



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



ISSUE NO. 441

MAY-2011



Now that you have sent in your registration for the convention, it's time to start packing. Remember to bring comfortable shoes and clothes (in the Pacific Northwest, we tend to dress casual), a raincoat or jacket (in case of cool or wet weather), sunglasses (we do get sun, sometimes) and some extra room in your suitcase for the great things you'll pick up while you're here. With no sales tax and lots of good shopping, even if you forget to bring something, you'll be able to get it here and maybe at a better price than at home.

You might want to bring a camera, too. If you are taking any of the tours, you should have many opportunities to get some wonderful photos. Mt. St. Helens can put on quite a display of beauty. Even though the years have removed much of the scarring from the volcanic outbursts, there still are amazing panoramas.

On a clear day, from Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood, one can see south to the peaks of Mt. Jefferson and the Three Sisters. The evergreen-covered hills and the varieties of blues and greens that are spread out before you will take your breath away.

Multnomah Falls, falling more than 600 feet in a brilliant cascade, always is a crowd-pleaser. The U.S. Forest Rangers are there to answer questions about the flora and fauna of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

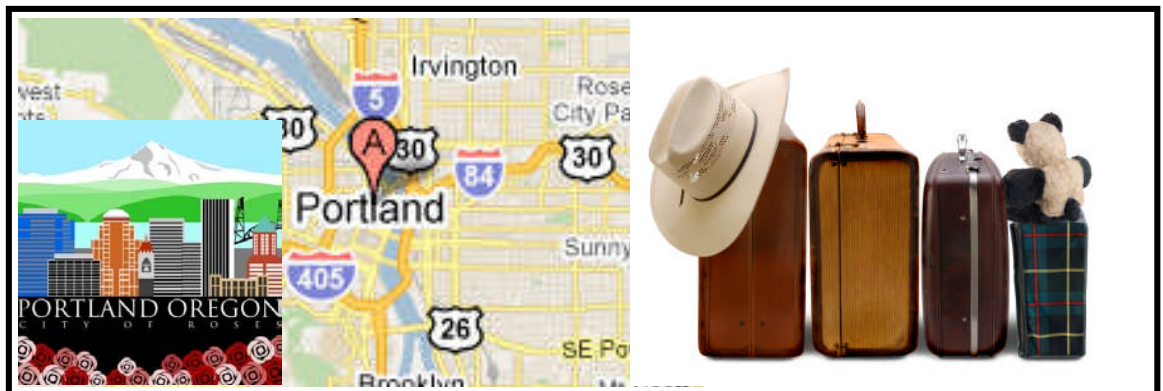
Many varieties of fruit trees should be in bloom in Hood River and they will be spectacular. Hood River is the windsurfing capital of the world, so you may see some wonderful sights of windsurfers on the Columbia River.

Traveling to the Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum and the wine tasting region, the beauty that is the Willamette Valley will be visible from every window. Rolling hills of green with more than 12,000 acres of wine grapes on 200 vineyards provide many beautiful vistas.

Portland offers its own photo opportunities. These include the International Rose Test Gardens, the Japanese Garden, and the view from the Pittock Mansion can be terrific.

I hope you are as excited as I am that you soon will be here. We look forward to seeing each of you. We will renew old acquaintances and make new ones. What a nice way to spend a week in May!

**Publicity Chair**  
**Kathy Russell**  
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# GENERAL NEWS

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

## The Writers' Column - Baseball and A Special Birthday

By Ron Dietzler and Veronica Domaratius



When **Judie Dietzler** realized that September 25, 2010 was not only her husband, Ron's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday, but also a day the Cubs were playing the Cardinals in Chicago, she decided to take her Die-Hard Cub Fan to the game.

**Ron Dietzler**, who retired from United in 1994, after 30 years in Customer Service at O'Hare, Honolulu and Boise is a lifetime Die Hard Cub fan. He is a left-hand pitcher who pitched for Proviso High School in the Illinois High School Baseball State Championship in 1953. Ron went on to play pro ball for the Chattanooga Chicks in 1960. More recently, in 2007, he was clubhouse manager for the A Class farm team of the Cubs, The Boise Hawks Baseball Club. So you can see that baseball is very important to Ron.

Despite trying well in advance to get tickets, Judie was told the game was sold out. Not one to give up easily, she called Tom Ricketts, the Cubs owner and pleaded her case for Ron's 75<sup>th</sup> Die Hard Fan Birthday. Well, she was successful and the Dietzlers received two tickets via FedEx the following day.

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, they were met outside Wrigley Field by a Cubs ambassador, escorted to their seats and then, onto the field. Also on the field were Oneri Fleita, the V.P. of Personnel for the Cubs and Brandon Guyer, both of whom Ron knew from his experience with the Boise Hawks. Brandon was honored that day as Minor League Player of the Year.

To make the day perfect, the Cubs won, 7-4. And, later that evening, in a restaurant at O'Hare, Ron saw Chris Archer, the Minor League Pitcher of the Year and congratulated him.

What a day! It was the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday he will never forget!

## Letter From The President



Ron Bertacini

By now, all of you have heard about the new Pass Travel Program to begin in 2012. You may or may not have had time to go over all the aspects of the new policy. Before we go into some of the changes as they affect United retirees, you need to know that this was not a negotiated policy but a policy solely arrived at by the new management of United. The Pass Travel Program has never been a negotiated benefit for employees or retirees. That being said, RUAEA on more than one occasion submitted unsolicited proposals to the company concerning a new pass travel program. These proposals were obviously ignored and the new management decided on a survey to make a judgment on determining what and how the new program should be. Just what impact that survey had on the outcome is debatable.

Some of the changes in the new pass travel policy from the current United policy are said to be in the interest of fairness as the new program harmonizes the features of the existing United and Continental programs. So the first change is to eliminate the "super" boarding priorities; the SA2 from Continental which put management employees ahead of everyone and the BP6B from United that put retirees with 25 years or more of service ahead of other pass travelers. But then the next step was to setup two new special boarding categories. The first of these is that all employees and retirees will be given eight one way vacation passes annually. Employees or retirees using their vacation pass will be in boarding category **A** and will be boarded using time in service. This will be the only area in which a retiree or their eligible will be on so called equal footing with active employees. In the case of using a travel pass other than a vacation pass employees will be in boarding category **B** and retirees will be in boarding category **C**.

Another area of change is with Buddy Passes (Companion Passes) and the Enrolled Friends programs. With the new Pass Travel Program Buddy Passes will only be available to employees. Employees will be given 24

Buddy Pass segments each year for system-wide travel in economy. As for Enrolled Friends ... they will have unlimited, on-line, space-available, personal pass travel privileges comparable to what parents or children would receive. Single employees may register one enrolled friend, married employees may have one enrolled friend in lieu of a spouse or domestic partner. Employees may have a second enrolled friend in lieu of their Buddy Passes. Retiree may register two enrolled friends.

Service Charges ... there will be no service charges for traveling in economy. Service charges for premium class cabins will be based on ZED fares. For domestic travel the charge will be at a 90% discount of the ZED fare and for international travel the charge will be at a 50% discount of the ZED fare. Employees and retirees with 25 years or more of service will have these service charges waived. Employee and retirees will also have charges for the first two bags checked waived.

Employees and retirees and their eligible pass riders will continue to receive a 20% discount on most fares to purchase revenue tickets.

There is much more to digest about the new program. In addition, there are many questions to be answered over the next eight months. I encourage everyone to review the new program ... you find that information on our website at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org). You are also encouraged to let the company know your thoughts at a provided site [mypasstravel@united.com](mailto:mypasstravel@united.com).

**RUAEA through its officers and Board of Directors will continue to petition the company with regard to this new program. We feel that there is plenty of room for improvement. Over the last sixty years travel programs have evolved to the benefit of both employees and retirees. There is no good reason that this program should be any different. While the company is pleasing their current employees, we would hope it must not forget who got them to this point. The retirement community can and does provide tangible benefits to the future of the new company.**

Ron Bertacini  
President – RUAEA

### ***Portland Convention - Schedule of Events - Changes***

On Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup> the RUAEA Business Meeting will be held from 0800AM to 1000AM in the Oregon Ballroom. The Benefit Panel Presentation will start at 1030AM with Donna Towle, United Vice President Employee Relations, opening the program.

Any questions regarding the convention, please call **Jack** or **Nancy Hooper** at (360) 835-7767.

### **United's "Friend Ship" made debut at anniversary events**



April 6 marked United's 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary — a milestone celebrated with the unveiling of its Airbus 320 "Friend Ship" at a special gate event at ORD. The Friend Ship is painted in retro livery dating back to the early 1970's that employees chose in an online survey.

Jeff officially unveiled the Friend Ship at the event. Jeff and Executive VP and COO Pete McDonald recognized long-serving co-workers while Airbus, International Aero Engines and United Airlines Historical Foundation were there to add their congratulations.

Later, the Friend Ship made its way to DEN, IAH, IAD, SFO and LAX for similar events.

### Vintage photos for United's 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary are on Flying Together



Pictured: Three of United's pilots, circa 1982

A colorful look into the rich history of United Airlines over the past eight decades is now available on Flying Together in celebration of the company's 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary. You may access a photo gallery of vintage pictures by visiting the [Here's Looking at You](#) banner in the right-hand column on the Flying Together homepage.

### United temporarily reduces U.S.-Japan capacity



Due to a measurable decline in demand for air travel between the United States and Japan, United is selectively and temporarily reducing capacity through day-of-week cancellations, aircraft downgauges and delaying the start-up of a summer seasonal SFO-NRT route. These steps enable United to manage through the reduction in demand, while continuing the company's commitment to provide urgently needed transportation services through its network to destinations in Japan. Flights between Guam (GUM) and Sendai (SDJ) remain suspended, due to SDJ's closure.

United has delayed the March 27 start of its second daily summer seasonal flight from SFO to NRT until April 27. However, the company continues to operate a daily flight between SFO and NRT.

From April 6 through June 30, United will downgauge some GUM-NRT flights from Boeing 767-400 to B737-800 aircraft. Between May 5 and July 14, United will reduce one GUM-Nagoya (NGO) flight, but will maintain a daily flight in the market.

In May, United will cancel 11 select day-of-week roundtrips between Seattle (SEA) and NRT, seven between EWR and NRT, six between IAD and NRT and three between LAX and NRT. Also beginning in May, United will downgauge aircraft on the daily ORD-NRT flights from B747s to B777s.

These cancellations account for approximately 10 percent of United's U.S.-to-Japan capacity in April and about 14 percent in May.

Other airlines are taking similar steps. American Airlines (AA), Delta (DL) and Qantas (QF) all recently announced reductions to their Japan service. AA announced Wednesday that it will suspend two of its six daily flights to Japan until late April. DL said it will suspend service to Haneda Airport (HND) in Tokyo, although it will keep flying to NRT. QF announces cuts to Japan and New Zealand service.

### Company to suspend Nadi, Fiji service

As part of companywide initiatives to address recent increases in jet fuel prices, CO has decided to suspend Guam-Nadi-Honolulu (GUM-NAN-HNL) service, effective Sept. 25, 2011.

Currently, CO operates its NAN-GUM route twice a week and its NAN-HNL route once a week. UA and CO have no further plans to suspend service in the Asia-Pacific region at this moment.

The company informed NAN co-workers of the suspension.

### NCAA Tournament, spring break traffic kick off heavy travel period



When ORD-based Operations Coordinator Dan Pittatsis first started at CO in 1974, he knew there was a going to be a two-week period each spring when the operation would be busy. *"Spring break used to be a defined period each spring,"* Dan said. *"Everyone knew it was either super busy this week or that week. But now, it's insane and spread out more than ever."* This year, the Easter holiday is at its latest possible date — the fourth Sunday in April. United expects load factors to be high for this period.

ORD and IAH are just two stations that are seeing loads pick up. Not only does spring break kick off at colleges and schools throughout the United

States, but so does the NCAA Tournament. Chicago is a second-round host, along with Cleveland, Denver, Charlotte, Tampa, Tucson, Seattle and Tulsa.

*“It’s an exciting time for us here, because we get a chance to make an impression on our customers,”* said TPA-based Customer Service Representative Lisa Young, with UA for 32 years. *“Our briefings really prepare us daily for what to expect, so we can do everything to ensure the operation runs on time.”*

### **United steps up to the plate for 2011 MLB season**



Pictured: Wrigley Field, home of the Chicago Cubs

Opening Day for the 2011 Major League Baseball season was March 31, and United is proud to work closely with almost a dozen great organizations throughout the league.

United flew the Baltimore Orioles, Chicago Cubs, Chicago White Sox, Cleveland Indians, Houston Astros, Kansas City Royals, Los Angeles Dodgers, Milwaukee Brewers, San Francisco Giants, and Tampa Bay Rays through charter deals that the company has secured with each of the teams.

On March 28<sup>th</sup>, United announced a new partnership with the Dodgers. United also announced a new, three-year exclusive agreement making United the Official Airline of the Cubs and Wrigley Field, extending the long-time partnership of two iconic Chicago brands. Starting with the 2011 season, United will be the only airline visible in Wrigley Field.

The Cubs will rebrand Wrigley Field’s Stadium Club as the United Club, and has separately secured rights to the highly visible rooftop sign outside of Wrigley Field along Waveland Avenue.

United is also the official airline of the Astros, Indians and the White Sox.

### **New package improves pay, benefits for CO agents**



On March 30, United announced that it reached consensus with co-worker representatives of CO passenger service airport and reservations agents on improvements to pay, benefits and work rules.

Discussions between the executive councils for these workgroups, consisting of representatives elected by their co-workers, and the company began in January. The executive councils plan to visit United’s hubs and larger stations to discuss

the complete pay and work rules improvement package.

*“By working together with our employees, we have expedited pay and benefit improvements for our non-represented agents,”* said Human Resources and Labor Relations EVP Mike Bonds.

CO employs approximately 7,200 passenger service and reservations agents.

### **United Airlines Mechanics Reach Tentative Agreement**



United announced March 18<sup>th</sup>, that it has reached a tentative agreement on a labor contract with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT), representing United’s technicians and related employees. The agreement covers approximately 5,500 United technicians and related employees located throughout the United States.

### **UA launches international mobile check-in and paperless boarding**



UA has launched mobile check-in and paperless boarding options for customers and co-workers traveling on international itineraries. Customers and co-workers may check in at [united.com](http://united.com) using a web-enabled mobile device beginning 24 hours before departure.

In addition, UA's paperless boarding option is now available to customers and co-workers departing from London Heathrow (LHR); Munich (MUC), Germany; Amsterdam (AMS), The Netherlands; Brussels (BRU), Belgium; Geneva (GVA) and Zurich (ZRH), Switzerland; Moscow (DME); and Osaka (KIX), Japan. We

plan to introduce paperless boarding at additional international airports, including Frankfurt (FRA), Germany; Tokyo Narita (NRT); and Hong Kong (HKG) in the coming months. UA currently offers paperless boarding at 70 airports.

CO currently offers mobile check-in for customers and co-workers flying on any CO flight. In addition, CO's paperless boarding option is available at 70 airports, including international stations LHR, FRA, MUC, GVA, AMS and Saipan (SPN), Northern Mariana Islands.

### **UA standardizes some seat row numbers**



As part of the ongoing integration of United operations, the company is aligning seat row numbers on 234 of its Boeing 757 and Airbus 319/320 aircraft in the UA fleet. United will change the row placards June 9. However, the seat map reflecting the future row designations changed on March 17 in the Apollo reservations system for travel dates on or after June 9.

This will ensure consistency across UA and CO subsidiary fleets and also between narrowbody fleet types. United will not change B757 aircraft in United's p.s. (premium service) configuration.

*"Continental standardized the seat rows on its 757s and 737s in 2010 to enable a more seamless experience for our customers and to simplify seat re-accommodation due to schedule or equipment changes," said Chuck Bill, the Technical Operations program manager for aircraft modification projects. "With the merger, we've been able to take advantage of a best practice and apply it across the entire airline at the new United."*

While seat numbers may change, the position of the seat will remain the same. *"We know there will be an adjustment period for both agents and customers, as some row numbers will not be sequential due to the re-alignment,"* said Contact Center Communications Senior Staff Representative Laurie Salvano. *"We are providing support material to our reservation agents to help them explain the changes to customers who may notice seat assignment changes in their PNRs".*

### **UA, AA and City of Chicago agree on ORD modernization program**



United Airlines and American Airlines (AA) announced on March 14<sup>th</sup>, along with the U.S. Department of Transportation and the City of Chicago, a \$1.17 billion agreement to proceed with the O'Hare Modernization Program. With the agreement in place, work can begin on a new south runway and other airfield improvements.

*"This is a landmark achievement that will benefit air travelers throughout the entire nation,"* said U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood.

Jeff thanked Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, Secretary LaHood and both of Illinois' U.S. Senators, among others, *"for working with us to reach an agreement that helps fulfill our shared vision for a world-class airport for our hometown, while doing so in a fiscally responsible manner."*

### United to expand Wi-Fi service



CO on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, executed a letter of intent with inflight entertainment provider LiveTV to offer inflight Wi-Fi via Ka-Band beginning next year. United plans to offer the service on more than 200 domestic Boeing 737 and 757 aircraft equipped with DIRECTV®. The service would provide onboard connectivity and more than 95 channels of live television programming to customers flying within the continental United States.

United currently offers inflight Internet service on 14 aircraft, including all p.s.® flights on its JFK-LAX and JFK-SFO routes.

The planned expansion of inflight Wi-Fi services highlights United's commitment to providing unique options that enable customers to customize their travel experiences. The company continues to reconfigure UA and CO aircraft with new flat-bed seats in premium cabins - with the new flat-bed product already on 116 aircraft in its combined fleet, more than any other U.S.-based carrier. United also intends to begin installation of Economy Plus seating on CO aircraft beginning in 2012.

### Trans-Atlantic competition heats up



JetBlue (B6) announced on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, that it has formed a partnership with Virgin Atlantic (VS) that will allow customers to fly on both airlines with a single ticket. B6 customers will be able to connect through Boston (BOS), New York's JFK (JFK) and IAD to catch flights to London Heathrow (LHR) on VS. B6 customers connecting in Orlando (MCO) will be able to fly to London Gatwick (LGW), Manchester (MAN), England and Glasgow (GLA), Scotland.

American Airlines (AA) and British Airways (BA) start coordinating their service between the United States and the United Kingdom this month under their recently approved joint venture. According to an article in The Guardian, the airlines plan to offer a trans-Atlantic shuttle service starting March 27 with hourly flights from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily from LHR to JFK. On morning flights, the carriers scheduled only an hour-and-a-half maximum between departures.

In addition, BA plans to resume daily flights to San Diego (SAN) in June. BA merger partner Iberia (IB) plans to start the only nonstop service between California and Spain with thrice-weekly service between Madrid (MAD) and LAX. AA plans to begin service between JFK and Budapest in April.

