



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



ISSUE NO. 417

MAY-2009



**May 17 - 24, 2009  
RUAEA Convention,  
Phoenix, Arizona**

***Last Call - RUAEA Members!  
Come join us at the RUAEA  
National Convention!***

“The Valley of the Sun” is ready for you. We’re looking forward to welcoming our RUAEA friends and sharing special memories in Phoenix. Are you ready? Have you made your reservations and selected any of the interesting tours? Less than a month remains until the beginning of **RUAEA Convention 2009**. It promises to be filled with fun, laughs, great memories and most importantly, our friends.

Tours are rapidly selling out. You may want to consider the tour to the **Pima Air & Space Museum** where history takes flight. It is one of the largest non-governmental funded aviation museums in the country. This tour will also include a tour of AMARG known as the military “Boneyard Aircraft,” located at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

Perhaps you would enjoy a ride on “**The Verde Canyon Train**.” Settle back into your seats for a fantastic view of a variety of wildlife. Before boarding the train, we will have a “picnic style” lunch at the depot or you can take it aboard.

No visitor to Arizona wants to miss “**Sedona, Land of the Red Rocks**.” One never tires of the Red Rocks or the startling views, as the highway plunges into the heart of this magnificent country. There will be time to visit Tlaquepaque where you will be able to browse the art galleries displaying pottery, elegant glass, clothing, jewelry, and sculpture.

These are just a few of the wonderful tours planned for your stay in Arizona. And when your day of touring ends, return to the hotel to spend the evenings with friends, and some entertainment:

- ✦ Wednesday evening’s social will feature **Ken Willis**, a cowboy singer who will provide some great Western music for our enjoyment.
- ✦ Thursday evening, we go south of the Border to enjoy our Southwestern evening with the **Mariachi Mexico Nuevo** entertaining.
- ✦ At Friday evening’s dinner, our guest speaker will be “**The Toughest Sheriff in the West – Joe Arpaio**”. You may know him as the sheriff who places some of his prisoners in “Tent City” and has all prisoners wearing pink underwear. And that evening, we will be entertained by “**The Needham Twins**”, offering modern country music.
- ✦ Saturday evening’s entertainment will be “**Old Dog New Tricks – Dave Porter**” featuring Rock and Roll selections.

So you see, it’s not too late to register. We would love to see you there. Come and get a little taste of life in the Southwest. We look forward to seeing you at RUAEA Convention 2009.

**Jo Anne Gaudio**  
**Publicity Chair**  
(480) 802-2973  
[jandj@wbhsi.net](mailto:jandj@wbhsi.net)



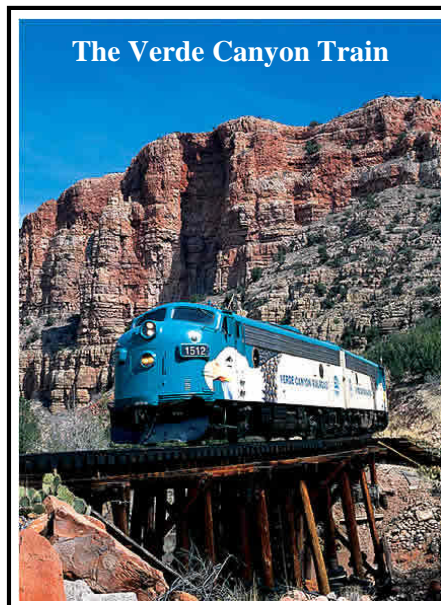
**Sedona**



**Pima Air & Space Museum**



**Joe Arpaio**



**The Verde Canyon Train**

# GENERAL NEWS

## WWW.RUAEA.ORG

### Letter from the Executive Vice President - Local Chapters and RUAEA



Ron Bertacini

We now have 58 local chapters of RUAEA within the United States. They are a very important part of RUAEA. Although they are autonomous from the national organization, they provide a means for retirees to gather on a regular basis and have a friendly social time. Each chapter is free to make its own rules as to membership, dues, gathering times and places as well as electing officers. Chapters

generally collect annual dues to offset the cost of mailing meeting notices and local news. Most chapters get together once a month, but there are variations to that. There are breakfast gatherings, luncheons, picnics and occasionally joint adventures where two or more chapters get together for a social time, usually a picnic. Some chapters have on-going philanthropy work while others make annual donations to specific charities. There are large chapters, small chapters and many in between. Some have by-laws while others have guidelines. All the "official" chapters send reports to be published in the monthly RUAEA Newsletter.

There are also many "unofficial" chapters of retirees that gather but do not report on their activities. We would encourage them to let us know about their gatherings and maybe someone new to their area would like to join in. It's quite easy to let us know about your events, just check with one of the regional directors or get in touch with the Denver office and they can assist you. As I mentioned, each chapter is free to establish its own rules or ways of doing business.

If you have never attended any of these local functions, I would encourage you to do so. I am sure you will find the time spent enjoyable and you get acquainted with new folks and probably re-acquaint with past co-workers. If there is not a chapter in your area, maybe you would like to be involved in establishing one. It is quite easy and fun. The regional directors are there to assist you in getting started. If you are not sure which director to contact, call or email the Denver office and they can assist you in finding the help, you may

need. I am just an email away, so feel free to contact me at [bertacini@surewest.net](mailto:bertacini@surewest.net) regarding your interest in a local chapter.

Ron Bertacini  
Executive Vice President - RUAEA

### Letter from the VP of Conventions



Hank Gosselin

Hello Fellow RUAEA Members - Just a few words from your VP of Conventions:

Your elected RUAEA Officers, Regional Directors, and appointed Directors consisting of the Newsletter Manager, Denver Secretaries, United Airlines Liaison, Web Managers, and our Convention Site Selection Team are dedicated to providing

RUAEA members the following benefits as stated in the RUAEA Bylaws:

- ⌘ *Monthly Newsletter*
- ⌘ *Yearly Convention*
- ⌘ *Advocate for Retirees*

We have all benefited from the efforts of these dedicated folks. The Monthly Newsletter is published on a consistent basis, our Conventions have been great events and our influence with United Airlines has been very beneficial (for example, the return of our BP6B boarding priority).

The Annual Convention, being one of the benefits, is soon to begin in Phoenix, AZ. The Convention Committees have done their usual superb job of planning. For example, they have kept the hotel room cost below the \$100.00 level for many years. They have added fun activities at no cost to the attendees, such as the Hospitality Theme Nights on Wednesday and Thursday, which have been great successes. The Friendship Dinner and RUAEA Banquet are designed to bring us together and renew old friendships while we enjoy a three course dinner followed by entertainment. The planned Tours are an extensive effort of the local committees to provide us with the opportunity to see the interests and sights of the respective cities.

Events such as these are put together to further the camaraderie we all experienced during the years we worked (and into retirement) for the *greatest ever airline*. But, in the last few years the convention attendance has been diminishing. We know there are many reasons for this as indicated by our recent surveys. We all are getting older, flights in and out of the Convention city are limited, the economy has us concerned and etc. I hope that we all understand that in order for RUAEA

to continue providing the Annual Convention, we need your support, which is your attendance.

In closing, I ask everyone to continue your support of RUAEA's activities which we all benefit from and especially at this time to consider the need to support the Annual Convention with your attendance.

Thank You,

Hank Gosselin  
VP of Conventions - RUAEA

### **Letter from the Assistant VP of Conventions**



**Bob Hallden**

As I work with the planning committee for the Phoenix Convention, I would like to share some information with you regarding the upcoming Convention. April is the last time we can sign up for the convention and be assured a hotel room at the Convention rate.

I erroneously stated in the December RUAEA Newsletter that **United Express** was excluded from the 20% discounted positive fare travel. This discount applies to both **United** and **United Express**, but not Star Alliance and Code Sharing carriers.

Also of benefit to our retirees are the ZED fares. Currently we enjoy these fares on domestic carriers: **American, Continental, Delta, Frontier, Great lakes, Jet Blue, and US Airways**. At times, combining another carrier to **United** flights will get you to your destination when load factors are high. In addition to these ZED fare carriers, is **Southwest Airlines** which gives us travel for \$25.00 one way and \$50.00 round trip. This amount plus taxes and airport charges, if any. I used Southwest for most of my trips to PIT for last year's Convention as it was near impossible at that time to get on UAL. Their agents are most helpful in accommodating UAL. For those of you with computers, go to the **Travel** section of **SkyNet** for answers to most questions. And of course, re-read the cover page of the RUAEA Newsletters these past months as **JoAnne Gaudioso**, our Publicity Chair for the Convention, has included many tips and local information to ease your arrival and stay for Convention week.

During the time of Convention, the ZED airlines offer direct or connecting service to Phoenix. Southwest Airlines and US Airways offer many nonstop flights from many cities to PHX. For those of you with computers, go to [www.airwise.com](http://www.airwise.com). Click on flight

info, then US flight arrivals, then fill in format, and then search flight. Here you will find the ZED carriers with departure time and arrival time in PHX or your connecting point. Those of you without computers can contact one of our three Travel Desks.

Time is getting short, but it's not too late. The February issue of RUAEA newsletter contains the Convention packet. All tours and meal selections are listed. We had a great Convention in 1997 in Phoenix and this one will be no less.

Bob Hallden  
Assistant VP of Conventions

### **Moscow Service Took Flight**

When United's flight 964 lifted off from the runway at Washington Dulles on March 29, United marked a milestone: *The first nonstop service between the U.S. capital and Moscow.*

The B767 service is United's first new transatlantic launch of 2009, providing business and leisure travelers and cargo shippers convenient service between North America and Russia.

The aircraft flying the route are configured with the new International Premium Travel Experience (IPTE) product, with seats that lie fully flat in United First and United Business.

The service will operate five days each week initially, moving to daily service in June. This new route underscores United's commitment to operating in markets where the company believes it can be successful, with the right level of capacity. In Moscow, United will operate at Domodedovo Airport, which is also served by several of its Star Alliance partners.

For United's employees at Dulles, this new service is more than just an additional flight. "*The Moscow market inaugural is more than just a new destination for the Dulles team,*" says David Wilson, shift manager at IAD. David and his colleagues have worked closely with Onboard Service and Maintenance to ensure that customer service, catering and maintenance needs are met both at Dulles and at Moscow, a station United has never before served.

The Moscow service offers specific challenges, including stringent visa requirements for entering the Russian Federation for revenue customers as well as employees/retirees traveling as non-revenue space available and positive space must adhere. Prior to beginning travel, employees/retirees should visit [www.iatatravelcentre.com](http://www.iatatravelcentre.com) for complete details in order to avoid disruption to their travel plans.

United also re-launched its seasonal Denver-London nonstop service. On April 19, United will begin B767 service between IAD and Geneva.



As United began the Washington, D.C.-Moscow service this week, an energized Washington Dulles (IAD) team joined the inaugural flight and inflight crews, along with Mike Whitaker, SVP-Alliances, International and Regulatory Affairs, to cut the ribbon marking the launch of its first ever capital-to-capital service between the U.S. and Russia.

UA 964 was under the command of Capt. Michael Boyd and crew members Capt. Chris Stockdale and First Officer Dori Ziomek. Qualified International Purser Bobbie Williams led a team of nine flight attendants, while eight International Inflight Service Representatives assisted with translations. The plane was pushed from the gate three minutes early. As the B767-300 was nearing Moscow's Domodedovo Airport the following morning, a celebration was in the works for the return flight.

In Moscow, U.S. Ambassador John Beyrle, and Sergey Rudakov, director of the Domodedovo Airport complex, joined United's employees and customers for a special gate ceremony. A US-style jazz ensemble played "When the Saints Go Marching In" as the ribbon was cut for UA 965 for the inaugural Moscow-Washington flight. The flight was under the command of Capt. Jerry Gossner, with crew members Capt. Allan Twigg and First Officer Julie Callens. Leading the cabin service was Qualified International Purser Sharon Ashmore-Carnivale.

### **First Reconfigured Ted A320 Aircraft Begins Mainline Service**

United's first reconfigured A320 aircraft, nose number 4214, previously used for the Ted sub-fleet, entered mainline service on March 14. The new, two-class cabin configuration includes 144 leather seats - 12 United First(R), 42 Economy Plus(R) and 90 United Economy(R) seats. The new mainline A320 aircraft will be routed on current A320 mainline AB routes.

Upon arrival from La Guardia, O'Hare-based Flight Attendant Julie Matos commented, "*It was a thrill to fly the reconfigured aircraft. From the addition of first class seats to the cleaner feel, passengers loved everything about it.*"

Starting mid-April, Ted aircraft will begin to be reconfigured at a rate of one to two per week. These aircrafts will be placed in service throughout the year, with half the planes completed by September and the entire 56 sub-fleet completed by December 2009. The United Services team will be completing the interior modification work at the San Francisco Maintenance Base.

To date, 41 of 56 Ted-configured aircraft have been painted with the mainline livery and the paint modification target completion date is May 2009.

For details about the Ted market conversion, please

see the February 4, 2009, NewsReal, "Ted Conversion Project Continues On Track."

### **All About ZED: How to Use Our Interline Pleasure Travel Program**

One of United's most important rewards is its travel privileges, including the Interline Pleasure Travel program which provides employees/retirees with discounted fares to hundreds of locations beyond United's existing network.

Many of United's agreements with Interline partners base their pricing on ZED (Zonal Employee Discount) fares, which are calculated by mileage between origin and destination. Currently, United has ZED agreements with over 29 carriers and continue to add more carrier agreements each year.

Check SkyNet for complete details on ZED fares and purchase procedures.

### **United to Begin Service between Chicago and both Bismarck & Saskatoon**

Beginning June 4, United will offer new non-stop daily United Express service from Chicago to both Bismarck, N.D., and Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. The flights, which are now open for sale, complement United's existing daily service to Bismarck and Saskatoon from Denver and are pending government approval.

*"This new flight between Chicago and Bismarck is great news for travel to and from western North Dakota,"* says North Dakota Sen. Byron Dorgan. *"The Bismarck region is growing and thriving, and roundtrip service to Chicago is an important investment in the community that will give our citizens an important new connection to destinations east and south."*

United Express partner SkyWest will operate a CRJ7 explus regional jet, equipped with first class seating and Economy Plus, to Saskatoon, and a 50- seat CRJ aircraft to Bismarck.

### **A Different Kind of Navigator Visits DENTK**

Fourteen furry puppies visited the Denver Flight Training Center recently along with their handlers as guests of the Colorado organization *Have Paws Will Travel*. The club, which raises puppies until they are old enough to begin their careers with Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc., are matched with the visually impaired.

The puppy-raising club looks for opportunities to effectively socialize the puppies they raise, teaching them basic obedience and house manners and exposing them to the kinds of social activities they might encounter as working dogs for the blind.

Denver's Emergency Procedures Instructors Peggy Collins and Julian Parrish and Emergency Procedures Specialist Stephanie Pollak conducted a training session that familiarized the dogs with our Boeing 767 cabin mockup. It simulated the experience on board an aircraft using evacuation alarm and PA announcement sounds. In addition, Captain Robert Mackay answered questions from customers about emergency procedures.

The dogs and handlers practiced boarding and experience sounds of taxi, take off and landing. The dogs also practiced getting in position under the seats at their handlers' feet, and handlers don and inflate life vests so dogs experience the loud noise that occurs when the vests are inflated.

*"Our job as emergency procedures instructors is about ensuring the safety of our customers through the training of pilots and flight attendants," Stephanie says. "We enjoyed being able to share this information with the puppy-raising club and their guide dogs-in-training to assist our visually impaired customers who use service dogs."*

Danette Henderson of Have Paws Will Travel wrote to United the next day, saying, *"Thank you so very much for making our puppy visit happen last night. It was really great! I've already had a ton of positive feedback about how valuable that was for our puppies and just a lot of fun. It really is a special privilege to see TK and get to experience all that we did. Thanks to all of the UA folks for staying late and helping out."*

In 2008, United flew more than 12,000 visually impaired customers.

### **Update on Flight 93 Memorial Chapel**

Thanks for the support of UAL retirees; total donations for the Flight 93 Memorial Chapel have surpassed the \$7,000.00 mark. The Philadelphia Independents chapter accounts for \$3,000.00 of this.

We have been advised that it will cost \$50,000.00 for the planned expansion of the chapel. If you wish to contribute, please make check payable to: *Flight 93 Memorial Chapel* and mail to **Frank Eggles**, 3405 West Chester Pike B-307, Newtown Square, PA 19073.

### **Ask The Doctor**

"Ask The Doctor" column is featured every other month. We hope you've enjoyed the articles written by Dr. **Reider** and found them beneficial. If you have a question for the Doctor, please submit it by email to [askthedoctor@qwestoffice.net](mailto:askthedoctor@qwestoffice.net).

*Happy* Mother's Day

### **Ask The Pharmacist – How e-prescribing can benefit you**

Electronic prescribing (e-prescribing) is when your doctor transmits your prescription electronically to the pharmacy. E-prescribing virtually eliminates medication errors caused by illegible handwriting, and can improve patient safety, streamline prescription processes, and reduce healthcare costs.

A doctor who is wired for e-prescribing uses a desktop computer, handheld device, or personal computer tablet to electronically acquire and transmit your medication information. The e-prescribing system sends your medication information to your doctor in a unique one-time transaction.

As your doctor is writing an electronic prescription, the e-prescribing system alerts him or her to any potential adverse drug reaction (drug-to-drug interactions or drug allergies). In addition, e-prescribing gives your doctor your medication history, health insurance information, and your health plan's formulary. If there are concerns regarding the use or cost of the medicine, you can discuss them with your doctor while still in the examination room before he or she sends the prescription. Once any issues have been resolved, your doctor will send your prescription to either the local pharmacy or a mail-order pharmacy, such as **Medco By Mail**.

Doctors benefit from e-prescribing by saving time. They receive fewer phone calls and faxes to clarify what was prescribed. To encourage more doctors to adopt e-prescribing, the U.S. government is offering increased reimbursements to doctors who electronically transmit prescriptions for Medicare patients. In 2012, the government will begin to reduce its reimbursements to doctors who do not use e-prescribing.

### **RUAEA Membership Dues Increase (Please Note that this policy is not effective until JUNE 1, 2009)**

RUAEA, like any other organization that provides a service to its membership has to weigh the expense of providing the service relative to its income. Our source of income is primarily from membership dues and a nominal amount of income from savings accounts. Another source is from contributions, of which we are grateful. In view of the fact that our costs have gradually increased over the last ten years (since our last dues increase) we feel it necessary to make an adjustment. At our last Board of Directors meeting, an increase in dues was recommended. The recommendation was weighed and after due consideration the board approved a nominal increase. In addition to the increase, a multi-years' choice (*at a discount*) was also approved, for a limited period of time, and an option to receive both the

web/internet and paper versions. The new dues structure (**effective June 1, 2009**) is as follows:

Domestic Members:

- \* One year - \$25.00
- \* Two years - \$45.00
- \* Three years - \$60.00

Domestic and Foreign Regular members can receive the monthly RUAEA newsletter either via the U.S. mail or the Internet (*usually available 3 weeks ahead of the mailed edition*). If you would like to have both Internet and US mail, you can get it for an additional \$5.00 per year. **NOTE: The option of both paper and Internet is not available for Life Members.** You can have one but not both.

Canadian Members:

- ☞ One year - \$45.00
- ☞ Two years - \$85.00
- ☞ Three years - \$105.00

Foreign Members:

- ✈ One year - \$50.00
- ✈ Two years - \$95.00
- ✈ Three years - \$120.00

Regular Members from Canada or Foreign locations may receive their Newsletter by the internet only at the Domestic yearly rates. **NOTE:** Once this option is selected, you cannot revert back to the paper Newsletter until the membership expiration date.

**NOTE:** The two and three year options listed above will be available for one time only beginning **June 1, 2009** and ending **June 1, 2010**. After that, the dues structure will revert to one year increments.

Thank you for your understanding and continued commitment to RUAEA.

RUAEA Board of Directors

**Travel Tips By Bob**

Travel Tips this month will address a few items that I have recently been asked to look into.

One item is “*Do retirees get the first bag checked FREE when traveling as a revenue passenger?*”. The answer is, it depends on the class of service you purchased. Remember when you purchase a revenue ticket, *fare rules* apply. For instance, if your ticket is for Economy Discount20 then the \$15.00 first bag charge applies. But, if your ticket is for Discount20 in First Class or Business Class, then you will not be charged the \$15.00 first bag charge.

There are many rules that regulate each of the different fares, such as when the ticket must be purchased, the routing, how long you can stay, are stopovers allowed, upgrading, or a change in routing and etc. Again, the thing to remember is that even though you are a retiree or active employee, once you purchase a

*revenue fare* you move into a different category and become subject to the same rules that revenue passengers abide by. That’s the downside, besides the cost. The upside is that you have a confirmed seat.

Another item concerns single retirees who are eligible for the “*Enrolled Friend Program*”. When you have selected your friend, you must contact the Benefits Service Center at 1-800-482-5236 and register the friend. There is a form that must be filled out and when completed, the Benefit Service Center will see that your friend’s name is added to the family’s eligible list in the computer. The code letter “B” is used as the identifier for the relationship. Taking care of the administrative aspects of completing the registration requirements takes time, so don’t delay.

Also the Travel Desk occasionally receives calls regarding overcharges on Pass Travel. The Travel Desk cannot give you much help in this matter, therefore the best advice I can give you is to retain all travel stubs until after the amount of the invoice has been agreed on and paid. If you have an unsettled question, you should take the problem to the Benefits Service Center at 1-800-482-5236.

Happy travels,

Bob Brumfield  
[MrB10@mac.com](mailto:MrB10@mac.com)

**Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter**

All articles submitted for publishing in the Newsletter are due in the Denver Office on the 7<sup>th</sup> of the month. This includes chapter reports, letters for the “Letters” Column, obituary listings (**Note:** *Rules for submitting an obituary notice is listed in the Obits section of this Newsletter*), and in general, any item for inclusion into the current Newsletter. All items received after the 7<sup>th</sup> are subject to be considered for the next Newsletter. **There is one exception to the above deadline:** *If your chapter meets on the deadline date, we will extend this deadline by **one day** for the chapter report, if it is submitted by email and received by 4PM in the Denver, CO office.*

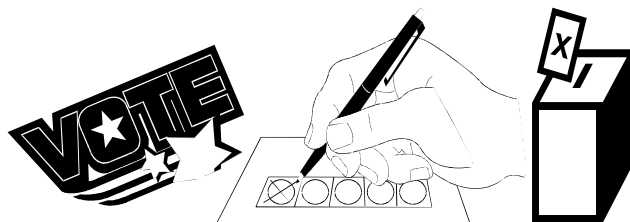
Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to [ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net) or by FAX. FAX number is (303) 780-5667. If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401 E. MLK Blvd, Denver, CO 80207-2433. Allow for postal delay. We cannot extend the deadline!

