



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER



ISSUE NO. 357

EDITOR-JO MADDEN

MAY-2004



## Let a Smile be your Umbrella Come to the Seattle Rain Dance 2004 RUAEA Convention May 23-30, 2004

### Good News!

- All registered Retirees at the DoubleTree (convention hotel) will be given a 15% discount at the hotel restaurants, not including alcoholic beverages. Convention Badge is required for ID.
- After convention parking will be only \$5.00 (a \$3.00 discount) off the normal park & fly rate. Arrangements for post convention parking must be made with the front desk upon check-in.

### Good to Know info!

Questions for John Tague, Executive Vice President, Customer. A question and suggestion box will be placed at the hospitality table. We will provide 3 X 5 cards to write your questions. Jim Fauber will select the questions and present them to John Tague at the RUAEA Banquet.

Need a roommate on the After Convention Cruise? Contact Ken Ruzinski at [Ken-Bar8@comcast.net](mailto:Ken-Bar8@comcast.net). Ken's phone 1-253-952-5716

Lu Gardiner, Publicity Chairman  
RUAEA 2004 Convention  
[barrylui@msn.com](mailto:barrylui@msn.com)

### Annual Banquet Speaker John Tague

Most of what you read, hear and talk about regarding United Airlines is costs. But just as important, and in the long-term may be more important, is the other part of the equation - REVENUE. Due to a pressing issue that came up Glenn Tilton will not be able to join us in SEA. He asked us if John Tague might be our banquet speaker. John is Executive Vice President - Customer. His responsibility is revenue. His team is working just as feverishly as the "costs" team in stemming the erosion of market share to the "low cost carriers", growing our revenue, and increasing United's yield. An example is United's new product "Ted". Ted is a new product intended to compete with low cost carriers in fares, schedules & service. The first phase is to compete head-to-head with Frontier out of our DEN hub. Next will be IAD & ORD, targeting specific carriers in specific markets. It will be refreshing and insightful to hear John discuss United's plans to regain United's leadership in the industry and again become a premier airline. I am looking forward to hearing him. I hope the SEA convention is in your plans and I will get a chance to see you there.

Marlin Lade  
Executive Vice President, RUAEA

### **Convention Information**

We hope it will not be necessary - but in case a member has to cancel the convention (tours & banquets) the person to call is Helga Casto, Treasurer, #360-387-7343. To cancel your hotel reservation call the DoubleTree Hotel Seattle Airport #1-800-222-8733 or direct #206-246-8600.

## **GENERAL NEWS**

### **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your president for the last two years. Also for serving as an officer of RUAEA for the last ten years. I am very proud of the great programs I have had the privilege to work on, to lead, and the transformation of RUAEA in becoming more proactive to retiree benefits and concerns.

Marlin Lade & I have worked very closely with the Board of Directors the past two years. We share RUAEA's vision and strategy. We agree that RUAEA faces a bright & prosperous future. RUAEA is poised to move forward on several of its most important programs in its history. I am grateful to the officers & directors for their dedication, energy and hard work. I applaud their perseverance and focus.

With the help of the Board of Directors, just in the past two years we have appointed a liaison between WHQ & RUAEA, appointed two website managers, appointed a co-manager in our DEN office & upgraded the DEN office with new equipment to meet the demands of our growing organization. Currently we are in negotiations with United and the bankruptcy court on retiree medical insurance costs. Read Marlin's report for the latest news on health care.

I will miss contact with the local chapters during my travels around the country, but the friendships forged through the years will endure forever. RUAEA will have great success in the future with the election of new officers & directors. I intend to watch their accomplishments with great pride & satisfaction.

Mother Teresa wrote - "Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough, give the best you've got anyway."

I have a sign over my computer that says "If everything seems to be going well, you must have overlooked something."

RUAEA Chapter Presidents breakfast will be held on Fri., May 28 in Cascade Room #9 during the convention in SEA, 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. All chapter presidents are urged to attend. If the regular president cannot attend please appoint an alternate. RSVP to Helen Cauwels, (847) 358-8634 or e-mail [HCauwels@aol.com](mailto:HCauwels@aol.com) or call Jim Fauber at (480) 895-9697. We need a definite RSVP from you by Fri., May 21.

Jim Fauber  
President, RUAEA

### **FROM THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT**

Mort Wax, our representative on our negotiation team, has been keeping us informed of the status of the medical insurance review. Following is the latest:

Retiree committees: Salaried & Management committee (non-union) members are Ed DelGenio, Chick McErlean, Michael Richards, Mort Wax & Ed Westervelt. Five retired pilots are representing the pilots; each union is representing their retirees (except ALPA).

Company's presentations: United gave an overview of why modifications to retiree benefits are necessary for reorganization and success as a profitable and sustainable company. United gave the committees its proposal for modifying retiree benefits. This was followed by a discussion of questions relating to data, business plan cost assumptions, benefit assumptions and related information.

General content of United's proposal: All retirees, regardless of job classification, to be covered by a single plan. (Currently there are nine different plans for salaried and management retirees plus different plans for union retirees.)

Existing and future premium structure to be tied to structure for active employees.

Pre-Medicare retirees (retirees not yet 65 years of age).

Medical coverages basically the same as the current Comprehensive Plan,  
Improved mental health coverages,  
Deductibles to be increased,  
Co-insurance to remain the same - unless out of PPO network,  
Lifetime maximum to remain the same - unless out of PPO network,  
4<sup>th</sup> quarter deductible "carry-over" eliminated,  
Claim submittal deadline reduced,  
PPO incentive check discontinued,  
Prescription drugs co-pay to increase,  
Premium drugs co-pay to increase,  
Premium increase adjusted for years of service and date of retirement.

Post-Medicare - Two options offered:

Continuation of pre-Medicare PPO,  
Coverage for prescription drugs only,  
Premium increase adjusted for years of service and date of retirement.

What's next?

Analysis of the company's business plan and benefits proposal,  
Negotiation with the company,  
Coordination with other retiree representatives.

Develop a consensus, if possible.  
If no consensus or negotiated settlement is reached by May 21 there will be a hearing before the bankruptcy judge.

Time frame:

May 21, 2004 - Deadline for the company to file 114 motion,  
May 28, 2004 - Response from the retiree committees,  
June 2, 2004 - Pre-trial hearing (How the trial will proceed & hear any legal arguments),  
June 7, 2004 - Parties must exchange names of witnesses and exhibits,  
June 9, 2004 - Objections to witnesses or exhibits,  
June 11-17, 2004 - Trial  
June 18, 2004 - Judge will make a ruling.

(Remember the primary objective of the

bankruptcy court is the survival of United Airlines as a profitable and sustainable company. Decisions to accomplish that are to be fair and equitable to all parties concerned.)

We will keep you informed on the "process". Due to the confidentiality required for the underlying business plan, cost assumptions and any further details, we will not know any specifics until United submits its final position. (You may have seen or heard details on coverages and premiums in e-mails and other sources. This may or may not come to pass. It is subject to negotiations and modification if there is a more equitable and fairer alternative. We have a lot of people working on all the data and evaluating how we should react to the proposal within the time frame established by the court.)

Marlin Lade  
Executive V.P., RUAEA



*Financial tips and news from your credit union*

### **Announcing the 2004 Members Scholarship Program Pass it on!**

Alliant Credit Union is pleased to announce the second annual Members Scholarship Program. Remember that, as a member, your relatives are eligible to join the Credit Union and apply for the scholarship.

Through this program, Alliant will award five scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 each to help pay for enrollment expenses in an accredited undergraduate program at a college, university, or vocational/technical institution for the fall 2004 semester.

"As a not-for-profit, member-owned organization, we strive to offer services & special programs that are valuable to our members," says Frank Weidner, senior vice president - Member Services. "We are here to foster members' financial well-being and feel that the opportunity to apply for financial assistance toward a good education fits our mission. The scholarship program is one of many ways the Credit Union can serve members."

**To qualify for the Members Scholarship Program, the applicant must:**

- Be an Alliant Credit Union member in good standing;
- Be applying to or enrolled in an accredited undergraduate program at a college, university, or vocational/technical institution (minimum 12 credit hours per semester) during the fall semester of 2004.

**For more details on how to apply:**

Visit [www.alliantcreditunion.org](http://www.alliantcreditunion.org), stop by your local Service Center, or call us at 800-328-1935 or TDD/TTY 773-462-2300 (Mon.-Fri., 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Central Time). The deadline to apply is Fri., June 18, 2004. Winners will be notified by July, 30, 2004

**UAL HISTORICAL FOUNDATION**

As most of you know United Airlines Historical Foundation has a Capt. William S. Arnott Scholarship Award. This year's award winner was Rebecca Ann Kizior, a senior from Southern Illinois University. Rebecca has over 400 hours flying on her pilots license & her aviation management. She took her spring break to come to DEN. She toured Denver International Airport (DIA) with the city employees. Tom Goodyear took her on a tour of United Airlines Flight Training Center (DENTK). We were able to obtain a 777 simulator with an instructor. She did an excellent job of flying the simulator. Rebecca's mother is employed by United Airlines in CHI.

The Capt. William S. Arnott Scholarship award is open to any employee's children, retiree's children, grandchildren & grandchildren of deceased employees.

**DULLES-SACRAMENTO NON-STOP FLIGHTS**

United is reinstating daily non-stop service from Washington Dulles hub (IAD) to Sacramento, CA (SMF), adding a third daily non-stop flight from Dulles to Oakland, CA. Both services will begin June 3.

**RUAEA WEBSITE**

To access the Newsletter section of the website, you first must register with the Membership Secretaries in the DEN office. You may accomplish this by sending the following information to our office via e-mail or by U.S. Mail: Our e-mail address is [ruaea@aol.com](mailto:ruaea@aol.com), in the subject box - please put - Attention Membership Secretaries. Information needed: your name, file number, password. The password should be simple, an easy to remember word or combination letters (3 to 8 characters long). To access the Newsletter just type in [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org).

Once you are registered you will no longer be mailed a printed copy of the Newsletter. This will take a great workload off the mailing crew, and you will be able to get the Newsletter the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month.

You have a choice - either keep on receiving your printed copy in the mail (in this case do nothing) or register and get your Newsletter from the website.

To get your copy on the web, mail the above information to:

RUAEA  
Membership Secretary  
7401 E. MLK Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80207-2433

**Note** - Just a reminder - you must be a dues-paying member to access the Newsletter on the website.

To return to receiving the paper Newsletter and to discontinue access to the website, do the following:

Send a letter or e-mail to the Membership Secretaries stating you want to receive the paper copy of the Newsletter instead of your current website access. Also at the same time using the website support page, leave a message stating the same request. Remember it may take a month for this to take place, depending on what time of the month you make that decision.

If you have additional questions call me, #303-452-7418 between 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri, MDT.

Howard Tress  
Co-Office Manager

**NEWSLETTER CORRESPONDENTS:** Chapter reports for June are due in DEN by Thu., May 6, July reports by 6/4, Aug. reports by 7/6. Reports may be sent by FAX. FAX is 303-780-5667 - Attention: Jo Madden. Please list Chapter name on top of each page. If sent by U.S. Mail, address to Jo Madden, RUAEA Newsletter Editor, 7401 E. MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433. Allow for postal delays.

## LOCAL NEWS

### ARIZONA



THE  
AZURES

#### **PHOENIX AZURES**

*Report submitted by:*

Sherry Muoio  
20108 N. 110<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Sun City, AZ 85373  
[phx2@cs.com](mailto:phx2@cs.com)

Hi from the sunny southwest. The Azures are really enjoying an early spring/summer. Winter is finally gone; now we are experiencing the weather we moved here for!

On 3/18 - 23 Azures attended the 2004 statewide luncheon in Casa Grande. We had a very nice lunch, enjoyed talks by our AZ Director, Gordon Starr & the RUAEA Executive Vice President, Marlin Lade. It is always good to get together with our AZ RUAEA friends. Next year (2005) the Azures will host this gathering. We will be looking for volunteers to help with state-wide luncheon. Thanks again to the Tucson "Roadrunners" for a great afternoon, well planned, lots of good information, good fun & many door prizes. Thanks to all!

The following members have been a little under the weather: Horst Heinig had to go through another surgery in March. He will begin another series of chemotherapy. Sally Illingsworth is recovering from leg surgery; Joan Aaronson continues to mend from a severely broken arm. Mel Hofer has been feeling poorly. Harry Fraser continues to have problems with his back & neck. Dave Berry is recovering from triple bypass surgery. George Klick has had a recurrence of cancer, now is undergoing new treatment. Olive Crowthers' mother (98 yrs. young) has recently

been placed in Hospice. Doug Jay is back with us, we missed him; he was having problems with a kidney. Lots of our friends & family to keep in mind. Please remember them in your prayers. The Azures wish you all a speedy recovery.

By the time you read this newsletter we will have attended the cookout at Luke AFB. It's a fine time to see who the real cooks are! Steak & chicken grilled to perfection. It is always a delight to watch the Air Force F-16s taking off and landing. Go LUKE!

We continue to average 20 - 30 people at our bi-weekly breakfast meetings at Coco's. On March 16 we were joined by Bob Carter an ex-Capital Airlines employee from SFO who now lives in VA. His wife, daughter & son-in-law also attended. On March 30 Janice & Ron Hayward (Tuffet & Chuck Sharp's daughter) from Penn Valley, CA joined us for breakfast; it was good to see them again.

If there are any RUAEA members in the West Phoenix area that are not members of our local chapter and want to join the Azures please contact me (Sherry) by e-mail (address above) or by phone, 623-572-4828.

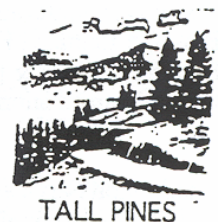
### Calendar

**May 11** - Breakfast at Coco's

**May 25** - Breakfast at Coco's

### **TALL PINES**

Prescott, AZ  
Ann Tomasic  
604 Mockingbird Ct.  
Prescott, AZ 86301-5735  
(928) 717-1550



TALL PINES

Our March meeting was held at our new luncheon spot - The Plaza Café located on the beautiful square in downtown Prescott with 14 members present.

Four members from our Tall Pines Chapter (Earle/Jean Risdon & Joe/Ann Tomasic) attended the RUAEA Arizona luncheon in Casa Grande on March 18. After the luncheon, the foursome from Tall Pines traveled to Green Valley to visit former Prescott residents & RUAEA members, Barbara & Walt Kaiser. The Kaisers treated us to one of Barbara's delicious dinners & a grand tour of their lovely home.

Another bit of interesting news - Vi & Frank Stout now are hearing the pitter patter of little feet

(4) to be exact. Their new addition is "Gretchen" A Bichon Fris'e - congratulations to the new parents!

#### Calendar

**May 25** - luncheon, Plaza Street Café, 11:00 a.m.

**Jun. 22** - annual June Potluck

### CALIFORNIA



#### CENTRAL COASTERS

Pismo Beach, CA

Wilma Sandy

223 Perry St.

Milpitas, CA 95035-5711

(408) 262-1548

We are sad to report the unexpected death of Priscilla Bake. She was a vibrant & active member of the Central Coasters; she will be greatly missed. Our sympathy & condolences to her husband, Ken (P.O. Box 1044, Grover Beach, CA 93483).

Bob & Marcia Stanger (805) 929-2901, will host the June 16 luncheon. Details will be in flyer.

For chapter info, contact Pres. Al Rybar (805) 595-2532.

#### BRAZEN RAISINS

Fresno, CA

Dick Shryock

39379 Hidden Oak Dr.

Oakhurst, CA 93644-9530

(559) 683-2728



Charlie Barnett hosted the Brazen Raisins' March 2004 meeting; Millie Barnett was absent, under the weather. Bob Cuff, RUAEA Director, & wife Jo visited; Bob made a few remarks. We were visited by Irv & Betty McIntyre of Visalia; Irv gave a brief history of his UAL career, joining UAL in OMA in 1945, transferred to DEN, LAX & Visalia where he retired.

