



Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

WWW.RUAEA.ORG



ISSUE NO. 571

MARCH 2022

Honoring Local Chapter's Volunteers The Dulles Loungers



Left to Right: Roy & Ruth Blackwell, Judy Dunlap, Cheryl MacDonald, Linda Scriven, Gunn Chensinski, Mari McColl, Jon Beckett, Mary Beth Collins, Kervie & Dutch Schneider

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GENERAL NEWS

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Letter from the President



Hi Everyone,
I actually get tired of complaining but we have not received a single offer from someone to step up to help our Executive Board and the Regular Board. We now have almost not a single person volunteering for anything. We will not be able to continue without help.

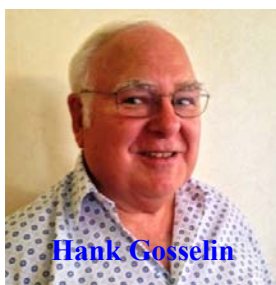
I'm sorry to be so negative but in the last couple of weeks, I've had to talk two of our volunteers to please not resign. On a happier note, our convention for this year is coming along nicely in SAN.

The discussions with the pilots and flight attendants are also going nicely and we are trying for a 2023 combined convention. The company is happy we are talking since they only talk to a couple of liaisons.

Enough for now, please stay safe and healthy.

Don Burbank
RUAEA President

Letter from the Vice President - Conventions Updates on RUAEA Convention 2022, San Diego, October 3rd – 9th



Good news! We have an acceptable contract with the DANA on Mission Bay. As those of you who attended last year's convention know, it was held at the DANA and the resort was well liked by all who attended. That is why we are going back.

Most successful RUAEA Conventions have been held in West Coast cities and many Convention attendees requested that we remain on the West Coast. The room night cost at the DANA goes up by \$4 for 2022. The cost per night is \$129.00, with no resort fee and free parking. The best part is free breakfast for two with each room. The breakfasts were great, along with omelets made to order. I know you're all aware of the costs of a breakfast; many of you were set until dinner after the DANA breakfast.

Hopefully, most of you know that, you, your family and friends can attend the convention. Our Newsletter

Convention issue will include the registration, meal choices, and tour choices. We will have a limited amount of tours, RUAEA Business Meeting, Benefits Panel Presentation, Nightly Hospitality Room with a Cash Bar, 50/50 Raffle, Special Raffle, Silent Auction, and Door Prizes. Also, the Friday Night Party with food and music, and The Saturday RUAEA Banquet, with entertainment and dancing. Watch for more on the convention in our upcoming Newsletters. I really hope to greet you there.

Hank Gosselin
RUAEA VP Conventions

A letter to United employees from CEO Scott Kirby January 11, 2022



United Team:

Happy New Year - I want to start this message with a thank you.

Our frontline teams continue to put in a tremendous effort during what I know is an incredibly challenging and stressful time - the Omicron surge has put a strain on our operation, resulting in customer disruptions during a busy holiday season. I appreciate your professionalism, creativity, and caring approach – it's really made all the difference in helping us manage the impact on our customers.

In addition to impacting our operation and our customers, I also know that Omicron has affected the personal well-being of our United team. We have about 3,000 employees who are currently positive for COVID. Just as an example, in one day alone at Newark, nearly one-third of our workforce called out sick. To those who are out sick or isolating, we wish you a speedy recovery.

But as difficult as this period has been for you and our customers, there are two pieces of good news:

While we go to great lengths to avoid canceling flights, we worked to get ahead of the impact by acting early to cancel flights when necessary and notifying impacted customers in advance of them coming to the airport – we're also reducing our near-term schedules to make sure we have the staffing and resources to take care

of customers. As a result, we've been able to get a high percentage of our customers on other flights and close to their original arrival time. And considering the impact of Omicron and winter weather, our NPS scores and contact center hold times continue to hold up well. While we hate to ever have any operational disruptions, these results are a credit to all of you and your teams so thank you again.