**Chapter Correspondents:** If you have not received a copy of the Newsletter guidelines (dated 6/2008) and the minutes of the Correspondents’ meeting from the RUAEA 2008 Convention in Pittsburgh, please contact us and we will send you a copy. Also, we would appreciate it, if you would provide any newly appointed Chapter Correspondent, a copy of the Newsletter Guide-

lines (they can also contact us for this).

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

Virgil Gooselaw  
Newsletter Manager  
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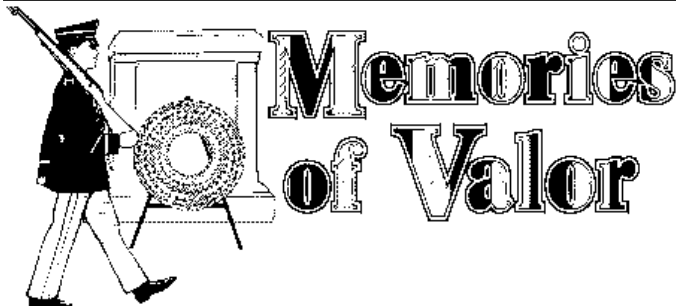


### **Please Vote**

***There may be time yet to get your ballot to the Audit Committee by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009***

You can cast your vote via:

- 🗳️ **Online voting at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org)** (Note: You do not have to sign up to receive the Newsletter on the web to do this).
- 🗳️ **Paper ballot located in the March 2009 issue of the RUAEA Newsletter.**
- 🗳️ **Download a ballot from [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org) and mail it in.**



*Get the Newsletter **HOT** off the press! Sign up to receive the Newsletter on the Web today - It's updated 2-3 weeks before the paper Newsletter is mailed.*

*Also an added benefit to receiving the Newsletter on the Web is that back issue can be accessed.*

*To sign up for the Web, go to [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org) and follow the instructions.*

## **LOCAL NEWS**

### **ALABAMA**



#### **SWEET HOME ALABAMA**

Donna Gooch  
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Our weather in the deep South blew in like a lion in March. We had a successful RUAEA meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> in Bessemer, Alabama at the Bright Star Restaurant, the oldest restaurant in the state.

Paul Davis, Reporter for "The Western Star" covered the meeting. He ran a story on two of our flight attendants whose home is in Bessemer, and took a photo of our entire group to run with the article.



Paul Brown, RUAEA Regional Director, attended our meeting and gave us an update on RUAEA. He reminded everyone of the convention in Phoenix May 17 – 24. Herb Wilbanks announced that most DL employees would be offered a buyout beginning this past January. Also, the Tuscaloosa Regional Airshow featuring the U.S. Navy Blue Angels and the U. S. Army Golden Knights would be held in Tuscaloosa April 4 – 5, 2009. April's meeting will be held at "The Irondale Café", made famous by Fannie Flagg, at 11:00 AM on April 13<sup>th</sup>.

Ret. Captain **Hank Thompson**, JFKFO, is our newest member of Sweet Home Alabama. Welcome, Hank!

### **ARIZONA**



#### **PHOENIX AZURES**

Carol Liltz  
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Well, our members had a great time at our March 17 get-together at Turf Paradise ... I don't know if there

were “real” winners ... but everyone had a good lunch of corned beef and cabbage and all the “fixins”. The Azures were awarded with a race in their honor ... and the weather was great!

We had only 11 Azures’ members turn out for the all-Arizona luncheon. But those that did, had a nice time seeing ole’ friends and enjoying the day. We’re sorry we missed **Sherry Muoio** due to a case of the flu.

Our last luncheon of the season was at Luke A.F.B. on April 4 and we had 48 members attend. We lost a few members this past season but welcomed **Frank & Roxanne Grona** and **Mike & Laurie Richards** as new members of the Azures. As usual, Luke did a wonderful job getting the outside grill ready for our steaks and chicken, as well as the cold slaw, beans, potato salad, and, of course, my favorite, cherry cobbler. **Dave Barry** turned the President’s gavel over to our new President, **Eldon Hostetter** for the next two years. Also, the new Board was announced and thanks went to the outgoing Board.

We will not have another luncheon meeting until October 10 when we will meet again at Beardsley Park in Sun City West. The new Board will be meeting at **Carol Liltz**’s house on April 29 to discuss the luncheon sites, new activities, etc. for the next year’s program. We are always open to new suggestions from the members.

The “breakfast” group still meets every other Tuesday at 0800 at Coco’s, 98<sup>th</sup> and Bell Roads. Regulars will contact **Jim Bechtold**, (623) 465-5423 if you’re not able to attend. Newcomers will need to call Jim if you plan to attend. We hope Jim is in “dancing” shape after his knee surgery over a month ago.

Have a great summer!

#### Calendar:

Coco’s breakfast meetings, 08:00AM, 98<sup>th</sup> and Bell Roads

**May 5** – Breakfast meeting

**May 19** – Breakfast meeting

#### PHOENIX RE-UNITED

Liz Tollefsen

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We’re looking forward to the RUAEA Convention here in Phoenix starting May 17 through May 24, and hope to see many of our co-workers and friends during that week. Everyone here is excited about it and working very hard so everyone will really enjoy themselves. The weather should be perfect. We have sunny weather most of the time, with the mornings and evenings usu-

ally a little cooler. There are a lot of tours planned, the dinners and entertainment on Friday and Saturday evening are going to be great, plus there’s a lot of things to do and see during the week. Don’t miss this Convention at the Hyatt Regency Hotel!

The All-Arizona Luncheon in March, which was sponsored by the Tucson Roadrunners, turned out very nice. It was held at the Robson Ranch Grill in Eloy, AZ, which was different from past years. Many nice baskets were won by some of our members. **Hank Gosselin**, Vice-President of Conventions from Auburn, WA, spoke and encouraged everyone to attend the Convention. **Richard Vehring**, from our chapter, told us about the 2009 Fantasy Flight raffle and hoping many will buy tickets to support this worthwhile event. The Fantasy Flight here in Phoenix is scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup>.

Our March 27<sup>th</sup> breakfast had 27 people attending. We had several guests joining us, **Carol Fehringer** (ORDCS), **John McComb** (retired from Madison, WI), guests of **Jim & Rita Zarek** and **Larry & Delores (Tootie) Teasdale** from Grundy Center, IA, who were guests of **Ferrol & Cindy Hilsabeck**. We also had a former member rejoin our Re-Uniteds. Her name was **Delores Nabors**. We were very glad to have all of you with us. If there are any RUAEA members in our area at any time, please contact our President, **Jim Brigante**, at (480) 443-0031, or myself, at the above number. We would love to have you join us.

It was nice to see **Joel & Marjorie Matteson** at the breakfast also. Joel had been in the hospital in February. Welcome back! It was reported that **Ron Pedone** recently had cataract surgery and that **Ron Wiloughby**’s infection is finally going away, and hopes to join us at our April picnic. We also heard that **Norma Holen** was in a car accident back in February and is recovering from 3 broken ribs and a bruised liver. We hope to see her soon!

Be sure and wear your name badges to all of our breakfasts or luncheons. **Fred Rockenhauser**, has been named, Sheriff, he’ll fine you \$1.00 each time you don’t have your name badge on. So, if you’ve lost yours or need a new badge, see **Jim Zarek**, our Treasurer.

Winners of the 50/50 raffle at the breakfast were **Sybil Voss**, **Delores Nabors**, and **Bob Hallden**. Congratulations!

We won’t be having any luncheons over the summer, but will continue with our Breakfasts on the fourth Friday of each month during the summer, except for this month, when we’ll be at the Convention. Our next Breakfast will be Friday, June 26, starting at 9:00 a.m. at Crackers, 535 W. Iron Avenue in Mesa (near Hwy 60 and Arizona Avenue). Contact **Peg Homfeldt** (480) 396-3317 - [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net) or **Jim Brigante**, our President, at (480) 443-0031 - [jbrigante@aol.com](mailto:jbrigante@aol.com), if



you plan on attending.

May Birthdays are: **Victor Kostecki** (05/05), **Oscar Aguilar** (05/12), **Judy Higley** (05/13), **Gary Gerstung** (05/22), **Christine Rang** (05/22), **Kathy Brigante** (05/25) **Gene Menten** (05/25), and **Marie Conlon** (05/28). Happy Birthday to all of you!

We have several Anniversaries this month: **Ruth & Ron Willoughby** (5/1/2004), **Linda Cooper-Koltz**, (5/4/85), **Betty & Arnie Schaetzke** (5/4/68), **Ellen and Joe Johnson** (5/7/2000), **Jeanette & Victor Kostecki** (5/18/68), **Ginny & Fred Rockenhauser** (5/23/70), and **Phyllis & Al Weingarten** (5/30/69). Congratulations to all of you!

#### Calendar

**May** - No Luncheon or Breakfast this month due to the RUAEA Convention.

**June 26** - Breakfast at Crackers. See information above.



#### TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

Roger & Lyn Callihan  
2262 E. Gerbera Way  
Oro Valley, AZ 85755  
(520) 825-1423  
[Callynrog@comcast.net](mailto:Callynrog@comcast.net)

The Tucson Roadrunners hosted the "All Arizona Luncheon" at the Robson Ranch in Eloy on March 19<sup>th</sup>. There were 104 attendees from around the state and all appeared to have a good time. The food was set up on banquet tables on the patio and everyone helped themselves to what turned out to be a delicious meal. Thanks to **Bill & Bonnie Royle** for setting this up. Thanks also to the flight attendant members, who arrange the table decorations and conducted the raffle for the donated baskets of assorted goods. Then, I can not leave out **Gordon Starr** who arranged for the music during the luncheon. **Claire & Jerry Byle** handled the 50/50 drawing with **Alice Belzer** and **Donna Kuehn** taking care of the reservations check-in.

With the RUAEA Convention drawing closer, volunteers are still needed, mainly at the Phoenix airport so arriving members can get directions to their hotel. Also, the Co- Chairs for the convention, **Jim & Rita Zarek**, mentioned that volunteers are also needed for the hospitality room. It's going to be a fun time for everyone. So get your reservations in soon!

**Ron Robertson**, President of RUAEA, said that with all the new retirees this year, and most not being aware of RUAEA, a campaign is under way to get this information out.

Also the candidates for the Arizona Regional Director were introduced. They are **Chuck Cole** of the Tuc-

son Roadrunners and **Michael Richards** of the Azures. So get your ballots in for your representative.

Our April 16<sup>th</sup> luncheon is at "Michelangelo's Ristorante" on McGee Road, just west of Oracle Road. There will be three entrées to choose from. A check for \$15.00 should be sent to **Roger & Lyn Callihan** prior to the luncheon as an attendee count must be furnished to the restaurant by April 13<sup>th</sup>.

There will be no local luncheon in May, as the convention will be the place to be!

#### Calendar

**April 16** - Michelangelo's Ristorante

**May 17<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>** - RUAEA National Convention in Phoenix

**June 18** - Hosted by **Pat & Rich Dilallo**, info later.

### CALIFORNIA

#### CENTRAL COASTERS

Avila Beach, CA  
Al Rybar  
P.O. Box 2298  
Avila Beach, CA 93424  
(805) 595-2532  
[papawow@charter.net](mailto:papawow@charter.net)



Our Chapter did not meet during March so this will be a short report. I did receive an e-mail from **Uel Soward** telling me about his days in L.A. He kept referring to ELAY, which I did not know about. He told me that it was the same as Los Angeles. I assumed that but not being born in California, I was not aware of that name. He told me that he was delivering milk one Sunday at 1:10 a.m. when his milk truck was hit by a speeding vehicle. It sent Uel about 22 feet in the air and he landed on dozens of broken milk bottles. He did not break any bones but his truck wheel stopped on his right knee and now after 77 years later, he can still detect the change in the weather. This is just another on-going saga in the life of **Uel Soward** and not only that, but his plans for his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday have had a set back. The place he was planning on having his celebration went broke and fortunately, he did not put a deposit down so now he is looking for another location. Keep us posted.

I also received an e-mail from **Virgil Gooselaw** urging everyone in our Chapter, and others, to vote for the election of officers. The deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup> and you can vote on line at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org). This I plan on doing.

The following birthdays and anniversaries were celebrated during March and April:

✿ **Gary Anderson** birthday 4/6.

✿ **Cathy Anderson** birthday 3/7. Their anniversary was also on 3/7. Gary has no excuse in

forgetting that date.

- \* **Robert & Esther Bartlett's** Anniversary was 4/23.
- \* **Bob & Marcia Stanger's** Anniversary was 3/10.
- \* **Bill Noyes'** birthday was 3/9.
- \* **Dana Noyes'** birthday was 4/5.
- \* **Al Rybar's** birthday was 3/24.
- \* **Marilyn Rybar's** birthday was 4/1.

Congratulations to all on achieving another milestone.

I failed to say that at our last meeting, at the Chumash Casino, **Peter Schaefer** and his wife **Joan** also attended. Peter had major back surgery several months ago and he has had to take it easy. However, he is recovering very well and it was good to see him getting around and feeling good.

Our next meeting will be April 15<sup>th</sup> hosted by **Bob & Marcia Stanger**.

The June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting will be hosted by **Mike & Bridgett Zoldak**.

I received an e-mail regarding telephone conversations with Washington legislators or their aides calling reservation agents for flight information. I'm sure there are many more stories that could fill a book from former ticket agents, reservation agents, and passenger agents, but I thought this one was good: *"A New Hampshire Congresswoman asked for an aisle seat so that her hair wouldn't get messed up by being near the window. (On an airplane?)"*



### **BRAZEN RAISINS**

Dick Shryock  
39379 Hidden Oak Drive  
Oakhurst, CA 93644-9530  
(559) 683-2728  
[dukie@sti.net](mailto:dukie@sti.net)

The Brazen Raisins' March meeting was hosted by **Dick & Hazel Hayes** who decorated the meeting room in a St. Patrick's Day motif. In response to President **Don Nessling's** inquiry as to any trips taken by members. Bob Frost answered that he had taken a two-day trip to a hospital.

**Elida Rivas** asked for a volunteer to take minutes at the April meeting, and **Dick Shryock** volunteered **Peggy Oakshott**, who gracefully accepted. **Dick Hayes** conducted a short quiz about Irish lore which **Bob Frost** and **John Oakshott** had the most correct answers - What did they win? Honorable mention!

Jokes were offered by **Bob Frost**, **Jack Hartman** and **Dick Hayes**, a short story of Judas Asparagus was read by **Elida Rivas**.

President **Don Nessling** and wife **Donna** hosted the Brazen Raisins' April 2009 meeting. As members be-

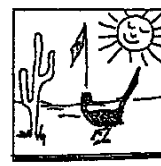
gan arriving, two retired UAL flight attendants (sisters, who had worked at SFO) who were visiting Fresno from Minnesota popped in and asked about our organization; they had a plane to catch and couldn't stay for lunch, but we invited them to visit our meetings any time they were in Fresno; one sister had worked for United for 40 years.

**Don Nessling's** daughter had visited Don & Donna for his birthday and took them out to dinner to celebrate. **Curt & Helen Follansbee** celebrated their 62<sup>nd</sup> anniversary; Curt announced that he would be turning 90 in July. **Millie Barnett** visited her son in North Carolina. **Don Nessling** won third place in a stamp show held on March 14-15 for his exhibit "*UA Part II - Piston Airplanes*". **Hazel Hayes** received a check from Publishers Clearing House and received a nice "Thank You" note for the Afghan she had donated for the raffle at the RUAEA Phoenix Convention.

Jokes were told by **Dick Hayes**, **Jack Hartman**, **Nile Jones** and **Dick Shryock**!

### **DESERT SUNBIRDS**

Donna Eads  
424 Running Spring Drive  
Palm Desert, CA 92211  
(760) 568-1450  
[donnaeads@aol.com](mailto:donnaeads@aol.com)



Since I was gone to Australia in February we have some catching up to do. So February's meeting was a success with **Maureen Willams** and **Mary Frank** as hostesses for 27 Sunbirds. Their theme was Valentines with candy favors and door prizes of flowers and candles made by Maureen. They both were in red and white outfits to capture the day. Desert Hot Springs was the spot at a family owned restaurant with great food and service. The Chief of Police came to welcome the group and gave a brief update. Who would have known that about a month later DHS was in news with a large roundup of bad characters - good job Chief! Good to have **Lynda & Tony Davis** in attendance after a long absence. **Lynn Morrow** and **Dave Padnar** brought **Susan McMullin**, a retired FA to the event. Lynn and Dave just bought a home in Rancho Mirage and will be working on it soon. Another retired FA, **Elaine Barry**, came with **Dee Whately**. She is from Bend, OR and visiting the area. The irony of the BD winner and 50/50 winner was that both have a February BD - **Al Pennington** and **Ron Aggson**. In health issues, **Scoobie Wolfe** had foot surgery, **Flo Silvestri** had surgery and **Ron Tate** had sudden leg pain. All are improving.

In March, the place was the best fried chicken in the land - Murph's Gaslight at the Bermuda Dunes' airport. Again, 27 Sunbirds gathered to have a fine chicken lunch hosted by **Patti Sica**. That day's winners were

**Marilyn Foley** for the 50/50 and **Barb Azbill** for the BD lunch!

On April 16, **Maureen Willams** will be one of 11 recipients of the "Senior Inspiration Award" at the Westin Mission Hills Resort. There are 9 recipients from each of the cities in the Coachella Valley and 2 people from the 4<sup>th</sup> district. Maureen was nominated by the mayor of Desert Hot Springs. The award honors seniors who are role models in the community by their activities and contributions.

A Sad Note - We lost an original, **George Lantz** died on March 19 at the age of 96 after suffering a massive stroke. He had such an interesting career with United. He flew things that most of us didn't even know that UAL had - helicopters to airplanes that have been long forgotten. He flew for the CEO and the average Joe as well. He was a favorite of all of us and will be greatly missed. Oh, how he loved the desserts - we would all give him ours and he never gained a pound! Both he and his lovely wife, Loraine, are gone from us now and they never missed a meeting until illness stopped them.

We are happy to say the **Dede Utzinger** who had emergency heart surgery is recovering at home in Palm Desert. What a success!

#### Calendar:

**April 8** - Cava Restaurant in Indian Wells - Hosted by the **Riekes**

**May 11** - at Marie Callender's in Rancho Mirage - Hosted by **Roberta Craig**



#### THE SACRAMENTO GOLD DIGGERS

Barbara Bertacini  
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President **Francis Domaratius** opened the March 25 Sacramento Gold Diggers meeting and thanked **Frank & Angie Dellinger** for hosting the luncheon at the fairly new Mimi's in Lincoln. We had wonderful seating in a very spacious private room. **Angie** thoughtfully had floral centerpieces at each table which were later part of the raffle. Sixty four members were present. Guests included Carla Moss, guest of **Forester & Jean Sinclair**, Rich & Bonnie Haggard, guests of **Terry & Penny Greenacre**, Larry Papke, guest of **Frank & Angie Dellinger**. We were pleased also to have RUAEA Director N. CA/NV Region **John Zoboli** and his wife **Pat**, and RUAEA Western Region Director **Roger Casterline**.

Vice President **Frank Dellinger** started the officer's

reports, mentioning that we had hosts for all the remaining meetings through Feb. 2010. How fantastic!

Recording Secretary **Barbara Bertacini** reported anniversaries for March. Those with over 50 years are: **Art & Pat Rugh** 60 years and **Marv & Jean Becker** 51 years. **Bob Eggert** was asked to start the Happy Anniversary song.

Treasurer **Judie King** reminded everyone that checks for membership dues should be payable to the Gold Diggers and mailed to **Judie King**, 11886 Heather Lane, Grass Valley, CA 95949. Dues are \$10 a family. You need to be a paid member by this month in order to have your name listed in the Gold Diggers Membership Roster maintained by Roster Chairman **Jack Raynor**.

Sunshine **Darryll Stroud** reported "no news" is good news.

**Francis** announced that guest **Larry Papke** joined the chapter today. We enjoyed hearing about Larry's interesting career with United. He retired in 2002 and has recently settled in Rocklin.

RUAEA Director N. CA/NV **John Zoboli** spoke about the upcoming RUAEA Convention this May in Phoenix and reminded about the need to have items donated for the Art and Raffle display and drawing. John had most favorable comments about the beautiful hotel in downtown Phoenix and how impressed he was with the great location and local transportation system. ~ John had ballots for the RUAEA Election for those who had not yet voted, and said he would send in the completed ballots for you. ~ The seventh annual United Airlines Maintenance Get Together, August 21-23, 2009 will be at the Carson Valley Inn in Minden, NV. Contact **Jack Raynor**, [Raynor-news@softcom.net](mailto:Raynor-news@softcom.net) for details about this fun get together.

RUAEA Executive Vice President **Ron Bertacini** talked about the RUAEA Newsletter's article "Ask the Doctor" and "Ask the Pharmacist" which alternate every other month. This has been informative, interesting and very well received by our members. ~ RUAEA Membership dues will increase effective June 1, 2009 so please read page 7 of the March 2009 Newsletter for detailed information or contact Ron at [Bertacini@surewest.net](mailto:Bertacini@surewest.net). ~ Ron reviewed the by-laws changes to be voted on at Convention. See the April RUAEA Newsletter for details. ~ There is a possibility of a future convention being on a cruise, about 50% of the attendees were very interested and ready to go! ~ There is a RUAEA Election for 5 of the 10 directors and Ron encouraged members who have not voted, to do so as soon as possible and he had ballots available.

RUAEA Director Western Region **Roger Casterline** told about the chapters in his region. We asked Roger to send our love and best wishes to **Wayne & Zepha O'Kelly** who attend meetings in the Santa Rosa area, the Gold Diggers miss seeing them.

Raffle Drawing was conducted by **Frank & Angie Dellinger**.

Calendar:

**April 29** - Houston Steak House in Penryn hosted by **Dan & Rosemary Figueroa**

**May** - no meeting because of RUAEA Convention

**June 24** - Stage Door Café, Magic Circle Theatre, Roseville hosted by **Francis & Veronica Domaratius**

**July 29** - Hosted by **Dick & Sonda Sandstedt**

**Aug. 26** - Hosted by **Velma Stough**

**Sept. 30** - Hosted by **Ken & Stephanie Norton**

**Oct. 28** - Hosted by **Harold & Colleen Esola**

**Dec. 9** - Holiday Social hosted by **Ron & Barbara Bertacini**

**January 2010** - Hosted by **Darryll & Dorothy Stroud**

**February 2010** - Past Presidents Luncheon hosted by **Francis & Veronica Domaratius**

**REDWOOD EMPIRE**

**RETIREES**

Joan Olsson, Secretary  
45 Monterey  
San Anselmo, CA 94960  
(415) 454-3329  
[olssons@aol.com](mailto:olssons@aol.com)



Celebrating St. Patrick's Day a few days early, Redwood Empire Retirees dined at Quail Inn, Oakmont, the beautiful golf course community in Sonoma County.