Francine Anderson was in the Madera hospital with fungal pneumonia, now showing faint signs of improving. Charlie gave a talk on the life of St. Patrick.

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#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

It's frustrating when you know all the answers, but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.

### DESERT SUNBIRDS

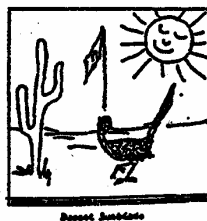
Palm Springs Area  
Miriam "Ozzie" Osgood  
44018 Galicia Dr.

Hemet, CA 92544-9106

(909) 927-0067

[ozziejohn@netzon.net](mailto:ozziejohn@netzon.net)

*Submitted by Elaine Aggson*



32 Desert Sunbirds & guests gathered at Mesquite Country Club in Palm Springs for our March meeting. Jan & Fred Kellerhals, assisted by their daughter Beth, arranged for a delicious buffet lunch. Jan made beautiful St. Patrick's Day centerpieces which were awarded to 6 lucky door prize winners.

Vic Swanson brought his friend, Elizabeth Hawes; Joan Tate's guest was Mary Ann Waedekin. Ron Tate was off working as a security guard at the Pacific Life Open Tennis Tournament. Marge Eastman attended her last meeting before moving to MI where she is building a new home to be near family. We will miss Marge as she has been a long time member & a regular at our monthly meetings. If we could have found a snow shovel in Palm Springs, we would have given her one as a going away gift!

It was good to see Ron & Melinda Lerg, attending for the first time since the devastating CA fires last summer. Although they had to evacuate their home in Big Bear, fortunately the fire was contained before reaching them.

As is our custom, March was designated as "Spring Cleaning" month when members bring White Elephants to share. Given the number of clocks that were part of the collection this year, it is obvious that retirees really don't care what time it is.

Sec'y & Newsletter Editor, Miriam Osgood, has suffered another setback. After returning home from the nursing home following the auto accident in which she & John were both injured, Miriam fell in her living room, breaking her hip. After surgery to repair the damage and some time in rehab, she is now at home. She has certainly suffered far more than her share the past year. We all pray that her troubles are behind her.

#### Calendar

**May 12** - hostess Sandy Sereno, 760-325-5805

## **SACRAMENTO GOLD DIGGERS**

Alice McPeak  
P.O. Box 215  
Penryn, CA 95663  
(916) 663-1906  
[amcpeak@sbcglobal.net](mailto:amcpeak@sbcglobal.net)



The March meeting of the Sacramento Gold Diggers was held in Foresthill, CA at the Robbers Roost Restaurant. It was one of those Sierra Foothill days that make non-Californians green with envy.

Pres. Ron Bertacini announced that there were 84 members & guests present; he introduced the guests: Rich Johnson was the guest of Ray & Rosalie Ward; JoAnn Andrews was the guest of Jim Raber; Gloria Kambak was the guest of Al Kaiser & Mike Xavier, a UAL retiree, was the guest of Ron Leimer.

Sunshine Co-Chairman, Francis Domaritus, sent cards to Sylvia Raichle who had pneumonia & her husband, Don, who is taking chemo. The e-mail notification system for urgent or serious news is now in place.

Regional Director Bob Cuff again encouraged all who can to go to the convention. He touched on current UAL news & recommended we go to "Skynet" or the RUAEA website for the best information. Ron reported that 10 Gold Diggers are now volunteering at the information booths at SMF.

Alice McPeak suggested that if you have excess individual bottles of shampoo, etc. from hotels to donate them to your local homeless shelter.

V.P.s Harold & Colleen Esola conducted a raffle with many lovely Easter & Spring prizes. They thanked the Nortons for subbing for them last month.

### **Calendar**

**Jun 30** - Elk's Club in Roseville, hosts: Ron & Barbara Bertacini



## **REDWOOD EMPIRE RETIREES**

Santa Rosa, CA  
Clare Hagen  
749 Montclair Dr.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409-2865

The March meeting of the Redwood Empire Retirees was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> at the Quail Inn at Oakmont. There were 59 members & guests present. The lunch was delicious; making our own desserts was fun. It's hard to pass up an ice-cream bar!

Pres. Ron Huhn called the meeting to order. We were pleased to see him back & feeling quite well, Ron thanked Clare & Barney Hagen for hosting the lunch, also Marge & Matty Matschinegg, Maria & Nick von Kruining, Naomi Tolf & Phyll MacDonald for helping. Clare thanked the early arrival decorators. Ron then thanked Naomi for running the show while he was ill & the group for all their support & cards.

V.P. Naomi Tolf introduced the guests: Lee Trevelyan, guest of Clare & Barney Hagen; Kathy Housh, guest of Howard Dickinson & Ed von Borstel, guest of Naomi Tolf. Treas. Nick vonKruining reports all is well with our accounts.

**From the Treasurer - last chance** - Dues are due on Jan. 1 of each year. Membership is \$4.00 for single, \$8.00 for a couple, per year. Anyone that has not paid their dues by April 1 was removed from the mailing list & no longer is considered a member of the Redwood Empire Retirees. Make checks payable to Nick von Kruining, send to 857 Miller Dr., Windsor, CA 95492.

Joanne Huhn talked to us about the Pension Reform Bill HR3108. It would give companies some relief from huge pension payments, also would benefit United as it attempts to come out of bankruptcy. The extension would spread the payments over a two year period. The Pres. has threatened to veto the bill. Your support is needed. Call the White House comment line at 202-4546-1111. Be persistent as this is a busy line, but it is one the White House pays attention to. You can e-mail the president at [president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov).

Judy DeFord is compiling an e-mail list for our group. This way we can inform people of sudden happenings in the group & keep better communications going. E-mail Judy at [DJD4D@sbcglobal.net](mailto:DJD4D@sbcglobal.net) to be added to the list.

Sunshine Lady, Verda Burr again brightened our day with her special rays. There were 13 birthdays; the winner of the lunch was Betty Boehme. There were only 2 anniversaries. Congratulations to all. Cards were sent to Sal Ortega, Norm Burnett, the O'Kelly's & Ron Huhn.

An e-mail from the Ashworths, who have moved to a retirement center in Sonoma: Westlake House, 800 Oregon St., Sonoma, 95476.

Ginger Dahlberg reported to us from RUAEA. She recommended that travelers should have several contact phone numbers with them in case of emergency. Make sure they are viable numbers. Also, she talked about the three things to do to see if someone is having a stroke. 1. Ask them to smile. 2. Ask them to raise their arms. 3. Ask them to speak a simple sentence. Any difficulties noted should be a clue.

Thought for the Day: *Good friends are like the stars. You don't always see them, but you know they are there.*

### **Re-LAX-ers**

Los Angeles

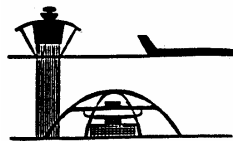
Barbara Smith

13721 E.Dorado Dr., #20-H

Seal Beach, CA 90740

562-430-4886

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



At our Feb. luncheon, we took donations for Capt. Al Haynes' daughter, Laurie Arguello, for her extremely expensive bone marrow transplant procedure. By meeting's end the figure amounted to over \$600. We hope this helps a bit. I am sure everyone system-wide is anxiously awaiting news of her progress.

We are sad to tell you that Lou Goodspeed Gawenda passed away 4/5. She has been ill for some time & we've missed her a great deal. I am sure the whole chapter & her friends system-wide extend most sincere sympathies to her family. Condolences are extended to Gene Gawenda, 3915 Via Nivel, Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90275, phone 310-375-6570.

By the time this hits the RUAEA website or your mailbox, we will have made our trip to PSP & are gearing up to a 3-day bus tour Aug. 16-18. We're going to the Mesquite, NV/St. George, UT area for a bit of gambling in Mesquite, also to see "Guys and Dolls" in the spectacular setting of the Red Rocks Amphitheater at Tuacahn outside of St. George. (Most meals are included on this one.) Flyers went to Re-LAX-ers members - all others contact me for an e-mailed or USPS-mailed flyer. Read about Tuacahn at [www.tuacahn.com](http://www.tuacahn.com).

Our dues (\$4 a year) reminders mentioned in

the March Newsletter & in the April meeting notices have brought in quite a few dues payments from those who had that senior moment around the end of the year. Printing & postage for 6 meeting notices per year run us close to \$2 per address. With the remaining \$3 of your dues we subsidize luncheons & buy door prizes. Our Treasury is still in the black, so to keep it that way & to keep you in the loop, check your records; send in your dues if you forgot. (Payable to ReLAXers, mail to J. Briggs, 21303 Legend Av., Carson 90745)

The Mainliner Club Store has been closed! Temporarily, we hope. The last I heard the new location will be "airside" in T.8. Stay tuned for arrangements (if any) that can be made for those of us without airport ID to get to the store.

About the RUAEA e-Newsletter...don't know about you, but I love it. Getting it so far ahead of regular mail is so welcome. I did hear one person say it's too hard to read a/c you have to keep scrolling up & down to read the two-column format. All I can say is be patient and/or spend about 75 cents to print it from your screen. So be a sport, print it yourself, give your spouse a gift and/or share it with a friend who doesn't have e-mail and has to wait nearly 3 weeks to get theirs in the mail.

LAX employee parking lot tag costs have not changed. But haven't gas prices, though? Did you know that you can access LAX via the L.A. Metro-Rail. Unless you have a ton of luggage, it isn't bad at all - it's clean, fast, safe & very cheap. (Seniors go for 45 cents.) At the airport station you take a free shuttle to the terminals. The station is only about 3 blocks from Lot E - about 20 minutes shuttle driving time to terminals. But if you're still married to your car & need a parking tag for one of the employee lots, let me know; I'll buy one for you. I go there on Thurs. afternoons for my USO job. If you need a tag, mark your calendars - I will not be going to LAX on 5/27, 6/3 or 8/19 as far as I know right now. Plan accordingly. Call or e-mail me for details and/or maps.

### **Calendar**

**Jun. 10** - luncheon

**Aug. 12** - famous steak fry picnic at El Segundo Park

**Aug. 18-20** - tour to Mesquite, NV Resort & Tuacahn, UT Outdoor Theater.





### Re-Sans

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

In early Aug., a combined meeting of ReSans & Clipped Wings is being planned. This will be a picnic lunch & will be provided for your enjoyment. We are hoping to reserve a cool & shaded spot near Sea World. It would also be fun to bring a dessert to auction off. More information will be furnished.

Sunshine --- Here in San Diego, we have more sunshine than we know what to do with; however, not all of us always feel "fit as a fiddle". If anyone knows of a person who could use cheering up, please let me know.

### Calendar

**Jul. or Aug.** - Potluck Picnic on Mission Bay with ReSans & Clipped Wings

**Oct.** - Halloween Party at Fireside Restaurant in Escondido.

Lindbergh Alumni Groups - First Thurs. of month - contact Bill Lindsay.

### UNITED AIRLINES

#### RETIREES-SFO Area

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



Pres. Walter Barkowiak started our March meeting a little early, since we wanted to have the business done before the food for our Chinese Buffet arrived. Walter opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. We need to give our Recording Sec'y, Helen Cain, a special reward for speed-reading the minutes. She did a great job - she didn't miss a word. Membership Sec'y, Carol Walter, welcomed our one new member, Antonio MacPherson.

We are sorry to report that Jim Starnes passed away. A sympathy letter was sent to his wife Adelyne at 1901 Notre Dame Ave., Belmont, CA

94002. He will be missed. We sent a donation to the National Foundation for Transplants for Laurie Haynes Arguello's bone marrow transplant fund. She is the daughter of Captain Al Haynes, the pilot of Flight 232, which crash-landed in Sioux City, Iowa in 1989. For more information there is an article in the Feb. RUAEA Newsletter.

1<sup>st</sup> V.P. Bob Taiclet read some information that he received concerning strokes, "now doctors say that any bystander can recognize a stroke by asking 3 simple questions: Ask the individual to smile. Ask him or her to raise both arms. Ask the person to speak a simple sentence. If they have trouble with any of these tasks call 911 immediately, describe the symptoms to the dispatcher. Widespread use of this test could result in prompt diagnosis."

Ginger Dahlberg encouraged us all to attend the Seattle Convention. There will be some great tours, a chance to renew old friendships & make some new ones. The speaker at the Sat. night banquet will be a UAL V.P. John Tague. We want to thank Jim & Helen Goodwine for their donations to our charity raffle of 2 baseball tickets to the San Francisco Giants/Oakland A's game. The winner was Betty Bliss.

After the meeting we had a delicious Chinese Buffet. This was a change from our usual potluck & the members enjoyed it. We want to thank our Kitchen Coordinators, Vera & Walter Kina for all the work they did in organizing this luncheon, also the work they do at our regular monthly potlucks.

Entertainment for the March meeting was the "Highlighters", performers from Broadway by the Bay, a live theatre group in San Mateo County. They gave us a preview of 2004 season by singing several songs from musicals that will be presented this year. Another great show enjoyed by all. Next month we will have the return of violin & piano duo Horvath & Yelena Savchenko. A big Thank You to Mary Ann & Monte Monson for finding us such good programs.

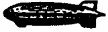
Travel info: Give Ginger Dahlberg a call at 650-345-5548 or e-mail [gingersfo@aol.com](mailto:gingersfo@aol.com) if you are in the mood to travel. There may still be some spaces left on her July 19-30 French Barge Trip & her Oct. 3 Eastern Canada trip.

### Calendar

Singles Club: 1<sup>st</sup> Mon. ea. mo., Crystal Springs

United Methodist Church, 2145 Bunker Hill Dr., San Mateo, CA. Pres. Ellen Pearce - 650-593-7328. Retirees General Meeting: 4<sup>th</sup> Mon. ea. mo., business meeting 11:30 a.m. at Wm. Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd. (Shell & East Hillsdale Blvd.), Foster City, CA. Mail should be sent to P.O. Box 4788, Foster City, CA 94404.

SFO/SJC



SOUTH BAY RETIREES

**SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA**  
**SFO/SJC SOUTH BAY**

Lois Rodriguez  
6455 Clifford Dr.  
Cupertino, CA 95014

How quickly time goes by when you're having fun & enjoying the fruits of your labor. March for us in the South Bay had record breaking weather 85 plus degrees. "We live in Paradise." Hope everyone had a fun St. Paddy's Day. Everyone gets to be Irish for a day!

Our Spring Luncheon was March 23 with 54 in attendance. Our THANKS to Garver & Wilma Sandy. Another well-organized luncheon. Everyone had a great time. Lots of laughs, excellent food & drinks. The Raffle took in \$210 for our chapter. Our next Special Event will be the Picnic. Please Note: There is a change in the date from June 8 to new date: June 22. Same location. Tony Urso will have the fliers out soon. If you can, please plan to join us & bring a friend.

**SAD FAREWELL:** Our friend and colleague, Bert Swanson, passed away on Mar. 4. our special thoughts & best wishes to his wife Marion & his family.

**GET WELL WISHES:** Otto Schaller - hip replaced. He's doing well & wants to come home & back to breakfast with us on Fridays. The sooner the better.

Dee Carlson is doing well. Velma Childs has her cast off. Hurray.

**HAPPY ANNIV.** to Lewis & Nancy Bacheller - 59 years.

**Visitors:** Garrett & Jean Fahl from Fallon, NV - had breakfast with us on Mar. 12; Herb & Gloria from Hollister at breakfast on Mar. 19. Nice to see you. Please come again.

**THANKS:** to LaDonna Eggert - taking notes for me on Mar. 12. Great job.

Calendar

Weekly breakfast meeting each Fri. morning at

Holder's Country Inn, 998 Deanza Blvd., San Jose, CA, 7:30 a.m., meeting 8:20 a.m. For more info contact Pres. Bill Copley, 408-725-8420.

**SAN JOAQUINERS**

Ruth E. Dixon  
P.O. Box 47  
Mi-Wuk Vlg., CA 95346  
(209) 586-5352



What a pleasant get-together we all enjoyed at the Historic Ledger Hotel in Mokelumne Hill on 49 Hiway. Many members attended plus guests Eve Clinton & escort Ray Baker, also Beverly Jordan.

