



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



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Breese

*United Airlines  
Vintage Planes*



Fokker Universal



Ford Trimotor At-5



Travel Air

Art by Marvin Berryman  
UAHF

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## 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 John Chu at [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com) and [ruaeaml@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaeaml@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.*

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## GENERAL NEWS

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

### Letter From The Vice President - Conventions



Hi Folks,

This is an update for you on our plans for the 2024 Reunion in San Diego, September 27 – October 2. The Banquet on October 2 has the theme "Broadway Night" with music provided by "The American Fly Boys". Our

Entertainment Chair, **John Cunningham**, who is part of the band, says they will practice for it. The Friendship Night on October 1<sup>st</sup> is Western Night with Country Western appetizers and a County Western Band for your listening and dancing pleasure; a chance to wear your western garb to help celebrate the occasion and enjoy the fun.

Tours are still in the planning process, some ideas of what we are trying to finalize are: September 29<sup>th</sup> – A Dinner Cruise; September 30<sup>th</sup> - Old Town/Harbor Village and a Casino/Shopping; October 2<sup>nd</sup> - Harbor Luncheon Cruise. All these are in the works and alternative tours will be available if they don't work out.

Another item is the Dana Hotel registration information; it is posted on our website, [ruaea.org](http://ruaea.org). For your convenience, we are reprinting the information again below, please book your room early.

You can now reserve your hotel room using one of the following three options:

1. Scan the attached QR code with your smart device (phone, tablet, etc.)
2. Use the link <https://bit.ly/3GuIFdd>
3. Call the Dana Hotel reservations department at 800-445-3339 and mention "RUAEA" or "Retired United Airlines Employees Association".



The hotel room rate of \$135.00 comes with 2 free breakfasts per room night, free parking and waived resort fee; this rate is good 3 days before our Reunion and 3 days after.

The 2024 Reunion will be another great event hosted by RUAEA, RUPA and ARECA; coming together again for all retirees, family, friends and guests.

Hank Gosselin  
VP Conventions RUAEA

**Building Your Legacy**  
**By Malcolm Horn, CFP®**



*“Carve your name on hearts, not tombstones. A legacy is etched into the minds of others and the stories they share about you.” ~ Shannon L. Alder*

The desire to leave a legacy may be the height of altruism for it is a gift to the future, the benefit of which you may never witness, nor ever feel its appreciation by others.

Creating your legacy does not happen overnight, and it doesn't come without strategy and hard work. Here's a four-step framework for building a personal legacy.

**Create Your Vision:** You should have an end in mind before you begin. Start by reflecting on what you value and care most about. Consider your passions and the unique skills you have. Your career and hobbies are good places to start. Be sure to ask your friends and family to weigh in. They may offer a perspective that you don't see about yourself.

**Determine Your Legacy:** Think about the legacy you wish to leave and the impact you want to make. A legacy can come in many colors. It can be financial, institutional, instructional, or wish fulfillment, or the passing of values and life lessons.

**Develop a Strategy:** A legacy will not happen without a blueprint and the persistent pursuit of your objective. A strategy can help you organize your efforts and keep you on the path that leads to success.

**Live Your Legacy:** A legacy is not only what you leave behind, but the impact you make on others while alive that they carry into the future. Be sure to live your values with your family, at work, and in your community. Nothing is more likely to survive you than the impact on the lives you touch today.

My team of Financial Consultants at Alliant Retirement and Investment Services (ARIS) are here to help you with your investment decisions. Contact us on [aris.alliantcreditunion.com](http://aris.alliantcreditunion.com) to schedule a time to meet. I look forward to speaking to you soon and continuing the conversation.

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**No Fees to Change a Flight: United Airlines**  
**Inspires Football Fans to Believe in Next Season**  
**February 6, 2024**



United Airlines has saved customers more than \$2 billion since becoming the first legacy airline to permanently eliminate change fees more than three years ago, and today released a series of new commercials starring

Emmy-award winning actor Kyle Chandler that air on Super Bowl Sunday and promote the benefits of the policy change. In the ads, Chandler speaks directly to football fans in five different markets and encourages them to believe in their team and book a United flight to next year's game in New Orleans, without worrying about change fees.

The campaign – “Believing Changes Everything” – is the first time a big game advertiser has created this many different commercials that were written specifically for local markets. The market-specific ads target Chiefs fans in Kansas City, Browns fans in Cleveland and Texans fans in Houston on broadcast TV and Bears fans in Chicago and Broncos fans in Denver on social media. A general market film will also air on TV in Chicago, Denver, Baltimore, Orlando, Colorado Springs and Cincinnati. Each of the local commercials speaks directly to the emotions fans in these cities may be feeling on Sunday and culminates by encouraging them to dream big about their team's chances next season.

*“This is about believing. Believing so hard that you book your flight to next year's big game before the season even starts,” says Chandler. “Because believing that hard can change everything.”*



More than 10 million United customers have changed their flight without paying change fees since the airline's policy went into effect in 2020. Since that time:

- ▲ 3.6 million people switched the time of day of their flight;
- ▲ 1.8 million people extended their trip altogether;
- ▲ 1.5 million people chose to fly to or from a different airport;
- ▲ 300,000 people changed from a domestic flight to an international one, or vice-versa;
- ▲ And the number of people who changed their flights themselves in United's industry-leading app has doubled.

*"This simple policy change has had a dramatic impact on our customers and the overall experience of flying United,"* said Linda Jojo, United's Chief Customer Officer. *"You can book with confidence knowing that even if your – or your teams' – plans change, United has your back."*

United has a long and storied history with professional football and currently has relationships with eight teams, some dating back more than 50 years. United is the official airline for the San Francisco 49ers and the official commercial airline of the Kansas City Chiefs and is flying both teams to and from the Super Bowl game in Las Vegas. The airline also regularly adds extra flights to make it easier for fans to watch their favorite teams play on the road and this year will fly its largest big game schedule yet with 43 new direct flights, including special flight number UA 1989 and UA 1587 from Kansas City and UA 1995 and UA 1845 from San Francisco.

*"Everyone tuning into the game isn't feeling the same way, in fact, the majority of fans are watching someone else's team play. This presented a unique creative opportunity to make an ad that speaks directly to the cities and fanbases who are already looking ahead to next season. By producing market-specific commercials, we can avoid the sport cliches that are all-too-common this time of year and demonstrate that United is standing with fans of the local team who are already excited about next season,"* said Maggie Schmerin, United's Chief Advertising Officer.

The "Believing Changes Everything" films were directed by two-time Oscar winner Chloé Zhao and produced in partnership with United's creative agency of record, 72andSunny.



**Adventure Awaits:**  
**United Unveils New Summer Flights**  
**to Top Outdoor North American Destinations**  
**January 25, 2024**



United today announced it will offer more than 100 new flights to cities in the U.S. and Canada this summer, making it easier for travelers to connect to some of the most picturesque destinations

in North America including Anchorage and Fairbanks, Alaska and Canadian cities like Calgary, Vancouver and Halifax.

During the pandemic, the airline saw an increased demand from travelers wanting to get outdoors and explore scenic destinations like national parks and mountain towns.

United expects the trend to continue this year and is flying its largest schedule to Alaska in the past decade and significantly expanding flying between the U.S. and Canada. This summer, United will also have nearly 70 daily flights to national park destinations like Bozeman, MT, Jackson Hole, WY and Kalispell, MT.

United remains the largest U.S. carrier to Canada this summer with over 150 daily flights between the countries, serving nine destinations in Canada from all seven of its U.S. hub airports. Since the partnership between United and Air Canada expanded in 2022, United has grown by over 70% in the Canadian market, fueled by the shared goal to increase accessibility between the two countries. Today, United customers can quickly connect to 25 more Canadian cities on Air Canada – all while enjoying the benefits of the carriers' Mileage-Plus® and Aeroplan loyalty programs.

*"We know people want to get outdoors this summer and United is making it easier than ever to get to fun destinations across North America,"* said Patrick Quayle, United's Senior Vice President of Network Planning and Alliances. *"From adding non-stop service to places previously only reachable through multiple connections to leveraging our relationships with airline partners like Air Canada, we're giving customers lots of options to unlock new experiences."*

Whether you're hoping to hike, stargaze or just take in the great outdoors, January is the ideal time to start charting your summer adventure. Tickets for the new nonstop flights are on sale now in the United app and on United.com.

*Canada ~* This summer, United will strengthen its position as the largest U.S. carrier to Canada, offering the most flights to the most destinations. United will serve nine Canadian cities with more than 150 daily av-

erage flights between the U.S. and Canada, including:

- ▲ The resumption of flights between Halifax-Newark/New York, Vancouver-Washington, D.C., Winnipeg-Denver, and service from Chicago to Winnipeg and Quebec City, all starting in May.
- ▲ Flying larger planes to Edmonton and Montreal from its hubs in Denver and New York/Newark, respectively.
- ▲ Adding more flights to popular destinations including Toronto, Calgary and Ottawa.

*Alaska* ~ United will offer 10 daily flights to Alaska on average this summer – the most in over a decade. The airline will introduce the only nonstop flight from Washington, D.C. to Anchorage. United will serve Anchorage from Washington/Dulles and Fairbanks from Denver. Both nonstop, daily routes will begin seasonal service on May 23.

*United's Summer U.S. and Canada Schedule by Hub* ~ United will offer something new for flyers out of all seven of its U.S. hubs this summer, adding over 100 new flights. Denver and Houston will each have over 40 new North American flights while Washington, D.C. and Chicago will each have more than 20 new flights.

*Denver* ~ As Denver's largest airline, United will offer more than 500 daily departures this summer and more than 100 routes will be on mainline aircraft – the most in more than 20 years. With more than 40 new summer flights launching this year, Denver will continue to serve as a major gateway to National Parks, and new destinations in Canada. Mountain town locations including Vail, Sun Valley, and Kalispell/Glacier will each see an additional daily nonstop flight from Denver this summer. United will also increase flying to Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport with five daily nonstop flights, starting mid-May. Nonstop, year-round service from Winnipeg will resume May 23 for the first time since 2020. The airline will also fly bigger planes more often between Edmonton and Denver. United will continue to be the largest airline to ski destinations with an average of nearly 40 daily flights to 11 of the most popular winter sports destinations.

*Houston* ~ Nonstop service between Houston and Ontario, California will resume in May 2024 for the first time since 2022. United plans to fly 100 routes with dual cabin aircraft this summer from Houston. United will add more than 40 new flights from Houston to some of the most popular U.S. destinations this summer, including Tampa, Boston, Charleston and Miami.

*Chicago* ~ Windy City residents will have access to over 500 daily nonstop flights, including 20 new flights and resumed service to two Canadian cities. Two popular Canadian destinations return to Chicago O'Hare International Airport in May as United resumes nonstop service to Winnipeg and Quebec City. The airline will

also increase its flying from the hub to Toronto and Montreal. For those hoping to explore National Parks or visit mountain towns, United is adding additional daily flights to destinations including Yellowstone National Park (BZN) and Aspen, CO. The airline will also increase flying to cities like San Jose, CA, New York, NY, and Panama City, FL. And as United takes delivery of more Airbus A321neo aircraft, more travelers out of Chicago will get to enjoy flying on these new planes this summer. Service on the Airbus 321neo will expand to include nonstop routes to San Francisco, Seattle and Portland, Oregon. United is currently flying the A321neo between Chicago and Fort Lauderdale, Las Vegas, Orlando, Phoenix and Fort Myers.

*Washington/Dulles* ~ United customers in Washington/Dulles will be able to fly nonstop to Alaska for the first time with new daily service to Anchorage on a Boeing 737 MAX 8. The addition is one of more than 20 new daily flights coming to Dulles International Airport this summer. On May 2, United will resume daily nonstop seasonal service to Vancouver on a Boeing 737 MAX 8, previously only flown on weekends in summer 2019. Additional flights will be added to cities across the U.S. including Phoenix, AZ, Kansas City, MO, San Antonio, TX, and New Orleans, LA.

*Los Angeles* ~ United is adding ten new summer flights with service out of Los Angeles International Airport. The airline will add more flights to Hawaiian destinations like Honolulu and Kauai, in addition to Baltimore, MD and Boise, ID.

*Newark/New York* ~ City dwellers looking for outdoor adventures this summer are in luck with new options from Newark Liberty International Airport. United will resume seasonal nonstop service to Halifax on May 23, and begin using mainline aircraft on flights to Montreal starting in August. United is making it easier for New Yorkers to visit Yellowstone National Park, increasing from one daily flight to Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport to twice daily during the peak summer season.

*San Francisco* ~ San Franciscans will enjoy additional daily flights to Calgary and Honolulu this summer.

### **United Airlines Announces Full-Year and Fourth-Quarter 2023 Financial Results** **January 22, 2024**



United Airlines (UAL) today reported fourth-quarter and full-year 2023 financial results. The company delivered full-year diluted earnings per share of \$7.89 and adjusted full-year diluted earnings per share of \$10.05, achieving its initial full-year

target of \$10 - \$12 set at the beginning of 2023. United's diversified revenue strategy proved, once again, to be a critical, differentiated, competitive advantage. United's premium cabin saw an increase in revenue of 16% for the quarter year-over-year, while its Basic Economy offering again saw a substantial revenue increase of 20% for the quarter year-over-year.

United also benefited from cost convergence across the industry; this cost convergence resulted in a stronger relationship between United's unit costs and unit revenue performance. Combined with durable demand for travel and an increasing preference for United's reliable operational performance and premium offerings, the company delivered on its initial full year 2023 earnings per share guidance despite a wide range of headwinds.