This month Western Regional District representative **Roger Casterline** was with us to bring us up-to-date on UAL's plans to reduce seating capacity and accept credit and debit cards on flights. He also extolled the downtown Phoenix area where the May 2009 RUAEA convention hotel is located. A show of hands showed at least eight persons planning on attending.

It was a delight to welcome back **Les Carey** who offered to host one of our regular lunches ... in Helena, Montana! Also back after missing a month were **Edie Olson** and **Pete Bilsich**, both looking in the pink after some health issues, including a pacemaker for Pete.

Sunshine Lady **Verda Burr** reported that **Naomi Tolf** took a spill, is okay, but looks like she was in a fight and lost. We received notes from two long-time members **Kathie Larsen** and **Deloris Burda**, both reporting that poor eyesight/health was limiting their driving and ability to come to meetings.

The meeting ended with the usual raffle of wines and truffles along with collector item red sock/booties from the good old first class days.

Calendar:

**May 14** - The Spinnaker, Sausalito, hosted by **Joan Sheahan & Joan Olsson**

**June 11** - La Gare, Santa Rosa, hosted by **Grover & Janice Blackburn**

**July 9** - Quail Inn, Oakmont, hosted by **Nick & Maria van Kruining**

**Re-LAX-ers**

Los Angeles

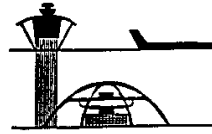
Barbara Smith

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Seal Beach, CA 90740

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[bjsLAXtours@verizon.net](mailto:bjsLAXtours@verizon.net)



Here's a bit of nonsensical trivia for you - about half way through last year I believe I mentioned something about the crazy stuff you get in the mail - like a gazillion return address stickers. Ever count them? Am I nuts? - who would *ever* do that? Well, I did! My tally ended with the 12/31/08 mail delivering the 2937<sup>th</sup> sticker! I have quit counting, tossed the bunch that came in today, and haven't sent a dime to any of the sticker senders yet!

A few days after last month's deadline I got an email about **Lou Tartiglini** (LAXTR, LAXFF). Lou had not retired as yet, but was a good friend of many LAXCS retirees. He had had brain surgery before Christmas and was doing OK, but went into a coma as of 3/10. Lou was taken off life support and passed away on Mar. 11. Jeff, his son, sent emails which undoubtedly reached most of Lou's friends system-wide with whom he had worked for his 40 or so years with UA. Jeff expressed thanks for the wonderful times given to Lou by UA and his UA friends and how the family shared those times with him, too. A memorial was held on Mar. 23. I cannot find any references to a contact for the family other than Jeff's, cell phone number (310) 529-2428.

A dear friend of many RR and TO folks especially, **Norma Besse**, passed away on Mar. 25. She had been having home hospice care for about a month, and passed away peacefully. She was at every ReLAXers meeting that I can recall and many of our tours. Always a smiling friendly person, she will be sadly missed. Condolences can be sent to her son, Bill Besse, 418 E. Ave. 39, LA, CA 90031-1602.

The husband of **Gina Bura-Henzel**, Stephen, died on March 31 after a long battle with cancer. He had had chemo treatment and was on hospice service. I am sure her friends from LAXRR will want to sent condolences to Gina at 8534 E. Palma Vista, San Gabriel, CA 91775-1120, (626) 285-1677, [sandghenzel@earthlink.net](mailto:sandghenzel@earthlink.net).

Through the local retirees' grapevine, we heard that **Nora Tuck** who spent many years at LAXRR, had passed away in May, 2007. She had been living with her grandchildren in Glendale, AZ - thus the long delay



in our hearing of it. No further information is available.

**Dick Nichols**, retired in '84 from LAXTR, passed away on April 7 just short of his 81<sup>st</sup> birthday. I remember working with Dick when he, **Jackie Hills** and I were instructors in ticketing in the 1960s (I think). He retired with the famous "buy-out" in 1984 at the same time I did. About a year ago, he had surgery and his wife, **Barbara**, says he seemed to decline slowly from that time on. Barbara said he was on medication and he had been limited in activities. He was an avid bowler, having played the game daily for years since retirement, but had to cut it to 3 days a week of late! Today (4/7) Barbara left the house for a short while and on returning home, found him unconscious on the floor. Sadly, he did not survive. There will be only a family memorial service, with sons coming from DEN and other relatives from Oklahoma and other points. Condolences can be sent to Mrs. Barbara Nichols, 7914 San Rafael Dr., Buena Park, CA 90620, (714) 522-8086, [musicbybarbie@gmail.com](mailto:musicbybarbie@gmail.com)

The thoughts and prayers from all the UA friends of these folks are sincerely extended. We shall miss them all.

We heard from the family of **Pedro Sanchez** (LAXTR) that he had fallen off a ladder and sustained serious injuries, including broken bones and a head injury resulting in brain swelling. As of 4/5, he was in critical condition, stable but in an induced coma. There are also complications involving his lungs and kidneys. The latest contact we have is The Sanchez Family, 10235 Lurline Av. #H., Chatsworth CA 91311, phone (818) 349-7506. I haven't had a spare minute to check so, I'd suggest trying that cell phone number first to verify the address.

**Linda Muche's** very difficult time has been followed by all of us. As we reported earlier, she has been nourished through a feeding tube for months and was looking forward to a treatment of her esophagus so she can get back to enjoying a steak! But Murphy's Law took over. The treatment didn't go as well as hoped and expected and she ended up in ICU with a torn esophagus, collapsed lung and IVs and the whole painful mess. She had family all around her, which helped and is back home now, but at square 1. Despite the extremes of pain and frustration, Linda has a fabulous outlook and sends wonderful detailed emails to our LAXRR correspondent, **Jim Ferrance** ([resrat@aol.com](mailto:resrat@aol.com)) who shares them with us all. Keep it up, Linda.

**Tarina Murray**, whose long-lasting problems are of concern to us all, is another lady with an incredible outlook, despite all the medical pain and suffering. She must constantly wear her neck brace. There is possible future surgery to "look forward (?) to. But this doesn't stop her as she comes to the ReLAXer meetings and books a bunch of great travel plans. Good for you and

good luck.

**Scott Miller** has been battling prostate cancer for almost a year. At the end of March, he heard good news from the doctors - NO signs of infection, white cell count up, PSA down to 1.5. I don't believe we published his contact earlier - it's 10865 Bluffside Dr. #103, Studio City, CA 91604 -4424; [tsm54@roadrunner.com](mailto:tsm54@roadrunner.com).

Travelers this month - a bunch of ReLAXers including the **Klobes**, **Jo Ann Briggs**, the **Tschirharts** and - Ooops - I can't find my list of the others, enjoyed a cruise. Best way to travel, isn't it? **Jim Ferrance** reports he'll be at his annual family reunion in NY State. It's very unfortunate that this important family tradition always overlaps with the convention. But first things, first, right.

Local doings - the last luncheon was at the Proud Bird at LAX. Pres. Hal announced that while some meetings have been scheduled north of LAX and some south, our largest turnouts are always those at the P.B. So by show of hands, it was agreed that we would have five of our six per year meetings there, with the 6<sup>th</sup> at the nearby El Segundo park for the steak fry. While a slight majority of the attendees prefer the buffet service, there are still a number of us folks who like to be waited on! Since the Christmas luncheon is a sit-down affair, let's (please) have one more sit-down luncheon. My arithmetic brings that out to 3 buffets and 2 sit-downs. We'll see, huh?

Many of our members are very active in volunteer jobs. Of course, the one I know about is the LAX USO. Two folks, **Judy Dunworth** and **Esther Horompoly** have asked to be added to the list. It would be nice if one the vacancies on my shift could be filled with one of them.

And with that, I'll list our Calendar and send this off. Many thanks to Virgil and staff for their patience with us footdraggers (it is now noon on the 7<sup>th</sup>). Then off to a favorite pastime - shopping!

#### Calendar:

**April 2** - Spring Luncheon

**May 17-24** - Let's all go to PHX!

**June 4** - Luncheon at Proud Bird

**Aug. 6** - Enjoy a great steak at El Segundo park

**Oct. 1** - Luncheon at Proud Bird

**Dec. 2** - Christmas Luncheon at Proud Bird.

***I want my children to have all the things I couldn't afford. Then I want to move in with them.***

***- Phyllis Diller***

## **GOLDEN GATERS**

### **SFO - BAY AREA**

Helen M. Cain

163 Francisco Drive

South San Francisco, CA 94080

[musicalcain@sbcglobal.net](mailto:musicalcain@sbcglobal.net)



No more tears, puhleeze ... the Eternal (whoops, I meant "Internal") Revenue Service has extracted their drop(s) of blood and now we're heading for Mother's Day on May 10<sup>th</sup>, Armed Forces Day on May 16<sup>th</sup> and Memorial Day, May 25<sup>th</sup>. These are all days to be celebrated with thoughtfulness and appreciation. Another honor is to have been able to participate in this year's RUAEA Convention in Phoenix, AZ. The Convention committees all worked their hearts out just to please, entertain and update us on a myriad of subjects. Their love reminded us that we are **still all one big family**, like we used to be. Thank you, PHX!

Speaking of love, on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, this Chapter lost another beautiful soul to be returned to her Maker, **Virginia Schmidt** ... who only survived her husband, **Ozzie** by one year. Cards may be sent to the daughters, **Kaylene Keller**, **Stephanie Schmidt** and **Melinda Schmidt** at 628 Acacia Lane, Emerald Hills, CA 94062. **Virginia & Ozzie** first met as teenagers and with God's grace may now continue to enjoy each other once again, without pain this time around. Anyone wishing to send a memorial donation may contact the Shriners Hospital for Children, 2425 Stockton Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95817.

We have some "sickies" this time around but hopefully, when this column finally appears in print, they will all be well on their way to recovery: **Joe Wdowych** with a broken hip; **Milt Cavalli** who is going to have swinging doors installed at the local hospital due to his continually misbehaving gall bladder; **Clint Sundstrom** who could use a little cheer; and **Pat Stephany** who wasn't toe dancing but badly crushed her toe anyway ... not fun! **Joe** can be reached at 16 - 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Mateo, CA 94402; **Milt** at 172 Nevada Street, Redwood City, CA 94062; **Clint** at 3376 Marisma Street, San Mateo, CA 94403; and **Pat** at 921 Fiesta Drive, San Mateo, CA 94403. Our best wishes to you all.

We were recently treated to a visit by busy RUAEA Western Regional Director, **Roger Casterline**. Naturally plugging the upcoming Convention, he added that downtown **Phoenix** has undergone a wonderful transformation and also, that our convention hotel, the **Hyatt**, is "close to everything". There are at least a half dozen places to eat within walking distance. Dear Sir, you must be wearing roller skates with all the travelling you do to keep us informed. We thank you and please come again.

Again our Chapter's fireball Membership Secretary, **Barbara Underhill** has exceeded all expectations making 100 telephone calls this past month to members who have let their membership renewals slip. What a gal! Bless you, **Barbara**!

Our usual monthly potluck lunch was pleasantly replaced by a Chinese luncheon, planned and executed by hard-working Food Coordinators, **Vera & Walt Kina**. Nice change, kids! Also please note, tickets are now on sale by the Auditors for our June 22<sup>nd</sup> luncheon meeting to celebrate the upcoming July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday ... the menu of course, typically American hot dogs!

After lunch, our speaker was the very interesting and informative Volunteer Ranger, **Warren Riley** of the National Park Service.

Please keep in mind, local and visiting UAL retiree members, that our **May** meeting will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> rather than the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday due to the Memorial Day holiday falling on **May 25<sup>th</sup>**. Sooooo, circle **May 18<sup>th</sup>** on your calendar because you won't want to miss the return of the very popular classical violin and piano artists, **Tibor Horvath** and **Yelena Savchenko**. The music is both popular and classical, the humor is clever and the talent is extraordinary.

We will return to having our meetings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays as usual beginning June 22<sup>nd</sup> with the **Murphy Irish Dance Group**, **Keolaulani Halau Dance Group** on July 27<sup>th</sup>, and the **Jewel Tones**, a ladies barbershop, on August 24<sup>th</sup>. Remember, no meeting on September 28 due to our great annual picnic at **Flood Park**.

International Tour Coordinator **Ginger Dahlberg** would like you to know that there is a Waiting List for the August 28<sup>th</sup> **Alaska/Denali** trip. (Remember to update your passport for this one!) There are yet spaces available on the Norwegian Sun for the 19 day cruise out of **San Francisco** for **Santiago, Chile** on November 3 - 22. Pricing is a real bargain. Quickly email **Ginger** now at [gingersfo@aol.com](mailto:gingersfo@aol.com) or telephone (650) 224-1865. Keep in Mind: **Ginger** is presently working on a 2010 **Oberammergau** trip to experience the Passion Play which takes place only every 10 years.

A credit card myth we've recently discovered: writing "**See ID**" or "**Ask for ID**" on the signature line on the back of your cards. Previously our local Credit Union speaker had told us to do this ... wrong! Reality: An unsigned credit card is invalid, technically, according to the agreements that card issuers have with retailers. As you yourself have probably noticed, many clerks don't even check for signatures. Actually, they're supposed to have you sign the back of the card and check the signature against your driver's license or passport. This may trip up the fraudster a little bit. But that's only if the cashier bothers to take the time to compare that signature to the one on the driver's license. As far as liability

is concerned? If your card is taken and used: No matter what's on the back, you're only liable for up to \$50 charged when a card is stolen. And some companies waive that for their cardholders, says **Lauren Zechner**, an attorney with Consumer's Union. Writing "*Ask for ID*" might encourage a retailer to ask for your ID but it has no legal bearing" says **Linda Sherry**, National Priorities Director for Consumer Action in Washington, DC.

With vacation time coming, we offer some travel tips:

- ✚ Be advised: Thieves are stealing car registration papers and license plate tags. Don't park your car unlocked even momentarily in your driveway. The registration certificate in your glove compartment is tempting. And don't stack your license tags more than 3 deep. They peel off quite easily. Don't ask for trouble.
- ✚ Check online travel catalogs for handy Leg Safes. I confidently carried my passport and large bills every day in this knee-high stocking, one long pocket on each side, when I was in Russia a couple months ago. It stayed where it belonged and the pockets did not show or bulge under slacks or a long skirt. Also, they hold quite a bit. I don't remember where I bought it, maybe a regular luggage shop nearby? The ones I see now in catalogs are part lycra and part stocking but I have no idea how comfortable they might be. (See [www.enroutetravelware.com](http://www.enroutetravelware.com) (1-888-993-8080).)
- ✚ For ladies only (of course): A half-slip which comes in both white and black and has a deep lace horizontal zippered front panel with 3 sections. I got food poisoning on the train from **Frankfurt to Vienna** and ended up in the oldest hospital in Vienna for 3 days. They did not provide hospital gowns. However, I was able to take naps and also sleep soundly at night knowing I had my passport, travelers checks and some money close to my body, hidden in my Security Half Slip. (See [www.christinecolumbus.com](http://www.christinecolumbus.com) (1-800-280-4775).)
- ✚ I have tried the so-called "disposable" undies. Unless you're **really** short on space, don't bother. They just haven't managed to produce a comfortable product yet.
- ✚ Check out "reversible" jackets, blouses and skirts; they're great. They cost a bit more but are worth it if you're only taking a carryon suitcase. (See [www.magellans.com](http://www.magellans.com) (1-800-962-4943) or my favorite, [www.travelsmith.com](http://www.travelsmith.com) (1-800-950-1600).)
- ✚ Travelling into sunny, hot climes and want to avoid skin cancer? Buy an inexpensive but

pretty straw hat, wide brim to protect your face, and buy a few Hawaiian-type leis in different colors (visit "Dollar" or party stores) to change your look occasionally. (The leis usually don't wrinkle or crush.)

- ✚ Remember: Your carryon luggage or anything else is **not** safe in an overhead bin. Other people have equal access and can either deliberately take or accidentally (?) switch bags with you. Keep your valuables close.
- ✚ Always keep **two** luggage tags in different places on your suitcase and make sure that they **conceal** your name and address. Target has cheap ones that have a protective covers. When you make out your name tag, just use your first two initials, then your last name.
- ✚ As some of you know from past Conventions, I'm a butterfly "addict". Anything that doesn't move, I paint a butterfly on (liquid embroidery). I've painted butterflies on **all** sides of **all** of my suitcases and/or carryons and even my backpack. No matter what side or end it lands on coming down the airport carousel in Baggage Claim, I can spot my suitcase quickly and easily. It also allows for easy identification later on if I miss the flight and my suitcase doesn't. I can quickly ID it when I finally do get there. If you're a man and consider butterflies effeminate (of course you do), just buy a "White-Out" pen and put your three initials on **all** sides/ends of your luggage.

**Personally Speaking:** In operation not quite a year, Moffett Field in Mountain View, California is the new home of **Airship Ventures**, flying a dirigible for the first time in 72 years in American skies. This new Zepelin NT, named the "**Eureka**", is technically a semi-rigid airship. The hull is made from aluminum and carbon-fiber that holds the gondola, three 200 hp Continental IO-360 engines and vectored thrust, variable pitch propellers. The top speed is 78 mph but we glided softly and quietly along at 35 mph and at 1,200 feet although it has a service ceiling of 9,350 feet. It's certified by the Federal Aviation Administration and the gondola holds 12 passengers (2 pilots) in great comfort. I was amazed! So quiet, so gentle and leisurely, we didn't feel either the take-off or the landing. The entire cabin had large connecting windows and it even had a great view from the "head"! After we climbed up to 1,000 feet, we were allowed to remove our seat belts and move around the cabin, taking photographs, which we all certainly did for the entire 1½ hour flight into San Francisco and back. If you belong to an aviation club (as I do) or there are two people flying together, there is a discount. It took a big bite out of my monthly pension but it was worth it. (It also flies out of Oakland.) If you

get the chance and don't mind eating beans for the rest of the month, try it ... you'll love it!

#### Calendar:

Retirees General Meeting: 4<sup>th</sup> Monday (Note: *May meeting is on the 18<sup>th</sup>, then back to 4<sup>th</sup>*), (except for September & December), 11:30 a.m. business meeting, Wm. Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd. (Shell & East Hillsdale Blvd.), Foster City, CA. Lost? Call (650) 286-3380.) Mail should be sent to P.O. Box 4788, Foster City, CA 94404.

SFO/SJC



#### SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

Cheri Scales  
5061 Tottenham Court  
San Jose, CA 95136  
(408) 226-7855

Our first luncheon of the year was held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and was a great success. We had 71 members and guests attending. The luncheon was hosted by **Jack & Jean Jenkins** who went above and beyond the call of duty. What a festive celebration of Spring. The luncheon was held at the Three Flames Restaurant which did an outstanding job on the meals. Thanks again Jack & Jean for all your hard work in putting on such a lovely event.

We also have great fun at our weekly breakfast meetings. In March, we averaged 37 people each meeting. We all have such a good time catching up with each other that President **Dave Saso** had a hard time getting us quiet for the meeting. Why don't you come on out and see what fun we are having! We would love to see new people join our group.

Our next Ladies Luncheon will be held on May 5<sup>th</sup>. **La Donna Eggert** and **Marion Swanson** are hosting the event at Marion's home, 611 Madrone Ave., Sunnyvale. It will be a salad lunch and they are requesting that we all bring a 4 to 5 inch potted plant (flower, veggie or herb) or a green friendly grocery bag (any color). Please contact La Donna at (408) 733-5536 or Marion at (408) 734-0768 for more information. Hope to see you there.

We are excited to announce we will have 16 members attending the convention in Phoenix. **La Donna Eggert, Duane & Anna Howze, Alex & Margie Klaus, Bill & Rosemarie Reichard, Zelma Kibler Rosenthal, Alice Rostirolla, Dave Saso, Ben & Cheri Scales, George & Ella Sousa, Tony & Sally Urso.** We plan to have a great time!

The summer Barbeque will be held on June 16<sup>th</sup> at Vasona Park in Los Gatos. We have a new caterer on-board. Everyone is welcome: Bring your kids & grand-kids. It will be hosted by **Tony & Sally Urso** (who al-

ways do a wonderful job), (408) 263-8580.

President **Dave Saso** announced that he has lined up several guest speakers for our breakfast meetings. Some of the subjects they will cover are: *Senior Assisted Livings, Senior Nutrition* and *Senior Self Defense*. Please contact Dave at (408) 266-9347 for information and dates.

I am very sad to announce the passing of one of our long time members. **Floyd Phillips** passed away on March 31. Floyd will be missed by our members and we wish to extend our deepest condolences to his wife **Virginia** and their family.

The following people are under the weather: **Vic & Elaine Kristen, Marion Gaever** and **Gerry Frisch**. Your calls, cards and prayers will help them get back to sunny skies soon.

#### Calendar:

Meeting every Friday morning at Holders Country Inn, De Anza Road (across from Home Depot). Breakfast starts at 8:00 AM with meeting at 9:00 am. All UA retirees are welcome. Please call our President, **Dave Saso**, (408) 266-9347 for details.

**April 24** - Our "Then and Now" contest will be held. Please see the April Newsletter for details or call **Cheri Scales** at (408) 226-7855 for info.

#### EAST BAY DIABLOS

Contra Costa County  
Diane Griego  
1634 Nuala Street  
Concord, CA 94518  
(925) 676-6097  
[diangriego@aol.com](mailto:diangriego@aol.com)



Our March meeting was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> with 23 members present. We had a delicious breakfast buffet. It was great to see **Judy Tiu** back!

We had a good discussion regarding the Convention in May and will have a good representation from our chapter. My husband & I will be attending for the first time and are looking forward to seeing old friends (well, maybe not "old", but former friends ... well, really still friends ... Aw, I give up)! We are just looking forward to going.

**Arnold Hansen** gives blood each month and donated two gift certificates given to him by the blood bank for the Hornblower Yacht brunch cruise. Thanks, Arnold.

We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at Marie Callender's restaurant in Concord. Social time from 1100 to 1200, then lunch and business. No need for reservations. We encourage you to all come and bring your significant others. We have a great group from many departments.



#### Calendar:

**April 13** - Meeting

**May 11** - Meeting

**June 8** - Annual barbeque and picnic

**July** - No meeting - It is our vacation month

**August 10** - Meeting

### COLORADO



#### DENVER MILE HIGHERS

Tom Goodyear  
9341 E. Jewell Circle  
Denver, CO 80231  
(303) 696-7001  
[tagoodyear@aol.com](mailto:tagoodyear@aol.com)

April 4<sup>th</sup> is spring time in the Rockies and the Mile Highers had their monthly breakfast at United's Flight Training Center. And being spring time anything can happen and it did, we had a snow and ice storm the night before. But, in spite of the bad weather, we still had thirty retirees and families who braved the bad weather to attend the breakfast.

We had a first timer, **Pat Fedorowicz**. Pat was a Flight instructor who worked here at the Training Center. Welcome, Pat, come back and see us. **Tom Goodyear** reported that a group of retired United-Covia-Galileo employees got together in the Denver area recently. Per **Lili Pearson**, if you would like more information about future meetings, please contact **Charlie Bloom** at (303) 680-1771, [charliebloom@q.com](mailto:charliebloom@q.com).