Our special guest was Bob Cuff from National RUAEA who gave us a talk on the Board meeting for the SEA Convention. Some excerpts were: How can RUAEA & retirees work with the Company? The newsletter will be on the Internet website at [ruaea@aol.com](mailto:ruaea@aol.com). Court action on bankruptcy held 3/5: select & hire legal counsel, meetings scheduled, information on schedules & processors. Bob stated that UAL is to come out of bankruptcy in June & reminded everyone of the upcoming convention in May.

It was moved & seconded that we make a donation of \$200 from the San Joaquiners to Al Haynes (the pilot who was Captain on the Iowa plane crash). His daughter is suffering from aplastic anemia & is in need of a bone marrow transplant. Those wishing to make a personal donation may make a check payable to: San Joaquiners Al Haynes Fund & send it to George Gemberling, our treasurer.

**UA - EL DIABLOS**

Concord, CA  
Diane Griego  
1634 Nuala St.  
Concord, CA 94518  
(925) 676-6097  
[dianegriego@aol.com](mailto:dianegriego@aol.com)



The El Diablos of the East Bay held their March meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> with 38 members & guests. We have a new location at Marie Callender's restaurant on Diamond Blvd. Our thanks to Howard & Jo Payne for all the work they did on arranging the new location & organizing the

move so well. The room is larger; all seemed to enjoy the menu selections. It was good to welcome back Len & Jean Hales and Mary Heller. Our first-time visitor was Thomas Carman from SFOPB.

Our Regional Director, Ginger Dahlberg, joined us & provided an update on RUAEA's activities & plans for the convention in SEA.

All enjoyed a presentation with lots of interesting handouts from David Pyle & Terry Croty of CRUISEONE. David is a former SFORR/SFOTO member of UA. They have great interline tours & cruises.

Their e-mail is [tcroly@cruiseone.com](mailto:tcroly@cruiseone.com), website is [www.cruiseone.com/tcroly](http://www.cruiseone.com/tcroly).

### Calendar

#### **May 10**

#### **Jun. 14** - Annual picnic

We will be meeting at Marie Callender's again, 2090 Diamond Blvd. in Concord. Our times will remain the same...11:30-12:00 social, 12:00 to order & to conduct our business matters. No need to make reservations, just come. Ed Lewis will send a reminder to all of you with e-mail, so make certain your e-mail address is up-to-date. For those of you without computers, Howard will be calling.

### COLORADO



#### **DENVER MILE HIGHERS**

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

April 7 breakfast was enjoyed by 51 Mile Highers. Dick Gibbs was a 1<sup>st</sup>-timer - welcome Dick, join us again. Bob Schmelzer won one of the 50/50s & returned his winnings to the RUAEA stamp fund.

Dean Moberg is in the hospital for tests; his home address is 13743 Marina Dr., #B, Aurora, CO 80014-3776

Anyone interested in organized bicycle rides from May through Oct. in the Denver/Boulder Area also some mountain rides when the weather warms, please contact Bill Fisher for info or schedule, 303-935-0509 or e-mail at [fishersare3@comcast.net](mailto:fishersare3@comcast.net).

Our annual catered picnic will be held July 21 at Heather Gardens, Blossom's Banquet Room &

Patio, 2888 S. Heather Gardens Way, Aurora, \$12 p/p. Social hour - 11:30 a.m. - lunch 12:15 p.m. Send checks payable to RUAEA - Denver Chapter. Mail to Harriet Ahr, 4576 Hooker St., Denver, CO 80211, phone 303-477-2918. Deadline 7/17.

The Aurora Elks Club decided they could no longer accommodate our group; therefore, the Mile Highers breakfast has moved "back home" to Park Hill Golf Course, 4141 E. 35<sup>th</sup> Av., Denver (35<sup>th</sup> & Colorado Blvd.) Breakfast buffet: scrambled eggs, breakfast potatoes, bacon, assorted pastries, orange juice, coffee or hot tea - \$7.50 p/p. Price includes gratuity & 7.7% tax. First Wed. of each month - 8:00 a.m.. See you there!

### Calendar

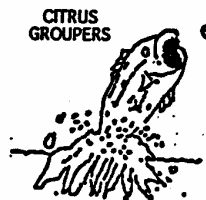
Breakfast 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. ea. mo., 8:00 a.m., Park Hill Golf Course (35<sup>th</sup> & Colorado Blvd.) Call Tom Goodyear for information, directions - #303-696-7001.

**Jul. 21** - Picnic - details in column

### FLORIDA

#### **CITRUS GROUPERS**

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



On March 25, the Citrus Groupers met at the International Supper Buffet with 21 members present. We welcomed Dorothy Clark, who rejoined us after several years of absence. We also were glad to see Jack & Edith Hellerman and Fred & Annemarie Reidel, whom we had not seen in a while. Lydia & Charlie Wirth were not able to attend due to Lydia's medical appointment; therefore, Frank Wood read the Treas. report.

### Calendar

**May 28** - meeting, 11:30 a.m., at the Carmichaels, 3105 NE Silver Spring Blvd. in Ocala. It is near the intersection of 25<sup>th</sup> Ave.



#### **SAND "DABS"**

Daytona Beach  
Bobbie Rieck  
615 Yupon Av.  
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169  
(386) 427-0514

There were only 11 of us brave enough to negotiate the trip to the Red Lobster amid the noise, rumble & biker traffic in Daytona. It was Bike Week!

Steve Moddle, our V.P., conducted the meeting due to Prez & Treas. Dick & Frieda fleeing the area for TX. By the way, they sent "Howdy y'all" to everyone from TX. We welcomed visitors Jeanne & George Sudol, who are now living in DeBary, GA, retired from Dulles.

Birthday celebrants present were Jan Kress & Bobbie Rieck. We had some trouble keeping the candle lit on our wooden "cake" until we moved it from under the A/C vent. (The story of our lives -- trying to keep the candle lit!) Jane & Bobbie share the same day in March for their birthday.

At joke time, Steve had a few zingers -- A Cat-In-The-Hat funny poem, an Alzheimer's quiz, which several failed, & an Old Geezer message. Steve also brought us up-to-date on some company matters, mostly everyone's concern about the medical benefit situation. He also gave us some information & warnings for women traveling alone on the road. Keep your cell phone handy -- especially if someone wants you to pull over, such as an unmarked car that looks like a police car but is not. You can press #77; it will put you in touch with a police dispatcher who can trace if a police car is in that area or if it is a fake. Dispatcher will be able to send help. Keep driving until you reach a well-lighted & populated area until help from the police arrives.

We learned our resident photographer, Bill Oliver, won another 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the local photography club for his photo of a horse. Congratulations, Bill.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: *Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you had left open.*

Although it was April Fool's Day, 20 Sand"DABS" managed to show up for our meeting. George & Jeanne Sudol were back with us as permanent members & Herb Gardner, retired from CHI, joined us as a new member. We welcome him. Among our missing were Gert Pavich at home taking care of hubby Pete who had surgery on his leg. Emily Veracka went to Boston to be with her family for Easter. Dottie & Jesse Jernigan are feeling some better & have grandkids visiting them now. Our young marrieds, Marion & Rich Johnson,

are off on a cruise to celebrate their 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary. Joan Brandonisio is coming along fine & feeling much better. Nita Ritt was with us, but told us that her husband Kramer had to have his leg amputation below the knee. If anyone wants to send a message to him, write to 1360 Wayne Av., New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168.

Birthday celebrant present was George Sudol. Anniversary celebrants were George & Jeann Sudol. Company anniversaries were Andy Kress, 58 yrs.; Nita Ritt, 40 yrs. At 50/50 time we had a 2<sup>nd</sup> drawing for a box of candy which Jane Kress won.

Our Treas. Frieda Coughlin reported we are in the black & funds are growing. We had a list of outside-the-meeting activities to think about doing at a future time. More discussion will be needed to see what the interest is. At joke time Prez Dick Coughlin had some really good & funny ones for us, plus a quiz that brought our stupidity -- except for Andy Kress, who knew all the answers.

After lunch our meeting continued. Prez Dick brought us up-to-date on all the company news & facts that he had. Not many happy people hearing some of the news. We'll just have to wait it out. The good news is that 6 more flights will be added in June from Chicago to Orlando

By the time we meet again on May 6, Steve & Lillian Moddle will have been on a Disney cruise for the Easter vacation with their whole family-- kids & grandkids. It will be a really fun time for sure.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: *As we get older, we have to be careful of getting that furniture disease-- that's when your chest falls into your drawers.*

#### Calendar

**May 6** - 11:30, Red Lobster

**Jun. 3** - 11:30, Red Lobster

#### THE ORLANDO

##### REAL McCOYS

Gloria Armistead

370 Hamrick Dr.

Poinciana, FL 34759

863-427-0635

[gloriaarmistead@msn.com](mailto:gloriaarmistead@msn.com)

(new e-mail address)



The Real McCoys celebrated our Spring picnic at the East Lake Fish Camp on April 7, with 71 present.

Pres. Richard Llewellyn opened the meeting by introducing our guests: Gloria Schmitt, Robert Schmitt, Al Kweiler, Alex Fitch, Ian Montalvo, Marion Omana, LaNara Lrounand, Charlie Lrounand, Shirley Haering, Emily Riley & Carla Russ.

To begin our festivities the door prize numbers were drawn. Afterwards, Sec'y Norma Butchart read the minutes of the last meeting & Treas. Char LeGrand gave the treasurer's report. Corresponding Sec'y Gloria Armistead read an e-mail from John Koehl, member of the Chicago Skyliners regarding the importance for those members of RUAEA to attend the convention, vote & support the changes proposed by the Board. He also requested we support Mort Wax for Executive V.P. Regarding our medical, call or write our Senators, Bill Nelson & Bob Graham.

JoAnn Hall thanked everyone that sent her cards. We were all glad to see C.B. Betty Davidson. It was noted that V.P. Sid Edelman is in the hospital for a few days. Our special prayers go to all who are ill & in need.

The 50/50 was won by Jim Segarra in the amount of \$47.

#### Calendar

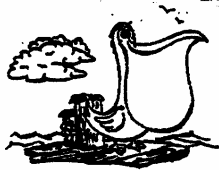
**May 5** - our regular meeting, 1:00 p.m., at the Golden Corral on Semoran Blvd. (Rt. 436) 3 miles north of the Airport, 1 mile south of Curry Ford Rd.

**May 22** - Broadway Dinner Theatre - *Camelot*

**Sep. 23** - Mystery trip

(call Stan Halterman for details, 407-852-6773.)

#### **SOUTHWEST FLORIDA PELICAN DROP-INS**



Joan Gilkison  
2521 W. Marion Ave.  
Unit 1012  
Punta Gorda, FL 33950  
(941) 637-9367  
[jgilkison1@comcast.net](mailto:jgilkison1@comcast.net)

The Pelican Drop-Ins had 33 members including guests at the luncheon at Sabal Springs Golf and Racquet Club on Fri., April 2. The tables were nicely decorated for Easter with a 3-foot Easter rabbit at the center of the head table. At each place setting was an egg filled with a chocolate candy. Ray Winterhalter brought Marie Bonnes as

his guest. Carrie Belluso started the meeting with the singing of "God Bless America". She then wished "Happy Birthday" to the April birthdays.

We were so fortunate to have Laska Ryan, Senior Manger of Aviation Marketing Communication, & Carol Obermeir, Manager of Aviation Market Development, as guest speakers. Carol was a former UAL employee. They gave us an update on the development & construction of the new terminal at RSW. They are very knowledgeable about the subject & answered many questions.

Louis Hibbs, a former member of the Pelican Drop-Ins, passed away in Tucson on Mar. 9. Fred North, husband of Marge North, passed away on Mar. 18.

We have several on the sick list: Buz Sawyer had surgery for colon & prostate cancer on Mar. 16. He will be recuperating at least 3 weeks in Tampa at his son's home. Fred Dillon reports he had a hernia operation on Mar. 10 & will continue with chemo treatment. Fred Bauer had a "new knee operation" on Mar. 16. Marilyn McNabb had eye surgery Apr. 1. We wish a speedy recovery to all our sick members.

#### Calendar

1<sup>st</sup> Fri. of the month, luncheon meeting at Sabal Springs Golf and Racquet Club (Oct.-May). Breakfast meeting at Perkins Restaurant (June-Sept.). For more information call or e-mail: Marilyn McNabb (239) 482-3882 (Fort Myers) - [UALMKE@aol.com](mailto:UALMKE@aol.com); Joan Gilkison (941) 637-9367 (Punta Gorda) - [jgilkison@comcast.net](mailto:jgilkison@comcast.net) or Carrie Belluso (239) 481-1450 (Fort Myers) - [Tutupapa1@aol.com](mailto:Tutupapa1@aol.com)

#### **THE SAND DOLLARS**

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



Our Mar. luncheon was attended by 37 members & guests, more than our Pres. Tim O'Donnell expected; however, everyone was happy to make room for all attendees. We all enjoyed great FL seafood.

The topics of discussion were various letters off

the internet about retirees' benefits being cut, also about meetings during the summer months, due to the fact that more of our group are staying in FL all year round. A show of hands indicated that everyone was for monthly meetings, which are every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs, of each month.

Our Pres. Tim O'Donnell has graciously volunteered to steer our club for another year, but he asked for helping hands among the membership as his wife Bette is not 100%.



### **TAMPA BAY**

New Port Richey, FL  
Denise Allen  
5551 Executive Dr., A-6  
New Port Richey, FL 34651  
(727) 842-5064

Mike Rice opened the meeting at Anderson Park with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Bob Taylor's invocation.

3 new members were introduced: Ruth & Bob Arelt and Laverne Holste. Betty Pilsner brought her friend Betty from NY who was introduced as our only visitor. Kathie Schaarschmidt felt she should be treated as a visitor also, as she had not been to a meeting in so long.

Mike Rice talked about the Insurance information with regards to UAL bankruptcy. The report will be in the Newsletter. There is really no answer yet.

Mike asked for help lining up speakers for some of the meetings. Jim Hottel volunteered to locate speakers for the Fall meetings.

Mike also announced that there are now 89 paid members in our chapter. A discussion followed concerning what would be the best time for dues to be collected. Jan. was unanimously suggested. Dick Riedl said that if dues were collected in Jan. most members attend the West Coast Luncheon & could pay them then. It was mentioned that those that had paid a year in July should get a discount on new dues to be paid in Jan. Discussion was deferred to the next meeting in May.

Terri Breslin announced that she has sent out only one card last month to Jean Linehan who had been in the hospital. Jean was able to attend the picnic & looked great. Bob Galt has recently had bladder surgery, now is home. Terri will be sending him a card also.

Mike Marvett then discussed the West Coast Luncheon after giving Sadie Tuton great accolades concerning her past successes with this luncheon & how much work it really involved. He told us that if we wanted to know what we ordered 6 years ago, Sadie still had the records. Mike contacted 5 restaurants including the Trade Winds, Renaissance, Bon Appetite, Shepherd's & Pappas. Of all, Pappas was the best price-wise. One restaurant charges for the bartender at the cash bar, most of them charge for parking, one could not give a private room, none could really compete with Pappas menu & price. Pappas is having a few problems though. They are on their 5<sup>th</sup> banquet manager in 8 months; however, we will be staying with Pappas; the luncheon will be on Jan. 17, a Mon., with cash bar at 11, lunch at 12. Menu selections will be announced later, as will the speaker.

Terri Breslin told us that the Christmas Luncheon will again be held at Spartan Manor on Dec. 6; the cost will be \$14.25 each.

### **Calendar**

**May 3** - monthly meeting at Buddy Freddy's, Hwy 19 in Holiday at 10 a.m.

**Jun. 7** - monthly meeting at Buddy Freddy's, Hwy 19 in Holiday at 10 a.m.

### **TREASURE COAST**

Mari D Hirjak  
1797 SE Berkshire Blvd.  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34952-7112  
(772) 3350-9068  
[marhir@msn.com](mailto:marhir@msn.com)



At our meeting 4/6 we had 16 members & 3 guests. Al & Vera Drehman from NC are here to baby-sit Chuckie, a big black cat, for John & Helen Koerber, who are on a 1-week vacation to LAS to celebrate their 31<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary. Our other guest was Pat Bernabei a neighbor of Mike Carragher, who is leaving for France next week to visit a niece. Al & Claire Corradini are back from their cruise to the Panama Canal.

