Wanda Huber, Francis Joseph, Irene Kaplan, Lyn Kerns, Marlene Koerner, James Lundy, Sr., Anjelina Martens, Chris Miller, Nedra Morgan, Russell Porterfield, Bernie Rasmussen, Nancy Ritter, Bernard Sandner, Fred Wise, Beverly Yeager.

## 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.)*

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

I am now 92. I retired in November, 1985 and I was with United for 34 years. Those were the good old days. Mr. Patterson was a visionary that really moved the Company forward. He was a very friendly person. Mary Oconer was the Stewardess on his private DC-3 plane.

I worked on the Ramp for three years. Then Artie Arnold asked me if I wanted to be a Supervisor in the Flight Kitchen. I worked as a Supervisor for about nine years. Then I was promoted to Manager and worked until I retired early because of health problems.

On February, 2015 I lost total vision in my right

eye. The Eye Specialist said my eye had a stroke. I can't drive but I thank God that I have one good eye. I have been a heart patient since 1976. I hope I haven't been boring you with all these details. I'm a WWII War Veteran.

If I made any typos I know that you will understand. I do enjoy the RUAEA Newsletter.

**Jeanette Lee, 313 Cedar Dr., Coraopolis, PA 15108**

Hello and God Bless to everyone.

I am doing okay; but have slowed down a whole lot. I am so tired all of the time and have to push myself to get anything done. Everything has changed so much since I retired in December 2002. It really saddens me about our used to be airline.

**Carole Rogers, 2418 Welworth Ave., Rockford, IL 61108**

Another year has gone by already. I have been retired 24 years now and just turned 82 in January. I am still doing pretty good considering the usual aches and pains.

I would like to thank you for posting the obituary of Bernice O'Brian. I wasn't sure if she was a member of RUAEA. I appreciated that I was included as a close friend. I keep a picture of her and I in Kona back in the 70's when we were much younger. We always had a good time and I was lucky to have such a good friend.

I talk to her every day and when the Cubs start the season the picture will be turned to the TV and we can watch together. We went to a lot of games in the 70's & 80's with row 1 seats behind their dugout. We had a friend in the box office. Tickets were \$7.00 a piece, can you believe it.

Thanks again for keeping us all so well informed.

**Notes**

**Mary Ann Schaefer**

United has always been Bob's and my second family. I very much appreciate continuing to be a RUAEA member after his passing. It keeps me close to that very wonderful part of our life that we shared for over 46 years. I don't recognize many names any more, but I do recognize the passion and loyalty of the notes I read and the news in the newsletter. Thanks so much for allowing me to continue to be a part of this great association and great memories.

**Anne Rosenstein**

I read each month the RUAEA Newsletter which has very good info. Thank you!

**James Sommerfield**

Enjoying retirement especially traveling, cruising, and spending time at my lake home. Grateful for my many friends in RUAEA and the Chicago Skyliners.

**Carolyn Bullington**

The informational updates about the changes to re-tree travel plan is invaluable.

**Glenn Hill**

I continue flying with the EAA B-17. Both Don Burbank and I do several weeks a year with this historic airplane.

**Sandy Moore**

I presently own a real estate company with agent. I also own a mobile Notary service

**Judy Page**

I flew very proudly for 45years.

**Donald Tutt**

I have been retired for 15 years and have been a member of RUAEA since I retired. I go to the conventions, the last in Seattle. I have been dropped from RUAEA twice in the last few years. I somehow do not look at the mailing address and missed the renewal. There has to be a better way. I am signing up again for the last time. With membership dropping, I would think you can figure out a better way to inform members that their membership has expired. I do look forward to the newsletter every month.

**Norma Betters**

Bill and I became inactive in RUAEA when we became highly involved in the local Marblehead Yacht Club. For more than 10 yrs., Bill's efforts included Commodore, Board member, numerous committees. My activities included chairing the Entertainment Comm. and supporting the Race Comm. and Fishing Tournaments while caring for a 90 yr. old mother for 5 years. Bill expired after three years of frequent hospitalizations during which we enjoyed life to a maximum. Not much air travel but weekend trips to family vacation home in Sebago, ME. My hope is to reconnect with some who we shared good times and to assist the organization in any way that I can.

**Karen Vonier**

Remaining connected is important after my 34 year service with United. It lasted more than my marriages!

**Clifford Stark**

We moved 2 years ago from our 5 acre home on the banks of a beautiful little river to the "big city" of Day-



ton, WA (population 2,535), which is in Columbia County (population 4,100) in the southeast corner of Washington State. We are at the foot of the Blue Mountains, home to the only skiing area in this part of the state. With the amount of snow we had here this winter, needless to say it was a very popular place! Isn't retirement great!