**Virgil Gooselaw** reported that **Mel Conine** was doing better and is still in rehab at St Andrew's Village, 2670 South Abilene Street West, Aurora, CO 80014. If you want to visit Mel, feel free to do so but don't make your visit too long. If you want to send him a card, it's best to send the card to his home address at 13737 E Marina Dr. #B, Aurora, CO 80014. It was also reported that **Jim Hackett**, retired Denver Mechanic, is home recovering from surgery and a heart attack. Jim would appreciate hearing from old friends. His address is P.O. Box 215, Hillsdale, WY 82060.

**Al Malleck** is in rehab following a broken hip. He's improving but not ready for visitors. If you want to send cards to cheer him up, his address is: 702 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Brighton, CO 80601.

Sorry to report that **Carol Langan**, wife of **Dan Langan** passed away on March 19, 2009. **Lee Winnike** reported that our friend **Warren Roper** passed away April 6 at Swedish Hospital after a brave battle with illness during the past 18 months. Roper observed his 88<sup>th</sup> birthday this past February. Funeral plans are being arranged by his son Alan; an announcement will also be placed in the Denver Post. Alan has also asked that we notify his Dad's friends and acquaintances. Should you

wish to contact Alan, his e-mail is [jinxjones1@yahoo.com](mailto:jinxjones1@yahoo.com) (415) 254-3366.

A Mother's day event "Walk to Empower" will be on May 10, 2009. United Airlines is a corporate sponsor of Y-Me National Breast Cancer Organization. This year's walk will be at City Park at 09:00 A.M. **Kim Scheitler** is the coordinator for the Flight Training Center; her phone is (303) 780-5568. You can help by joining the United-Team and making a donation by becoming a volunteer at the walk. The Flight Training Centers team name is "United Shining Star".

**Virgil Gooselaw** mentioned that there is still time to vote in the RUAEA national officer election. The polls don't close until May 1<sup>st</sup> and this year you can vote via one of following three ways:

📧 **Online** at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org) – Note that you do not have to sign up to receive the Newsletter on the web to do this.

📧 **Mail-in ballot** located in the March 2009 issue of the Newsletter.

📧 **Down load a ballot** from the web and mail it in, the web site address is [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org).

The RUAEA Convention is just around the corner. Several people have indicated that they plan on attending this year. The February issue of the Newsletter has the "Convention Section" in it or you can go to the RUAEA web site at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org) and download the entire package or just the application. The RUAEA convention is a great event to attend. There is always a good time had by all and it is always good to visit old friends, talk over old times and to make new friends. One of the keynote speakers this year is the famous nonsense Sheriff Joe Arpaio from Maricopa County, AZ, known as the "The Toughest Sheriff in the West." You may know him as the sheriff who places some of his prisoners in "Tent City" and has all prisoners wearing pink underwear. Make plans to attend this year, you won't be disappointed!

#### Calendar:

**Breakfast 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. each month, 9:00 AM** at Denver Flight Training Center Cafeteria - DENTK. Call **Tom Goodyear** for information, directions, (303) 696-7001. Remember to bring your pop cans. Bring a fellow retiree!

#### PIKES PEAK

Chuck Stuller  
1135 Beta Loop  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906  
(719) 475-2073  
[chuck.stuller@hotmail.com](mailto:chuck.stuller@hotmail.com)



There was a light spring turnout for our March 16 meeting. **Chuck Stuller** and family went from DIA to

LA for spring break. We left early morning the Friday before the busy weekend and planned to return on the Friday before the end of our spring break. Everything went wonderful until a freak winter blizzard went thru Colorado. Over 200 cancellations in Denver alone on Thursday threatened our return.

By chance we picked up **Brett Forrest** who was stranded in Beverly Hills after a job interview on Thursday night. He is a CU Boulder student, neighbor and son of DENSW **Debbie Knisley**. Debbie was flying on a trip to PHL and was cancelled into DIA and unable to pick up Brett. We waited six hours at LAX for a delayed flight and returned home late Friday night. We were LUCKY. It sure is nice to have friends all over the country!

**Chuck Stuller** will miss the April Lunch as he will be in Washington, DC attending a convention. He serves as the Colorado Branch Governor for The National Society Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims.

Let us keep **Paula Bayer** in our thoughts as her father is seriously ill and her uncle just passed away, [Pdbayer11@yahoo.com](mailto:Pdbayer11@yahoo.com).

Our regular meetings are held the third Monday at 0830 at The Village Inn on Harrison Road near Circle and I-25.

#### Calendar:

**April 22**– Spring Lunch, 12:00PM at Carino's Italian

**May 18** – Regular breakfast meeting

**May** – Plan a trip to the UAHF Museum

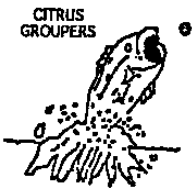
**June 15**- Regular breakfast meeting

**June or July** – Summer Picnic

### FLORIDA

#### THE VILLAGES - CITRUS GROUPERS

Joan Brandonisio  
430 Folly Beach Ct.  
The Villages, Fl. 32162  
(352) 430-1617  
[villages430@gmail.com](mailto:villages430@gmail.com)



The newly reorganized Citrus Groupers had their 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting on March 26 at the Golden Corral Restaurant, where 31 were in attendance.

**Paul Brown**, RUAEA Regional Director, spoke about the upcoming RUAEA convention. Details are in the RUAEA Newsletter. Paul urged members to vote on the slate of RUAEA officers in the Newsletter and to include their File Number to validate the vote.

**Jerry Bell**, President, led a discussion about the recent letter sent to retirees about their pensions. Jerry also informed members that effective June 1, RUAEA membership fees will be increased, so get your member-

ship dues in before that time.

Birthday celebrations for March were **Frank & Maxine Wood, Michael Martin**, and **Charles Wirth**.

We had two lucky winners of the 50/50.

*Health is the vital principle of bliss* – Thomson

#### Calendar:

**April 23** - Golden Corral, The Villages, 11:30 A.M., Private Room

#### SAND“DABS”

Daytona Beach, FL

Bobbie Rieck

615 Yupon Ave.

New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169

(386) 427-0514



It was a lively group of 20 SandDABS and guest who met at the Red Lobster and we had a bunch of fun together today (April 4). The April showers we've had brought us a glorious array of beautiful, colorful flowers to enjoy.

Prez **Dick Coughlin** opened the meeting. He gave a report from **Jane Kress**. She is doing quite well and we look for the day she and **George** will be back with us again. **Jo Sanders** was busy doing the grand parenting “thing”. You all know how important that is. Our visitor was **Amy Brant** returning again with **Penny Logan**. Not sure if she was Penny's driver today or not, as Penny was minus the neck brace today. We're happy for her about that.

We had two notes from the *Problem Pregnancy Center* giving us thanks for our large contribution and variety of things we donated for their work with young women keeping their babies. Sounds like our group was the most generous they've had. We'll have to do that again sometime.

Our birthday celebrant was **Rick Johnson**. He wouldn't tell his age, but made a joke of having enough air to blow out that candle on our “fake cake” - he made it on the third try! Lots of laughs! Everyone seemed to be in such a good mood today.

At joke time, Dick had a few funny ones. It seems a man had one of his checks returned from the bank marked “*insufficient funds*”. Due to the present circumstances, he wondered about it so he wrote the bank to ask whether the lack of funds was his fault or the bank's fault. We had a happy time during the 50/50 drawing too. **Larry Horton** was the winner of the money, but wife Janet quickly confiscated it. More laughs. We had about seven other drawings for small gifts with a spring or Easter theme.

Several people talked about the fun they have watching the squirrels in their yard, and how they try to get at the bird seed in very clever ways. John & I used

to laugh and be amused at the squirrels in our yard as we watched them swing from tree to tree as they chased each other around the yard. Inexpensive entertainment!

There was a discussion on how to reach the new and not so new UAL retirees in our area. The list is long, so it will have to be narrowed down to a reasonable radius. The item was put on hold until we decide just how to go about contacting them and inviting them to our meetings.

**Steve & Lillian Moddle** had a large supply of fresh lemons from their tree for anyone wishing to take some. They have a very prolific tree. As the meeting closed, we wished everyone a very Happy Easter.

Thought for today: *People cannot change truth, but truth can change people.*

#### Calendar:

**May 7** - 11:30 - Red Lobster

**June 4** - 11:30 - Red Lobster

**July 2** - 11:30 - Red Lobster



#### THE ORLANDO REAL McCOYS

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

The Real McCoys' Annual Picnic is an event not to be missed and many of us gathered to enjoy good friends, food and conversation! This year's picnic was held at the pavilion at Warren Park, off Daetwyler Road and it was a perfect day – warm and breezy! We had such a good time; I plumb forgot to pass around a sign-in sheet. So, from memory, the fun and frivolity was enjoyed by: **Rich & Cathy Llewellyn, Ted & Char LeGrand, Richard & Gloria Armistead, Stan & Barb Halterman, Joe & Elaine Mannella, JoAnn & Gene Hall, Jim Mummah, Marlin & Marilyn Lade, Ken & Shelby Michels, Joe Segarra, Diane Lewis, Mary & Bob McNeill, Montague & Iris Martin, Bobbie Gay, George Vernau, Ernie Vosges & his granddaughter, Charlie & Sharon Ringer, Al & Lois Fields, Betty Davidson** and sister, **Nancy** from Canada, **Bo Bohannon** and **Mack Chandler**. We all enjoyed the burgers and hotdogs, cooked to perfection by **Stan** and my hubby, **Joe**, wonderful salads, tasty chicken w/sauces, dozens of deviled eggs, and yummy desserts!

We skipped the minute-reading and the treasurer's report and went straight to the 50/50 drawing which was won by the team of **Stan & Barb** – not sure whose ticket it was!

Please remember these members in need of prayers and get well-wishes: **Matt McNeill, Lou Gaydos**, and

#### **Al Mollet.**

Happy Birthday to **Montague Martin** on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Happy Anniversary wishes to **Jim & Nan Multeri** on April 15<sup>th</sup> and belated wishes to **Lee & Dorothy Cahoon** who celebrated 51 years on March 7<sup>th</sup>! **Congrats!**

**Stan Halterman's** traveling opportunities include:

✈ November 7-15, 2009 – Branson, MO -  
9days/8nights @ \$803.00. We have brochures!

Contact Stan at (407) 852-6773.

#### Calendar:

1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of the Month – Luncheon meeting at the Golden Corral, 2323 S. Semoran Blvd. (just south of CurryFord Road) at 12:30 pm.

**June 3** – Luncheon Meeting

**July 1** – Luncheon Meeting

Favorite Restaurant Dinner Nights have begun again!

**May 20** – Restaurant to be decided! Call Elaine after the May meeting!

#### SOUTHWEST FLORIDA PELICAN DROP-INS

Fort Myers, Florida

Sandy Pryde

10275 Bismark Palm Way, #1121

Fort Myers, FL 33966-6968

(239)-418-1034

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



Eighteen members attended the Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> luncheon at Sabal Springs Golf and Racquet Club in North Ft. Myers. Our scheduled program speaker was unable to come so **Jerry Pryde** entertained us by sharing information about the origin of lots of terms or expressions we use in the English language. Things like "big wig", "charge you an arm and a leg", "chairman of the board", "crack a smile", etc. We had some laughs and were so enlightened when he finished!

Following his presentation, President **Bill Burg** announced the recent death of **James Stokes'** son, James Stokes, age 64. Also, April birthdays were mentioned - there are three. Bill reminded persons that this meeting was the last one to be held at Sabal Springs for the season. The next luncheon and program meeting will be in October 2009. The May meeting, May 1<sup>st</sup>, will be a picnic/cookout at Burnt Store Lakes. **Mel Volz** is in charge of that outing and he will be taking reservations/calls from members who plan to attend. Mel indicated the chapter will provide steaks and each person will be asked to bring a "dish to pass" as well as their own beverage. He provided maps for those who were at the meeting. The monthly 50/50 raffle was held and **Marge Burg** was the winner. The other prizes were won by a drawing and almost everyone won one! It was a fun time.

### Calendar:

1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month:

Luncheon meeting at: Sabal Springs Golf and Racquet Club (**October-May**)

Breakfast meeting at Perkins Restaurant, North Ft. Myers (**June-September**)

For more information call or email:

**Marge Burg** (Port Charlotte) (941)697-8086 or [burg-marge@aol.com](mailto:burg-marge@aol.com)

**Sandy Pryde**(Fort Myers) cell (837)331-5845 or [jspryde@msn.com](mailto:jspryde@msn.com)



### TAMPA BAY

Palm Harbor, FL

Ken Wilson

2101 Sunset Point Rd. #303

Clearwater FL 33765

(727) 642-6825

[Zulu770@aol.com](mailto:Zulu770@aol.com)

The Spring Picnic was held April 6 at Anderson Park with 39 members and 4 guests present. The guests were **Ed & Joan Hufnagel** along with **Clyde & Muriel Batcheller**.

**Jim & Pat Hottel** celebrated their 52<sup>nd</sup> anniversary April 17.

Birthdays for April: **Art Reveillac** (4/1), **Pearl Quinn** (4/2), **Connie Kuhn** (4/6), **Diane Taggart** (4/12), **Carol Starr** (4/13).

Our own **Jon Wilkinson** participated in the over 70 slow pitch softball game at Brighthouse Field on April 14<sup>th</sup> which precedes the Clearwater Thresher baseball game.

Travel: **John & Barbara Riecse** traveled to ABQ to visit their daughter, who is being sent to Afghanistan. Space was tight. The flight from ABQ-DEN was delayed due to snow in DEN. They missed their connection but made the next flight. The **Hottels** flew to HSV via IAD. **Jon Wilkenson** spoke of the FLL cruise boat, which gives senior prices of \$17.00 for 3 hour cruise.

Pres. **Lindstrom** asks that all write their Congressmen, Senators or anyone of influence to ask for support shoring up funding for the PBGC.

Sunshine Committee: Get well cards were sent to **Mary Martin** (cataract surgery), **Les Manuel** (hip replacement again) and **Bob Taylor** who is now under daily Hospice Care.

### Calendar:

**May 4** - Tiffany's - 10AM

**June 1** - Tiffany's - 10AM

**July 6** - Tiffany's - 10AM

*Mothers are all slightly insane.*

*~ J.D. Salinger*

### TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL

M. Jane Kerr

1372 SW California Blvd.

Port St. Lucie, FL 34953

(772) 343 0709



This delightful cool but windy day was attended by 13 members and 1 guest brought to us by **Diane Brodis**. Ron could not attend but she brought Marilyn Benblatt, a retired high school teacher who hails from Rockland County, New York.

Marilyn told us her hairy story about her trip down to Florida, that took four airlines, four times through security and leaving New York at 7AM and arriving in PBI at 5:30PM. Evidently, there was bad weather somewhere causing this problem but she was never advised as to where. Some things never change. Needless to say, she hopes her trip back to New York is less eventful.

Al spoke about alternate plans for our June meeting, perhaps a day gambling cruise. Since **Al & Janet Popek** will be visiting family in Boise, Idaho and will not be able to attend our May meeting, **Paul Liebisch** will be taking Al's place and presenting us with all the details. If anyone wishes to go on the trip, give Al Popek a call at (772) 283-0359, after May 10.

Everyone signed the form to go on a cruise for our yearly convention. Seems that most of our group would rather be on the water than in a Hotel. Can't blame them, cruising sure is the way to go these days

And speaking of cruising, **Barbara Dodenhoff, Artie & Judy Frage** and **Diane & Paul Liebisch** just returned from a cruise and a wonderful time was had by all. Barbara's only complaint was that she gained 3 pounds, but what takes the cake is **Diane Liebisch** topped the scale at 5 pounds!

**Diane Brodis** won the 50/50 and the progressive was won by **Diane Liebisch**, Since **Frank & Jane Wise** were not able to attend, at least he didn't lose again.

I would like to take this opportunity, since I have failed to mention Birthdays recently, to wish a "Belated Birthday" to **Wally Armstrong**, and a Happy Birthday to **Elizabeth Armstrong, Barbara Dodenhoff**, and **Paul Liebisch** who are adding another year in April.

**Al Popek** had to add to his topics the fact that I was a few minutes late again, but not too late to order my lunch. Call me anything but don't call me late for meals. We really have to do something about that meat tenderizer that he uses as a gavel! Anyone have a suggestion? Shall we shoot him or replace the tenderizer? We do have fun! Nothing goes unnoticed!

The lighter touch, and hopefully will not offend anyone, not my style.

Attorney: The youngest son, the twenty-year old,



how old is he?

Witness: *He's twenty, much like your IQ.*

Attorney: *Do you recall the time that you examined the body?*

Witness: *The autopsy started around 8:30 PM.*

Attorney: *And Mr. Demon was dead at the time?*

Witness: *If not, he was by the time I finished!*

Attorney: *Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?*

Witness: *No.*

Attorney: *Did you check for blood pressure?*

Witness: *No*

Attorney: *Did you check for breathing?*

Witness: *No.*

Attorney: *So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?*

Witness: *No.*

Attorney: *How can you be so sure. Doctor?*

Witness: *Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar.*

Attorney: *I see, but could the patient have still been alive nevertheless?*

Witness: *Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practicing law.*

#### Calendar:

**May 5** – Luncheon/Meeting, 12:30Pm - Mulligan's Jensen Beach, FL

**June 2** – Possibly cruising, keep tuned

**June & August** – On vacation

**September 8** – We are back! Luncheon/Meeting, 12:30Pm - Mulligan's Jensen Beach, FL

### GEORGIA

#### DIXIE FLYERS

Metro Atlanta, Georgia

Diayne Thompson

118 Circle H Rd.

Sharpsburg, GA 30277-2524

(770) 251-0635

[dixflyers@charter.net](mailto:dixflyers@charter.net)



**DIXIE FLYERS**

Thirty three Flyers and five guests were in attendance Wednesday April 1, at the I-Hop Restaurant in Fayetteville, GA. Our guests were **Larry Koldoff**, in from Chicago visiting with his Mom & Dad **Lois & Elmer Koldoff**. Larry works in United Operations at ORD. Also, it was so nice to meet **Carol Carlson, Bill Carlson's** daughter-in-law who traveled with him to our luncheon. Everyone was so glad to see Bill after having been absent for quite a time with health issues.

**Melissa Lane** and **Tina Meyers**, daughters of **Joanna & Lyle Meyers** were also there to enjoy the company and the food. Little **Ezra Thompson** was there

with Grandpa & Grandma, **Richard & Diayne Thompson** and as usual was very well behaved, charming the ladies with his expressive eyes.

It was good to see **Ron & Marge Heider** after Ron having just recently been in the hospital with more hernia problems. It was good to see **Pat & Ron Gunny** after a long absence. **Marge Shelley** appears to be getting around very well, after having knee surgery recently.

All in all, we had a really great turnout, a very nice day for travel, no rain, and some sunshine for a change. Congratulations were in order for **Joanna & Lyle Meyers** who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on March 10. The Flyers wished them lots of happy wishes and many more to come. **Fred Cron**, our 50/50 Director along with **Bogie Wallace** ran the 50/50. **Bill Carlson** drew the winning number held by **Willie Foles**. This broke **Barney Knotts'** record run of wins. Sorry Barney, we were all rooting for you. Congratulations to Willie, and being the gentleman that he is, donated his prize to The Promise Place.

**Bill Elk** held a short business meeting; the main topic of discussion was about the recent letter from United informing people about the Roth IRA that is being made available to them if they want to exercise the option. There were many questions fielded among the Flyers that were answered by other members. Generally, it was most informative, but the majority agreed, that it was a personal choice dictated by individual circumstances.

**Ray Owen** said that he got a check from the PBGC with no letter or explanation attached and was puzzled as to why he had received it. One possible explanation was that they are making their final determinations, which could explain it. Ray said he would call the PBGC and find out for sure, and keep us informed.

**Willie Foles** informed us that he got a check from United for a surprisingly great deal of money in the mail, and didn't know why! All gasped and asked how much Willie? He said "*April Fools!*" There was an outburst of laughter that shook the room. Way to go Willie! You really got us on that one. Known as fast thinking on your feet! Very appropriate this first day of April.

At the request of **Jo Anne Gaudioso**, Publicity Chairman of the 2009 RUAEA National Convention in Phoenix, AZ. May 17 - 24, 2009, members were reminded of the particulars and information on how to register for the event. Also a reminder that **Don & Marge Shelley** are having their annual United picnic at their home in Locust Grove, Georgia. All United employees, active, retired, or once worked with employees associated with ATL in their careers, including vendors, are welcome to attend. This will be the 9<sup>th</sup> year for this event. Locals are requested to bring a covered dish and

their own chairs. Those coming from out of state, travel safely and leave the rest to us. Ice, drinks, and every thing else will be provided. Picnic will be on Saturday, April 18, 2009 - 2:00PM, 115 Corley's Lane, Locust Grove, GA 30248.

#### Calendar:

**April 18** – Picnic, hosted by **Don & Marge Shelley**

**May 6** – Lunch at I-Hop Restaurant, 12:00 noon.

### IDAHO

#### BOISE GEMS

Bill Heath  
361 Charwood Ct.  
Boise, ID 83706  
(208) 336-5359  
[wahboi@quickidaho.com](mailto:wahboi@quickidaho.com)



*Submitted by Shirley & Rick Dempsey,*

This month's chapter report is being prepared by **Shirley & Rick Dempsey**, since our good buddy **Bill Heath** is recuperating from two broken ribs in a fall at home. Bill said he is fine despite the pain and loves hugging his "pillow".

**Rick Dempsey** opened the meeting, welcoming 16 members on this beautiful spring day. We thought the members who were not at breakfast must all be out in their gardens enjoying the beautiful warm weather of 70 degrees today!

**Charles & Shirley Perkins** "drove" all the way to Reno where we "lost our shirts"! They saw a great show and got spoiled by room service. Sounds like a second honeymoon!

**Pat Peters** came without **Bud**, since Bud chose golfing with the guys over our breakfast on this beautiful spring day!

**Dave Adams** announced on August 1, 2009, there will be a bus trip to Glens Ferry for a Melodrama presentation. Anyone interested needs to call Dave.

At our meeting today, was Dick, retired from Northwest Airlines. He was to meet one of our members today, but they did not come to the breakfast.

**Ned Yundt** had a surprise birthday party in March, and many friends toasted Ned with ice cream cake and coffee. She received many good wishes and cards.

*P.S. From "sidelined" Bill Heath: If any of you wonder where Boise is on the map, still believe the City of Trees may be the capital of Iowa or Ohio, wonder what it is like to live on the American frontier, we refer you to the April 2009 issue of Smithsonian Magazine. But whatever you do, don't move here! We like it the way it is, and want to keep it that way. Curious? Here's the link: <http://www.smithsonianmag/My-Kind-of-Town.html>.*

#### Calendar:

**Apr 15** – Lunch at Fuddruckers at 1:00 p.m., in Boise. Please contact **Shirley & Rick Dempsey** if you plan to attend.

