



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



ISSUE NO. 553

SEPTEMBER 2020

## *The Writers' Column ~ History of The Santa Barbara Airport*

*By George Midwin*

**A**long the West coast of California are a number of great cities which have evolved as the result of improvements to transportation. First there were stage coaches, trains and then airplanes. The stage had its limits set by how long people were willing to sit in cramped quarters, while traveling bumpy and dusty roads. The train provided more comfort for those traveling longer distances; but it was still a very long trip. The airplane offered to get you to distant places in comfort and the quickest fashion.

Very few individuals during the early days of aviation could ever imagine how the airplane could have such an impact on the world that we enjoy today. These great places to visit were once only available to just a few. However, as air travel gained popularity and competition among commercial airlines made it affordable, new places were opened up to anyone. One such place, Santa Barbara, California, has an interesting history on how this airport became to be. One which United Airlines helped establish and still services today.



The area surrounding Santa Barbara in the early 1920's saw a number of crude airfields. The majority of these were on private land, used exclusively by their owners. One airfield was the home for a squadron of surplus military aircraft used to spot mountain wildfires. The original commercial airstrip was the Ovington Air Terminal, built by the first official airmail pilot in the US. However, each of these had their own unique issues, including Ovington's. Many complaints of noise eventually caused the city to close this site.

Three local aviators, Stetson, Sackett and Romero, searched for a site that they could use to establish a flying school. They discovered a perfect spot on a farm on the West side of town.

So in 1928 they hastily leveled an area for their runway and the next year made improvements to it. They also built a small hangar to operate their business out of. Although local citizens enjoyed watching aircraft, few were interested in flying them and the trio fell on hard times.



However, their luck was about to change.

The General Western Aero Corporation, an aircraft manufacturing company, located in Burbank, California, was looking for a new site. In 1929 the chief pilot for General Western, Walter Tompkins, visited the field created by the trio. Upon reviewing the potential of this new site with his superiors, it was agreed that this would be an ideal place to move their company to. After leasing several acres adjacent to the runway, the ►

## **The Writer's Column continued ....**

General Western Corp set about building shops and two hangars. By 1930 their operation was up and running. They built a two seat; single engine monoplane called the Meteor. In addition to manufacturing planes, General Western sought and secured the rights to be the operator of the airfield. They made significant improvements to the existing runway and added another cross runway. Plans included the addition of lights for night landings. The company embarked on a public relations program and recruited local prominent citizens to become officers in the company. They were able to garner plenty of media coverage with aerial displays of their aircraft and the establishment of locating their company there.

Soon, the airfield was known as the General Western Airport. The next step was to convince airlines to add Santa Barbara to their schedules. Century Pacific Airlines, who already operated in that part of California, decided to include a stop at Santa Barbara. General Western then had sole possession of local air commerce in the area. The hangars that General Western built, with their elliptical roofs, were 80 feet wide by 60 feet deep and bracketed a small administration building. They soon became a familiar site among the local population. The administration building was used in part as a makeshift terminal for Century Pacific Airlines. Despite all the ambitious energy that General

Western put forth, it became the victim of the depression. After having manufactured only 6 Meteor aircraft, the company filed for bankruptcy in 1933, which was the demise for the company. Frederick Sterns, II became the new operator of the field. He implemented a number of changes, including the addition of radio. The two hangars were leased to a new company, the Santa Barbara Flying Service. They provided flight training, aircraft repair and storage and would soon be part of one of the most important events in the history of the airfield. On October 1, 1936 United Airlines began service to Santa Barbara, using the B247 aircraft. It became the first major national air carrier to serve the area. The historic occasion was celebrated by an event with over 1,000 people in attendance. United brought two of their 10 seat B247's, one used for courtesy flights and the other to fly VIP's on a round trip flight to San Francisco. This was

the first "modern" aircraft to visit Santa Barbara and from an airline that had 35% of all air passenger service in the US. In addition United carried nearly 40% of all the mail. Passengers here would be provided the same excellent service that United does in New York, Chicago, San Francisco and other large cities and continues to this day. The two hangars played a role as a base of operations for the United Airlines in Santa Barbara. The administration building became the first official passenger terminal. In addition, since there was no control tower, United built atop one of the hangars a spotting station. Later that year, United was awarded a postal contract and began air mail service from there. The West hangar was modified to accommodate the additional space required. Soon the area encompassing the hangars, would become the beginning of the airport of today. Little has changed through the years. The hangars still remain, although no longer safe to use. The administration building, or original terminal, was moved as the airport expanded and has since been incorporated into the design of the new much larger passenger terminal. United passengers traversing the new terminal, walk right through the historic terminal once used by United. If you want to get a feel for what aviation was like in the 1930's, standing near these hangars you can almost hear the history. Currently there is a plan being considered to move these hangars. If that were to occur, the historic context of these hangars would be lost. I and a small group of interested individuals are mounting an effort to keep the hangars where they are. Through seeking federal and local citizen funding to restore and repurpose the hangars as a possible museum. The fate of these hangars has been in the balance for over 10 years. A final decision will be reached soon. If you are interested in helping preserve one of the last remaining historical landmarks, please contact me; George Midwin, midwin5u@hotmail.com or Pete van Gilluwe, pvg222@gmail.com.

# GENERAL NEWS

## A Message From RUAEA President



We have all been affected by this COVID-19 virus. The correspondents in the local chapter reports all mention staying at home, with no traveling, no visits to family and friends, no lunches, breakfasts, picnics etc. They mentioned how depressing it is, and how it is mentally affecting us all in some way. What has not been mentioned is if anyone has physically become sick, and had to be hospitalized or recovered at home.

RUAEA President **Don Burbank** would like to remind all our members that the board members, including your regional directors are available if anyone needs some assistance. Are you physically not feeling well and quarantined? Are you hospitalized?

Maybe you are home alone and would like to talk with someone, get an encouraging email, or a card. Covid restrictions do not allow us to visit, but telephone calls, FaceTime calls and zoom meetings keep us in touch and help us to smile despite all the difficulties.

The email and phone numbers of the RUAEA board members are located in the back of the newsletter. Please feel free to contact one of them. We would like to hear from you.

## From the RUAEA Newsletter Staff



Due to COVID-19, the news is constantly changing. Please note the dates on our articles regarding United Airlines. By the time you receive the printed version of the newsletter, the news is weeks, if not a month old. Please refer to Flying Together and your local news for current updates.

Also due to the virus, the printed version, which previously reached our members about two weeks after the online version was available, is now taking three weeks or more to reach you. While we are keeping to our usual schedule, our printer, mailer, and the United States Post Office are all dealing with challenges.

On a positive note, we extend a big “Thank You” to our correspondents. We asked them not to be deterred by the lack of a breakfast/luncheon/meeting. And they were not. Please read your Local News to hear what other retirees are doing at this difficult time. Read memories of retirees and former events, enjoy some laughs and read interesting history in the writers column.

## DENTK RUAEA Office Update From Michael Malesardi, RUAEA Secretary

The DENTK RUAEA office staff is once again able to access voicemail. It is important to be aware that RUAEA is supported by volunteers and there are no specific office hours.

If you call the office, at (303)780-5022, you will most likely be directed to voicemail. If you need a quicker response, email will get an answer faster. Email [ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net).

Whichever method you choose, remember

1. Speak slowly if choosing voicemail
2. State your name
3. Leave your file number
4. Give a contact phone number
5. Include your email address if you have one

## Changes to our United Express footprint - July 31, 2020



Earlier this year, we shared our plans to simplify our United Express (UAX) flying partner networks and consolidate our E145 flying. Recently, we announced that we are taking additional steps to further ensure we're positioned to operate as efficiently and reliably as possible in this challenging environment, specifically as it relates to our UAX flying partners.

We will consolidate all of our E145 operations into a single flying partner with CommutAir, and ExpressJet will no longer operate as a UAX flying partner following a transition period before the end of the year.

We took several factors into consideration when making this decision, including operational simplicity, current capabilities, cost and efficiency. COVID-19 has significantly impacted every aspect of our business, and unfortunately, this difficult decision is one of many we've had to make to protect the long-term future of our airline.

These changes will not impact any United mainline flying or staffing.

### **Standby Process Automation coming this month** **July 31, 2020**



Boarding can be stressful, but it doesn't have to be. That's where Standby Process Automation (which we refer to as 'SPA' for short) comes in. Coupled with our desire to expand touchless options for a more seamless travel experience, the new automated clearing process aims to streamline gate area processes and create a better experience for customer service representatives (CSRs), customers and pass travelers.

Last year, we began planning for a systemwide rollout of SPA, but due to the global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, we re-prioritized many large initiatives and paused the rollout.

Now, we're excited to announce that we're preparing for a planned systemwide rollout later this month.

#### **What's SPA?**

SPA is an automation that clears upgrades, confirmed customers awaiting seat assignments and standbys without the need for CSR intervention, giving CSRs more time to provide caring service to our customers, and complete other critical pre-departure tasks – all while reducing touchpoints throughout the travel experience for both our employees and pass travelers. We've also introduced a new touchless way to notify customers of their seat assignment ahead of their flight – you can learn more about it in our [July 14 United Daily story](#). Automating the standby process takes some of the guesswork out of standby travel and creates a consistent process at all airports.

#### **What's being automated and how does it work?**

Sixty minutes before departure for international flights and 30 minutes for domestic flights, the following automated gate functions will begin, in this order:

- ★ Flight auto-restricts
- ★ Held seats are released
- ★ Upgrades are processed
- ★ Need seats are accommodated
- ★ Revenue and non-revenue standbys are accommodated

Seat Solver, our new seat engine, works to provide pass travelers with the best possible seat. The tool recognizes when a revenue or non-revenue customer is traveling with someone, knows your age (for exit row seating assignments) or if you have a split reservation.

#### **How are we preparing for the launch?**

As part of a soft launch, we kicked off SPA at ORD and EWR last month. Expanding our soft launch to select hub and line stations (domestic and international) throughout August ensures we'll be ready for a systemwide deployment later this month.

- ★ Soft launch stations (throughout August) include:
  - ORD
  - EWR
  - BRU (Brussels), FRA (Frankfurt) and LHR (London Heathrow)
  - IAH, LAS (Las Vegas), MCO (Orlando), MSP (Minneapolis) and SFO

**Note:** The Corporate Support Center will provide virtual station support for remaining rollouts.

- ★ We've heard overwhelmingly positive feedback from employees and travelers at ORD and EWR.

#### **Other resources and next steps**

As we near the systemwide rollout, we'll provide more in-depth communications to our frontline with information on the rollout and how they'll be supported. We're also reaching out to Premier MileagePlus members to inform them of automatic seat assignments for upgrades and when traveling standby.



In the meantime, here's what all pass travelers can do to prepare for the new automated clearing process:

- ★ Make sure you've downloaded the United mobile app
- ★ Review our [pass travel guidelines](#) and [new mask policies for all employees](#)
- ★ Sign up for day-of-travel notifications (go to [ft.ual.com](http://ft.ual.com) to learn more about our new text notifications and how to sign up!)
- ★ Visit the [SPA microsite on Flying Together](#) for a sneak peek video, FAQs and more
- ★ Keep an eye out for important updates coming soon!

### **Enhanced eRES experience on United app**

**July 23, 2020**



**UNITED**

You may notice a different look and flow when you open the United app to book your next non-revenue space available (NRSA) trip. Recently, the desktop experience currently seen on EmployeeRes will be integrated into the NRSA booking tool of the United app, creating a more streamlined and consistent experience for employees across all booking platforms.

These changes are all included in the United app update available for download in the iTunes app store and Google Play store (version 3.0.44 and later will have this updated experience). If you do not already have the United app, simply download it and log in with the MileagePlus number linked to your employee travel profile in [eRES](#). Not a MileagePlus member? You can join for free today.

The biggest change you may notice is that the passenger choice will be made on the first screen rather than later in the booking process like it is currently. Also included in this update are enhanced jumpseat listing capabilities for qualified crew members. Check your departmental communications for more information.

Potential future updates to the employee travel booking experience include misconnecting/checked-in passenger view, unaccompanied minor booking, custom routing and updated payment methods.

### **A dynamic partnership shaping an inclusive future**

**July 23, 2020**



If your travels have taken you through ORD anytime since October 2019, you may have had a friendly, caring and jovial exchange with Daniel Smrokowski. Daniel is one of four Service Ambassadors brought on to be part of the United family thanks to our ongoing partnership with Special Olympics. This inaugural ambassador program aims to provide Special Olympic athletes employment opportunities within our operation, affording them a unique and meaningful career.

Since 2018, our partnership with Special Olympics has become one of the United family's most cherished relationships, going beyond the events we take part in and volunteer with. While the plane pull competitions, polar plunges, duck derbies, Special Olympics World Games and other events we engage with around the world are a big part of our involvement, the heart of this partnership lies within the athletes and individuals supported by Special Olympics. To advocate for their inclusion in every setting is one of our biggest honors and we take great pride in the role we play in the organization's [inclusion revolution](#).

Aiding in the success of Special Olympics' mission to create continuing opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, we have volunteered over 10,500 hours and donated over 1.2 million dollars in travel to the organization. The impact of this partnership is felt at every level, both at Special Olympics and within our own ranks.

*"The Inclusion Revolution campaign, led by our athletes, aims to end discrimination against people with intellectual disabilities. United Airlines has joined in our fight for inclusion, empowering our athletes with the skills needed to succeed and opportunities to contribute their abilities as leaders,"* said Special Olympics International Chairman Tim Shriver. *"United Airlines believes that people with intellectual disabilities should be perceived as they really are: independent, world-class athletes, students, employees, neighbors, travelers, and leaders who contribute to make this world a better place."*

Our Service Ambassador program is just one of the many ways Special Olympics has impacted not only our employees, but also our customers. "I see every day how our Service Ambassadors connect with our customers the moment they walk into the airport lobby," said ORD Senior Customer Service Supervisor Steve

Suchorabski. *"They provide a warm, welcoming smile and assist in any way they can. To see these young adults hold positions that a society once told them they couldn't is truly the most heartwarming part of my job."*

*"The opportunity to be a part of the United family means everything to me," said Daniel. "I feel so much pride showing up to work in a co-branded Special Olympics and United uniform, working among such a loving and supportive community. The relationship between these two organizations is truly helping to shape my future while letting me use my gifts of communicating and helping others. Hopefully, I can spend my entire career at United."*

*"The true success of this partnership stems from our shared passion and commitment to inclusion and accessibility," said Global Community Engagement Managing Director Suzi Cabo. "We are proud of the partnership we've built with Special Olympics to promote inclusion."*

## **Torgy's Travel Tips – September 2020**

### **Beginning Resumption of Service**



Like all things in our lives at this time of Covid-19, change is the operative word. Closures followed by openings followed by subsequent closures keep us attuned to the news for the latest updates. Depending on where you live you may have the luxury of a family gathering or even sit down to a meal inside a restaurant. For many others, the closest hug or "I love you" can only happen over Zoom or a similar electronic channel, and the closest thing to a restaurant dinner is curbside pick-up with masks firmly in place.