*"Our plans really came together in 2023, and I want to thank the United team for all of the hard work it took to get us there," said United Airlines CEO Scott Kirby. "Despite unpredictable headwinds, we delivered on our ambitious EPS target that few thought possible – and set new operational records for our customers," "Looking ahead, we expect these trends to continue and United is incredibly well positioned to capitalize on them and to deliver on our short and long-term financial targets."*

#### Fourth-Quarter Financial Results:

- ▲ Capacity up 14.7% compared to fourth-quarter 2022.
- ▲ Total operating revenue of \$13.6 billion, up 9.9% compared to fourth-quarter 2022.
- ▲ TRASM down 4.2% compared to fourth-quarter 2022.
- ▲ CASM down 0.1%, and CASM-ex up 4.9%, compared to fourth-quarter 2022.
- ▲ Pre-tax income of \$0.8 billion, with a pre-tax margin of 5.7%; adjusted pre-tax income of \$0.8 billion, with an adjusted pre-tax margin of 6.2%.
- ▲ Net income of \$0.6 billion; adjusted net income of \$0.7 billion.
- ▲ Diluted earnings per share of \$1.81; adjusted diluted earnings per share of \$2.00.
- ▲ Average fuel price per gallon of \$3.13.

#### Full-Year Financial Results:

- ▲ Net income of \$2.6 billion; adjusted net income of \$3.3 billion.
- ▲ Pre-tax income of \$3.4 billion, with a pre-tax margin of 6.3%; adjusted pre-tax income of \$4.3 billion, with an adjusted pre-tax margin of 8.0%.
- ▲ Diluted earnings per share of \$7.89; adjusted diluted earnings per share of \$10.05.
- ▲ Ending available liquidity of \$16.1 billion.
- ▲ Total debt and finance lease obligations of \$29.3 billion at year end.
- ▲ Adjusted net debt to adjusted EBITDAR of

2.9x, consistent with the guidance provided at the start of the year.

#### Key Highlights:

- ▲ Announced orders for 110 more aircraft for delivery beginning in 2028 – another significant milestone in the company's United Next growth strategy.
- ▲ Took delivery and flew the first revenue flight of the airline's first A321neo. The new aircraft is achieving the highest customer survey results in the entire fleet.
- ▲ United pilots represented by the Air Line Pilots Association, International (ALPA) ratified a new four-year contract. In addition, employees represented by International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers (IAM) and United ratified a new 2-year contract in May.
- ▲ Accrued \$681 million for the year for employee profit sharing.
- ▲ Opened five new United Club<sup>SM</sup> locations across three hubs, including the airline's largest – a 35,000 sq. ft. club in its Denver hub.
- ▲ Announced significant updates to Houston and Denver hubs and opened a new Terminal A at Newark.
- ▲ Celebrated the graduation of United Aviate Academy's inaugural class of pilots, an important step toward training the next generation of talented, qualified, and motivated aviators.
- ▲ Launched the United Airlines Ventures Sustainable Flight Fund<sup>SM</sup>, a first-of-its-kind investment vehicle designed to leverage support from cross-industry businesses to support start-ups focused on decarbonizing air travel through sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) research, technology and production associated with SAF, convening nearly \$200 million in investment power to support the production of SAF since the launch.
- ▲ Opened an expanded and newly renovated global Inflight Training Center in Houston, Texas – the \$32 million expansion project more than doubles the available training space.

#### Customer Experience:

- ▲ The United mobile app was named the Best Airline App by Business Traveler USA at their Business Traveler Awards North America in the fourth quarter, making it the world's most downloaded airline app.
- ▲ Became the first airline to launch Live Activities for iPhone, giving customers real-time access to their boarding pass, gate and seat number, and countdown clock to departure time, hosting 65 million sessions in 2023.
- ▲ In the fourth quarter, United announced the

largest overhaul since 2016 of United Polaris® – the airline’s international business class – debuting new in-airport and onboard amenities from Therabody® and Saks Fifth Avenue that are designed to give customers “the best sleep in the sky.”

- ▲ United launched WILMA in the fourth quarter, a new boarding process that enables a smoother and faster boarding process.
- ▲ Best fourth quarter CSAT in the company’s history.
- ▲ United was recognized in Forbes’ first-ever best customer service list in the fourth quarter, which honored top brands for excelling in high-quality service.
- ▲ Throughout the year, saved 713,000 customer connections through Connection Saver, ensuring more customers made their flights.
- ▲ Became the first U.S. airline to add Braille to aircraft interiors.
- ▲ Customers who were extremely likely to recommend United to family and friends increased by 4% year over year.
- ▲ Two thirds of United’s travelers in 2023 used the mobile app to manage their day-of travel, from re-booking options, bag tracking information and hotel vouchers when eligible.

#### Operations:

- ▲ During the last two weeks of December, United operated its busiest travel period in history, flying 8.2 million customers – an average of 483,000 each day.
- ▲ In the fourth quarter, the airline achieved its best-ever on-time performance for express and consolidated flying, and second-best quarter for mainline flying.
- ▲ The fourth quarter set the record for the lowest quarterly misconnect rate.
- ▲ United carried the largest number of passengers ever in a year at 165 million, and achieved the highest seat factor ever for the year at 86.4%.

#### Network:

- ▲ In the fourth quarter, United announced the largest international winter schedule expansion in the airline’s history, with the addition of 50 daily flights and new routes between Denver and the Caribbean including San Juan and Montego Bay.
- ▲ United announced its largest-ever international summer 2024 schedule in the fourth quarter, including the first and only non-stop flight between Newark and Faro, Portugal and new flights to Reykjavik, Iceland; Brussels; Rome and Málaga, Spain and the introduction of service to nine of the airline’s most popular sea-

sonal routes up to two months early.

- ▲ Re-introduced daily service to China, resuming service to Beijing from San Francisco and increasing service to Shanghai to daily flights in the fourth quarter.
- ▲ Operated the largest-ever fourth quarter schedule by available seat miles from Denver in company history, serving more daily flights to more destinations from Denver than any other airline.
- ▲ Became the world’s largest airline by available seat miles for the full year of 2023.
- ▲ Flew the largest domestic schedule in company history (by available seat miles, excluding Canada) for the full fiscal year with over 3,500 daily domestic flights.
- ▲ Flew the largest international schedule among U.S. carriers by available seat miles for the full fiscal year, 30% larger than the next largest carrier.
- ▲ Launched three new international destinations including Málaga, Spain; Dubai, United Arab Emirates and the only nonstop service from the U.S. to New Zealand’s South Island with flights to Christchurch, New Zealand. Launched new international routes to existing destinations, including Barcelona, Spain; Rome; Shannon, Ireland; Auckland, New Zealand; Brisbane, Australia; San Juan, Puerto Rico; Montego Bay, Jamaica; Hong Kong; Tokyo and the first non-stop service between the continental U.S. and the Philippines by a U.S. airline with flights to Manila, Philippines. Additionally resumed service to Osaka, Japan; Managua, Nicaragua; Stockholm, Sweden and Beijing for the first time since the pandemic and added additional frequencies on routes to London; Edinburgh, United Kingdom; Paris; Naples, Italy; Delhi, India; Shanghai and Taipei.
- ▲ For the full fiscal year, United had the greatest increase in-seat capacity year over year compared to the four other largest U.S. carriers, and had the second largest increase in volume of scheduled departures year over year.

#### Communities:

- ▲ United hosted Fantasy Flight events across 12 stations in the fourth quarter, where 770 employees volunteered to provide a unique event for children across the world, including Hawaiian residents impacted by wildfires, those terminally ill, or those suffering from serious medical conditions.
- ▲ United, alongside MileagePlus® members, donated more than 106 million miles to non-profit charities across the globe in 2023 via the Miles on a Mission<sup>SM</sup> program.



- ▲ Welcomed nine new corporate participants to its Eco-Skies Alliance program, set up to contribute to the purchase of SAF. To date, the program has invested in the future production of more than five billion gallons of SAF.
- ▲ United collaborated with Sesame Workshop to announce Oscar the Grouch as its first Chief Trash Officer as he and the airline celebrate his love of rubbish. The campaign is designed to promote the expected benefit of using SAF more broadly.
- ▲ In 2023, United received SAF-blended fuel deliveries at Amsterdam, Los Angeles, London Heathrow and San Francisco airports, representing two new airports where United has used a SAF blend.
- ▲ In 2023, approximately 5,600 employees volunteered over 59,000 hours at nonprofits organizations in communities around the world.
- ▲ During the year, United transported nearly 313 million pounds of cargo, including approximately 9.6 million pounds of medical shipments and 264,000 pounds of military shipments.

### **Torgy's Travel Tips – March 2024** **Travel Advisories, ETIAS, Real ID and More**



**Kathie Torgison**

As winter turns to spring, many of us are feeling the urge to pack those suitcases, dust off the passports and head to the airport. The Olympic Games are in Paris this July, the Caribbean and Mexico always seem close to home but still exotic and Asia may still be on your bucket list. But before you book a resort or place a deposit on a

cruise or a tour, be mindful of the following tips.

The US Department of State has just updated travel advisories for several destinations frequented by US travelers. In the Caribbean, Jamaica is designated as Level 3 (out of 4), which means to reconsider traveling to this destination. The travel advisory states, *“violent crimes, such as home invasions, armed robberies and homicides are common. Sexual assaults occur frequently, including at all-inclusive resorts. Do not walk or drive at night and avoid buses. Medical aid can be problematic as public hospitals are under-resourced and often cannot provide high-level or specialized care. Private hospitals often require payment up-front.”*

The Bahamas is also new to the travel advisory, stating *“be vigilant when staying in short-term vacation rentals if no private security companies have a pres-*

*ence. Do not open hotel room doors if you do not know who is there. Do not resist any robbery attempts.”* There have been 18 murders in January alone, even in broad daylight. Also, Bahamas is a Level 4 Covid location.

Mexico includes several geographic areas that are deemed Level 4 (do not travel) locations: Colima, Guerrero, Michoacan and Sinaloa. The highest rate of kidnapping in the world, harassment of women traveling alone and other crime levels have prompted this advisory.

(Level 4 lists also include Eastern Hemisphere countries of Gaza, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Myanmar, Russia, Syria, Ukraine, and Yemen.)

On the brighter side, travel to most of Europe is deemed safe but be aware of large crowds and limited hotel facilities in Paris from Easter through the middle of August. A special daily hotel tax of €5 per person will be added to your bill for any stay less than 7 days. This tax is often collected only in cash at smaller hotels. Amsterdam is adding a €3 plus 7% tax on hotels in the city. Other cities are expected to follow suit in the future.

Venice will impose a “day-tripper” fee of €5 per person to offset the cost of sanitation and upkeep in this over-visited city. So far mostly only weekends from April through July have been designated “day-tripper fee days,” although that could change. The fee will be collected at entrance points into the city and the traveler will receive a QR code which must be shown at 7 access points in the city, including the main train station. If you have hotel reservations, you are exempt. Tour groups are limited to 25 individuals, no food or drink is allowed in St. Mark’s Square and the use of loudspeakers and bullhorns by tour guides is prohibited. You can pre-pay the fee and obtain your QR code in advance (if you are certain of your dates) at <https://cda.ve.it/it>

Now, let’s talk about upcoming documentation changes that have been previously postponed but **will** occur in 2025. These changes could impact your passport and driver license renewal decisions.

The first is ETIAS: **E**uropean **T**ravel **I**nformation **A**uthorization **S**ystem. US passport holders, as well as other citizens who currently enjoy visa-waived entry into the EU, will be required in mid-2025 to obtain an electronic authorization in order to board a flight or cruise to any EU country. This is not a visa but it is a “registration of intention to travel” and will create a digital entry/exit database that will track non-EU residents. The authorization will be valid for 3 years or until your passport expires, whichever is first. The cost will be €7 per person, and that fee is *waived* for travelers under 18 or over 70 years of age. Applicants apply online and confirmation will be emailed within hours, normally. In some cases it could take up to 96 hours, so



it will be important not to wait till you arrive at your departure airport! You will be required to provide name, birth date, address, phone number, passport info and details of your itinerary, including the location of your first overnight accommodation. The first names of your parents are also surprisingly required. If you have a family member who resides in the EU, you will be required to provide personal information about that person and your ties to that person. I will provide more information about this program as the date draws closer.

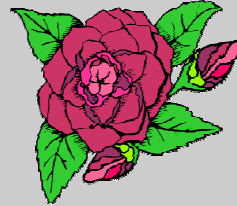
Effective May 7, 2025 the TSA will require you to show a “*Real ID*” driver’s license (or a passport) in order pass through airport security. “*Real ID*” is a state issued driver’s license that includes a gold, white or black star on the upper portion of the license. If your state-issued driver’s license does not have that star, you must produce a passport or similar federally issued ID to board a flight, visit military installations or power plants. Many states have been issuing Real ID licenses for the last few years, so check yours to see if you have a “star.” Five states - Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Vermont, and Washington State, issue an *Enhanced Driver’s License* which is acceptable to the TSA even though it does not have a star.

So, before you let that passport or driver’s license languish in your wallet or purse, look at the expiration dates, think about possible upcoming travel and plan accordingly. Remember, most countries require your passport to be valid for an additional 3 to 6 months beyond your intended travel period. ■



## LOCAL NEWS

### ALABAMA



#### SWEET HOME ALABAMA

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12115 County Road 29  
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(205) 646-3825  
[autiger@centurytel.net](mailto:autiger@centurytel.net)

We meet every three months for lunch at various restaurants in Birmingham and invite all retired United employees and their families to join us. For more information, you may call me at the above phone number.

### ARIZONA



#### PHOENIX RE-UNITEDS

Matalynne Wandel  
Correspondent  
[matalynne@hotmail.com](mailto:matalynne@hotmail.com)

The Re-United’s breakfast on January 26 at Black Bear Diner had 21 members present; a low turnout is possibly due to so many people being under the weather.