**May 4**, 9 a.m., Breakfast at JB's in Meridian

**May 12** - Lunch at Lucky Palace in Boise, at 1:00 p.m. Please contact **Marlene Croghan** if you plan to attend.

### ILLINOIS

#### CHICAGO SKYLINERS

Esther Broderson  
51 Bonnie Lane  
Clarendon Hills IL 60514-1409  
(630) 323-8677  
[estherales@aol.com](mailto:estherales@aol.com)



Now that spring is here, it was great to see about 250 people attend the first Skyliners event of the year, the "Spring Fling" luncheon. There were five greeters who welcomed the retirees and their friends to the event, many of whom returned to the Windy City after spending the winter in warmer climates. Thanks to the greeters who did a fantastic job: **Marge Daily, Jacque Sontheimer, Marlene Anderson, Esther & Al Broderson**. These five greeters seemed to have the most fun chatting with the guests and directing them to the various stations such as the name badge pickup area and their purchasing of 50/50 raffle tickets.

Also a big "thank you" to the crew manning the registration desk, **Angie Halama, Jim Sonthimer, JoAnn Ginnini** and **Pat Muha**. It was their responsibility to passing out the new badges with meal selections attached. Also a big "thank you" to the Luncheon committee, **Marge Daily, Bob Jacobson, Esther Broderson** and **Carol Faust** for putting this event together. **Bob Jacobson** thanked everyone for coming and introduced **Bill Moore** for the invocation. As always, **Bill Moore** followed the invocation with one of his funny jokes. **Carol Faust** gave a short talk on the Midwest travel desk. She mentioned that new volunteers are welcomed and would be trained on the phones to assist retirees with their travel arrangements.

**Bob Faust, Norm Pearson, Mary Szabo** and **Jan Gawenda** managed the 50/50 sales of tickets as there were quite a few winners in this raffle; also raffled were some spring potted flowers. The luncheon was a great success where success can only be measured by you, the retirees who attend with their families and guests. Many are already planning for the next big event and inquired about the date for the summer luncheon. This affair will be on Monday, July 21 at Chandler's Country Club in Schaumburg. Flyers for the summer luncheon and for future events include your reservation form. If for any

reason you are not receiving the luncheon flyers, please contact Treasurer **John Koehl** at (847) 397-4823 for information on how to get your name back on the mailing list. Our luncheons are not only fun but enable us to maintain a camaraderie with those with whom we once worked.

Attendance at the Northsider Breakfast was sparse due to the fact that it takes a week or two to buy that new spring outfit, arrange for a new hair-do, and generally spruce up for the Spring Fling Luncheon. As mentioned above, the luncheon was a huge success with approximately 250 tickets sold and many favorable reports on the steak, salmon, chicken, soup, salad, potatoes, and chocolate mousse dessert. The Bloody Mary's were super too.

Attending the Fling and returning to Skyliners were **Jim Bicknase, Delores Cappitelli, Francis Cinardi, Carol Deener, Joanne Frediani, Don Fowler, Jane Hiller, Richard Iwanowski, Larry Mallach, Kathleen Miles, Martha Moore, Gulshan Noorani, Rita Pappas, Charles Parkison, Robert Schrader, and Glen Scroggins.** Welcome and hope to see you all at the Breakfasts too.

Seems **Elena & Cesar Guerra** were the only ones in April enjoying a wonderful cruise from Miami to Honduras, Belize, Couzumel, and the Bahamas.

Our sick bay was considerable this month. **Ken Goetz** is at Lexington Health Care, 815 E. Irving Park Rd., Streamwood, IL, 60107, Room 103. His wife, **Gloria**, says he would welcome cards and visits.

**Ceil Yates** fell in her home and broke her hip. Her address is 318 E. Colfax, Palatine, IL, 60067.

For those who remember one of your payroll agents (means money), **Norma Ingram** who moved to Kansas is having hip replacement. Send cards to 7373 E. 29<sup>th</sup> St. North, Apt. E-318, Wichita, KS 67226.

Southsider **Bill Brookins** is requesting your prayers for upcoming gall bladder surgery. We'll let you miss one breakfast, but you better be back after that.

The Southside attendance swelled to 23 by the visit of Northsiders **Carol & Bob Faust** and Midwest Director **Jim Simon.** Jim gave an update on the February Board Meeting in Phoenix. A reminder to vote in the upcoming election and consider attending the convention in May. Ballots were made available at the Spring Luncheon.

A welcome back to **Betty Doran** and **Darlene Wenk** who have been absent lately, and a phone call and good wishes from **Leona Gasiorowski.**

The kitty was fed \$1.50 since six seniors forgot their badges. But **Rudi Maki** sweetened their hurt by passing chocolate bunnies and eggs. The raffles were won by **Mary Brandt**, twice by **Ted Guz**, and **Jim Simon** was responsible for **Bob Pearson** winning the last raffle.

Special congratulations to **Lidia & Pedro Franco** who celebrated 59 years of wedded bliss in April.

#### Calendar:

Southside Brunch – Breakfast at Jedi's Restaurant (**May 26 & June 30**) at 9:30 a.m., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn, IL.

Northsiders Breakfast – Artemis Restaurant (**May 13 & June 10**) at 9:00 a.m. Golf & Busse Hwy., Mt. Prospect, IL.

Food depository - First Tuesday (**May 5 & June 2**).

**July 27** - Picnic - Chandlers Country Club.

#### LOOP GROUP

Chicago

Lillian Mallstrom

1109 Cleveland Avenue

Park Ridge, IL 60068-5507

(847) 823-5062

[Roenvay56@aol.com](mailto:Roenvay56@aol.com)



March 18<sup>th</sup> was our first luncheon of the year and there were 13 happy retirees attending. The Snow Birds were still enjoying better weather somewhere else.

**Angie Malouhos**, founding member of the Loop Group, is recovering from a recent fall. I'm sure she would enjoy hearing from her friends. You can write to Angie at: 1542 W. Farwell Ave., Chicago, IL 60626.

The RUAEA Convention in Phoenix in May will be the next event that hopefully many will attend for a week of interesting tours, activities and camaraderie.

Another event in May will be the meeting of the Northwoods Loonies which will be held in Red Wing, MN, May 5-8. **Mary Szabo, Norm Pearson, Carol & Bob Faust** and **Ginny & Frank Vlach** will all be going for a fun week. Anyone that is interested is invited to come. Details for that meeting were in the April issue.

#### Calendar:

**May 17-24** - RUAEA Convention in Phoenix

**May 20** – Luncheon Cancelled due to conflict with RUAEA Convention in Phoenix week of May 17-24.

**June** – No Luncheon scheduled

**July 15** – Luncheon at Renaissance Chicago Hotel @ State & Lake Streets (The Great Street Restaurant – 11:30 a.m.)

*Any mother could perform the jobs of several  
air-traffic controllers with ease. ~ Lisa Alther*

\*\*\*\*\*

*My mother had a great deal of trouble with me,  
but I think she enjoyed it. ~ Mark Twain*

## INDIANA



### INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN  
Wanda Bryce, Correspondent  
6801 Stanley Road  
Camby, IN 46113  
(317) 821-8862  
[Wnd190@cs.com](mailto:Wnd190@cs.com)

Just received a call from **Hannalore Barbo** somewhat distressed after reading my April issue article, fearful that she had sent out the incorrect location for our April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. I apologized, it was slightly confusing because of the info I received from the assistant manager of the IHOP telling me the restaurant was not booking their meeting room because the HVAC was not working. But, we were saved by **Cheri Innis's** intervention and prior contact with the manager (go right to the top). She had already made arrangement for our April meeting at IHOP, obviously unknown by the assistant manager. With luck the weather will be cooperating and a little warmer than today, in the 20's, or the HVAC problem will be resolved. Sorry! Hannalore also advised that **Bob Duffy** suffered a nasty "slip and fall" resulting in a cast ankle and foot and he is now looking forward to therapy. We heard, also, that **Jim Gibson** had been having some back problems last month. And, we missed **Ely Barnett** at our last month's meeting, too. **Bud**, her husband, explained she was still recovering from their Panama cruise. Hopefully everyone will be recovered and feeling better soon.

Happy belated birthday to Hannalore. She and Ray celebrated when their son, Michel, and his wife and children arrived from Missouri and had an open house for friends and neighbors.

Please keep **Terry Martin**, **Lillia Thiess** and **Tom Lapke** in your prayers.

### Calendar:

**May 11** - IHOP, 10143 Rockville Road (Rte 36), Avon, IN. Room available from 2 P.M.; meeting at 3 P.M.

**June 8** - IHOP, 10143 Rockville Road (Rte 36), Avon, IN. Room available from 2 P.M.; meeting at 3 P.M.

**July** - PICNIC - TBA

## MASSACHUSETTS

### NOR'EASTERS

New England  
Dick Vee Vecchione  
107 Bunker Hill Road  
Auburn, NH 03032-3521  
(603) 483-8204  
[NH4Vee@aol.com](mailto:NH4Vee@aol.com)



The Nor'Easters first meeting of the year took place in April. Yours truly was still snow birding and couldn't attend. Meeting info will be reported in the next installment. **Jayne & John Regan** have returned home from Florida snow birding.

**June Alberino** vacationed at PSP & SAN. Unwilling to risk a pass, she flew Southwest out of MHT. June visited the aircraft carrier, Midway, with a full complement of WWII aircraft, getting an up close experience of what life was like onboard for 4500 crew members. Close by is a statue of that well known picture of a sailor kissing a nurse in Time Square, on VJ Day, August 14, 1945. June advised she had a great trip.

I sent 65 e-mails to fellow Nor'Easters asking for info for this months Newsletter, I got the following:

## MICHIGAN

### GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES



Detroit, Michigan  
Marie Cook  
9588 West Parkway  
Redford, MI 48239-1331  
(313) 534-0065  
[marie-cook@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:marie-cook@sbcbglobal.net)

April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 19 Escapees gathered at the Mexican Fiesta in Dearborn Heights, hosted by **Bill & Camille Wade**. Everbody enjoyed the Easter Bunny arriving early, leaving those goodies that bunnies leave. We welcomed **Fred O'Keefe** for the first time in several months. Thankfully, **Fred & Bernie McMannus** will be able to represent the Escapees at our convention this year, since I am not able to attend.

Love and prayers for **Barbara Miller** who is undergoing back surgery today at the Cleveland Clinic. Wishes to Barb for a speedy recovery @ 10888 Kolb, Allen Park, MI 48101-1182.

We were sad to hear that both **Marge Nicholas** and also **Helen McLaughlin** had to say their final goodbye to their Mom's as they took that journey to their eternal life. Love and prayers to Marge at 223 Island Way #802, Clearwater Beach, FL 33767 and Helen at 2018 Townhouse Lane, Hueytown, GA 35023-2366.

Lastly, Happy Easter to all. At this moment, this correspondent is watching the snow fall once again ... Is she happy? Not so much!

### Calendar:

First Thursday of the month, location varies, please call or e-mail.





## MINNESOTA

### NORTHERN LITES

MSP/St. Paul  
Connie Glattly  
82300 Wold Road  
Willow River, MN 55795  
(218) 372-3973  
[crglatty@frontiernet.net](mailto:crglatty@frontiernet.net)



26 members came for lunch & visiting in March. We were happy to see **Chuck Eichacker** again, even though he had a pinched look about him because of the temperature difference between here & Florida where he usually spends all of the winter. His bride, **Joann**, was expected a few days later but couldn't make the gathering. If she had been able to attend, I'm sure she would have been bundled up to the eyes.

**Sonja Gunderson** mentioned that she'd had email contact with **Glenda Morton** & that she's doing well over there in SoDak. Hope we get a chance to see her when she's on her way to or from visiting her boys.

**Andy Holen** (it's reported) got a bit of a poke from his doctor about his weight, so decided he'd show 'im! He's been walking & biking like crazy and has slimmed down somewhat. Hope he can keep it up after he & **Norma** get back from Arizona.

Beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>, you can get the RUAEA Newsletter by US mail as well as on the Internet. If you'd like this service, just mention it the next time you renew (after June) & add \$5.00 extra to your dues.

Our regional Director & pal **Jim Simon** proposed to the RUAEA board that instead of annual conventions (whose attendance has been declining), perhaps a cruise could be offered. If that is something you'd more likely attend, contact the V.P. of Conventions, **Hank Gosselin**, with your comments.

New service out of MSP starting in June is a non-stop A-320 airbus round trip to SFO. So far, just once daily leaving at 0800, with the return departure at 1300. Hopefully this will provide good connections to UAL's Pacific service.

Although it's time for chapter officer elections, the membership has made it abundantly clear that no one has a desire to run for any of the offices. So you can all breathe easier. Just know that we're mentally dumping a load of guilt on ya.

The Northwood Loonies spring gathering is May 5-8 in Red Wing, MN. **Lee & Diane Storlie** have been scurrying around making all sorts of plans for the event. You see? Even though they're members of the Northern Lites, they're also Loonies, as are a bunch of us. Who wouldn't love to be a Loonie?

Who'd a thunk it! Our group now has a vote in the annual meeting of the Armed Forces Service Center at

the airport because of our donations to their cause. Let's see ... who shall we select to attend the meeting? Those interested please raise your hands.

Got a note from **Dorothy Alderman** ~ she says **Cal** is still having problems. Weakness & aching in his legs is causing him the miseries. Sure hope to see him navigating well enough soon to be able to join us for lunch.

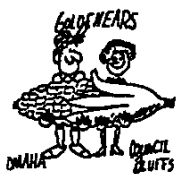
### Calendar:

Lunch the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 11:15am at The Old Country Buffet, just north of Hwy. 110 and Robert Street in West St. Paul.

## NEBRASKA

### GOLDEN'EARS

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



There were 34 at Venice Inn who enjoyed great food and delicious fudge. Thanks to **Clair & Barb Soseman** for hosting. It was good to see **Penny Sophir** and **Andy Vassios**. Andy will be starting his part-time job at the golf course before too long, as soon as the weather permits.

**Barb Soseman** had talked to **Peggy Casebeer** and, even though Peggy is doing better, it will still be a long recuperation period for her to recover from back surgery.

**Ralph Bredow** celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday April 4. He and his wife, **Ardith**, reside in the St. Joseph Villa here in Omaha.

Thought I would pass this along for your information. Last year, with everything that happened to me, I met my \$1,500 deductible with Blue Cross/Blue Shield. I would say around the 1<sup>st</sup> of November, I started noticing I wasn't receiving any acknowledgements from BC/BS. Being very meticulous with putting both the EOMB from Medicare and that from Blue Cross/Blue Shield together, I was getting a lot of paper work stacked up. I finally called them the first of March and was told that after a member has reached the \$1,500 out-of-pocket deductible, they no longer transmit any paper work to them. They said I could go to the [WWW.BCBSIL.com/United](http://WWW.BCBSIL.com/United) website and see who and for what was paid, and also I would be able to print it out. I thanked them for this information and felt it was worthy of passing on to you.

Here are some more names of those who are or have been members of our United Retiree Group who may be deceased or, hopefully, still alive and well. I'm sure there will be many memories that come to mind. "Do

You Remember?" **Bill Harrison; Georgia Egr; John Conrad; Marion Henderson; Edna Plummer; Scott Peterson; George Sikes; and John Mitchell.**

#### Calendar:

**May 5** - Horseman's Park, hosted by **Elaine Schreiber** and **Lorraine Stanfield**

**June 2** - Narrows County/Park – Hosted by **Keith & Jan Cornish**

**July 7** - Jack & Mary's - Hosted by **Evan & Eileen Holly**

**Aug. 4** - Fish & Game, Lake Manawa - Hosted by **Larry & Sharon Farrell**

### NEVADA

#### LAS VEGAS

#### GAMBLERS

Chris Czaplewski, Secy.

280 Cottonwood Dr.

Mesquite, NV 89027

(702) 346-8877

[chriscz@cascadeaccess.com](mailto:chriscz@cascadeaccess.com)



Spring brings the showers, and beautiful flowers; so do funerals. We lost a dear member recently; **Denny Gutwald** (LASCS) passed away peacefully while waiting for his wife, **Nelma**, to come home from a Doctor's appointment. He was fighting lung cancer, and Nelma had a heart attack. We had reported last month that Nelma had just lost her Mother. Our condolences to Nelma and to Denny's family; and good health wishes for Nelma.

Another member, **T.W. Silveroli**, lost his wife, Mary; and now his brother, Sunday, has passed away. **Eleanor & Mike Vasko** lost their 28 yr old grandson, Danny Chavez, in a car accident. Our prayers of comfort and sympathy go out to these fine folks.

On a more jovial note, The "Gamblers" luncheon/meeting in April will be attended by Tony Sortino, RUAEA Director of the Mountain Region. We're all looking forward to the RUAEA Convention in PHX. Hope to see you there.



#### RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

Pat Zoboli

5860 Lone Horse Drive

Reno, NV 89502

(775) 856-2044

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

There were 19 attendees at our March meeting at Austin's. **Kathy** reported that the bank balance for the chapter is at about \$500. We are happy to report that

almost all members are current on their 2009 dues.

Some of the tours at Phoenix this year: Tour of Jerome, city tour, shopping in Scottsdale, Grand Canyon with a stop in Sedona. Also, Tombstone, Bisbee, a train ride through the Verde Valley and Tortilla Flats & Dolly Steamboat cruise. The hotel is centrally located in downtown Phoenix and 2 blocks from the metro, which takes you to Tempe and by one of the Heard Museums just to name a few. We encourage everyone to attend. It is a great way to meet up with old friends and co-workers that have moved on to far locations.

The annual meeting of ex-maintenance employees will be held again this year in Minden. The dates are August 21, 22, & 23. The hotel is the Carson Valley Inn. Some RV spots have also been reserved. For more information, please contact **Jack Raynor** at [raynor-news@sotcom.net](mailto:raynor-news@sotcom.net) or **Larry Nagley** at [nagley@charter.net](mailto:nagley@charter.net). John also has a few flyers if anyone is interested.

Per member request, we again voted on whether to change restaurants. After a vote of those present, Austin's remains in place through this year. We will revisit the question in November or December.

A joke was passed around about what happens when a United Airlines employee reaches the pearly gates and meets St. Peter. Sad, but true. Another piece of trivia – if you want demographics about where you live, go to ZIPskinny in the web search field. When the screen comes up, type in your zip code. You will learn all about your zip code area.

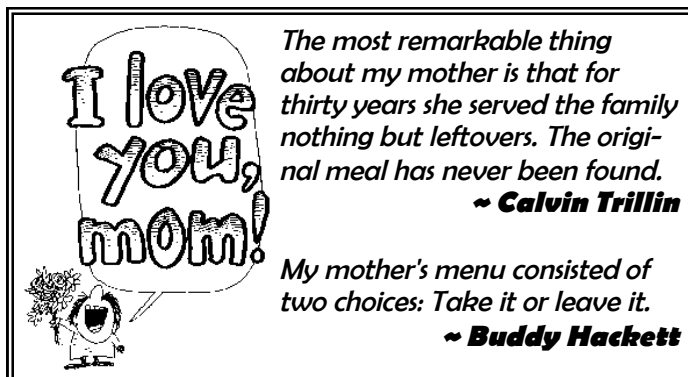
Travel News (new item) – The **Leusings** returned from a week cruise to Mexico. The **Perkins** are currently on a cruise in the Caribbean. **Helaine Jones** had traveled to St. Maarten and **Ruthy Schenk** had returned from two months in the Brisbane area of Australia.

**Jim Wagner** won the 50/50. **Mary Withers, Ann Batty, Barbara Leusing, Joe Robinson, Nancy Scaife** and **John Zoboli** all won "mystery" gifts generously donated by two members.

March birthdays were celebrated by: **Maurine Williams** and **Barbie Doll**.

#### Calendar:

**April 13** - Austin's at 11:30 a.m.



## NEW JERSEY

### THE GARDEN STATERS

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



Pres. **Richard Confer** opened the 3/25 meeting at Snuffy 's Rest. in Scotch Plains, NJ. A flag salute was held and then a moment of silence was observed due to the deaths of **Gene Tortoriello, Harry St. John, John Guardabasco, John Le Povsky** and **Donald Watts**.

A list of Telephone Numbers of who to call when you have any questions about benefits, etc. is available in the RUAEA Newsletter. Also of interest is an article in the April issue, to call Chicago for any flight listings, Saturday is the best time to call.

**Violet Etler** gave an update on **Marty**, who had a triple bypass surgery and a second surgery for an infection and fluid. He is home rehabbing and doing much better. It was a long convalescences.

**Treatie Karwoski**, our North Eastern Regional Director, attended our meeting and explained to us about the May Conference in Phoenix, Arizona; Discounted Rates and traveling; retiree telephone line in Chicago and all the benefits we can obtain. Many questions were raised, Flight Officers are to join RUAEA at the convention and there were suggestions made to have a cruise instead of an area hotel for a future convention.

They are opening up joining RUAEA to anybody that worked for United. A membership campaign is being worked on and dues are changing effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1 year \$25.00, 2 years \$45.00 and 3 years \$60.00. United Airlines is now accepting credit cards instead of cash for onboard purchases. We thanked her for coming to our meeting and all the information she gave.

**Jerry Confer**, our Toys for Tots representative explained this will be our 6<sup>th</sup> year of contributing. In the last 3 years, we were #1 collecting over 15,700 toys in the district and contributing to 8,600 children at least 10 toys each. Also families who have members serving in Iraq, will be receiving toys for their children.

January meeting minutes were read by Violet Etler, she also thanked everyone for their e-mails, telephone calls and cards to Marty. Treasurer's report was read by **John Murphy**. Motion was made to donate \$100.00 to the memorial in Shanksville.

**John Deily** said that anyone that wants something different for lunch, please tell him.

### Calendar:

**April 29** - Meeting

## NEW YORK

### GUYS AND DOLLS

New York NY  
Jeanne Leo  
420 East 55<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10022  
(212) 753-6128  
[pjleo@earthlink.net](mailto:pjleo@earthlink.net)



We were a very small group that lunched at San Martin on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Most of the Sunbirds have returned back from their winter oases ... This correspondent was in Palm Desert, California for two months so Guys & Dolls has not been heard from for quite sometime. Anyway, we are happy to join all of you again at the RUAEA Newsletter.

Hopefully some members will be able to attend the convention in PHX if they can find a flight to get on.