Anticipating (or hoping) for an increase in demand for air travel, 30 UA international routes will be in some form of resumption beginning this September, which will bring the schedule up to 37% of last year's schedule. Some service will resume in the Americas to Cabo, Puerto Vallarta, Tampico, Veracruz and Aguascalientes in Mexico, San Jose and Liberia in Costa Rica, St. Thomas, San Juan

Puerto Rico and Quito, Ecuador. In Europe, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, London and Munich will see UA flights arriving and service to Bombay and Delhi are also scheduled to resume. Pending government approval, a Chicago to Hong Kong flight will also begin. Service to Tel Aviv will increase with departures from ORD and in October a new flight will begin from IAD. Effective September 10<sup>th</sup>, the LAX-SYD route will resume with 3 flights a week.

On the domestic front, the schedule will approach 40% of this time last year, with resumption of service to several cities including all 5 Hawaiian airports.

But wait a minute before you grab your passport and start packing! There is the **huge** issue of travel restrictions that begs discussion. I mentioned that the UA route LAX-SYD will increase to thrice weekly (effective September 10, 2020). **But**, due to severe restrictions in place by the Australian government to limit Covid-19 spread, only 50 passengers are allowed per flight! In fact, a combined maximum limit of 4,000 inbound passengers per week to all of Australia is already in place. That number means the combined total of all airline passengers arriving onto the continent. Needless to say, non-essential travel is prohibited and applies to all non-Australian citizens. Outbound flights are not limited at this time.

Travel by US citizens to the European continent is also currently still either prohibited or subject to 14 day quarantines. Travel to the UK is allowed but only after a 14-day quarantine at your point of entry. Ireland currently adheres to this same restriction. You cannot use the UK or Ireland as a transit point to the continent to avoid quarantine in Germany, for example, as you must show proof of having stayed there for 14 days before departing for the continent. Travel to HKG requires presentation of a Covid-19 Nucleic Acid test issued within 72 hours of departure plus confirmation of hotel accommodations for 14 days. India, which only reopened the country to air travel on July 31<sup>st</sup>, requires thermal scanning on arrival and 14 day quarantine. Costa Rica is still closed as of this writing and travel to Canada is also still prohibited.

Hawaii, however, expects to eliminate the current 14 day quarantine on September 1<sup>st</sup>, upon presentation by the arriving passenger of a Covid-19 test administered within the last 72 hrs. On the other hand, NY, NJ and CT are still imposing restrictions on passengers arriving from 36 US states and Puerto Rico. A \$2000 fine will be levied by anyone leaving the airport without surrendering a Covid-19 medical form which includes contact information.

Visit [www.iatatravelcentre.com/international-travel-document-news](http://www.iatatravelcentre.com/international-travel-document-news) to keep abreast of changing requirements. On the United App, there is a tab off of the booking page titled Travel Restrictions which is very

informative. Another excellent source for travel restrictions, including within the US is: [www.kayak.com/travel-restrictions](http://www.kayak.com/travel-restrictions).

And if you're wondering if the Empire State Building has opened up or if Disney's Magic Kingdom requires masks (hey, just wear one everywhere!), visit: [www.headout.com/post-covid-19-tourist-attractions-reopening](http://www.headout.com/post-covid-19-tourist-attractions-reopening).

Good news when waiting for a seat assignment at the gate! We will now receive a text messages which includes a link to our new boarding pass, instead of being paged to the counter. Less work for the gate agents, easier for us straining to hear our name and a breeze to just scan the electronic boarding pass ourselves at the gate. Yeah!

In conclusion, when you do decide to venture out, here are 3 tips from some friends of mine who were marooned on a 7 day cruise for 21 days and had to be quarantined for another 14 days upon arrival back in the US:

1. Bring 2 to 3 weeks extra medications beyond your expected return date
2. Bring a coat, even if you are going to the tropics
3. Make back-up plans to extend your house or pet-sitter

And as Christopher Elliott, author of *How to Be the World's Smartest Traveler*, said in a recent article, "There is only one way to avoid a travel ban: Stay Home."

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



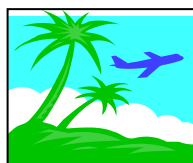
All articles submitted for publishing in the Newsletter are due in the Denver Office on **the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month**. This includes chapter reports, letters for the "Letters" Column, obituary listings (*Note: Rules for submitting an obituary notice is listed in the Obits section of this Newsletter*),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

Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to Francis Domaratius at [ruaenewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaenewsletter@surewest.net), John Chu at [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com) and [ruaeal@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaeal@qwestoffice.net). If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd, Denver, CO 80207-2433. Please allow for postal delay. We cannot extend the deadline!

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

**Francis Domaratius**  
**Newsletter Manager**  
[ruaenewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruaenewsletter@surewest.net)

## **LOCAL NEWS**



**GULF COAST**  
**(ALABAMA / FLORIDA)**  
George Atteberry  
[gwatteberry@cs.com](mailto:gwatteberry@cs.com)

There is no report this month from the Gulf Coast chapter of RUAEA.

## SWEET HOME ALABAMA

Joe E. Jones, Ret. ORDFO  
12115 County Road 29  
Clanton, AL 35045  
(205) 646-3825  
[autiger@centurytel.net](mailto:autiger@centurytel.net)



Due to restaurants not allowing groups of 10 or more, we have cancelled our June meeting and hope to meet again on the second Monday in September.

Due to declining attendance, we will now meet 4 times yearly. Our meetings will be the second Monday in March, June, September and December. As always, we welcome all retired United friends and their families to join us for fellowship and lunch at 11:30 at various Birmingham restaurants. For more information, call **Beverly Yeager** at (256) 775-1711.

## ARIZONA



### PHOENIX AZURES

Mike Richards  
Azures Past President  
Claudia Richards  
Azures Past Membership Secretary  
[lgamfr62@gmail.com](mailto:lgamfr62@gmail.com)

There is no report this month from the Phoenix Azures chapter of RUAEA.

We meet for Breakfast on the second Wednesday of every month at Tivoli Gardens. Anyone in town is welcome. Please call **Sherry Muoio** in advance, if you wish to join us, (623) 572-4828.

## PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S

Liz Tollefsen  
[tedtolle@aol.com](mailto:tedtolle@aol.com)



Where did the summer go? School has started or will start in one way or another. Things are not the same as they were last year at this time. We hope things will get better real soon. In the meantime, be sure and wear your masks! It's very important.

The RUAEA Convention has been canceled this year, and our monthly breakfast at the Black Bear Diner is still on hold. Hopefully, we will be meeting again real soon. We will let you know when this will all happen.

Several members of RUAEA and also members of our Re-United chapter have been receiving e-mails requesting gift certificates as financial support. This is a scam, please do not respond to it. If you receive anything suspicious, please let us know.

We hope all of our members are staying well. We haven't heard of anything about our members lately, so that is good news. We heard **Fred Rockenhauser's** surgery went well and he's recovering from that. **Ginny Rockenhauser's** knee replacement surgery was postponed and now scheduled for September 25<sup>th</sup>.

There has been a recent change at Alliant Credit Union. **Dave Mooney** has decided to retire as CEO and President after 17 years. His successor is **Dennis Devine**, who joins Alliant as the new Chief Executive Officer and President. Dennis previously served as President of Consumer Banking at KeyBank. Alliant Credit Union has always been present at our RUAEA Conventions and also contributed money and prizes.

**Ruth Morabito**, who serves as RUAEA's Director of Mountain and Arizona Regions, is running for Executive Vice President of RUAEA in this year's election, which ends August 31. Our new director will be **Jackie Monilaw**. The following information has been received about Jackie: "Jackie has been retired from United since October 2014, after working 40½ years. She has been a member of RUAEA since 2012 and the Midwest Region Director since 2017. She is very active in the Mainliner and has been integral in the re-alignment of the regions project with RUAEA. Jackie has been a part of the Mid-West region and is looking forward to working with our chapters in Arizona and any new chapters that might occur in New Mexico.



Jackie's new Region will cover Arizona-Illinois-Indiana-Iowa-New Mexico-Michigan-Missouri-Ohio-Wisconsin. Jackie can be reached at [jmonilaw@gmail.com](mailto:jmonilaw@gmail.com)."

I contacted **Bill & Molly Norwood**, who are active members of our Re-United's Chapter, as they go on a lot of cruises, or have traveled extensively, and asked them to contribute something our readers would like to hear and read about what they have been up to recently. Molly contributed this: "The following is 2020 with the Norwoods:"

"The best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry."

This quote by Robert Burns has certainly been true for 2020.

We started the year off with a bang. We flew to Paris, Madrid, and to Tenerife, Canary Islands. In Madrid, we celebrated Bill's birthday at the BOTIN restaurant – a must if you are in Madrid.

"Casa Botin, founded in 1725, is the oldest restaurant in the world according to the Guinness Book of Records, and a benchmark of Madrid's best traditional cuisine."

In Tenerife, we stayed at the Santa Barbara Golf and Ocean Club for 10 days. This is a lovely resort on a beautiful island. We were lucky enough to be there on February 26, which was "carnival" time. This is equivalent to our Mardi Gras in New Orleans, except much, much larger. Carnival in the Canary Islands is the second largest carnival in the world to that in Rio de Janeiro. We attended the parade which was absolutely outstanding. There were hundreds of entries, floats, and marching bands. The costumes were magnificent, and we learned that they start work on the parade and their costumes for the next year as soon as the parade is over.

The day we left the island, Tenerife had its first reported case of the coronavirus at a hotel on the northern end of the island. Fortunately, we were staying on the southern tip. From Tenerife we flew back to Madrid and on to the USA. After we returned, the coronavirus pandemic began to spread in the states and washing hands, sheltering-in-place, wearing masks, sanitizing everything, and social distancing became the norm.

Day after day, week after week, we begin to realize that our future travel plans were in jeopardy. We had planned three big events, plus several cruises and trips.

May 17, our granddaughter, Emma, graduated from the University of Minnesota. We were looking forward to seeing her at the graduation ceremony. Although disappointed that there was no physical graduation, we are very proud of her and her accomplishments.

June 18 was our 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and we had planned a luncheon in Chicago for about 200 people at the Museum of Science and Industry. At the museum, a United B-727 is displayed that bears Bill's name. Instead, we celebrated via Zoom with our family in Illinois.

August 1, we had plans to be in Oberammergau, Germany, to see the Passion play which is held there every 10 years. Of course, that was canceled and is now rescheduled for 2022.

We had a couple of cruises planned including one in November for the month of November to South America. We have now canceled all travel plans through 2020.

So what are we doing while sheltering-in-place? How do you transition from traveling at least once a month to staying-in-place for months and more?

We both try to exercise daily. Now that it is so hot, we are up at 5AM. Bill walks four miles five days a week. I try to get in 2 miles five days a week. Bill stays busy working on and flying radio-controlled airplanes. I am a scrapbook addict and have been working on photos for several hours most days. I am just beginning to see a dent in the thousands of pictures that I had in boxes and on the computer. I also play lots of Mah Jongg online with friends across the USA.

We are not moviegoers, but last month we subscribed to Netflix on the TV. We have enjoyed watching many movies and documentaries. We finally figured out how to view YouTube videos through the television and we watched a video Bill had made 12 years ago. We play cards and other board games.

Since March 13, we have not gone to a restaurant, nor have we bought carry-out or carry-in food. Some of our meals are well-planned and balanced, and some are sandwiches and potato chips. We've had a lot of BLTs and omelets.

For the last 10 years, Bill and I have traveled some place monthly. We go on about four cruises per year, plus other trips to see family and friends. We have not spent one consecutive month without going someplace even if just for the weekend. However, we are proud to say that we are very satisfied and content with staying home. We are not willing to take the risk involved to travel any place at this time. The serenity prayer is our mantra for these challenging times, "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference."

We have learned to appreciate and be thankful for our many blessings. Although we miss seeing our families and friends, the hugs and kisses, we realize our basic needs are being met in abundance.

Until we can meet again, we hope you are staying safe and healthy."

We have the following members having birthdays in September: **Harry Cloud, Shirley Eaton, and Judie Preston.** Hope you all have a great birthday! As far as Wedding Anniversaries, we omitted one couple's 69<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in August. That was **Marilyn & Keith Morey's** Anniversary on August 18<sup>th</sup>! Congratulations to you both! In September, **Ted & Liz Tollefsen** will celebrate 66 years.

Stay well and wear your masks!

### **TUCSON ROADRUNNERS**

Pat Sommer Di Lallo, Treasurer  
14740 N. Palmwood Dr.  
Oro Valley, AZ 85755  
(520) 825-7370  
[rpddgarlic41@comcast.net](mailto:rpddgarlic41@comcast.net)



We are the Tucson Roadrunners, an active chapter. We meet for lunch at various Tucson restaurants on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month except in November and December, when it is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday. All retirees are welcome to join us.

If you would like to attend our luncheons, you can e-mail **Pat Sommer Di Lallo** at [rpddgarlic41@comcast.net](mailto:rpddgarlic41@comcast.net) or call either **Pat Di Lallo** (520) 825-7370 or **Sandy Lawyer** (847) 826-2640 for information.

We look forward to seeing you.