The Hirjaks, Dodenhoffs & Liebischs are off on a 14-day cruise on Holland America MS Prinsendam, with only 793 passengers, leaving from Lisbon, Portugal. In addition we will spend 4 days in Lisbon, 2 days in Athens & 2 days in

Munich. So we will be out of the country for 24 days. Trying to find hotel reservations in these cities was extremely expensive; most places were unavailable; they tell us this is Soccer time. So as was this week all reservations were confirmed. Thank goodness.

A donation was sent to help Capt. Al Haynes' daughter. There will not be a meeting on May 4; instead we will have our picnic on May 11, 11:30 a.m. till? At Sandspret Park in Port Salerno. Cards & a map will be sent to all members, free to members, guests \$3 p/p. We are all asked to bring a covered dish, rest of food to be provided by the chapter. This will be a rush for us leaving for our cruise as we will leave the USA on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

The June meeting will be postponed due to the fact there will be 8 members away on trips; therefore, the meeting will be held on June 8. We ask that all members be present as it will be election time, the last meeting until Sept. 7.

A group of us went on the Sterling gambling ship; as usual, only Al Popek came home a winner.

April birthdays, Paul Liebisch on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April, Barbara Dodenhoff on the 28<sup>th</sup>, Eliz Armstrong also on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Helen & John Koerber on April 7 in LAS for their anniversary.

#### Calendar

Meetings on 1<sup>st</sup> Tues. of month, Johnny's Restaurant, 7180 USA Hwy. #1, Port St. Lucie, FL 34952, (772) 878-2686.

#### **THE VILLAGES** **AIRLINE RETIREES**

Jo Beck  
1717 Oak Forest Dr.  
The Villages, FL 32162  
[beckj788@aol.com](mailto:beckj788@aol.com)

The March meeting of The Villages Airline Retirees chapter was held at the Saddlebrook Recreational Center on March 18, 7:00 p.m. There were 50 members in attendance. A short business meeting was held & the floor was then given to Detective Joseph Pine from the Metro Crime Prevention of Florida.

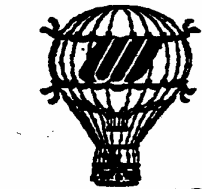
Detective Pine covered all areas of crime prevention as it related to our personal safety, protecting our home valuables, purse snatching, security systems, who is targeted for a crime, what defense weapons are recommended by law

enforcement agencies. It was a very eye-opening experience.

The meeting for May will be at the Saddlebrook Recreational Center on the 20<sup>th</sup> & will be a Bingo Party.

#### **GEORGIA**

##### **DIXIE FLYERS**



**DIXIE FLYERS**

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

28 Flyers & 4 guests were present for the meeting at the Grand Buffet in Fayetteville, GA hosted by Gene & Jeanne Barber. Our guests were Don & Myra Allen and Tom & Helen Ogle who were invited by Bill & Irma Bowling. The room was private, very nice & spacious for our meeting. There was intense discussion about the plight of the retirees with regard to medical benefit changes. It was mentioned that the IAM & the Flight Attendants might combine their efforts in court regarding changes of the medical benefits. The flight attendants recently lost their suit in court.

Tickets were sold by Elmer Koldoff at \$5.00 each for a chance to win a 30-minute ride on a P-51 Mustang (a World War II fighter aircraft). Elmer is a member of the Dixie Wing, a flying group based at Falcon Field in Peachtree City, GA. This is a non-profit organization. The prize valued at \$750 will be awarded at the air show in Oct. The air show is held every year at Falcon Field featuring all types of aircraft & many flying groups are represented. For more information go to [WWW.Dixiewing.org](http://WWW.Dixiewing.org) or call 678-364-1110.

Our next meeting will be at the home of Ray & Mary Owen on May 5. Ray will be preparing 2 hams; the membership will bring vegetables, salads & dessert to share, also bring their drinks.

Sick calls for April: Bill Carlson had surgery on April 23; Jewel Cron had out-patient surgery on April 7. Harriet Jones continues to have monthly treatments & is said to be in good spirits. We hope all are well & back in form soon.

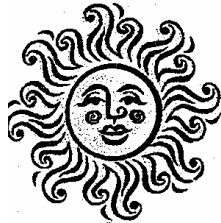
It is sad to report that we have lost one of our members. Harry Moody passed away March 8 after

a long illness with complications from injuries & surgery. Harry was interred in Silver City, NC near where he was born & reared. We will all remember & miss him.

## HAWAII

### PAU HANA KUPUNA

Big Island  
CeCe McMahon  
HCR 2, Box 6297  
Keaau, HI 96749  
(808) 966-7886  
[djsmiley@ilhawaii.net](mailto:djsmiley@ilhawaii.net)



We had a wonderful turnout at Dotty's II in Hilo on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March. Pres. McMahon welcomed new member Faith Dulay from Hilo. We had 13 in attendance & two retiree guests from American Airlines.

One person won the 50/50 raffle, another won a free lunch. We also has 2 other raffle winners.

The President talked about our collection for the "Toys for Tots" campaign. We hope to fill this small box, then fill a bigger box too. Anyone wishing to donate please bring your unwrapped gift to any meeting.

We are looking for anyone interested in joining our group who has retired to the "Big Island". Please give us a call at (808) 966-7886 or e-mail us at [djsmiley@ilhawaii.net](mailto:djsmiley@ilhawaii.net).

President McMahon told us about an identification theft that is going on. People are using their camera cell phones to get a picture of your credit card, which gives them your name, number & expiration date. So to be aware of your surroundings when shopping, etc. He also told everyone about the 2004 RUAEA Convention to be held in SEA. He told everyone that RUAEA now has a website for everyone's convenience, with six direct links.

I read a few jokes to everyone, also gave the treasury report.

### Calendar

**May 20** - Ken's House of Pancakes, Hilo

**Jun. 17** - Daniel Thiebaut's, Waimea

## IDAHO

### BOISE GEMS

Bill Heath  
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Boise, ID 83706  
(208) 336-5359  
[wahboi@rmci.net](mailto:wahboi@rmci.net)



Springtime brought 33 loyal GEMS to our gathering in April; a lively meeting it was. Unfortunately, our scheduled speaker, Sue Paul, director & co-owner of the Warhawk Air Museum, couldn't be with us, but she promised to talk to us next month.

Ron Hamman gave us an update & reminder on the cookies needed for the Multiple Sclerosis Walk-A-Thon on May 1. Bud Peters set a goal of 1,500 as our group's contribution. The gals & 3 guys, making a total of 22 GEMS participating in the bake-off for the event.

Ned Yundt was collecting for another display case for UAL memorabilia for the Warhawk Air Museum. Supplementing that will be the proceeds for an auction on an Easter cake made by Ann Pumphrey. Before that, all were asked to check the bottom of their chairs for a pink slip designating a door-prize winner. Marian Odom & Joe Varady were the lucky winners. Each received a cuddly Easter bunny. We thank Carol Birt for the idea, candy for all, & the Easter display on a pool table in the Holiday Inn's lounge where we had our meeting.

Next, the auction, with Ed Works, obviously an old-hand at this sort of thing. Starting out at \$1, the bids rapidly went from \$5 to \$10 to \$15 to \$20. Ed squeezed out one more bid, & the beautiful cake went to Marlene Croghan for \$21. We & the Warhawk Air Museum thank Ann Pumphrey for the donation.

Ron told us of our three options for our annual Christmas dinner & party. By a show of hands, the Holiday Inn was selected. Ron checked with the hotel management & booked us for Dec. 15. Mark your calendars. Ron also reminded us of the sign-up sheets for the golf outing on June 15, & the dinner-out that's planned for the evening of May 18. We are rescheduling Sue Paul's visit for our regular monthly meeting on May 3. Ron encouraged us all to be sure to mail in the official RUAEA ballot for the election of officers &



directors, which *must be received by May 1*. (See April Newsletter.) He even passed out copies of the ballot form.

Learning that a collection of model airplanes for all the airlines serving BOI is planned as an airport display, with only UAL not being represented, Ron priced a small model, the next size up, & gave us the figures. In the ensuing discussion, Denny Snyder said he had several UAL model planes, & that he'd be glad to loan out his 727 in blue & gray colors for the occasion. He & Ron will see that it is among the models displayed at the airport. Denny, by the way, has soloed & is enjoying flying his 4-passenger Cessna 72 over ID.

Holbrook "Mike" Maslen has enough airplanes in his collection to have his own air museum. In fact, he has joined the American Association of Museum, but there is one qualification he had yet to fulfill. You have to have at least one full-time employee. I suggested a solution, which he promised to take under consideration.

Marilyn Taylor has spent many weeks off & on in PDX with her sister Margaret who is ailing from pancreatic cancer. Marilyn says she is doing fairly well, but she would welcome our prayers.

Lil Jolly is back in action after a short stay in the hospital & many tests. Al Cox is OK but couldn't attend this month's meeting because of other commitments.

Aviator Logic: *If you have a tailwind, turn around because you must be going the wrong way.*

#### Calendar

**May 3** - 9:30 a.m., breakfast at Holiday Inn on Vista Ave. in BOI

**May 19** - 7 p.m., dinner at El Galo Giro in Kuna

**Jun. 7** - 9:30 a.m., breakfast at Holiday Inn on Vista Ave. in BOI

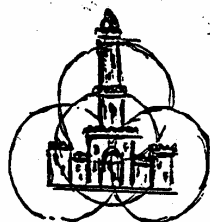
**Jun. 15** - Golf Outing

**Dec. 15** - Christmas party at Holiday Inn

#### ILLINOIS

##### LOOP GROUP

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



Well it was a real surprise on St. Patrick's Day because there was a nice turnout. The menu was excellent; the conversation was enthusiastic. It was great saying welcome to Lillian & Roe Mallstrom who had returned from their annual escape to Mexico, also seeing Helen & Tony Stefanos who took time from the onslaught of the coming tax season & hearing from Larry Fagan who is now teaching in TX. Greetings to Mary Gray, Shirley Mullin & received a call from Pat Schaeffer letting all know that she & John are building a home in FL. Looking forward to seeing you all at the next meeting.

#### Calendar

**May 19** - French Quarter, Palmer House, 11:20 a.m.

#### CHICAGO SKYLINERS



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

We will have our 2<sup>nd</sup> canned goods collection for the Food Pantry in May. Bring canned goods to the May 11 breakfast.

Our Northsiders will miss Fred Grindol who passed away in April. If you wish to send a sympathy card to his wife Marilyn, address is: 247 Fulle St., Rolling Meadow, IL 60008.

The Southsiders had 20 in attendance. Mel Fisher returned from his winter location in AK & brought five \$2 Illinois Lottery Tickets for the 50/50 drawings. Leon Gasiorowski was first-timer this year. The Southsiders welcome new retirees & their friends to the group on the last Thurs. of the month at Sally's in Bridgeview, IL.

Our condolences to the families of 3 Southsiders who suffered the loss of their family members: Stan Wank (ORD) passed away in Jan. from a cardiac condition. Ralph McPherson (EXO) died in March from complications from a broken hip he suffered in Nov. Catherine (Kay) Mulvihill (EXO) succumbed in March shortly after being diagnosed with liver cancer.

It was nice taking a rapid transit trip to downtown CHI to meet with Angie Malouhos who chairs the Downtown Luncheon Group. It was a

doubly enjoyable event because it was St. Patrick's Day.

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual CHICAGO CARE Servathon is set for June 12. It is a one-day event of community service. This program is sponsored by "Chicago Cares" dedicated to serving disadvantaged Chicagoans. Our retirees can work as an individual or with a team at schools & communities to spruce up the interior of buildings & landscaping. Join us this 6<sup>th</sup> year with our CEO Glenn Tilton & Senior Officers to help beautify designated schools. There are varied tasks available; not all require a great deal of physical exertion. For time & information on this event, give Debbie Bridges a call at Unitel (847) 700-6814.

Special honors were presented to retiree Harold Weary of Mt. Prospect who was one of many recipients of awards presented from the North Suburban Library System as the "Volunteer of 2003 Award" earlier this year. Harold was recognized for his outstanding efforts as a library friend of the Mount Prospect Public Library. During his 36 years & 10,000 volunteer hours, Harold has devoted himself to work on countless successful fundraising drives. Another part of interesting information is that Harold has attended every RUAEA Convention since its beginning in 1975.

Out of 500 entries submitted, United selected 45 winners of the *United We Care* Program. Mary Szabo, one of our Skyliners members was a winner. Glenn Tilton will honor her & the other winning volunteers at a luncheon in CHI. Congratulations to Mary & to the volunteers who work hard at the Depository each month.

300 retirees & guests attended the Skyliners Spring Luncheon at the Meridian Banquet Hall in Rolling Meadows. The 50/50 raffle (\$305.00) was sent to Captain Haynes' daughter's "Friends for Laurie" medical fund.

It was a pleasure seeing many people who I worked with at WHQ. I finally had the honor of meeting Angie Waunn, our Sunshine Lady, who said that she is feeling much better now that Spring is here.

Mort Wax spoke on some highlights of medical changes proposed in the upcoming Retiree Benefits program that may occur during the bankruptcy proceedings.

Remember our first outing is the Murder Mystery Play to be held on June 24 at the Stonegate

Conference Center in Hoffman Estates. This is a luncheon with a Murder Mystery Play where one of our guests will be murdered in the play. You may be involved as a suspect to the crime, and it's all in fun. Please reserve early for your seating and come for an afternoon of enjoyment with your friends. Closing date for reservations is June 16.

The Northsiders had 100 people for breakfast & welcomed 9 newcomers. Cecelia Yates & her daughter took a 7-day cruise from Houston. The highlight was swimming with the dolphins in Mexico & riding horses in Honduras.

The Elk Grove Presbyterian Church Food Pantry has sent thank you letter for the Christmas donation of \$480.00. This was a result of the 50/50 raffle.

#### Calendar

**May 23-30** - Seattle Convention. Hope to see you there

**Jun. 24** - Luncheon & Murder Mystery Play, 11:00 cocktails, 12:00 play begins with lunch at the Stonegate Convention Center, Hoffman Estates, IL

**May 12** - Northside Breakfast, Artemis Restaurant, 9:00 a.m., collection of canned goods for Food Pantry.

### INDIANA

Chapter Name is pending

Ellen Russell  
217 Lake Point Lane. So.  
Greenwood, IN 46142  
(317) 882-7173

**New  
Chapter**

Super, great news for all RUAEA members, Indianapolis retirees are starting up a local chapter! We are bloodied, but unbowed here in Indy. According to records, there are about 109 retired United employees living in the area.

We held a RUAEA chapter start-up meeting at the Olive Garden Restaurant; 70 retirees attended with 16 significant others. It was a very enthusiastic group that listened to our two guest speakers, Marlin Lade, RUAEA Executive V.P., and Pat O'Shaughnessy, Director - Midwest Region, from national RUAEA.

The attendees agreed there was enough interest to start a local chapter. We voted on officers: Chris Johnston was elected Pres.; Ray Brabo, V.P.;

Hannelore Brabo, Sec'y/Treas., and Ellen Russell, Correspondent. Dues are to be \$6 yearly for family membership & \$1 per meeting. Only the retiree will pay dues & meeting fees. Hannelore Brabo will give a financial report beginning of every meeting.

Bob Johnson asked about retirees doing lobbying. Our group is very interested, so at the next meeting we will vote in a Lobby Committee. Our new Pres. will ask Bob if he will lead the committee & be actively involved in communication with the politicians & keeping retirees informed of any pending changes that may affect us.

Charles Theiss has been very active in helping with our start-up & developing a logo for our chapter. We will vote in a logo committee at the next meeting.