### Ask The Pharmacist - Save time and money on *Non-prescription* Products at the Medco Health Store™



Did you know that Medco offers *non*prescription products, too? [MedcoHealthStore.com](http://MedcoHealthStore.com) is an online drug store designed to save you time and money, with a broad offering of products, including antacids, vitamins, moisturizers, cosmetics, natural products, and more.

Now you can save even more. We've **reduced prices an average of 15%** on hundreds and hundreds of our most popular products. Plus, **shipping is now just 99¢** - that's every order, with no minimum purchase required.

To start stocking up now—log on, shop, and see how easy it is to save on your favorite *non*prescription products.

#### **The benefits of using the Medco Health Store:**

- ➔ Prices reduced an average of 15% on over 800 products throughout the store
- ➔ Standard Shipping is only 99¢ on every order, with no minimum purchase
- ➔ Convenient 24/7 online access
- ➔ A wide range of over 27,000 products
- ➔ Products organized by therapeutic category (e.g. – diabetes) or traditional retail categories to simplify finding what you want
- ➔ The ability to obtain Flexible Spending Account (FSA) reimbursement for qualified purchases

**It's simple to start saving** - To start saving today, simply visit [www.medcohealthstore.com/news](http://www.medcohealthstore.com/news). The store is only for Medco members so you'll need your medco.com username and password when you are ready to place your order.

If you aren't registered yet, signing up is simple. With your Medco member ID number on hand, go to [www.medco.com](http://www.medco.com), create your Medco account and choose the Medco Health Store tab on the Medco home page.

To shop the Medco Health Store, visit [www.medcohealthstore.com/news](http://www.medcohealthstore.com/news).

### **"EASY DOES IT" Recipe Column - Pineapple Coffee Cake**



It seems like pineapple in whatever form becomes especially popular as Easter approaches. If you don't have the time or desire to make a showy Pineapple Upside Down Cake, following is the easiest possible recipe to make a "simply" delish "Pineapple Coffee Cake" for your Easter table. And you will only use 4 ingredients.

#### **Ingredients:**

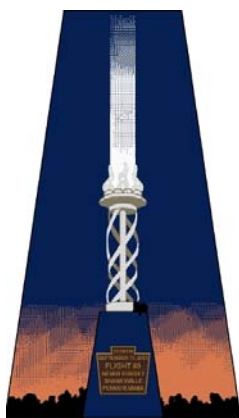
- ✓ Yellow cake mix (dry mix)
- ✓ 1 can (1 lb. 4 oz.) crushed pineapple (undrained)
- ✓ 3/4 cup finely chopped walnuts
- ✓ \*Small carton of whipping cream (or RediWhip, etc. in a spray can). (\*If you prefer real whipping cream, beat the cream until it forms mounds and then add a shot of vanilla flavoring & 2 Tablespoons powdered (confectioners) sugar. Blend thoroughly.

#### **Preparation:**

1. **Heat** oven to 350 degrees, generously **grease** the sides and bottom of a 13x9 inch pan with butter. (I prefer a glass pan but metal will do.)
2. **Evenly spread** the cake's dry mix across the bottom of the buttered pan.
3. **Spoon** the undrained can of crushed pineapple evenly across the top of the dry cake mix.
4. **Pierce** about 20 holes in the top of this mixture using a sharp fork.
5. **Last** sprinkle the chopped nuts over the top.
6. **Bake** 40 – 45 minutes or until edges are golden brown.
7. **Cut** gently into squares and serve warm or cold, topped with the beaten & sweetened whipping cream or RediWhip. Vanilla ice cream is also very nice, especially if your coffeecake squares are served warm. If you want a little decoration, those little marshmallows Easter chicks or bunnies look cute on top of each serving.

Bon appétit.

### **Flight 93 Memorial Torch**



The Memorial Torch of Liberty, a tribute to the new light of freedom won by the sacrifice of the Heroes of Flight 93, is the gift of Families of Flight 93. Symbolically, it is united with the torch held by the Statue of Liberty. The base and torch are made of stainless steel. It is the same type of metal used to fabricate the plane of Flight 93. It rises fourteen feet and weighs in excess of 1,400 pounds. Four ribbons form the Torch and represent each of the Four Flights of Honor of September Eleventh. The 200 million candlepower torch will project ten miles into the sky and will be seen in all directions for ten miles from the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

Billboards will identify the beam as a Memorial Tribute to Flight 93 located at the Chapel at Shanksville. The Memorial Torch is to the right of the chapel entrance.

Should you wish to make a donation to the Chapel; Make checks to 93 Memorial Chapel and mail to: **Frank J. Egges**, 3405 B307, Newtown Square, PA 19073. Thanks to former contributions, we are close to \$15,000 in donations.

### **Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter**

All articles submitted for publishing in the Newsletter are due in the Denver Office on the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month. This includes chapter reports, letters for the "Letters" Column, obituary listings (**Note:** *Rules for submitting an obituary notice is listed in the Obits section of this Newsletter*), and in general, any item for inclusion into the



**Francis Domaratius**  
**Newsletter Manager**  
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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), please copy Francis Domaratius at [ruaenewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaenewsletter@surewest.net) and John Chu at [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com) 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. Please allow for postal delay. We cannot extend the deadline!

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

## LOCAL NEWS

### ALABAMA



#### GULF COAST CHAPTER

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Another monthly meeting and another **great time** was had by all! We met at our usual favorite place - the Pensacola National Naval Air Museum's Cubi Bar Café! We had 20 members present with 4 new UAL retirees. **Conrad Hamilton** joined us; he lives in Gulf Breeze, FL and retired from Flight Ops in DCA. **Rich & Maureen Hurst** joined us and they currently still live in Lake Tapps, WA but will be moving to Pensacola, FL soon. He retired from SFO Flight OPS. **Sandi Noll** joined us and lives in Theodore, AL (in the same development as **Bob & Yvonne Schwartz**). She retired from Pilot Crew Scheduling at WHQ. We are always thrilled when someone new hears about our group from another person and then comes to meet us.

After our delicious lunch, **Billie Learned** served cheesecake of assorted flavors to celebrate **Park Learned's** birthday which was April 1<sup>st</sup>. After singing Happy Birthday to him, several members gave him cards. We were all so happy that Billie let us know it was his birthday, so we could join in the celebration. **Billie** is recuperating from a dog bite so she was having a little trouble getting around.

After the birthday celebration, **Bob Schwartz**, President, called our meeting to order at 1:15 PM.

Our new members shared a little about themselves and then **Rich Hurst** told us about the National Flight Academy that is almost finished, adjacent to the museum. It will be a Science and Technology Learning Adventure Center that will be housed in its own 102,000 sq. feet state-of-the-art facility. The program is for seventh thru twelfth grade students who will attend five and one-half days in the summer. A scholarship program will be offered so that youth from all backgrounds can have the opportunity to participate in this NFA experience. Our Gulf Coast Chapter is planning to make a donation to the program. If you are interested in more details, you may contact **Rich Hurst** at [richards400@hotmail.com](mailto:richards400@hotmail.com). He and his wife are very involved.

It was decided that **Bob Schwartz** will send out an email to everyone to inform them of this Academy and if they wish to make a donation, they may do so. Checks should be made payable to **National Flight Academy** and then mailed to **Bob Schwartz**, 5230 Mossberg Dr. E., Theodore, AL 36582. All the checks will then be delivered to the academy's office, along with a donation from our chapter. You may contact the Academy direct at [www.nationalflightacademy.com](http://www.nationalflightacademy.com) if you prefer.

Bob said he had contacted **Paul Brown**, our Regional Director, but Paul had not received any info on the new Pass Policy yet. We are hoping to hear something soon and that it will not be all bad news for us retirees!

**Yvonne Schwartz**, secretary, read the minutes and they were approved as read. **Barbara Serra**, Treasurer, gave the financial report. Raffle tickets were sold and **Park Learned** drew the number since he was our "Birthday Boy". **Carol Herrick** won and true to her very sweet ways, she returned her winnings to the chapter. Thank you Carol!

**Annie Kirkpatrick-Wilkey** suggested we email everyone the Treasurer's report and agenda to keep from making copies each month. Everyone agreed to the idea.

**Billie Learned** invited our Chapter to come to their home on June 28<sup>th</sup> to pick blueberries, have lunch and have our meeting. We all agreed it sounds like a lot of fun!

As vacation time arrives, we invite anyone coming down to the Gulf Coast to visit our beautiful white beaches to plan to come and attend one of our meetings. All visitors are welcome!

#### Calendar:

**April 26** – 11:30 AM – Cubi Bar Café's West Pac Room in the Pensacola National Air Museum. We meet 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at this location.

#### SWEET HOME ALABAMA

Judy Slover  
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[judyslover@mindspring.com](mailto:judyslover@mindspring.com)



February meeting was held at Dale's Southern Grill in Birmingham. Only a small number of members were able to attend due to bad weather and illness. Our Vice President **Bobby Cox** gave us news of the survey for employee/retiree travel.

March meeting was held at the Irondale Café (Whistle Stop Café in the movie "Fried Green Tomatoes"). While our retirement group was having lunch on March 14, a young ex-soldier, Matt Parrish came in to have lunch. Matt is walking from Tampa to Los Angeles and back for the "Special Operations Warrior Foundation". Someone was already buying his lunch so our chapter gave him a donation. You can follow Matt's journey through his blog: <http://trekforhope.blogspot.com/>. Chances are that he might be heading your way! We are all looking forward to April's meeting. Spring Break will be over, hopefully, allergies will be down and we'll have good weather once again.

January birthday: **Ruby Singer** (1/6).

February birthdays: **Bill Preston** (2/17), **Joe Singleton** (2/16), **Hank Thompson** (2/14), **Ken Yeager** (2/22), **Beverly Yeager** (2/13).

March birthdays: **Edna Mann Aronson** (3/28), **Gay Gwin Fowler** (3/24), **Hank Fowler** (3/9), **Zoe Glass** (3/13).

April birthday: **Carol Wilbanks** (4/29).

April anniversaries: **Hank & Gay Fowler** (4/6), **Ken & Beverly Yeager** (4/20).

#### Calendar:

**May** - Meeting - TBA

#### ARIZONA



#### PHOENIX AZURES

Sherry Muoio  
20108 N. 110<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Sun City AZ, 85373  
[phx22@cox.net](mailto:phx22@cox.net)

April brought us spring; we have been in the 80's and even a few days of 90 degree weather. I know that it will soon be time to wave goodbye to our snowbirds and we will surely hate to see them fly/drive north. Maybe

they should wait to make sure that all that snow had melted before they start out! Our chapter takes a luncheon hiatus from May through September.

Our new officers for the 2011 – 2013 session will be President **Mike Richards**, Treasurer **Joe Hopkins**, and Secretary **Carol Liltz**. Thanks to all for volunteering to oversee the chapter into the future.

**Evie Callahan** is still having problems with her blood counts. She continues to have weekly transfusions and it is very hard on her. Please keep her in your prayers. **Jim Ehas** (**Laura's** husband) is having check ups for some heart issues and we wish him well through all the testing.

It is with a sad heart that we announce the passing of one of our members, **Vi Mumaugh** passed away on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

On a happier note, **Sonny & Barbara Carns** celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Congratulations also to **Paul & Ricki Nordmeyer** who celebrated their 44<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. The following celebrated March birthdays: **Mel Hofer**, **Jean Kerman** and **Joan Sheffield**. Happy birthday to all!

March 17 was the date of our All AZ Luncheon at Casa Grand. It was a great success. We had 122 in attendance. **Michael Richards** was our emcee and **Ron Bertacini** spoke to us of the changes that are occurring, and anticipated in the near future at the New United. Some discussion included standby procedures and some problems that were experienced with trying to print boarding passes. Thanks to our Partners at the Alliant Credit Union, we were able to give away a \$100.00 Alliant credit card, and we also raffled off 10 beautiful baskets. These baskets were donated by members of the Azures and one from the Re-United chapter. The winners are as follows:

- ★ **50/50 winners** ~ Ken Bergsma, Marie Pederson, Ron Pauluch, Susie Hughes
- ★ **Basket winners** ~ Barbara Bertacini, Pat Nicholaisen, Joan Aaronson, Barbara Scarriot, Jo Ann Fearing, Jennifer Strohmaier, Helen Cawels, Alice Lopez, Cindy Hilsabeck and one more person whose name I didn't catch (sorry).
- ★ **Alliant CU – CC winner** ~ Ron Bertacini

Over the last few months we have had two more couples join the Azures, **Paul & Ricki Nordmeyer**, and **Loretta & John De Vries**. We would like to welcome all New United retirees, contact and join us for Breakfast at Coco's. We meet bi-weekly and all are welcome. Get to know us and maybe we will be counting you as a member in the near future. If you are planning to come to a breakfast please call **Jim Bechtold** at (623) 465-5423 on the Monday before breakfast. He advises Coco's of how many will be attending.

*A Dream is just a Dream until you realize it. Believe!*

#### Calendar:

Coco's breakfast meetings 8:00AM. Location – 98<sup>th</sup> and Bell roads

**Apr 26**

**May 10**

**May 24**

#### PHOENIX RE-UNITED

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



The most important thing coming up this month is the **RUAEA** Convention from May 22<sup>nd</sup> – May 29<sup>th</sup> at the Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront Hotel, 1401 SW Naito Parkway in Portland, OR. All retirees of United and Continental are invited. Deadline for hotel reservation is Sunday, May 1, 2011. The room block has been set up as "Retired United Airlines Employees Association Convention". The code is **RUA**. If you haven't made your reservation yet, please call the Marriott Worldwide Reservations Line at **1-800-266-9432**. Registration forms were due no later than April 29, 2011. Your check should be made payable to: **Portland 2011 RUAEA Convention**. The completed Registration form plus your check should be sent to Portland 2011 RUAEA Convention, c/o Nancy Hooper, PO Box 286, Washougal, WA 98671. See the February issue of the **RUAEA** Newsletter for further info or the website at [www.ruaea.org](http://www.ruaea.org). Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Convention!

Did you vote for those running for Director in the **RUAEA** National Election? This was due April 30<sup>th</sup>. You can also check on line at **RUAEA Ballot**.

Our All-Arizona Luncheon held March 17 at the Holiday Inn in Casa Grande, sponsored by the Azures, was a success. We had 51 people from our chapter in attendance. Many of our members took home baskets etc. Our chapter donated one of the baskets, which was chosen right away! We had **Pat & Buss Nicholaisen**, who both worked in Denver, join our chapter at the luncheon. They live in Sun Lakes. Our **RUAEA** President, **Ron Bertacini**, brought us up-to-date on current information regarding United/Continental. The pass travel program for co-workers and retirees just came out on March 30<sup>th</sup>, after our luncheon. The **Road Runners** chapter from Tucson will be in charge of next year's luncheon.

Our March 25<sup>th</sup> Breakfast had 24 people in attendance. We had two guests; one was **Joan Bintleff**, who worked in the ticket office in Hawaii. We're happy to hear she will be joining our chapter. Also, **Julia Sapelak's** daughter, **Sue Houston**, from Maryland, came to join us for breakfast. Our Vice President, **Peg Snowdall**, mentioned several cities are observing what we do on our Fantasy Flight. Remember to bring books to **Peg** to be sold in October at the airport to benefit the Fantasy Flight and keep collecting blankets, socks, gloves, bears, etc, to give to **Peg** also.

It was mentioned that **Ed & Marie Conlon** have moved from Sun Lakes and have bought a condo in East Dundee, IL. We will miss them very much.

Our picnic was April 7<sup>th</sup> at Crescent Run in Mesa, hosted by **Shirley Claggett** and **Ron Paluch**. We had our choice of steak or chicken, and enjoyed the great music that David Grimes from Mesa performed for us. He really had us tapping our feet. We had 50 people there and a new couple from Illinois who recently moved to Santan Valley in AZ. They're **Harry & Doreen Cloud**. He retired from ORD. Always glad to have more people join our group. Everyone enjoyed the picnic. We won't be meeting for luncheons during the summer, but will continue meeting for breakfasts at Crackers in Mesa the fourth Friday of each month starting at 9:00 a.m.

The following members have Birthdays in May: **Victor Kostecki** (5/5), **Oscar Aguilar** (5/12), **Judy Higley** (5/13), **Gary Gerstung** (5/22), **Christine Rang** (5/22), **Kathy Brigante** (5/25), **Gene Menten** (5/25), and **Marie Conlon** (5/28). Happy Birthday to all of you! Wedding Anniversaries are: **Ruth & Ron Willoughby** (5/1/04), **Linda Cooper-Koltz** (5/4/85), **Ellen & Joe Johnson** (5/7/00), **Jeanette & Victor Kostecki** (5/18/68) and **Ginny and Fred Rockenhauser** (5/23/70). Congratulations!

Reminder, anyone who has worked for United or Continental at any time, and is of retirement age (55), you're welcome to join us. Please contact our President, **Jim Brigante** at (480) 443-0031, or by e-mail at [jbrigante@lostshadow.com](mailto:jbrigante@lostshadow.com), or our Vice President, **Peg Snowdall** at (480) 396-3317, or by e-mail at [phomfeldt@cox.net](mailto:phomfeldt@cox.net). Come check us out!

#### Calendar:

**May 27** - Breakfast at Crackers at 535 W. Iron Avenue in Mesa, starting at 9:00 a.m. Contact **Rita Zarek**, our Treasurer, by May 24, if you are planning on attending. Her number is (480) 288-6685, or by e-mail at [rzarek1@msn.com](mailto:rzarek1@msn.com).

**June 24** – Breakfast at Crackers

**July 22** – Breakfast at Crackers



#### **TALL PINES**

Joe Tomasic  
604 Mockingbird Court  
Prescott, AZ 86301  
(928)717-1550  
[anjo2736@cableone.net](mailto:anjo2736@cableone.net)

Greetings to all from the Tall Pines Chapter in mile high Prescott, AZ. There were 14 attendees at our March luncheon meeting and no pressing issues to discuss.

It's a sure sign of spring when member **Dave Stewart** starts talking tomatoes. Dave is an avid gardener and his green thumb is very evident once you have seen his beautiful garden. You name it and Dave will grow it.

**Jeff Lewis** was our representative to the All Arizona RUAEA get-together in Casa Grande, Arizona. Jeff will fill us in on all the important issues regarding retirees and the merger at our April meeting.

On a very serious note, member **Brian Underhill** was diagnosed with ALS/Lou Gehrig's disease in December, 2010. He has undergone a tremendous amount of trauma since then. He was hospitalized for a month, has undergone two procedures at Banner Medical Center in Phoenix - a PEG tube placement (feeding tube) and a tracheotomy. Brian is recovering slowly, but his spirits are good. On a recent visit, we found him

upbeat and with a sense of humor. **Brian & Janice** will be moving to Sacramento, California in June to be near family members. He would appreciate hearing from UAL friends. All our prayers and best wishes are with Brian and his family. Brian's address is 132 Juniper Ridge Dr., Prescott, AZ 86301-5461.