## **CALIFORNIA**

### **CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS**

Chico, California  
Sharon Simonton, Secretary  
P.O. Box 2257  
Paradise, CA 95967  
(530) 990-0936  
[sbsimonton@comcast.net](mailto:sbsimonton@comcast.net)



There is no report this month from the California NorthStaters chapter of RUAEA.

### **Calendar:**

Next meeting, time and place TBD

### **CENTRAL COASTERS**



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

It's hard to believe that this virus is going on since March. We have not had a meeting since February and none since then with no sign of when we will have our next one. I did get a notice from our President **Mike Zoldak** that **Barbara Stilwell** will not be a member any longer. She was a great supporter of our chapter when her husband **John Stilwell** was a member and past president. She will be missed.

Another month of being quarantined and so far we are staying away from neighbors and any activities that are going on in our community. We live very close to Avila and Pismo beaches and the locals and tourists are taking advantage of them. Ever since everything is shut down, there isn't any place to take the kids except the beach. So parking is a problem and people using the beach are prepared to stay for hours. All beaches south and north of us are closed so this is where everyone comes. Our virus cases have increased every day and it all started with the college and high school graduations. The local TV and newspapers showed parties and

celebrations that were going on and of course none of the party goers wear any protection. Prior to the graduations our area was virus free. The solution to getting rid of this virus cannot come soon enough.

Until next month I hope everyone is taking the necessary precautions and staying safe.

### **DESERT SUNBIRDS**

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



Once again, we have no report this month, mainly because of the Corona Virus. In fact, the Desert Sunbirds have canceled all of the remaining Luncheons for this year, except for the Christmas Luncheon. That too, may be canceled, depending on whether the Virus is continuing to run its course at that time. Wish I had better news!

### **EAST BAY DIABLOS**



Contra County  
Jan Soderstrom  
30 San Piedras Place  
San Ramon, CA 94583  
(925) 833-9184  
[Janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:Janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com)

Greetings to everyone in RUAEA Land from the San Francisco East Bay. Here we are again after another month of sheltering in place. Once again, I asked the group to send me items of interest to share with everyone.

I asked our members to share their favorite trip. Here's the reply from **Tom & Barbara Cunningham**: "Our all-time favorite trip was to Athens in 1972. We doled out the kids to both grandmothers and flew to Greece like we had not a care in the world. We met a lot of young airline people from several airlines and did all of the day tours with them. Nighttimes we spent in the various tavernas dancing to the wonderful Greek folk music. I even got thrown up in the air as part of one dance. Wow, what a surprise that was. We gals even recruited customers for one restaurant owner named Zack. Tom and the guys did the cooking for Zack! All this fun for 49 dollars apiece including airfare and hotel. Those truly were the good old days!" (Yours truly also went to Greece about that time, on a TWA interline tour, and I got flipped in a taverna too! Ha Ha).

**Ken Price** shared a memory from SFOMB in the late 1960/70's: "In the late 1960's, United Airlines had concerns regarding aircraft utilization and decided to purchase some Boeing 727-100QC aircraft (QC = Quick Change.) These aircraft were dual purpose, having a large cargo door and beefed up floor structure to enable it to fly cargo at night after flying passengers during the day. Passenger seats were on pallets and could be rolled in the cargo door and locked in place for day operations and then removed at night for cargo pallets. It was a great concept but for various reasons did not work as well as anticipated for the United operation. Meantime, a new cargo airline, Federal Express, was flying 20 passenger Dassault Falcon 20 aircraft, with seats removed and used as small cargo aircraft. In the mid 70's the U.S. government deregulated this small cargo segment allowing airlines such as Federal Express to upgrade to larger aircraft. It just so happened that United Airlines had some 727-100QC that were not being used as intended so the parties got together and Federal Express bought the 727's. This was a huge increase in cargo volume for FedEx and they were overjoyed. The 727's were routed to SFOMB, put into a cargo configuration, painted in FedEx colors and delivered to Federal Express in Memphis.

I was there for the first aircraft arrival and it seemed all FedEx employees were on hand. There was even a bagpipe band to greet the first new arrival. The plane was parked on the ramp and the cargo door was opened. A huge sign was painted inside on the door lining – "ON TIME EVERY TIME."

I doubt anyone thought Federal Express would ever grow to the size it is today. That huge step started with the help of United Airlines.

And Ken Price has yet another memory to share with everyone: "In the 1970's United Airlines had a maintenance agreement with Seaboard World Airlines for their DC-8 Aircraft, JT3D Engines and many components. Their aircraft logo was a large SW on the tail and Seaboard World in block letters on the fuselage.

Seaboard management decided to update their image and change the aircraft letters into a swept back Seaboard World with top of the letters slanted towards the tail.

When the plane came in for overhaul, new paint and new letters were to be applied. All went well and the aircraft departed to JFK, Seaboard headquarters. When the plane arrived and taxied by the Seaboard office area, it passed by the window of the VP Maintenance. He looked out to see the new paint with slanted lettering and let out a yell. On the right side of the aircraft the lettering was slanted toward the nose, the opposite of what was intended. Needless to say he called SFOMB and raised H---! When installing the letters on the right side of the aircraft, the painters got the pattern backward and didn't catch the mistake. (Lots of structure around the plane when in the dock.) Needless to say a crew had to be sent to JFK to correct the error.

**Rich & Georgia Bouska** celebrated their 59<sup>th</sup> anniversary on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Rich says "We spend most of our time cussing the virus and doing projects around the house." They hope everyone is well and are looking forward to enjoying one another's company at our meetings when things open up.

**George Midwin**, our District Director, shares another wonderful story: "While working in OAK in the 1990's, I was asked to coordinate the filming of a commercial for United with John Travolta. At that time I had been working on a DC-6 restoration and they wanted to film the aircraft. So I had our paint crew paint one side of the plane in UA historic colors using a special paint which could be washed off after filming. They did a fantastic job, including a hand painted UA shield on the nose. Additionally they wanted a 747 to film and the only plane we had outdoors was missing a main entry door. Again calling on the paint crew, they covered the opening and painted a door.

This was supposed to be a secret production, so few people were made aware. However, when the production company showed up with trucks, cameras, boom carts, lights, etc. the cat was out of the bag. Needless to say, all the OAK employees were soon out of the hangar. John Travolta flew in, in his G-3 jet and parked it on our ramp. He was very gracious and took time to sign countless autographs sought by the employees.

Then it was time to get to work. I walked him over to where we had set up for filming and he admired the DC-6 telling me it was the first aircraft he had flown in. He then asked if he could go inside it, which we did. The production company then called him as they were ready to begin discussing the script.

I was asked if it would be possible to have the ramp wetted down. With just a garden hose, it would take all day. So I contacted the airport fire department and asked if they could help out. Once I explained what we were doing, three trucks showed up and covered the ramp with water.

The most memorable shot during the filming was John walking from the tail of the DC-6 toward the nose. As he did, a boom camera would slowly raise up and focus on the 747 a distance away. The history of the airline could be seen in this one quick shot.

One interesting fact was that every single piece of film was reviewed by John. If he didn't like it, they would do it again. Even though the commercial would be a few minutes in length, it had to be just right. Needless to say this took the entire day and into the night. At the completion of the filming, John posed with me as a professional photographer took some photos, which were sent to me a week later. John then climbed into his jet, sitting in the captain's seat and flew back to LA. The production company packed up, the DC-6 was washed, the 747 moved and things were back to normal. Unfortunately, the commercial never aired."

**Jan Soderstrom** recommends two humorous mystery series. We can all use a good laugh right about now, and these books, with their hilarious characters and zany antics, will have you chuckling constantly. They should be read in order. One is the Meg Langslow series by Donna Andrews - first book is Murder With Peacocks. Second is the Royal Spyness series by Rhys Bowen - first book is Her Royal Spyness.

**Darlene Platten** is having cornea surgery the end of August. We hope the surgery is successful and that she has improved vision as a result.

**Wilma & Joe Leather** have some very exciting news. They have been busy with a new puppy! She is a four month old Shih Tzu-Poodle mix named Coco. They lost their 16-year-old dog Katie on April 19 and, as Wilma stated, "the house was so quiet and there was no spark." Our daughter and son-in-law brought the puppy to us and we now have a spark or more like a firecracker! She is definitely a puppy with lots of energy. I forgot how a puppy is like a baby in the house. In any case she was the spark we needed."

What a perfect time to welcome a pet. If any of you in RUAEA Land could use a "spark" in your home right now, please consider fostering or adopting a pet from your local shelter or rescue group. I support several groups in my area, and all are in desperate need of fosters and people willing to adopt.

Until next month, take care everyone and stay safe! A few parting thoughts:

- ☺ I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to Puerto Backyarda. I'm getting tired of Los Livingroom.
- ☺ I'm so excited - It's time to take out the garbage. What should I wear?



☺ Better 6 feet apart than 6 feet under.

## **GOLDEN GATERS**

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



Here we are, hunkering away, staying away from everyone, watching too much TV and wondering when we can meet again. President **Vera Kina** had advised us that the August 24<sup>th</sup> meeting is **cancelled** – she has not heard about the September meeting but at the rate things are going, the Foster City Rec Center will probably not be open. We will let you know in the next RUAEA newsletter or email you. Our San Mateo County was just put on the “no fly” list again; we were doing so well, then slipped and here we are again wondering if we can get our hair cut. This does not mean that you men can sport pony tails with colorful “scrunchies.” We ladies will gladly cut your hair but you will have to wait to get that tattoo. Our local restaurants are being creative, streets are being cordoned off so tables can be set up for outside dining, and the take-out business is doing quite well.

There are many positive things we can do ... get a big bag, haven't worn those shirts or blouses, jeans, or shoes for five years? Put them in that bag and hie thee off to your local Goodwill and donate them (they are open in most areas.) Every day you might throw away 10 pieces of paper (that you have put in a pile and piled on a chair) and at the rate you are going, you might even be able to have dinner on the dining room table again! Now that is a novel thought! In our age group, we have probably become great-grandparents by now ... go get some of those kiddies (don't have to be your grandkids – you can become a “rent-a-grandparent”) and read a book to them, teach them their numbers and the alphabet, take them for a walk ... with them, lie on your back on the grass and look at the sky and find animals in the clouds, what kind of birds are up there flying? We have a glut of Canada Geese. We need to encourage those “cute” birds to keep flying south – they have become so bold that even dogs don't scare them. They are fascinating though, they have a sentinel who watches over them as they munch the grass ... if danger approaches, that sentinel squawks and off they fly, only to return 20 minutes later. The soccer field is a disaster zone. Not quite sure if they make good eating! The weather in our neck of the woods has been fairly nice so getting out for a walk is a must. The doctors have decreed that we (us old folks) do not need to walk 10,000 steps ... 4-5000 steps are just fine (take that mask with you and wear it if people approach.) Drink lots of water, it goes well with four fingers of Johnny Walker. You might even make a few new neighbor friends. Venture into the kitchen and make some cookies that you can share with friends, neighbors ... mend some of those fences and make amends (you'll feel better.) If you can, go to Church, sit back and contemplate your naval, floss those pearly whites, do something fun each day. Do not practice that smile ... make it mandatory. Say hello to someone on your walk.

Everything is on hold ... meetings, travels and tours are non-existent at this time, enjoying a meal out, having friends over. Most everyone is staying well. If you know of any of our members who need some cheering-up, please let Ginger (phone number is above) know and a note will be sent. If any of you members have an email address, please let Ginger know so phone calls can be kept to a minimum. Special thanks to the RUAEA Board and those keeping us in the loop—we truly appreciate you!

An up-date: Here it is mid-August and, yes, I did drag out my dandy, newly fixed vacuum cleaner ... now all I have to do is plug it in! Don't hold your breath ... I do not need to make amends to the dust!

To those across the nation (and nations,) know that you are in our thoughts ... stay well and be safe.

Keep the Faith. Cheerio ... your Golden Gaters.

Come join us if you are in town, all United and Continental retirees are welcome - we meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at 11:00am at the William Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd., (Shell Blvd. and East Hillsdale Blvd.) Blue Bird Room, Foster City, CA 94404. Note: Our mailing address is: UAL-SFO Bay Area Retirees, c/o **Vera Kina**, 203 Emerald Bay Lane, Foster City, CA 94404.



## **HANGTOWN MINERS**

Jane Gibson

Secretary

tired-dogs@comcast.net

Hello to All!

July! We are in the second half of 2020! Amazing ... do I say that all the time? Well, it is amazing how the time just seems to zip by us. There are always projects to work on – some we are happy and eager to do, others may be things we have been putting off but ran out of excuses to skip them. Those with hobbies have plenty of time to enjoy them – I always think of all the terrific things you make in your workshop, Irv! Have any of you jumped (or tiptoed) into a new interest? Summer this year has been so mild, it makes working outside so pleasant! I did hear on the radio that there may be some thunderstorms up your direction! You all take care; oh yeah, you're supposed to be staying indoors anyway! Has anyone contracted this virus? Our local newspaper posts the "numbers" each day. El Dorado County has had very few cases and only their first fatality recently. Let's keep it that way!

Cruising thru our roster I see that **Geoff & Louise Ridsdale** celebrated an anniversary this month, Congratulations! And to any of you who may have a birthday this month, Happy Birthday to you!

Our wonderful president, **Bill Dinette**, sent me the article in the RUAEA July 2020 Newsletter "*To Fly or Not To Fly*" by **Kathie Torgison** regarding Retiree Traveling to share with members of the chapter.

Some of you may have known **Joe McClain**. Joe moved to El Dorado about 10 years ago from San Jose; he worked in the Docks and a good friend of **Rudy & Cindy Blazius**. Even though he was urged to come to/join our group, he was not inclined to do so, but did come occasionally with Rudy. Sadly, Joe passed away, if you would like more info, you can contact **Rudy Blazius**.

Bill also sent along an interesting article about "Flying the Atlantic during the late 1930s". You Jet-jockeys & Frequent fliers will really appreciate this nostalgic look back in time at the Pan Am Clipper!

When those with the money to afford trans-oceanic flight got to take the Boeing Model 314, better known as the Clipper, passengers took their meals at real tables, not their seats. Even Franklin Roosevelt used the plane, celebrating his 61<sup>st</sup> birthday on board!