### **Terry Doppler**

Sorry I am late on my dues. Since Carol passed I have been floating around in a blur. Thank you for all you do and the keeping us old folks up to date with what is going on at UAL and in touch with friends.

### **Carol Faust**

I just turned 80 in December and I decided it was time to give up skiing. I don't bounce anymore. I am going to try cross country next winter. I still hike and snowshoe.

### **Patricia Nicholaisen**

Great life, very busy with many activities

### **Bruce McLeod**

Finally left CA for good after 48 years. It will be **hot!** Hope to connect with the RUAEA and RUPA groups when we finally get settled.

### **John Grindle**

RUAEA helps me keep in touch. It is a great benefit to all retirees.

### **Maria Pollack**

My husband and I really appreciate having worked for United, as the benefits and privileges extended to us throughout our employ and retirement are priceless.

### **Larry Jobe**

Just dedicated C47 which was flown to China from Australia over the Hump and donated to the Flying Tiger Heritage Park at Guilin, China. See: [www.flyingthehump.com](http://www.flyingthehump.com). Also see: [www.FlyingTigerHistoricalOrganization.com](http://www.FlyingTigerHistoricalOrganization.com).

### **Herbert Johnson**

Sorry I'm late. Have been in hospital last few weeks



## **Important Phone Numbers**



*Updated 10/2016*

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

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

### **United Employee Service Center**

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

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

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

### **Employee Travel Center**

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

### **Flying Together Help Desk**

1-800-255-5801

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

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

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

**PBGC** - for all retiree pension questions

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

### **Social Security Administration**

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

### **Alliant Credit Union**

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

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

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

1-844-635-3401

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

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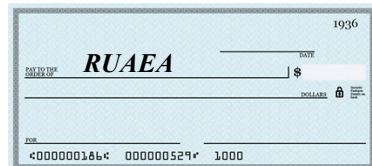
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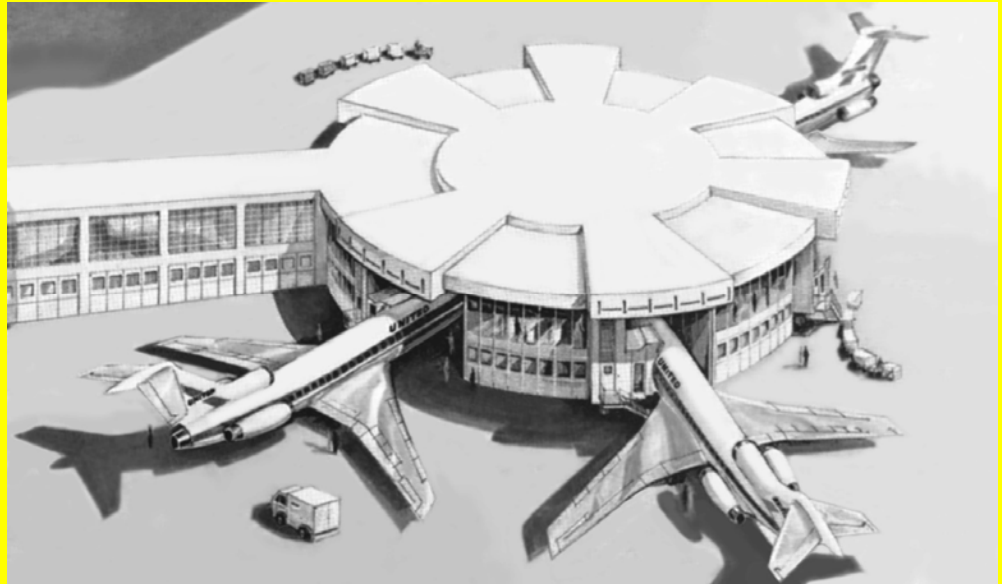
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## United Airlines Historical Foundation

"Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future"

"Inside parking" is to be one of the unique features of the new terminal to be occupied by United at Detroit when it moves from Willow Run to Metropolitan Airport. Now under construction and expected to open by June 1965, the new building will resemble a banjo in shape and will provide six under-roof parking spaces for Jet Mainliners. Pilots actually will guide planes into the building's parking ramps, a distance of 25 feet.



Passengers will board and deplane using special second-level jet walkways. On departure, tractors on the lower level will push aircraft clear of the building and the planes will taxi to the runway under their own power. A conventional concourse leading from the main terminal will have space for two additional aircraft. The new ramp parking terminal will accommodate all four types of jet aircraft operated by United. Propeller planes also will park under-roof, but positioned laterally to the building and passengers will use conventional boarding stands.

The new UAL facility is part of a \$33,000,000 improvement program now underway at Detroit Metropolitan Airport, which is 11-12 miles closer to downtown Detroit than is Willow Run.

*By Marvin Berryman, DENTK Retired, from the April 1964 - Shield - News in Brief*

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

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