The second and most important piece of good news is that our vaccine requirement is working – and saving lives. While we have about 3,000 employees who are currently positive for COVID, zero of our vaccinated employees are currently hospitalized. Since our vaccine policy went into effect, the hospitalization rate among our employees has been 100x lower than the general population in the U.S. Prior to our vaccine requirement, tragically, more than one United employee on average *per week* was dying from COVID. But we've now gone eight straight weeks with zero COVID-related deaths among our vaccinated employees – based on United's prior experience and the nationwide data related to COVID fatalities among the unvaccinated, that means there are approximately 8-10 United employees who are alive today because of our vaccine requirement.

In dealing with COVID, zero is the word that matters - zero deaths and zero hospitalizations for vaccinated employees. And while I know that some people still disagree with our policy, United is proving that requiring the vaccine is the right thing to do because it saves lives.

Thank you for all you have done as we navigated the unprecedented and unpredictable challenges that COVID has thrown our way. Stay safe and please continue to take care of each other and our customers. ~ Scott

New medical plans for the new year **January 11, 2022**



Many of you enrolled in a new medical plan for 2022, and with the start of the New Year, you're now able to use your new benefits to get the best care from the highest quality doctors.

Here are some helpful tips to keep in mind:

- ❖ *Learn about your new coverage:* Your Benefits Resources (YBR) and the Alight Mobile app are your go-to places to review your 2022 benefits guide, check your coverage details, learn more about spending and savings accounts, and more.
- ❖ *New medical ID cards:* If you enrolled in a new medical plan for 2022, you should have received a new medical ID card from your new carrier. If you haven't received it yet, contact your healthcare concierge (either Accolade, Aetna or your HMO carrier) or visit their website to get a digital copy.

- ❖ *Finding in-network care:* Use the "Find a doctor" tool on YBR to check if your current providers are in-network or to find other in-network providers. You can also contact your healthcare concierge to help you find an in-network doctor.
- ❖ *Virtual options for care:* Sometimes you need care options without leaving home. Doctor On Demand is available for all Accolade-eligible employees in a PPO or EPO medical plan for virtual non-emergency care 24/7/365.
- ❖ *Use your spending accounts for eligible expenses:* If you enrolled in a medical plan that comes with a Health Savings Account (HSA), or if you've elected to contribute to a Flexible Spending Account (FSA) for 2022, be sure to use these accounts as payment for eligible medical expenses. Visit YBR to learn more about your spending and savings accounts and understand what expenses are covered. If you're new to the United Savings PPO plan for 2022, be sure to get your annual physical by March 31, 2022, to receive your HSA incentive dollars from United. If you were enrolled in the Healthy Advantage HSA plan in 2021, you needed to get your annual physical by December 31, 2021, to be eligible for your 2022 incentive dollars from United.
- ❖ *Covid-19 testing:* In-person testing (at a facility) is covered at 100% for all United medical plans. If you have an HSA or FSA, COVID-19 at-home test kits are an eligible medical expense, so use these accounts for tax-free savings. Stay tuned for updates on home testing while we await more information on insurance coverage details.

Watch for your "Welcome to your plan guide" that will be mailed to your home in the coming weeks.

United Airlines Achieves Fourth Quarter Financial Targets and Reiterates Long-Term Commitments -- **Despite Headwinds from Omicron Variant** **January 19, 2022**



United Airlines (UAL) today announced fourth quarter and full year 2021 financial results and reiterated confidence in its longer term United Next financial targets. The company achieved every major financial guidance target for the fourth quarter – and set a new Net Promoter Score (NPS) record in 2021 – despite the sharp spike in COVID-19 cases caused by the Omicron variant. Despite near term volatility, bookings for spring travel and beyond remain strong, which is why the Omicron spike has not altered the airline's confidence in the 2023 and 2026 CASM-ex1 United Next targets announced last year.

The airline starts 2022 with a scaled-back schedule, reflecting the impact of the Omicron spike on demand. However, as the year progresses, United expects to nimbly ramp up capacity by ungrounding 52 Pratt & Whitney-powered Boeing 777s, as demand returns, which will yield improvements in the airline's gauge and aircraft utilization. The airline expects this approach, which continues to prioritize matching capacity to demand, means: 1) the airline will fly fewer available seat miles (ASMs) in 2022 than 2019 and 2) CASM-ex1 will decline significantly over the course of 2022. Most importantly, these 2022 trends will lay the groundwork for successful execution of the multi-year United Next strategy and achievement of the financial targets set for 2023 and beyond.