Between 1938 and 1941, Boeing built 12 of the jumbo planes for Pan American World Airways. The Clipper had a range of 3,500 miles – enough to cross either the Atlantic or Pacific, with room for 74 passengers. Of course, modern aviation offers an amazing first class experience (and it's a whole lot safer), but nothing in the air today matches the romanticism of crossing the oceans in the famed Clipper.

The nickname "Clipper" came from an especially fast type of sailing ship used in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The ship analogy was appropriate, as the Clipper landed on the water, not runways.

On the Pan Am flights, passengers had access to dressing rooms and a dining salon that could be converted into a lounge or bridal suite. The galley served up meals catered from four-star hotels. There was room for a crew of 10 to serve as many as 74 passengers. On overnight flights, the 74 seats could be turned into 40 bunks for comfortable sleeping. The bunk beds came with curtains for privacy.

On the 24 hour flights across the Atlantic, crew members could conk out on less luxurious cots. The lavatory wasn't too fancy, but it did have a urinal – something you never see in today's commercial jets, where space is at a premium. The ladies lounge had stools where female passengers could sit and do their makeup.

The Clipper made its maiden trans-Atlantic voyage on June 28, 1939. From a notebook of one of the flight attendants, she had written down what one of the passengers said before landing, "Can you imagine what flying will be like 50 years from now"! (oh yea, a bag of peanuts and a soda if you're lucky)

Once the US entered World War II, the Clippers were pressed into service to transport materials and personnel.

Our Treasurer, **Tom Kenny**, also sends the balance of our checking account. Of course, since we aren't holding our luncheon and thus our raffle, our balance isn't growing very much. I was able to talk to the members from whom we haven't received their 2020 dues yet and they all intend to get the "check in the mail" right away! It was so good to hear your voices and have a bit of a chat. Sure hoping that we can get back to our monthly luncheons.

That being said, your officers find that we need to delay, again, our luncheon/meeting. We thank Kerry & Ann for offering/planning to host July's event and I'm letting **Bill & Linda Dinette** know that they won't need to set up with a restaurant for August. I sure hope that this virus will skedaddle soon – miss seeing all of you!

Please, take care, stay in touch with each other, be healthy and happy and we will all get thru this mess!

## **REDWOOD EMPIRE** **RETIREES**

Santa Rosa, California  
Mary Wilson, Secretary  
3623 Aaron Dr.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
[marywilson333@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marywilson333@sbcglobal.net)



There is no report this month from the Redwood Empire Retirees chapter of RUAEA.



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

Results from our RUAEA election will be posted in the October issue. I can only hope that everyone voted; we will be ready for a new agenda in the coming year. Many changes at United and the effects of some of these issues will undoubtedly trickle down to the retirees.

**Barbara Tobin** is in contact with **Danny & Mary Armstrong** who are now living in Ireland. Barbara tells me that Danny is not doing well; he is in a coma and not responsive. Please say a prayer for them as this is such a difficult time for Mary. Fortunately, she does have support from family who live close.

We have had several employees who have taken the retirement package. I am trying to obtain their names so I can send a note and welcome them to our Resans family. I hope to have more information for you in the next issue.

**Rosalie Tripicchio** went out on a walk with a walking group that has been getting together for weekly walks around San Diego. She said it was good to be among some of the United family again. Rosalie also mentioned that she had to leave them at ten thousand steps and almost crawled back to her car!

Travel restrictions have been lifted for SA's traveling and travel has picked up as far as standby travel. There are still some restrictions as to what countries will accept travelers from the US. Check before you leave home.

Unfortunately when traveling, medical issues happen and help is needed. Check out MedAire. They are available 24/7 to help provide medical tips and services when needed. This is available to employees, their families and retirees. You may obtain information on International SOS/MedAire. The mobile phone app can be downloaded from [app.internationalsos.com](http://app.internationalsos.com). First time callers will need to provide a corporate member ship number. For this, going to Flying Together/travel and search for International SOS. You never know when you may need it. If you are planning a trip in the near future, I urge to you get the United membership number so you can access this service if you need it.

When our monthly breakfast resumes, I will again report on current news from our Resans family!

Our Birthday for this month is **Peggy Van Sickle** on September 29<sup>th</sup>. We wish her a special day and lots of hugs, via email of course.

At this time there is no information about our next monthly Breakfast. Worry not, we will be back ...

### **Calendar:**

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

## **SACRAMENTO GOLD DIGGERS**

Sacramento, CA  
Laverne Haubl  
Secretary  
[lhaubl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lhaubl@sbcglobal.net)

## **SACRAMENTO**



Vice President **Terry Greenacres'** report:

Since March, I have relied heavily on the Luncheon Host each month to decide if they wanted to cancel the scheduled luncheon. As you know, we cancelled five luncheons from March through July and it has been already reported in the last Gold Digger Newsletter that **Stephanie & Ken Norton** cancelled the August 26<sup>th</sup> Luncheon.

We have no Luncheon scheduled for September and November. I did not get a volunteer to host the October Luncheon. Due to the current situation and uncertainty ahead, I do not plan to get a host now.

When this Pandemic started I never thought that we would be where we are nearly 5 months later. Our Christmas Luncheon, hosted by Penny and I would be in just four months. Due to the current Covid numbers being reported, which are heading in the wrong direction, Penny and I have decided to cancel the December 2<sup>nd</sup> luncheon.

We can only hope that 2021 will bring much safer conditions to socialize as we wish. In the meantime, I hope that everyone remains safe and healthy.

Another RUAEA scam ~ RUAEA members are once again receiving emails supposedly from our president, **Don Burbank**. The emails request gift certificates as financial support. Don has definitely not sent out these emails. This is a scam and we wish to alert all our members not to respond to it.

Starting now, RUAEA will respond only to personal phone requests for assistance. No email requests will be considered. As we have only a limited number of email addresses, we ask your help in warning our members of the scam. Please warn all the members you can reach of this scam. And advise them to never respond to an email request for assistance. Any requests should be verified with the person involved by phone.



## **SAN JOAQUINERS**

Rosie Walls  
(209) 984-5672  
[jawrmw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jawrmw@sbcglobal.net)

There is no report this month from the San Joaquiners chapter of RUAEA.

If anyone would like to join us at our next luncheon, hopefully in September, please contact our president, **Steve Foster**, (209) 328-1210, and he will be able to answer any question you might have and give you the information about our chapter.

## **SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY**

San Jose, CA  
[www.southbayruaea.org](http://www.southbayruaea.org)  
George Midwin  
1879 Foxworthy Ave.  
San Jose, CA 95124  
[midwin5u@hotmail.com](mailto:midwin5u@hotmail.com)



Our president **Chuck Clayborn** held the first on-line, ZOOM meeting. Those members who are not technology challenged, participated and included, **Marianne Johnson, Bill & Rosie Reichard, George & Julie Midwin** and **Bob & Karen Devlin**. This was a great idea that Chuck put forth and it was just wonderful to connect with members once again. All participating, have made personal contact with other members, so we had a good representation as to what most members have been up to.

The virus has kept most members in home or close to it; however, a few adventurous members have made an attempt to reach out further. I won't mention their names, but I do know for a fact they used all the recommended safety precautions.

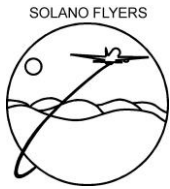
It was agreed that this process should continue until we can once again meet in person. Zoom meetings are set up by an individual, who then sends out a meeting ID and password, or a link to the meeting. Those



receiving the E-mail simply click on the link and/or follow a couple of simple commands that appear on the screen. They then can view the other participants and interact or mute their voice as they wish. Up to 100 people can participate and it's completely free for 40 minutes. If you want to talk longer, you end your session as prompted on the screen and sign back in for another 40 minutes.

Our next step will be to get to those who are technology challenged and don't have a 5 year old grandchild to assist them, the steps needed to get into Zoom. That will be the real challenge.

Hope all are doing well, take care. We miss you all.



### **SOLANO FLYERS**

Allan Pochop  
119 Carlsbad Circle  
Vacaville, CA 95687  
(707) 447-4980  
[apochop@aol.com](mailto:apochop@aol.com)

There is no report this month from the Solano Flyers chapter of RUAEA.

## **COLORADO**

### **DENVER** **MILE HIGHERS**

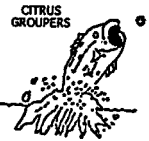
Rich & Cleora Conner  
(970) 660-7040  
[richcleora@gmail.com](mailto:richcleora@gmail.com)



Again, our August breakfast was canceled due to the virus. We can hope for one in September but can't count on it. We are working on a possible October breakfast.

Hope all of you are staying healthy!

## **FLORIDA**



### **THE CITRUS GROUPEERS**

#### **THE VILLAGES**

Julius "Joe" DiStaso  
(352) 775-8201  
(941) 661-2215  
[wopahofl@comcast.net](mailto:wopahofl@comcast.net)

There is no report this month from the Citrus Groupers chapter of RUAEA.

If anyone has questions or would like to join our group, please contact our president **Joe DiStaso** at [wopahofl@comcast.net](mailto:wopahofl@comcast.net) or **Rich Capozzi** at [rcapozzi@rocketmail.com](mailto:rcapozzi@rocketmail.com).



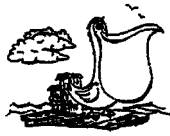
### **THE ORLANDO** **REAL McCOYS**

Elaine Tillman-Mannella  
7307 Everleigh Court  
Orlando, FL 32819  
(321) 287-4055  
[emt6250@yahoo.com](mailto:emt6250@yahoo.com)

There is no report this month from the Orlando Real McCoy's chapter of RUAEA.

### **SW PELICANS DROP-INS**

Margie Burg, Correspondent  
15791 Prentiss Pointe Circle #102  
Fort Myers, FL 33908  
(239) 400-2544  
[burgmarge@aol.com](mailto:burgmarge@aol.com)



There is no report this month from the SW Pelicans Drop-Ins chapter of RUAEA.

### **THE SAND DOLLARS**

Bradenton, FL  
Judy Macklin,  
840 Bird Bay Dr. W., #202  
Venice, FL 34285  
(941) 214-0252  
[judymacklin13@gmail.com](mailto:judymacklin13@gmail.com)



The Sand Dollars don't meet during the summer months as so many of our members are "snow birds", but until we restart our meetings in October - Coronavirus permitting of course, here is an interesting tale of the United Airlines work history of one of our members, **Bob Frye**.

Bob started out as an 18 year old with Capital Airlines in 1956 as a LaGuardia ramp agent. He progressed to Operations Agent at LGA and in mid 1968, transferred to PIT where he became a load planner. When Capital became United, sometime in the early 60's, he became a ticket sales agent. He progressed to a passenger planner in the planning center, and then ticket sales trainer. Sometime in 1962/63, through a miracle of events, he became a catering representative. Following two years as a catering rep, he was promoted to supervisor of food services and part of a team to open the new UAL Flight Kitchen at DTW. During the interim he worked at the UA/ORD flight kitchen for 2-3 months to become familiar with flight kitchen procedures. Following his ORD training, he was sent to DTW only to find out the kitchen opening was delayed due to a labor strike. As the only available member of the planned opening team he was asked to oversee the work of the existing DTW caterer who was located in the famous Willow Run Hanger in Ypsilanti known for WW2 bomber assembly plant and later becoming Ford's property.

The opening of the new DTW flight kitchen was highly successful, and Bob's work was highlighted by his completion of a kitchen safety program that was accepted by the National Restaurant Association for national use. Following 5 years at DTW, Bob was promoted to Assistant Manager at the LAX Flight Kitchen, where in addition to his normal duties he assisted with grievance hearings, spent time with the LAS caterer, and was part of a task force to upgrade United's inflight service to compete with PSA. During that time the United Flight Kitchen became a profit center to justify their existence in comparison with lower cost caterers. Bob was promoted to manage the Portland Flight Kitchen under the new profit center concept, and two years later was sent as manager in EXO to increase the revenue and profitability of the three United Commissaries at ORD, NYC and SFO. Following successful years with the commissaries, known then as United Airlines Pastry Kitchens, Bob was promoted again to Marketing Manager with the responsibility of selling catering to other airlines.

Life was good and all was well in the world, when a new United president decided to sell all the flight kitchens. Since Bob no longer had a food service job, he was assigned to WHQ purchasing where he spent time in Asia negotiating contracts and selling ground handling to other airlines. Since Bob was unsatisfied with his new responsibilities he decided, after 38 years, to retire. Fortunately, the following weekend, he started working with United's largest distributor, Michael Lewis Company. His initial responsibility was to be the account rep for United, however as part of this job he spent many hours on arranging for International inflight wines to arrive in time for monthly cycles and matching wine menus in business and first class. Following challenging weeks of working on new wine procedures, his team was successful in starting a new program that was accepted by US Airways. Since most of his time was now spent on distributing wines in Europe for UA and US, he worked out of Manchester, England. According to Bob, after 20+ years working on a dream job, he decided to retire (again), combining 58+ years in the airline business.

Now, Bob and his wife Kay, live in a hi-rise senior facility in downtown St. Petersburg, FL. They have been married for 63 years; have 11 great-grandchildren and 36 in their immediate family. Bob credits a big part of his success to Kay for supporting his efforts while handling their four children during their many moves. Bob

now spends a lot of time playing tennis, trying to play the guitar, talking to family and having fun in various consulting efforts. Bob & Kay are members of their hometown RUAEA Pittsburgh Pit-Stoppers, but we're glad they settled on our coast of Florida so they can join the Sand Dollars at their monthly luncheons.

If any other United retirees are planning to come to our beautiful area of Florida, we would love to hear from you and have you join The Sand Dollars. Please call **Ginger Hyde** at (941) 360-6671 or email her at [asdip920@aol.com](mailto:asdip920@aol.com).

*... When the smog lifts in Los Angeles, U.C.L.A ...*



#### **TAMPA BAY CHAPTER**

Trinity, FL  
Janis Lindstrom, Acting Secretary  
587 Waterford Circle W.  
Tarpon Springs, FL 34688  
(727) 934-1862  
[LindeKatz@aol.com](mailto:LindeKatz@aol.com)

Reading July reports - yes, we are all in the same boat ... we are still unable to meet at IHOP, it has been sad that we cannot meet and socialize with our retiree friends. So this is what we are going to do. We are going to skip our September meeting.