Chapter President **Debbie Schulte** opened the meeting by mentioning a group on Facebook called “United Retiree Travel.” You can join the group if interested and find information about cruises and other things throughout the year.

**Joanne Griffin** mentioned some fun things coming up: One is the Barleens Dinner Show on Saturday, March 9 at 2275 Old West Hwy in Apache Junction; we will be going to the luncheon show. Doors open at 11:15 am. We’ve reserved 30 seats so please let us know if you would like to attend. It’s a Variety Spectacular show and we always have a great time. Their website is [www.barleensdinnershow.com](http://www.barleensdinnershow.com). The final payment is due Saturday February 24<sup>th</sup>. The show date is Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 11:15am, lunch is served at 12 noon and the show begins at 1pm. The group cost for lunch and the show is \$48.00 pp. Please make your check payable to **John Griffin** (not ReUnited’s). Payments can be mailed to 759 S. 76<sup>th</sup> Pl., Mesa, AZ 85208.

Joanne also reminded everyone who has not paid their \$10 dues yet to please do so as soon as possible. Joanne is getting the 2024 directory together next month so she’d appreciate any address, phone numbers or email changes. Your dues help offset the cost of printing and

mailing of the directory. We have over 60 members now and the directory is published and distributed in April.

On April 10, we will be having our "Celebration of Life Picnic" at the Birdies Bar & Grill at the Fountain of the Sun Country Club, 500 S. 80<sup>th</sup> St. in Mesa. Again, more information to follow later. But at least you can have the dates to put on your calendars. The following members have birthdays in February: **Pauline Montoya** (6<sup>th</sup>), **Ted Tollefsen** (10<sup>th</sup>), **Joel Szabo** (12<sup>th</sup>) and **Bill Norwood** (14<sup>th</sup>). Happy birthday to all of you!

Our next Breakfast on February 23 will be at Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline Rd., Gilbert, starting at 9am. Hope to see you there! Please let **Dakota Morris-Terry** know if you will be attending by February 19<sup>th</sup>. Her phone # is (602) 920-7785 or email her at [dctdmt@cox.net](mailto:dctdmt@cox.net). We welcome all United retirees and know you will be happy if you joined us!



**TUCSON  
ROADRUNNER**  
Pat Sommer Di Lallo,  
Treasurer  
14740 N. Palmwood Dr.  
Oro Valley, AZ 85755  
(520) 825-7370  
[rpdgarlic41@comcast.net](mailto:rpdgarlic41@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 [rpdgarlic41@comcast.net](mailto:rpdgarlic41@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)

When the rain comes to Northern California, it comes down in buckets!

We finally have lots of rain, snow and unfortunately some fallen trees, etc. in Chico, Paradise and Redding. Not the problem that Southern California has, but it was a big storm and lots of power outages.

We were able to have our meeting/luncheon in between storms at Vittles Restaurant in Anderson, Calif. We had 11 members and spouses who joined us for our meeting and lunch.

**Merritt Odor**, our President, called the meeting to order at 1205 P.M. Merritt welcomed everyone and thanked **Sharon Simonton** for setting up the restaurant. Merritt asked if there were any birthdays or anniversaries. **Billie Jorgensen** was having a birthday at the end of January and **Katie & John Innocenti** will be celebrating their 58<sup>th</sup> anniversary in February.

Merritt reminded everyone about the membership dues that are due in January. Sharon will send out an E-Mail to everyone that was not at the meeting to remind them of dues for 2024.

Sharon shared some sad news of **Phyllis Burdick's** passing. Her husband, **Hal Burdick**, had passed away a couple of years before. They were long standing members of the Northstaters and **Sharon Simonton**, a new person when she first came to SFO as a manpower clerk, worked with **Hal Burdick** at the SFO Service Center in 1972.

Merritt shared some funny stories about crew gripes from pilots on Quantas Airlines. A good laugh was had by all.

A lot of conversation was had about the Boeing 737 Max Aircraft and the issues that have been on the news. Being a group of United Mechanics and Inspectors, a lot of theories were mentioned.

The winner of the 50/50 raffle was **Klaren Odor**. The winner of the \$15.00 lunch was **Chris Isbell**.


It was voted on to have our next meeting/luncheon at a Mexican restaurant in Chico. **Merritt & Klaren Odor** volunteered to check out the restaurant and see if they could take a group our size as well as separate checks. Our next get-together will be Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 AM, place TBD.

On an additional note, **Bill & Sharon Simonton** made a trip to Tampa, Florida a couple of weeks past. Bill had not been to Florida for 11 years and Sharon had not been for 6 years. They visited some friends in the Winterhaven area. Wow! The weather was certainly not Florida warm weather. The highest temperature was 60 degrees and quite a bit of wind. If fact, they cancelled a trip to a resort on the beach because it was too cold; unbelievable! However, their friends took them to a lot of wonderful sights and one was Lake Apopka North Shore Trail and Wildlife Drive Guide. The drive is a one-way 11 mile drive that begins at Lust Road and ends on Jones Road in Orange County, Florida. The Lake Apopka North Shore is widely known for its bird population. Lots of beautiful plant species were found in the upland

portions of the North Shore as well as to Sharon's delight, lots of alligators. Because of the cold weather, they were hiding under the brush but the sun was out and several were found sunning themselves along the banks and on top of the brush. Bill & Sharon had never even been that close to alligators and everyone kept telling Sharon to keep the car door closed in the car! She so wanted to pet them. What a beautiful area and fun day. Thank you Florida!

Calendar:

**March 27** - Wednesday, at 11:30AM. Place TBA




**CENTRAL COASTERS**  
 Avila Beach, CA  
 Al Rybar  
 The Residence IV  
 347 Calle Lupita  
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
[papawow@charter.net](mailto:papawow@charter.net)

In all the years of being Secretary for the Central Coasters (at least more than 15) there is no news to report.

In that case, I have some news about my move to an Assisted Living facility. In this home, it takes care of 7 residences; it is run by a family of Philipinos that own 5 homes in the area. I have never associated with folks from the Philippines before and it turned out better than I thought. They do and take care of everything. That includes 3 meals a day, all our wash, and bed making; which leaves us nothing to do but relax, nap often, and watch TV. I've never been treated like this before and it was hard getting used to. My wife needs constant care and they are right there to give her a bath, dress for the day, and dress for bed at night. She is able to feed herself, but her memory has slipped and hearing gives her trouble.

As for me, that is a different story. A few days ago, I was about to sit at the dinner table and my feet got twisted that made me fall. Two of the employees helped me up since I was not able to get up by myself. They were very prepared and they had test equipment of the heart and it read very low. They then called the Paramedics who confirmed their readings and they suggested to go to the local hospital ER. After checking me in they said I needed a Pace Maker. They would put a temporary one in and the next day I would be scheduled for a permanent one. I spent 3 days in the ICU and couldn't be treated any better. I felt no pain during the procedure and they checked and said every thing is normal and now I'm back at the Assisted Living home. I do have to walk with a walker and the employees here make sure I do.


A lot more things have happened since living in this home. I don't drive even though my license is good until I'm 100. My daughters have taken my car and I turned over the house in Avila Beach to them. They are filling out all the necessary forms that need to be done and all I do is sign them. Otherwise I don't need anything in addition to what I'm getting here. I may have more news next month.



**DESERT SUNBIRDS**  
 Palm Springs Area  
 Thomas Sabo  
[sabo.thomas@yahoo.com](mailto:sabo.thomas@yahoo.com)

There is no report this month from the Desert Sunbirds chapter of RUAEA.

We try to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month; if you are visiting the Palm Springs area, we would love to have you join us. Email [sabo.thomas@yahoo.com](mailto:sabo.thomas@yahoo.com) for details.



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

Happy St Patrick's Day to everyone from the East Bay Diablos group! What will you be doing to celebrate the holiday? Cooking corned beef and cabbage? Having an Irish Coffee? Going to a parade?

As I write this on February 7, California is busy cleaning up from massive storms over the past few days. My heart goes out to those whose homes are damaged and especially to those who have lost their lives. Fourteen of the state's reservoirs are more than 100% of normal. The remaining three are at 97%, 95% and 81% of normal. Shasta Reservoir, the state's largest, is 125% of normal and Lake Shasta is only 27 feet below full pool level.

Our group holds in person monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month all year long. The restaurants are still dealing with staff shortages, so we have to give them a count beforehand for our meetings. If you are going to attend our meetings, you must RSVP prior to the meeting. I have put the dates of our upcoming meetings and the RSVP deadlines below. We alternate between

The Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord and Rocco's Ristorante Pizzeria in Walnut Creek. We like The Old Spaghetti Factory because they have both a regular and a senior menu with reduced portions and soup or salad, ice cream and beverage included. They also reserve a room for us. Our other venue is now Rocco's in Walnut Creek because they also have a separate room that we can reserve.

At every meeting we have two raffles, one for money and one for door prizes. We pay two dollars for three tickets and the winner gets a portion of the money collected. The door prizes are whatever people are inspired to bring. We average about 14 people at our meetings throughout the year, but virtually all our members come to our summer picnic meeting which is a catered BBQ luncheon; and to our December meeting at Zio Fraedo's. Social hour starts at 11:00 and our meal is typically served at noon.

Our January meeting was held on Monday, January 8 at Rocco's Ristorante Pizzeria in Walnut Creek. Our meeting was changed from January 1 to January 8 due to the New Year's holiday. This was our second meeting at this new venue. Some members had individual pizzas and other had pasta dishes. Portions are huge and everyone liked their meals.

Our February meeting was held on February 5<sup>th</sup> at The Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord with 14 members in attendance: **Rich & Georgia Bouska** and guest, **Nancy Boyle, Diane Griego, Russ & Glenda Kennedy, Joe & Wilma Leather** and their daughter Linda visiting from Boise, **Russ Schleske, Jan Soderstrom** and **Sue & Ed von Emster**. It was so nice to meet Joe and Wilma's daughter for the first time.

Update on Flaco the Owl in NYC. Many of you will probably remember Flaco the Owl who was freed from his cage at the Central Park Zoo in February 2023. Under cover of darkness a year ago, someone breached a waist-high fence and slipped into the Central Park Zoo. Once inside, they cut a hole through a steel mesh cage, freeing a majestic Eurasian eagle-owl named Flaco who had arrived at the zoo as a fledgling 13 years earlier.

As Flaco enters his second year of freedom in the spotlight, it can be easy to forget that his freedom is the result of a crime. The break-in happened steps from the shared headquarters of the New York City Parks Department and the Central Park Zoo, in the vicinity of at least one surveillance camera.

The zoo suspended effort to re-capture Flaco in February 2023. Flaco is thriving in the urban wilds. He is an apex predator with a nearly 6-foot wingspan. The zoo has sought to soften descriptions of Flaco's former living condition, a minivan-sized structure decorated with a painted mountain vista, barely twice the width of Flaco's extended wings. Theories of the crime abound. For many invested in Flaco's fate, the most plausible explanation is that he was freed for ideological reasons.

In the year since his dramatic escape, Flaco has become one of the city's most beloved characters. Flaco spent his initial months of freedom mostly in Central Park, which is loaded with wildlife, but has lately preferred more urban sections of Manhattan. By day, he lounges in Manhattan's courtyards and parks or perches on fire escapes. He spends his nights hooting atop water towers and preying on the city's abundant rats. He is gamely exploring new neighborhoods and turning up unexpectedly at the windows of New Yorkers. Source: Associated Press, February 1, Jake Offenhartz.

**Barbara Cunningham** is collecting both new and used Christmas cards. She donates them to a local special education teacher who uses them in his classroom. He has told Barbara he can use "all the cards he can get." The students make gift cards which they sell at the school fundraiser. If you have cards you'd like to donate, please contact Barbara at (925) 846-8123 or [barbjc1943@gmail.com](mailto:barbjc1943@gmail.com) for more info, or just mail them to her directly at 3556 Touriga, Pleasanton, CA 94566-6931. **Note:** This is a new email for her. This teacher needs just the cards, no envelopes. The money they raise is for special outings like field trips and other enrichment activities for the special needs students.

**Jan Soderstrom** is collecting coupons for the charity Support our Troops. This is a service project of her Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) chapter. According to Feeding America, an estimated 160,000 military families experienced difficulty putting food on the table in 2020. Troops in junior enlisted ranks are especially vulnerable to food insecurity — almost 30% need help.

I would like to ask all of you to cut out coupons and mail them to me at 30 San Piedras Place, San Ramon, CA 94583-3018. This is such an easy thing to do to support our troops. For the price of a first class stamp, you can get about 90 coupons in an envelope. The coupons have to say Manufacturer's Coupon. If they come in a strip, please cut them into separate coupons. The collected coupons are then distributed to overseas military personnel for use in their commissaries. The commissaries honor them for six months after the published expiration date so expired coupons can be sent too. In my area, the coupons come in Tuesday's mail along with the super-market ads, and then in the Sunday paper. Unfortunately, manufacturers are cutting back on the coupons they are issuing, especially on food items, just when people need help the most. So anything we can send to the troops is greatly appreciated. I get so excited when I get a coupon for eggs!