Calendar:

**May 17** - Luncheon at the Lone Spur - 11:00 am

**TUCSON ROADRUNNERS**

Tucson, AZ

Roger & Lyn Callihan

2262 E. Gerbera Way

Oro Valley, AZ 85755

Callynrog@Comcast.net



On March 17<sup>th</sup>, St. Patrick's Day, members from all the Arizona chapters met at the Holiday Inn in Casa Grande for our yearly All Arizona Luncheon. I did not get a good count of attendees, but we pretty well filled up the dining area. The Tucson Roadrunner Group had nearly 30 of those in attendance. RUAEA President **Ron Bertacini** joined us and advised us about the United and Continental merger.

The luncheon was buffet style and we had our choice of Corned Beef & Cabbage or Chicken. Those of us who were not going to have dinner later elected to have both. We all wish to thank the Azures for hosting this year's get together.

**Gordy Starr** showed up wearing a typical Irish get up with his tall hat and long green beard. People were commenting about how they had not seen such a tall Munchkin when Gordy said he was a Munchkin on steroids. Several baskets of assorted goods were raffled off in addition to the 50/50 drawing, which was won by **Muriel Bergsma** and **Ron Poluce**. Also, each table had a center piece that was won by the person who had a shamrock stuck to the bottom of their chair. Two of those center pieces went to **Pat Carara** and **Lyn Callihan** of our Roadrunner chapter. **Alice Lopez** also won one of the several baskets that were raffled.

On April 21<sup>st</sup>, our luncheon will be hosted by **Jim & Gail Rudolph** and co-hosted by **Gierg & Marie Pederson**. It will take place at the Rudolph's Saddlebrooke home. Lunch will begin at 11:30 and Jim will need a head count by April 15<sup>th</sup>. His phone number is (520) 909-2166.

There will be no luncheon in May as the RUAEA Convention will be taking place in Portland, Oregon the week of May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Merritt & Carolyn** will host the June luncheon at the Thunder Canyon Brewery on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Calendar:

**April 21** – Meeting at the home of **Gail & Jim Rudolph** in Saddlebrook

**May 22** – RUAEA National Convention in Portland, Oregon

**CALIFORNIA**

**CENTRAL COASTERS**

Avila Beach, CA

Al Rybar

P.O. Box 2298

Avila Beach, CA 93424

(805) 595-2532

papawow@charter.net



We did not meet during the month of March and I have not heard from any of our members except by email. I assume everyone is well.

If you watched the Japan earthquake on TV and wondered what the tidal wave did to the central coast, you could see that it hit well north of us. The area from Morro Bay north got the most damage. Our town of Avila Beach was forced to evacuate the businesses close to the beaches for several hours. The main road leading to the town was closed for a time and as it turned out, the waves hardly made it to the seawall in front of the town. The next concern was the radiation fall-out. If there was any, it never was reported or it didn't exist.

Some of us are planning on attending the convention in PDX. We are very fortunate that we have a grandchild living close by and this will give us a chance to visit our great grandson.

Our next meeting will be on April 13<sup>th</sup>, hosted by **Mike & Bridget Zoldak** and **Peter & Joan Schaefer**. They have already made arrangements at Andersen's Pea Soup Restaurant in Solvang. If you remember the movie "Sideways", it was made in and around that location. Andersen's is famous for their pea soup and is sold all over.

I see where the new pass policy has been decided on and is in place. As long as there is no change before the PDX convention, we'll have to wait and see how it turns out.

Calendar:

**June 15** - Hosted by **Bob & Marcia Stanger**

**August 17** - Hosted by **Al & Marilyn Rybar**

**October 19** - Hosted by **Bob & Pat Wagner**

**December 14** - Hosted by **John & Barbara Stilwell**

**DESERT SUNBIRDS**

Palm Springs Area

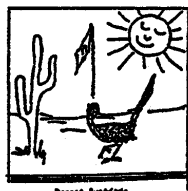
Chuck Lamas

38708 Bautista Canyon Way

Palm Desert, CA 92260

(760) 776-0812

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



**Sandy Sereno** hosted the Sunbirds' March luncheon at the Desert Princess Country Club in Cathedral City. Thirty three members selected from the menu their choice of Cobb Salad, Cheeseburger, or a host of Deli sandwiches, with all the trimmings.

We only had one guest this month - **Maureen Kirkwood**, guest of **Patti Sica**. **Melinda Lerg** won the 50-50, and **Shirley Spitler** won the birthday lunch. Speaking of Shirley, do you know what a "Bucket List" is? There was a very entertaining movie a few years ago, starring Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman, called "The Bucket List". They were hospital roommates, both at death's door, when they made a "list" of things they wanted to see or experience before they died. Now move forward to **Shirley Spitler**. Shirley, on her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday (March 4<sup>th</sup>), fulfilled a dream of hers (on her Bucket List) by jumping out of an airplane. She said that it was the most thrilling thing she's ever done. Way to go, Shirley! As for me, the only way you could get me to jump out of a plane is if it's already on the ground, and the emergency chute is deployed.

I'm hoping no news is good news. No one has called or emailed me with any info regarding health issues or accidents. So, Sunbirds, keep up the good work.

*More: The World According to Student Bloopers:*

- ☺ *Pharaoh forced the Hebrew slaves to make bread without straw. Moses led them to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread, which is bread made without any ingredients. Afterwards, Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments. David was a Hebrew King skilled at playing the liar. He fought with the Philatelists, a race of people who lived in Biblical times. Solomon, one of David's sons, had 500 wives and 500 porcupines.*
- ☺ *Without the Greeks, we wouldn't have history. The Greeks invented three kinds of columns - Corinthian, Doric, and Ionic. They also had myths. A myth is a female moth. One myth says that the mother of Achilles dipped him in the River Styx until he became intolerable.*

Calendar:

**May 11** – Meeting hosted by **Carole Paquin** and **Dee Whately**.



## SACRAMENTO GOLD DIGGERS

Colleen Esola, Secretary  
7969 Madison Avenue, Apt. 1505  
Citrus Heights, CA 95621  
(916) 966-5552  
[colleenesola@comcast.net](mailto:colleenesola@comcast.net)

The Sacramento Gold Diggers met on March 30 at the Sizzler in Auburn. This was hosted by **Glen & Alice McPeak**. We had 44 Gold Diggers and no guests. Chapter President **Charles Szekretar** welcomed those attending and thanked the McPeaks for hosting.

### Officer's Reports:

VP **Orville Harshbarger** said that the only month we need a host for is September. Thanks for all who volunteered the rest of the year. **Harold & Colleen Esola** will host the next luncheon on April 27<sup>th</sup> at the China Buffet in Citrus Heights.

Secretary **Colleen Esola** read the anniversaries for March: Those 50 years and over: **Art & Pat Rugh** (62 years); **Marv & Jean Becker** (53 years); **Fernando & Ana Campos** (50 years). **Bob Eggert** led the singing of the celebration song.

Treasurer **Judie King** gave our Chapter's balance. She also reminded us again that our dues are due now, \$10.00/year and the deadline is March 31<sup>st</sup> to get your name in the roster.

Sunshine **Angie Dellinger** sent a card to **Colleen Esola** following her surgery; also **Barbara Bertacini** and **Veronica Domaratius** are ill and not with us today.

Historian **Stephanie Norton** has nothing to report.

Roster Chairman **Jack Raynor** is not attending today.

RUAEA President **Ron Bertacini** talked in regards to the new United Pass Travel Program for Retirees. He talked about the Vacation Passes; Boarding Priority; Enrolled Friends; Buddy Passes; Service Charges and Leisure Travel Discount Program. You need to get on SkyNet and all the information will be there.

We concluded with our raffle.

### Calendar:

**April 27** - China Buffet, Citrus Heights, hosted by **Harold & Colleen Esola**

**May 25** - No meeting because of Convention

## HANGTOWN MINERS

Bill Kenney – Secretary  
(530) 672-1591  
[kenneys@pacbell.net](mailto:kenneys@pacbell.net)



Our April meeting was held at the Red Hawk Casino Buffet and was hosted by **Janette & Joe D'Amico** and **Tom & Andie Stuchell**. Thanks guys, the casino is always a great place to have our meeting.

In the absence of our president, the meeting was called to order by VP **Joe Lima**. We had 49 members, 7 guests and one new member – **Pat Guinn**. Welcome Pat!

Old Business – None

New Business – a copy of the roster was sent around requesting any corrections.

Treasurer – we have \$795.00 in the treasury.

Wedding Anniversaries: **Bob & Pat Razura**; **George & Connie Rivas** and **Dorothy & Darryl Stroud**.

The next meeting will be at the Sierra Banquet Center/Log Cabin Cafe on May 3<sup>rd</sup> hosted by **Jon Somplak**. Sierra Banquet Center is at 3220 Pondorado Rd. in Camino.

**Ron Bertacini** gave a rundown on the new UA/CO pass policy. Too much to cover in detail here, so log on to Skynet. Boarding priority will be by time in service – not date of hire. Retirees will be allowed two "Enrolled Friends". RUAEA was not invited to participate.

Due to a change in pricing by the casino, any members who were at the April meeting will get a \$4.00 refund.

**Jack Raynor** announced that the 2011 “Maintenance Get Together” will be at The Carson Valley Inn in Minden, NV. This will be August 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>. For more information, contact Jack at [raynor-news@softcom.net](mailto:raynor-news@softcom.net).

Meeting adjourned followed by our drawing. Thanks to **Lynda Lima, Ann Czapkay, Marge Raynor, D. Stroud, Wolframs, Heier, Pat Razura, Fitzpatrick, Tom & Sue Kenny, Roberta & Dan Ouchi, Mary Buschman** and **Pati Kenney** for the donations of raffle items.

Calendar:

**May 3** - Sierra Banquet Center/Log Cabin Café, hosted by **Jon Somplak**.



**REDWOOD EMPIRE**

**RETIREES**

Mary C. Hill, Secretary  
941 Helene Ct.  
Rohnert Park, CA 94928  
[mchill941@att.net](mailto:mchill941@att.net)

For our March St. Pats Day luncheon, we had 50 brave souls come out in the rain for lunch at LeGare. The food was great and the Chef came out to a round of applause. It was hosted by **Jan Blackburn** and **Bernice & Charlie Anderson**. They were assisted by **Al Bentham** and **Norm Burnett**.

Our President **Joanne Huhn** welcomed everyone and thanked our hosts. Vice President **Barney Hagen** announced our guests, **John Nolan**, guest of **Oscar & Joan Chambers**; **Lee Trevelyn** and **Clem Shanahan**, guests of **Barney & Clare Hagen**; **Lou Garhardt**, guest of **Elsie Kuhl**; **Jack Donahue**, guest of **Joan Olsson**; **Sheri & Sabrina Quock**, guest of **Diana Quinn**; **Carol Turek**, guest of **Doug Saunders** and **Amanda Donahue**, guest of **Wayne** and **Zepha O’Kelly**.

Treasurer **Judy DeFord** told us about our finances for the month of February. So far so good!

Sunshine Lady **Verda Burr** announced our birthdays for the month: **Patrick Cadden, Richard Sothern, Edie Olson, Brandon Maus, Barney Hagen** and **Donna Stuke**. The winner of the Birthday lunch was **Edie Olson**. We didn’t have any anniversaries for this month. Verda sent a card to **Diana Quinn** for the birth of her new granddaughter, which we all had the pleasure of meeting this day. I believe our youngest guest ever. As usual, Verda had some great “senior” jokes, adding sunshine to a gray day.

We had a lot of people with the “wearing of the green,” but **Norm Burnett** won the prize with his big green bow tie and a great green plaid hat.

Our autobiography for this month is **Larry Wilson**. Larry grew up in the United family. His Dad hired on as an electrician in Cheyenne in 1939. They moved to San Francisco in 1948 and his Dad was a Foreman in Plane Overhaul. Larry was always coming out to the Base with his Dad.

Larry hired on as an apprentice in Plane Overhaul in 1965. After 4 years, he became a mechanic in the Jet Shop, Tire Shop and on the Line. He was Lead Mechanic for the last 17 years at the B29 hangar, Sheet Metal shop, Jet Shop and Plane Overhaul.

Larry lived about 65 miles away from the base. There were many other employees, Mechanics and Office people, who lived that far away also. So he bought an OLD 1949 bus and started the first commuter bus from the North Bay. It was great fun; many people rode it thru the years.

The one thing Larry remembers the most when working at UAL, was the people he met. He worked with people from all over the world and with people who had gone thru many different experiences, such as WWII on both sides of the war. Those things he will always remember because they were such a great group of people. He retired in 2002 after 37 years. Now he is a Project Manager for a construction firm, but he always finds time to come to our meetings to talk and meet with guys he worked with. It’s good fun.

Joanne reminded us of our Charity box. We had a Thank You from the Kiwanis Club for all the toys we send at Christmas. They have supplied food for 720 families, 723 toys for kids and the greatest thing is 102 kids received bikes.

Calendar:

**April 14** - Quail Inn, hosted by **Ron & Joanne Huhn**

**May 12** - Rancho Nicasio, hosted by **Joan Sheahan** and **Ann Sullivan**

**June 9** - Quail Inn, hosted by **George & Lois Schwind**

## **Re-LAX-ers**

Los Angeles

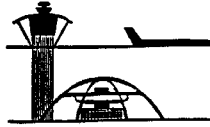
Barbara Smith

13721 El Dorado Dr. #20-H

Seal Beach CA 90740

(562) 430-4886

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



I heard from a couple of sources that **Peg & Ray Ginocchio** celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a big family party on the weekend of March 5-6. A great time was had by all. Congratulations! Big family party - had a great time.

**Norm Dugas** passed away early in March after suffering for a long time. We have followed **Ray Ginocchio's** reports of Norm's health problems and are so sorry to hear of his passing. Information was in Ray's IAM club newsletter, my copy of which has become permanently buried somewhere in a disgusting pile of filing that always follows income tax time. So for a contact for you to send condolences to his family, contact Ray at (310) 676-6634L.

Our April luncheon meeting was held on the 7<sup>th</sup>, and thanks to **Betty & Herb Kopp's** generous offer of a ride (I'm kinda on their route to LAX), I was able to attend after missing two meetings. (I'm still on O<sub>2</sub> and not driving yet. It was good timing - I was able to get a few good news items to send in by deadline time.

**Jo Ann Briggs** was there looking as great as ever but has a tough time ahead of her. She says she feels good except for a slight cough. A spot on her lung has tested out to be cancer. Since this discovery, she has had extensive tests of her whole body - the last will be on April 12. She sees the cancer doc on April 14 which will be the end of 6 weeks of tests and they will have been able to determine if any other unwelcome pictures show up. She (and all the rest of us) are praying they found it early enough so they will be able "*to fix this mess!*" Oh, my, don't many of us know that feeling? In hearing of such big time problems being endured by many of my friends, my pacemaker and mild case of pneumonia was a walk in the park.

**Beverly McAlister** advised us about a good 4-nite time-share deal in Kona - good 'til August. Give her a call at (323) 294-8140. Pres. Hal welcomed several newcomers, either already signed up or prospective members. Welcome to **Jerry (LAXCG) & Cynthia Formulak, Phil Heithaus, Ursula Bloor (LAXCS), Mary Tricerri, and Gina Saavides**. We were hoping to see **Don & Pat Garner** and **Bud & Mary Winn** who signed up but did not show up. We haven't seen them in ages, so hope they'll try again. **Sharon Record** did a great job of being "the voice" for **Howard Lackey** (who still has the laryngitis problem). She had studied the many pages of the new non-rev. procedures which will go into effect sometime after January 1<sup>st</sup>, in 2012 and explained where we retirees fit into the picture. We all seemed to agree that some of the changes are not too bad - some are downright silly. She did say that the new policy will not start right on Jan. 1 as there is a huge amount of computer input required in entering all the data of employees & retirees names plus all their eligibles and each person's position in the big scheme of things. Then add the time for programming of the rules themselves, then merging names with which rule/s you fit or fits you! Whew!

Donna mentioned that she got a letter from the nephew of **George Reisen**, advising that George passed away in his sleep in March. George was a good traveler on a number of our tours, and I think he enjoyed going with the group. Condolences can be extended to his family (he is survived by the nephew and a sister and brother) by writing the nephew, Bruce Rajswasser, 42 Norwood Av., Staten Island, N.Y. 10304.

Thanks to **Donna Klobe** and **Jo Ann Briggs**, our table center pieces at the luncheon were very festive Easter themes. They were raffled off at the end of the lunch. We had a very generous 50/50 this time - over \$100 - won by **Howard Lackey**. The Fantasy Flight folks sold raffle tickets for a terrific basket of snacks - won by **John Daley**. And yours truly won a bottle of Two-Buck-Chuck - always welcome. One of our door prizes is always a meal for two at the Proud Bird, won by our hard working secretary, **Donna Klobe**.

Our luncheon location is the Proud Bird Restaurant located right there across the road from the east end of one of the main runways. It's been there for 43 years! They have asked their regular guests to help them out as they negotiate a new lease with LA World Airports (LAWA) who owns the land. The restaurant serves very good food, has good service and a terrific view and is hoping that their new lease will allow them to continue this very successful and popular location. You could help, they tell us, by contacting the Board of Airport Commissioners, 1 World Way, LA, CA 90045 or [LAXBOAC@lawa.org](mailto:LAXBOAC@lawa.org) urging that they consider extending the lease at a fair and reasonable increase.

Hal asked how many planned on going to PDX in May for the convention. I really would like to go but don't think I'll be up to a trip as yet, so have to pass it by this year. Take notes, the rest of you.

News I've heard from here and there: LAS buddies, Lu and Jan drove over for the day to go to lunch (same as they did at Thanksgiving, remember?) and to check up on me, then zip on back to LAS. Joining us for lunch was retiree **Marde Dasaro** (LAXMD) who had major heart surgery in November - about when my heart decided to act up. And what a coincidental meeting she had when reporting for therapy. My former Marina neighbor, **Fran Leibow** (also a recovering heart surgery patient), formerly a flight attendant for CO and Marde met up at therapy. When they began comparing background notes, they discovered they both have been my friends for years. Small world!

#### Calendar:

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of February, April, June?, August, October, December. All at the Proud Bird, as far as we know now:

**May 22 - 29** - Convention in PDX

**June 9** – Note the date change, not the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday! This is to accommodate anyone going on the post-convention cruises.

**August 4** - Tentative picnic date, not sure the park is reserved as yet. Stay tuned.



#### Re-Sans

San Diego  
Barbara Drews  
5642 Amaya Drive #99  
La Mesa, CA. 91942  
[sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com](mailto:sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com)

The Re-Sans group has not met since the last newsletter so I do not have much to report this month.

Our Spring Fling luncheon and breakfast will take place after the deadline for the RUAEA newsletter so we will have a good report for you next month.

**Greg Krok** is recovering from his aortic valve replacement surgery and is hoping to be able to make it to the breakfast and perhaps the luncheon.

**Ed Knight** celebrated his birthday with a party at his house at Salton Sea.

**Betty Tomaino** is cruising on the Sea of Cortez. A great way to finish the stormy month of March.

We have been receiving emails from former SAN employees who are glad to see we are restoring our group and planning future activities. All emails are deeply appreciated.