On October 5<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30AM, Anderson Park Shelter #4; we will meet for a get-together, coffee and goodies to discuss delaying our Fall Picnic to November 2, and also to talk about the Christmas Luncheon.

It will be great to see our Retiree friends again, we hope you all are in good health and stay safe.

#### **TREASURE COAST**

Stuart, FL  
Mary Kay Wetherington  
(561) 345-6373  
[mwether7044@att.net](mailto:mwether7044@att.net)



We continue, dutifully, to stay home as much as possible, only going out for essentials. I have finally gotten brave enough to go for routine blood work and doctor visits. We certainly need to take care of ourselves during these trying times. It was comforting to see how well prepared this facility was. Upon entering, I walked up to the temperature machine and was cleared to proceed to the counter, where I presented my new Aetna card. Can't believe it's August already and this was the first time I had it out of my wallet. After updating my records I headed on to the lab room, which looked entirely different. I was asked if I wanted the Covid test included in my blood work. It would be done with a blood draw, not the swab to the brain procedure, so I agreed. I go back next week for my doctor follow-up. There were no patients lined up in the waiting room and parking was unusually easy. I certainly hope this doesn't mean patients are avoiding going, like I was.

A message from our President **Al Popek** reads: *"Greetings from the Treasure Coast South Florida. August has become the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting we were unable to have. Not sure when we will be able to be together again, but the good news is that we haven't had any reports of members being sick. Our meeting place, Duffy's, is back open but unable to accommodate any groups. We here in Florida were very fortunate to be spared any major destruction from Tropical Storm and then Hurricane Isaias (say that a few times). This storm traveled over 5000 miles from its birth to its final resting place in Canada. Best wishes to our members living in states along the East Coast that were hit by the storm. On a final note, I would like to pass on a little bit of Florida trivia. Do any members know that people who come to Florida are put into three categories? First are the people who come for a visit or vacation usually for about two weeks. This group is called "Snowflakes". Then there are the folks who come and stay for the winter. They are called "Snowbirds". Finally, there are those that live here all year and put up with the hot and humid summers and annual hurricane seasons. We are all called "Frogs". Now, the reason we are called "Frogs" is that we come down here to croak! With that, Janice and I wish everyone a safe and healthy summer. Please remember there is always a light at the end of the tunnel. Stay safe, be well and many Cheers to all."*

I have been asked to pass along well-wishes to all from our Vice-President, **Bob Langevin**, **Sandy Ruggiero** and **Anne Kenda**. I know everyone in our chapter wishes everyone the best as we travel through this together.

It's remarkable how many new phrases have cropped up, "Social Distancing", "Face Coverings" (so many different makes and models), "Cancel Culture", "Senior only Shopping Hours" and "#X\*@" to name just a few. I'm sure all of us are praying for a Vaccine to arrive soon. We are so grateful for our Doctors, Nurses, Healthcare workers, Food Suppliers and everyone that is keeping our country ticking.

As our dear United struggles to make it through this difficult time, a special Thank You to all of you that keep us abreast of daily communication, particularly, **Dale Harper** and **Bob Langevin**. Our thoughts and prayers are with the active employees.

September birthdays include **Diane Liebisch**, **Diane Brodis**, **Jane Kerr**, **Joyce Smith** and **Sandy Ruggiero**. Though celebrations are entirely different this year, please know we are all thinking about you.

## HAWAII



### HONOLULU MENEHUNES

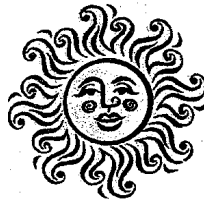
Patricia Thomson, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 1709  
Honolulu, HI 96806-1709  
(808) 946-7847  
[HNLRLUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNLRLUA@gmail.com)

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

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

### PAU HANA KUPUNA

(Hawaii, The Big Island)  
Ann Eaton Medve  
P. O. Box 190726  
Hawi, HI 96719  
(808) 889-1636  
[annmedve@icloud.com](mailto:annmedve@icloud.com)



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

## IDAHO



### BOISE GEMS

Shirley Dempsey  
[brandyjake@cablone.net](mailto:brandyjake@cablone.net)

Since we are still on shelter in place, no meeting is scheduled until October. Members will be notified if we will have a meeting or not in late September.

Please everyone wear your masks.

Stay safe everyone.



## ILLINOIS

### CHICAGO SKYLINERS

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

[Chicagomainliner.com](http://Chicagomainliner.com)

Jan Gawenda

(847) 437-7073

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



September - Wow, what a summer! So far we've had at least 30 days over 85 degrees. Anything over 84 is **hot** to me, so you know I'm dying here. Between the heat, Virus Pandemic, worldly unrest, illness, family issues, I'm ready for some real peace and quiet. August was cooler, figure that! I hope all of our friends on the East Coast have gotten through the tornadoes, rain and heat. It's been very hot across the country. Nobody is safe this summer, for many reasons. Would you like to hear some dumb things I've said and done in my life? Sure you would, we were all 20 at one time. When I first started at United, there was a very nice looking man that sat across the aisle from me at EXO. Of course, a young lady wants to make a good impression, right? I was about 21, kind of backwards in the ways of the world, got things mixed-up because I didn't know better. (Now I do that, but because I'm old). I saw him in the parking lot one morning; he had an adorable little sports car. I asked him what it was. He said it was a Karmann Ghia, by VW. I was impressed, very classy. A few days later, I saw him, wanting to start up a conversation, I said, 'Hi, how's your gonorrhea?' His head popped up, he dropped some papers, and said, 'What?' I said, 'your car, did I say it right?' He burst out laughing, shook his head, and said, 'No, it's a Karmann Ghia.' My friend, **Jack Gaughan**, heard me, took me aside, and told me what a dummy I was. I turned a great shade of crimson. Didn't learn my lesson, because about five years later, I transferred to another department. We had a very handsome trainer, nice build, curly black hair, great smile. We were trying to figure out what nationality he was, Italian, Greek, maybe Russian. So, after class, I went up to him, under the ruse of having a work question. I said, 'by the way, what nationality are you?' He smiled, and said, 'I'm Lebanese'. Ah hah! That was a new one. So, the next day, during our break, the girls in my class started talking about the hot trainer. I said, 'Oh, I found out his nationality, he's lesbian'. For some reason, the ladies spit coffee from their mouths, dropped their rolls, pushed their chairs back, more bursts of laughter. Now what did I say? One of the girls that had stopped laughing said, 'Jan, do you mean Lebanese?' I said, 'Yes, why, what did I say?' Again, somebody had to take me aside and teach me the ways of the world. More shades of red. Hey, it was the 60's, the world was changing! I led a sheltered life. Took forever to live that down. I hope that man never heard about my faux pas. Guess I still have a way with words ...

Some interesting things in September are, it's Chicken month, Fall Hat month, Square Dancing Month, Honey Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, Little League Month. The third week is Indoor Plant week, for all of you green thumb people. Some cute dates this month are VJ Day, the 2<sup>nd</sup>, Labor Day, the 7<sup>th</sup>, don't know about you, but I worked most holidays while at UAL, Ampersand Day, that's the, &, sign, wow, there's a whole day for the AND sign? What about the Comma and Question mark, they're going to get jealous. Other fun days are, Teddy Bear, Cherries Jubilee, Ask a Stupid Question (every day), Elephant Appreciation, Constitution and Citizenship Days, Grandparents, Pet Memorial Day, and September 11<sup>th</sup>, of course is our top Tragedy Day of this century. We all remember where we were and how we found out what happened in NYC, DCA and a field in Pennsylvania. Horrible experience for everyone, so many families affected from United and the country. News programs still show Flight 175 going into the South Tower. I think of that day often, don't you? We should never forget, especially now with other catastrophes going on. All this turmoil scares me more than the Covid virus. Will this ever end?

Our monthly breakfasts were sparsely attended. The Northside had nine people, and the Southside had none. The two ORDMM breakfast had 7 total. Maybe next month will be more promising. I'll keep sending reminders, times have to improve. Until we have a better survival rate, I doubt Mr. JB will go to a higher Phase for us. Hold on, stay strong, we'll get there! Always do what you think is safe for **you**. We want you around for a long time. The way I figure, I didn't live this long, live through all kinds of crap, through two centuries, just to die from a Chinese bug! I'm going to Live 'till I die! And I mean, really **live**!

I've heard from a few people who wondered what's going on at our office on Touhy Avenue. Well, I did a little investigating, and here's the scoop. **Margaret Longo** said the Res office is closed, people are working remotely out of their homes, a few are at EXO. The Inflight Recurrent Training is still on the first floor. Our friend, **Rich Holke** said all Alliant employees are working from their homes also. Sounds like nobody is going back until a vaccine is found. I also checked with **Lynn Hagele**, about the Mainliner Store. They are still

selling their United items, from Tuesday through Friday, 11:00 to 1:00. You have to sign in, present your drivers license, and then shop 'till you drop, or till 1:00 ...

Something we should talk about is **scams**! Those crooked no good SOB's are still out there, preying on the elderly and others not aware of what's going on. In the last week alone, I received an email from a good friend asking me to buy an iTunes gift card for her niece, saying she was out of town and couldn't do it herself. She'd pay me later. Sure ... Then on Facebook Messenger, I received messages from two gentlemen whom I haven't heard from in ages. They asked how I was, if I still lived in my home, what I was doing, etc. One sent a video and asked if I was the one dancing in the video. (Ha) The other told me he received an inheritance of \$350,000, and he'd like to share it with me. (Ha Ha).

Another one here in Illinois is from the IDES, Illinois Department of Employment Security. You get an ATM-type card from them, it says you applied for unemployment, were approved, and here is your card, worth so much money, call the phone number, and activate it to be used, right away. It's sent from Key Bank. The minute you activate it, the scammers are able to access your information and start taking money from your bank. Another scam from them is, if you're already on unemployment, they change your bank direct deposit info, and your money is sent to a Wells Fargo bank account. No, I don't know how they do this because I'm not crooked and have no idea how to do this. I'm happy each time I can sign on and remember my password. Another one is offering you virus masks, on the computer, for just the postage. No!

Phone calls! You probably have Caller ID, if you don't recognize the number or name, please don't answer, they'll tell you to change your electric from COMED to theirs. Or, you need a Medic Alert bracelet, knee braces, eye glasses, all paid for by Medicare. Don't answer, if it's somebody you know, they'll leave a message on your phone. **Charlie Lewis** received a call from, 'Unavailable', telling him his iCloud account had been compromised, and he should call Apple to straighten it out. He hung up, but from 3:45 to 8:05 P.M., he received 18 such phone calls, most from different phone numbers, but all wanting him to call Apple at the number they gave him. Well, he didn't answer 16 of them, but it was definitely a scam. Charlie wants to warn you, be careful. On that subject, if you ever need to call me, please leave your name and number, I **will** call you back. After all of these warnings, do you think I'd answer? If I recognize your name, of course, I'll pick up. Many of you have called, you know I call back.

By now you know not to let anybody in the house to check your water or gas meter, please! These guys don't work alone, one pushes his way into your home, knocks you over, then lets the second guy in your back door. They steal money, jewelry, or anything of value. Lord only knows if they'll leave you alone, beat you up, or worse. We're cute little seniors, but they take advantage of us. Bullies and nasty people looking for free things so they don't have to work. Remember when we could trust most people? There have always been bad people out there, our parents warned us about them. Now we're getting to meet them up close and personal. I used to drive to downtown Chicago, visit museums and plays, no more. I'd take the kids, we walked everywhere, those days are over. Please be careful, we really have to protect ourselves.

Also received word from **Toni van Kampen** that the rules have changed at ORD. Access to the terminal is restricted to ticketed passengers, those assisting passengers, badged employees, and others with legitimate airport business. The first few pages of the Newsletter have lots of good information. **Kathie Torgison's** column has new info for us being cleared for flights, now being notified on our cell phones. If you don't have a cell, guess you'll have to advise the gate agent. Our little baker, **Sheryl Schubert**, also has great recipes for very simple meals, even I have tried a few. While I'm giving out kudos, I have to mention **Francis & Veronica Domaratius**, our editors, John Q, the man and magician, who puts this paper together. Then we have **Virgil & Martha Gooselaw**, obituaries and letters to the editor, **Cas Spokas**, our membership and computer guru. Can't forget our RUAEA board, led by **Don Burbank**. Then, we have the correspondents from over 50 chapters. With not many meetings going on, the Chapter reports are very slim indeed. I'm sure I'm leaving out somebody, sorry. Many hands help put this little paper together. Once the Newsletter is finished, we get a week off, then it starts all over again. I'm sure lucky to be in the same group as these fine, dedicated people who loved working for United Air Lines. We worked during the Glory Days, great times, great parties, even a \$25 dollar dinner, remember that debacle? Oy Vay!

Our friends that flew West last month are **Bill Rutherford** - ORDFO, **Steve Simmons** - ORDCS, **Wally Blankenship** - ORDCG, **Bill Fudge** - EXORZ, **Ferrol Hilsabeck** - EXOIM, **Dick Arnold** - ORDHN, **Lilian (Leah) Schulman**, and **Jim Petri** - EXOKT. Jim was also Village Trustee in Elk Grove, where he brought many good changes to the town. Jim was a very well liked person, at UAL, and in the area. The Village named the Public Works building for him. Also gone from our world are, Maya Rivera, Kelly Preston, Black Activists C.T. Vivian and US Representative, John Lewis, Herman Cain, Wilford Brimley, Reni Santoni (Seinfeld), John

Saxon, the list also include some legends, Olivia De Havilland, 104, everybody's favorite Regis Philbin, and Chicago's own, Jerry Taft, Channel 7's weatherman.

These get-togethers in the Calendar section are all pending, determined on the situation of the state's Covid restrictions. An email blast will be sent to confirm.

Calendar:

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

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

IAM Lodge 1487 - 50 W. Oakton, Des Plaines, (**September 3**), 11:00 A.M. First Thursday of the month.

RUPA Lunch - Illinois Golf Club, Algonquin, (**September 8**) 11:00 A.M.