I am so grateful for the kindness of all the RUAEA members who are helping me with this project. I have been turning in coupons every month since May 2022, and on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, I turned in 1799 coupons. The coupons I get at my East Bay Diablos RUAEA meeting on January 8 will go toward February's totals. From now



through May 2024, I'll be turning in coupons at my DAR meeting the first Saturday of the month. Thank you so much to the members in my local RUAEA chapter and to members from all over the country who are sending coupons. All the coupon cutters are telling me that they are not getting coupons like they used to. It's really bad in the SF Bay Area and I'm glad that other areas of the country are still able to send coupons. If it weren't for the RUAEA folks from all over the country sending me coupons, my chapter would have very few coupons. This month I received coupons from **Rosalie Betschart** in OR, **Mary Brennan** in MN, **Marilyn Carle** in IL, **Marcella Kern** in NJ, **Carol Koslosky** in NY, **Jeanine Mooney** in SC, **Betty Ogburn** in NJ, **Russell Schleske** in CA, **Sheryl Schubert** in CO, **Jim Taylor** in FL, **Norm Wilkinson** in IL and **Gilbert Wojtal** in AZ.

Our meetings are the first Monday of the month and we meet all 12 months of the year. Upcoming Meetings: Please join us!

- ▲ Monday, March 4 at 11:00 — Rocco's Ristorante Pizzeria, 2909 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek. Social hour starts at 11:00 and we typically eat at noon. We order from the regular menu and have separate checks. Must RSVP to **J a n S o d e r s t r o m** at [janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com) or (925) 833-9184 by Thursday, February 29.
- ▲ Monday, April 1 at 11:00 — Rocco's Ristorante Pizzeria, 2909 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek. Social hour starts at 11:00 and we typically eat at noon. We order from the regular menu and have separate checks. Must RSVP to **J a n S o d e r s t r o m** at [janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com) or (925) 833-9184 by Thursday, March 28.

Until next month, take care and do everything you can to stay healthy!



**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 it is ... a New Year. We welcome you and hope that you will come visit us here in the City by the Bay. Lots to offer and so many new restaurants from which to choose that you could possibly eat breakfast, lunch, cocktail hour and dinner for the next 375 days! And go to a game or two along the way. Or see Swiftie bring in the crowds to the ball games! (Now there's a PR Lady, for sure!)

I have decided to go back to work. I will become the new WeatherWonderWoman for the Bay Area ... my chances of being correct are 50/50, so what do I have to lose? This is supposed to be winter. Yes, we have some lovely, deep snow in the Sierras and skiing is great. The roads? Do you know how to put on chains? The fellas who do that for a living will help you out and do the job in a flash (this is after you have cursed, sworn never again, gashed your fingers and then ... cursed again.) Then we have the Rain Dancers. I am getting on an airplane tomorrow morning and guess what ... thunder, lightning, torrential rain and a mighty storm is predicted. I am here sitting on the patio, basking in the sun, Mai Tai in hand, and it is 73 degrees out here. Chances are still 50/50 that they are right - but what the heck, I might also be correct - so I'll take my chances. Once I land, 'nuther Mai Tai in hand, only palm trees and Niihau in the distance and someone strumming on a Ukulele. (Heavens forefend, **Not** Tiny Bubbles!) It will always be my "Little Corner of the World" – the little Menhunes and Me!

The Gaters started off the year with a hand full of faithful members. 19 members found us, alive and well, and enjoyed some camaraderie, swapped stories, jokes and took off to IHOP for breakfast/lunch/or dinner. They have just renovated their restaurant; have a new (very extensive) menu and good eats. We were pleasantly surprised as they gave us separate checks! We had only one wait-staff serving us and he did a terrific job. We welcomed a new member, **Andy King**, and it was good to see **Ben Ramos** (long time member who lives across the Bay.) One table filled with **Ben Ramos**, **Dee Peters**, **John Bogdanoff**, **Frank Minnick**, **Gene Walter**, **Colleen Wood**, **Lydia Rolfe**, **Linda Kasarda**, **Al Durr**, and **Vera Kina**. The other: **John Garis**, **Bob Donovan**, **Andy King**, **Bill & Diane Heinrich**, **Carol Slater**, **Jerry Marsala** and **Ginger Dahlberg**. The rain stayed away, thanks to WWW (see above.)

Here are the dates for the following months:

- ▲ February 26 – 10:00am Short Board Meeting, 10:30am Members social time – Chinese New Years' Celebration at Tai Wu Chinese restaurant - Sponsor **Carol Slater** – let her know if you plan on attending so we can let the restaurant know how many to expect. The restaurant is located 5 minutes from the Rec. Center by the Ranch 99 grocery store on Foster City Blvd. You can bring your own chop sticks if you wish.
- ▲ March 25 – 10:00am Short Board Meeting, 10:30am Members social time – Sponsor **Vera Kina** – We will be going to Lazy Dog Restaurant in the Bridgepoint Shopping Center. Going to join us? Let Vera know.
- ▲ April 22 – 10:00am Short Board Meeting, 10:30am Members social time – Sponsor **Ginger Dahlberg** - Lunch TBA

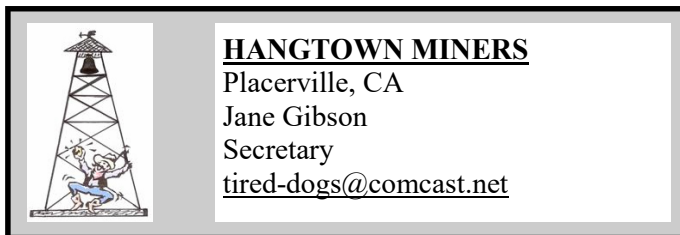
- ▲ May 27 – This is a national Holiday- Memorial Day and the Rec. Center will be closed. Will advise what we will be doing – perhaps a BYOBL and enjoying the picnic tables outside by the Rec. Center (we could dance around the May Pole! or not.)

Got your traveling shoes on? Want to join us for an afternoon dinner and “Dancing with the Stars” performance in San Jose. The date is March 16<sup>th</sup> – flyer is available from Ginger.

March 17 – 28, 2024 a 3 day trip to Barcelona (with tours,) Spain and an AMA Waterways cruise aboard the AMA Kristina (TGV Train to France) for 7 nights – Colors of Provence Cruise from Arles to Lyon, then fly home. Space is limited – a flyer is available from Ginger.

The latest big news is that Amelia Earharts’ plane may have been located. Wow ... maybe D.B. Cooper will show up next - stay tuned. (Her ear to the ground ... your WWW.)

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 10:00am 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 **Ginger Dahlberg**, 821 Magellan Lane, Foster City, CA 94404.



Welcome to 2024! This year is going to rock! 32 Hangtown Miners were able to attend our first luncheon for 2024 at Skipolini’s Pizza and Pasta. **Rudy & Cindy Blazius**, you found a good one with this restaurant! **Jane Gibson** gave the Blazius’ a hearty “Thank You” for hosting. Rudy kind of “jumped” into info, wound around back to his “routine” so I’m putting the order back. No couples attending claimed January for their anniversary month. Birthdays are another matter! **Bill Gibson, Chuck & Peggy Trebnik** all celebrate this month. Happy Birthday to All. And, we said “Welcome” to Cindy’s brother, **Ernest Hellewell** and **Diane Wilson**. **Larry Papke** also joined us and became our newest member!

Rudy wanted to make sure that there was acknowledgment given to **Suzanne Kenny** (and **Jane Gibson** too) for the efforts made to make our December luncheon the beautiful and delicious event it was. A good deal of time and attention goes into every luncheon, but, we try

to make our last luncheon in a given year extra special. We had expected 36 members to attend, however the weather and health problems got in the way and only 31 came. Arrangements were made to deliver the meals to those who were not able to come in person. Our menu – main dishes were prime rib or salmon – was so good! The Smith Flat House did a wonderful job with the venue and food

*President ~* Thankfully, **Rudy Blazius** is our “leader” again this year. He is so organized and we are fortunate he is continuing. Rudy wanted to thank last year’s officers for taking on their positions. And, it’s a good thing that we didn’t bungle our jobs since you have all of us holding down those responsibilities again for this year! Obviously, we’re working with a terrific group of people, which is why we continue without complaining.

Rudy made copies of our roster. If you snagged one, be sure to look over your information and let me know if there are any changes to your info that we need to address. Address? Phone number? Spelling? We have a couple members who have moved away/out of state. We do have members who don’t live here - or – aren’t able to attend the luncheons. But, they like to keep up on what’s going on, seeing pictures of their friends so they choose to continue as a Hangtown Miners. We love to keep in touch with all of you. Our roster seems to continually change, so I will try to keep you updated.

So, returning to the subject of our December luncheon ... As you all know, each year we ask all of you to contribute by bringing food items and toys. Rudy said that 196 pounds of food was taken to the local food bank. Thank You! Now, all the beautiful toys were taken to the local firehouse. But, they had already taken the toys they were collecting to where they were needed. Rudy called the fire Chief and asked what happened to the toys we donated? He had no idea where they went! I feel sure that they were also distributed to organizations in need, but that is just “my” hope. The past couple of years **Irv & Sherrie Wolfram** took the toys up to Georgetown to be shared, but they were snowed in this time. **Duncan Nielsen** mentioned that the Corvette Club he belongs to collects toys and he will find out if that is a good place to take what we bring. Obviously, we have more research to do, but, we will be sure to have a plan nailed down before we get to our December luncheon 2024!

*Vice President ~* **JR Heier** didn’t have anything to report this month.

*Secretary ~* **Jane Gibson** didn’t have a report to share.

*Treasurer ~* **Tom Kenny**, our treasurer extraordinaire, shared quite a bit of info with us. So, to start off, Tom tells us that our checking account is resting at a good number. He will still have the monies from today’s raffle to deposit. Our lower balance is the result of our subsidizing the cost for the December luncheon. Some-

thing we do every year. It is possible we may need to raise the amount each member pays per meal next year – we will see how things shape up.

Each year we like to make a donation to a charity or charities. This year, as we did in '22, we voted to donate \$300 to our program that helps the students who are attending the A&P Mechanic Program at the Sacramento City College. We have been so fortunate to have so many tools donated already. But, there's always "missing" tools that are needed to fill out their "required" lists. Our dollars are used to purchase as many of those "missing" tools as we can. Tom can give anyone who donates tools to this project a receipt that you can use for your tax return. Tom estimates that we have already provided about \$10,000 in tools! Tom also mentioned that about 2,000 Cleco Fasteners have been donated! I asked Bill what those are and, for those who aren't familiar with sheet metal tools, they are used to temporarily hold sheet metal fabrication components together until permanent fasteners are installed. Got it! (in my world, I baste fabrics together!)

It has been observed that our chapter, you all have made a fantastic effort, seems to be about at the end of what we, personally, are able to contribute as far as "experienced tools" goes. But, we know that there are other chapters whose members may not have gone thru their own tool collection yet. We are reaching out to those folks to see if you might be willing to help us keep this project going. Obviously, we aren't asking you to mail/ship these tools to us! But, depending where you are, we will make every effort to get to you and bring them back here. Helping another generation get their start in a really good profession is so appreciated. Actually, in "New Business", Rudy has given us some pertinent information that can be passed along to someone you may know who is thinking about pursuing training as an A&P Mechanic.

That said, Tom feels that we do have enough in the bank to make a donation to another charity. Which one would that be, you may ask! And, a good question that is! Think about a charity that is local to the El Dorado County and that you feel is an appropriate program which is supportive to the community. Bring your suggestions (along with the information that will be needed to get the funds to them) and we will hear all of your input at our February meeting, decide which one we can/will support, and vote on an amount.

*Old Business* ~ Not really too much to cover here, however, I do want to remind you that your 2024 Annual Dues are due! I know, I know – how could we be needing to send in our \$15 already – People! We are in a whole new year! There are several of you who we still need to hear from and I don't want you to be dropped from our roster or wait too long so you will need to pay \$20! That increase happens if we do not receive your annual dues by the end of March. No one wants to have to pay the

extra. So, if you don't remember if you have paid already, contact **Tom Kenny**, (530) 626-5660 to see if you're paid up to date or not. For those of you who tend to procrastinate and you figure you haven't sent your check in yet, get'er done! Make out your check to the Hangtown Miners for \$15.00 and mail it to **Tom Kenny**; 3481 Parleys Canyon; Placerville, CA 95667 right away.

Next: We still need hosts for two luncheons! June and October are great months to host – easy themes (if you want a "theme"). Please, look at your schedules, think about a restaurant you enjoy dining at and if they have a separate area/room that we could use would be the best. We have had our lunches in the regular dining area, but it can be quite noisy (both for us and the other patrons) and hard to hear Rudy during the meeting when there's outside chatter. Since we don't want to "force" anyone to host, if we don't get someone to step up and host in June or October, then we will not have our monthly get together in those months. I really hate the idea for that to happen, but ...

*New Business* ~ Rudy shared with us that our National Cemeteries are "filling up". If you are a Veteran and want/plan to have your remains buried in one of these cemeteries, you want to contact the VA and find out if you can be on the "list" for a spot. Now, please be sure to check on this, but my Dad's ashes are buried in Riverside National Cemetery and my Mom's ashes are next to his and I think that this policy is still in place, but again – ask! Hopefully you won't need to use that space soon, but one does need to be prepared for that day.

United is giving U.S. Army Reservists & Students a direct path to become airline maintenance technicians! United has announced the launch of the Calibrate Technician Pathway Program that gives U.S. Army reservists and students from three prominent aviation maintenance schools a direct pathway to lucrative careers as technicians at the airline. In this initial phase of the program, United will establish partnerships with the U.S. Army Reserve in their Aviation Command Unit, National Aviation Academy, Aviation Institute of Maintenance and Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics with plans to bring in up to 300 eligible students per year. This new program is in support of the airline's United Next growth plan - where the airline expects to take the delivery of 800 new aircraft between 2023 and 2032. United has already hired more than 3,200 technicians in the last 18 months and plans to hire thousands more by 2026 to support all the new planes entering the fleet. There was more info attached to this, if you have someone interested in the program or the above mentioned schools, contact me and I can pass along that info. If you are a RUAEA member and receive the RUAEA Newsletter, the article is in it.