Dues of ten dollars will be collected at the next meeting on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Most of our luncheon conversation was about the economy and the continual high cost of living - but, hey. We are New Yorkers and we are **survivors!**

### Calendar:

**June 2** - Luncheon at San Martin, 12 noon. Please RSVP to **Jeanne Leo** or **Marge Segal** (212) 355-1788

### NEW YORK METROS



NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

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

We had 54 members attending our first 2009 spring meeting. The snowbirds are returning north and the locals are coming out of winter hibernation. Welcome back **Gerry & Dominick Rizzo, Mike & Evelyn Schroeder. John Butera** came with some nostalgia pictures of United Airlines employees from JFK from day's gone bye. Great idea! Perhaps we can check our photo albums in search of old pictures of our second family that worked at United Airlines. Reminisce on how we looked back when.

Good having **Joan & Dave Curtin** back and especially, **Lee Ricci. Len Pascale** made the trip in from the North Fork, at the East End, while **Frank Thomson** just a stones throw from Bay Shore. Glad you made the trip! **Al Vernillo** is currently in an assisted living home since **Betty** passed away; because of his own health issues, he is unable to care for himself. His address, if anyone wants to keep in touch or send greetings is: Mr. Al Vernillo, Arbers at Westbury, 45 Jericho Tpke,

Westbury, NY 11590, (516) 333-3595.

Birthday greetings to **Frank Zabarauska** in Warminster, PA. When he was born, the top song on Apr. 15, 1922 was "April Showers" by Al Jolson. **Yetta & Milton Sank** celebrate 68 years of "Wedded Bliss" on Apr. 27<sup>th</sup>.

Last month, **Mary Lou Ellis & Cassie Manelski** were asked to raise their hand to identify themselves. Little did they know! Jimbo told them they graciously volunteered to join the list of Directors for the Metros. Thanks, Mary Lou & Cassie, I'm sure you'll do a great job. Jimbo made a new call list for the chapter. Unfortunately, there were a couple of errors and the list has to be corrected. Thank you for your patience.

Jimbo received an email for **Len Pascale** about Life Insurance that's available to some Retirees. Apparently, the same information was in April's publication of the RUAEA Newsletter. Any questions, please call **Mike Vasko** (702) 898-0561 and/or **Felix Cicco** (702) 456-9288. If anyone knows any employee or spouse that passed away and is entitled to this benefit, have them call UAL benefits center and request a copy of statement of life insurance coverage.

**John Klos** looked very dapper at the luncheon. Jacket & tie. Unfortunately, he and **Madeline** had to attend a funeral. Condolences on your loss!

It's nice sitting up front. **Nick Manfredo** arrived late and **Ed & Diane Pozzi** left early.

**Paul Cohen** is collecting 2009 dues for the Metro's Chapter \$5.00 pp. **Charlie Kazinski** told his repertoire of jokes and the updated news at JFK.

At the May meeting next month we will discuss our picnic at Belmont Raceway. Bring prices from your favorite caterer. Also, remember no glasses or glass jars are allowed on the Racetrack grounds.

#### Calendar:

**May 6** - 12 noon – Millerridge Inn, Jericho, NY

**June 3** - 12 noon – Millerridge Inn, Jericho, NY

**July 1** - 12 noon – Time for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual picnic at Belmont Raceway. Cool breeze under the shaded trees. Bring a friend

### OHIO

#### BUCKEYES

Cleveland, OH

Sharon Garrah

43248 Kipton Nickel Plate Rd.

Lagrange, OH 44050

(440) 775- 3558

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



On a sunny and unusually warm April 1<sup>st</sup>, our chapter met at Flair Restaurant & Cafe located in North

Royalton. **John & Carrie Kercel** hosted the luncheon with 63 Buckeyes in attendance. The friendly and prompt service along with the delicious food was greatly appreciated by all. Thank you, John & Carrie, for your great selection of a restaurant.

**Dave Placko** started our meal with a prayer. After the meal Pres. **Carol Hacker** conducted our meeting. She received a thank you card from the Cleveland Clinic thanking the Chapter for the donation in memory of **Marilyn Gschwend** who presided over the 50/50. As of this writing, our chapter will not be represented at the yearly convention.

April anniversaries were: **Ken & Joanne Buchman** celebrating 48 years, **Lennie & Mary Ann Friedel** - 45 years and **Earl & Arlene Taylor** - 10 years. Congratulations! Birthdays celebrated in April were **Ray Hacker** (April 1<sup>st</sup>), **Lennie Friedel**, **Vince Malena & Perry McKnight**. Happy Birthday was sung to all.

Pres. **Carol Hacker** reminded us that the bus trip for October must be paid for by August 15<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$75 per person and monies being collected by **Sharon Minelli**.

**Mary Ann Friedel** and **Earl Taylor** won the 50/50 raffle. I would like to THANK **Dave & Marie Placko** for doing such a great job each month in selling tickets for the 50/50. The participation has increased greatly.

Chapter member **Kay Webster** gave me an article that we didn't have time to read at the luncheon, but I thought it was worthwhile to put in the newsletter. It will bring back many memories, some good & some not so good. I have condensed it as much as I could.

Times change, and then again, they don't. It seems early to me, but it appears that there are those already in the grip of spring house cleaning fever. One fact that never changes from generation to generation is that mothers love it- and their offspring hate it.

It was a ritual that bordered on the sacred when I was a kid. Just as soon as the daffodils bloomed, the women folk were infected by the common virus known as: *SPRING HOUSE CLEANING*

*It was a ritual that bordered on the sacred when I was a kid. Just as soon as the daffodils bloomed, the women folk were infected by the common virus known as SPRING HOUSE CLEANING. It is hard to understand why mothers seemed to enjoy it so much. It is hard work today but it was much worse back then.*

*In today's modern world of conveniences, if I'm seized by a fit of the cleaning urge, I can take down my curtains and toss them into the washer, transfer them to the dryer and almost before I can get the windows washed, they are ready to re-hang.*

*It wasn't always that easy. Remember curtain stretchers? They were washed and starched by hand. Wooden frames were set up. Sticking out from the frames about an inch or so part, were small sharp tiny*

nails or pins upon which the curtains were to be impaled and stretched. Once dry, the curtains would be hung back on the newly washed windows, clean straight and absolutely wrinkle free. Windows were washed inside and out. Furniture was pulled away from the walls and the upright vacuum cleaner roared doom to dust balls, a few scraps of cookie crumbs and a few stray spiders.

*It took a few days, but when it was done, the house shone. The windows gleamed, the woodwork and kitchen chairs were scrubbed, the curtains hung crisply from their rods and all was well with the world.*

*Now the preacher can come. Of course he didn't. He arrived on a day when ironing was piled high on the dining room table and the breakfast dishes weren't finished. That, we understood at an early age; was just the way life was meant to be.*

*I have never gotten into the true spirit of spring house cleaning the way my mother or grandmother did. However, one of these days soon I will probably wake up with a mild attack of the seasonal itch. The curtains will come down, I'll hunt up a ladder and wash the windows and I might even chase a few spiders from behind the living room sofa. By the time the curtains are washed and dried (in the dryer, not on stretchers) and are hung back where they belong, my joints will be screaming for mercy and I won't care if company come or not. If company comes, I'll make us a cup of coffee. I'll push the papers aside on the kitchen table to make room for a plate of Oreo cookies and hope they don't notice that I never did get around to washing the woodwork.*

Hope you enjoyed strolling down memory lane. Thank you Kay, I personally enjoyed all the memories that it brought back.

We have a few members who continue to need your prayers. Please hold **Bob Herman** in your prayers. Shari, we hold you in our prayers as well. You're a great caregiver.

Pres. **Carol Hacker** told us that **Ray Waldron** is scheduled for heart surgery on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April. **Ray & Carol** have been members of this chapter for many years. They just celebrated 60 yrs. of marriage this past March. Cards will be welcomed. The address is: 341 Wallace Drive, Berea, OH 44017-2629.

#### Calendar:

**June 3** - J- Bella, 12201 Pearl Rd., Strongsville. Gather at 12:00 noon, pre-paid.

**July 9** - *Annual Picnic*. Second Thursday. Gather at noon at W. J. Green Lodge, located in the Mill Stream Run of Metro parks.

**Aug. 11** - The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Northfield Night. Second Tuesday. Doors open at 5:45pm with the buffet at 6pm. Races start at 7pm and end at 11pm, pre-paid

## OREGON

### OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland

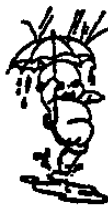
Barbara M. Heidegger

13848 NE Milton

Portland, OR 97230

(503) 254-5018

[DuaneBaba1@aol.com](mailto:DuaneBaba1@aol.com)



It was a sea of green at our March meeting where a contest was held for the best St. Patrick's Day costume. The winner was **Dee Boelter** who was decked out in green necklaces wearing a bright orange wig on her head. Our regular drawings were held and the winners were; Door Prize: **Lyle Sperb**, Birthday: **Margie Curtis**, Anniversary: **Len & Jerri Blodgett**, Fifty/Fifty: **Jack Curtis**. The lovely table decorations went to the person whose UAL hire date was the closest to March 11<sup>th</sup>.

We welcome **Rose Bryant**, PDXCS to our chapter. She recently moved back to our area.

**Anita Donaldson** had shoulder surgery on March 12<sup>th</sup>. She is the only person who I know of who has had surgery the past month. I do not have an update on **Rance Ishibashi** who is undergoing treatment for leukemia.

The last month has brought news of two deaths in our chapter. **Beverly Markland**, who worked at EXO and moved to Portland in the late 80's died on March 12<sup>th</sup>. She diligently came to our meetings even though it meant taking more than one bus. She left no known survivors. **Mike McMorro**, PDXCS died on March 15<sup>th</sup> and will have a military service at Willamette National Cemetery at a later date. We will miss them.

Charlie has contacted the Disabled American Veterans and is waiting to hear if they will be able to send a speaker to our May meeting. In June, **Glen & Gaylean Swanson** will honor our WWII veterans with a service award. Plans are underway for the annual picnic in July which will be held at Red Sunset Park in Gresham. I will provide more information about these events in future newsletters.

The travel desk at PDX is open 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Mon/Wed/Fri (503) 249-4142 and (503) 249-4143 for the PDX area. Calls from outside our (503) area code please use 1-888-278-7038. They can assist you with listing and load information.

#### Calendar:

Meetings at Refectory Restaurant, 1618 NE 122<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Portland OR 11AM Social Hour, Lunch 12:00 PM

**May 13** - Social

**June 9** - Honor Veterans

**July 8** - Annual picnic



## **OUR CLUB**

Southern Oregon  
Jane Frincke  
1000 Peco Road  
Grants Pass, OR 97526  
(541) 472-9212  
[jjfor@rascal.cc](mailto:jjfor@rascal.cc)



As in many places around this beautiful country, the old saying in Southern Oregon is, *"If you don't like the weather, wait five minutes."* Braving charcoal clouds, rain, graupel, hail, a stiff breeze, blue skies, and glorious sunshine all in one morning, 17 OUR Club members came out for the April 3 luncheon at 115 Broiler Steak House. The company, as always, was great fun. **Peggy Wilson** made the arrangements, and the food and service were outstanding. We're fortunate to have a restaurant of this caliber in Grants Pass that will take groups.

It was good to have **Jim & Elaine Ellis** back from a lengthy RV trip. They saw **Robert & Judy Machado** several times while in Arizona and report that the Machados are always busy and thoroughly enjoying their dream life as full time RV-ers. We missed **Wayne Widrig** and his friend, Jackie, who intended to be back from Florida in time for the luncheon but got stuck in SFO on their last leg returning to MFR.

**Alberta Randall's** husband, **Russ**, was hospitalized for several days but is home again and reportedly recovering in fine form. We all signed a card for him that said we hoped he would soon be back up and around ... having fun doing all the things he shouldn't be doing. Many well wishes to Russ.

### Calendar:

**May 1** - TBA - **Neal & Sonnia Appleton**

**June 5** - TBA - **Lowell & Norma Ross**

**July 10:** TBA - **Ric & Gidget Walcha**

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

### **THE INDEPENDENTS**

Philadelphia, PA

Dee Burrs

2618 Silverside Road

Wilmington, DE 19810

Phone: (302) 478-2221

Fax: (302) 478-1268



Our executive committee met at **Kathy & Al Edward's** on Mar 23. President **Joe Brad** and his wife, **Gail**, attended. Joe is handling his treatments well. He looks terrific. Other attendees included: **Joyce Lindenmuth**, **Frank & Marge Egges**, **Tom & Pat Lyons**, **Kathy & Al Edwards**, **Shirley Roberts** and, of course, myself. We miss **Bernie & Mona McNamee**.

Before the meeting, we all enjoyed a few laughs telling airline stories and remembering some of the more colorful agents that we worked with in customers service, the ramp and air freight.

**Shirley Roberts** and I hosted the lunch. **Tom Lyons** gave the treasury report.

We discussed the upcoming convention in PHX. We are looking into full fares. Sometimes standby doesn't always work out and then it involves another hotel and meal expense. A reminder that the S\*PMO/EMP20 - A 20% employee discount from a reserved fare is sometimes a good deal. I am using it to/from Rome, Italy this month. You can accumulate MP miles on it also.

**Kathy Edwards** made a few telephone calls to set up speakers for the next few meetings. We also assigned hosts for our next 2 months committee meetings.

**Frank Egges** gave an update of the flight 93 Memorial fund. Our United retirees across the country have been very generous. We have been given the honor of naming the new addition to the chapel. Since United Airlines Retirees appears on plaques inside the chapel, we suggested the name "*United Flight 93's Angels*" for the new wing. If anyone has another suggestion, please let us know. We still have lots of time as the construction is just getting started.

29 attendees showed up for our first meeting of 2009. President **Joe Brad** opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. **Dee Burrs** offered the blessing before the meal.

Since we had no speaker scheduled for the meeting, after lunch we played Bingo. Our lucky winners were: **Joe Brad**, **Al Edwards** and **Joyce Lindenmuth**. It probably doesn't look so good that one winner is an officer and another, a committee member. Since there were no prizes, I suppose we can skip the investigation.

It was so good to see **Dennis O'Neill** and **Joe Brad** present and looking so well. We are all praying for a quick and complete recovery.

As **Pat Lyons** suggested at the committee meeting, all the officers sat at different tables. It was a nice treat to get to talk to members we do not normally get to visit. Maybe this should be the norm, as we rarely discuss business at the general meeting anyway.

Just a reminder, **Frank Egges** is still collecting donations for Flight 93 Memorial Chapel. I believe this is an ongoing cause for Frank. He will keep the memory of the heroes of that day alive. So if you can send some money, no amount is too small, please make your check payable to "CHAPEL 93 MEMORIAL" and mail it to: **Frank Egges**, 3405 West Chester Pike B307, Newtown Square, PA 19073. Please be certain that your file number, name and address appear on your check. Thank you in advance.



#### Calendar:

**April 13** - General meeting, 12:30PM at the Ramada Inn

**April 27** - Committee meeting, 12:30PM at the Edwards

#### PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

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



Another year has gone by - Nice "Birthday" reminder in red. Thanks guys.

I can't believe the 09 convention will be here and gone by the time we send in our next report, with the snow and wind today, it certainly makes going to PHX all the more inviting. Our April luncheon will be covered next month since it is not scheduled until the 17<sup>th</sup> of April.

I'll attempt to outline some of our "Senior Events":

- ❏ **Treatie Karwoski**, our NE Director is recuperating and doing well after a brief stay in the hospital.
- ❏ **Jim Weber** is scheduled for knee surgery later this month.
- ❏ **Jim "Chizzy" Csizmadia** is scheduled for knee replacement on Apr 13<sup>th</sup>.
- ❏ **Audrey Poppenger Thorn** is scheduled for surgery this month.
- ❏ **Doris Abbas** is also scheduled for more foot surgery this month.
- ❏ **Al Larimer** is having surgery on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

We certainly wish them all the best and speedy recovery. Last but foremost, I'm sorry to report that **John Griglak**, former PIT RSM lost his battle with cancer. John was preceded in death by his wife.

Hopefully, I will have some good news to report after the convention. Happy Memorial Day and keep our Veterans in your prayers.

#### Calendar:

**July 17** - Annual Picnic - Robinson Park

#### TENNESSEE

##### TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS

Herman Emmel  
865 Lakeview Drive  
Sharps Chapel, TN 37866  
(865) 278-3482  
[bhemmel@aol.com](mailto:bhemmel@aol.com)



Green Meadows Country Club was the location of

our March 19<sup>th</sup> luncheon/meeting. It was a gorgeous Spring Day. Unfortunately, our hosts, **Don & Jackye Jeacock** were unable to join us. Jackye had a stroke that morning and was in the hospital. She currently is in Patricia Neal Rehab Center in Knoxville. Her family reports that she is doing great and hopes to be home in 3-4 weeks. Please keep the Jeacock family in your prayers.

Lunch, as always, was delicious. Our hosts had thoughtfully ordered a cake for dessert which was enjoyed by all. Our guest speaker was Tara Harvey from Haven House which is a home for abused women. She was very informative about the different types of abuse - not only physical abuse; but mental abuse and verbal abuse as well. It was a very thought provoking talk and discussion. The Rocky Tops unanimously voted to send a contribution to this organization. **Robbie Corbin** gave us an update on our trip to Cumberland Playhouse in May. **Sue Ferrell** presented several ideas for our July Meeting and will report back to us on where it will be located. **Dave Leonhardt** won the 50/50. After the meeting had been adjourned, **Jack Ferrell** took a picture to add to the Rocky Top Photo Album.

#### Calendar:

**May 19** - Note that this is a Tuesday instead of our usual Thursday meeting date. Lunch at 12:30 Central Time with the Play at 2:30 Central Time. Hosted by **Robbie & Joe Corbin**, (931) 456-2790 at Beef & Barrell in Crossville. Following lunch we will then attend a matinee Performance of "Smoke on the Mountain" at the Cumberland Playhouse. This should be a really fun meeting and we hope everyone can attend.

**June 18** - 9:30 AM - Breakfast at Shoney's Restaurant on Lovell Rd. in West Knoxville. Take exit 274 off I40-75 toward Kingston Pike for one block.

**July 16** - Location and Time to be announced. Hosted by **Jack & Sue Ferrell**, (423) 745-9390.

#### UTAH

##### THE SALT LAKERS

Brigitte Murdock  
1505 S. Roxbury Rd.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84108-2844  
(801) 583-2346  
[ettigirb24@q.com](mailto:ettigirb24@q.com)



On **April 7, 2009**, 16 high-spirited chapter members got together at the Murray Heritage Center. The general coffemaker/bottle-washers (who shall remain nameless!) were, unfortunately, under the impression that today's meeting would start at 2pm, somewhere else. Thus, no coffee. However, **Kip Lufkin** purchased coffee from a nearby *Starbuck's*, while **Mike Brown**

brought the donuts. A hearty thank-you to **Kip** and to **Mike**!

We welcomed **Kay/Janie Leishman**; **Frank Christenson's** granddaughter **Holly Cressall**; **Lorrain Olson**, **Art Scott**, and **Pete Loyola**. And, of course, welcome to all the regulars!

There were two obituaries: **Edith Paul** (Sterling Paul's widow) passed away 3/9/2009; **Doug Peterson** informed us that SLCRR retiree **Betty Groesbeck** also died in March. Our chapter's condolences to their respective families! During the past month, this correspondent called **Betty Davis** who is still not feeling up-to-par after her Dec. fall when she hurt her legs/hip. Also missed at today's meeting was **Lila Maughan**.

As this correspondent is also a *Clipped Wings®* member, she was informed through the CW "Quarterly" newsletter that PHX had another "Fantasy Flight"! To quote the "Q" reporter **Eileen Olovson**, "... *The night before the Fantasy Flight, we still didn't know if we were going to fly; so - many of us Clipped Wingers & the other retired UAL folk bombarded Mr. Tilton with e-mails saying 'Fantasy Flight needs to FLY; we're an airlines, so we need to fly!'* **Eileen** continues, "*It did the trick...*" - We in SLC also have fond memories of our last 'Fantasy Flight' in Dec. 2000 that was put on by our active/retired UALers and enjoyed by so many terminally ill children.

**Tom/Annette Woolley** passed away a few years back and, recently, their daughter **Bonnie Bohn** sent off a package to the DEN **United Airlines Historical Foundation** (UAHF) that contained old aircraft mechanics handbooks/manuals & other info regarding UAL's old-time stories that would be of interest to retirees as well as to visitors to the company's DEN museum. UAHF's Dir. **Tom Goodyear** acknowledged receipt of the package in the March 2009 RUAEA Newsletter, while also passing along a thank-you to **Bonnie**.

Speaking of thank-you: **Frank Murdock** (90) was most pleasantly surprised to receive birthday greetings sent by so many of his former coworkers from around the system! He gratefully acknowledges all of them - and will see you when he reaches 100!

It is early in the year - however, plans for summer picnic & Christmas caterers were put before the voting attendees, and it was decided that Chapter Pres. **Clair Anderson** will reconnoiter various caterers' food fares/prices, and he promised to report back to us at one of the next meetings. As regards the Christmas get-together, **Pete Loyola** suggested to bring money (perhaps up to \$15.00) to be put into the "hat" and turned over to a local charity during these hard times for so many. In addition & just for laughs, a second gift idea for the Christmas lunch members was proposed: an "elephant" gift - a token present that will make us laugh!

#### Calendar:

**April 7** - Coffee Time - 9:30am - Murray Heritage Ctr., 10 E. 6150 S., Murray;

**May 5** - Lunch - 2pm - Golden Corral, 7200 S. 700 E., SLC.

**June 2** - Lunch 2pm - Joy Luck (Chinese), 550 W. 1350 S., Bountiful.

**July 7** - Brunch 10am, Johanna's Kitchen, 9725 S. State St., Sandy.

#### WASHINGTON

##### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS



Seattle

Dee O'Donnell

7221 NE 182<sup>nd</sup> St., Apt. 102

Kenmore, WA 98028

(425) 481-6171

[addynjohn@hotmail.com](mailto:addynjohn@hotmail.com)

I reached a milestone in my recovery from ankle surgery by having my cast removed toward the end of March. What a great feeling it is to be free of that. I'm hoping to resume normal activities in May. Thanks again to everyone who has called, visited and sent cards and letters. You've been a great boost to my spirits.

**Jerry Rowles**, retired from SEARR, passed away March 14 after a long battle with cancer. **Jay Workman**, husband of SEARR retiree **Gail Workman** died March 17 and SEARR retiree **Betty Groesbeck** also died in March. **Robert Paul**, retired from SEAMM, passed away March 28 following a long illness. He was a navy veteran and worked for United 36 years. Bob's wife **Betty** survives him. Retired Seattle-based pilot **John Holm** died on March 29. Besides his flying career, Captain Holm also was a well-known cartoonist, and his "Woody's World" panel appeared in newspapers throughout the country in the 1960s and 1970s and a compilation of them was also published as a book. He retired from United in 1982; his wife **Gloria** survives him.

At our March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting at Fairwood Country Club in Renton, 53 were in attendance, including four guests who joined our chapter: **Debbie Batchelor**, **Courtney Galura** and **Sandra Campbell**, all retired from SEARR, and **Jim Vogt**, retired from SEACG. **Lu Gardiner**, our newsletter editor, was also present and received a warm round of applause for her hard work in keeping us informed all year long.