#### Calendar:

**May 5** – Breakfast at Pt. Loma Café, 10:00 am

#### GOLDEN GATERS

##### SFO - BAY AREA

Helen M. Cain  
163 Francisco Drive  
South San Francisco, CA 94080  
[musicalcain@sbcglobal.net](mailto:musicalcain@sbcglobal.net)



A note of encouragement from *James A. Garfield*, 20<sup>th</sup> President of the United States: *"If wrinkles must be written upon our brows, let them not be written upon the heart. The spirit should not grow old."*

Wonderfully, we have two couples celebrating 50+ wedding anniversaries: **Bob & Lois Baron** with 53 years and **Orelli & Sylvia Sadueste** with 52 years. **Walt & Vera Kuna** are approaching their 49<sup>th</sup> year of wedded bliss. Any advice you would care to share, folks? And **Phyllis Maloney** is turning 95 ... any advice as to how you did it, **Phyllis**?

With Continental retirees coming on board, we are extending our arm of friendship to those retirees living in the SFO Bay Area. Our membership is down to approximately 300 members so we would be more than happy to put out more chairs at next month's General meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup>. If any of you UAL people have Continental contacts, please give them a little nudge to come and visit us and perhaps become a member, 4<sup>th</sup>

Monday of each month. When a list of Continental retirees is made available, our Membership Secretary **Barbara Underhill** will be sending out "invitation-to-join" postcards.

Communication has been received from **Mildred Reed**, now residing at Aegis Living, Room 2223, 3850 Walnut Avenue in Fremont, near her daughter and granddaughter. She says her health is improving. Another dear lady coping with medical problems is **Lois Baron** presently residing in a Memory Care Facility in Henderson, NV. Cards may be sent to her at 1305 Ridgewood Drive, Millbrae, CA 94030.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President **Kathlyn Hutt** urges us to attend the April 25<sup>th</sup> General meeting to hear and watch the "Mexican Folklorico dance troupe" spiritedly entertain us. May 16 will feature the return of one of our favorites, "Beverly at the Piano", wonderful personality, wonderful flying fingers on those black and white keys!

As of January 1, 2012 our membership dues will be \$10 annually ... still a bargain for all of the worthwhile information you will receive at each meeting plus the delightful entertainment we always have scheduled.

Local/International Tour Coordinator **Ginger Dahlberg** has 2 tours leaving this Fall: "Norway Coastal Voyage", September 6 – 22, 2011 and the cross-country "Route 66", September 30 – October 13, 2011. For the chance that somebody already booked might not show up and you'd like to be put on a wait list, call **Ginger** immediately at (650) 224-1865 or email [gingersfo@aol.com](mailto:gingersfo@aol.com).

We've had to drop our monthly potlucks but will be having occasional "special" catered lunches. Our March Chinese luncheon celebrating the Chinese New Year was especially delicious and plenty of it. 85 participants certainly thought so. Our thanks go out to Food Coordinators **Vera & Walt Kina**.

Two Alliant Credit Union representatives, **Sanita Vigiere** and **Robert Hardy** spoke to us about Alliant's advantages and answered questions from our members. We were advised to make contact with a local Alliant office at least once a year. After 3 years without activity, a dormant account will be in jeopardy. After a 2 year absence of activity, letters will be sent out to encourage some sort of activity be made. Also they stated that an Alliant credit card charges no ATM fee when you're travelling overseas.

RUAEA Western Division Director **Roger Casterline** spoke briefly concerning his recent RUAEA meetings. Unfortunately, last year's Orlando, Florida convention lost money and he heartily encouraged us to attend this year's convention in May in Portland, Oregon.

We wish you all a Blessed Passover and a Happy Easter.

#### Calendar:

Retirees General Meeting, promptly at 11:30 a.m. 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month (not in September or December or if a 4<sup>th</sup> Monday falls on a holiday). William Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd. (Shell and East Hillsdale Blvd.) Foster City, CA 94404. Lost? Call (650) 286-3380. Mail should be sent to UAL SFO-Bay Area Retirees, P.O. Box 4788, Foster City, CA 94404.

SFO/SJC



SOUTH BAY RETIREES

#### SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

##### SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

Joan Dahl & Rosemarie Reichard

1169 Johnson Ave.

San Jose, CA 95129

[joandahl@att.net](mailto:joandahl@att.net) – (408) 996-2191

[rosieandbill@gmail.com](mailto:rosieandbill@gmail.com) - 408 257 9170

The South Bay group has had close to 50 members and guests attend our weekly breakfast meetings. Every week we celebrate birthdays and anniversaries. Recently, **Keith & Anna Olthoff** celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with us. They celebrated with a trip to Maui. This year United Airlines celebrated its 85<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Our social chairman **Dave Saso** and his leprechauns did a great job decorating and getting us into the St. Patrick's Day spirit. He included a raffle for Girl Scout cookies as part of the activities. Dave has scheduled a magician, the Great Glenndini for our May 6<sup>th</sup> breakfast meeting. Hopefully, we will all appear.

**Marion Gaevert** hosted our Spring lunch on Wednesday April 13<sup>th</sup> at Arya's in Cupertino, but due to our newsletter's deadline, you'll have to wait until the June newsletter to hear what transpired.

Some of our members have traveled both far and near - **Bill & Rosemarie Reichard** have been to Scottsdale, Arizona to watch the World Series champion San Francisco GIANTS play baseball. **Alex & Margie Klaus** took visitors on a tour of Alcatraz. **Zelma Kibbler** reported on an interesting tour she went on to the Travis Air Museum in Vacaville. **Karen & Bob Devlin** ventured to the Gold Country and the town of Murphy. **Dave & Joanne Saso** took a cruise south to Mexico to find some sunshine.

**Anna Olthoff** served on a mission with “The Flying Doctors”, bringing medical supplies and routine checkups to clients in the Indio area of Southern California.

**Lois White**’s son-in-law, illustrator and artist, **Rafael Lopez**, has completed five stamp designs of Latin Americans for the U S postal service. We’ll have to look for them on our mail.

Many of the members are planning on traveling north to Portland for the RUAEA convention the end of May.

We meet every Friday morning at 8:00AM for breakfast and a short meeting at Holders’ Country Inn in Cupertino, across from the Home-Depot on De Anza Blvd. Please come join us.

Calendar:

**May 6** - Special guest: The Great Glenndini

**June 14** - Summer picnic at Lake Vasona, hosted by **Tony & Sally Urso**

**SAN JOAQUINERS**

Rosie Walls  
10416 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
P.O. Box 1372  
Jamestown, CA 95327-1372  
(209) 984-5672  
[jawrmw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jawrmw@sbcglobal.net)



The San Joaquiners Chapter met on Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> for our monthly luncheon meeting. The luncheon was held at Thomi’s Restaurant in Jackson and was hosted by **Joan & Fred Verbaere**. There were 37 people in attendance and a delicious buffet meal was served.

Jack & I attended the meeting and we were very happy to be there. We missed the February meeting so we had not seen any of the members since our December luncheon. It was so much fun to see everyone after such a long time.

President **Don Nesja** opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. A short meeting was held and a few jokes were shared, and then lunch was served.

Don read off the names of the people celebrating birthdays and anniversaries during the month of March. Congratulations to everyone! Our Sunshine Lady, **Joy Blair**, said she sent a card to **Darrell Silvers** because he had not been able to attend the last two meetings.

We also had a raffle and I was a lucky winner! **Joan & Fred** raffled off some of their wine from the “Verbaere Winery”. There were also prizes of potted plants in lovely little pots.

Our next meeting will be held on April 14<sup>th</sup> in Twain Harte and will be hosted by **Larry & Lavina Brinsfield** and **Barbara & Ace Edkin**. At this time, I don’t know where the meeting will be held; they did not disclose the location. I’m sure it will be great!

Our Chapter always meets on the second Thursday of every month in various locations. Please join us anytime you can. If you have any questions, please call our President, **Don Nesja**, (209) 295-2104 or me, **Rosie Walls** at (209) 984-5672.



**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 14<sup>th</sup> with 25 members and guests in attendance. We have lost an additional member since our last meeting, **Marilyn Harguth** passed away on March 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Emma Lou Olson** advised us that she has found a group that will accept all types of greeting cards, Christmas, Birthday, etc. It is the Transitional Unit at The Village High School in Pleasanton. So in addition to your books and magazines, please feel to bring your used cards.

**Tom Johnson** mentioned that there is a train from LAX to the main train station which operates every ½ hour for \$7.00. Handy information to have if the flights are full. Good service to SAN.

**Nancy Boyle** mentioned that the Clayton Valley Women's club has great activities and speakers at their meetings. No need to be a resident of Clayton.

We thank **Barbara & Tom Cunningham** for bringing in the delicious tangelos for the group. The 50/50 was won by **Tom Cunningham** and the pie won by **Don Rutkowski**.

We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month. No need for reservations. Social time is from 1100-1200, then lunch and business matters. We encourage all UA and CO retirees, 55 or older to attend and feel free to bring a guest. We have representation from many departments. We are trying a new location for the month of May, so check out the following schedule:

Calendar:

**April 11** – Marie Callenders'

**May 9** - Sizzler (private banquet room) - 1353 Willow Pass Road, Concord 94520

**June 13** - Annual Picnic at Pleasant Hill Park - 147 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill

**July** - no meeting

**August 8** - Location to be announced

**COLORADO**

**DENVER MILE HIGHERS**

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



Saturday, April 2, Denver set a new temperature record of 84 degrees for the date. We're pleased to report that there were 50 Mile Highers in attendance at the monthly breakfast held in the United Training Center Cafeteria. Now get this – by Sunday afternoon, yes the next day, it was snowing and the temperature dropped over 50 degrees! Welcome to Colorado!

We sang Happy Birthday to **Nancy Goodyear** and **Linda Failla** who was visiting from Florida. It was good to see some who couldn't get out for earlier breakfasts. **Elaine Fluegel** came with her son Paul, **Barb Chapman** was able to join us and it was good to see **Kaffee Fry**, she has also been under the weather.

We had a long discussion on the new pass policy that is planned to take effect in January 2012. There were some questions, but the bottom line is that at this point, we don't have any answers other than what has been posted in SkyNet. **Tom Goodyear** said if the answer to your question/s is not in the information located in SkyNet, then we should direct our question/s to the company via [mypasstravel@united.com](mailto:mypasstravel@united.com).

**Virgil Gooselaw** reported that **Billy Rogers**, a long time Denver Mechanic passed away on March 11. The Rogers moved to Magazine, AR not long after Billy retired. The mailing address for **Shelba**, Billy's widow, is P.O. Box 598, Magazine, AR 72942

The following retirees returned their 50/50 winnings to the chapter, **Thom Rowland**, **Ray Shoults**, and 3 time winner **Cas Spokas**; as Tom would say "Another Maintenance takeover". Thanks for the donation, guys!

On the evening of April 6, Denver hosted the "Friend Ship" A-320 commemorating the 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of United Airlines. The following retirees met the airplane which was painted in the 1970 livery colors which was chosen by more than 11,000 UA employees: **Marv Berryman**, **Laura Coats**, **Tom & Nancy Goodyear**, **Ted Griffith**, **Phyllis Jack**, **Jim Ogden**, **Thom Rowland**, **Rich Twardy** and **Bonita Ades**. They were all dressed in vintage uniforms from the United Airlines Historical Foundation.

Watch your newsletter for the Mile high Chapter indoor picnic.

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 flattened pop cans. Bring a fellow retiree!



### PIKES PEAK CHAPTER

Chuck Stuller  
1135 Beta Loop  
Colorado Springs, CO 80905-7217  
(719) 475-2073  
[Chuck.stuller@hotmail.com](mailto:Chuck.stuller@hotmail.com)

We had a lunch meeting on March 28. It was a short meeting with a few people. The **Chuck Stuller** family traveled during our spring break to SFO, LAX and PHX without a lot of problems. I used a letter (thanks **Chuck Cole**) to get Southwest tickets, \$25.00 BUR to PHX! Everyone was very nice to us. My BP6B priority was the only reason we got on! The only situation arose in Denver when I tried to get a close connection to UAX and the gate was 67-79 at DIA. One gate podium, three gate agents boarding 6 flights thru **one door**, what a cluster! I tried a later flight but ended up on The Colorado Springs Airport Shuttle to COS. I came home early because our cat was attacked by a coyote and had to have 8 stitches around her ear!

Our meetings are held once a month on a Monday at 1200 noon at The Village Inn on Harrison Road near Circle and I-25. **Please RSVP to Chuck.**

#### Calendar:

**April 25** – Regular lunch meeting

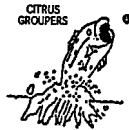
**May 23** – Regular lunch meeting

**June 27** – Regular lunch meeting

### FLORIDA

#### CITRUS GROUPERS

Barbara Broyles  
2101 NE 50 Place  
Ocala, FL 34479  
[bilbar7@embarqmail.com](mailto:bilbar7@embarqmail.com)



**Paul Brown**, Florida Regional Director, called the meeting to order, February 24, at 11:30 at the Golden Coral in the Villages. Ms. **Barbara Broyles** took the minutes as a volunteer. 20 members were present and we added 5 new members to the chapter's roster.

There were no anniversaries, **Helen King** celebrated a birthday this month and won the 50/50 raffle. Paul brought the chapter up-to-date on the current merger with CO and how it affects the retirees; travel on CO can be booked by using Skynet. UAL is going back into the Florida FLL and PBI markets and adding SFO/MSY service "again". Southwest is discussing making MCO a gateway city after the merger with Airtran.

Our thoughts are with **Joan Brandonisio**, we wish them both well.

#### Calendar:

**April 28** – Luncheon meeting at the Golden Coral, 11:30AM.



#### SAND"DABS"

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

On a beautiful sunny day here in paradise, 18 Sand"DABS" gathered for our April meeting. Prez **Dick Coughlin** was away visiting family, so VP **Steve Moddle** called the meeting to order. We were at a slight disadvantage as there was no agenda, no name tags, no birthday "cake" or candle. We had two birthday celebrants, **Rick Johnson & Irene Warner**. We sang to them, but they had no candle to blow out. **Rick & Irene** discovered they had the same birth date of April 27<sup>th</sup>. That made it fun. It was nice to see **Jane Kress** after a long absence along with her friend **George Nelson Funkhouser** was sitting at the head of the table,

evidently that seat holds special privileges, but Nelson informed everyone he's not buying the drinks for everyone! **Steve Moddle** thought he was just another cheap pilot.

Treasurer **Penny Logan** reported our balance which is growing. We need to think about gifting some of it soon. She passed out envelopes for those who have not paid their 2011 dues yet. **Lillian Moddle** won the 50/50 and **Bill Rankin** won the 2<sup>nd</sup> drawing which was a bottle of wine in a beautifully decorated container. I was sitting in an area where I had trouble hearing some of the stuff going on, but everyone seemed to be having a good time.

No joke is really funny unless **Rick Johnson** laughs. Well, he laughed at one of Steve's jokes. **Herb Gardner** let us know there is a big Hot Air & Sky Balloon Fest at New Smyrna Beach airport this weekend. They expect a big crowd and 39 colorful balloons. Featured are a tethered balloon ride or a full trip, air show with acrobatics, live music, NASA displays and many vendors. Herb is active in helping to put the Festival together and works to help out wherever needed. **Steve Moddle** will be flying in a vintage airplane to the Festival which will be on display for people to view.

The restaurant service today was so slow and there were many mistakes in the service. They knew it I guess because we all got a \$5.00 gift card. **Penny Logan** had some copies made of the new travel and pass policy which she gave out. There was a very big discussion about that. Thanks to Penny's love of traveling, she was able to point out or clear up a lot of questions people had. Not all were happy with the new policies.

It was suggested we try to find out if any Continental people are living in our area and invite them to our meeting. In spite of all the mix-ups, confusion and poor service, it turned out to be a good meeting.

*THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Money cannot buy happiness, but it can buy chocolate and that's a pretty good substitute.*

#### Calendar:

**May 5** - 11:30 - Red Lobster

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

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

#### SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

##### PELICAN DROP-INS

Fort Myers, Florida

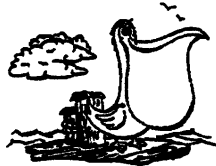
Sandy Pryde

10275 Bismark Palm Way, #1121

Ft. Myers, FL 33966

(239) 418-1034

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



The Pelican Drop-Ins held its monthly meeting on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at Sabal Springs Golf and Racquet Club in North Ft. Myers at noon. As usual, a delicious lunch was served. In attendance were eighteen members and one guest, **Judy Grandmaison**, friend of **Paul & Ingrid Olson**.

Following the meal, President **Bill Burg** introduced Sue Maxwell, a gerontologist from Older Adult Services at Lee Memorial Health System in Ft. Myers. She spoke to us about services available for older adults, especially as it relates to memory and brain functions. Lee Memorial Health System has a Healthy Brain Initiative of SW Florida program (see [www.healthybrainfl.com](http://www.healthybrainfl.com)) and offers a free test for interested persons. Sue had us take several quick memory tests, which was both fun and challenging. Recent research indicates we need physical exercise as well as cognitive stimulation to ward off cognitive decline. It was a very interesting and informative presentation.

In the absence of **John Dainus** (his wife **Nancy** is recuperating from hip replacement surgery), **Bill Burg** conducted the 50/50 raffle that was won by **Nancy Kopp**. Other raffle winners were **Sandy Pryde**, **Ingrid Olson**, **Paul Olson**, **Ed Clarke**, **Mel Volz**, **Tom McNabb**, **Sally Sciple**, **Jerry Pryde**, and **Ray Winterhalter**.

**Bill Burg** also announced that **Tom & Marilyn McNabb** would be celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on April 14. Congratulations were expressed for reaching that milestone!!

The new pass travel exhibit has been distributed via email but there was no time to discuss the new policy. Everyone was encouraged to obtain the exhibit that can be found on Skynet.

The next Pelican Drop-Ins get-together will be on Friday, May 6, for a steak fry/picnic. The location will be announced next week and persons will be notified. This is the last regular get-together for this season. The months of June through September are breakfast get-togethers at Perkins Restaurant on N. Cleveland Ave. and

Hancock Bridge Rd. in North Ft. Myers on the first Friday of each month. Monthly meetings at Sabal Spring Golf and Racquet Club in North Ft. Myers will resume in October.

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:

**Sandy Pryde**, (239) 418-1034 or [jspryde@msn.com](mailto:jspryde@msn.com)

**Marge Burg**, (941) 697-8086 or [burgmarge@aol.com](mailto:burgmarge@aol.com)



**TREASURE COAST**

Stuart, FL

M. Jane Kerr

1372 SW California Blvd.

Port St. Lucie, FL 34953

(772) 343-0709

[jane Kerr13@att.net](mailto:jane Kerr13@att.net)

I actually got to the meeting early this time since I knew **Paul Brown** was going to attend our meeting. The surgery on his elbow went well and if he was in any discomfort you would not have known. Let's hope you have a fast recovery Paul. He had a letter which he read to us that was quite informative about the goings on with the Merge and pass travel.