Rudy wrapped up the meeting and gave us this fun bit of info that you want to be aware of so it doesn't happen to you!

*Yesterday, my daughter emailed me, asking why I*

didn't do something useful with my time. "Like sitting around the pool, drinking wine isn't a good thing?" I asked. Talking about my "doing something useful" seems to be her favorite topic of conversation.

She is "only thinking of me," she said and suggested that I go down to the Senior Center and hang out with the fellas. So, I did and when I got home, I decided to play a prank on her.

I sent her an email saying that I had joined the Senior Parachute Club. She replied, "Are you nuts? You're 80 years old and now you're going to start jumping out of airplanes?"

I told her that I even had a Membership Card and emailed a copy to her. Immediately, she telephoned me and yelled; "Good grief, Dad, where are your glasses? This is a membership to a Prostitute Club not a Parachute Club."

"Oh man, am I in trouble?" I said; "I signed up and prepaid for five jumps a week!" ... the line went dead.

Life as a Senior Citizen may not be getting any easier, but it can be fun!

And with that we moved on to our Raffle! JR asked **Duncan Nielsen** to draw the ticket for our donator's prize – guess who won? **Diana Bell!**

A huge "Thank You" to all who brought items to be raffled: **Heiers** – candles; **Kenney** – jam; **Gibson** – set of bowls; **Garlands** – bird picture; **Blazius** – wine and table decorations; **Trebnik** – movie basket; **Guinn** – candy; **Dellinger** – bread; **Biro** – wine; **Kozelka/Barton** – mini lights; **Bell/Nielsen** – wine; **Kenny** – coffee/tea; **Delfino** – pomegranate cheesecake, White Sparkling wine, and another bottle but I can't read what it is, though, am sure it's good!

Our February luncheon will be at El Tapatio Restaurant on Valentine's Day!

Alright, my friends, some of you are having to shovel the snow off your drives, some of you are getting wet, but all of you need to be extra careful while Mother Nature does her Winter thing. It may be a beautiful time of the year, but safety is a number one issue. Please, take those extra moments to be cautious and safe. You know, being retired also means that you are allowed to curl up under a blanket, sip a beverage, read a book, do needle-point, listen to music or watch TV – whatever gives you some peace – do it!

SAINT  
PATRICK'S  
DAY



## **RESANS**

San Diego, CA

Barbara Drews

Secretary

[sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com](mailto:sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com)

Never before in RESANS history have we had a weather cancellation on our Thursday Breakfast! The weather report not only forecasted the strong wind, heavy wind and cold, but they also gave addresses for obtaining sandbags and places to go if you were flooded out of your house! This was big news. It's not supposed to rain in Southern California! I immediately sent out notices to everyone that we would not be having our breakfast. We have retirees that drive a distance and I was concerned about them. Good thing! The storm was as bad if not worse than predicted and all of our retirees were safe at home!

Our Birthdays for March are **Ann Medve** celebrating 86 years and **Randy Tidmore** who will celebrate 102 years of age!

**Peggy Van Sickle** is recuperating from her fifth surgery. She is even able to take a few steps at a time but she has to wear Darth Vader boots to do so. She is feeling well and in good spirits. Not sure how much longer she will be in Acute Care. She is so thankful for all the thoughts and prayers and is looking forward to seeing us all again.

Our inclement weather has been a good time to get involved in your hobbies. If you don't have one, you should consider the benefits. Especially as seniors and retirees, there are both mental and physical advantages in taking time and doing something just for yourself. Hobbies improve mental health by boosting dopamine in your system and you will feel less anxious, lonely and depressed more than usual. Create time for yourself and pursue your interests is a good way to prevent depression and poor mental health. This condition is known as anhedonia and many of the medications given by Dr's may not help with the depression. Some of the most recommended hobbies to take up are gardening, pets, especially having a dog to take for daily walks, also adult education centers for classes that can expand your interest and provides social contact which is very beneficial for your well being. It has been proven that volunteering can make you a better person with a purpose and also provide contact with others.

Some fun hobbies to try if you haven't already indulged ~ Dog walking, playing card games, barbecues and trying new recipes for outdoor grilling. A few more suggestions are knitting, crocheting, Golf, Pickleball, reading, art such as watercolor. There are classes available for most of those mentioned. There are many others



available for you to enrich yourself and your mind. We may be getting older but we aren't finished yet!

- ☺ Life in the fast lane ~ The other day I was grocery shopping and was in the "Six Item Express" lane at the store, quietly fuming. Completely ignoring the sign, the woman ahead of me had slipped into the check-out line pushing a cart piled high with groceries. Imagine my delight when the cashier beckoned the woman to come forward looked into the cart and asked sweetly, "So, which six items would you like to buy?"
- ☺ Because they had no reservations at a busy restaurant, my elderly neighbor and his wife were told there would be a 45 minute wait for a table. "Young man, we're both 90 years old," the husband said. "We may not have 45 minutes." They were seated immediately.
- ☺ The reason Politicians try so hard to get re-elected is that they would hate to have to make a living under the laws they have passed.

Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea.

#### Calendar:

**March 7** - Retiree breakfast, Pt Loma Cafe, 4865 North Harbor Drive, San Diego. Please email me if you will be attending as the Café needs a number of attendees for staffing purposes. We would love to have you join us.  
Spring Fling – To be announced.

**September 27 - October 2** - Retired United Airlines Employees Reunion.



**SACRAMENTO  
GOLD DIGGERS**  
Sacramento, CA  
Ron Bertacini  
Secretary  
[sgd@surewest.net](mailto:sgd@surewest.net)

The Gold Diggers started the year with a lunch meeting at the Old Town Pizza in Roseville. Since we meet at 1100 am we pretty much had the place to ourselves. We had 26 members in attendance. It was good to see most of our members in the New Year. After indulging in pizza and other morsels, President **Jim Simon** opened the meeting with thanks to **Barbara & Ron Bertacini** for reserving the location and thanked our servers. VP **Barbara Bertacini** advised that the February lunch will be at Lucille's in Rocklin on February 28<sup>th</sup>. This is our Presidents lunch honoring all the Past Presidents. We will have our private space as in the past at this location. The March lunch will be at Denny's in Roseville on March 27, Denny's has a large private room for our meeting. We are working on a location for the April lunch and the rest of the year is open with the exception of September due to the RUAEA Reunion and November due to Thanksgiving. If any member has a special place and would like to host let us know. Secretary **Ron Bertacini** reported that there were no anniversaries for January. Treasurer **Robin Garland** was unable to attend due to a cold but her Assistant Treasurer **Francis Domaratus** reported the chapter is solvent and was available to collect dues if anyone had not already paid for 2024. Sunshine Lady **Angie Dellinger** had nothing to report which is always good news. Our Historian **Francis Domaratus** reported he is working on the member's pictures and other albums of the chapter's history.


Regional Director **Dave Garland** reported that the RUAEA Reunion planning committee is working on details for the 2024 event in San Diego. The Reunion will be at the Dana on Mission Bay again with the same rates as last year. If anyone is thinking of attending, make sure you make your hotel reservation early. The dates of the Reunion are September 27<sup>th</sup> to October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Some of the details for the Reunion are: For the Banquet night on October 2, the theme will be Broadway Night and the Friendship Night; October 1 will be Western Night. The American Fly Boys Band with **John Cunningham** will entertain us again on the Banquet night. There will be an



Executive Board meeting in early March to finalize tour plans.


President Jim reminded us of some significant events on January 31 in past years. 1919 Jackie Robinson, baseball great was born, 1961 Ham the Chimp traveled to outer space on the US Mercury Program test flight, Alaska Airlines flight 261 crashed into the sea killing all 88 people on board, the flight was on an MD-83 with a horizontal stabilizer problem, 2003 the Space Shuttle Columbia was destroyed while returning to earth from an orbital mission over Texas at an altitude of about 40 miles, killing all seven crew members.

The birthday roll off did not take long as there was only one January birthday, **Angie Dellinger**, who still had to roll the dice to get that extra few dollars. Our event ended with our monthly raffles thanks to the generous donations from our members. There were many nice items to choose from. It does help the Treasury.



**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.



**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)

Despite the howling winds, downed trees, pouring rain, crazy drivers and numerous power outages, 17 brave members came out to the monthly breakfast meeting. While our fearless leader was off to a far off land,




looking for their retirement cave to live in, **Marianne Johnson** took over and did a great job. The restaurant put us in the indoor room, which we pretty much had to ourselves.

Topic of discussion was on our annual picnic at Vasona Park. We are planning to do a BBQ ourselves, in an effort to keep costs down to ensure a large attendance. Depending on the number of people that sign up, we can have quite a spread at a reasonable cost. So keep the date, June 12<sup>th</sup> open to attend. We have reserved the covered pavilion as in the past with a restroom facility and parking close by. The weather is always nice and a great time is had by all.

In addition, the group was reminded that reservations are now being accepted at the Dana Hotel in San Diego for the annual RUAEA Reunion. I encourage you to make reservations to ensure you can get the RUAEA rate of \$135/night locked in. If things should change; you can always cancel 48 hours in advance at no charge. Contact them at (800) 445-3339 and mention RUAEA. The rate is good from September 24 – October 5, so make it a vacation if you want. Remember it's free parking, no resort fee and free breakfast. This will be the last year we will be offered this rate and at such a nice location.

Birthdays in February were; **Sharon Ramsy** and **Chuck Thuener**. There were no anniversaries.

Please come and join us at the Bill of Fare restaurant on Saratoga Ave., just off highway 280 in San Jose, the first Monday of the month beginning at 1000.



**SOLANO FLYERS**  
Larry Jackson  
President  
(707) 624-0030  
[larry-cindy@comcast.net](mailto:larry-cindy@comcast.net)

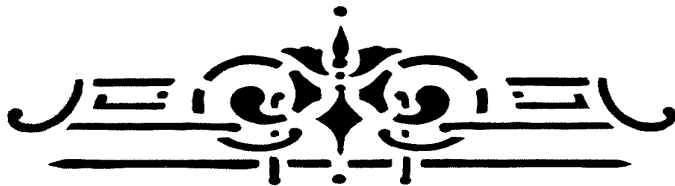
The Solano Flyers' monthly meeting on January 17 was attended by 17 members including the following Chapter Officers: President **Larry Jackson** and Treasurer/Secretary **Jo Anne Blizzard**.

Our 50/50 Drawing ticket is \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5. Members keep one half and deposit the other separated tickets in the ticket roller.

Birthday ~ **Padrick Gardner** who is also the 50/50 winner.

Anniversaries ~ None

Our next Meeting will be held on February 20 at the Hide-A-Way.



## COLORADO

	<p><b><u>DENVER MILE HIGHERS</u></b> Rich &amp; Cleora Conner (970) 660-7040 <a href="mailto:richcleora@gmail.com">richcleora@gmail.com</a></p>
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**Paul Goodyear** opened the meeting with the pledge to the flag. We had a new member, **Jackie Kudron**, from ramp safety (welcome).


UAL CEO Scott Kirby is working with Airbus to order 321 aircraft.

This year, RUAEA reunion is September 27 through October 2. The full Reunion package will be available in the June 2024 Newsletter. Make your hotel reservations early as when rooms are all taken the price goes up considerably.

A new membership database is being developed by our Web Master at Arc Seven.

A reminder that our monthly luncheon time has changed from 11:30 to 11:00; it is the first Thursday of each month at Ted's Place in Commerce City; the next meeting will be March 7<sup>th</sup>. Bring a friend and enjoy the companionship of other UAL retirees.

## FLORIDA

	<p><b><u>THE CITRUS GROUPEERS THE VILLAGES</u></b> Julius "Joe" DiStaso (352) 775-8201 (941) 661-2215 <a href="mailto:wopahofl@comcast.net">wopahofl@comcast.net</a></p>
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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 [rca-pozzi@rocketmail.com](mailto:rca-pozzi@rocketmail.com).



	<p><b><u>THE ORLANDO REAL McCOYS</u></b> Elaine Tillman-Mannella 7307 Everleigh Court Orlando, FL 32819 (321) 287-4055 <a href="mailto:emt6250@yahoo.com">emt6250@yahoo.com</a></p>
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February 6<sup>th</sup> dawned sunny and bright ... and still **cold** for us transplanted Floridians ☺


We all rose for the Pledge and President **Al Fields** reopened the subject of the annual donations from our Charity Fund. We voted last meeting to send \$300 to the Russell Home for Atypical Children. After input on VA choices, we voted to send \$300 to the VA-CLC, for assisted living for veterans.

New Treasurer **Linda Agnello** shared our bank balance with the members present and Secretary **Elaine Tillman-Mannella** admitted that she had nothing to share this month. Everyone was amazed! Ha Ha Ha!

President Al asked us all to put the first Tuesday in April, April 2<sup>nd</sup> in our minds and on our busy calendars for the Annual Picnic. He will arrange the deposit to hold the pavilion at Cypress Grove Park as in years past. Details on "who's gonna bring what" will be ironed out at the March 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The subject of scam phone calls and fraud running rampant, became a topic of conversation. Everyone was urged to be **very careful** with your personal information. Then the rising cost of auto insurance was brought up. Someone said that AARP offers 15% off with a safe driver discount. Worth checking ...

As always, prayers and cheery thoughts for all who are ill, those we know about and those we don't.

	<p><b><u>SW PELICANS DROP-INS</u></b> Ray Jensen (239) 634-2054 <a href="mailto:rmmjensen@msn.com">rmmjensen@msn.com</a></p>
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Our monthly luncheon was held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February at our normal venue at LYNQ restaurant. We had a nice turnout of 12 folks.

We welcomed back several members who, because of illness, could not make previous luncheons. It was good to see them, their illness was quite serious and we were all pleased with their recovery.