"The United team has been fighting through unprecedented obstacles to, once again, overcome the new and daunting challenges that COVID-19 is bringing to aviation, and I am grateful to each one of them for their commitment to taking care of our customers," said United Airlines CEO Scott Kirby. "While Omicron is impacting near term demand, we remain optimistic about the spring and excited about the summer and beyond. We look forward to beginning to return the Pratt & Whitney 777s to service this quarter and getting the full airline back to normal utilization — as we ramp up along with demand this year. By investing in innovative technology, focusing on process improvements and implementing a transformative United Next strategy, we're poised to emerge as an aviation leader that's more efficient than before and serves our customers better than ever."

Fourth Quarter and Full Year Financial Results:

- Reported fourth quarter 2021 capacity down 23% compared to fourth quarter 2019.
- Reported fourth quarter 2021 net loss of \$0.6 billion, adjusted net loss of \$0.5 billion.
- Reported full year 2021 net loss of \$2.0 billion, adjusted net loss of \$4.5 billion.
- Reported fourth quarter 2021 total operating revenue of \$8.2 billion, down 25% compared to fourth quarter 2019.
- Reported fourth quarter 2021 Total Revenue Per Available Seat Mile (TRASM) of down 3% compared to fourth quarter 2019.
- Reported fourth quarter 2021 Cost Per Available Seat Mile (CASM) of up 11%, and CASM-ex1 of up 13%, compared to fourth quarter 2019.
- Reported fourth quarter 2021 fuel price of approximately \$2.41 per gallon.
- Reported fourth quarter 2021 pre-tax margin of negative 10.3%, negative 8.3% on an adjusted basis.
- Reported fourth quarter 2021 ending available liquidity of \$20 billion.

Outlook:

- ✓ Expects first quarter 2022 capacity to be down 16% to 18% versus first quarter 2019.

- ✓ Expects first quarter 2022 total operating revenue to be down 20% to 25% versus first quarter 2019.
- ✓ Expects first quarter 2022 CASM-ex1 to be up 14% to 15% compared to first quarter 2019.
- ✓ Estimates first quarter 2022 fuel price of approximately \$2.51 per gallon.
- ✓ Now expects full year 2022 capacity to be down versus 2019.
- ✓ Now expects full year 2022 CASM-ex1 to be higher than 2019.
- ✓ Expects 2022 adjusted capital expenditures to be around \$4.2 billion, plus approximately \$1.7 billion in 2021 deferred capital expenditures mainly due to the timing of certain aircraft deliveries delayed to 2022, for a total of \$5.9 billion.
- ✓ Remains on track to achieve long-term financial targets from United Next plan.

United Airlines statement On 5G Implementation January 19, 2022



While we anticipate minor disruptions at some airports due to the remaining 5G restrictions, we're pleased the Biden Administration reached a compromise with AT&T and Verizon to avoid mass cancellations across the aviation industry. We look forward to a higher level of coordination between the regulators, telecom companies and the aviation industry to ensure that customers are not faced with disruptions going forward.

Jan. 17, 2022 Statement ~ The federal government's current 5G rollout plan will have a devastating impact on aviation, negatively affecting an estimated 1.25 million United passengers, at least 15,000 flights and much-needed goods and tons of cargo traveling through more than 40 of the largest airports in the country annually. When deployed next to runways, the 5G signals could interfere with the key safety equipment that pilots rely on to take off and land in inclement weather.

We won't compromise on safety – full stop. But, governments in other countries have successfully designed policies to ensure the safe deployment of 5G technology and we're simply asking the US government to do the same. Otherwise, the radio altimeters on certain aircraft, which provide information to other safety systems like autopilot, heads-up displays, terrain warning and pitch control, will be compromised and will result in significant restrictions on 787s, 777s, 737s and regional aircraft in major cities like Houston, Newark, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Chicago. Unfortunately, this will result in not only hundreds of thousands of flight cancellations and disruptions for customers across the industry in 2022, but also the suspension of cargo flights into these

locations, causing a negative ripple-effect on an already fragile supply chain. We implore the Biden administration to act quickly and apply the same common sense solutions here that have clearly worked so well around the world.