**Phyllis Bowman**, our vice president, recognized **Dick Waterous** and **Ed Rousso**, who are both past chapter presidents, and placed "crowns" on their heads, while **Mary Luke** took photographs of them.

RUAEA president **Ron Robertson** and his wife **Shirley** were able to be with us for our meeting. Ron

addressed our group and talked about the benefits of joining RUAEA and the May convention in Phoenix as well as urging members to vote in the regional director elections. Ron noted that two former Seattle employees – **Chuck Cole** and **Michael Richards** are running for director of the Arizona region. Ron passed out paper ballots to members who had not yet voted, and subsequently received several completed ballots to submit to RUAEA.

**Lyle Lindblad** was our guest speaker and talked about his interesting experiences during his long career in SEACS from 1951 through 1970. Sea-Tac Airport was only 2 years old when Lyle started with United. Among the personalities he met were General **Eisenhower** and his wife **Mamie** when Ike was first running for president, vice presidents **Nixon** and **Agnew**, and **Marilyn Monroe**. He showed us a photo of him autographing Miss Monroe's cast covering her leg when she was recovering from an injury. Lyle recalled that he quipped that he forgot how to spell his name when in the presence of Marilyn Monroe. He also had worked for General **Douglas MacArthur** prior to coming to United and joked with General Eisenhower about how he (Lyle) knew his old boss. Not many of us have had a chance to meet a five-star general, let alone two five-stars, like Lyle did. Lyle also talked about how onboard liquor service started on United with alcohol boarded in cruets (small glass containers) for first class service, and how United instituted the concept of stewardesses onboard with the hiring of registered nurses. We all enjoyed Lyle's talk and his descriptions of United's glory days.

**Bob Howard** talked to our group about the annual retiree golf tournament to be held June 17 at Allenmore Golf Course in Tacoma. There are lots of prizes and the fees are very reasonable. For further information contact Bob at (206) 683-4737.

Many nice gifts were donated as door prizes, and the winners were **Ken Wagner, Sidney Reed, Ginger Phelan, Shirley Robertson, Don Hanson, Phyllis Lindblad, Edna Paulson, Helen Stanger, Rita Reynolds, Warren Brown, Dona Westpfahl, Ed Clay, John Reed, Ed Rousso** and **Charlotte Rousso**. The winner of the 50/50 drawing was **Marion Hafterson**. **Bob Brumfield** assisted with the drawings.

**Cris LeGassey** and **Sue Crane** have announced the dates of the two SEARR reunions for 2009. They will be June 6 and November 7, at the Kona Kai restaurant in Seattle starting at 1 PM.

Actress **Debbie Reynolds** was the featured artist in the Seattle Men's Chorus stage production "Singing in the Rain" March 28 and 29 at McGaw Hall in Seattle, which drew big crowds. **Bob Brumfield** sings in the Chorus and he indicates that Miss Reynolds was a pleasure to work with, and, unlike many other featured stars,

she spent considerable practice time with the Chorus in preparation for the performances. Miss Reynolds turned 77 on April 1. Backstage prior to the final performance, Bob was presented with a 25-year pin for his participation in the Men's Chorus over the years.

**Hubert Malco** was hospitalized in intensive care in mid-March with an abdominal aneurysm and was eventually released to convalesce at home. His wife **Anita** says that they are fortunate that this didn't occur a couple of days earlier, when they were returning from Honolulu.

On March 27, a memorial dinner was held at the Washington Athletic Club for **Sue Peek**, who was killed in an automobile accident January 30. **Vera Cook** and **Jim Small** assisted Sue's brother, **Bill Peek**, in developing a guest list of close co-workers and friends of Sue to attend the dinner. It was a nice evening of reflections on Sue and her life and career with United.

#### Calendar:

**May 12** – Luncheon Meeting, Fairwood Country Club, Renton, WA

**June** – No Meeting

**July** – No Meeting

**August 11** – Annual Picnic at **Jerry & Irene Opperman's** home, Kent, WA

#### WASHINGTON, D.C.

#### THE DULLES LOUNGERS

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



Once again, I am bidding you adieu. This will be my last issue of the newsletter ... and this time I mean it. I've had great fun, but I am now trading hats. I have been asked to organize the DC Chapter of the Retired AFA-CWA. I fear this is going to be a very large task, but am looking forward to the challenge. **Lucy Chate-lain** will be your new reporter. Many will remember Lucy as the reporter who did an excellent job before me, so the newsletter should be in good hands!

Our March luncheon at the Golden Corral in Manassas was well attended and the usual fun. Some of the winners of our March drawing were **Charlotte Philippon, Eva Johnson, Skip Garczynski, Hank Heuser**, and **Peggy Tourial**. **Dutch Schneider** won \$48 in the 50/50.

Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> is our **Charles Town Races & Slots** get-together, with lunch at the Epic Buffet. To make sure we have our special room, we need a minimum of 50 reservations. Please send your reservation

and check in time to be received no later than May 1. Our trip to Charles Town two years ago was such fun and we are looking forward to seeing more of our members there this year.

**Charles Town Invitation:** *All United Retirees, Spouses, Family and Friends are invited to a Luncheon and Day of Fun at the Charles Town Races & Slots. Please meet at the Epic Buffet, Wednesday, May 13 at 11:30AM. Cost is \$15 P/P which includes All-You-Can-Eat-And-Drink, Tax and Tip. Mail Reservation information (Name & the Number of people) and a check made payable to "The Dulles Loungers" to: **Linda Scriven**, 20946 Tobacco Square, Ashburn, VA 20147. Reservations and checks must be received by May 1<sup>st</sup>. For more information, see [www.dullesloungers.com](http://www.dullesloungers.com) or call (703) 729-8616.*

A big Thank You to **John Lyon**, retired IADOZ, for sending us pictures from when United started flying from Dulles on May 1, 1986. It was fun to see how many people we could recognize. We also appreciated all the goodies he sent that were used as prizes for our drawings.

Southwest Airlines is offering \$32 seats, one-way, to Phoenix and various cities. You must have a letter from United to purchase these tickets. For more information, call the retiree travel desks number located on the "Important Phone Numbers" section of this Newsletter.

The Dulles Loungers received a nice note from the SERVE organization thanking us for our generous donations of food, linens and cash at Christmas.

**Vince DiFelice**, retired DCACG, was in the hospital last month. He is home recovering now. His wife, **Nora**, retired PCA/CAP/UAL, is taking good care of him. You can send your get-well wishes to Vince at 2105 Minor St, Alexandria, VA 22302-3116. He also appreciates telephone calls – (703) 998-9270. We look forward to seeing him once again at our luncheons. Get Well Soon, Vince!

**Ken Morgan**, retired IADCG, had shoulder surgery the end of January. He is feeling much better now but continuing physical therapy treatments until he is finally 100%. Cards may be sent to: 9812 Fairmont Ave, Manassas, VA 20109. We wish Ken a speedy recovery.

Please see [www.dullesloungers.com](http://www.dullesloungers.com), "Sunshine News", for updates on members. There is also information for retirees and travelers under the news section. And be sure to check out "Airline Humor" – courtesy of our fantastic webmaster, **Bud Reed**.

You may contact any of our Lounger officers with information about illnesses, deaths, special events, anniversaries, or whenever news should be shared with others.

📞 **Linda Scriven**, 703/729-8616 or UALEMP5936@aol.com;

📞 **Mari McColl**, 703/471-8218 or Marimccoll@aol.com;

📞 **Judy Dunlap**, 703/689-0653.

Don't forget to save your Betty Crocker "Box Tops for Education" for the Pace West School. Thanks!

**RUAEA News:** The 2009 RUAEA National Convention is being hosted May 17-24 by the chapters in sunny Arizona and will take place in Phoenix. There will be an Arts & Craft Auction of works donated by RUAEA members. If you are interested in donating a project, please contact **Jim Fauber** at [fauber-jmbo@aol.com](mailto:fauber-jmbo@aol.com) or (480) 895-9697.

You can book your hotel by going to <http://phoenix.hyatt.com/groupbooking/phxrpruae2009> or call the hotel at (602) 252-1234 (identify yourself as a RUAEA member to get the convention rate). You are guaranteed wonderful sunny weather, lots of fun get-togethers, great accommodations at the Hyatt Phoenix, good food, a taste of Southwestern hospitality and exciting tours of Valley of the Sun. Come discover "The Wonders of Arizona".

Remember – our very own **Linda Scriven** is running for the position of Southeastern Regional Director. As long as you are a RUAEA member, you can vote for her whether or not you attend the convention.

Until next time. Fly Safe

#### Calendar:

**May 13** - Dulles Loungers meeting, Charles Town Races & Slots. Details in column or call (703) 729-8616.

### NATIONAL

#### **CLIPPED WINGS®**

Barbara Vincent  
National Vice President  
81-837 Contento  
La Quinta, CA 92253  
(206) 605-6902  
[bvincentps@aol.com](mailto:bvincentps@aol.com)



We are delighted to report that Clipped Wings® accepted the United Airlines Historical Foundation invitation to become a part of its Alliance. **Sheryl Yanken Schubert** (DEN) will serve as our representative on the board.

The Marin Chapter of Clipped Wings has been very instrumental in the creation of the historical United Flight Attendant Display at the Pacific Coast Air Museum in Santa Rosa, CA. The exhibit is open Tues., Thurs., Sat. and Sun. between 10am and 4 pm.

If you are interested in purchasing the Clipped Wings® airplane scarf either for yourself or for a gift, contact **Cheryl Mullins Jensen** (SMF) [rjen-](mailto:rjen-)



[sen148@aol.com](mailto:sen148@aol.com). Each scarf is \$20 plus \$1.50 shipping. Proceeds raised from the profits of the airplane scarves go to support Special Olympics.

We are having great response from prospective members visiting our website. We have recorded 57 new members so far this year. First-time members may join Clipped Wings after April 1, 2009 for one-half national dues, local dues and philanthropy assessment. Please check us out at [www.clippedwings.com](http://www.clippedwings.com). As the National Vice President, **Barbara Fisk Vincent** (SEA), I will be happy to answer any membership questions from all prospective members. Please contact me at [bvincentps@aol.com](mailto:bvincentps@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 renewal date

Bellettiere, Patricia, ORDPV, 124 Eastern, Bull Shoals, AR 72619  
Chatman, David, DENKS, 1070 Tibalew Dr., Sparta, MI 49345  
Dacunto, Natalie, IAD, 9608 Old Keene Mill Rd #421, Burke, VA 22015  
Hill, Carol R., IADCS, 4217 S Franklinia St., St. Augustine, FL 32092  
McLeod, Bruce, 21 Turnberry Rd., Halfmoon Bay, CA 94019  
Newsum, Charles, ATLSS, 3644 Concordia Rd., Decatur, GA 30034  
Newton, Judy S., IADCS, 200 Magnolia Ct., Sterling, VA 20164  
Parkson, Charles L., ORDJJ, 3904 N. Odell Ave., Chicago, IL 60634  
Record, Sharon J., LAXOZ, 14492 Yukon Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250  
Rose, Dennis, STLOZ, 575 W. Pecos Rd #1025, Chandler, AZ 85225  
Saunders, Douglas, 1913 Quail Run, Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
Spencer, Audrey, DENCS, 3772 N. Denny Way, Buckeye, AZ 85396  
Spring, Cleave, 1104 Burke Lane, Foster City, CA 94404  
Twitchell, Marie, 1280 Village Dr., Arlington Heights, IL 60004  
Wesemann, Barbara L., WHQAN, 9029 Roach Ave, Brookfield, IL 60513



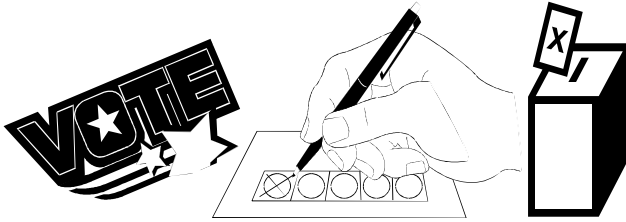
## CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Robert C. Ader, Beverly Alderdice, Jacqueline M. Allen, Edna M. Aronson, Robert A. Avers, Gary C. Boltjes, Joseph T. Bain, Clara M. Bajio, Alan G. Barclay, James D. Barnard, John G. Barry, Jeannette Belovics, Elsie M. Bemel, Robert E. Berger, B. Thomas Bernard, Mary V. Besier Lawon, Nancy J. Bessenbacher, John Beveridge, Peter Bilsich, William M. Blackwell, William E. Blaylock, Joseph M. Boberek, Roger E. Bottomley, Robert R. Bradley, Gary P. Brown, Marguerite Burg, Charles Roger Burgess, Robert E. Burke, S. P. "Ziggy" Butkiewicz, Joyce A. Calderone, Jean Cali, Nancy A. Carter, Helen J. Christensen, Norma S. Ciarlariello, Ward A. Clemmo, A.D. Cline, Sondra L. Conner, Douglas A. Cowan, Harlan G. Crane, William A. Curran Jr, Karla T. Cushing, John Daleo, Harry L. Dasher, Mary Ann Davis, Lila F. Devolder, Harvey A. Donahoo, Donald D. Draheim, Lewis A. Dunning, David W. Dyer, Judith A. Elliott, Patricia Ello, Tony A. Eng, Martin Etler, Lorraine P. Fleming, Lawrence Z. Fleshman, America M. Frank, Peter Fusco, Richard G. Gerk, Harrison W. (Harry) Good, Robert B. Gordon, John B. Hagen, Marilyn J. Harmon, Joyce E. Hendricks, Lois E. Hewelt, Jack Hoch, Shelley A. Hofmann, Donald N. Holt, Robert L. Horn, Diane L. Hrdlicka, Lillian P. Hudacek, Diana M. Huffman, Richard T. Hulsmann, Mel Humpa, Margaret J. Hutchinson, George William Ingels, Ed Jarratt, Peggy Jauregui, Henry S. Jazwinski, E. Stephen Jennings, Don Johnson, Herbert F. Johnson, Frances J. Joseph, JoAnn M. Juth, Hazel Kaspari, Robert Kelenic, Walter Kendall, Heinz Kessler, Virgil A. Kilgroe, Nora Kocsis, Susan Koller, Joan M. Krolak, Joan P. Lane, Donald E. Latter, Berthier O. Lazare, Dianne Lebow, Salvatore J. Leone, Gary N. Leopold, Mary F. Link, Donna L. Lynn, Vincent L. Malena, Marilyn A. Marcy, F. Brandon Maus, Eileen K. Mc Carthy, Joseph S. McCaughey, Albert J. McGarrity, May D. McGrath, Thomas E. McKinstry, Clarence A. McNeil, Arthur J. McNicholl, Nancy W. Meyer, Alexander Moromisato, John E. Moylett, Cecile J. Myers, Donald R. Nellans, Douglas R. Nelson, Robert M. Newlands, Gloria P. Odendhal, Richard R. Pendleton, William Jay Plank, Kenneth E. Pomorin, Stephen R. Purdy, James Rider, Barbara B. Roberts, Janet E. Rodriguez, Barbara J. Rogers, Anne Rosenstein, Gloria C. Runkles, Vannie R. Russell, Leonard J. Saldanha, Herbert M. Sanders, Donald M. Sather, Barbara Seaholm, Clyde E. Searles, Hedda Shepherd, Frank Sheridan, Doris R. Shilliday, Betty J. Smith, Janet L. Smithberg,

Carol A. Soffel, Pascal C. Soriano, William C. Speicher, Konstantin Stamatiou, Marlene G. Stanek, Gordon W. Starr, Dora L. Starr, Karel E. Steele, Jack Steidl, Russell R. Strandberg, Anthony F. Tricoli, Gerry F. Troppe, Helmut Umbley, Ronald A. Vagnini, Gerry W. Vandien, Robert W. Wagner, Lola M. Wallace, Daryl C. Warren, Jerome A. Watnemoe, Patricia A. Watt, Judy G. Weber, Isabelle C. Weller, Joseph Wiederholt, Charlotte S. Wilson, John C. Winters, Fred S. Wise, Peggy O. Wolf, Judith W. Wright, Delano H. Wright, Teofilo J. Yap.





**Please Vote**

***There may be time yet to get your ballot to the Audit Committee by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009***

You can cast your vote via:

- 🗳 **Online voting at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org) (Note: You do not have to sign up to receive the Newsletter on the web to do this).**
- 🗳 **Paper ballot located in the March 2009 issue of the RUAEA Newsletter.**
- 🗳 **Download a ballot from [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org) and mail it in.**



## OBITUARIES

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

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

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

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

Retiree – **BURGESS, Dale I.**, on 3/16/09, GEGOZ, husband of Therese (deceased), 2512 W Rosewood Ave., Spokane, WA 99208

Retiree – **DOVER, John R.**, on 3/13/09, ORDMM, husband of Hazel, 1240 Spring South Rd, Schaumburg, IL 60193

Retiree – **EITEL, Van E.**, on 11/25/08, IADCG, husband of Irene, 1933 Academy Blvd., Cape Coral, FL 33990

Spouse – **ESON, Jo A.**, on 2/9/09, wife of Edward E., DENMM, 4902 W 29<sup>th</sup> St. Unit 6-D, Greeley, CO 80634

Retiree – **JACOBSON, Carl M.**, on 3/6/09, INDLX, husband of LaVerne, 10535 Kellum Dr., Camby, IN 46113

Retiree – **LANTZ, George L.**, on 3/19/09, ORDMM, husband of Loraine (deceased), grandfather of Randy Lantz, 43417 Acacia St., Hemet, CA 92544

Spouse – **LARSON, Ingeborg**, on 1/21/09, wife of James E., SFOIQ, 2065 Folle Blanche Dr., San Jose, CA 95135

Retiree – **MOUER, Paul K.**, on 2/28/09, SNAOZ, husband of Mary, 2452 W Blue Sky Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85085

Retiree – **TARTAGLINI, Louis J.**, on 3/11/09, LAXCS, husband of Karyl, 11925 Doty Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250

Retiree – **PAUL, Robert E.**, on 3/28/09, SEAMM, husband of Betty, 32820 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Unit 46,

Federal Way, WA 98003

Spouse – **POLLARD, Melba, J.**, on 3/5/09, wife of  
RUAEA Past President Howard L., EXOPE, 800 W  
Oakton St. # 314, Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Retiree – **PETER, George H.**, on 1/15/09, JFKFF, hus-  
band of Joan, 2343 Simms Ave, No Bellmore, NY  
11710

Retiree – **PHILLIPS, Floyd F.**, on 3/31/09, SFOWR,  
husband of Virginia, 787 Mayten Tree Court,  
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Retiree – **PREDOVICH, Harold, J. (Hal)** on 2/22/09,  
WHQTF, husband of Kathleen, 1581 Raymond Dr.  
(Unit 101), Naperville, IL 60563

Retiree – **RICCI, Louis**, on 3/5/09, JFKMM, husband  
of Leonora, 1215 Melville Rd., Farmingdale, NY  
11735

Retiree – **ROPER, Warren J.**, on 4/6/09, DENTR, hus-  
band of Virginia (deceased), father of Alan, 1050  
Franklin St., #602, San Francisco, CA 94109

Spouse – **SCHMIDT, Virginia (Mrs. Ozzie)** on  
3/22/09, wife of Ozzie (deceased), mother of  
Kaylene Keller, Stephanie Schmidt and Melinda  
Schmidt, 628 Acacia Lane, Emerald Hills, CA  
94062

Retiree – **WIGGINS JR., Frank D.**, on 3/22/09,  
ORDMM, husband of Wilma, 1624 US Highway  
52, Dixon, IL 61021

Spouse – **WIPER, Lillian M.**, on 2/6/09, wife of Capt.  
Samuel B. (deceased), SFOFO, mother of Karen  
Kohler, 4111 133<sup>rd</sup> Ave SE, Bellevue, WA 98006

Retiree – **WONG, Alfredo P.**, - 2/19/09 SFOOO, hus-  
band of Jule Ann, 681 W Scott Ave., Gilbert, AZ  
85233

#### January 2009 Skynet Listing

**BAEDORF, Karl W.**, SFORQ 01/13/09

**BAKER, Alma R.**, DCARR 01/28/09

**BEEBE, Alvin L.**, OAKOZ 01/13/09

**BEUK, Jack J.**, SFOAF 01/08/09

**BOLANOWSKI, Elaine K.**, ORDEX 01/13/09

**BONNEY, Fred S.**, SFOEG 01/05/09

**BURFORD, John B.**, LASOZ 01/12/09

**CARLSON, Karl L.**, SFOFO 01/25/09

**CHISHOLM, Vincent M.**, WHQRU 01/17/09

**CHURCH, James L.**, BWICG 01/02/09

**CLIFFORD, A. B. B.**, DCARR 01/03/09

**CLUPPER, Robert J.**, ORDFO 01/10/09

**CRIMMINS, Velma M.**, SEAHH 01/03/09

**CURZAN, Nafty**, SRQOZ 01/02/09

**DEAN, George W.**, DENCS 01/09/09

**DEDERING, Jil L.**, WHQAK 01/26/09

**DUNN, Ralph J.**, LAXMM 01/17/09

**DURKIN, David W.**, OPBWX 01/07/09

**FINK, Russell A.**, JFKCG 01/06/09

**FOLTA, Paul A.**, ORDCG 01/05/09

**FURSTNER, Rudolph J.**, SFOPD 01/04/09

**GAUGHAN, Irene F.**, WHQLR 01/09/09

**HAER, Owen V.**, LAXFO 01/21/09

**HIRJAK, Michael**, JFKGQ 01/18/09

**IVANOVICH, Lubomir**, WHQDD 01/29/09

**KLINE, Herman R.**, CLECG 01/22/09

**KOCOUREK, Clarence B.**, SFOMP 12/06/08

**LE BEAU, Dudley W.**, DENTK, 01/16/09

**MAGEE, Richard N.**, DENTK 01/07/09

**MATHIEU, Clyde W.**, LAXFO 01/17/09

**MC GOWAN, Stephen David**, DCASW, 01/21/09

**MC LAURIN, Joyce**, IADOZ, 01/28/09

**MOORE, James G.**, FATOZ 01/17/09

**MUELLER, Reinhard F.**, SFORQ 01/09/09

**MURRELL JR., James M.**, TPACG 01/29/09

**O NEIL, Eleanor I.**, LAXRR 12/22/08

**PASQUAL, Tony**, ORDPV 01/14/09

**PETER, George H.**, JFKFF 01/15/09

**PORCHE, Paula M.**, PHXOZ 01/03/09

**PRYBYS, Jerome A.**, DTWCG 01/20/09

**PUNCHE, M. J.**, LAXCS 01/19/09

**RADTKE, Hans F.**, WHQHF 12/27/08

**RAE, Susan**, DENSW 01/24/09

**RUTHERFORD, Robert E.**, SFOFO 01/08/09

**SANCHEZ, Celestino J.**, SFOGS 01/18/09

**SANDOVAL, Orlando J.**, SFOPV 01/19/09

**SCHREINER, Chester B.**, SFOOV 01/12/09

**SEIKALY, Simon M.**, SLCCG 01/07/09

**SMITH, Darwin N.**, SFOGQ 01/22/09

**SNOWDEN, Daryle R.**, LAXMM 12/09/08

**SONDERMAN, Bernard F.**, SFOOV 01/23/09

**SZYMANSKI, Rickey Joseph**, DCAFO 01/09/09

**THOMAS, Charles M.**, DENTK 01/09/09

**THOMAS, William L.**, LAXFO 01/07/09

**THOMPSON, Terry C.**, HNLMM 01/05/09

**TRAJKOVIC, Stanimir**, ORDMK 01/20/09

**TROTTER, Serena**, ORDOZ, 01/25/09

**VANNOY, Glenn B.**, CLERR 01/23/09

**VISION, Ronald H.**, SFOPK 01/07/09

**WALDORF, Roger D.**, PDXCS 01/03/09

**WALLACE, James J.**, WHQCM 01/25/09

**WALUNAS, George H.**, DENFF 10/18/08

**WAMSER, Yoko**, SFOCS 01/24/09

**WHELDEN, Lillian E.**, DTWRR 01/27/09

**WHITE, Felix**, ORDFD 01/30/09

**WILLIAMS, James O.**, AVLSZ 01/14/09

**ZUMSTEIN, Margaret J.**, WHQAC 01/24/09

## In Memoriam







## LETTERS

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

Bernice Aaron, Ruth Alexander, Jackie Allen, Clara Bajio, Bernie Bernard, Nancy Bessenbacher, Mary Betler, Robert Bradley, Amelia Briones, Laverne Burke, Olive Butera, Jean Cali, Nancy Carter, Sondra Conner, Charlie Cromling, Marilyn Etchingham, Jean Feely, Larry Fleshman, Kay Flynn, Wanda Garofalo, Robert Gordon, John Helton, Jan Hoffman, Diane Hrdlicka, Diana Huffman, Paulette Jones, Jan Lastrape, Connie Lynch, Warren Martin, James Meek, Shirley Pilgrim, Moses Prather, Bill Rankin, Berna Rasmussen, Gary Sakuma, Pat Savage, Betty Schneider, Ray Shaner, Betty Smith, William Speicher, O. Foster Sturdevant, Gayle Swanson, Bill Tobo, Jerome Watnemoe, Karen Wiercioch, Fred Wise, Delano Wright, Sally Yap, Robert Yeager, Don Latter.