We had a total of 20 members and 5 guests/visitors that all turned out to join our group and what a nice group of people - **Jack & Glenda Boisseau** who hail from Stuart, Jack a retired pilot and Glenda a retired Stewardess. **Jim Morehead** who hails from Pompano Beach, a long way away, and surely everyone knows Jim, also a retired pilot and worked with **Paul Liebisch** and **Artie Frage**. He also knew **Jack Boisseau** and **Bob Langevin**. **Arnold & Doris (Dee) Lakso** who hail from Ft. Lauderdale, now that is a trip and a half, are delightful and will try to make as many meetings as possible.

Needless to say, the bulk of the conversation was regarding the merge and pass travel. The only time things were somewhat quiet was when lunch was served and everyone started to eat. When we were all finished eating, **Al Popek** decided to let everyone in the room take turns voicing their concerns and hopes regarding the merger etc., we heard some very interesting comments. Al also asked everyone to rate their thoughts from 0 to 10, the final results for the group came out to be an average of 5.9 for the current new policy plan.

**Constantinos** and **Celina Xifaras** attended the meeting and it has been a long time since we had seen them since Celina has been ill. Constantinos won the 50/50 and the Progressive was won by **Mary Kay Wetherington**.

We missed **Chris Taylor** and **Bill Nehls**, Chris had pneumonia once again but she is doing well now. We haven't heard from Bill and we hope he is well.

Happy Birthday to **Paul Liebisch** (April 25), **Barbara Dodenhoff** (April 28), Greek Wedding Anniversary to **Constantinos & Celina Xifaras** (April 25). Best Wishes to all and may you all be blessed with Good Health and Happiness. Belated Wishes again to **Jim Morehead** even though we wished him Happy Belated Wishes at our meeting.

Well, I have said it before and will repeat myself, and this is also the desire of all the members, if you can join us, please do so. We have a lot of fun and information about UA doings, we help and inform each other, so take the opportunity and become one of us, and the food is terrific.

Thomas, our friend from Berlin, did not visit with us but will definitely be with us in May. At our next meeting, discussion will continue around a possible 2 Day Bahamas Cruise or Picnic.

☺ *On the Lighter Side:*

- *Time waits for no one, treasure every moment you have.*
- *Love doesn't make the world go round but it makes the ride worthwhile.*
- *Laughter is the medicine of Life.*
- *Life is not the way it's supposed to be. It's the way it is. The way we cope with it, is what makes the difference.*

☺ *On your health:*

- *If it's good preserve it.*

- *If it's unstable, improve it.*
- *If it's beyond what you can improve, Get Help.*

Live, laugh, love and be good to each other, the clock is ticking, don't wait until tomorrow what you can do today, make time, you may not have another chance.

Calendar:

**May 3** – Mulligan's, Jensen Beach, 1230PM Luncheon/Meeting

**June 7** – Mulligan's, Jensen Beach 1230PM Luncheon/Meeting

**July** – On vacation, no meeting

**GEORGIA**

**DIXIE FLYERS**

Metro Atlanta Georgia  
Ron Heider  
935 City Park Dr.  
McDonough GA. 30252  
(770) 898-3293  
[heider.ronald@yahoo.com](mailto:heider.ronald@yahoo.com)



Twenty six Flyers and one guest were in attendance on Wednesday, April 6 at The Broadway Diner in Fayetteville, GA. Our guest was **Carol Cunningham** who recently retired from ATLOZ. Everyone was glad to see Carol, and she became our newest member. Everyone welcomed her aboard. A good number of our loyal regulars were absent this lunch. It seems a lot were on spring break, traveling about probably before fuel prices really start to go up. **Fred Cron** led us in The Pledge of Allegiance, and **Don Shelley** in The Blessing. **Fred Cron**, our 50/50 Director, assisted by **Bill Elk**, conducted the 50/50.

Niki, our very enthusiastic server drew the winning ticket held by **Jane Brown** who graciously donated her prize to The Promise Place shelter. **Bill Elk** held a brief business meeting and of course, the big topic of conversation was the New Pass Policies that will take effect in 2012. **Bruce Brodersen**, our Regional Southeast Director, and Treasurer, gave a talk on the changes we will see and answered questions from members that were unsure of the wording used in the released versions comparing the old and new policies of both carriers. All in all, it was a good presentation.

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of **Pat Gunny**, the wife of **Ron Gunny** on March 11, 2011. Pat had endured a very long battle with a very rare cancer, and subsequent illnesses. Ron & Pat would have celebrated their 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary next month. We had a moment of silence in her memory. She will be missed. Our hearts and prayers go out to Ron and his family.

On our sick list this month is **Irma (Wormie) Bowling**, wife of **Bill Bowling**. She has had some complications from a previous surgery and doctors are trying to find the cause and correct it. We all wish her success and a speedy and complete recovery.

**Don & Marge Shelley** will be holding their 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Picnic at their home at 115 Corley's Lane in Locust Grove, GA 30248. Phone (678) 432-0019 on Saturday, April 16, 2011 this year. All United people welcome, local or out of town, locals bring a covered dish, or dessert, and a chair. Plates, utensils, and drinks will be provided.

Calendar:

**May 4** – Lunch at the Broadway Diner, 2:30PM, 535 S. Glynn St. Fayetteville, GA. 30214, (770) 716-2828.  
Time - 2:30 (at request of restaurant until June)

## IDAHO



### BOISE GEMS

Rick Dempsey  
1171 S. River Flow Way  
Eagle, ID 83616  
(208) 939-1713  
[brandyjake@cableone.net](mailto:brandyjake@cableone.net)

The April meeting of the Boise Gems was held at JB's Restaurant in Meridian. The following members and spouses were in attendance: **Marlene Croghan, Al Burkhart and Betty Sherman, Gloria Trotter, Dave & Carol Adams, Louise Duvall, Ned Yundt, Shirley & Charles Perkins, Denny Snyder, Palmer & Bob Sarnoff, and Shirley & Rick Dempsey.**

**Nancy & Harry Mitchell** were off to Arizona for a couple of weeks but will be back for the May luncheon. **Joe & Joan Varady** are entertaining family from out of state. **Marilyn Taylor** is still recovering from a fall ... we hope you are feeling better soon Marilyn.

**Charles & Shirley Perkins** have come home again. They spent three months in Yuma, AZ, having fun. It sure is a party town, jillion of Canadians ... Shirley is from Canada. Charles has his garden planted here in Meridian already. Should be able to share produce soon if it doesn't freeze!

**Bob & Palmer Sarnoff** went to **Ned Yundt's** birthday party and had a ball.

**Louise Duvall** is happy the breakfast changed to a luncheon as she is not a morning person. She enjoyed the luncheon and especially enjoyed everyone's company.

**Dave & Carol Adams** had family visiting from Oregon during spring break. They spent the week with Dave & Carol, the other grandparents and friends. It was great having the daughter and four granddaughters here to celebrate Carol's birthday, along with their son and his family. Dave drove 5,000 miles in March - destinations of Lake Havasu, SFO and the LAX area.

**Gloria Trotter** visited Mobile, AL for Mardi Gras, first time in a long time ... she had a wonderful time attending a Mardi Gras Ball, visiting relatives and friends. Mobile is home to Gloria. She also flew from Houston, TX to Mobile on Continental Airlines as a standby. She listed herself on the internet, with no problems. She still plans to move to Sacramento, CA.

On March 20, **Ned Yundt's** daughter, **Marie Kinkaid** and family, had a surprise 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party for Ned at the Pad Thai Restaurant in Boise. Needless to say, Ned was totally surprised and overwhelmed with the celebration. Ned's other daughter and family came from California, as well as her son from the East Coast. Also in attendance were members of the Boise Gems and Ned's church family. We all had a wonderful time, especially when many of the attendees got to "roast" Ned and tell all about her funny stories. An absolute great party! Happy Birthday once again Ned!

### Calendar:

**May 2** – Meetings, JB's Restaurant in Meridian, 1:30PM

**June 6** – Meetings, JB's Restaurant in Meridian, 1:30PM

## ILLINOIS

### CHICAGO SKYLINERS

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



Over 200 Skyliners enjoyed being Irish on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, eating the traditional corned beef and cabbage. There was a lot of the wearing of the green and drinking Irish coffee too. Our new President **Bob Kalicki** gave the welcome, and **John Koehl** gave the Invocation besides the Pledge of Allegiance. Quite a few people were happy with the raffle winnings in addition to a beautiful basket donated by the Alliant Credit Union.

An outing was planned for a game of the Chicago Cubs versus the San Francisco Giants at Wrigley Field, Lower Grandstand for June 30, 2011 for 150 fans. The tickets were \$18.00 with a limit of 4 tickets per

household on a first-come, first-served basis which also advised bus service there from Schaumburg or Lombard for \$4.00 each way. Fortunately or unfortunately, this proved so popular that the tickets are already sold out, suggesting that the next outing should have more tickets available for Such a Deal.

Writing about our annual picnic, it is in the final stages of being held again at Chandler's Country Club on July 18<sup>th</sup> at 401 N. Roselle Rd., Schaumburg, IL. 60194. There will be the usual hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, all the trimmings, assorted salads, beans, and soft drinks on the table if one does not want to order from the bar.

**Elaine & Dave Dore** traveled to Seattle on flights that were very tight to attend a retirement party for their son-in-law, ending a 35-year career with United both at ORD and SEACJ.

On a bit of a longer trip, **Judy & Carlton Hibbert** flew from IAD to Dubai, U.A.E., seeing the world's tallest building and hotel besides ski Dubai, the mall's largest aquarium and hockey rink. Then on the Royal Caribbean's Brilliance of the Sea's ship to Muscat, Oman and the Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi. Topping all this was 14 hours back in first class to IAD.

We received the news that **Bernie Wilson** died Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, and a memorial was held April 1<sup>st</sup> at the Glueckert funeral home in Arlington Heights, attended by fellow workers and friends.

On another sad note, prayers are needed for **Marge Daily** who suffered a stroke last month and is hopefully on the road to recovery. Cards may be sent to her home where her sister, niece and nephew will forward. The address is 456 Miller Rd., Des Plaines, IL 60016.

On a happy note, **Ginny & Frank** celebrated their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding a few months ago and no one knew so a belated happy, happy, happy!

Since I lost my source (can't tell you what), all you Skyliners will have to let me know about your 50 plus anniversaries.

**Jacques Sontheimer** and **Carol Faust** who have been doing the Midway Girls luncheons the last few years are not able to do it this year and are hoping someone will be willing to take over the job. The luncheon is usually on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of September at Manzo's Banquets in Des Plaines. If you and a helper are interested in taking over to keep the luncheon going, contact **Jacques** at (630) 893-1829 or **Carol** at (847) 903-4521 as soon as possible.

Carol is the person who is **the** person who is on the desk that helps you all get on a plane with the retiree help desk in Chicago. She has been told that the son of one of her helpers, **Raj** and husband **Sam**, has been deployed to serve as a trauma surgeon in Iraq. They have requested our prayers for his and our soldiers' safe return.

The Southside had only 16 but lively ones at the breakfast this March. No trips but the raffle was won by **Mary Brandt**, **Mr. Guz**, and **yours truly**.

Just a few facts we have heard about the retiree's passes. Eligible retirees, co-workers, spouse/domestic partner, dependent children under 25, single children in the military under 25, natural, adoptive or step parents are eligible pass riders. Each year the company will provide co-workers and retirees with eight one-way passes valid for five years from date of issuance. Boarding and service charges have no positive numbers that we are aware of yet.

#### Calendar:

Southside Brunch – Breakfast at Jedi's Restaurant, 9:30 A.M., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn, (**April 26 & May 31**)

Northsiders Breakfast – Ritzzy's Café & Backereia, 9:00 A.M., 2765 Algonquin Rd., Rolling Meadows (**May 11**)

**July 18** - Picnic - Chandler's Country Club, 401 N. Roselle Rd., Schaumburg, IL

Food Depository - First Tuesday, every month



#### **LOOP GROUP**

Chicago

Lillian Mallstrom

1109 Cleveland Avenue

Park Ridge, IL 60068-5507

(847) 823-5062

[Roenavy56@aol.com](mailto:Roenavy56@aol.com)

Our first luncheon of the year was on a very cold, windy, rainy, and snowy wintry day, even though it was supposed to be Spring. We had 14 retirees in attendance which makes for a lively group to dine and talk and enjoy the company.

We were pleased to have **Helen Cauwels**, our Midwest Director, join us for another visit with this group. She talked about the RUAEA Convention in Portland and hopes to see a good turnout.

**Corinne & Ray Svoboda** spent some time this winter at the Seaside Hotel in Honolulu, Hawaii. The Hotel is UAL owned and primarily used for crews. When vacancies occur, the Seaside is also available to vacationing UAL employees, retirees, and families/friends when accompanied by UAL employees or retirees, and it offers a friendly staff and reasonable rates, especially considering its prime location close to Waikiki Beach. The **Svobodas** were able to fly on the direct, non-stop flights in the middle of the week, and, though the planes were full, were seated in Economy Plus, thanks to revenue passengers who chose not to pay a little bit extra for such comfortable seating.

The next luncheon will be on May 18<sup>th</sup> which is the week before the RUAEA Convention in Portland and hopefully, many will attend for a week of interesting tours, activities and camaraderie.

#### Calendar:

**May 18** – Luncheon at the Renaissance Chicago Hotel @ State & Lake Streets (Great Street Restaurant) – 11:30 a.m. (Please email or call me before noon of May 17<sup>th</sup> so that I can let the restaurant know the number of guests to expect)

**May 22-28** – RUAEA Convention in Portland, Oregon

**June** – No Luncheon scheduled

**July 20** – Next scheduled luncheon at Renaissance Chicago Hotel – 11:30 a.m.

### INDIANA

#### INDY RACERS

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



Looking out my window, I am so pleased to see my plants have survived the long, long, terrible winter they've gone through. Sprouts of greenery are emerging from the former dead like limbs of my flowering plants and our Kentucky bluegrass lawn is a deep and beautiful green, even the weeds are looking pretty good! I was beginning to think that spring would never get here ... this has been the longest winter, the coldest winter, as well as the most miserable winter I've seen. I'm really ready for the sunny warmth of summer and sipping on cold margaritas on the patio with family and friends.

The Indy Racers have been very busy of late. A group went to a mystery dinner theater and had a great time. Unfortunately, no one in our group could solve the murder, missing out on the \$500.00 prize. How they missed it, I can't understand ... we all know the butler did it! Oh well, maybe next time. I personally am excited for a "next time" as I was in Phoenix and missed out on all the fun and am anxious for the next mystery dinner.

Many of our "winter travelers" have returned from various trips and warm homes in warmer parts of the country. **Gail & Warren Allen** have returned from their 5 month stay in McAllen, TX. Personally, I'm thrilled to have them back home as Gail is my aunt and Warren is my 3 year long uncle and Ron & I both missed them. Welcome home! **Dimple Rihel** found warmth at her son's home in Florida last month. **Bud (Ralph) & Eli Barnett** felt the sun rays on their 2 week cruise to the Caribbean, **Mary Chandler** thawed out in Hawaii. I spent 8 short days in Surprise, AZ ... very long 8 days for Ron as I left him at home to fend for himself as well as the cat. Someone in the family has to be the responsible one! I have never been to a 55 plus community and wasn't real sure about it, but since driving around in a golf cart, observing all the fun things to do there, I'm truly ready to pack up and move. Ron & I are planning a trip to AZ next month to check out housing, etc. Nice of me to include him on this next trip!

Flying on United was a new adventure for me as I have not done so since 2003. I was very surprised to see the screens listing how many seats were available for SA's and how I stood as far as getting on. I had no problems with any of the flights. I had to fly United Express out of Indy to Chicago, I went 1<sup>st</sup> class. Then Chicago to Phoenix, I went business. Returning, I flew 1<sup>st</sup> class to Chicago then had no problems at all getting on United Express. All 4 flights showed up as full and yet I got on as well as others behind me. I certainly hope the same luck follows us next month on our Phoenix trip.

Happy May and June Birthday wishes to **Cheri Innis, Eli Barnett** and **Bob Duffy**. I think we should all go out to dinner together followed by a yummy birthday cake. You know my phone number ... make that call!

**Lenny Kurtz** was happy he attended the March meeting as he won \$20.00 on our monthly 50/50. My bet is he attends the April meeting as well. We will not have a June meeting as we all gather together for our annual pot luck picnic instead on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at the Twin Bridges Lodge in Danville, IN. The next newsletter will have more detailed info as to time and driving directions or you can call me or **Wanda Bryce** at (317) 821-8862.

Calendar:

**May 10** - IHOP Restaurant, 10143 Rockville Rd. (Hwy 36), Avon, IN. Room is available from 1:30 PM. The meeting begins at 3:00 PM. We welcome all United as well as Continental employees/retirees.

**June 11** – Picnic (No Meeting)

**July 12** - IHOP Restaurant

**MASSACHUSETTS**



**NOR'EASTERS**

New England

Dick Vee Vecchione

107 Bunker Hill Road

Auburn, NH 03032-3521

(603) 483-8204

NH4Vee@aol.com

The Nor'Easters March meeting was held at a technical school with culinary classes where the students learn gourmet cooking. Our group was the recipients of the day's cooking, with the students also being servers. Needless to say, the lunch was excellent. We planned for 29 members, but Patti Mix didn't make it.

Good to see **George Mavreles** with family and friends. I tried to talk some members into getting a computer, including **George, Frank Tromontozzi, Charlie Stauler, Joe Duda** and **Jimmy Yip**. I explained that this is a great medium for us seniors who can't get around as much as we'd like. None were interested! A regular attendee, **Bill Shailor**, who never misses a meeting, wasn't present this day. He was given a birthday party by members of his assisted living home. Bill is now 89 years young. Several members advised that I gave an incorrect route number on my meeting flyer, by leaving out a 1. **Joe Duda** advised that he bypassed the correct route, but figured it out quickly, arriving later than he normally would have. I rode from Boxford, MA with **Don Latter** and our Pres., **Carleen Eddy**. We didn't know I had given the incorrect route until Don's GPS advised us. I hope Patti isn't still driving around looking for route 38!

**Joe Duda** retired from the farming life, but his wife, **Albina**, is still raising toy poodles for sale. Joe related a story years ago, at Bradley Field's (BDL) Cloud Nine restaurant. It was closed completely to the general public long enough to accommodate Elizabeth Taylor and company. Joe went in to see her on UAL business. He did however; check out her eyes which were said to be velvet. He advised they were not, but more of a rich blue.

**Bob & Judy Austin** didn't snow bird to FL this season, as Judy hasn't been feeling well and made several day trips to a hospital. While snow birding and getting over wrist operations, **Jack Regan** didn't actually play much golf, but spent time driving, putting and chipping to build wrist arm strength.