Refunds - Europe Flights - Enrolled Friends **Torgy's Travel Tips – March 2022**



Kathie Torgison

Refunds are rarely easy to get in the topsy-turvy world of travel these days. At the beginning of the pandemic in 2020, many travel companies and airlines relaxed their traditionally strict rules regarding refunds and/or change fees. Some customers availed themselves of the opportunity to rebook at a later time with no penalty. Others waited for the

tour operator or airline to notify them that their trip was canceled which provided, in most cases, a full refund. Now, we are two years into this ever evolving Covid-19 ordeal and I am seeing the emergence of stricter rules and under-the-radar changes to the fine print. Beware! A case in point involves a couple who booked a tour in 2020 to Normandy, France. The tour got postponed and canceled twice by the tour operator. To be fair, because of Covid restrictions in France it was not the tour operator's fault. The customer finally decided to give up waiting for the tour in late 2021 and requested a full refund. Sounds like a no-brainer, right? Unfortunately, in 2022 the tour operator changed their policy and only offered a credit, good for a future booking, not a refund. Referencing a sentence from their Terms and Conditions, they responded with the sentence, "*We reserve the right to cancel or shorten a trip or cruise without notice. Any applicable refunds will be returned to you in a manner to be determined by the Company, including, but not limited to, credit for future travel.*" The savvy customer looked up their original paperwork and found that the Terms and Conditions when they booked the tour in 2020 did not include the above sentence. The tour operator eventually relented when forced to honor the original terms and issued a refund, less a \$300 cancellation fee. The moral of the story: Always read the fine print, keep a copy of all paperwork with the dates clearly visible and pay by credit card.

Flight refunds in the US are generally refunded to the original form of payment, but in Europe, that is not the case. Let's say you have a flight on Air France between Paris and London and it gets cancelled. You decide to take the "Chunnel" instead of waiting till a seat opens up on another flight. Air France may ask for your bank account information to process the refund regardless if you

paid by credit card. That is legal in the EU and generally is the way most involuntary refunds are processed in Europe.

Speaking of Europe, it appears that many flights within Europe are flying nearly empty yet they continue to operate because of strict EU regulations regarding long term take-off and landing slots. Pre-pandemic, airlines had to use 80% of their slots in order to keep these coveted assets. That slot usage percentage dropped to 50% in early 2021 but will increase to 64% this spring. The Covid crisis is still affecting bookings so the inventory goes unsold. This just wants to make you start packing your bags and use a ZED fare doesn't it?

And my last tidbit this month concerns managing your Enrolled Friends list on FlyingTogether. We all know that as retirees we can have 2 active Enrolled Friends. When you replace a friend during the appropriate open period, the old name falls onto the Inactive List. The system retains a maximum of 4 names on the Inactive List. Eventually you could run into a problem when you attempt to enroll a brand new name but your Inactive List is full. No worries - just go to the Inactive List, highlight an old name and "delete". That will open up a slot for the current active name to fall into and you can then add the brand new name.

That's it for this time. Stay healthy and happy! ■

Rules For Submitting Articles **To The Newsletter**

All articles submitted for publishing in the Newsletter are due in the Denver Office on **the 7th 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 7th are subject to be considered for the next Newsletter.

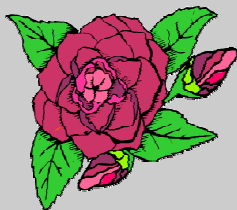
Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to John Chu at johnqchu@hotmail.com and ruaeatl@qwestoffice.net. If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd, Denver, CO 80207-2433. Please allow for postal delay. We cannot extend the deadline!

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.

John Chu - Newsletter Manager
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LOCAL NEWS

ALABAMA



SWEET HOME ALABAMA

Joe E. Jones, Ret. ORDFO
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Here in Birmingham, we are still an active group with about 14 members. However, we are reluctant to meet in a restaurant with Covid concerns, but we are looking forward to getting back together soon.