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

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

#### **Mr. & Mrs. E.D. Gillette, #260, 555 Freeman Rd., Central Point, OR 97502**

Thanks for the reminder. What with a move to a new home, Eddie's hearing aids going kaput almost simultaneously, finding all kinds of new doctors, and Eddie falling and having a hip replacement (right over Christmas), I did get a little behind on things.

Eddie is doing great now. The doctor's verdict on his first post-op visit was "unbelievable" and "this is remarkable".

#### **Robert McDonald, 2096 Florida St., Hayward, CA 94545-4710**

Thanks for all you do to get out our newsletter each month. It can't be an easy task.

I am beginning my 14<sup>th</sup> year of retirement and am healthy and happy.

I enjoy golf and am an avid walker.

The best to all of you.

#### **Birgit Prior, PO Box 501, Lk Hopatcong, NJ 07849-0501**

Thank you for keeping me in touch with the rest of USA's states, without having to fly there. It doesn't seem that getting "there" is a first class pleasure any more.

#### **Georgia Phillips, 825 Redwood Dr., Cary, IL 60013-1676**

Thank you so much for your dedication and hard work. I appreciate all the information about United that you write about.

I enjoy all the letters from the retirees, the chapter's local news, *Ask the Doctor* and especially *Travel Tips* by Bob.

#### **Virginia Rood, 141 Hastings Ave., Elk Grove, IL 60007**

Another year is gone and one of my presents to myself is to continue receiving the RUAEA newsletter.

It is a bright spot in my 73 year old life, to read and look for names I recognize.

I retired early in 1993 and while it seems like yesterday, it is "already" 15 years ago.

As for the 2008 weather, economy and political scene, I will quote my deceased Father in law: "I tend to forget unpleasant things"!

#### **Matt & Norma Stilman, 91 N. Napa Dr., Petaluma, CA 94954-1333**

Time for an update on Matt, since he only writes the check. He celebrated his 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday in January. He is still driving to San Francisco and Bolinas and other amazing things.

Since the newsletter noted my October stroke, I want to report I am recovering and on a walker. I tried to use the computer but the printer wouldn't cooperate.

In a past issue I saw the correspondent from Chicago who was amazed at a 67<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Matt and I will celebrate our 68<sup>th</sup> anniversary in December. Are we that unusual?

Thanks to all the hard working people who work with the newsletter. We appreciate them every month.

#### **Virginia Thompson, 485 Woodside Rd., Apt. 2222, Redwood City, CA 94061**

My husband is now deceased as of May 2008. I enjoy receiving the newsletter.

I was actively participating for several years in our local group now entitled "Golden Gaters SFO-Bay area". I was corresponding secretary and Recording secretary (but not at the same time).

Sadly, we have lost several of our members the past few years, but we seem to draw out some new retirees too, so we seem to keep our organization going pretty well. We have the attractions of many activities and a wonderful travel planner, **Ginger Dahlberg**.

Happy New Year to all who help prepare the monthly newsletter.

I am unable to do any travelling any more, unfortunately, so I will not be attending any annual conventions.

**Dorothy Wood, 5464 Butternut Cir., Minnetonka, MN 55343**

Time flies and it's my birthday (I'd rather ignore it).

Not much new or exciting, so I will just say a big THANKS for all the effort to keep the retirees connected.

A dear friend once said to me on my birthday, *"Today is your birthday, tomorrow, you are young again"*. Great way to look at it!

**Beverly Yeager, 100 County Rd 1451, Cullman, AL 35058**

My husband and I look forward to the RUAEA newsletter each month. It keeps us informed about UAL and gives us news from the various chapters.

We are now members of the new chapter in Alabama called "Sweet Home Alabama".

Thank you for all of your hard work. You do a great job.

**Robert Ader, 4050 N. Ocean Drive - Apt 1008, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, FL 33308**

I am now eight years into my retirement. Where did the time go? It is a pleasure to receive the newsletter each month. It helps to keep connected to a company where I spent almost 35 years of my life. Thanks to those who work so hard to turn out the newsletter each month.

Thanks again for all of your hard work.

**Lynsey Austin, 4160 Via Solano, Pls Vrds Est, CA 94274-1132**

My dear friend, **Linda Smith**, retired from SFOSW and lives in Reno, NV. She was in a shopping center parking lot and heard a man yelling "help me". She ran over and his wife was lying on the ground. All these people were standing around and just looking. Linda asked if the paramedics were called and he said, "Yes". She checked the woman and she was not breathing and had no pulse. She started CPR and the woman came back. The paramedics arrived and started working on the woman. The husband thanked Linda again and again. Our training comes in handy but you have to be willing to jump in there and help. She is a real hero. I thought RUAEA would like to hear about this.

**Marian Beck, 21 Hodges St., Attleboro, MA 02703-2135**

Greetings from Attleboro, Massachusetts, once known as the "Jewel Capital of the World".

I moved from Denver in October and loved the fall colors. Then came winter, and I wished I was back in Denver.

I need to meet some United Airlines retirees in this area. Apparently New Hampshire has the closest

RUAEA group.

My phone number is (508) 226-0280.

**Maureen Burke, 2120 Frances Drive, Pt. Pleasant, NJ 08742-3740, maureenburke1@yahoo.com**

For reasons that I can not explain, I was under the impression that RUAEA had ceased to exist. I was happy to learn that it had not. Most of my time with United was spent at EWRCS. I was there from 1962 until I retired in 1993. My earlier years, I was at NYCRR and LGATR. I can be reached at the above email address.

**Doug Cowan, 40 Creamer Drive, Sayerville, NJ 08872**

I so much appreciate the work of the organization on our behalf, and even more, the news and memories contained in the newsletters.

We continue to be in good enough health to travel. We enjoyed a trip to Sorrento, the Amalfi coast and Rome, as well as a trip to the French Pyrenees and an encore in Paris.

We also had our annual 2 months in Kauai and a week on the North Carolina beaches with our children and grandchildren.

**Donald Draheim, 2401 Number Ten Lane, Chesapeake, VA 23323**

Just a note to let everyone know that "Old Zeke" is still on the green side of the grass. I am getting ready to celebrate another April with its showers, baseball games, taxes, dues and another birthday.

It sure would be nice to go back to 1925 and do it all over again. At least back to 1948, when I first punched that time clock at SFOMB, and started my time with good "Old" United. I'm glad I had the chance to do it the first time. It sure would be great to do it all over again.

But now I am still looking forward to the tomorrows that lie ahead. In the meantime I will walk in the April showers, and if I am lucky go to a ball game or two, pay my taxes, pay my dues and celebrate another birthday.

I say many thanks to all who help in getting the great newsletter out.

**Joyce Hendricks, 2543 Arborwood Dr., Valrico, FL 33594-5736, kjhendricks4@gmail.com**

Thanks again for the wonderful job you do.

This has been a wonderful healthy year for me and I am very thankful. The removal of the spleen in 2007 seems to have worked. No more "ITP". I wonder how many of my friends looked that up on the medical internet? Believe me, it is not fun and can be life threatening. I am so thankful. Thank all of you for your prayers.



I was sorry to hear about former LAXSS **David Brown**'s death. He was a fun person to work for.

This past year my sister and I joined the GFWC Tampa Woman's Club. What fun! It is a wonderful group for volunteer service. It has been a very rewarding experience for me and I am having so much fun. I have been asked to chair the Domestic Violence group this coming year, 2010-2011. I look forward to the challenge.

Perhaps the highlight of the past 12 months was to attend the inauguration for President Barack Obama. I can not begin to tell how I felt witnessing such a momentous historical event.

I hope this year I can join the LAX group of retirees for their annual picnic. Oh, how I remember those steaks from the kitchen. Do we still serve them on board? I have not flown First Class in years.

Once again, my hello to all my friends on the west coast and my SW friends at ORDSW.

**Joseph McCaughey, 104 Central Ave., Grenloch, NJ 08032**

This time one week ago I was shoveling 10 inches of snow. Thankfully, my son Mike arrived unexpectedly with shovel in hand to assist me.

Today and the last six days, the weather has been unusually mild and free of any kind of moisture.

The end of March, I will celebrate my 71<sup>st</sup> birthday and a few days later, my 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my retirement.

Time and age has placed a governor on my activities, but my health has been fine.

For all of the retired cargo guys and girls out there, I think you will appreciate the following: *A pet store owner in PHL sent two drivers, separately to US Airways cargo facility to retrieve an expected shipment of tropical fish. The first driver was turned away because his ID did not meet the agent's standards. The second driver arrived the following morning with a station wagon to retrieve the fishes. The agent at US Air said there must be a lot of fish in there as that crate weighs about 700 lbs. The driver said we have never gotten a shipment of fish that weighed that much and they usually come in smaller cartons. The agent said it is yours, do you want it or not? They then loaded the crate into the station wagon.*

*Upon arrival at his company store, the manager/owner asked what that is. The driver said he had tried to tell US Air's agent it didn't look like the cartons we usually receive. Upon further checking and reviewing of the paper work attached to the crate, it was discovered they had given him a "human remains" no "live tropical fish".*

Hey, everyone makes mistakes! Besides, the person in the crate wasn't complaining. I suspect that the sec-

ond chapter to this story will be when they get their tropical fish, they will probably be dead too.

Take care and stay healthy, forget wealthy. I hope to be here in 2010 to share my thoughts.

**Toni Peterson, E 21060 SD Circle, Augusta, WI 54722**

A great big thank you to all who put our newsletter together.

It has been 7 years this July since I retired from the Benefit Service Center - WHQIN. Our department of 17 people talked to and tried to help our fellow employees with questions regarding their medical, travel, 401K, life insurance and more. I enjoyed every day being there. It was sad when it was outsourced.

After retiring we moved to our lake house on Lake Eau Claire out of Augusta, WI. Since my husband passed away in 2005, I have been working at a law firm and commuting back and forth to Mt. Pleasant, IL

**Tom Sjolund, 13405 Saint Andrews Pl., Poway, CA 92064-1039**

It is that time of year again, another birthday and dues to a really fine organization. Thanks for the great job everyone does in putting together the newsletter.

Some of us had what we called a SANSS re-union, held at our home in January. It turned out to be a huge success and everyone had a great time, getting reacquainted and reminiscing about the good old days in sales, when life was less complicated and just catching up on the goings on.

Those who were able to attend were: **Mary Ellen Pfleeger, Ray Lucero, Mario Diaz, Liz Kamoo, Linda Smith, Dudley Connel, Katie Larson (Kimbell)**, still active, **Steve Allen** and **Ichi Yamaodai**.

My wife, Debbie and I acted as hosts. We are planning to have a sequel for next year.

**Paul Steuri, 17112 Chalet Dr., Bellevue, NE 68123**

Sorry to have missed my dues in February. I hope I will still get the newsletter. You all do such a fantastic job with the newsletter.

I am still at home and doing well. I have a medical student, Jaime, who takes care of me twice a week, along with wonderful neighbors. Willy Reichmuth and Willie Niederer, friends from United call me ever so often. It is nice to keep in touch with good UAL friends.

**Uel Soward, 5071 Scherbel Road, Black Earth, WI 53515**

When I was eight years old, I learned to tell stories by reading and then repeating them to my brother, Clement, who was two years younger. As the years passed, it became a habit with me; tell a story I had read,

or create one from my memory. Clement loved them all. Later, I learned that people liked my stories, no matter if they were from a book, or from experiences which gave me grounds for stories.

When I was only nine years old, we lived on a farm three miles from Halfway, Oregon. In June of 1919, we observed a couple of men staking white bed sheets to the ground in the cow pasture which was across the road from our parent's farm. The bed sheets formed a pathway in the pasture and a few days later an airplane used that pathway to land. Two men climbed from the plane and a third came to them from a truck which had been parked nearby. Soon, a man we recognized as the owner of the local gas station and garage came over to them; he was fitted with a pair of goggles and a cap which would keep his hair in place. He climbed aboard the plane which I learned later was a surplus plane from the U.S. Army, bearing the nickname, "*A flying coffin*". The plane took off and flew for fifteen minutes, showing scenes of Pine Valley from overhead. After they landed, another passenger was treated in the same manner. The day was spent giving rides to residents for the sum of \$15.00 each. One young lady, we recognized was Zelda Gray, our local telephone operator. She received \$15.00 a week for her services and her parents were angry because that week, she brought no money home. The operators of this flying machine allowed me to look inside the cockpit so I could see what the pilot looked at before he took off. By today's standards, it was of very small value. Oh! My price for being allowed to look inside was carrying several pails of water for cooling of the engine. It had a radiator similar to an automobile radiator!

That was my introduction to aviation. When my oldest son was about eleven years old, he started building model planes. With my help, he was successful in building a model which flew in The Cow Palace, a large concrete building in San Francisco which was originally created for the display of cattle and other animals to audiences sitting above the livestock. On one occasion, Richard lost control of his plane and the motor carried it high aloft to land in the lap of a general in the U.S. Army. He told Richard, "*You have quite a plane and you should join the Air Force.*" Richard was licensed to fly a plane with passengers when he was sixteen years old.

When United Air Lines moved the Maintenance Division from Cheyenne, Wyoming to South San Francisco, California, I answered an ad in a local paper but turned down the offer because my wages were approximately double that offered by United. When Richard was graduated from high school, he applied for employment at United and was hired immediately. After he had been there a year, I decided to leave a lifetime appointment with the Municipal Railway in San Francisco

and was hired by United on September 15, 1952. I retired April 30, 1975.

I place the Certificate of Mechanic of the Year, 1972, in my mind alongside a Certificate of Commendation which was signed by the Chief of Staff, U.S. Army and the Secretary of the Army.

Recently, I have been creating housing and feeders for local birds. I counted 28 birds which came to feed in 25 minutes recently. Currently, outside air temperatures are just above zero. We have had 66.6 inches of snow this season and expect more!

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

I appreciate the "bold" letters of the names of people in the letters section.

I made one flight to Honolulu in the last year. I went coach going but I got lucky and had 1<sup>st</sup> on the return. I worked there for 16 years.

Otherwise at 86 years old, I am very happy to be here. I have slowed down a lot but am hanging in there. I plan to be at the Phoenix Convention.

Thank you for the interesting newsletter.

**Chuck Stuller, 1135 Beta Loop, Colorado Springs, CO 80906**

The following article is sent to me about retired United pilot **Hyde Heath**. We think it's of interest to RUAEA members.

*We have several "walking history books" here in Eagle Villas. I encountered one of them, Hyde Heath, at the mailboxes not long ago. We struck up a conversation with Hyde and I soon became enthralled with his many exploits over a long and productive aviation career.*

*Hyde grew up in Salt Lake City, attending college at the University of Utah in the late 1930s, where he first met Joan. While there, he read of the increasing hostilities in Europe. It was in those days that he began to envision himself as a military aviator. Recruiters were common on the campus in those days, and it wasn't long until Hyde was on his way to an Aviation Cadet flying training program in San Antonio, TX.*

*Following a successful stint as a student pilot, Hyde was awarded his commission and wings in the Army Air Corps, graduating from Kelly Field in 1940. He then became an instructor pilot at Randolph Field.*

*Due to some turbulence in the pipeline, Hyde was furloughed for 9 months, during which time he began a lasting association with United Air Lines, first flying the Boeing 247, a 10-passenger transport shown here.*

*Recalled to the Army Air Forces after Pearl Harbor, Hyde was stationed at a base in India and assigned to fly C-47s over "The Hump" in the China-Burma-India Theatre.*

The purpose of the “hump” missions was to supply material and ammunition for Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek of the Republic of China. Hyde says in his many missions over the hump, he paid little attention to the actual cargo he was carrying. One day as he was hauling his cargo northward, enemy fighters attacked him. The quick-thinking Hyde pulled his plane up into the overcast deck above, thereby eluding the fighters. After he landed safely at his destination, he looked at the cargo hold to see what he had successfully delivered. The hold was filled with mops, pails and buckets!

At one point, Hyde became dangerously ill and returned to the states, spending 3 months in Walter Reed Army Hospital. Following his recovery, he was assigned to the B-17 school as an instructor pilot in Hobbs, NM.

Hyde married Joan in 1943. Sometime later, he was assigned to Army Air Forces Flying Training Command at Tarrant Field in Fort Worth, TX as personal pilot and aide-de-camp to the Commander, Lt. General Barton K. Yount. Joan served as aide to Mrs. Yount at that time. Together, they developed a great admiration for this fine leader and his wife. Following a successful military career, Hyde was released from active duty as a Lt. Colonel in 1946.

Hyde and Joan returned to Denver where Hyde flew for United Air Lines for thirty years as pilot, instructor pilot, flight examiner and regional flight manager. He amassed thousands of hours in the air, flying every type of aircraft operated by United, including the Douglas DC-3, DC-4, DC-6, DC-7, DC-8, & DC-10; as well as the Boeing 247, 707, 720, 727 & 747. Hyde retired August 13, 1976. His favorite plane of all was the majestic 747.

Hyde loves his family and his church. He and Joan have 3 sons, 9 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. In addition to his flying duties with United, Hyde served as Bishop in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, overseeing Denver’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward.

With astounding modesty, Hyde insists he is no hero, that he just did his job. He considers himself “lucky” for the opportunities he was given. He especially enjoyed helping good pilots become better ones. It is easy to see what a positive influence he must have been to his colleagues, superiors and subordinates, both military and civilian.

The next time you encounter this walking history book, be sure to say hello and thank him for his many contributions to the aviation industry!



## Important Phone Numbers



### **United Retiree Service Center**

1-888-825-0188 (M-F 7AM - 5PM Central Time).

<https://www.ualretirees.com/>

<https://united.intranet.ual.com/>

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

### **Blue Cross / Blue Shield**

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For flight information and to list yourself and companions for travel.

### **Glenn Tilton’s message to employees & retirees**

Go to SkyNet at <https://united.intranet.ual.com/>

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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

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Charles Field	1977 – 1979*
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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
Jim Fauber	2002 – 2004
Marlin Lade	2004 – 2006
Mort Wax	2006 – 2008
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**\*Deceased**

Check your mailing label for Renewal Information

## United Airlines Historical Foundation



"Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future"

In the Spring of 1929, following a survey of schools and colleges offering aeronautical courses, officials of the Boeing System concluded that an Aeronautical Training School was needed to train personnel in all phases of the rapidly expanding aeronautics industry.

The Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce (DOC) had issued a "standard of training", specifying the minimum requirements for schools to receive a "DOC Approved School Certificate". These requirements stated the amount of instruction necessary for Private, Limited Commercial and Transport Pilot license applicants.



The sponsors of the proposed Boeing School of Aeronautics (BSA) in Oakland, California realized that the DOC "minimum requirements" were barely adequate for pilots who were to be employed by the larger Aviation Transport Companies. They also determined

that pilot training alone did not meet the staffing needs of these companies, so additional training courses were developed for Ground Operations personnel.

The series of training courses included "short courses" requiring only part-time attendance and two "major courses" requiring full-time attendance for nine months. The pilot's short courses were designed to satisfy the DOC requirements for Private, Limited

Commercial or Transport licenses. The other short courses were designed to train students in the basics of airplane and engine maintenance.

The two "Master" courses, Master Mechanic and Master Pilot were intended to provide in-depth training for employees of the Air Transport Industry.

Subjects of the Master courses & laboratories included: Aviation, Aerodynamics, Airplanes, Aircraft Engines, Instruments, Meteorology, Communications, Aerial Surveying, Mathematics, Engineering Drawing, Heat Power, Welding, Materials of Fabrication, Elements of Design, Business Methods, Law, Air Transportation, Field Operations and Pilot's Physical Care.

At the Sept. 16, 1929 scheduled opening of the school, enrollment was anticipated to be 35 students. An excess of 100 students registered for the first class with nearly 70 enrolled in the Master courses. The Master courses proved so popular that new classes were started every three months, instead of yearly as was originally planned.

The original concept of the Master courses proved satisfactory except for the necessary expansion of the Communications course due to the rapid growth of Radio in the Air Transport Industry.

*By Marvin Berryman, DENTK (Ret.)*

This past month UAHF received a contribution from: Mr. & Mrs. **Richard A. Smith** and donated items from: **Ralph Trullinger, JoAnn Greenwood, Paul Miller, Richard Kennedy, Mike Buechin, William Royle, Bertram Donnelly, Roger Casterline, Mr. & Mrs. Peter Haggblom, and Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Smith.**

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