Our next lunch will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March at our normal venue, LYNQ restaurant at 11:30. All are welcome, but please let me know if you will be joining us.



## ILLINOIS



**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)



**CHICAGO SKYLINERS**  
[www.chicagoskyliners.org](http://www.chicagoskyliners.org)  
[Chicagomainliner.com](http://Chicagomainliner.com)  
Jan Gawenda  
(847) 917-9586  
[jawenda@gmail.com](mailto:jawenda@gmail.com)


Six members attended our February meeting. We missed **Frank & Helen** and wished them better health. We also missed **Kevin & Ethel**.

We had a very sociable meeting; we discussed UAL and enjoyed our brunch.

We wished everyone Happy Mardi Gras, Happy Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday.

### Calendar:

**March 4** - IHOP - 10:30. We will be discussing our April Picnic.




**TREASURE COAST**  
Stuart, FL  
Al Popek  
President  
[ualpbi@att.net](mailto:ualpbi@att.net)

Our chapter still doesn't have a VP or Secretary but we are managing.

Time flies when you are having fun. Our next Treasure Coast Meeting will be held on March 5<sup>th</sup> at 12 Noon; the location will be the same place where we had our Christmas Gathering, Carmines Italian Restaurant, 2401 PGA Blvd, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, 33410; (561) 775-0186.

March is a busy month this year, remember on March 17<sup>th</sup>, everyone becomes Irish so cheers and have fun. Also at the end of March, Easter is early this year on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Wishing everyone a Happy Easter!

## IDAHO



**BOISE GEMS**  
Shirley Dempsey  
[rickshirley.dempsey@gmail.com](mailto:rickshirley.dempsey@gmail.com)

There is no report this month from the Boise Gems chapter of RUAEA.



March—‘Marsz marsz, Dabrowski, z ziemi wloskiej do Polski, Za twoim przewodem Zlaczym się z narodem’. Any Good Polish person worth their paczyki knows that's the Poland National Anthem. It's been said there are more Polish people in Chicago than are in Warsaw. So I'm going to assume at least a few hundred UAL'ers can recall that song. Love that song, always makes me want to march while cooking my golumpki. Ok, a trip back to my/our past. Yes, I'm Polish, 100% that I'm aware of, but poor Poland has been sliced up so often, for hundreds of years, so who knows. I'll stick with 100%. Did you get your paczki last month? Have you noticed over the years, more and more bakeries and grocery stores are selling these delicacies? Some stores make donuts, put some strawberry jelly on it and say they're authentic paczyki? Ugh! Paczki Plagiarists, they wouldn't know a real paczek from their Busia's dupa.

March, the month of Julius Caesar's murder, first day of Spring, the 20<sup>th</sup>, we move our clocks ahead one hour on the 10<sup>th</sup>, tulips and daffodils start popping up their little faces in the middle of March, fighting the snowfalls at times. We also celebrate Easter on the 31<sup>st</sup>, St. Patrick, the 17<sup>th</sup> and St. Joseph's, the 19<sup>th</sup>, Primary Election Day in Illinois on the 19<sup>th</sup>, and warmer weather. As Robin Williams once described it, ‘Spring is nature's way of saying. “Let's Party” ’.

The daffodil is the official March flower, so beautiful, bright yellow, but they also come in white, pink, peach, bi-white and yellow, and orange. They are part of the narcissus family. Look at them, they're like saying, ‘Yes, I am a narcissus, and I am pretty, aren't I?’ They welcome spring with a symbol of renewal and fresh starts. The gems are the aquamarine and bloodstones, although I don't know how many March-folk have a bloodstone ring. I have my aquamarine jewelry, more colorful and popular, and spring-like. Lots of birthdays in March, probably from all of those June weddings. That's how I got here.

March is American Red Cross Month, Umbrella, Peanut and Noodle Month, March Madness in the middle of the month. Isn't there a contest with brackets or something that make people crazy when their team loses? Something else I don't understand. All I know is the soaps on CBS are interrupted for three days and the viewers go nuts that they don't know what's happening



with their heroes and heroines. But the other 51 weeks they complain about the story lines, dresses, too much sex, not enough sex in the afternoon, bad hair and makeup, but take it all away for a few days and they go out of their minds. People, love them, no? Victor and Nikki, Eric and Donna. How many times can these couples marry and divorce the same people? Love in the afternoon, also deceit, jealousy, and chicanery.

We also have Women of Aviation Week, along with Brain Awareness, (what, here?), Words Matter, Girls Scout, Termite Awareness, and No More Week. On March 4<sup>th</sup>, Chicago celebrates the 186<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of their city in 1837. It's also the birthday commemoration of Casimir Pulaski, a Revolutionary War cavalry officer that helped fight in the American Revolution. He's also known as the 'father of the American cavalry'. One more Polish man, Tadeusz Kościuszko, another hero of our Revolutionary War. There are statues erected for both men in our city. And we can't forget Pulaski Road on the west side of the city.

Many Europeans helped us fight our wars, thank you gentlemen. That's how we survived, working together for freedom.

Sometimes I know I'm wrong, I just like to argue.

The Northside breakfast had eight people, **Ginny Vlach, Charlie Lewis, Marsha Sealock-Weber, Jerry Tipperreiter, Sandy Piwowarczyk, Dave Dunham, Marge Stamm, and Eleanor Henricksen**. Our Skyliners Chapter is always welcoming new members. Our dues have increased to \$10.00 per couple. Calls can be made to our treasurer, **Tom Pelc** for his address, or, you can look at our website, [chicagoskyliners.org](http://chicagoskyliners.org) for all kinds of important information, pictures from past luncheons, and plans for the future. You can also look for information to join or renew the RUAEA membership. Lots of good info on that sight, all kept up-to-date by **Toni Van Kampen**. Speaking of Toni, she and her husband, **Darryl**, and **Penny Treptow** just returned from a breathtaking trip to the bottom of the world, Antarctica. Ask her about it, sure sounds like the adventure of a lifetime. This was the fifth continent they visited. Only two more to go! Ask about the penguins and her dip in the ocean!

While I'm thinking about our chapter, the Skyliners will be having a Spring Luncheon on April 9, at the Belvedere Banquets, on Devon at Rohlwing Roads, in Elk Grove Village. Invitations went out a week ago, I hope you all received one, either by computer or US mail. Our menu is chicken, salmon, and pork, squash soup and dessert, cost is \$29.00. Send your money in now so you won't forget. Our entertainment will be Peter Oprisko, singer of our old standards, he's very entertaining.

The ORDMM mechanics met at Maxfields. **Fred Seibert, Don Kramlich, Bill Durr, Jim Vitte, Rich Protsman, Paul Skrudland, and Cas Paprocki**. There were a few more men there, but nobody could remember

their names. No, I wasn't there, see, I can't miss a breakfast. I think they only invite me because I know everybody's name.

The Operating Manager's breakfast included **Bob Smietanski, Tom Abraham, Sue & Bart Kendall, Jackie Anderson, Anne Pepper** and **Stan Chmielewicz**. It was so nice to see the girls again. Jackie moved to the western suburbs, plus stays with her family in various cities, states and countries sometimes. Anne moved from the western suburbs and now lives closer to us, but she still doesn't join us too often because of family, appointments and her extra-curricular activities.

The IAM Lodge 1487 had a huge turnout, 97 people, celebrating Lunar New Year with a delicious Chinese lunch. **Dave Roderick** explained the proposed changes to their constitution. Ballots were supplied and voted on. The results will be announced at the March 7 meeting. That meeting will be a Meet-n-Eat lunch. There will be a St Patrick's Day luncheon again this year at Peggy Kinane's on March 14, at 1:00. Please sign up with **Mary Alice Parker** if you'd like to attend. The May 2 meeting will celebrate Cinco de Mayo. Sign up at the March meeting. The cost is \$6.00.

I've heard of many of our old friends going through some health issues, maybe say, 'God, help out my dear friends get through their difficult days.' It's so hard to write these obits of old co-workers that we laughed and even disagreed with at times. We're at an age when nothing is guaranteed. That check engine light is on all the time, isn't it? We fix one thing, then something about an arm-length away starts to hurt. I think we have to agree, our lives have been pretty good. United treated us very well, nothing was perfect, but we brought up our families, took them to beautiful cities and far-away lands. Who else gets to do that? Thankfulness and kindness will get us through that last quarter of our lives. Thanks to you for being my friends, too.

From John Lennon: *"When I went to school, they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I wrote down, 'Happy.' They told me I didn't understand the assignment, and I told them they didn't understand life."*


Some of our friends Flew West last month, **James Younglove, ORDCS, Eve Haddad, CHIRR, Bob Irwin, ORDCG/FF, from ORDFO, James D. Myers, Robert Trudy, Michael Flegal, Jon Richard Boston, J.D. Pitts, and Ralph Gemignani**. Also, **Gail Helfferich**, wife of **Bob Helfferich**, one of our RUPA reps, passed away. Also gone from our world, Actors, Bill Hayes, (Days of our Lives), Joyce Randolph (Trixie from The Honeymooners), David Gail (90210), Gary Graham (Star Trek-Enterprise), Peter Crombie (Seinfeld), Herbert Coward (Deliverance), Chita Rivera (West Side Story on Broadway), Don Murray (Bus Stop), Carl Weathers (Rocky), Singers Mary Weiss (the Shangrilas), Toby Keith (Should've Been a Cowboy), Director Norman Jewison (Moonstruck), Jenny Jaquays (Game designer,

Pac-man, Donkey Kong), Charles Osgood (CBS news anchor), Bob Beckwith (9/11 Firefighter), Dexter Scott King (Martin L King's son), also our three soldiers that were killed in Iraq, and Pearl Berg, 114 years old in California. Long life!

#### Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Rose Garden Restaurant, 9:00AM, 800 E. Higgins Rd., corner of Higgins and Scott St., Elk Grove, (**March 14**), second Thursday of the month.  
IAM 1487 Lunch, 1487 Lodge, 50 W. Oakton St., Des Plaines, (**March 7**) 11:00AM. First Thursday.  
ORDMM Breakfast - Maxfield's, 9:00AM, Plum Grove & Schaumburg Rds. (**March 21**). Third Thursday.  
RUPA Lunch - Nick's Pizza, 11:00 A.M., 856 Pyott Rd. Crystal Lake, (**March 12**).

### INDIANA

	<p><b><u>INDY RACERS</u></b> Indianapolis, IN Frank N. Ingegno (317) 428-7741 <a href="mailto:figenius@sbcglobal.net">figenius@sbcglobal.net</a></p>
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Our January meeting was held on January 9<sup>th</sup>. Those in attendance were **Bob & Myrtle Duty, Frank Ingegno, Charles Theiss** and son, **Ron Bretherick**, and **Bill & Darlene Carson**. It was a good turnout and hopefully, all will continue to attend. We are also hoping for new members to join in the near future. This meeting was a purely social event. No new chapter business was discussed.

The RUAEA Indy Racers chapter is always open for new participants/members. Any United/CO retirees living in the Indianapolis area are welcome to join. Come check us out at one of our monthly meetings. We always enjoy meeting new United friends. Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 12 Noon. Location of our meeting is Emmy's Pancake House and Grill, 7508 Beechwood Center Road, Avon, IN 46123, (317) 272-7200.


Our future meetings schedule:

- **March 12** at Emmy's
- **April 9** at Emmy's
- **May 14** at Emmy's

For more information, please contact **Frank Ingegno**, (317) 428-7741, [figenius@sbcglobal.net](mailto:figenius@sbcglobal.net).



### MASSACHUSETTS

	<p><b><u>NOR'EASTERS</u></b> New England Dick Vee Vecchione 107 Bunker Hill Road Auburn, NH 03032-3521 (603) 264-3430 <a href="mailto:NH4Vee@aol.com">NH4Vee@aol.com</a></p>
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There is no report this month from the Nor'Easters chapter of RUAEA.

### MICHIGAN


	<p><b><u>GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES</u></b> Detroit, MI Gwen Dyc-Schwendenmann (248) 667-9258 <a href="mailto:bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net">bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net</a></p>
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We are saddened to announce that **Jerry Kincannon**, retired DTWRR, passed away on January 13<sup>th</sup> at the age of 71; he joined UA in 1991 and retired in 2020.

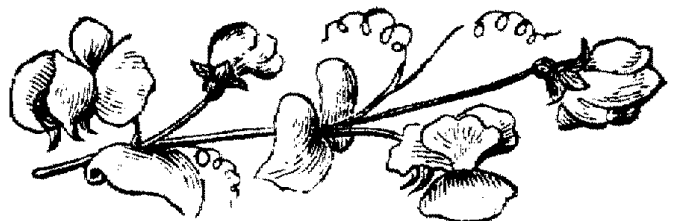
Enjoy the February holidays: Mardi Gras and Valentine's Day.

Thought for the month: *"The biggest lie you tell yourself is, I don't need to write that down. I'll remember it."*

### NEBRASKA

	<p><b><u>OMAHA GOLDENEARS</u></b> Jan Cornish 4602 N. 134<sup>th</sup> Ave. Omaha, NE 68164 (402) 619-9927 <a href="mailto:kcornish6031@msn.com">kcornish6031@msn.com</a></p>
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There is no report this month from the Omaha Golden Ears chapter of RUAEA.



## NEVADA



### LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

Arlene McCroy  
[apolloguy@aol.com](mailto:apolloguy@aol.com)

There is no report this month from the Las Vegas Silverliners chapter of RUAEA.

If you are in Las Vegas and or planning a trip here you are more than welcome to come to our Luncheons and visit with our members, you may even know or worked with one of them. Email **Mary Chandler** at [honolulumary06@yahoo.com](mailto:honolulumary06@yahoo.com) or **Arlene McCroy** at [apolloguy@aol.com](mailto:apolloguy@aol.com) for information about the next get together Luncheon.



### RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

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

There were 8 members at our January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting at The Black Bear Diner. I was not in attendance due to my mother's failing health. Thank you to **Kathy Robinson** for stepping in to take notes.

The October meeting has been rescheduled from Monday to Tuesday. As Kathy, the Black Bear Manager, pointed out, Monday is a day off for most because of Columbus – or Indigenous Peoples – Day and they get really busy. We are happy to accommodate that request.

The January birthdays are **Mary Withers**, **Duncan Scaife** and **Kathy Robinson**. The 50/50 was won by lucky once again **Linda Borchers**.

Our next meeting will be on February 12 at 11:00 am at the Black Bear Diner on Virginia St. See you there.



## NEW JERSEY



### THE GARDEN STATERS

Newark, New Jersey  
Marty Etler  
Brandywine Room 115  
814 Wyckoff Ave.,  
Mahwah, NJ 07430  
(551) 795-7266  
[MartyEtler@Outlook.com](mailto:MartyEtler@Outlook.com)

There is no report this month from the Garden Staters chapter of RUAEA.

## NEW YORK



### BUFFALO CHIPS

### BUFFALO CHIPS

Jerry Stevens  
130 Countryside Lane  
Williamsville, NY 14221-1308  
(716) 418-6887  
[Jerste130@msn.com](mailto:Jerste130@msn.com)

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 METROPOLITAN AREA

### NEW YORK METROS

Donna Feingold  
(516) 679-9152  
[djf509@aol.com](mailto:djf509@aol.com)

Our president **Ed Pozzi** just got out of the hospital so his grandson Mario was in charge of our monthly luncheon. After leading us in The Pledge of Allegiance, he reported on two birthdays, **Evelyn Schroder** and **Ron Feingold**, both were at the lunch.

Missing today was **Emma Milazzo**; she is in the hospital and expecting to return home in a few days. We are sending her wishes for a speedy recovery.

I'm sorry to report the passing of two retirees, **Ed Tuohy** (JFKFF), and **Frank Patrone** (JFKFF). Condolences to their families.

January birthday celebrants were **Mike Schroder**, **Julie Carnevale**, **Jason Weiner**, **Ona Weiner**, **Carol Cenkus**, and **Joseph Lilly**.

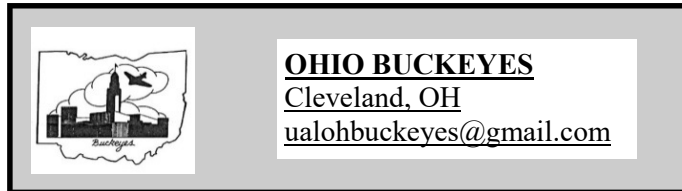
February birthdays ~ Besides Evelyn & Ron as re-

ported earlier, are **Kenneth Kleinhard**, **Vicki Petrick**, and **Rose Ann Vascellaro**.

Calendar:

**March 6** – Our next luncheon.

**OHIO**



There is no report this month from the Ohio Buckeyes chapter of RUAEA.

Calendar:

**March 1** - Brown Derby

**April** - No Luncheon

**May 1** - Mahle's

**OREGON**



I was able to make it to our January meeting. What a delight to visit with so many folks; scrumptious food and great company, but not a lot of news to report.

And now for a little humor, with a touch of philosophy thrown in, to help your day pass with a little more fun:

- ☺ My doctor said to eat more fruit and vegetables. I think an extra strawberry in my daiquiri and olive in my martini should do the trick.
- ☺ I finally did it! I bought a new pair of shoes with memory foam soles. No more forgetting why I walked into the kitchen!
- ☺ There is a strange voice in my head saying: "Vacuum the floor, clean the house, wash the windows." Good thing I know better than to listen to strangers.
- ☺ Man 1: "Are you concerned about the increase in artificial intelligence?" Man 2: "No, but I am concerned about the decrease in real intelligence."
- ☺ Most people use their phones to call or text people. I'm at the age where I use my phone to take pictures of labels I can't read and then use it to enlarge the print so I can read it!

- ☺ I always mean what I say! I may not always mean to say it out loud, but I mean it!
- ☺ I never thought that I would be the kind of person who would wake up early in the morning to exercise ... and I was right!
- ☺ Growing up I always heard, "You'll understand when you are older." Well, I am older and I understand absolutely nothing.
- ☺ Seen on the back of an 18-wheeler on the highway in front of me: Don't like trucks? Stop buying stuff. Problem solved!
- ☺ I sew so that I don't choke irritating people. Save a life, send fabric!
- ☺ We need to quit looking for intelligent life on Mars and start looking for intelligent life in Washington D.C.
- ☺ Prayers for my husband who very tragically got me nothing for our anniversary when I specifically told him I wanted nothing for our anniversary. What was he thinking?
- ☺ I have finally figured out my body type. It's hourglass with extra minutes.
- ☺ I am at the age where not finding parking for an event is enough to make me go home.
- ☺ After a certain age, your body is like a garage sale ... some stuff looks old, some stuff doesn't work and some stuff you can't even identify.
- ☺ I can't get over the fact that the word "gullible" upside down looks like a cat. (Got you didn't I)
- ☺ I was Born to be Wild. But only until about 8:30ish. Maybe 9PM tops.
- ☺ Seen on a T-shirt: "What day is Today? Who cares? I'm retired."
- ☺ I realized something the other day. Quilting is a sport! It involves batting, running-stitches, rowing, hooping, and hunting for fabric. You guys, I'm an athlete!
- ☺ My ducks are absolutely not all in a row. I don't even know where some of them are and I'm pretty sure one of them is a pigeon.
- ☺ I will never regret getting old. I know too many people who never had that privilege.
- ☺ Drinking coffee really is self-care. It's a way to say, "I love you. I want you to be happy. Here's a little something to make your day better. Please don't get arrested."
- ☺ My smart mouth always gets me in trouble, and if not my mouth, it's my facial expression.
- ☺ I swear people go to Starbucks and just say random words ... "Lemme get a grande iced mocha no foam quad soy hexagon vortex hypothesis, with steamed ice."
- ☺ When one door closes another one opens. Other than that, it's a pretty good car.
- ☺ Try to remember, the greener grass across the fence may be due to a septic tank issue.



- ☺ Never in the history of calm down has anyone calmed down by being told to calm down.
- ☺ When a man says he'll do anything for a woman, he means fight bad guys and kill dragons, not vacuum, or wash dishes.
- ☺ You've really got to hand it to short people ... because we usually cannot reach it anyway.
- ☺ The cashier tersely told me, "Strip down facing me". By the time I realized she meant my debit card, it was too late!
- ☺ Spilling coffee is the adult equivalent of a child losing their balloon.
- ☺ It's weird to think that people who are 5ft are only 5 Subway sandwiches long!
- ☺ It's no longer "Box Wine". The classy new term is "Cardboardeaux".
- ☺ Someone recently said, "30 years ago", and my mind went, "Ah yes! The 1970's", but they meant 1994 and now I need to go lie down.
- ☺ Better to take a book and not have time to read than to have time to read and have no book!
- ☺ I found a new word! Novinophobia – the fear of running out of wine.
- ☺ Sometimes success is just getting the laundry into the dryer before the mildew sets in.
- ☺ I'm not one to brag but I totally got out of bed today!
- ☺ To the lady who flipped me off when I honked at you, your phone probably is not on top of your car anymore.
- ☺ I usually wake up pretty confused in the morning. But, after coffee, I feel alert, and I'm much more aware of how confused I am.
- ☺ I tested positive for needing a vacation!
- ☺ Celery: When you have that sudden urge to bite into water with hair in it.
- ☺ What's the difference between a poorly-dressed man on a tricycle and a well-dressed man on a bicycle? Attire.
- ☺ A new airplane has been developed that cannot crash. It is made from rubber polymers; it will just bounce. The craft was invented by Boeing, Boeing, Boeing. (Sorry I'll let myself out now.)

#### Calendar:


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

#### **March 14**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month.



## PENNSYLVANIA

	<p><b><u>THE INDEPENDENTS</u></b>  Philadelphia, PA  Gail Bradley  225 Elm Avenue.  Media, PA 19063-5740.  (610) 358-3498  <a href="mailto:gailpbrad@icloud.com">gailpbrad@icloud.com</a></p>
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There is no report this month from the Independents chapter of RUAEA.

	<p><b><u>PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS</u></b>  Bill Chicots  2419 Rochester Road  Sewickley, PA. 15143  (412) 352-7375  <a href="mailto:firechief158@gmail.com">firechief158@gmail.com</a></p>
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We are saddened to announce that **John "Jack" Tinney** (PITSS & DCASS) passed away Saturday, January 13, 2024, Jack is survived by his wife **Betty** and children Terry and Patrick. A service was held Thursday, January 18, 2024, at the Parish of Saint Raphael the Archangel - St. Jude of Simon. Interment was held at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies.

*January Birthdays ~ Betty Musko, Steve Moliterno and Betty Tinney.*

*February Birthdays ~ Kay Yauch and Bob Frye.*

## TENNESSEE

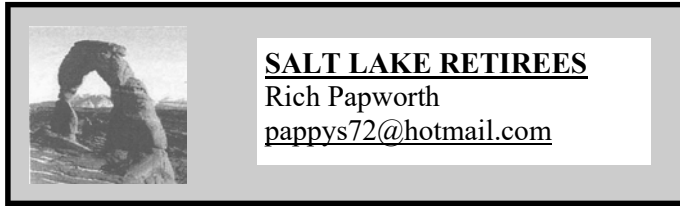
	<p><b><u>TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS</u></b>  Carolyn Hartshorn  5957 Warrenpark Lane  Knoxville, TN 37912  Home (865) 951-1198  Cell (303) 886-9537  <a href="mailto:carolynhartshorn@aol.com">carolynhartshorn@aol.com</a></p>
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There is no report this month from the Tennessee Rocky Tops chapter of RUAEA.

For Luncheon/Meeting's location, please contact Carolyn at the above phone number.



## UTAH

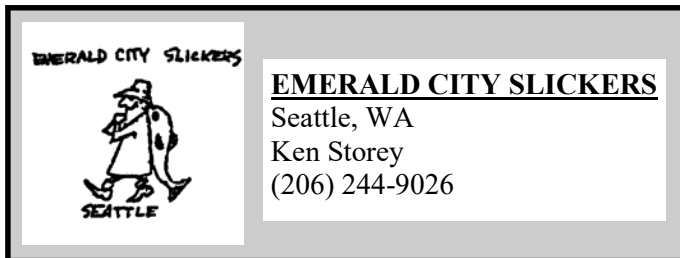


### SALT LAKE RETIREES

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  
Ken Storey  
(206) 244-9026

The Emerald City Slickers does not have any meeting planned until our annual summer picnic scheduled for either July or August 2024 at **Kathi Skarbo's** home in Burien. More details will be available when arrangements are finalized.

We continue to hold the monthly Mechanics meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at Trotter's Restaurant in Auburn, WA, please let **Ken Storey** know if you are planning to attend, (206) 244-9026.

As for myself, I joined United in January 1960. I remember at that time, SeaTac only had 4 jet ways and United's planes were parked away from the main gate, our Ramp Service would roll out a ~50 feet red carpet for passengers boarding our plane and after takeoff, they would roll it back, getting ready for the next departure.

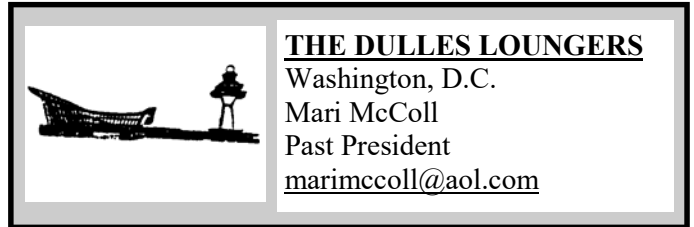


### LILAC CITY FLYERS

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)

Sadly, our January luncheon was attended by only 20 members. It was a good group though and we had a lot of fun. As usual, **Cheryl Macdonald** sold 50/50 tickets. **Carl Alford** handed out the door prize tickets since **Gunn Chencinski** (who usually does this job) is traveling around Europe. The lucky winner of the 50/50 was **Judy Dunlap**, our treasurer; Judy won \$19 and donated a small amount back. Our members are so very generous and while our coffers were low, many donated back their entire winnings. Now that our chapter is, once again, flush, I have encouraged our members to keep their winnings so that it will continue to be fun.

Carl is a very clever and entertaining President and each month lets us know what each day celebrates. This month the door prizes were representative of those honors. **Judy Dunlap** had a very lucky day and was the first to choose a prize which she chose a box of teabags. I won a bag of small potatoes in honor of "love potatoes day". **Ina Ayers** was happy with her fresh ginger. **Dutch Schneider** loved his bag of popcorn and **Gayle Wasilewski** is planning to enjoy her box of oatmeal. It was great fun, Carl. Thanks! It is also "Be kind to servers month". We all thanked Wendy, who is the best server ever and many left an extra tip.

We received a note from **Pat Watson** who is/was our most regular attendee. Pat has moved and is happy with her new residence although she does miss our monthly gatherings. **Marie Libby** attended solo but brought good news that her husband, **Dick**, is home from the hospital. He is still uncomfortable but making progress in regaining his strength.

I also received a lovely note from **Lucy Chatelain**. Lucy wrote the Dulles Loungers Chapter Report for RUAEA Newsletter for many years before giving me the honor. She has not been in attendance for a few years now as she is no longer able to drive. She is happy living in an assisted living facility in Falls Church, VA. She would love to hear from her old friends and colleagues. Her phone number is (571) 495-6639; she also would love a note or card at 2035 Westmoreland Street, Chesterbrook Residences #145, Falls Church, VA 22043. If you visit (and she would love it), please call first because she has frequent physical therapy appointments.