We meet three times yearly and invite all retired United friends and families to join us. Call **Joe Jones** at (205) 646-3825 for more information.

ARIZONA



PHOENIX RE-UNITEDS

Liz Tollefsen
tedtolle@aol.com

The official date for Spring is March 20 in most places, but here in Arizona; Spring seems to come earlier. We get to enjoy sunny and warm temperatures a lot sooner. That's why a lot of visitors want to be here during this time of the year. If you have any visitors, please bring them along to any of our lunches or breakfasts we have each month. Please contact our President **Debbie Schulte** at (602) 762-2713, or by e-mail at hanalei52@outlook.com, or our Vice President **Peg Snowdall** at (480) 396-3317, or by e-mail at phomfeldt@cox.net. We encourage any retiree from United or Continental who might be in the area, to try and come also. We're a friendly group of retirees and enjoy being together every month. You will be glad you came.

We had 22 people attend our January luncheon at Eatalio – Pasta and Wine in Gilbert, AZ. President **Debbie Schulte** made the arrangements for this luncheon. We had a new member join us at this luncheon; **Gloria McBride**, who worked at CHIRR, ORDSCS, EXO & PHXUC. Welcome to our Re-United Chapter!

We had some sad news to report from some of our members recently: **Ame Esan's** sister passed away on January 2, 2022 and **Mozetta Douglas'** daughter passed away recently. A Memorial Service was held on January 12 for **Ferrol Hilsabeck**, who was one of the founders of our Re-United Chapter, and remained an active member until the last year of his life. The service was held at Vic-

tory Lutheran Church in Mesa, Arizona.

Our January breakfast at the Black Bear Diner in Gilbert had 23 people present. We had two new gals at the breakfast, **Mary Sevigny** and **Dawn Swanson**. Welcome to our Re-United's Chapter! Also, President **Debbie Schulte** is hoping members of the Clipped Wings will be joining us soon. One of our members, **Donna Smiley**, recently had knee surgery; we hope for a speedy recovery for her. Our Corresponding Secretary **Liz Tollefsen** announced she would be quitting her position soon after doing it for a number of years and hoping someone will take over. Having a Laptop or Computer helps to get the monthly newsletter for RUAEA done real easy.

Thirty people have signed up for the Barleens Dinner Show in Apache Junction on February 14; Valentine's Day. The **Griffins** made all the arrangements.

The Perch Pub & Brewery at 232 S. Wall Street in Chandler will be our March Luncheon. More details will be forthcoming, so please look for more information to come out shortly.

We have the following Birthdays in March: **Nancy Luby, Bill Eaton, Janet Vehring, John Smiley, and Olga Aguilar**. Happy Birthday to all! We have no Wedding Anniversaries in our Chapter for March.

Calendar:

March – Luncheon at the Perch Pub & Brewery, 232 S. Wall Street in Chandler. More info will be forthcoming.

March 25 – Breakfast at the Black Bear Diner, 1809 E. Baseline in Gilbert, starting at 9:00 a.m. Please let our Vice President, **Peg Snowdall**, know if you will be attending by Wednesday, March 23 by e-mail at phomfeldt@cox.net or by phone at (480) 396-3317.

April – Picnic and passing out of our updated Membership Directory.



TUCSON ROADRUNNER

Pat Sommer Di Lallo,
Treasurer
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We are the Tucson Roadrunners, an active chapter. We meet for lunch at various Tucson restaurants on the 3rd Thursday of every month except in November and December, when it is the 2nd 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 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
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It truly is spring in February in the Northstate! We all will not be happy campers if we do not get some rain soon, however, it is so nice to be able to be outside in beautiful weather.

The Northstaters met at “From the Hearth” restaurant in Red Bluff on January 26th. Several people were still not comfortable meeting and the ones who came had a great lunch and conversation. It was decided not to have an official meeting but just to enjoy each others company and try to catch up on what everyone has been doing.