INDIANA



INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN

Frank N. Ingegno

(317) 428-7741

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

The RUAEA Indy Racers chapter July meeting was held on Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at Emmy Pancake House and Grill. In attendance were **Bob & Myrtle Duty**, **Frank** and **Rita Prins**, **Ed Loftus**, **Mario Bregante** and **Frank Ingegno**.

The nationwide resurgence of Covid cases has forced us to postpone our Ohio road trips. Future trip dates remain to be determined. The virus has also dampened member personal travel. There are no personal trips to report.

The winner of the July 20/20 raffle was **Frank Prins**.

The next Indy Racers chapter meeting will be held on Tuesday August 11<sup>th</sup> at Emmy Pancake House and Grill, 7508 Beechwood Center Road, Avon, IN 46123, (317) 272-7200.

Our future meetings schedule for 2020 is:

- September 8, at Emmy's
- October 7, at Emmy's
- November 10, at Emmy's
- December 8, 2020. Xmas celebration, location to be announced.

If you are in the Indianapolis area during any of our meetings, please consider joining us. The lunch and conversation are both excellent. For more information, please contact **Frank Ingegno**, [figenius@sbcglobal.net](mailto:figenius@sbcglobal.net).

MASSACHUSETTS

NOR'EASTERS

New England

Dick Vee Vecchione

107 Bunker Hill Road

Auburn, NH 03032-3521

(603) 264-3430

[NH4Vee@aol.com](mailto:NH4Vee@aol.com)



Greetings to all! A current customer agent, **Kris Halrs** of BOS, advised me things must be getting better. She worked a SFO and DEN flights at gates they haven't used in some time, while others were busy. A week later, she got laid off. Who knows!

Sad news: **John Grindal** passed on. John was a customer service agent, then a supervisor in BOS. Before retirement, he was the station manager in BTV. John was well liked by all and will be missed.

I'm trying to reach two long time members we haven't heard from since Covid-19 began, **Don Latter** and our last chapter president, **Carleen Eddy**. Calls and E-mail are continually going unanswered and it's not like either one. If anyone knows of their whereabouts, please call or E-mail me!

Some of the good things at BOSTR but rarely talked about: One customer had an epileptic fit at the ticket counter. Our ticket agent, **Jean Toupin**, went into action immediately. She made sure he didn't swallow his tongue and stayed with him until medics arrived.

Another customer, a heavy man, had a heart attack and stopped breathing. **Andy Montalto** rushed from the ticket counter and started artificial respiration. Andy went with the paramedics to the hospital working on him all the way. All said it was Andy's speed and good work that let him live.

When BOS still had our own flight kitchen, they came to the aid of the ramp and any other outside worker during the real cold winter days. They always brought a large pan of hot green split pea soup. It was good and a savior on some days. I know, because many a time I also gave silent thanks for it.

I am a member of the senior group in my town. Since Covid-19 we lost our weekly meeting place. As soon as winter eased up, 6 or 7 members started meeting at a member's yard. With summer in full swing, we've been meeting at a lake side park under shady trees. We even have the benefit of choosing the best weather day. Now we get 10 to 12 members. We each bring our own seats, lunch and sit in a circle 6 to 8 feet apart. It's a nice safe way to meet and good for us seniors. Where there's a will, there is always a way!

September's birthdays: **Robert Anderson, Frank DeSefano, Carleen Eddy, Mercedes Hersom, Gerald Peters, Lynn O'Hara** and **Paul O'Mara**.

September's anniversaries: **Joan & Ron Twing** (47 years) and **Dick & Dayle Vee** (39 years).

Calendar:

We're remembering good times at past meetings & hope for more!

## MICHIGAN



### GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Gwen Dyc-Schwendenmann

(248) 667-9258

[bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net)

Greetings from DTWRR.

*"When my arms can't reach people who are close to my heart, I always hug them with my prayers."* ~

Peanuts, Charles Schulz

A good thing to remember now that we must practice social distancing.

Stay strong and well.

## MINNESOTA

### NORTHERN LITES

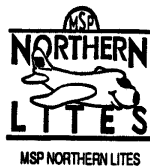
Connie Glattly

82300 Wold Road

Willow River, MN 55795

(218) 349-3972

[crglatty@frontiernet.net](mailto:crglatty@frontiernet.net)



Another month went by without having the opportunity to join our friends for lunch and visiting. Bummer! Nonetheless, word of our pals is getting around. To wit:

**Jim & Mary Brennan's** grandson Ryan Walsh, an attorney in Madison, WI, received awards and was written up in a local publication. No wonder we heard buttons popping from over there! "According to the State Bar of Wisconsin, the "Best Brief" award recognizes attorneys who are superior legal writers, promote appellate advocacy, and who deliver briefs that are articulately and pervasively written and can be used as models for upcoming appellate lawyers. Ryan has now won a total of three "Best Brief" awards from the State Bar of Wisconsin, which is more than any attorney has won in the history of the competition."



Other news ~ **Cindy & John White:** John is in long-term care, Cindy is recovering from ulcer-related issues.

Dr. **Jan Meyer** had rotator cuff surgery. Emails all lower case with no punctuation. Whatta mental image **that** is!

**Marty Arnold** passed away July 24<sup>th</sup>, another quiet, good guy gone. Condolences may be sent to his wife **JoAnn** and family at 203 East Richmond St., South St. Paul, MN 55057.

The Golden Corral is reopened but their protocol is unknown. Do we want to try for October? Feedback is welcome!

By the time you see this, Dear Readers, the picnic at the Brennan's will just be a fond memory. Since it's yet a week away when I submit this missive to the wonderful editors and producers of the newsletter, next month's issue will have all the lurid details of a bunch of masked folks (except when eating or drinking) visiting outside in lawn chairs. We will have missed all those who couldn't make it or chose not to risk catching the Nasty. True to form, however, your ears should have been burning at some point that day.

## NEBRASKA

### OMAHA GOLDENEARS

Jan Cornish

(402) 571-6031

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



There is no report this month from the Omaha Golden Ears chapter of RUAEA.

## NEVADA

### LAS VEGAS

#### SILVER LINERS

Don Rutkowski

8517 Lynhurst Drive

Las Vegas, NV 89134

(702) 300-4038

[geodon1192@gmail.com](mailto:geodon1192@gmail.com)



With much concern for our Members we, the Silverliners Board, have determined that we will review and monitor directives from the Governor's Office related to the Coronavirus and its effect on Seniors. The Governor's Phase II directive has been rolled back, he stated that groups of 10 people (down from 50) or less can get together with mask and social distancing. Then in the next line he states "people that are of the vulnerable population and have under lying medical conditions are to stay sheltered" that hits our group right on the head.

With the recent up tick in COVID-19 cases here in Nevada and the US Government labeling Nevada a **hot spot**, we see very little chance of getting together on August 13, 2020, so we have cancelled the Luncheon and notified all our members.

On another sad note, we lost 2 of our members, **Mae L. "Willie" Bullinger Ikei** and **Michel LeChevalier** in the past month. So with all going on with the virus and disruption of our personnel lives, we will try and have a Luncheon on October 8, 2020 the Lord willing and the Governors new directives.

The Silverliners hold their meetings on the second Thursday of every even month. The meetings are now held at Giuseppe's Italian Grill at 2630 W. Horizon Ridge Parkway Henderson, NV 89052. If you are in Las Vegas or planning a trip here you are more than welcome to come to our meeting and visit with our members, you may even know or worked with one of them. Email **Don Rutkowski** at [geodon1192@gmail.com](mailto:geodon1192@gmail.com) or call him at (702) 300-4038, we will be glad to see you.



## **RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP**

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

There is no report this month from the Reno Sierra Roundup chapter of RUAEA due to remaining in Phase II in Nevada (that does not allow for group meetings).

## **NEW JERSEY**

### **THE GARDEN STATERS**

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



The B-29 and the atomic bomb - the original weapon of mass destruction: From my memories, August 6 and 9, a 75 year anniversary.

Two dates should be ingrained in the history of the United States; August 6, 1945 and August 9, 1945. On August 6, a B-29 took off from Tinian Island in the Southwest Pacific and dropped an atom bomb on the city of Hiroshima, Japan. On August 9 another B-29 took off from Tinian Island and bombed the city of Nagasaki in Japan. The terrible destruction that followed these two bombings defies any descriptions. Although we have seen many pictures and heard direct accounts, I don't think any of us could understand this kind of destruction. Yes this is war, and of course the object is to defeat your enemy which was Japan, and after the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor that killed over 2000 soldiers and sailors, who would deny that they didn't get their just desserts.

I say this now because it comes to me how fate takes a part of everyone's lives. While serving on Guam at the U.S. Air Force base Northfield, now called Anderson field, we loaded many bombs on B-29s to do practice bombing. I never even came close to an atomic bomb nor anybody else I know, ever did. That all changed, when I was shipped back to the states for reassignment, I reported to Fort Slocum New York and shortly thereafter I was assigned to the 301<sup>st</sup> bomber group 352 bomb squadron stationed at Smoky Hill Air Force Base in Salina, Kansas. These B-29s were new models and many were retrofitted to carry the atom bomb that was used on Hiroshima commonly known as "Little boy". They were also fitted with a 2000 gallon fuel tank in the rear Bomb bay, and all were equipped for air to air refueling. Primitive as it was, it gave these aircraft extra long range and they became truly a weapon of mass destruction. Besides the "tankers" we also had planes called Pathfinders, whose job it was to drop large amounts of aluminum tinfoil to confuse enemy radar. This bomb weighed about seven tons and had to be loaded very carefully. None of that happened at Smoky Hill airbase although we did a lot of dry runs through our bomb sites, even though we didn't have the atomic bomb in the aircraft. When we moved from Smoky Hill Air Force Base en masse to Barksdale Air Force Base in Shreveport, Louisiana in November 1949 all that changed. Life there was pretty easy until 25 June 1950, that's when the Korean War broke out. All our operations made a complete U-turn, and we were put on a high alert with the possibility of using it. In fact now we had to practice loading it more often. We did that by first by jacking up the nose of the plane, taking off the front left Bomb bay door, then moving the bomb which was installed on a special made Dolly into position, and jacking it up to a latch on a giant hook fastening it to the top of the front of the Bomb bay. Once it was secured, it was stabilized and ready to go. The Air Force took elaborate precautions that nobody except authorized personnel could go into the Bomb bay once it was loaded, for instance, believe it or not they had a black curtain on the bulkhead door so no one could see what the armament person was doing when fusing the bomb. When we came back from our missions, the MPs quickly surrounded the airplane, and then the bomb was removed. My thoughts took me back, what if I was on the original plane that dropped the bomb, what would I be thinking. When reading what the members of that crew said, it was all in a days work. Just think that our nuclear arsenal is even more powerful than those original bombs.

The events of August 1945 surely have changed the course of history, as we have had no global conflict for more than 75 years. Sadly we still can't seem to prevent local conflicts but at least we haven't subscribed to mutual destruction, small consolation but all life has to go on. Robert Oppenheimer, one of the builders of the atomic bomb, witnessed the results of the test at Alamogordo, New Mexico. He then recited the famous line from the Hindu scriptures which said "now I become death, destroyer of the world so said Shiva the God of fire, destruction, and death". How does that old song go? Where have all the soldiers gone? Gone to war everyone, when will they ever learn, when will we ever learn.

## NEW YORK

### BUFFALO CHIPS

Jerry Stevens  
130 Countryside Lane  
Williamsville, NY 14221-1308  
(716) 418-6887  
[jerstel30@msn.com](mailto:jerstel30@msn.com)



**BUFFALO CHIPS**

There is no report this month from the Buffalo Chips chapter of RUAEA.

Any one visiting or planning a visit to Buffalo/Niagara Falls can contact me for information on our lunch meetings. We meet four times a year, usually the first week of March, June, September and December.

### NEW YORK METROS

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



There is no report this month from the New York Metros chapter of RUAEA.

## OHIO

### OHIO BUCKEYES

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



Here we are in yet another month with no luncheon meeting. The only tentative scheduled meeting is our Christmas party on Wednesday, December 2 at Williams On-The Lake. We have to make a decision by mid October. That way, if we must cancel, Williams will be able to schedule other parties in our place. It's now August, and I know all members miss seeing each other.

On a personal note: We are going to try something new for this newsletter. There is a lot of information being hacked, and the lives of the victim's being turned up-side-down because of it. So, we are going to do this without detailed information (like people's names, etc.). This month we are writing about the highlights of a chapter member who is a Veteran. For this Article, we'll name him **Ozzie**.

Before the age of 18, Ozzie attended Western Military Academy at Alton, Illinois. The Battle of the Bulge was just ending and in February of 1945 he was able to choose the branch of the service that he wanted to join. Ozzie chose the U. S. Coast Guard.

Boot training was at Manhattan Beach, N.Y. Next was Merchant Marine Academy on Sheepshead Bay for 90 days of training. Many churches provided soldiers a place to sleep. He remembers a very tall Priest came into the church and offered to hear his confession. While in a stair well, with his hand on Ozzie's shoulder, Father Kelly heard his confession.

Upon graduation from Boot Camp, Ozzie was assigned to "USS Wakefield AP-21". This was not a little ship, it was a "Huge" 705ft long, 86 ft. across, 33,560 ton, and carried 8,500 Troops. Aboard he performed many different duties, including being assigned as a Lookout way up in the "Crow's Nest". He was told "Don't look down". With training completed, they left Boston and on their way to Europe. While cruising the

Mediterranean Sea, the ship stopped at many ports. It was not like a vacation. The aftermath of WWII was there, like seeing a burned-out Sherman Tank in the middle of the road. The ship cruised the Mediterranean Sea, and then it was back to Boston.

Next trip was through the Panama Canal and into the Pacific Ocean, to Midway, Pearl Harbor, China, Guam, etc. before returning to New York City and Ellis Island where Ozzie saw the remains of the ship “**USS Normandy (CG-60)**”. They were “Home”.

After his military service, Ozzie went to work for United Airlines. He worked Ramp for 41 years, and for the last 25 of those years he was Ramp Lead. When he retired, he was #2 on the seniority list for the entire system. We know Ozzie personally as do many of our members. He is a true American, and we salute him for His Service.