In early March, it got warm enough to melt some snow and get the roads clear and dry. On March 12<sup>th</sup>, the temp hit 50 degrees and I got my roadster on the road for the first time since mid Dec. And yes, with the top down and - the heated seats on. I could actually see ground that I haven't seen for three months. Well, we got two wonderful days, and then winter came back with several more snow storms. We've returned to a white world again! With the amount of snow we've had this year, the ski slopes are still operating and boasting a very profitable season. In last month's newsletter, someone at the Phoenix Azures complained of a cold winter with a lot of 60 degree days. If only! In NH, the 60s is tee shirt weather. Take heart all, spring is just around the corner!

May's birthdays: **Les Brown, John Dellelo, Ron Heisler, Audrey Joyce, Joan Miester, Patti Flanagan Mix, Andy Montalto, Jayne Regan, Lew Shakley, Ken Washburn** and **Albert Zakrzewski**.

May's anniversaries: **Bob & Susan DePippo** (28 years), **Mary Beth & Stanley McDermet** (40 years), **Bob & Eileen Seibold** (66 years), **Thomas & Lillian Snyder** (26 years), **Ralph & Elaine Torres** (53 years) and **Bill & Elaine Vanderwal** (40 years).

Calendar:

**April 26** – Jeveli's Restaurant, 387 Chelsea Street, East Boston, MA

**MICHIGAN**

**GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES**

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



17 Escapees and 4 guests gathered at Olive Garden in Livonia April 7, hosted by **Camille & Bill Wade**. Our guest included Bill's sister, Ginger and husband, Paul, **Pat Klein** brought her Aunt Lottie and **Nancy Kraska**, who worked in DTWRR in the 60's and we made her our newest Escapee.

Also joining the Great Lakes Escapees this month are new retirees, **Cathy Dewey**, **Chris Rowland**, **Collette Jackson** and **Susan Swartzentrover**.

Love and prayers to **Cathy Dewey** @ 1153 Heritage, Canton, MI 48188, who broke her ankle and was in surgery at the time of their retirement party. Also, keep **Romanita Jenkins** @ 26160 West 12 Mile Rd., Apt. C26, Southfield, 48034-1746, in your prayers, as she will be undergoing knee replacement surgery the end of April, plus **Rick Schwendenmann** @ 31100 South Hill Rd., New Hudson, 48165, now home and recovering from pneumonia.

Lastly, our love and prayers to **Fred & Carol O'Keefe** @ 48490 Edgar St. Belleville, MI 48111-2206, as son, Christopher passed suddenly and unexpectedly on March 26, at the young age of 48. Also keep in your prayers **Kathy & Larry Franz** @ 10804 Andrews Ave, Allen Park, MI 48101-1102, as Larry's Mom left our world for her eternal rewards. Love and prayers also to **Pat Gawrych** @ 4112 Detroit St., Dearborn Heights, MI 48125, who also lost her mother and **Mary Kay Edoff** @ 9523 Quail Ridge Run, Brighton, 48114, due to the passing of her father, plus **Gail Kirkendoll's** father, has also departed from our world. Sorry I do not have a contact for Gail.

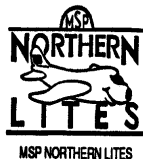
Calendar:

First Thursday of month, location varies, please call or e-mail (except for May).

**May 11** - 6:30pm - Station 885, Plymouth, MI.

**MINNESOTA**

**NORTHERN LITES**



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

In March, those attending only numbered 24 because the weather was miserable and the snowbirds are still gone. The weather was so bad that even the **Kelleys** and the **Glattlys** (moi) didn't make the trip down from Up Nort'. So, thanks, **Diane Storlie**, for taking notes for me. Actually, as it turned out, the weather wasn't as terrible as the weather gurus had forecast that it could be. Maybe we're getting to be wusses? At least we haven't joined the October convoy south on I-35 yet.

The group was pleased to see that **Janet Wiley** had accompanied **Dave** to lunch. We hadn't seen her since their having hosted last summer's picnic, and were beginning to think that she'd had quite enough of **that** bunch. We're grateful that she hasn't written us off.

Many in our group have birthdays in March, but of all of them, only **Ethel Johnson** was in attendance. They made her roll the dice anyway.

The integration has begun at MSP between the UAL and CO work staffs. For the first time, they are sharing the “back room”. The UAL station manager, Pat Mai, is now training other managers & the CO local manager is heading up both MSP crews.

The last flight of the shuttle Discovery was watched by several of our snowbirds. We heard from **Randy & Georgia Cirksema** that they and **Lenny & Ginny Tousignant** all decided to drive over from their Florida winter digs to watch the takeoff. Apparently, they weren’t the only ones who decided to take in that historic event, 120 miles of bumper-to-bumper traffic & a 7-hour drive each way. **Chuck & JoAnn Eichacker** sat in the comfort of their deck chairs in Jensen Beach & enjoyed the sight without leaving home!

In the absence of treasurer **Arlene Kelley**, **Kookie Delvaux** took over the 50-50 raffle. Whose was the first number out of the box? **Sonja Gunderson**’s, of course! Amazing! Hopefully, she’ll be as lucky at any casino stops they make on their upcoming bus travels.

**Nel Brawner** had her friend, Donna, along as a guest & they told of their “buddy pass” trip with other friends to Tucson recently. Once they finally got there, they had a great time, but Nel’s friends got a taste of the risks of standby travel, unfortunately. They had to wait through three trips before getting out of DEN.

One of our active UAL ramp employees at MSP is battling cancer so there was a bake sale & fundraiser to help with medical costs. His wife is one of our CO co-workers. Our chapter voted a \$100 donation to the fundraiser.

Our pal, **Tom Krieger**, was in hospital recently with a heart attack. After having a Roto-Rooter procedure done & stent(s) inserted, he’s back at home. Calls or cards would be appreciated, though: 2585 Western Ave. No., Roseville, MN 55113, (651) 481-8236. Don’t forget **Jack Doke** – recently home from the hospital dealing with the effects of chemo. He’d also love to hear from his old friends: 927 La Quinta Blvd., Winterhaven, FL 33881, (863) 294-9599.

We sadly report that **Blanca Ehr**, wife of **Frank**, succumbed to her various health issues March 12. Her zest for life & her obvious love for Frank & her family were always such an endearing quality. She’ll be missed. Condolences may be sent to the family at 700 Marble Street, Broomfield, CO 80020.

Another of our MSP group whom we hadn’t seen much in recent years also passed on to the next, better level on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. **Leonard “Bill” Cotcamp** worked in Operations for many years and his low-key, laidback way was very agreeable in that hectic area of airport life. We have lots of good memories of working with Bill. Condolences may be sent to his wife, **Eileen**, at 3243 Yosemite Ave. So., St. Louis Park, MN 55416.

Hey, girls, those of you who worked in Customer Service back in the ’80s should remember the London Fog trench coats we were issued as a uniform item. Well, guess what ~ **Mary Brennan** noticed an ad for Macy’s Oval Room in Mpls+St.Paul Magazine which featured trench coats for spring for only \$1,500! Better drag out your old coat, buff it up and try it on, because you’ll be IN! What was once comes around again in the fashion world, count on it!

One of our alumnae, **Jan Meyer**, made page 9 of the April issue of Smithsonian magazine. She wrote about her small town of Lanesboro, MN, how it was just another little village dying on the vine when a paved bike path was made on the old railroad bed which runs through town. Now, due to the influx of bike path users, entrepreneurs have revitalized the area with B&B’s, shops, art galleries and restaurants. The lovely old buildings are once again shining.

Lunch at 11:15AM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at the Old Country Buffet, 2000 South Robert Street, West St. Paul, about 4 blocks north of I-494.

## NEBRASKA

### GOLDEN’EARS

Omaha  
Marge Edwards  
12727 W. Dodge #132C  
Omaha, NE 68153  
(402) 691-0960



There were 26 who enjoyed lunch at Fernando’s. I hosted and, since it was my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 1<sup>st</sup>, I brought homemade fudge and carrot sheet cake to celebrate the day with my United family. Thank you for your nice cards and best wishes. **Jackie & Andy Vassios** were to attend the luncheon, but Andy decided to have a

serious nosebleed and went to ER where they cauterized it, so he felt he should take it easy. We were happy to have new members, **Colleen & Jim Hardick**, join us.

**Larry Weare**, age 82, passed away February 28<sup>th</sup>. **Peg** said they watched the Academy Awards together, but the next morning he didn't want to get up. She said her son and grandson had been giving Larry shots twice a day. There was no service. Our sympathy to Peg and her family.

**Harry (Nick) Nekonchuk** passed away March 23. He had been in a wheelchair for the last few years due to a blood pool which damaged the nerves in his legs. He had been in ill health since around Christmas time. There will be no service, but a reception will be held April 2 at the Elmwood Manor from 2-5 p.m. Our sincere sympathy to **Judy** and her family.

We are happy to add new members **Ed & Sharon DeLong**, 11573 Garfield Way, Thornton, CO 80233, phone (303) 457-3147, e-mail [ed-sharon@comcast.net](mailto:ed-sharon@comcast.net). Now all we have to do is get them back to one of our luncheons/picnics.

**Sue Manhart** said that **Vince** has Alzheimer's and she is taking care of him, with the help of their daughter. Our prayers to both Sue & Vince in this difficult time.

I finally ran **Paul Steuri** down as he had left Hillcrest about a month ago. He is now at Heritage Ridge Assisted Living, #116, 1502 Ft. Crook Road So., Bellevue, NE 68005. He still has his own home phone (402) 291-3421. He would love to receive cards. You may send them to the above address.

#### Calendar:

**May 3** - Old Country Buffet, 74<sup>th</sup> & Dodge, 11:00 a.m.

**June 15** - Cooper Farm, hosted by **Toddy & Cary Manson**. Please note the date change.

**July 5** – TBD

### NEVADA



#### RENO SIERRA

##### ROUNDUP

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

There were 22 attendees at our March meeting at the Black Bear. Thanks again to **Bill Perkins** for the yummy shamrock cookies in honor of St. Patrick's Day.

The picnic is coming along per Chairwoman **Barbara Leusing**. The flyers will be out in June. The cost will remain the same for those who pay ahead. For those who pay on the day of the cost will be \$7.00/person.

**Pat Nettles** won the 50/50. **Lloyd Stephens** won the canister of shamrock chocolates. All members received new ice scrappers from **Barbara Leusing** – whose use we hope is almost done for this year!

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

#### Calendar:

**April 11** – Meeting at the Black Bear Diner at 11:30AM

## 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)



President **Richard Confer** opened the meeting with a flag salute. We welcomed **Charlie & Rosemary Bogert** from California. A memorial was held for **George Catrambone** on April 9<sup>th</sup> at St Mary's Church, North Bay Avenue, Barnegat, N.J. at 11:00 A.M.

Discussion was held as to the pass survey, \$10.00 increase in fares, and several other items. It is getting expensive to fly. Charlie mentioned that the employees in San Francisco have their own security.

Dick thanked the officers for taking over the meeting last month. He also has a copy of the 22 questionnaire for those who are interested reading the different questions.

The RUAEA convention is in May at Portland, Oregon.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by **Violet Etler**. Vi received an e-mail from **Louise Lionetti** who is in Florida, but will be coming home soon and said hello to everyone. **John Murphy** gave a treasurer's report. He also mentioned that we will be going to Hunterdon Hills Play House on June 24<sup>th</sup>. The show will be the Branson-Style Variety Show. It should be very different. The 50/50 was held and several door prizes were given out.

### Calendar:

**April 27** – Next meeting

## NEW YORK



### **BUFFALO CHIPS**

### BUFFALO CHIPS

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

March 17<sup>th</sup>, St. Paddy's day, the 22 Chipper's met at the Statler Dining Room, Erie County Community College North Campus. Food is prepared and served by the Culinary Class. A finer meal can only be purchased at the top restaurants. The menu for the day included soup or salad, 5 different entrées, Corned Beef and Cabbage, Corned Beef and Potatoes, Braise Beef Ribs, Scallops, clams with a piece of Haddock, the fifth item was unknown to most of us but delicious, plus 3 desserts. Unknown to us, the chef decided to aid the celebration as this was the groups 3<sup>rd</sup> visit to the Statler Dining Room and combined the entire menu serving it Family Style. Needless to say, there was more excellent food than anyone could eat.

Because everyone was praising each morsel of food or just exchanging greetings with each other, the business part of the meeting was forgotten.

We did welcome **John & Beth Daniels** back, **Joe & Jean Bak** brought Jean's mother. Our snowbirds are still enjoying the warmth of the south but there was nothing cold about this day for us stay-at-homes.

Next meeting is planned for June but it will be impossible to top this one.

## GUYS AND DOLLS

New York  
Barbara Hill  
155 W. 68<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10023  
[btristan96@aol.com](mailto:btristan96@aol.com)



April showers may bring May flowers, but brought only 8 participants to our luncheon. Once again, we shared a tasty meal and a spirited conversation ranging from opera to Trader Joe's, but centering around the new pass policy.

**Jeanne Leo** and her husband just returned from their annual sojourn to Palm Springs. They had a wonderful time and enjoyed UA premium class round trip.

**Betty Williams'** husband is about to embark on a journey sailing from La Paz, Bolivia to Tahiti with his son-in-law. It will take approximately 5-6 weeks. She may travel to meet him when he sets foot on terra firma.

Our meal was topped off with a celebratory birthday cake in honor of our President, **Marge Segal**. She was serenaded by the owner, wait-staff, and fellow "Dolls" (no "Guys" in attendance).

### Calendar:

**June 7** - 12noon - San Martin. Please RSVP to **Marge Segal** (212) 355-1788 or **Barb Hill** (212) 799-8061.

## NEW YORK METROS



NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

Madeline Klos  
55 Friendly Road  
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[Santak38@optonline.net](mailto:Santak38@optonline.net)

A pleasant day was spent at Milleridge Inn with 35 members and 1 guest (**Bernie Varrone**) in attendance. A lot of our snowbirds are still in Florida. President **Jimmy Richardson** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and in silent prayer for all those who have passed on and those who for health or other reasons were unable to attend.

Birthdays and anniversaries were mentioned. Among the birthday people were: **Madeline Sudulich, Anthony LoCastro, Dominick Rizzo, Chen Lee, Mary Ann Lilly, John Manza, Rocco Mongelli**. Anniversary couple, **Yetta & Milton Sank**, celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup>. Wow! That's longer than some of us in age.

**Ron Weick** and **Elliot Olenick** are still battling health issues, but according to **Carol Maley-Davis**, Ron is doing a little better each day. Keep them both in your prayers.

Some talk was heard about the new Pass Privileges. It seems you have to be a Philly lawyer to understand some of the new passes and boarding priorities. To show you how big the airline will be, take a look: 372 Airports served (22 Domestic Airports, 150 International Airports), 62 Countries served. All this is accomplished by 8 domestic Hubs located in DEN, ORD, CLE, IAH, LAX, EWR, SFO, IAD and 1 International hub in NRT. Combined there are 5,675 Departures a day, serving 144 Million passengers a year.

Congratulations to United Airlines who celebrated their 85<sup>th</sup> birthday April 6<sup>th</sup>.

United is still negotiating contracts with various unions. A tentative contract was reached with the Int'l Brotherhood of teamsters and the Company representing the UA's Technicians and related employees located in the USA.

### Calendar:

**May 4** – Noon, Milleridge Inn

**June 1** – Noon, Milleridge Inn

**July 6** - 1100am- Belmont Raceway

## NORTHWOODS

### NORTHWOODS LOONIES

Marie Cook  
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Redford, MI 48239-1331  
(313) 534-0065  
[marie-cook@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marie-cook@sbcglobal.net)



The Northwood's Loonies will be holding their semi-annual event May 10 – 13 @ the Double Tree in Dearborn, MI. If you have not already booked your reservations, hurry, to confirm the special rate of \$89.00 for single, double, triple or quad plus they will also extend the special rate to 3 days before and/or three days after the contracted rates. Cut-off date for group rate is April 30<sup>th</sup>. Breakfast is included in the room rate. Call the Double Tree @ (313) 336-3340 to make reservations and refer to the Northwood's Loonies for this special rate.

Let me know, if you are not on our Loonie Mail List, and plan on attending (contacts above), as I will be sending out our entire list shortly.

## OHIO

### OHIO BUCKEYES



Cleveland  
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Mary Lou Kuretz  
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Strongsville, Ohio 44149  
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Happy Spring everyone! Hard to believe, but the calendar tells us so! We are all sure it is right around the corner! No matter the weather, we are always ready to get together with our friends. This month, 75 of us gathered at North Olmsted Party Center. (Some of us may remember going there many years ago for MainLiner doings) We want to thank **Nancy Carter** and **Mary Lou Mack** for taking care of all the arrangements from booking the luncheon, collecting the monies, keeping track of all the little things that make it all go smoothly for the rest of us.

This month we enjoyed a delicious buffet including apple pie and ice cream for dessert. Before our meal, **Dave Placko** led our group in a prayer.

We have missed a number of our members in the past few months due to illness, etc. and thankfully we hear that many of them are doing better. We continue to keep them all in our thoughts and prayers. It was great to see **Tom & Marian Sturgeon** back with us.

We want to let **John Kercel** know that we appreciated all the times he carried a PA system to and from our gatherings. We were recently able to purchase one for the exclusive use of our group.

As most of you are aware, when a member passes away, we make a \$25.00 donation to the charity of the family's choice. We received a very nice "Thank You" from **Bill Gatesman's** daughter for our donation to the Legacy Fund of Metroparks Rocky River Res. where Bill had been a dedicated volunteer.

We want to acknowledge all wedding anniversaries in April whether you were with us or home. With us this month were **Ken & Joanne Buckman** (50), **Leonard & MaryAnn Friedel** (47), **Steve & Lee Rak** (48), and our youngsters, **Earl & Arlene Taylor** (12). Congratulations to all!

Wishing a very "Happy Birthday" to all of our April babies. With us this month were **Leonard Friedel**, **Bernie Kazimer**, **Perry Mcknight**, and **Vince Malena**. We wish all of you a very healthy, happy special day.

The R.U.A.E.A. Convention is May 22-29 in Portland, Oregon. See the RUAEA newsletter for further information.

We are pleased to let you know that the Midwest Regional Director of RUAEA, **Helen Cauwels**, is hoping to attend our August picnic. We all enjoyed having her as our guest last year.

Fifty-Fifty! This is probably one of the reasons we love to come to our luncheons, besides the good food and our friends. This month's winners were **Arlene Taylor** and **George Werner**! Congratulations!

Regarding our luncheons, if you find that you will be unable to attend, please notify the host for that month as soon as possible, even if it is the morning of the luncheon.

*\*Sometimes you must be silent in order to be heard.*

Calendar:

**May 4** - Bucci's Restaurant – Berea, prepaid and hosted by **Barb Vauls & Carol Siefried**. Limit of 80 persons.

**June 6** - Flair Restaurant, Prepaid, hosted by **John & Carrie Kercel**

**OREGON**

**OREGON DEW-ER'S**

Portland

Barbara M. Heidegger

13848 NE Milton

Portland, OR 97230

(503) 254-5018

DuaneBaba1@aol.com



We were fortunate to have a speaker from the USS Ranger Foundation at our March meeting. Shannon Chisom, Director of Development, explained the foundation's efforts to bring the aircraft carrier to Fairview, OR which is just a few miles upriver from Portland. It is the last pre-nuclear carrier and would become a worldwide attraction. Thanks to our members, she was given a free-will collection of \$130.