Sharon Simonton shared some information from the RUAEA convention that **Pat Zoboli** from the Reno group had sent her. Also Sharon was able to give an update on some other members.

Charlotte Puryear is now in an assisted living home in Redding and doing very well. Sharon keeps in touch with her and Charlotte says her only complaint is the food. Sharon loves to hear the spunk back in her voice and truly she is amazing at 101 years of age. Several of the other members are busy staying home and doing lots of projects.

The members that attended were **Merritt & Klaren Odor, Billie Jorgensen, Vreny Grundherr, Bill & Sharon Simonton** and **Kay & Vincent Neidlinger**. Some United stories were shared and it's always good to be together. **Vincent & Kay Neidlinger** volunteered to put a birthday list together and Sharon will be requesting months and days from the members. Never the year of course!

We were really sad to hear of **Bill Dinette's** passing. Lots of our members worked with Bill and respected him tremendously. He was always upbeat and a very funny person. We know the Hangtown Miners really miss Bill. He has a wonderful family and best wishes to all of them.


It was decided to have our next luncheon at Olive Garden in Chico on Wednesday, March 23, at 11:30 AM. Some ladies have volunteered to go to lunch together to check it out and that will truly not be a hardship.

Stay healthy everyone!

Calendar:

March 23 – Wednesday, 11:30 A.M. at “Olive Garden” in Chico. Come and Join Us!





CENTRAL COASTERS
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Here is another month of hibernation. I only go out for gas in the car and mail pickup. I have not been able to get together with friends, as in the past, so communication is by email or phone. There is no telling when this virus gets under control.

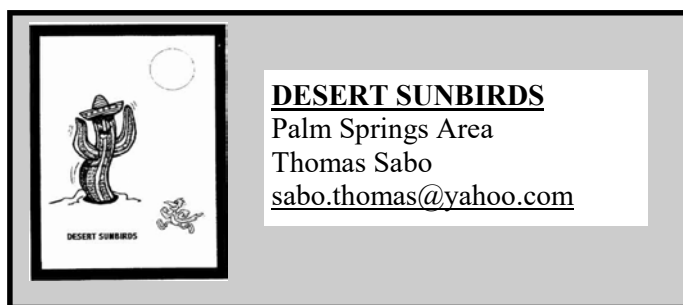
I have not heard from any of our members so I'm assuming they are staying safe and healthy. I have a neighbor that he and his wife, both had the vaccine including the booster; they traveled to Alabama for the Orange Bowl and came down with the virus. His doctor recommended a medication and after locating some suppliers around Alabama that handled it, he found there was very little available. However he did find one place that still had some, only he had to drive 200 miles to get it. His major illness was a constant cough plus a stuffy nose. Both he and his wife felt this way. After taking the medication, they both recovered and stayed quarantined for over two weeks. We have about 160 residences in our community and so far there has been no reported illnesses.

I noticed that our old UAL President, **Dick Ferris**, died recently. I only met him one time when he was on tour of the SFOMB and he came into my department. I think he was the one that did away with the UAL years of service pins and designed the one that doesn't resemble the airline. I was due the 30th pin that had a diamond in the wings. That was the year it was done away with. I was really looking forward to getting that pin.

After reading the RUAEA February 2022 Newsletter, I noticed the Christmas party picture from the Indy Racers. At first glance it appeared that they had a Santa Claus with them. Then I read further and it is **Charles Theiss** who I used to work with in the same Dept. in SFOJJ. His name and a few others are the only ones I recognize anymore. I am going on 35 years of retirement and my memory isn't as sharp as it used to be, but I'll always remember Charles.

Thanks to **Dale Harper's** Newsletter, he enclosed a picture that shows the difference between air travels 50 years ago and the present time, it did bring back several memories. I remember the best airline times that I enjoyed, was before the Jet Age and the UAL-CAP merger. Passengers used to dress up and were well taken care of by the crew. Now we're lucky to get a pretzel.