We pray for your health & safety. God Bless everyone, and God Bless Our United States of America.

## OREGON



### OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland  
Terry Hotchkin  
20201 NE 179<sup>th</sup> Court  
Battle Ground, WA 98604  
(360) 687-3465  
[tthotchkin@gmail.com](mailto:tthotchkin@gmail.com)

July found us all continuing to hunker down and self-isolating. Our plan is to monitor recommendations from the medical/scientific experts (ignoring social media and political pundits!) before deciding when it will be safe to resume meetings, especially considering that our age puts us in the highly vulnerable category. Once that decision has been made, we will alert our members and anticipate **lots** of chatter and laughter when we are able to meet face to face again! Someday we might even be able to hug! In the meantime, we'll pass along some humor to hopefully bring some chuckles your way.

One piece of sad news to share; we were alerted that **Evelyn Hilda Feng** passed away the end of June after a fall at home. She worked in the PDX Flight Kitchen from 1965 to 1989 and attended the Dew-er's meetings until transportation became an issue several years ago.

Now, thanks to member **Kathy Russell**, we have some humor to pass along:

- ☺ So, let me get this straight, there's no cure for a virus that can be **killed** by soap and hand sanitizer?
- ☺ I see a big baby boom coming our way in the next 9 months. We'll have a new generation called the C-19-ers and the #1 names will be Charmin & Scott!
- ☺ Is it too early to put up the Christmas tree yet? I'm running out of things to do.
- ☺ When this Virus thing is over ... I still want some of you to stay away.
- ☺ If these last few months have taught us anything, it's that stupidity travels faster than any virus on the planet!
- ☺ Just wait a second – so what you're telling me is that my chance of surviving all this, is directly linked to the Common Sense of others?
- ☺ People are scared of getting fined for congregating in crowds. As if catching a deadly disease and dying a horrible death wasn't enough of a deterrent.
- ☺ If you believe all of this will end, and we will get back to normal once we reopen everything. Raise Your Hand. Now slap yourself with it.
- ☺ Another Saturday night in the house and I realized, even the trash goes out more than me.
- ☺ Whoever decided that a Liquor Store is more essential than a Hair Salon is obviously a bald-headed alcoholic!
- ☺ Remember when you were little, and all your underwear had the days of the week on them? Those would be handy right now.
- ☺ The spread of COVID-19 is based on two factors: How dense the population is. How dense the population is.
- ☺ People start coughing and worry they have the Coronavirus. I cough and just pray I don't pee myself!
- ☺ Remember all the times you wished the weekend would last forever? Well, wish granted. Happy now?
- ☺ Growing your own tomatoes is a good way to devote 3 months of your life to saving about \$2.17.

- ☺ Guys, I need your help. I'm in the middle of an argument with my wife and she just told me I'm right. What in the heck do I do now?
- ☺ Jellyfish have survived 650 million years, despite not having a brain. This gives so many people hope.
- ☺ I was visiting my daughter last night when I asked if I could borrow a newspaper. "This is the 21<sup>st</sup> century" she said, "we don't waste money on newspapers. Here, use my iPad". I can tell you this, that fly never knew what hit him!
- ☺ The cops just left. They said if I was going to walk around the house naked, I had to do it inside.
- ☺ Due to the Isolation, I finished 3 books yesterday. And believe me, that's a lot of coloring!

Calendar:

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

**PENNSYLVANIA**

**THE INDEPENDENTS**

Philadelphia, PA  
 Joyce W. Lindenmuth  
 Wesley Enhanced Living  
 100 Halcyon Dr., Room C-107  
 Media, PA 19063  
 (610) 521-2291  
[joycewildenmuth@gmail.com](mailto:joycewildenmuth@gmail.com)



There is no report this month from The Independents chapter of RUAEA.

**PITTSBURGH  
 PIT-STOPPERS**

Bill Chicots  
 2419 Rochester Road  
 Sewickley, PA. 15143  
 (412) 352-7375  
[firechief158@gmail.com](mailto:firechief158@gmail.com)



There is no report this month from the Pittsburgh Pit-Stoppers chapter of RUAEA.  
 Birthdays: **Pat Wagner** and **Sandy Burns**.

**TENNESSEE**

**TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS**

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



There is no report this month from the Tennessee Rocky Tops chapter of RUAEA.  
 For Luncheon/Meeting's location, please contact Carolyn at the above phone number.



## UTAH

### SALT LAKE RETIREES

Rich Papworth  
[pappys72@hotmail.com](mailto:pappys72@hotmail.com)



There is no report this month from the Salt Lake Retirees chapter of RUAEA.

## WASHINGTON

### EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle, WA  
Gay Liesse  
104 South 296<sup>th</sup> Place  
Federal Way, WA 98003-3626  
[gllesse@aol.com](mailto:gllesse@aol.com)



While the corona virus rages around the world, members of the Seattle chapter of RUAEA continue to hunker down, looking forward to better days. Board members will meet soon to decide the fate of upcoming meetings and activities of the Emerald City Slickers.

This month your correspondent is reproducing, with minor adjustments, an article on **Dave Jones** (SFOFO), United Airlines (and Boeing) retiree that was printed in the April 2019 issue of *Contrails*, chapter newsletter of the Emerald City Slickers. Written by **John Haferbecker** with information from Dave's thriving memory, the story is almost a recent history of UAL and the airline industry, as well as a tale of the checkered careers of so many "youngsters" today.

Here is "**Dave Jones** – A career defined by his love for airplanes, Part 1":

**Dave Jones** was raised in Oakland, California, and was fascinated by airplanes from an early age. He grew up as the jet age came into being and assembled models of many military and commercial jets. His dreams of being a fighter pilot were dashed by eyesight that was short of 20/20, so he enrolled in aeronautical engineering at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo after high school.

Dave's first real opportunity to work around planes came in a summer job at Edwards Air Force Base between his junior and senior years in college. He was hired as an engineering aide by the Air Force and worked on plotting data for the F-5 fighter program. The highlight was riding in the F-5 and flying beyond Mach 1. This experience led to job offers as a flight test engineer at Edwards and at Boeing Commercial Airplanes. Choosing Boeing, Dave moved to Seattle in the summer of 1965. He was assigned to the 727-200 flight test program and worked on the development and flight test of the tri-jet, planning and flying flight tests, including stalls.

While at Boeing, Dave met his wife **Linda**, who also worked in flight test as a computer programmer. They were caught in the huge layoff of employees triggered by Boeing's 747 problems, which were immortalized on a 1971 billboard that asked, "Will the last person leaving Seattle please turn out the lights?" They moved on with their lives and were married in June 1970, leaving town on their honeymoon to drive down the Oregon/California coast to their new home in California. Linda had secured a job in computer programming at Pacific Bell while Dave worked on his MBA in Finance and Transportation at UC Berkeley. After his graduation in 1971, the couple toured Europe for 5 months.

Upon their return, Dave and Linda found jobs in San Francisco, where Dave worked as a budget analyst, first at Blue Shield and later at Crowley Marine. While at Crowley, Dave helped develop a computerized budget system that opened a new career path, one which eventually led him to United Airlines.

Dave missed airplanes and responded to a UAL ad for a data systems planner hiring on in 1984. His flight test work at Boeing and computer system management experience evolved into a variety of positions at the San Francisco MOC that included improving engine shop processes with new machines, converting paper maintenance manuals to digital data for access on compact discs and the introduction of the first Apple Mac computers with e-mail for engineers at the maintenance base.

Moving on, Dave became involved with “Working Together,” when United committed as the launch customer to buy 50 777s in late 1990. This called for United to work beside Boeing during design, testing and introduction of the new airplane that was to enter service in June 1995. United’s engineers, pilots, maintenance mechanics, and on-board services planners provided airline operating savvy.

As an aside, during the 777 program Dave worked with fellow Seattle Emerald City Slickers **Ed Liesse** (SFOED) and **Dick Devereux**, with Ed working on 777 maintenance training for United and Dick his Boeing counterpart.

A challenge for the 777 was gaining FAA approval to operate the plane in Extended Range Twin-Engine Operational Performance Standards (ETOPS) for up to 180 minutes from the nearest airport, a requirement for UAL to use the plane to serve the west coast to Hawaii market.

ETOPS had been pioneered in the north Atlantic with the 767 only several years after the plane was introduced into service in the 1980s. Initially, 767s had been assigned to inefficient, longer routings to stay within 60 to 90 minutes of an alternate airport should an engine shut down or other emergency require a diversion. Only after several years of trouble-free flying was the 767 granted 180-minute routings. Until then, no airplane had been granted 180 minutes ETOPS to start service.

Let’s leave the 777 there, dreaming of the day when it would take to the skies commercially. Only those of you interested in the technical and historical aspects of modern-day flight will have read this far, but there is more to come Stay tuned – same time, same station, next month.

*Stay Safe, Stay Healthy*

Calendar:

Chapter meeting cancelled until further notice.



#### **LILAC CITY FLYERS**

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

The Lilac City Flyers in Spokane are no longer meeting on a regular basis. If you are a United or Continental retiree in the Spokane area or visiting in the area and want to meet other retirees, contact **Sharon Holmes** at the information above.

#### **WASHINGTON, D.C.**

#### **THE DULLES LOUNGERS**

Washington, D.C.  
Mari McColl  
Past President  
[marimccoll@aol.com](mailto:marimccoll@aol.com)



There is no report this month from the Dulles Loungers chapter of RUAEA.

## NATIONAL

### CLIPPED WINGS



Peggy Griffin  
CW Vice President  
[cwpeggygriffin@gmail.com](mailto:cwpeggygriffin@gmail.com)

Hello RUAEA,

Well, here I sit at my computer wondering if we will ever get back to “NorMaL”.

**or**, is this our new way of living? Sure hope not!

Our Clipped Wings Chapters are still social distancing, which is very difficult for people who spent their entire career “traveling and meeting people”.

On a more positive note, our DEN Chapter is being honored by Special Olympics of Colorado. In October of this year they will be given an award and be inducted into the Colorado Special Olympics Hall of Fame. All the hard work they do, the volunteer hours they put in and money they earn have really paid off for them and Special Olympics. What a wonderful honor. **We**, as an Organization, are so very proud of them.

By the time you read this, Clipped Wings will be zooming their Unconventional Convention. Our motto at this year’s convention is “When life gives you lemons, make lemonade” ... We will get all 56 delegates and a dozen or so committee members together for “Happy Hour” on September 10<sup>th</sup> ... then on September 11<sup>th</sup>, we will proceed with our Convention Meeting on Zoom. Every member is encouraged to watch by zooming into the site. The meeting will be 4-5 hrs with a few breaks. We have hired a Zoom Moderator to handle all the technical work. We will not be doing a lot of business; however, we are going to be electing new officers and approving the next year's budget. They are the most important items for us to continue to operate. We will be honoring Chapters and individuals with Special Awards, and honoring the members that have made Clipped Wings so successful over the years but are no longer with us. And of course, we will be Remembering 9-11.

PDX will have a presentation to show us what we can expect in 2022 at the next convention. Actually, this was supposed to be their Convention year but ... we made lemonade instead!

**If** you know any former or current UAL/CAL Flight Attendants that would like more information about Clipped Wings, they can find us at [www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org](http://www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org). We are a fun group even when we are apart and zooming!!

## NEW MEMBERS

The following new members joined RUAEA during the month of **July 2020**:

Anoni, Donald, LGACS, 505 Flair Ct. W., Saint James, NY 11780  
Denenburg, Sandi, NHCRR, 45 Briar Hollow #7, Houston, TX 77027  
Fillhart, Richard, DENMM, 1962 Foxfield Dr., Castle Rock, CO 80104  
Sherman, Mary, ORDSW, 8006 River Bay Dr. W., Indianapolis, IN 46240  
Stubing, Kevin, JFKJL, 167 Garfield St., Massapequa, NY 11762

## CONTRIBUTIONS

We appreciated monetary contributions from the following members during the month of **July 2020**:

Audrey Alexander, Roger Andersen, James D. Barnard, Steven C. Blackwood, Donald L. Bryant, Robert F. Colpitts, Barry O. Constantine, John E. Dansdill, Carolyn A. Davis, Pete Dell, Claudia Drake, Thomas E. Emborsky, Carol J. Faust, Iris Fisher, Carmen M. Frankiewicz, Frances Gascon, Jo Ann Greenwood, Lynn Hagele, Kathy E. Hawley, Vicki M. Herrell, Dick Hopkins, Robert D. Jacobsen, Irene A. Jarmulska, Harlen J. Jesser, Janet G. Jolley, Ronald Juris, Peter K. Karg, Linda Kelley, Raymond Klapatauskas, Robert O. Levy, Ira G. Lowe, Donna L. Lynn, Melvin L. Manrose, Anjelina E. Martens, Beverly Mcalister, Jack F. McKinney,

Ronald G. Miller, Ethel A. Miyasato, Forrest G. Morris, William K. Morrison, Thomas M. Pelc, Edward F. Pozzi, Carol M. Rising, Donald P. Rutkowski, Frederick J. Schnittker, Robert Schwartz, Robert Scoble, Arc Seven, Ray E. Shoults, Esther M. Skeggs, Jackie L. Smith, Susan E. Spieker, Wilda Gerideau Squires, John Stepek, Alan J. Stephenson, Ellen A. Turbak, Edgar R. Via, Kenneth R. Walters, Jay G. Warbiany, Linda K. Ward, Patricia C. Watson, Marvin O. Welt, Inara Witt, Mary K. Wojtal.