Winners of our monthly prizes of a free lunch were as follows: Door Prize - **Nancy Ink**, Male Birthday - **Russell Stinett**, Female Birthday - **Marjorie Curtis**, Anniversary - **Paul & Kathy Russell** (46 years) and 50/50 - **Patty Cox Hollosy**. The green carnation center pieces in etched glass vases were raffled off and the winners were **Marjorie Curtis, Bill French, Martha Howerton, Bill Keys, Carol Mitchell, Charles Morton, Odd Pedersen, Kathy Russell, Helen Stinett** and **Ron Vriens**.

**Bob Woods** has volunteered to be the chair of our July picnic. Please don't be shy when he comes to ask for help with the planning, set up and clean up.

A vote was taken and passed to have an invocation at the Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas luncheons.

**Mel Martin** called to tell me his wife **Barbara** fell and broke her leg. She had to have a rod inserted in her leg and will be out of commission for up to eight weeks.

The speaker for our June meeting will be Tracy Madsen from the Oregon Red Cross and I am certain she will talk about the Japan disaster besides what the organization does for us locally.

Please remember to bring non-perishable goods for Shepherd's Door plus women's and children's clothing. **Dave & Pat Smith** deliver what is collected for them each month and they always remember us with a thank you note.

The travel desk at PDX is open 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Mon, Wed and 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 11** - Social

**June 8** - Speaker

**July 13** - 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)



**Jim & Elaine Ellis** returned from snow birding in Arizona just in time to host the April OUR Club monthly luncheon at Hunan Gardens in Grants Pass. Kudos are due Elaine, who arranged the luncheon and took the

RSVPs long distance while she and Jim were soaking up all the sunshine that bypassed Southern Oregon. We're glad to have them back home.

There were 26 of us who came out to enjoy the good food, great company and (finally!) an afternoon that didn't necessitate heavy winter coats. We were happy to see **Tom DelCorso** after his recent hip replacement surgery.

**Gidget Walcha** is facing the daunting prospect of back surgery, and our thoughts and best wishes are with her and her husband **Ric**. Also in our hearts is retired flight attendant **Norma Ross**, who is putting up a graceful and valiant fight - with her remarkable sense of humor intact - against a recently diagnosed brain tumor. If any of her "flying buddies" would like to send Norma a card at her new home, please feel free to contact me at the above email or telephone number for her address.

Calendar:

**May 6 - Jim & Jane Frincke, TBA**

**June 3 - Harry & Barbara Horne, TBA**

**July 8 - Laurie Jordan, TBA**

## PENNSYLVANIA

### THE INDEPENDENTS

Joyce Lindenmuth  
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Ridley Park, PA 19078  
610-521-2291  
[Ronjoyce2@verizon.net](mailto:Ronjoyce2@verizon.net)



Retirees and guests enjoyed our luncheon at the Essington Ramada Inn at 12:30 on March 14. Thirty six attended plus the guest speaker, Bill Jones. He had an interesting presentation on reintroducing wolves into Yellowstone Park.

Items to mail to service personnel were collected.

**Ben Hain** was welcomed back after a lengthy illness.

Calendar:

**April 11** - 12:30 at the airport Ramada Inn, \$12.00 for the luncheon. The program will be a "Sears Kit Home" lecture by **Barbara Goodman**. Do you know anyone who has one?

**May 9** - Same time and place. Program TBA

### PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS



Jeri Juth  
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The Pit-Stoppers held their spring luncheon on St. Patrick's Day at Clark's Restaurant in Moon Twp. Everyone seemed to enjoy the food and company. It was great to see some of the regulars back with us. **Mary Jane Stewart** brought along a guest from CLERR, **Wilda Squires**. Wilda knew many of those in attendance and seemed to have a good time talking about the "good ole days". **Betty Musko** gave us the update on the Young Women's Breast Cancer event to be held in April. Betty & Paul do a great job every year helping daughter Lisa who chairs the event.

**Olga Karmazyn** did a great job in her first event as new Treasurer. She had some big shoes to fill since **Barbara Seaholm** stepped down after many years serving our chapter. **Treatie Karwoski** gave us an update on RUAEA and passed out ballots for anyone wishing to vote. She also encouraged all to try to attend the convention in May.

**Cathy Matteson** passed out info on our next gathering to be held on May 5<sup>th</sup> at the River's Casino.

Yours truly was blessed with a surprise luncheon in honor of my birthday. **Cathy Matteson** and **Charla McBride** along with a surprise visit from **Bob Amorose** and **Lois Varrenti** gathered at the River's for lunch and some slots. I didn't win any money but it was a great day with good food and good friends.

**Cathy Matteson** received some good news - her youngest daughter **Heather DiYanni**, mother of twin girls is expecting in August and it's a boy. Cathy is so excited about the news, she's taking off for some R&R in FL.

Speaking of R&R, Charla, our galloping gal is home for a week or so and then she's off to FL and ATL, she does enjoy retirement.

Our former President **Ken Wolfe** is still recuperating from By pass surgery - we miss you Ken, hurry back

**Doris Abbas** will be undergoing an MRI to see if she needs further surgery - God Bless you Doris. We are looking forward to seeing you and **Mitch** at the annual picnic. **Treatie Karwoski** will take over the correspondent's duty as soon as she wraps up her tenure as NE Director.

## UTAH

### THE SALT LAKERS

Brigitte Murdock  
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On April 5, 17 chapter members met over coffee and donuts, brought again by Chapter Pres. **Clair Anderson**, wife **Judy**, and Chapter Treas. **Frank Christenson**. **Clair & Judy** also set up the coffee service, brewed to perfection. Thanks to all parties who made us feel welcome!

**Frank Christenson** was kind enough to bring **Jerry Hugentobler**. As we know, **Jerry** had suffered a stroke a number of years ago; he is getting around very well with the help of a cane. It was nice to chat with him during the meeting.

**Art Scott**, today without friend **Carol**, is planning to get a local newsletter ready with the input from the chapter officers who will work together on various information to the membership. **Hank & Mary Bons** mentioned that they were feeling great and would take a good long walk after the chapter meeting to keep themselves in good physical shape. **Mike Brown** was not sure if he would play *Santa Claus* again this year - he assumed an attitude of "wait & see" until the Christmas holidays ... and here he is a natural with his white beard & handsome "*Kris Kringle*" look! We were glad to say "Hi!" to **Fran Cantonwine**, **Lorraine Olson**, **Grant Beutler**, **Shirley Scown** & son **Mike**, **Paul Scoville**, and **Pete Loyola**.

Chapter VP **Kip Lufkin** & husband **George** are still snow-birding in Sunny AZ where, reportedly, the temperatures had already reached 100 degrees for a day, or two, while Utah's winter is still in full bloom, so to speak.

### Calendar:

**May 3** - Luncheon, 2PM – Totem's, 538 S. Redwood Rd., SLC

**June 7** - Luncheon - 2PM, Joy Luck (Chinese), 550 W. 1350 S., Bountiful/UT

**July 5** - Brunch - 10 A.M., Johanna's Kitchen, 9725 S. State St., Sandy.

## WASHINGTON

### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS



Seattle  
Gay Liesse  
104 South 296<sup>th</sup> Place  
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Meet the Press – er, **Frank McAnulty**, president of the Seattle UAL Retirees chapter, has an interesting history – even a colorful past, if you will. **Frank** was born and raised in Pittsburgh, PA and graduated from

Fairfield University in Fairfield, CT. He went on to pursue graduate work in English and Theology at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

After three years as a monk (!), **Frank** decided the church was not for him and went to work for United Airlines in 1967, hiring “stewardesses” in Personnel. In introductory remarks at a recent meeting, **Frank** rattled off so many UAL assignments that we couldn’t keep up!

**Frank** continued as a Personnel Rep, serving Detroit and other Michigan cities, as well as Youngstown, Canton/Akron, and Toledo, Ohio. He advanced to Vice President of Personnel at EXOPE for two years before being promoted to Regional Employment Manager at CLEPE.

**Fran Plany** married **Frank** on January 23, 1970, and they have been married 41 years. **Fran** was a flight attendant based at ORD, SEA, LHR, and LAX until her retirement and was welcomed as the newest member of the Emerald City Slickers.

Adding more titles and stations to his resume, **Frank** served as Regional Manager at ORDPE for two years, City Manager in Milwaukee, WI, in 1973, Manager of Inflight Services at ORDSW in 1976, and Director of Inflight Services at EXOSW. From 1984 to 1986, **Frank** was General Manager in Salt Lake City, then SEAOZ from 1986-1992, London (LHROZ) from 1992-1996, and in Los Angeles (LAXOZ) from 1996 until his retirement November 1, 2001. This man gets around!

**Frank & Fran** have two children and five grandchildren, all living in the Seattle area.

Though new to the group, **Frank McAnulty** already has set achievement goals for the Emerald City Slickers. With 55 members attending the March luncheon meeting, **Frank** hopes to build the monthly attendance to 70. Another of his desires is to have two or three members relate tales of their United Airlines experiences at each meeting.

**Jack Hooper**, Northwest Regional Rep for the past five years and a welcome visitor at our March meeting, announced that as his term expires and he retires from that position, he’ll turn the reins over to his successor - wife **Nancy**! We’ll have further opportunity to greet them at occasional Seattle meetings while **Nancy** is in office. It’s great to have them nearby in Portland, OR. And it’s good to keep it all in the family.

Speaking of which, don’t forget the National RUAEA Convention to be held in Portland May 22-29. Registration ended April 29, so your forms should already be in the hands of **Nancy Hooper**.

Vice President **Phyllis Bowman** introduced the history of the Emerald City Slickers, which was founded in 1980. Her information was augmented by Founder **Norm Strange**, who was instrumental in establishing our “alumni chapter” even while still a company employee.

Feeling that it was important for retired UAL employees to stay in touch after leaving the company, **Norm** contacted **Russ Smith**, EXO, first Director of the Northwest Region consisting of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and British Columbia in Canada. Between them and the Portland group, the Seattle Chapter of RUAEA was organized March 23, 1982. Tentatively dubbing their new chapter the Rainy City Slickers, the retiree chapter founders put their heads together for further thinking, when **Eddie Carlson**, who belonged to a downtown city organization which didn’t want everyone thinking that it rains in Seattle *all* the time, objected to the title. Preferring not to override **Eddie Carlson**, the organizing group came up with the Emerald City Slickers, the name we still use today here in the Emerald City. (Your editor’s favorite statistics are that it rains more in Chicago and in New York City than it does in Seattle! Of course, those cities probably get more sun, as well.)

Assisting during the organizing process were **Mary Blake** (SEAXO), **Ray Blake** (SLCSS), **Kay Jenovai** (SEARR), **Charlie Urbach** (EXOPE), and from Portland **Ed & Mary Beaty**, **Floyd & Lil Shafer**, **Paul Sherman**, and **Ed & Mandy Simpson**.

Following enthusiastic response to **Norm**’s letters and inquiries, **Ed Bowker** (SEAFO) and **Leo Zajicek** (SEAMM) sponsored the first meeting at Rainier Golf and Country Club. Officers elected at that first meeting were President **Norm Strange**, Vice President **Dick Backstrom**, Secretary **Joanne Haynes**, and Treasurer **Marjorie Sibbel**. Editor of the Emerald City Slickers’ newsletter, now known as “Contrails,” was **Don Speckhals**.

When the Slickers hosted the national retirees’ convention in 1984, the Space Needle with the letters RUAEA over the crown was chosen as the chapter’s logo. In response to **Peggy Strand**’s suggestion, the sketch of a slicker-wearing fisherman toting a big fish that appears at the heading of this column was created.

**Phyllis Bowman** recognized **Norm Strange** as our founder and as past president. (The Seattle chapter also hosted the RUAEA national convention in 2004.)

Once again, donors of door prizes were more than generous and the following winners went home with prizes selected from the display table: **Phil Andersen**, **Herald Bowman**, **Paul Burton**, **Casey Casanova**, **Sid Harris**, **Jack Hooper**, **Corwin “Corky” Ives**, **Noreen Krawczyk**, **Phyllis Lindblad**, **Fran McAnulty**, **Dan Miles**, **Ted Parks**, **Helen Stanger**, and **Norm Strange**. Winner of the 50/50 drawing was **Betty Paul**.

Congratulations to all our winning members. We're beginning to think that a few of these folks must carry good luck charms! Has anyone recently noticed a rabbit's foot?

Special Golden Wedding congratulations to **John & Edna Paulson**, who celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in May. **Doug & Carol Christensen** will observe their 24<sup>th</sup>. May birthday greetings are extended to **Dick Devereux, Bud Dice, Tom Lucas, and John Luke**. We've opted to *not* sing, for which you should be grateful.

**Chuck Westphal** reported that donations to support the 9/11 Flight 93 Memorial Chapel in Pennsylvania may be sent to the following address: "Flight 93 Memorial Chapel", c/o Frank Eggles, 3405 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square, PA 19073.

The United Airlines Retirees Golf Tournament was announced by Chairman **Bob Howard**. The annual event will be held June 22, 2011, at Allenmore Golf Course in Tacoma. Greens' fees are \$29 for seniors (62+) and \$35.50 for those under 62, cart rental not included. If you'd like to participate, please e-mail **Bob** at [bobnhoward@aol.com](mailto:bobnhoward@aol.com) for more information and a registration form. Space is limited to the first 60 players.

Breaking news following the March meeting finds **Mike Mullen** of Colorado taking over as UA General Manager at SeaTac, after **Jim Whitman** resigned to go to work for the Port of Seattle, which manages the Seattle/Tacoma airport.

#### Calendar:

**May 10** - Luncheon Meeting – Fairwood Golf & Country Club, Renton, WA

No meetings in June or July. Annual August picnic to be announced.

### WASHINGTON, D.C.

#### DULLES LOUNGERS

Lucy Chatelain  
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Greetings from the Nations Capital!

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, a group of almost 70 met for lunch and conversation. The main topic was the merger between United and Continental Airlines and the lack of many important details. We anxiously await more information related to our pass travel benefits as well as other factors.

This correspondent will be attending RUAEA Convention in Portland at the end of May and we hope that many of our questions will be answered.

Our Dulles Loungers member **Sharon Burbank** (IADCS) took a fabulous trip to Nepal in February 2011 and she has many interesting stories to tell - The group numbered 18 and they traveled from Dulles to Geneva to Doha (United Emirates) and then to Kathmandu, a journey of about 20 hours.

The first hotel they stayed at was the Hotel Shankar and it had been a former palace! The hotel was clean and comfortable and offered a full breakfast buffet. A visit to the "monkey temple" was on the agenda and as you can imagine, the monkeys have taken over! This beautiful temple is famous for its many stupas and goddesses. The first night's evening meal was at a well known restaurant where many famous trekkers had left their footprints along with details of their trek.

Nepal has many interesting traditions and one of them is cremation along the river banks. It is held out in the open and the ashes actually return to the Bagmati river. One morning, the group started their day at sunrise and proceeded to the airport to board a "Yeti Airlines" flight to Mount Everest. The flight was about an hour aboard a 20-seater aircraft and the Captain allowed the passengers to view Mount Everest from the cockpit! Sharon tells us that it was "awesome".

One day the group took another flight to Bharatpur in the historic part of Nepal and then took a bus to Chitwan National Park. The tour stayed at the Sapana Lodge, where the meals were delicious and they had a chance to see how the locals lived and worked nearby.

Another highlight was an elephant ride through the forests and rivers! They saw monkeys, chital deer, wild pigs, many beautiful birds and a mother rhino and her baby. There are many beautiful sights to see in Nepal, too many to mention here! It was indeed a trip of a lifetime and Sharon recommends this trip to all serious travelers.

Calendar:

**May 11** - 1230pm, Golden Corral Restaurant 10801 Bulloch Dr, Manassas VA 20109

**NATIONAL**



**CLIPPED WINGS®**

Christel Hasenbring ILG

National Vice President

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Capron, IL 61012-0432

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

This year the Special Olympics World Games is being held in Athens, Greece, June 25 to July 4, 2011. Clipped Wings® will not be attending as a group this year. We are, however, funding and managing a Special Olympics "Parents Grants" project.

*What is a Parent Grant you asked?* This is a project that was initiated in 1998 by our Clipped Wings® Members-at-Large Chapter to help parents of athletes who are invited to attend National or World Special Olympics games. At the Clipped Wings® 2010 National Convention, it was determined to adopt this project as our national project. **Patti Jacoby**, the dedicated member of the MAL chapter who has headed this project since inception, continues to head the committee this year. We thank her for her years of selfless service to this project.

*When were the first Parent Grants distributed?*

- ★ The first grants given were at the North Carolina World Summer Games in Raleigh in 1999.
- ★ There were 80 applications from parents requesting a grant. Five Grants were awarded at \$500 each.

*How are the recipients chosen?*

- ★ Applications are first sent to the head of the Special Olympics program in each state.
- ★ Applicants must describe why funds are being requested, and how they will be used. They also need to describe, as a family member, their role in the Special Olympics program. They must also report any other avenues being pursued to assist in attending the games.

This year Clipped Wings® will be donating a total of \$29,000 to help deserving families travel to Athens. Each grant will be \$1,450 and presented to families who may not otherwise have been able to attend the games. How fortunate we are to be able to help so many families enjoy being with their athletes in Athens, Greece!

If you are interested in joining Clipped Wings please check out our website. I will be happy to answer any membership questions from all prospective members. Please contact me at [omachristl@aol.com](mailto:omachristl@aol.com). We would look forward to having you join us.

All of us in Clipped Wings would like to wish you a fun and great Convention in Portland. Enjoy!