We also discussed convention attendance in SEA on May 23/30 & will query at the next general meeting to see who may attend.

As we were not too pleased with the Olive Garden, our next meeting will take place at the Parragon Restaurant, 118 S. Girls School Road, Indianapolis, phone (317) 271-3514. Ray & Hannelore Brabo have eaten there & say the meal values are great for us retired folk. Menu is Pub-style food (YUM) at reasonable prices.

#### Calendar

**May 15** - 2 p.m., Paragon Restaurant

**Jun. 12** - 2 p.m., Paragon Restaurant

### MASSACHUSETTS

#### NOR'EASTERS

Dick Vee Vecchione  
107 Bunker Hill Road  
Auburn, NH 03032-3521  
(603) 483-8204  
[NH4VEE@AOL.COM](mailto:NH4VEE@AOL.COM)



The Nor'Easters March meeting was held at the Burlington Marriott, with a buffet lunch provided by Fidelity Investments. It was novel not to have to pay for lunch. 44 members & guests of the 55 planned, attended. All seemed interested in the presentation. Joe D'Alelio, Fidelity rep. later advised, several members gladly made arrangements to move IRAs & 401Ks into their own hands. For those of you who missed the

meeting, you can reach Joe at 800-526-7172. I did an IRA rollover; it may be worth your time to check it out.

Our co-pres., Don Simard, was responsible for coordinating with Joe to arrange the location & free luncheon. Marie Dwyer brought in golf shirts & sweat shirt samples to show what our Nor'Easters logos will go onto. Purchase orders for shirts will go out with the June meeting mailing. Our treas. Bill Vanderwal, advised the treasury was sound & questioned the need to raise monies via the 50/50. I suggested we continue the 50/50 & raise enough money to subsidize as much of the Christmas luncheon as possible. It was put to a vote. The members voted to continue the raffle & the Christmas subsidy. The winners were Tony Berardi (picked his own number) & Mary Grace.

The officers had a meeting on March 24, worked out plans for meetings for the remainder of 2004, minus May, convention month. Our list includes various restaurants, a boat cruise, summer picnic, hayride & a possible overnight hotel train ride. As always, we still encourage members to locate a suitable location for luncheon meetings.

Sylvia Shakley, wife of Lewis, had a stroke while they were vacationing in FL. After a hospital stay, they're finally home. Sylvia is recovering, doing well & working on getting back to normal. Todd, their son is currently in customer services in MHT. Ron Heisler's mother of 93 years passed away last month. Our sympathy is with both of you.

Our newest members are Mark Domurat, BOSHH; Patricia Curtis, BOSCG; Joan Meister, BOSMK & Paul Ward, BOSCG. Welcome to Nor'Easters.

### MICHIGAN

#### GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

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



18 Escapees gathered at TenEyck Tavern in the Dearborn Inn on April 1, despite the fact their correspondent forgot to advise our host; Gerri

Wimhurst's phone number, to RSVP. We welcomed 1<sup>st</sup>-timer, Joan Benoit & glad to see Kathy Wirth who has been missing in action way too long. We also welcomed guest, Judy, niece of Betty Martinez, who enjoyed an afternoon out from the nursing home where she now resides due to a stroke. Gerri drew 2 names for prizes (an 85-year-old good looking gent that was won by Agatha Kelley & a 35-year-old fellow won by Judy). Of course Gerri had to remind us it was April Fools' Day, so both had to settle for a beautiful Spring potted flower!

\$200 + later, I am now able to get out on the internet; it has been a year since AOL had sent me the virus. After all their attempts failed for a fix, including sending someone out to my house, I finally took my computer in, a/c in the last month I couldn't even sign on to read & write e-mails, the one thing I was still able to do...until now. I think this was a great disservice UAL did to some retirees, forcing AOL on us, if we wanted to sign into APOLLO. I think all AOL cares about is downloading a bunch of junk to fill up your hard drive, even if you don't want it. Has anyone else out there had these problems? A few of us Escapees sure have. I was told that the virus corrupted my hard drive & had to reinstall Windows, causing me to lose many documents that many hours had been spent on. Also now I have to do major reinstalling, as other peripherals are no longer working.

I'm really looking forward to a busy May with the Loonies & the convention. Think I'm in need of some cheering-up & forgetting about AOL & computers for awhile or forever maybe...as I just learned that the e-mails I have been sending are not going anywhere but back in my call waiting box.

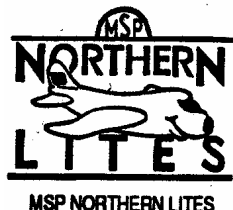
#### Calendar

1<sup>st</sup> Thurs. of month; location varies; please call or e-mail.

### MINNESOTA

#### NORTHERN LITES

MSP/St. Paul  
Connie Glattly  
82300 Wold Road  
Willow River, MN 55795  
[crglatt@lcp2.net](mailto:crglatt@lcp2.net)



We were pleased to see Al Gunderson's wife, Bonnie, at the March lunch after hearing about her

harrowing ordeal with physical issues. Things are looking up for her because she won the first prize in the 50/50 raffle! Gerry Jarrett's smiling face was a welcome sight, too. That was the first time we'd seen him since his retirement. We know that he has quite a drive from his home in WI to get to the lunches, but now that we meet on the East Side of the Metro we hope to see him more often.

Cal & Dorothy Alderman wish to thank all who sent them condolences after the death of their son. They were very much appreciated. Ethel Johnson's husband, Bob, is undergoing treatment for anemia. We wish him a quick return to vim & vigor.

Fred & Rita Stang have returned from a Texas/Mexico trip where they visited with Wayne & Karen Cole. They enjoyed the trip, rainy & cool weather notwithstanding.

The Gecko Girls-minus one (Cindy White, Nel Brawner, Mary Bernnan, JoAnn Eichacker & Janet Meyer) had their annual winter FL excursion. Connie Glattly didn't answer the No-See-Um's siren song, stayed in the snow in MN. The Girls heckled Jack & Carol Spalding in Orlando, terrorized the denizens of Jensen Beach, FL. They were able to visit with Jack & Sandra Doke while in FL.

John Beveridge brought a wonderful handcrafted wooden puzzle to lunch to be raffled off in the 50/50. He does some great things in his workshop! His family members are usually the lucky recipients of his hobby, we were pleased to have him bring something for one of us to win in the raffle.

It was reported that Andy & Norma Holen have purchased Celeste Cater's home in AZ which she sold after she & Duane were married. Sure wish that the Caters would make a trip north soon to join us for lunch.

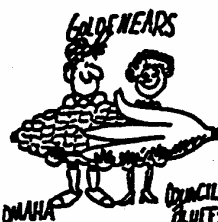
#### Calendar

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

### NEBRASKA

#### GOLDEN'EARS

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



Thanks to Rose & Tom Lanagan for hosting our luncheon at the Bohemian Café. We had 41 attendees & were glad to see Ken & Sandy Bender from Seward, NE, Barb & Claire Soseman, Ralph Bredow also from Seward, Ruth & Karlo Jepperson & first-timers, Bracston & Myrtis Olds.

Dudley Kovarik passed away in Feb. He had been suffering from Alzheimer's & had spent a few trips to the hospital. Our sincere sympathy to Jean & her family.

Ruth Westadt, mother of Ralph Westadt, Lorraine Stanfield & Elaine Schreiber passed away. Her memorial service was held in Wausa, NE. They also had a prayer service Feb. 22 in Papillion, but I was unable to attend due to my being ill. Our sympathy to Lorraine, Elaine & Ralph.

Jeanne & Bob Reilly were members a few years back, but Jeanne suffered from Alzheimer's so dropped their membership. According to the article in the paper, Jeanne was one of the first female passenger agents for UAL. Her services were held on March 4.

Jim Taylor called, said that his mother Marjorie, age 81, passed away; they had graveside services for her on March 6. Jim lives in DEN. His mother also had Alzheimer's. Both Jim & his mother worked in the flight kitchen here in OMA. I called Paul Steuri so he could notify some of their co-workers.

I saw in the paper that Don Behrendt's father died. Funeral services were March 6 in Elkhorn.

Cy Buell fell & splintered his leg from his knee to his hip. He is recuperating at the Immanuel Fontenelle Care Center. Cy called me; I tried to return his call but either was given the wrong number or they moved him - never got an answer. We hope he is getting along okay.

Penny Sophir called, said she, Jim & their daughter, Lindsay, were going to Mexico for a vacation. Lindsay was not able to return to college as she was riding her horse the day before Christmas, fell & crushed 2 vertebrae, so she has been at home this semester recuperating. Penny reports that her health is getting better.

#### Calendar

**Jun. 8** - Picnic, Chalco Hills, hosted by Mahoneys & Bradens

**Jul. 6** - Piccolo Petes, hosted by Tony & Jacki Sortino

**Aug. 8** - Malara's, hosted by Dick & Marilyn Weak.

## NEVADA

### LAS VEGAS GAMBLERS

Baldor Ziel

2996 Via Della Amore

Henderson, NV 89052

(702) 616-9696

[baldorz@earthlink.net](mailto:baldorz@earthlink.net)



Since the sudden closing of the Castaways Hotel & Casino, this was our meeting & luncheon place for the past 15 years, our members scrambled around to find a new place to meet.

Thanks to the time & efforts of Winnie Stone & Mary Lou Littlefield they found Ellis Island Village Pub & Casino. It is close to the main Strip; our first meeting there on Mar. 9 provided us with great arrangements & wonderful food. Thanks to: Tanya Adams, Banquet Sales Manager; Marcus Zavala, Food & Beverage Director; our wonderful hostess & server Augustine, also chef Larry for a great first impression. We had 66 people attending with one new member. Bruce Bestwick retired from ORDCS. Rejoining our ranks are Lee & Sandra Ricketts; they moved back from TX. Our guests were Jan Carney as company of Lu Friel; Clint Miller, guest of Lois Miller.

Our outgoing officers, Pres. Jerry Meierkort, V.P. John Albert & Sec'y Elaine Ptak, were presented with Applebee's Lunch Certificates. For their time & efforts for the past 2 years of service we thank you. Our sec'y was in Brazil celebrating his mother's 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday

We will be back on our regular scheduled meetings of every other month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues, 11:30 a.m. at Ellis Island Village Pub & Casino, 4178 Koval Lane, Las Vegas 89109 - (702) 733-8901. Plenty of parking.

Las Vegas is enjoying an early summer... Yikes! 100° already.

#### Calendar

**Jun. 8, Aug. 10, Oct. 12, Dec. 11**

*This report was made by our Pres. Chris Czaplowski. I thank her for her time & willingness to help out. Baldor. ☺*

## NEW YORK

### BUFFALO CHIPS

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



Mar. 10, 28 Chips gathered at Orazio's Potofino Room in Clarence, NY. The menu featured a buffet dinner, something we normally don't try but this was exceptional.

The change in pace on the food seemed to bring out the camaraderie from the group. Discussion centered on the negotiations for Medical Benefits & Pension Plans. At this point about all we can do is pray & believe things will turn out better than some of the theories that have been advanced. Following the serious stuff, everyone talked about their favorite vacation stop.

The sick list is improving with only Joyce (Joanne) Izydorczak on the road to recovery. In addition to the trying time she had with back surgery, this time she has a hip replacement. She is home, walking & doing things for herself for the first time in several months. The long layoff & inactivity is giving her a lot to catch up with. Hopefully by June she will be back with us.

Chaliner Swab's mother passed away recently; sympathy & prayers from everyone are extended to her.

The number of individuals joining the list of those with colds or flu-like symptoms included Don & Frankie Gaydos and Rosie Michalek. We wish all a rapid recovery.

The June meeting place will be announced soon.



### GUYS AND DOLLS

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

We had 31 attendees for lunch at San Martin on April 6. It was a lovely spring day (finally!) Guests included Carrie Fossati, formerly of JFKSW & presently a member of ReLAXers. Also, we were happy to meet Clare

Alvarez of Argentina whom many of our F/As met while flying to Buenos Aires - they enjoyed her "South of the Border" hospitality. It was good to see Margie Bair & Doris Benson (both of NYCRR) after a long absence. We also welcomed Hiroko Kikuchi Wright (NYCSS). She now lives in Erwinna, PA, also "snowbird" Liz Armstrong between trips to Southampton, NY & Spain. 1<sup>st</sup>-time attendee Kathy Kearney of EWRSS & NYCRR was also present.

Pres. Marge Segal reviewed the process of obtaining interline tickets. The group belted out a round of "Happy Birthday to Marge" whose Big Day was April 5.

We wish a speedy recovery to Mercedes Tellez & Jean Bartosek. A few of us are looking forward to the SEA convention in May. Some frequent travelers to Italy this month are Roy Portelli, Audrey Sholik & Ruth Steele.

"Beginners luck" awarded Kathy Kearney the 50/50 purse.

### Calendar

**Jun. 1** - Luncheon at San Martin. Please RSVP Jeanne Leo or Marge Segal (212-355-1788)

### NEW YORK METROS

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



NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

Our first spring meeting had a nice turnout of 75 members & guests. 4 new members joined our chapter: John Mathys, JFKFF; Sal Santino, LGACS; John Farrell, LGACS & Jerry Kearney, LGAFF. (Jerry drives from Connecticut.) Welcome all!

Joe Totaro started the meeting with the "Pledge of Allegiance" & a moment of silence for Mary Piechnik, a charter member of "The New York Metros" who worked at LGA stores, retired 31 years ago. She was aunt to Bob Piechnik a present member of the chapter. Margaret Dupree another long-time member, who relocated to another area has passed away. Condolences to the families & friends for their loss.

Charlie Kaczinski & Joe Musynski are home. In fact, Charlie came to the meeting & gave his

monthly repertoire of jokes. Welcome back Charlie! Also, Bob & Pat Gilson. Good having you back at the meetings. Dot Smith too!

Please continue to pray for Kathleen, Pat Hannon's wife. Both of them are going through a tough time. (718) 423-1725.

Birthday greetings to Frank Zabaruskas on Apr. 15 & Rocky Mongelli on Apr. 30. Both will be 82 years, still going strong.

Congratulations to Yetta & Milton Sank who will be married 63 years on Apr. 27.

Another reminder - Paul Cohen is collecting yearly dues of \$5.00 p/p.

George & Ann Maertz are off to unknown places. They're asking for phone numbers.

RUAEA Convention in SEA, Doubletree Hotel, May 23 to May 30. Seattle is a great town!

The casino bus trip to Atlantic City once again is cancelled.

United Airlines update 1-866-825-4101 - live operator.

#### Calendar

**May 5** - 12 noon, Millerridge Inn

**Jun. 2** - 12 noon, Milldridge Inn

**Jul. 7** - annual picnic at Wantagh Park off Wantagh Parkway and Merrick Road, \$15.00 p/p. See Paul Cohen and/or Charlie Kaczinski.

#### NORTHWOODS



#### NORTHWOODS LOONIES

Norman Wilkinson

2114 Country Knoll Ln.

Elgin, IL 60123-4909

(847) 697-3775

This is a final reminder that our Spring meeting will be held May 19-20-21 in Door County, WI. We have had a wonderful response so far with more than 30 Loonies having booked reservations at the hotel in the town of Fish Creek.

We all have urges to do interesting new things (though not as often nor as urgently as years ago - can you relate to that?) so if joining us at the last minute sounds good, please phone me. We welcome newcomers. We always have a good time.

#### OHIO

#### OHIO BUCKEYES

Cleveland

Sharon Garrah

43248 Kipton Nickel Plate Rd.

Lagrange, OH 44050

(440) 775-3558

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



Apr. 14, the Buckeyes held their luncheon at Mahle's Restaurant in Brunswick with 85 in attendance. Thanks to host Florence & Bob Alexander.

Several of our members are still experiencing health problems. Please continue to keep William Farnsworth in your prayers. He was admitted to the hospital Mar. 25. Cale Neth is recovering from his day in the hospital. Please continue to keep Eleanor in your prayers. I hear tell from Dolly Taucher that John's "Friend" his pillow is gone & is not missed at all. He is progressing nicely. I spoke with Emily Robinson; she is slowly recovering.