## OBITUARIES

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

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

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

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

Retiree – **Arnold, Richard G.**, on 5/29/2020, ORDHN, husband of Joan Arnold and Eleanor J. Arnold, (both deceased), 501 Kazimour Dr., Lake Barrington, IL 60010

Spouse – **Closser, Betty J.**, on 3/4/2019, wife of James W. Closser, SFOMM, 127 Chad Dr., Cottage Grove, OR 97424

Spouse – **Dick, Lois H.**, on 8/5/2020, wife of Vick Dick, DENMM (deceased), 2310 9<sup>th</sup> Ave., Apt. 002, Longmont, CO 80503

Retiree – **DuMosch, Richard**, on 7/16/2020, HSVOZ, husband of Helga H. DuMosch and father of Norman DuMosch, SFOFO, 6166 Adamonts Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80924

Retiree – **Fudge, William K.**, date of death unknown, WHQRZ, husband of Karen Fudge, 10702 N De La Warr Circle, Mequon, WI 53092

Retiree – **Hilsabeck, Ferrol D.**, on 5/10/2020, WHQIM, husband of Cynthia A. Hilsabeck, 2625 N. Hogan Ave., Mesa, AZ 85215

Retiree – **Petri, James P. (Jim)**, on 7/23/2020, WHQKT, husband of Patricia Petri, 661 Sycamore Drive, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Retiree – **Rauch, Carolyn E.**, on 7/19/2020, DCASW, wife of James O. Rauch, 3722 Center Way, Fairfax, VA 22033

Retiree – **Sarsfield, James J. (Jerry)**, on 6/26/2020, IADMM, husband of Margaret Sarsfield, 95 Poquoson Dr., Stuarts Draft, VA 24477

Retiree – **Schulman, Liliane B.**, on 5/17/2020, ORDCS, mother of David Schulman and lifelong partner of Jack Schrandt, 3950 N. Lake Shore Dr., Apt. 2030, Chicago, IL 60613

Retiree – **Van Fleet, Eugene W. (Van)**, on 3/21/2020, DENTK, husband of Doris Van Fleet (deceased) and father of Marci Girin, 36 Harlan Street, Lakewood, CO 80226

Retiree – **Wallick, William**, on 7/15/2020, SFOLX, husband of Diane Wallick, 1016 Anza Drive, Pacifica, CA 94044

Retiree – **Watnemoe, Jerome A.**, on 7/1/2020, DENJL, husband of Judith Watnemoe (deceased) and father of Joleen Garcia, 1667 Highfield Dr., Windsor, CO 80550

## Letters & Notes



Hi Members,  
I'm the person who edits the letters/notes 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/Notes Editor  
7401 MLK Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80207-2433  
[marthagoose@comcast.net](mailto:marthagoose@comcast.net)

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

Lois Berryhill, Carlton Brown, Joseph Ciccon, Theresa Butkus, Ethel Clarke, Harry Crandall, Darlene Foster, Frances Gascon, C. Paul Gilson, Ester Horompoly, Thomas Long, Cynthia Matsie, Patrick Ready, Carol Rising, Victor Rose, John Sleppek, Sue Spicker, Marge Stamm, Kaji Takeuchi, Diana Thal, Linda Ward, Charles Westpfahl, Carol Whittemore, Irvin Wolfram.

### **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.)*

#### **Barry Constantine, 3049 Via Romaza, Carlsbad, CA 92009**

I am so sorry to be late again with my dues. However, I have a great excuse this time, as I have been stuck inside my bunker and I barely came out to yell my frustrations at the stupid virus. Then I dive back down and quickly take my temperature to make sure no one breathed on me.

As usual, thanks for keeping us up to date on all the goings on at United. It is going to be rough for everyone for a while. I just hope our beloved Airline survives. Maybe someone could suggest to the new CEO that they bring back the 2 seat configuration that did not make people so close together. Remember when coach was not bumper to bumper in the 70's and 80's. The first airline to do this will see a huge up tick in booking. That will mean fewer seats for us employees/retirees but will fill flights.

Thanks again for all you are doing, as I am doing more reading these days.

#### **Suzanne Campbell, 6081 Crestbrook Dr., Morrison, CO 80465**

Thanks for all you do. It is wonderful to hear about the good ole days. So many memories. One of my favorites was when our crew was invited to tour Air Force One when President Kennedy was in SLC in the 60's

I am finally getting rid of all my uniforms, except the one I designed when I was National Uniform Chairman. That one is dear to my heart.



**Bill Green, 4352 Belmour Drive, Sebastopol, CA 95472**

I am very sorry for being late.

Bill had his 88<sup>th</sup> birthday, very quiet with the virus. He has health issues but is doing okay. Our social life is visiting doctors. Two of them do it on the phone, so we don't have to go out.

Luckily we don't have the virus so far and hope not to get it.

We have great neighbors who do all of our shopping. Betty.

**Bernie McManus, 13185 Lakeview Dr., Van Buren Twp, MI 48111**

My wife retired as a flight attendant (ORDSW) in 1996, after 31 years of service. I retired as a supervisor in DTW after 39 years.

We appreciate the excellent work you folks do in keeping updates of all the ole retirees.

Cinda worked in SFOSW, DENSW and ORDSW and I basically worked in EWRTR and DTWTR/CG and sales. It was a great ride with great people and friends, beautiful memories.

**Jim Simon, 2842 Lindbergh Ln., Lincoln, CA 95648**

These past few months have certainly taken a toll on our social gatherings and the cancellations of our monthly chapter meetings. The "stay at home" policy has some ill effects when we are not as active as we'd like to be or just get too lazy to incorporate a good exercise program without putting ourselves in serious risk of contracting Covid-19.

I stay busy with keeping my place up for show and beautifying my yard and the landscape. I go to the store or shop when only necessary and as a result, I am saving a ton of money! Guess I have come to the realization that I like to go out and socialize a lot and spend a bit of my retirement on dinners, travel, gas and events. None of that is happening right now.

I hope this finds all of you in the Denver office and our staff of wonderful volunteers doing well and keeping up with the business of RUAEA. You all do a very wonderful and most appreciative job for all of us. I personally thank you for your continual efforts to our membership.

**Ed Tholl, 12 N Winston Dr., Palatine, IL 60074**

Dear Friends at RUAEA.

I know it has been a long year for everyone as we've battled Covid-19. I want to thank all of you for keeping the news coming. I don't know how you did/do it but all of us retirees are deeply appreciative.

Like many of our group I'm living locked up except thankfully, I have a nice yard and garden to keep me busy. I'm always amazed at how weeds will grow in any climate or soil. It's been 19 years since I entered the "good life" but I still talk about United as our-my airline. Still proud!

My heart goes out to all our active employees, especially those on the front line who bravely carry on the battle.

Thanks one and all and stay SAFE!

**Geraldine Vann, 11700 S Samantha Ln., Apt. 248, Huntley, IL 60142**

It has been a year since I moved from FL back to IL. It is nice to be near family and friends. Our lives have certainly changed these last few months with the virus taking over every aspect of our lives.

I always enjoy reading the newsletter cover to cover. There are so many fascinating and interesting people that have worked for United.

I retired from ORDCS in 1996; it doesn't seem possible that it has been that many years. We were all such a close family. It doesn't seem to be that way any more.

A huge thank you to all of you that work so hard to keep us together. We need to keep RUAEA together.

*Notes*

**Claudia Drake**

The newsletter keeps me informed. I have been retired 20 years.

**Irene Jarmulska**

Thank you for the renewal reminder.

I always enjoy reading about UAL and RUAEA news and appreciate all that the volunteers do to keep us up-to-date.

I retired from ORDF over 15 years ago after just over 15 years with UAL and fondly remember those days and friends that I made.

**Anjelina Martens**

Thank you for keeping us informed. Things are changing rapidly; it is hard to keep up. Hope all is well with all of you!

**Robert Schwartz**

We are both staying in and staying healthy. Thank you to all of you that continue to keep us updated with the fantastic news. We appreciate your dedication and hard work.

**Mary Sherman**

I have been a flight attendant with United since 1991. Now I am retiring at the end of July. It has been a wonderful ride.

**Edgar Via**

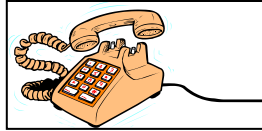
I have been staying home, fixing all the things I had been putting off. I am thankful for my good health. I spend time on the phone catching up to all my family and friends. As the saying goes "This Too Shall Pass".

**Inara Witt**

Thank you for keeping up the good work now that everyone seems to be scattering because of the pandemic. I hope you can continue to keep us updated. We are too old to travel, but now that we can't, we want to. Isn't that the way, second childhood, maybe? We always want to do what we can't. I hope everyone stays safe.

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

# Important Phone Numbers



*Updated 5/2020*

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

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

## **United Employee Service Center**

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

1-847-825-3729 - International Use

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

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

## **Employee Travel Center**

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

## **Flying Together Help Desk**

**1-800-255-5801**

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

**Aetna Medicare Advantage** 1-866-246-8088

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

**PBGC** - for all retiree pension questions

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

## **Social Security Administration**

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

## **Alliant Credit Union**

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

Malcolm Horn, CFP®, Financial Consultant

Alliant Retirement & Investment Services

(O) (773) 462-3669; (C) (720) 249-8050

(F) (773) 462-3669, [mhorn@alliantcreditunion.com](mailto:mhorn@alliantcreditunion.com)

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

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

**1-844-635-3401**

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

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

**PRESIDENT**  
Don Burbank  
(Cell) - (303) 495-9941  
[don8585@comcast.net](mailto:don8585@comcast.net)

**SECRETARY**  
Mary Jane Stewart  
(724) 745-8703  
[stewartmaryjane@aol.com](mailto:stewartmaryjane@aol.com)

**TREASURER**  
Chris Johnston  
[ruacatreasurer@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruacatreasurer@qwestoffice.net)  
(317) 694-4406

**ASST. V.P. CONVENTIONS**  
Hank Gosselin  
[henrygosselin@comcast.net](mailto:henrygosselin@comcast.net)  
(253) 653-5946

**SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE HEAD**  
Dave Garland  
[dave\\_garland@yahoo.com](mailto:dave_garland@yahoo.com)  
(650) 776-7824

**DIRECTORS**

Ruth Morabito	Mountain Region <a href="mailto:ruthmorabito@yahoo.com">ruthmorabito@yahoo.com</a>	(970) 901-9088
Rosalie Tripicchio	S. Calif. East Region <a href="mailto:rosalie.tripicchio@gmail.com">rosalie.tripicchio@gmail.com</a>	(619) 368-4106
Sonda Sandstedt	SE Meets West Region <a href="mailto:sdonthego@yahoo.com">sdonthego@yahoo.com</a>	(530) 210-5644
George Midwin	NW CA - Hawaii Region <a href="mailto:midwin5u@hotmail.com">midwin5u@hotmail.com</a>	(650) 670-2587
Chuck Cole	Northwest Region <a href="mailto:slc2ctc1@gmail.com">slc2ctc1@gmail.com</a>	(206) 919-2020
Ray Jensen	Florida - Georgia Region <a href="mailto:rmmjensen@msn.com">rmmjensen@msn.com</a>	(239) 634-2054
Jackie Monilaw	Midwest Region - Cactus <a href="mailto:jmonilaw@gmail.com">jmonilaw@gmail.com</a>	(224) 628-4000

**MEMBERSHIP MANAGER** - Cas Spokas  
E-Mail [casimir4321@q.com](mailto:casimir4321@q.com)  
HOME (303) 838-0780

**NEWSLETTER MANAGER** - Francis Domaratius  
**NEWSLETTER EDITOR** - Veronica Domaratius  
E-Mail [ruacanewsletter@surewest.net](mailto:ruacanewsletter@surewest.net)  
HOME (916) 789-0422, CELL (916) 521-7236

**WEB MANAGERS** -

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

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

The Retired United Airlines Employees Association (RUAEA) is an IRS Code 501 (c) (3) organization. RUAEA Newsletter (USPS #009-922) is published monthly by Retired United Airlines Employees Association, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver CO 80207. Subscriptions are through membership in the association. Periodical postage is paid at Denver, CO Postmaster, send address changes to: Retired United Airlines Employees Association Newsletter, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433

**EXECUTIVE V.P.**  
Tom Cunningham  
(925) 846-8123  
[tbccunningham3556@gmail.com](mailto:tbccunningham3556@gmail.com)

**V.P. CONVENTIONS**  
Bill Corbett  
(708) 601-5269  
[bcevergreenpark@aol.com](mailto:bcevergreenpark@aol.com)

**PAST PRESIDENT**  
Virgil Gooselaw  
(303) 963-6690  
[vgoose@comcast.net](mailto:vgoose@comcast.net)

**AIRLINE LIAISON**  
Don Burbank  
[don8585@comcast.net](mailto:don8585@comcast.net)  
(Cell) - (303) 495-9941

**SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBER**  
Ron Bertacini  
[bertacini@surewest.net](mailto:bertacini@surewest.net)  
(916) 832-5775

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



**INCLUDE FILE NUMBER IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE**

For all Membership & Newsletter Circulation issues, please contact Membership Secretary:  
*Michael Malesardi*  
Phone Number: (303) 780-5022  
-or-  
RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433  
Email: [ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net)

	<i>Membership Dues</i>		
	<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Canada/Mexico</u>	<u>Foreign</u>
One year	\$30.00	\$47.00	\$52.00

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

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

**"IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP."**

**"DISREGARD THIS MESSAGE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID".**

**"YOUR MEMBERSHIP WILL EXPIRE UNLESS YOUR DUES ARE RECEIVED."**

**"PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR DUES PAYMENT AT THIS TIME."**

**"DISREGARD THIS NOTTICE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID."**

**Check your mailing label for Renewal Information**

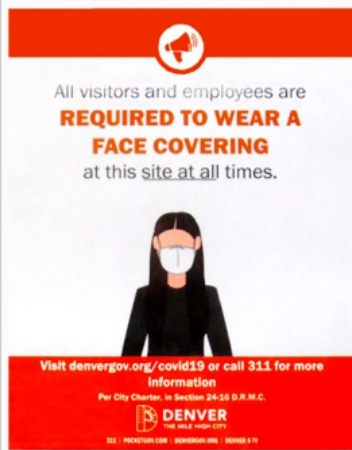
**\$30 Domestic Subscription**

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



**United Airlines  
Historical Foundation**

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



## **Preventing COVID-19 at the Denver Flight Training Center**

*By Marvin Berryman, DENTK Retired.*

UAHF is accepting donations of United & Continental Memorabilia. Please mail them and your tax-deductible monetary (\$) contributions to: **UAHF, Tom Goodyear, 7401 Martin Luther King Blvd., Denver, CO 80207.** Visit our website at [www.uahf.org](http://www.uahf.org).