Carl also reminded our group that if the schools in Manassas are closed for weather, our luncheon will also be canceled.



## NATIONAL



### CLIPPED WINGS

Kathy Denker  
Clipped Wings Vice President  
(908) 482-9859  
[kdenkerus@gmail.com](mailto:kdenkerus@gmail.com)  
<https://unitedclippedwingsinc.org/>

Have you been to your State Capitol Building? Recently, I had a friend who asked me to do a road trip to New England with her as she was attempting to go to all 50 State Capitol buildings! Well, I was so impressed with that goal that now my husband and I are making an effort to visit state capitals and the capitol buildings as we travel. (I wish I had this idea when I was an active Flight Attendant!) What an educational, interesting and fun “bucket list”! So far, we have visited 18 state capitol buildings and are planning trips around going to more capitals. We are learning so much about each state’s natural resources, history and architectural styles! Recently, we visited Charleston, West Virginia and found our friend’s father’s picture as he was in the Senate there for 3 terms! Even the guide was excited about our connection! If you are interested in gathering information on visiting the capitols you can go to the following website: [thecapitolcollection.com/capitol\\_index.html](http://thecapitolcollection.com/capitol_index.html). I actually purchased a book at one of the capitols called the “Capital Collection” and each time you visit they will give your book a stamp that includes the date of your visit, the state flower and either the state bird or the state tree within the stamp! The address for the Capitol Collection is 2715 W. College Avenue, Denver, CO 80219-6005 and their phone number is (303) 564-7570. If you at least visit your “home state capitol”, I hope you enjoy the experience and I know you will appreciate the history associated with your “home state capitol building”!

Clipped Wings is a 501 (3)(C) organization and our members are former, current and retired United, PanAm, Continental, and United Express Flight Attendants. Nationally, we support Special Olympics by our National Parent Grants while locally each of our chapters donate to their local philanthropies. Please find us at [www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org](http://www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org) and on Instagram at [clippedwingsual](https://www.instagram.com/clippedwingsual). If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us and we will connect you to your local chapter so you can “continue the connection”!■



Clipped Wings®  
UNITED AIRLINES STEWARDESS ALUMNAE AND FLIGHT ATTENDANTS, INC.  
A NON-PROFIT 501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION



<https://unitedclippedwingsinc.org>



Referred by:

Kathleen Denker, National Vice President  
✉ [kdenkerus@gmail.com](mailto:kdenkerus@gmail.com)

## NEW MEMBERS

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

The following new members joined RUAEA during the month of **January 2024**:

Booterbaugh, Lisa, El Segundo, CA  
Careccia, Michael, Saint Cloud, FL  
Davis, John, Westminster, CO  
Didiego, Dwayne, Waltham, MA  
Ferrara, Thomas, Danville, CA  
Garcia, Sylvia, Perris, CA  
Hawkins, Kenneth, Newark, NJ  
Kudron, Jacqueline, DENC, Lochbuie, CO  
Kulma, Norma, ORDMK, Scottsdale, AZ  
Lines, James, LAXMM, Henderson, NV  
Mabe, Penny, Healdsburg, CA  
Wilson, Tom, Sublimity, OR■

*Welcome*

## CONTRIBUTIONS

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

We appreciated monetary contributions from the following members during the month of **January 2024**:

Shirley R. Alexander, Barbara J. Anable, Donald D. Boyer, Thomas F. Boyle, Michael Careccia, Cathryn I. Catelain, Carol J. Cersosimo, Robert Chisholm, Joseph D. Cleary, Kay Collier, Joan K. Curtin, Vicki G. Daurora, Gabrielle I. Dentraygues, Joseph M. Donnelly, William A. Engler, Charles J. Esqueda, Lewis Fontana, Sylvia Garcia, Valentin Garmasch, Travis Glass, Flora B. Grimminger, Linda Keim, Donna Kopec, William J. Krainak, Jacqueline Kudron, Frank Leo, Jordan I. Levine, James Lines, Kathleen T. Loftus, Penny Mabe, Herlinde Mandala, Edward Meyer, Janet M. Meyer, Alan Morishita, Merritt S. Odor, Leota L. Price, Ronald E. Pryer, Charlotte Puryear, Bill B. Reichard, Sue Riedl, Margaret A. Rodehorst, Eugene R. Rollins, Patricia J. Schultz, Franz Sonnberger, Carol Sostarich, Joan Patricia Spilotro, Doris Szarko, David Thompson, Jose Varela, Diane Webb, Norman W. Wilkinson, Maurice Wilson.■

*Thank you*

## 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 – **Hedrick, Carroll W. (Skinner)**, on 12/5/2023, SFOOV, father of two sons - Stephen Hedrick and Mark Hedrick, 11344 Petersburg Pike, PO Box 18, Upper Tract, West Virginia 26866

Retiree – **Quarels, Levirt**, on 1/27/2024, LAXMM, husband of Pazzle L. Quarels, 9460E. Golden W St., Tucson, AZ 85710

Retiree - **Reik, Clifton (Clif) A.**, on 3/23/2023, DENMM, husband of Althea (Suloff) Kauffman Reik, 8059 William Penn Hwy, Mifflintown, PA 17059

Retiree – **Rice, Elaine**, on 8/22/2023, IADHH, mother of two sons, Michael and Marc Rice, 8600 Mike Shapiro Dr. #907, Clinton, MD 20735

Retiree – **Gray, Stephen O.**, on 8/18/2023, Station Unknown, husband of Annella Gray (deceased), 1200 Mira Mar Ave., STE 91, Medford, OR 97504. Stephen was 102 when he died.

Retiree – **Tinney, John (Jack)**, on 1/13/2024, DCASS, husband of Elizabeth (Betty) M. Tinney, 1743 Walnut St., Heidelberg, PA 15106■



## Letters & Notes



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

Martha Gooselaw - Letters 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:

Vicki D'Aurora, Arthur Barrett, Donald Boyer, Joan Curtin, Marilyn Evans, Karen Fudge, Joanne Gaudioso, Mary Griego, Joe Hopkins, Norman Jukes, Margarete Keil, Donna Kopec, William Krainak, Thomas Kenny, Carol Lippincott, Teresa McNamara, Merritt Oder, Elizabeth Pepper, Ron Pryer, Sue Riedl, Harvey Rucker, Margaret Sarsfield, Patricia Schultz, Joan Sheehan, Joan Spilotro, Carol Swanson, Gayle Swanson, Virginia Vlach and Helme Walter.

### 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.)*

### **Leonard Blodgett, 765 Florence Ave., Astoria OR 97103**

I can't believe I can remember to drive an 111 years old River Front Trolley, but seem to space out paying my RUAEA dues in a timely manner. Thanks for the red label reminder.

### **Diane Bowen, PO Box 179, Roxbury, PA 17251**

Just a note of appreciation for all the people who are involved putting the Newsletter together.

It brightens my days when I open up my mailbox and can catch up with friends from the past.



**Barbara Seaholm, 284 Stonegate Blvd., Hermitage, PA 16148**

Thank you for the letter regarding my RUAEA membership.

I have had a medical problem for the last year and have fallen behind with my duties.

Thanks to everyone who volunteers to publish the Newsletter. I can't wait until it arrives each month.

**Phyllis Easley, 882 Annesley Cir., Meadville, PA 16335**

Enclosed is to renew our subscription for another year.

We both enjoy every bit of your hard work.

The Reunion/Convention pictures are great and the articles are so good, thanks to all.

Just can't travel much anymore, but oh such good memories of the "good old days". We are grateful to UAL for all those opportunities.

Retiring here in North Western PA has been delightful. I grew up here and Tom, a 4<sup>th</sup> generation Californian, is truly happy.

We live in a Retirement Village with mowing and snow removal taken care of for us.

We love the four seasons and the slow and easy life. Best wishes to all for the coming year.

***Notes***

**Linda Keim**

This has been a tough year. Ron's son Steve passed away at 62, 6 weeks after being diagnosed with bladder cancer. My son has been diagnosed with terminal cancer and has been undergoing chemo for 18 months; his future is uncertain. My younger sister has been moved into assisted living since she's unable to care for herself as the aphasia progresses. Ron and I are hanging in there; he's going to be 91 in May, and has been retired for 36 years.

We're so fortunate to have traveled when we were able and our passes were useful. Our little city of Fruita is a great place to live. Quiet and peaceful, which is what the doctor ordered. Thank you to all of you who keep us informed. We appreciate it more than you know.

**Jacqueline Kudron**

I retired VSP2 on June 30, 2020.



**Lewis Fontana**

I retired 10 years ago after 23 years of service at the Denver Flight Training Center as a flight simulator staff engineer.

My wife Mary and I enjoy family gatherings with our 4 children, 7 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. We all live nearby in the greater Denver, Colorado area.

We would welcome hearing from former co-workers and enjoy getting the latest news about United Air lines.

**Linda McCormack**

Thank you all for your dedication to this newsletter! I find it helpful reading about all the new rules & regulations, and all the new routes being added. Keep up the good work!

**Dwayne DiDiego**

I went on Disability retirement in 2004, I am now at retirement age.

**Peter Van Gilluwe**

Fly the Friendly Skies - United needs a formal museum, to showcase our history, legacy, pride and education. Look at the beautiful museum Delta has in Atlanta, staffed by retired employees. Check this out: [unitedmuseum.org](http://unitedmuseum.org).

**Kenneth Riffle**

I worked from 1978 to 1980 in DCARR and from 1980 to 1995 in SFORR. I enjoyed working for UAL and everyone there over the years. I moved from the airline industry into managing money as a Registered Investment Advisor and Portfolio Manager. I now live in Memphis, TN and I'm still looking for Elvis.

**Robert C. Bryant**

I'm staying healthy. I want to keep up on retiree travel benefits and tips.

**Jose Varela**

I'm enjoying retirement and family

**Penny Mabe**

I was with United Ground Express. Do I qualify? I retired with full UAL flight benefits.

**Response from the Membership Manager:** Anyone can be a member of RUAEA.

**Heidi Davis**

Hello, I am the spouse of **Heidi Davis**. My wife, died on May 29<sup>th</sup> of 2002. UAL left the benefits for me and our son, Kyle Cooper Davis. I am asking for assistance to become a member. I was told by a UAL em-

ployee that I should apply for this service since my wife passed away while a employee working for UAL.

**Response from the Membership Manager:** When your spouse passed, you became a member. Use your spouse's File Number for all correspondence. Make sure you update your information such as address and phone number.

### **Ted Tollefsen**

My wife and I are members of the Phoenix Re-Uniteds Chapter, as well as the Chicago Skyliners Chapter, and enjoy attending as many activities as we can from both chapters when we are in either the Phoenix area or the Chicago area. Both chapters are very active and we enjoy being with all the members.

We have been to quite a few Conventions over the years and enjoy attending them also. We encourage many retirees to get active in a local chapter and attend the Conventions, or Reunions as they are called now. It's wonderful to be together with other retired people from United Airlines and meet new as well as old friends.■



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

## The Contact Column



### **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**

- ♦ Visit Flying Together for travel policies at <https://ft.ual.com/travel/passriderslandingpage/retiree>
- ♦ Submit questions using Help Hub at <https://helphub.ual.com>
- ♦ Search "Employee Travel Inquiry"
- ♦ Chat with a team member using a virtual chat assistant from any Travel page on Flying Together

### **United Airlines Technical Service Desk**

**1-800-255-5801**

For Flying Together password assistance

*\*Do not use for pass travel questions\**

### **Insurance Questions-see number on back of your insurance card**

**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)

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**INCLUDE FILE NUMBER IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE**

For all Membership & Newsletter Circulation issues, please contact Membership Manager:  
*Michael Malesardi*

Phone Number: (303) 780-5022

-or-

RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433

Email: [ruaea@qwestoffice.net](mailto:ruaea@qwestoffice.net)

	<u>Membership Dues</u>		
	<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.*  
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## United Airlines Historical Foundation

"Preserving the Past,  
Inspiring the Future"



*Flight 93 Memorial Entrance*



*Flight 93 Memorial Wall*



*Flight 93 Memorial Observation Deck*

United Airlines Flight 93 was a domestic passenger flight from Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey to San Francisco International Airport in California. The Boeing 757-200 was hijacked by four al-Qaeda terrorists. Targeted was either the U. S. Capitol building or the White House. The passengers and the crew attempted to regain control of the aircraft from the hijackers. Flight Attendant Sandra Bradshaw boiled water to throw on the hijackers. One of the passengers, Todd Beamer, taking a F/A food cart and yelling "Let's Roll", used it to break down the cockpit door. The cockpit voice recorder captured the sound of passengers yelling, the crashing of dishes and glass, the thumping and breaking through the cockpit door. In response, hijacker Jarrah tried to cut off the oxygen and began pitching the plane up and down trying to knock the passengers off balance. The plane ultimately crashed "vertically" in a field in the Stonycreek Township, Pennsylvania, killing all 44 people on board.

United Airlines Flight 175 was a domestic passenger flight from Logan International Airport in Boston to Los Angeles International Airport in California that was hijacked by five al-Qaeda terrorists on the morning of September 11, 2001, as a part of the September 11 attacks. The aircraft involved, a Boeing 767-222 carrying 65 passengers and crew, was deliberately crashed into the South Tower of the World Trade Center in New York City, killing everyone aboard and causing the deaths of more than 600 people in the South Tower's upper levels in addition to an unknown number of civilians and emergency personnel on floors beneath the impact zone.