I have a poem entitled Body and Soul that I would like to share with you.

"May you be healed, in mind, body and soul.

May you come to know that all healing proceeds from God, and he cares about every part of you.

Perhaps the healing will come sooner for your attitude than for your body.

Perhaps your mind will experience peace quicker than bones and muscles.

But sooner or later; all will be well."

Carol asked me to remind you about the bus trip to Lake Erie Islands. Checks must be in by May 9. There is a limit of 50 people. Send your check to Marie and/or Dave Placko. There will be a pickup at Southpark & at Great Northern Mall. This is an all-day event. Please try to join us for a fun-filled day.

Do you know what "GEEZERS" are? I received this via e-mail & would like to share it with you. You just may be one. "Geezers" (slang for old men) are easy to spot: At sporting events, during the playing of the National Anthem, Old Geezers hold their caps over their heads & sing without embarrassment. They know the words & believe in them. Old Geezers remember World War

I, the Depression, World War II, Pearl Harbor, Guadalcanal, Normandy & Hitler. They remember the Atomic Age, the Korean War, The Cold War, the Jet Age & the Moon Landing, not to mention Vietnam.

If you bump into an Old Geezer on the sidewalk, he will apologize. If you pass an Old Geezer on the street, he will nod or tip his cap to a lady. Old Geezers trust strangers & are courtly to women. Old Geezers hold the door for the next person and always when walking make certain the lady is on the inside for protection.

Old Geezers get embarrassed if someone curses in front of women & children - they don't like any filth on TV or in the movies. Old Geezers have moral courage. They seldom brag unless it's about their grandchildren.

It's the Old Geezers who know our great country is protected, not by politicians or police, but by the young men and women in the military serving their country. This country needs Old Geezers with their decent values. We need them now more than ever. Thank God for Old Geezers.

We would like to THANK John Taucher who gives his time in making sure that all the "Buckeyes" who have given him their e-mail address, receive Retirees updates that he receives from Dale Harper. It is his dedication along with many other Buckeyes that have helped to make our chapter such a SUCCESS!

#### Calendar

**May 7** - Pacino's, 14952 Pearl Rd., Strongsville, OH. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. Lunch will be at 1:00 p.m. Pre-paid.

**Jun. 9** - Bus trip to Lake Erie Islands. Limit 50 people. Checks in by May 9. Pre-paid

**Jul. 7** - Albion Woods Reserved Picnic Area in the Mill Stream Run Reservation in Strongsville, time 12:00 p.m.

**Aug. 11** - Eleventh Annual Northfield Night. RSVP by Aug. 1. Pre-paid.

### OREGON



#### OREGON DEW-ERS

Portland

Barbara M. Heidegger

13848 NE Milton

Portland, OR 97230

(503) 254-5018

DuaneBabal@AOL.com

It was the "wearin' of the green" for our St. Patrick's Day luncheon; of course, corned beef & cabbage was one of the entrees. Guest speaker was John Wulle, Judge of the Superior Court of Clark County, State of Washington. He started by giving some personal history; he holds a private pilot's license; his father was the founder of the Pearson Air Museum in Vancouver, WA; then he spoke on the many points of the law ending with a questions & answer period.

Erna Brittner, PDXHH rejoined the Dew-ers after a 15-year absence. Walt & Ina Collins came as guests of Gaylean & Glen Swanson. Walt worked in reservations for UAL in the 40s.

There were only 2 on the sickness report this month. Bob Lorts was in the hospital with pneumonia, probably received the VIP treatment since his son is the doctor in charge of the emergency room & Alice Pankratz had surgery.

The picnic will be North Clackamas Park in SE Milwaukee. Anita & John Donaldson will chair the event again this year.

The travel desk is open 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Mon/Wed/Fri (503 249-4142 & 4143). Anyone with UAL can avail themselves of these services. The staff is always willing to assist with information & listings.

#### Calendar

Meetings at Refectory Restaurant, 1618 NE 122<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Portland, OR unless noted otherwise.

**May 12** - Schedule TBA

**Jun. 9** - Schedule TBA

**Jul. 14** - Annual Picnic

#### OUR CLUB

Southern Oregon

Lorraine Presley

655 Cumberland Dr.

Grants Pass, OR 97527

(541) 479-6076



33 members attended our March quarterly meeting at Elmer's Restaurant in Medford hosted by Betty & Howard Ballash.

Pres. Lindberg introduced our newest members: Brian Welch, SFOMM, ret. '01; Norma & Lowell Ross, SW, ret. '82; Jin & Jane Frincke, MM, ret. '98.

We received a card from the Women's Crisis



Center thanking us for our Christmas donation & our continuing support to their organization.

Members were pleased to hear that Miriam Lindberg's recent corneal transplant was a success & that she is recuperating nicely.

Unfortunately, Ken Pope has returned to hospital; we wish him a speedy recovery. We were privileged to hear a report from Tom Harvey, N.E. Director, giving us an update on insurance, pensions & continuing negotiations. Tom also gave us information regarding the new RUAEA website. He encouraged all members to attend the SEA Convention where we can meet & exchange ideas with John Tague, Executive V.P. Customer for United at company headquarters.

#### Calendar

**May 5** - Monthly G.P. luncheon hosted by the Hickoxs, details forthcoming

**Jun. 5** - Quarterly Meeting to be hosted by Bob & Harriet Thibault in Crescent City.

Need a ride or carpool? Call 541-479-6076

#### PENNSYLVANIA



##### THE INDEPENDENTS

Philadelphia, PA

*Submitted by Kathy Edwards*

for Dee Burrs

2618 Silverside Rd.

Wilmington, DE 19810

(610) 859-0980

There were 65 attendees at our Feb. meeting including some first-timers who came out to hear what is happening with United & our medical benefits. Bill Carmen, IAM District Representative, gave us the latest on our medical coverage for the past & current retirees. This does not look too good according to the last correspondence we have received.

Pres. Bernie McNamee, opened the meeting; Ways & Means committee chairman, Joe Brad, offered the invocation before lunch.

Our speaker, Dan White, an Asset Protection Specialist with NAAS, gave us a very important presentation on how we can survive the stock market & keep our assets intact.

Our committee met on Mar. 25 at Kathy & Al Edwards house. Joe Brad provided a great lunch. (Who says men can't cook?) We are planning to

have trips to Longwood Gardens & a dinner theater for May & June. Why don't you who read this come for a visit & join us.

I am filling in for Dee as she is recuperating from a hip operation. She can be contacted at the Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital, 414 Paoli Pike, Malvern, PA 19355 - 610-251-5400.

##### PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

Jeri Juth

1900 Truman Dr.

Aliquippa, PA 15001

(724) 378-3316

jmjuth@hotmail.com



Hooray to the Merry Month of May! Let's hope April has gone & taken its showers with it. I don't think the East will have to worry about a drought this year.

Hopefully we'll have a good turnout at our SEA convention - a great way to renew old friendships. The convention committee has a great week planned.

Had a surprise call from a former Pit-Stopper, Don "Sully" Sullivan. Sully wanted to "light a fire" under the "ole timers" to attend the Capital Airlines Picnic in Sept.

Best wishes to a few members who are under the weather: Frank "Gus" Gustafson who would like to hear from his friends - 2226 Hampton St., Pittsburgh, PA 15218 (412-371-4524). Our former correspondent JoAnn Schneider is staying with relatives & can receive mail c/o Cindy Fromme, 154 Langham Dr., Hoosktown, PA 15050 (724-573-0307)

A committee chaired by Barb Seaholm, consisting of Carl Chiocchi, Phyliss Smith, Treatie Karwoski & yours truly met for 6 ½ hours, formulated local bylaws & procedures. They will be presented to the membership for approval.

Our condolences to Andy & Lil Bungo on the loss of their daughter Arlene Wells. Condolences also to Bernice & Ted Zyzak on the loss of their son. Cards can be sent to Ted & Bernice at 506 Canterbury Lane, Carnegie, PA 15106.

Congratulations to Lois Varrenti on the birth of her first grandchild - Emma Nicholette Redinger. The proud "grandma" is already sporting a few pictures.

Speaking of "ole" friends, whatever happened

to Bob Larsen, Frank Schmidt, Dick Svec, Dick Snyder? If you're out there guys, would love to hear from you. "Old Pit-Stopppers never die - they fade away."

#### Calendar

**May 23 - 30** - RUAEA Convention, SEA

**Jun.** - Pirate Ball Game

**Jul. 16** - Picnic, Robinson Picnic

**Sep.** - Capital Airlines Picnic

### TENNESSEE

#### TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS

Jerry Barr

216 Mingo Way

Loudon, TN 37774-2952

(865) 458-0815

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



We reminded ourselves earlier this year that some places in East Tennessee, or anywhere for that matter, need revisiting occasionally. It was in 1997 that the Barkmanns hosted a fine luncheon at the Chop House in West Knoxville; it took us until March 17 to get back there, this time with Jack & Sue Ferrell as hosts. It was excellent food again, or still, with 30 in attendance. Our server happened to be a young lady whose father is flying 777s out of Dulles.

It was good to see the Huffs again. They were accompanied by Gerry Schaad, who began his career in 1958 & retired several years ago after tours of duty in many stations, his last being at New Orleans. We hope to see him more often now that he has been discovered at 5304 Pleasant Ridge Road in Knoxville (37912).

Our concerns & prayers are with the Anthonys, who are in ATL with their daughter, Jill, suffering from cancer. Jackye Jeacock is doing OK after knee surgery, with a little more time, may try to talk herself into doing the other one. Not to be outdone, Nancy Krop was scheduled to have both knees replaced on the day this article was being submitted.

Jerry reported on a rumor that had been simmering on the back burner for awhile, that Sky West is likely to replace Atlantic Coast as the United Express carrier serving TYS when they (ACA) leave to start their own airline, Independence Air. The so-called "intelligence" has

gone so far as to name a new manager for the station, John Lingenfelter, who was with UA at TYS before the bigger United pulled out.

Aviation Week has conveyed some sobering analyses about a possible remix of airlines within the industry. They predict a shrinkage of one or two trunk carriers if there's another downturn, with US Air likely to be the first victim. It will be interesting to see how they fare when Southwest comes to town in PHL, one of US Air's strong cities.

Early indications are that the chapter will have 4 couples at the last part of the convention -- the Adkins, Shipes, Swallows & Barrs. SEA is a great city & we're looking forward to it.

#### Calendar

**May 20** - 11:30 p.m. CDT, luncheon/tour at Falcon Manor in McMinnville, to be hosted by the Taylors & Nancy Krop.

**Jun. 17** - 10 a.m., EDT, breakfast at the Cracker Barrel, Exit 373 off I40-75 on Campbell Station Road, Farragut.

**Jul. 15** - 12:30 p.m. EDT, luncheon to be hosted by the Adkins, details to follow.

### UTAH

#### THE SALT LAKERS

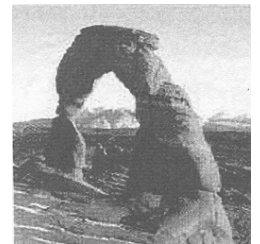
Brigitte Murdock

1505 S. Roxbury Rd.

Salt Lake City, UT 84108-2844

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



On Mar. 17, 26 chapter members met for lunch at the Bountiful Chuck-A-Rama. We welcomed "Bud" Farrington, Frank Ayrton, Mary Blackhurst & Nancy Tronier whose hubby Keith was down with the flu.

Maria Apperson, Tony/Dorothy Brown, Bob Faydock, Bill Berg, Lila Straley were absent - usually our regulars.

We also missed Manny Rubal who was not feeling well; wife Rose had suffered heart problems & had been hospitalized.

Mar. 7, George McDonald suddenly passed away. His funeral was held 3/13/04 in his hometown of Heber City, UT. Their address: 2431 E. Granite Hills Dr., Sandy, UT 84092. Our condolences to Ellen & the McDonald family.

Anne Smith seems to be recuperating rather nicely & was moved from hospice care back to her own condo. Right on, Anne - get well soon!

Chapter Pres. Pete Loyola & wife Jackie related that they had watched UAL Capt. Al Haynes being interviewed on one of the major morning TV shows; his daughter's organ transplant fund is being overwhelmed with donations! To all of us present it was heartwarming to hear this news & read about the generosity of our nationwide RUAEA chapters/individuals contributing to the Arguello-Haynes Fund.

George Dalton's shoulder is still in a sling, but healing well.

Birthdays: Byron "Bud" Nelson (88) & Frank Murdock (85) on 3/20.

Douglas Roberts received a noteworthy letter from Reeve Lindbergh (son of Chas. Lindbergh). In it, the Smithsonian Nat'l Air & Space Museum informed Doug that, for a reasonable fee, his own name would be written upon the Nat'l Aviation & Space Exploration Wall of Honor. He is contemplating the offer.

#### Calendar

**May 19** - Lunch, 2 p.m., Jumbo Buffet, 6930 S. state St., Murray, UT

**Jun. 16** - Potluck, 12 noon, Island View Park, Centerville, UT

### VIRGINIA

#### TIDEWATER SEAGULLS

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



Meeting was held at Locks Point Restaurant in Chesapeake with 26 attending. Guests included Kellie Clough, UA Sales Rep. - Eastern Div., who spoke to us about TED & plans with Atlantic Air & new low cost carrier Independent Air. She hopes we would be out of Chapter 11 this summer & would e-mail new information when possible. Pension reform & medical premiums were discussed.

Hosting the luncheon were the Quagliettas with table planters made by Mrs. Q. won by Temple McManus-Williams, Keys & Fedirico. 50/50 raffle

won by Geiger & Betty Chasey. The sales rep. brought bags for everyone with little goodies promoting the new TED Airlines. Other TED bears & "Come Fly With Me" by Frank Sinatra were raffled, won by different members. Everyone reported in good health.

Pat Gieger is to have shoulder surgery soon.

### WASHINGTON

#### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle

Dee O'Donnell

451 - 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Apt. 701

Kirkland, WA 98033

(425) 827-6640

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS



Irene & Jerry Opperman hosted our monthly luncheon March 16 at the Golden Steer in Kent. A smaller turnout of 58 Slickers attended. Slight change of menu was offered. (My steak sandwich couldn't have been better.)

George Weseman won the 50-50 drawing; however, before it was handed to him, he was informed he was the lucky winner to be our new V.P. Everyone clapped their approval as he accepted & said he was thinking of stepping up to the plate. George will finish this term & automatically goes on to a 2-year term of Pres. He has the experience as a Past Pres.

Jane Byers, wife of retired pilot Ken Byers (also deceased) passed away Mar. 14. Their son John (retired ramp agent) called. He said he would share any cards with his sister & brother -18502 Driftwood Dr., East, Sumner, WA 98390.

Vi Gray is still hospitalized at Swedish Providence. The doctors & tests have ruled out a few things. They are treating her for one of the many kinds of pneumonia & keeping a close eye on her. She still enjoys getting cards & calls from SEARR & her old friends in CLERR - 6504 S. Norfolk, Seattle, WA 98118

I had the nicest thank you note for a get well card I sent to Dorothy Retzlaff in Wilsonville, OR. She was my trainer when I joined UAL in 1956. Dorothy is one of the best & outstanding trainers UAL ever hired - so thorough, patient & kind - a great lady! Looking forward to seeing her at Convention.

Our travel desk is open Mon/Tue/Wed/Thur

(206 433-4218) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Recently one of the volunteers had a call from a ship going from So. Calif. to Mexico. The desk loves these challenges.

#### Calendar

**May 11** - Monthly luncheon at Winners Restaurant in South Center

**May 23-30** - Annual RUAEA Convention, Double Tree Hotel, SEA-TAC

**May 30** - End of Convention; Alaska Cruise; Victoria BC trip

**Aug. 10** - Picnic

**Sep. 14** - Annual Luncheon on the Royal Argosy

**Oct. 12** - Monthly luncheon at Maxi's on the top of the Double Tree

**Nov. 9** - Monthly luncheon at Best Western, South Center

Hopefully many familiar old & new faces will brighten SEA at convention.