**NEW MEMBERS**

De Napoli, Judy, DENKS, 7409 E. Jamison Dr., Centennial, CO 80112  
Finerty, Sandie, ORDSW, 465 W. Dominion Dr. #1505, Wood Dale, IL 60191  
Finnegan, Linda, ORDSW, 717 E. 7<sup>th</sup> St., Hinsdale, IL 60521  
Focht, Robert, SFOMM, 1300 E. Park St., Grants Pass, OR 97527  
Fraunfelder, Robert A., DENJL, 149 Carolyn Dr., Evergreen, CO 80439  
Gilboy, Debbie, UAL HDQHR, 77 W. Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60601  
Hare, William, DENCg, 255 W Browning Rd Apt A102, Bellmawr, NJ 08031  
Humphries, Gary, 6610 Course View Ln., Spring, TX 77389  
Johnson, Kathryn, IAHOZ, 5463 Birdwood Rd., Houston, TX 77096  
Kravitz, Louis, VLORR, 118 Weiss Ct., Hercules, CA 94547  
Lefurge, Don, 3019 Uvalda St., Aurora, CO 80011  
Lynch, Dennis J., SFOFO, 22724 E. Long Dr., Aurora, CO 80016  
Manfre, Mickey, 23440 E. Moraine Pl., Aurora, CO 80016  
Mattos, James, SFOPB, 1504 Vernon Ave., Modesto, CA 95351  
Mc Connehey, Patricia J., SEARR, 5833 S. 231<sup>st</sup> St., Kent, WA 98032

Morton, Charles K., SFOCS, 1020 NW 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. #1207, Portland, OR 97209  
Nicholaisen, Patricia A., DENPP, 8906 E. Hercules Ct., Sun Lakes, AZ 85248  
Rutherford, Sharol, DENSW, 3191 S. High St., Englewood, CO 80113  
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Smith, Paul, ORDTK, 15813 6<sup>th</sup> Ave SW, Burien, WA 98166  
Sydney Smith, Christine, SEASW, 6725 5<sup>th</sup> Ave NW, Seattle, WA 98117  
Wall, Ann, 14028 Shoreline Dr., Willis, TX 77318  
Watkins, Russell, WHQTD, 341 Kingsbridge Ln, Elk Grove, IL 60007

## CONTRIBUTIONS

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

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## 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 - **Boyd, William L.**, on 2/2/11, IADGC, husband of Alicia J. Boyd, 6011 Franconia Forest Lane, Alexandria, VA 22310

Retiree - **Boehnert, William F.**, 3/13/11, ORDMK, husband of Margaret Boehnert, father of Krista Boehnert Roche, 1120 Belvedere Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, 70808

Retiree - **Brooks, Ralph B.**, on 11/8/10, ORDF, husband of Luella R. Brooks, 104 David Drive, Bensenville, IL 60106

Retiree - **Carlson, Sten Eric**, on 2/25/11, SFOOV, husband of Elizabeth (Betty) Carlson

Retiree - **Fabiny, Joseph D.**, on 3/1/11, SFOMM, father of Joe Fabiny, 2515 Magnolia Way, Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Retiree - **Isbister, John A.**, on 3/5/11, ORDIQ, husband of Vivian C. Isbister, father of Mary V. Isbister, John A. Isbister, Jr., and Patricia Shaffer, 308 S. Arlington Ave., Duluth, MN 55811  
 Retiree - **Jarman, Richard**, on 2/27/11, PHXOZ, husband of Lucinda Jarman  
 Retiree - **Rogers, Billy**, on 3/11/11, DENMM, husband of Shelba Rogers, PO Box 598, Magazine, AR 72943  
 Retiree - **Schippert, Donald L.**, on 3/2/11/, LAXCS, husband of Bonnie Schippert, 948 Lee Trevino, Belen, NM 87002

**January 2011 SkyNet Listing**

**Allen, Frances D.**, DCATJ 01/22/11  
**Baker, James E.**, PITGQ 01/15/11  
**Bannister, Joann D.**, HDQLZ 01/28/11  
**Barnes, Harold D.**, JFKFO 01/24/11  
**Bartlett, Warren S.**, SFOSO 01/20/11  
**Bash, John R.**, CLECG 01/23/11  
**Bommel, Emile E.**, SFOJJ 01/27/11  
**Casem, Claudia R.**, LAXRR 01/12/11  
**Clay, Edward H.**, LAXOZ 01/06/11  
**Cole, Lowell S.**, SFOPB 01/21/11  
**Dasto, Herbert C.**, LGAMM 01/29/11  
**Demitchell, Mario.**, SFOFO 01/08/11  
**Disch, James J.**, DENMA 01/26/11  
**Dooley, Rosa L.**, ORDSW 01/22/11  
**Dorazio, Adam L.**, LAXMM 01/05/11  
**Duffy Jr., Robert L.**, DENTK 01/12/11  
**Edwards, James L.**, ORDFO 12/07/10  
**Fields, Arthur W.**, SFOFO 01/02/11  
**Garofani, Primo**, SFOMP 01/01/11  
**Gavula, Myron**, ABEOZ 01/28/11  
**Geiger, John H.**, WHQFP 01/10/11  
**Golubieski, Walter**, JFKMM 01/20/11  
**Grundmeier, Allen B.**, SFOPI 01/01/11  
**Hampson Jr., William B.**, SFOPK 01/31/11  
**Harrison, Beverly B.**, PBIOZ 01/11/11  
**Hartman, Jacob F.**, SFOFO 09/13/10  
**Heckman, Harvey M.**, DCAFO 11/28/10  
**Hoffner, Tomoko S.**, SFOTJ 12/07/10  
**Hudson, Louis H.**, DTWCG 01/27/11  
**Hunt, Robert L.**, DENFF 01/14/11  
**Hunter, Edward A.**, WHQFZ 01/15/11  
**Jeffrey, Glenn A.**, BWIFF 01/30/11  
**Johnson, Bernard L.**, ORDPV 01/04/11  
**Jones, Robert E.**, IADCG 01/21/11  
**Karagas, James C.**, ORDHK 01/20/11  
**Kern, Charles L.**, DENFF 12/26/10  
**Kojelis, Joseph**, LAXHH 11/11/10  
**Lewis, Sherie D.**, ROCTO 08/28/10  
**Malnory, Alta O.**, DENMK 01/01/11  
**Manfre, Anthony P.**, JFKMM 01/20/11  
**Markowski, Robert P.**, EWROO 01/21/11  
**Martelli, Ernest A.**, SFOMM 01/08/11  
**Martin, Colleen C.**, PHXOZ 12/13/10  
**Matter, Gottfried F.**, PITMM 11/11/10  
**Mc Caig, Bruce A.**, IND AF 01/14/11  
**Meis, William H.**, DENTK 12/25/10  
**Morley, F. Fern.**, DENHH 01/05/11  
**Nardone, Ralph E.**, BOSFF 01/10/11

**Nikolich, Erika**, ORDHN 01/06/11  
**Nishimura, Donald D.**, HNLCD 01/12/11  
**Olson, Herbert A.**, ONTOZ 01/27/11  
**Peters, Henry**, SFOMP 01/15/11  
**Pratt, James W.**, DENFO 01/08/11  
**Probst, Elizabeth Pike**, DCASW 01/05/11  
**Psoinos, James R.**, PDXCG 01/14/11  
**Rakstins, Voldemars**, SFOBL 11/17/10  
**Ratledge, Roy E.**, SFOBL 01/19/11  
**Ray, Ray E.**, LAXMM 01/19/11  
**Rhodes, Bonnie**, SEASW 01/31/11  
**Riggs, Robert C.**, ORFOZ 01/18/11  
**Saiki, Clarence H.**, ORDGQ 01/04/11  
**Sakashita, James H.**, HNLFF 01/31/11  
**Schafer, Frederick D.**, DENFF 01/21/11  
**Sequeira, Carmen M.**, LAXMK 10/26/10  
**Serviss, Victor O.**, DENTK 01/14/11  
**Skapa, Kamil A.**, DENTK 01/17/11  
**Smith, Alvin D.**, YNGOZ 01/03/11  
**Snyder, Floyd E.**, SFOFO 01/24/11  
**Snyder, Waldon P.**, DCAFO 01/07/11  
**Sorenson, Maurice R.**, SEAFO 01/16/11  
**Sparrow, Helga**, IADCG 01/10/11  
**Stephen, Charles S.**, CLEFF 01/22/11  
**Sullivan, Leo E.**, DENTK 01/28/11  
**Tharinger, Mary Ellen**, ORDSW 01/01/11  
**Turner, Dean L.**, SEAFO 01/12/11  
**Van Alstine, Philip F.**, CVGOZ 01/27/11  
**Von Wida, William A.**, LAXCG 01/22/11  
**Waites, Edward E.**, SFOFF 12/18/10  
**Waller, Wilbert**, CLEMK 01/07/11  
**Webster, Winthrop A.**, ORDMM 01/12/11  
**Williams, Charles E.**, MIAHH 01/26/11  
**Young, Robert J.**, JFKMM 12/30/10

## LETTERS



**Martha Gooselaw**

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

Martha Gooselaw  
 Letters Editor

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

Robert Anderson, Kenneth Bader, Ignatius Blanda, John Barry, Barry Constantine, Joyce Del Pesco, Robert Duffey, Joe Hegner, Bobby Lowden, Richard Malm, Arthur McNicholl, Helga Gloria Odendhal, Helga Passler, Stephanie Rayburn, Barbara Seaholm, Ann Shaffer, Tom Sjolund, Betty Smith, Gayle Swanson, Frank Waldner

**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.)*

**Richard Krause, 1334 Benito Ave., Burlingame, CA 94010**

Just received my first Newsletter and was stunned and delighted with the back cover article and picture of the Cheyenne Modification Center. My dad, Walter, worked on the B17s as a Lead on "C" Crew until he transferred to SFO in April 1944. He rode the bus mentioned in the article from Greeley, Colorado. Dad retired after 30 years with United and I recently retired after 45 years.

I appreciate your Newsletter and will certainly look forward to each publication.

**James Lundy, 63 East Ave., Apt. 4, Cortland, NY 13045**

Another year has gone by and it is dues and postage time. You do a great job publishing the newsletter. I read it all and enjoy it.

We celebrated our 67<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary December 2010 and I had my 87<sup>th</sup> birthday in February.

The back cover of the December 2010 issues shows the C-54's (DC-4s) transporting the war wounded. I was with the US Air force and assisted the flight nurses. We were based at Hickam Air Force base. We flew to Manila, Guam, Saipan, Okinawa, Tokyo and to the United States from January 1945 to November 1945. I have over 800 hours in the air and received the Air Medal.

The January 2011 issue tells about the Short Snorter. I have one and signatures of Kay Kyser, Gene Autry, Moss Hart and many of my service buddies.

**Richard Surma, 10 Grow Lane, Streamwood, IL. 60107-1404-06**

I wish to thank all my friends from United for their well-wishes, personal visits, and correspondence during my recovery from cancer surgery.

I am now recuperating at home, following doctor's order to take it easy. I have been spending time straightening out the house, doing much-needed reorganization of drawers and closets and taking long walks with my puppy.

I appreciate the thoughtfulness and kindness shown to me during my hospitalization and recovery. It means a lot to me to know that so many people care. Thanks again to all of my United family.

**Lou Mullen, Riverstown, Dundalk, Ireland, ballygoley@yahoo.co.uk**

I hope you will accept my greetings from Ireland on this special Day. My wife Bonnie and I met at SFORR in 1958 and celebrated our Golden wedding Anniversary on April 8, 2011.

We both feel that we owe a huge thank you to UAL and to all the lifelong friends we made there, the best airline in the world.

We send our love to all those who remember us and to all those in all departments at UAL we send the traditional St. Patrick's Day blessing, "*May God keep you all in the hollow of his hand.*"

**Patricia Conrad, 21011 W. Torrey Pines Ct., Plainfield, IL 60544-5619**

It is hard to believe that I've been retired for 18 years now. The birthdays keep flying by. I truly enjoy receiving the newsletter every month and reading about my fellow UALers. I can understand why the "letter portion" of the newsletter was shortened, but I must admit that I looked forward to reading it every month. Your hard work is appreciated.

Hopefully, the merger will go well and we can look forward to our pass travel privileges, as before. I know that you can "never go back", but I have fond memories of our old United family and of how proud we were to be part of it.

*Hello* to all of my friends back at EXO and Hamilton Lakes.

**Charles Cromling, 5870 Clearwater Dr., Fort Calhoun, NE 68023-5059**

I will be 86 on March 5<sup>th</sup>. I retired in 1985 after spending 35 years with United. Mr. Patterson was the President. He was a man with a vision that started our company on the path to what it is today.

I don't travel much now. I do enjoy the Newsletter. It is a bridge from the past.

Thanks to all that make this possible.

**Richard Kennedy, 1201 Broadway Apt. 2314, Millbrae, CA 94030**

My wife and I are really old agers; Alice is 88 and I am 89. We have been married for 59 years.

I joined UAL in 1946. I went to work at ASFO as a general mechanic on the docks. I worked up to lead mechanic and moved to landing gear and mechanisms. I retrained mechanics for 37 years.

Alice and I retired to Hawaii and stayed for 22 years on the Big Island. I got to work out to take care of the place of 1½ acres. Our family said it was time to come back to California. So here we are in an apartment. We don't do much anymore.

Thanks to all of the Newsletter personnel for their efforts.

*"The wisdom of the wise is an uncommon degree of common sense."*

*Two men were digging grave sites, one said to the other, I hear music, but it is being played backwards. The other man said, Oh, that's Beethoven decomposing.*

**Louis Kinkead, 634 Enrica Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94597**

I was with the Army Air Corp in World War II. Our outfit remained in China until late December 1945; and I wasted not time in marrying my lovely wife, Ruth in February. We moved to Omaha and I started with UAL in March.

**Charlie Studer** was station manager and we had DC3's and DC4's and later DC6's. At night we took care of Mid Continent which became Braniff. The fuel came from Kansas City by rail. Often in the mornings we would have fog; we would have to call the tower to get an okay, so we could do a run-up at the end of the runway to disperse the fog. We had a great team which included **Ken Larson** who retired in Denver.

At first, reservations in OMA was on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the terminal. There was a small platform track that rotated the cards to the agents.

I transferred to ORD area as SAM controller and then the office moved to SFO; so I retired in 1986.

Since retirement, I have volunteered many places but I am slowing down now on church maintenance.

I attend the East Bay Diablos retiree group.

Thanks to all those who are still working and all the retirees. God Bless.

**Georgia Phillips, 825 Redwood Dr., Cary, IL 60013**

Thank you so very much for your hard work and dedication in publishing the newsletter.

I enjoy reading each month's issue. The recipes, travel and medical articles are great.

It is amazing all the information that you gather to keep us retirees informed of what is happening at United.

**B.A. Simon, 836 Burns Ct., Pacifica, CA 94044**

With my "lifer" donation, I have only one thing to write about, not like **Colin Cooke** whose letters are always interesting.

Since my wife, Inga, can hardly walk, (arthritis) we are pretty much house-bound, and so I do read a lot. In the March 2011 issue of "Current World Archeology" magazine from London, England, Colin Moffat of Kingston on Thames, writes to the editor a way to correlates the historic dates between negative BC and positive AD times without involving religious or national context. He proposes using January 1 of 10,000 BC as the "zero" starting date which would make "one AD" become 10001 and "one BC" 10000 and "two BC" 9999. Our present date would be 12011. Check this out as it is pretty neat.

Speaking of ages reminds me that my primary doctor asked me if I am still using my treadmill for exercise. I told him that I do, but now I have to use my cane with it and rest in the wheel chair afterwards. When he laughed, I reminded him that I am only eighty nine and it was not as if I were ninety. If there are any ninety year old people who read this I apologize as I plan to join you this coming July.

Hang in there!

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



Hello again. I'm happy to be with all of you for yet another birthday - 101 years old at the end of April 2011!

Last year's party brought people from the four corners of the United States, with friends and family traveling from as far away as Washington State, California, Idaho, and Kentucky. Many of the 72 in attendance were new-found friends (who treat me like family) from my adopted home state of Wisconsin. This year, we kept it simple and celebrated my 101<sup>st</sup> year with close friends and family. What a relief to not have to go through all that planning and coordination!

I miss my days in the SFO Maintenance Base. And, while I no longer work with instruments and large metal working machines, I sure do enjoy the hours I spend in my woodshop, turning out bird houses, bat houses (there's a demand for them in farm country!), and other crafty wood projects.

With any luck at all, my doctors will be correct and I'll be able to keep right on tinkering, writing, and enjoying life for several more years.

**Lola Wallace, 9625 Center Ave., #3A, Denver, CO 80247**

I am certainly happy that you put my name in red on the March issue of the newsletter, especially since I supposedly have 2 birthdays. March 7, 1922 appears on my official birth certificate and April 7, 1922 which I have always celebrated since I was born. I was born on a little farm house near Shelby, NE, and my Mom always baked an angel food cake for me on that date. Maybe my parents didn't have a calendar or the doctor couldn't see well! Oh well, I am still alive and well at 89 and use my official birth date.

**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS FOLLOW ON THE NEXT PAGE**

# Important Phone Numbers



## **United Retiree Service Center (Central Time)**

1-888-825-0188 (M-F 7AM - 5PM).

<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**

1-800-535-9825

<http://www.bcbs.com>

Traditional Plan information, claim status & forms.

## **1-800-UAL-LIST (1-800-825-5478)**

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/>

## **Chicago Travel Desk (Central Time)**

1-877-242-0035 (T/Th/Sat 9 AM - 1 PM)

*If possible, please use local # (847) 700-1087*

## **Portland Travel Desk (Pacific Time)**

Toll Free - 1-888-278-7038 (W/F 10 AM - 2 PM)

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## **Seattle Travel Desk - Toll Free (Pacific Time)**

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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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(#) deceased – V.P. Lewis Long became Pres. 10/3/86	
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## United Airlines Historical Foundation



"Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future"



In September 1943, at the request of the Mexican Government, United Air Lines invested \$250,000 in Lineas Aereas Mineras, S. A. (LAMSA).

The struggling airline had been founded by Gordon S. Berry, a venturesome American pilot, primarily to fly valuable minerals from remote interior mines and to supply the mines. The investment was to assure the continued flow of these minerals for the war effort.



Based at Torreon (photo), LAMSA served fifteen airfields along a 1700 mile route system that included

Mexico City, San Luis Potosi, Tayoltita, Mazatlan, Durango, Torreon, Nuevo Laredo, Hidalgo del Parral, Chihuahua, Ciudad Juarez and Nogales.

By 1944, United had purchased additional stock and then owned 99% of LAMSA with a total investment of \$5,000,000. Money from the stock purchase allowed the newly-renamed Lineas Aereas Mexicanas, S. A. to acquire five Boeing 247-D 10-passenger planes

from the U. S. Defense Supplies Corporation. The 247-Ds were converted for airline service at United's Cheyenne shops and all five were in service by the summer of 1945.

To help the airline survive, "Pat" Patterson had sent United executives to Mexico City under the leadership of Allen Bonnlie. Innovations proposed were pilot & stewardess training, improved maintenance facilities, additional terminals & runway lighting and improvements in radio communications & passenger service.

In 1945, Patterson filed an application with the U. S. Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) for an extension of LAMSA's mid-central route from Nogales, Sonora, Mexico to Los Angeles via Phoenix.

Patterson had plans for joint United/LAMSA flights from Vancouver, Canada to Mexico City. These route extensions were never granted and the Mexican government never assumed ownership of the airline. Finally, Patterson sold LAMSA United's "South-of-the-Border Subsidiary" to a group of Mexican financiers.

*Marvin Berryman DENTK Ret. - From 1944 & 1945 Annual Reports, "High Horizons" and "Pat Patterson"*

Recently UAHF received \$ Contributions from: **Robert R. Higley** and **Merrill & Mildred Hofer** and Donated items from: "**Bill**" **Baatz**, **Jan Brown**, **Donald Trunick**, Mr. & Mrs. **Bill Anderson**, **Dixie McCay**, **Clara Lukas**, Mr. **R. H. Taylor**, **York Swanson**, **Joy Geddes**, Dr. **Charles Quarles**, **Clifford Sanderson**, **Marlene Dudek**, Mr. **R. Coykendall** & **John Corpening**.

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