#### LILAC CITY FLYERS

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

The snowbirds have returned to their nests! Lance & I had a wonderful time & beautiful weather in Palm Springs, Scottsdale & Prescott. We left Spokane the 5<sup>th</sup> of Jan. & were driving on Highway 84 when they closed it behind us due to blizzard conditions. We made it to Troutdale. The next day we braved the nasty elements & made it past the worst part of the stormy weather. When we arrived in Bakersfield it was in the 70s.

Lance's nearly 91-year-old dad had driven down & was waiting for Lance to play golf.

April 3 Lance & I reached our lifetime membership with Weight Watchers by reaching our goal & maintaining it for 6 weeks. Between the two of us we lost nearly 100 lbs. We both feel much better. It was well worth the effort.

I understand Dale & Terry Burgess hosted last month's dinner at the Onion on N. Division in Spokane. Thank you Dale for all of your help in my

absence. To the best of my knowledge everyone is still healthy & wise.

#### WASHINGTON, D.C.

#### THE DULLES LOUNGERS

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



On Mar. 10 a large crowd of 80 members & guests gathered at the Golden Corral in Manassas, VA for the monthly luncheon.

New faces appear on a regular basis; we were glad to welcome Jerri Rizzo, formerly IADRR. Shirley Gallagher, formerly IADRR has moved to Charlottesville, VA & is enjoying country life, less traffic & a slower pace.

Pres. David Cox introduced several speakers who spoke on topics of interest to all UAL retirees. Mari McColl AFA representative reported that many local retirees have joined AFA retirees on Mon. afternoons at Dulles Airport to hand out leaflets to the traveling public to alert them to the health care crisis that UAL retirees are facing. The response from the passengers has been most supportive in their words, & subsequent letters & phone calls on our behalf. A small group of Washington retirees have been going to the Bankruptcy Court in Federal Court in CHI on a regular basis. They have been joined by retirees from other areas to show the judge that "retirees have faces."

A 2<sup>nd</sup> speaker was introduced, Ken Strafer, who is Chief Operations Office, representing The Four Captains Memorial. He showed some beautiful posters commemorating the events of 9/11/01. Ken Strafer may be reached at 703-307-1257 or by e-mail [KSTRAFER@HenryArthur.com](mailto:KSTRAFER@HenryArthur.com).

Pres. David Cox announced the Annual Pig Roast & Picnic to be held on June 12 at 1 p.m. at his home, 8902 Sudley Road, Manassas, VA. It is requested that we bring **homemade desserts**. This is always a fun-filled event, with many reunions taking place on the lawn at David & Tina's home.

We are happy to report that Dan Browder took home the monthly door prize of a basket of wine, cheese & crackers. The 50/50 was won by this

correspondent; she went home \$43.00 richer!

### Calendar

**May 12** - 12:30 p.m., Golden Coral, Manassas, VA

**Jun. 12** - 1:00 p.m., Annual Pig Roast & Picnic,  
home of David & Tina Cox, 8902 Sudley Rd.,  
Manassas, phone 703-368-7696,  
IADRETIRED@AOL.Com

## NEW MEMBERS

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

Anderson, Diane J, ORDCS, P.O. Box A3594, Chicago, IL 60690-3594

Archibald, Analea D., CHIRR, 7400 Camelia Drive, Hanover Park, IL 60133-3226

Barbar, Shirley, WASSO, 43463 Thistlewood Ct, Ashburn, VA 20147

Beavers, Elizabeth G, 1405 Dallas Circle, Marietta, GA 30064

Bell, John, INDJZ, 5138 E Allison Rd, Camby, IN 46113

Benson, Elmer, SFOOV, Po Box 1884, Burlingame, CA 94011-1884

Bock, Barbara B., DENCS, 1200 Blackfoot Ct., Madison, TN 37115

Bodanske, John W, DCAFO, 10680 S Middle Rd, Edinburg, VA 22824

Bogie, Art, SEAFO, Box 718, La Conner, WA 98257

Brown, Edward C, ORDFO, 641 Hawksbill Dr, Satellite Beach, FL 32937-3854

Budahn, Earl B., MSPMM, 21590401 Ave., Arlington, MN 55307

Calabrese, Barbara L., WHQWS, 12606 Hardtner Circle, Wichita, KS 67235

Carter, William V, INDEG, 295 Tradition Ln, Danville, IN 46122

Cary, Diane R, LAXSW, 2817 Camino Del Mar #29, Del Mar, CA 92014

Casto, Helga W., SEACS, 1855 S. E. Canino Drive, Camino Island, WA 98282

Chisholm, Marilyn L, SEASW, 11032 S.E. 9th, Bellevue, WA 98004-6829

Chisholm, Robert M, DENFO, 34831 Hidden Meadow Dr, Evergreen, CO 80439

Choo, Jeanne M, HNLOZ, 47-507 Waipaipai St, Kaneohe, HI 96744

Collopy, Diane M., ORDSW, 746 Buckingham Ct., Hoffman Estates, IL 60194-2704

Cox, Kathy L, OKCOZ, 800 Yukon Ave, Yukon, OK 73099

Crawford, Clark, LAXFO, P.O. Box 70, Hansville, WA 98340-0070

Dasher, Harry L., MKEOZ, 12945 Zinke Dr., Brookfield, WI 53005-6592

Doner, Sandra K., CHISS, 30714 Turtle Creek, Farmington Hills, MI 48331

Ehrlich, Dullain, SEASW, 15716 25th Dr S E, Mill Creek, WA 98012

Elser, Charles E., SFOOO, 274 Larkspur Lane, Fairfield, CA 94533

Enriquez, Ricardo, SFOEC, 395 Killingsworth, Vacaville, CA 95687-3376

Frantz, Hazel I, ORDFF, 1523 Adams St, Lake In The Hills, IL 60156-1001

Gilmore, Dian H., JFKSW, 116 Pinehurst Ave. #H-62, New York, NY 10033-1755

Gilstrap, Rod, 69789 Antles Ln, Cove, OR 97824-8202

Green, Janice, LAXRR, 1560 West 65th St, Los Angeles, CA 90047-2008

Grieb, Jean O., ORDSW, 2601 W. Sunnyside, Chicago, IL 60625

Griffin, Gary R., DENCS, 19820 E. Amherst Drive, Aurora, CO 80013

Horton, Velma G, 4370 Blackford Av, San Jose, CA 95129-2008

Ike, Helen E, EWRSW, 8 Oakwood Terrace, Weshington, NJ 07882

Janes, Petra, DENRR, 444 S Niagara St, Denver, CO 80224-1326

Johnson, Robert E., IND1028 White Avenue, Brownsburg, IN 46112

Kalchbrenner, Vivian J, EWRCs, 181 Rose Rd, West Nyack, NY 10994

Kent, Frank R., WHQVS, 1023 Muirfield, Inverness, IL 60067

Kusch, Sheila L, 134 Barton Cir, Schaumburg, IL 60194

Libens, Eileen F, CLERR, 2146 Overbrook Ave, Lakewood, OH 44107-5312

Marquis, James R., INDTR, 1013 E. Buchanan Street, Plainfield, IN 46168-1705

McLean, Duncan R, DENMM, 5406 S Rifle Ct, Centennial, CO 80015

Morrison, Robert W., 721 Santa Rosa Street, Sunnyvale, CA 94085

Morton Jr., David K., 23406 Se 254th Street, Maple Valley, WA 98038

Murray, Mariann, WHQIR, 11321 Virginia Drive, Bonita Springs, FL 34135

Murtland, Dale Ann, SEASW, 262686th Ave. Ne, Clyde Hill, WA 98004-1666

Nettles, Harlan, SFOPD, 2931 Conte Dr, Carson City, NV 89701-5821

Nowak, Raymond, LAXMM, 40684 Corte Albara, Murrieta, CA 92562-5513

O'Connell Iii, William J., SFOFO, 819 Mohican Way,  
Redwood City, CA 94062  
 Olivera, Nereida D., CHIRR, 501 E. Jefferson,  
Bensenville, IL 60106  
 Palumbo, Cheryl A., DENCS, 11632 Fairplay St,  
Brighton, CO 80603  
 Pearson, Florence E., SEASW, 16527 74th Ave. Ne,  
Kenmore, WA 98028-4245  
 Pearson, Norman, 2214 E Grove St, Arlington Heights,  
IL 60004  
 Petersen, Morris J, 24824 43rd Ave S, Kent, WA  
98032-4161  
 Peterson, Craig A, INDAF, 286 Meadow Glen Dr,  
Avon, IN 46123  
 Rairigh, John W., 1800 Portsmouth Ave., Westchester,  
IL 60154-4456  
 Rogers, Julius J, INDJJ, 4280 Mission Dr, Indianapolis,  
IN 46254  
 Schneider, David I, SFORR, 4903 Fowler Ave, Everett,  
WA 98203-3213  
 Schubot, Genevieve, SEAMK, 2103 S 128th St,  
Seattle, WA 98168  
 Scollard, Daniel J, ORDF, 439 S Elgin Ave, Forest  
Park, IL 60130  
 Solak, Barbara A, WHQAK, 1826 Concordia Ln,  
Schaumburg, IL 60193-2310  
 Steger, Dolores, 818 Maplewood Avenue, Kent, WA  
98030-6343  
 Tabbitt, Florence L., ORDSW, 378 Bienterra Trail,  
Rockford, IL 61107-5246  
 Urbanus, Kathleen E., ORDF, P.O. Box 104, Mt.  
Prospect, IL 60056  
 Voyce, Lester I, SFOOV, 1422 Plumas Dr, Suisun City,  
CA 94585-3069  
 Watson, Ann (Edith), P.O. Box 224, Lostant, IL 61334-  
0224  
 Westpfahl, Charles L, SEAFO, 17954 48th Ave S.,  
Seattle, WA 98188  
 Young, Carolyn S, WHQUO, 522 Parkside Dr, Palatine,  
IL 60067  
 Zech, Sheila, 945 E. 7th Ave., Escondido, CA 92025-  
4509

## CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Jacqueline P Abel, Charles R Allen, Elisabeth L  
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Michael, Kenneth A Michels, Jerome V Mikulay, Jack  
L Miller, Gary F. Mills, Mary Lou Mims, Alexander

Moromisato, Thomas R Moss, Violet N Mulloy, Frank N Murdock, John T Murphy, Robert A Newberg, James L Ogden, George Okada, Wayne E O'Kelly, Carol C O'Neill-Lavelle, Howard Y Ota, Nick Palmer, Gilbert J Paquet, Kenneth L Partain, Leonard Pascale, Jack D Patterson, Norman Pearson, Richard R Pendleton, Henry M Pietrzak, Edward C Pitzer, Richard Post, Marcia R. Powers, Arthur H Price, Ed Pucci, John J Rankin, Evelyn Rapattoni, Leonas Raslavicius, Frances R Rauschkolb, James Riddelle, Harold O Rieben, Richard E Riedl, Raymond E Rigsby, Jacquelyn A. Ronan, Sharon R Ronning, Mary R Scharlan, Donald L Seadale, Barbara Seaholm, Jack F Seal, Terry J Seanor, Clyde E Searles, Marjorie Segal, William L Shailor, Donald E Sherfick, Thomas F Shipe, Paul R. Shockey, Jean J Smith, Kay E Smith, Connie M Smith, Raymond J. Snyder, Pascal C Soriano, William C Speicher, James H Staib, Jack Steidl, Arvid A Stenstrom, Jeanne O Stevens, William G Stouffer, Russell R Strandberg, Konrad M Strzelczyk, Eleanore P Syoen, Joseph Szabo, M Mike Takamatsu, Leona M Talarsky, James R Taylor, Richard H Thompson, Susan J Thornton, Patricia A Thorp, Anthony F Tricoli, Gerry F Troppe, Claire Udell, William L (Bill) Van Sant, Albert VanRavenswaay, Berta Varga, Hank E Velasco, Ingrid Vincent, Ronald E Vlcek, Richard W Wagner, Wilma L Wagner, Lola M Wallace, Roger Wandrey, Daryl C Warren, Jerome A Watnemoe, Patricia A Watt, Regina Weatherford, Christine F Webber, Myrtle C Wehman, Donald J Weindorf, Sally Welter, Gary H Wendland, Sonna L Whalen, John L Wheatley Roosevelt White, James V Whitney, Edward Wiehe, Kathleen Warren Wilkin, Robert W Williams, William L Wimmer, John C Winters, Charles F Wirth, Fred S Wise, Frank H Wood, Clarence E Wood Jr, Dolores Woynich, Delano H. Wright, James Yip, Albert R Zakrzewski, Christina S Zielinski.

The Central Coasters Chapter of CA donated \$25 to the RUAEA Postal Fund in memory of the death of a member, Arthur Price. Our sympathy and thanks are extended to his widow, Josephine Price who requested the money be donated to RUAEA.

## OBITUARIES

Retiree-**BERTHOUD, Paul M.**, EXO, on 2/1/04.  
 Retiree-**BUTLER, Frances M.**, SFO, on 12/29/03, mother of Jonathan A. Berg  
 Retiree-**CRATTY, James R.**, DEN, on 3/20/04  
 Retiree-**GARRISON, Henry L.**, EXO, on 2/29/04  
 Retiree-**HIBBS, Louis L.**, ORD, on 3/9/04,

husband of Julie, 1170 N. Amerbrooke Ave., Tucson, AZ 85745  
 Retiree-**HOLT, Don K.**, LAX, on 3/5/04, husband of Marlene, 125 Dustin Way, Grants Pass, OR 97526  
 Retiree-**KOSCIELSKI, Jean M.**, EXO, on 3/6/04.  
 Retiree-**LINNANE, Marie A.**, LAX, on 1/23/04  
 Retiree-**McDONALD, George W.**, CHI, on 2/29/04, husband of Ellen, 2431 E. Granite Hills Dr., Sandy, UT 84092  
 Retiree-**PFANZ, JR., Jacob**, CLE, on 3/7/04,  
 Spouse-**STAIB, Rose Nancy**, on 3/4/04, wife of James Staib, 1117 Charleston Ct., Keller, TX 76248  
 Retiree-**STARNES, James M.**, SFO, on 3/17/04, husband of Evelyn, 1901 Notre Dame, Belmont, CA 94002  
 Retiree-**SWANSON, Swan B.**, SFO, on 3/4/04, husband of Marian, 611 Madrone Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94085  
 Retiree-**TAYLOR, Marjorie**, OMA, on 3/2/04  
 Spouse-**VENTURA, Anna**, on 2/22/04, wife of Vincent, SFO, 1821 Alta Mira Place, San Jose, CA 95124  
 Retiree-**WILLIAMS, Donald C.**, SFO, on 3/16/04  
 Retiree-**ZOTTI, Henry P.**, JFK, on 3/2/04, husband of Lee, 12 Forestdale Dr., Huntington, LI, NY 11743  
 Art Ermish, Bill Wimmer, Louise Birch, Alice O.

## LETTERS

We have received Greetings & Thanks for the Newsletter from the following members:

Depew, Fred S. Wise, Jack Gage, Henry Pietrzak, Guy Lamond, Betty Bergbower, Christina Zielinski, Ruth Bauer, Larry Knoll, LaVerne Burke, Sharon Ronning, Bobbi Teeter, Mary Platt, Nancy Ink, Al Zakrzewski, Carita Paret, Mickey Wehman, R. Lutzinger, Marge Segal, Duane Damjanovich, Ronni Bishop, Nick Koroulis, J.K. Miller, Frances J. Joseph, E.L. Wiehe, Jim Nelson, Mike Cooke, Bob Bradley, Ken Michels, William "Bo" Bohannan, Fran Merle, Carrie Forsate, Frank Mancini, Cindy Hader, Jeanne Leo, Carolyn Alva, Brigit Prior, Joan Hoffman, Irene Kaplan, Thomas F. Shipe, Eddie Hilger, Bob & Edie Clark, Gerald J. Herbers, Al Van Ravenswaay, Bill Speicher,

Mike Conde, Sylvia Friedman, Barbara S. Lee, Wayne O'Kelly, Brandon Maus, Guy Carpentieri, Mike Takamatsu, J. Henn, C. Wood, Jr., Don Holt, Joseph A. Butera, Bob Colpitts, Janet Lockhart, Angelina E. Martens Wubbolts, P. Bell, Barrie Hooley, P.W. Howey, Bob Duffey, Bernice Aaron, Ken Killmon, Gary F. Mills, Mary R. Scharlan, Marilyn Gossler Hanson and Terry Davies.

## **WE HAVE RECEIVED LETTERS FROM:**

### **MEMORIES**

#### **Gordon Keister, 32 Samuel Dr., Flemington, NJ 08822**

Back in the early 1970s on a snowy, freezing night, I was the Cargo Supervisor on the PM shift at EWRFF...The inbound flights were delayed and the inbound cargo was backing up in the Terminal holding areas.

At the Air Freight Terminals customer counter a dozen or more irate teamsters were asking when their cargo would be available, when in stormed this woman who looked like an Amazon (she had to be over 6 ft. tall). She started shoving & pushing aside all those tough teamsters around like they were toy dolls. She pushed her way to the front of the line; she started banging on the counter shouting "who's in charge here?" Naturally my Air Freight Agent (we still called them agents in those days) turned around and smiled at me and said "I think this one is yours."

I proceed to the counter, asked what could I do for her; with that she reached across the counter, grabbed my tie, started pulling me over the customer counter. Well, by now I was having a hard time breathing. My Agent grabbed me by my waist & one of the drivers I knew was trying to restrain her. She finally released me, then she started screaming that we were trying to kill her two dogs that she had shipped out of CLE that morning; naturally the flight was delayed & recovery was slower than normal because of the weather. She wanted to know why the company didn't provide heated foreman carts (I wasn't going to get into that.) After finally calming her down, she asked for my name & title. As she departed "shouted" watch the Allen Burke Show tonight; I'm a guest on his show tonight & I'm going to make you famous. (Oh well, I thought.) Since I

didn't get home until after the show was over, I called my wife, asked her to watch the show. When I arrived home my wife said you're not famous yet; it looks like they edited something she said but no mention of UAL or myself. She was a big time stripper called "Irma The Body", but what tickled me most was when my wife said her real name was Irma Good-neighbor...

#### **Toni Peterson, E21060 SD Circle, Augusta, WI 54722**

First a big thank you to all of you at RUAEA for all your hard work & dedication. I look forward to receiving the newsletter; it makes me feel connected.

It has been 9 months since I retired from WHQIN (the Benefit Service Center). I probably talked to many of you when you called into the BSC with all kinds of questions. I enjoyed talking to every one of you. When I asked you how you were liking retirement, the answer was always the same, "I don't know how I had time to work."

It has been a lot of changes for Carl & me. We sold our house in Mt. Prospect, IL after 30 years & moved to our summer home in Eau Claire, WI. We overlook Lake Eau Claire & will be building a new house on this property in June.

Best wishes to all my United friends. Retirement is the greatest. I would recommend it to everyone.

#### **Joyce Hendricks, 2543 Arborwood Dr., Valrico, FL 3359**

I want to thank everyone connected with RUAEA for the fabulous job they do to help us stay connected to people & things that are a major part of our lives.

I'm still working for the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office in Tampa, FL. Currently teaching & facilitating Life Skills to Substance Abuse & Domestic Violence inmates in the county jail system. I love it: it's so rewarding; however, I must thank UALSW for my first opportunity to train & facilitate. Without SW's opportunity I may have never found my passion in life. I feel blessed to have found something I really enjoy in these trying times for UAL & the industry. My heart goes out to so many with the threat of losing or lessening many of our benefits. I pray, as our Company comes out of bankruptcy, we will come out strong & will



continue to enjoy the fruits of our labor.

Kennedy & I do not do much traveling right now due to limited presence of UAL in the Tampa Bay area. We're happy to hear about TED, however. I only wish TED would fly 777, 767 & 747s into Tampa. Now that's some wishful thinking.

**James Underhill, 879 Bush St., San Francisco, CA 94108**

To friends & acquaintances of Donald Williams: I am a friend of Don's, his power of attorney & executor. I have the sad job of reporting that Don passed away on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March. The manager of our building & I found him on the 17<sup>th</sup> sitting in a slouched position in a chair in his apartment. The manager thought maybe he was asleep, told me to try to wake him up. One look and I knew he was dead. I touched his arm; it was cold.

Don asked me to let as many of his friends know in his will that he is gone. I am abiding by his wishes. He was cremated & there was no service, as was his wish. He was a good man & a good friend.

**Jean Feely, 2049 Manorview Cir., NW, Salem, OR 97304**

On this sunny beautiful afternoon in Salem with all the spring flowers in bloom, it must be March, and another year has rolled around.

To Jo, Shirley, Bonnie, Harriet, Adele & Bev, another yearly THANK YOU for keeping us updated and UNITED as our UNITED AIRLINE FAMILY. Would we retirees exist without your NEWSLETTER? NO, of course, we would not.

To Mel, the Co-office Manager, I have a request, maybe a favor would be better. For just one month would the mailing team put the "sticker" on the side of the Newsletter lengthwise. Having experienced this "sticker" problem with another organization, I think you will find not only does it hold the sheets together better, but it will NOT cover any of the printing on the back side of the Newsletter. Thanks, and just a thought, of course.

Thanks again for the wonderful job ALL of you do; best wishes for your continued efforts on our behalf.

**Trish Watt, 215 Midway Dr., Willowbrook, IL 60527-2446**

I have been "retired" a year, yet the newsletter

is a great opportunity to hear about the "REAL FOUNDERS" of this company & how it all evolved.

I have only worked in the airline industry a mere 20 years, both for Eastern & United. Both companies had or have great employees who were led down the tubes by selfish & uncaring management, but my experience in working with the people who truly make this company work on a day to day basis was nothing but **great & fulfilling**. We all know who **really** gets those planes off the ground and keeps the people coming back year after year.

I come from a long line of airline family employees, both on the ground & in the air, some of which are still out there on the front lines and behind the scenes, working to save this airline, working under extreme stresses, heavy work loads & understaffed conditions.

We all need to compliment them on their efforts whenever we can to show them our support & thankfulness for a job well done. So the next time you step up to that ticket counter, gate podium or on that plane for your next trip, give them your **THANKS**, for without them, we wouldn't be enjoying the retirement we all deserve!

I am one of 2500 flight attendants who retired "early" to save this company money and to be able to "afford" my medical benefits---boy, was I fooled! This company again has shown it's "loyal" employees just how much they appreciated our efforts over the years by "hitting below the belt" & where it will "hurt the most", our medical benefits!

I hope that they will see the light & reconsider the terms of their agreement that will be fair to all of us---those who have retired, also those to come.

I want to **THANK** you all for the great job you do in getting this newsletter out & **THANK** you for listening.

**John F. Boyle, 717 S. Lombard Ave., Oak Park, IL 60304-1607**

I'm retired 24 years & reaching the ripe old age of 87, feeling good, but getting a little "creeky". I was hired by Tom Plunkett, my boss at Midway Airport in the year 1946, quite a few years before RUAEA was formed with the help of Plunkett. Thanks for the Newsletter.

**Jim Karibo, 8821 E. Rosemont St., Inverness,**

**FL 34450-7314**

Boy, am I late with my dues. Don't drop me, for the newsletter is my only contact with the "United World". Yes, the company is going through hard times & tough decisions have to be made, but don't let it be at the expense of the retirees. Let the Board of Directors take a look at the parachute packages of the past CEOs who "flew" this company into the mess it is in today. Cut their benefits before the retirees' benefits.

**Marilynn Harmon, 10542 Mira Vista Dr., Santa Ana, CA 92705**

I retired last June after 37 years of flying - I had no intention of "clipping my wings", but the medical coverage deal almost forced it.

I loved being a flight attendant for UAL & am thankful that I was able to fly when it was still a fun & rewarding job. I flew mainly long-haul international flights, really enjoyed the passengers & the great lay-overs.

My husband & I have 2 daughters & 2 grandchildren, so it's wonderful to be able to spend more time with them, my garden, crafts, friends, etc. I love the newsletter - it really keeps us well informed. Thanks!

**Vic Swanson, 38560 Fawn Springs Dr., Palm Desert, CA 92260-1103**

This past year, only one flight to HNL. Luncheon with "Honolulu Menehunes" in Oct. & a visit with a few of the good people I used to work with at the HNL airport 1966-1981.

I retired early in 1983 & figured if I had 10 good years of retirement I would be happy. Hard to believe it has now been 21 years!

Let's all hope United does well in these trying times.

**A. Evaskitis, 139 Hagaman St. Port Reading, NJ 07064**

The red stamp got me. Right before I read the filler at the bottom of the left column on Page 33. So as not to have the readers searching for the March issue to see what it was, I will repeat it. "As you get older, don't slow down, speed up. There is less time left."

The first few months of this year put me into a lazy mood. A major project that I had undertaken with plenty of time to spare put me in a very

relaxed state of mind. Much to my surprise the red stamp appeared on covers both front & back of the newsletter. Please don't cancel my subscription as I may have to borrow Joe Glydon's (a "lifer") copy. He who doesn't need to keep renewal dates in mind. Thanks to all for a job done in Class "A" style.

**Mel Hofer, 13373 N. Plaza Del Rio Blvd., #7722, Peoria, AZ 85381-4873**

It's that time again -- Who among us that was in the service during the '42 - '43 Era wondered if we would survive the war; here we are 60 years later, still operating - maybe not on all 8 cylinders - but we are still alive. Both Mildred & I reached 81 this year; every birthday gets better. By the time we get to 100 they should be excellent!

Thanks to the staff & mailers for such a good job.

Please note the address change above.

**Frank & Maxine Wood, 8765 SW 115<sup>th</sup> St., Ocala, FL 34481-5091**

I was one of the Sept. 1980 retiree gang. We have enjoyed the Newsletter & seeing many familiar names in print for almost 24 years. We are charter members of the Florida Citrus Groupers & attend our monthly meetings whenever possible. We were saddened by the death of 2 of our active members, Joe Veracka & Frank Smith, a former co-worker at ORDMM. They will be missed by all of us. Welcome visitors at a recent Citrus Groupers meeting, Marlin Lade, an old friend & former co-worker at ORDMM, and his lively wife, Marilyn. Marlin gave us a much appreciated update on the United bankruptcy, relief efforts, on retiree benefits information, also on the SEA Convention activities. Thanks much, Marlin.

2003 has been a year of major surgery for both of the Woods, keeping us pretty well confined to the local area. But we're hoping that 2004 will be our year of complete recovery & we can again travel to see family, friends, & scenery. A friend tells us that she finds one of the pleasures of aging, or maybe it should be called "seniorization", is looking forward to therapy. That being the case, year 2003 should have seemed a happy one for the Woods. A knee joint surgery of some 8 years ago qualified me to play in an annual golf tournament called "The Bionic Open". A fun golf tournament

sponsored by a group of local orthopedic surgeons for their patients who have undergone a knee, hip, or shoulder joint replacement surgery as a proof that such bionic joints are not necessarily a limit to athletic exercise.

We had hoped to attend the SEA Convention as it promises to be a good one. Over the years, we have visited in the SEA area a good many times. Some 34 years ago, our older son & I climbed Mount Rainier. We stood on the summit of that beautiful mountain and watched United planes letting down below us on approach to SEA airport. What a view! But Maxine's ongoing therapy & recovery after lower back surgery will prevent us from attending the SEA fun this year. Maybe next year.

**Elmer Benson, P.O. Box 1884, Burlingame, CA 94011-1884 \***

Warren Anderson was married to Francine Anderson 50 years on Dec. 12, 1953 to Dec. 12, 2003. On Dec. 13, 2003 they had a 50-year anniversary party with many friends & family. On March 20, 2004, Francine passed away. She was 72 years old. They lived for 10 years on the Big Island of HWI and 11 years in Madera, CA. Warren is missing Francine, his partner for 50 years. Holly, his dachshund, gives him great comfort.

Warren Anderson  
1610 W. Central Ave.  
Madera, CA 93637

\*Elmer sent the above letter to RUAEA.

**Dick & Sue Riedl, 604 Hillpoint Way, Brandon, FL 33510**

Hello all you lovely people who work so hard to get our newsletter to us. It sure is appreciated. Since every year I always forget to list my file number when I am through writing I feel I must do it now before I send my check. Do not worry I will make every attempt to put it on my check. I am sorry I could not make the West Coast Luncheon but I was laid up with too many ailments to mention here.

Jo, I received so many glowing phone calls regarding your humorous & anecdotal presentation at our luncheon; I wish I could have been there. But all is not lost, Sue & I will be at the SEA Convention come hell or high water. As a matter of fact, we promoted the convention in our Feb.

RUAEF Newsletter, will do the same in our April issue. Let's all meet in SEA.

**Sue Felicio-Spencer, 1760 Germaine Ct., Hayward, CA 94541-5426**

I appreciate all the wonderful efforts that go into making the RUAEA Newsletter the informative & interesting writing that it is.

Since my retirement in Jan., 2003, there have been a number of changes in my life. My plan had been to sell my home in the bay area & move to a less costly locale. That was halted when I got married in Oct. & since my husband works in Palo Alto, we decided that this home is just perfect for us right now.

My plan is to continue working with the Alameda County Literacy Plus program which assists adults to read & write English in order to help them with employment and everyday life tasks. It is a challenging but fulfilling volunteer job.

Looking forward to flying to Europe next month on a belated honeymoon. Love the new advertising commercials!

**Michael J. Pasquerelli, 5145 Barcroft Dr., Barrington, IL 60010 mjp1937@comcast.net**

Like all RUAEA members, I am very thankful for the Newsletter & thank you for the Happy Birthday greeting & reminder to send in my annual dues! All in RED INK! I love it!

More than ever, the monthly Association Newsletter is a critical link to keep all of us retirees informed. It is very gratifying to know that every one of us have a common bond, no matter in what organization we worked. The bond is: we care for one another. Also, all the good people staffing the Newsletter are the best.

Some folks have related stories about exciting things in United's history. I have a brain teaser for ORD employees of 1959 & 1960. I hope everyone gets a kick out of it. It is in two parts:

1. Where was the DEW LINE?
2. Where was the "Burma Road"?

**ANSWERS**

1. Overnight Aircraft Parking on the run-up pad at runway 9. (Today it is known as 9-L.

2. The service road from the "Tin Hangar" to the "A Finger (A Concourse).

NOTE: with the exception of the 9-L run-up pad, United's Terminal One covers this area from eastern reaches of the United Express Gates & the "B" Concourse.

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**PLEASE LIST FILE NUMBER ON ALL CHECKS AND  
CORRESPONDENCE**

**PAST PRESIDENTS OF  
RUAEA**

Tom Plunkett	1975 – 1977*
Charles Field	1977 – 1979*
Charlie Urbach	1979 – 1981*
Pate Hutchens	1981 – 1983
Ralph Hoffmaster	1983 – 1986*
Vance Harmon	1986 – 10/2/86**

\*\* deceased – V.P. Lewis Long  
became Pres.

	10/3/86
Lewis Long	1986 – 1988*
Elizabeth Ashton	1988 – 1990
William Moore	1990 – 1992
Jim Doty	1992.- 1994*
Ed Piper	1994.-.1996
Howard Pollard	1996.-.1998
Zelma Kibler	1998.-.2000
Frank Murdock	2000.-. 2002

\*Deceased

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

**REMINDER**

“Snowbird” members who move back “up North” when Spring arrives - please drop a postcard to RUAEA advising your current mailing address - also be sure to list your File Number! THANKS.

\*\*\*

**What next?** Passengers’ pets will now be eligible to build up their own frequent flyer mileage if they travel on a JAL group flight. They can exchange the points for cage rentals, discounts and gifts.  
\*\*\*Three Woofs\*\*\*