DESERT SUNBIRDS

Palm Springs Area

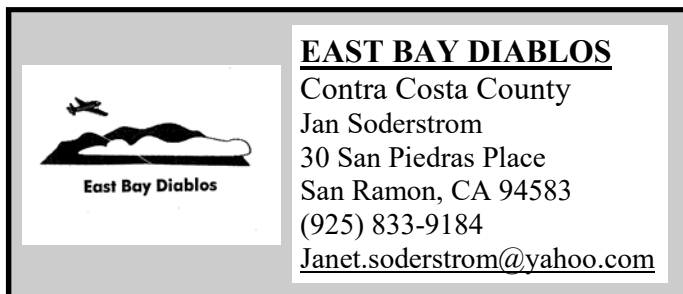
Thomas Sabo

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The Desert Sunbirds flocked together on February 9 for lunch at the Broken Yolk Café in La Quinta. The Valentine's event was hosted by **Fred & JoAnn Kellerhals**.

Sadly, we lost two more retirees since our last meeting. **Mike Bailardo** passed away on December 31 and **Florence Silvestri Shilts** passed on January 27.

Our next luncheon is scheduled for April 13.



EAST BAY DIABLOS

Contra Costa County

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Happy March from the East Bay Diablos group! I hope that 2022 has been good for everyone so far.

Our group is now holding in person monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month all year long. The only thing that could set everything backward is the Omicron variant. As I write this on February 7, masks are still required in restaurants but proof of vaccination is not. Also, because of the way the restaurant has to staff due to Covid, we now have to give them a count beforehand for our meetings. If you are going to attend our meetings, you must RSVP to **Diane Griego** at diangriego@aol.com or (925) 676-6097 prior to the meeting. I have also put the dates of our upcoming meetings and the RSVP deadlines below.

What a wonderful surprise to see the picture of our group's Christmas luncheon on the back cover of the February issue! Thank you to our Newsletter Manager **John Chu**! In December, when I submitted my article, John told me he would use our picture in a future issue. I did not let anyone know, so they got the full surprise. I am thrilled that he used it so quickly. However, I owe a big apology to **Joseph McGhee**, whose name was omitted in the list of everyone in the picture. He's that handsome guy standing between me and **Ken Price**.

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. This month we had wine and a cute plush

toy in the shape of a United jumbo jet. I am notorious for forgetting who won the money when it comes time to write my article. One of my New Year's resolutions is to **write down** who won the money in our raffle. Once again, I remembered to do this at our February meeting so this is the only resolution I've kept so long. Losing weight and going for a walk every day fell by the wayside a long time ago!

Our February meeting was held on February 7th at The Old Spaghetti Factory restaurant in Concord with 14 members in attendance. We missed **Tracey Blanchard** who was still sunbathing in Maui, poor thing. We also missed **Ken Price** who is not venturing out until the Omicron surge is over with. It was great to see **Joe & Wilma Leather** whom we hadn't seen since our December 7 meeting. After lunch, we held our raffle and **Joe Leather** won the money. Hmmm! **Tom Cunningham** and **Joe Leather** sat next to each other at lunch. Joe collected the raffle money and Tom drew the first winning ticket which was the money ...

We tried something new at our meeting this month. We went around the table and everyone was asked to say something about themselves or news they'd like to share. **Arnold Hansen, Jr.**, and **Jack & Judy Smith** all shared the great news that they are cancer free. **Joe & Wilma Leather** are celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary on February 9th. It was like having a fireside chat without the fireplace, and it was really fun.

Barbara Cunningham has resumed 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." If you have cards you'd like to donate, please contact Barbara at (925) 846-8123 or tbcunningham43@gmail.com for more info. At our February meeting, Barbara collected about 6" of cards and she thanked everyone who contributed.

I may regret this, but I would like to ask all of you to cut out coupons and mail them to me. My Daughters of the Revolution chapter participates in the Troupen "Coupons for Troops" program through the charity Support our Troops. These coupons are then distributed to military personnel for use in their commissaries. The coupons have to say "Manufacture's Coupon". The overseas commissaries honor them for six months after the published expiration date. Last year our chapter collected \$58,000 in coupons to send to the troops! In my area, the coupons come in the Tuesday and Sunday papers. The lady in charge of our chapter project confessed to getting a lot of coupons while "dumpster diving" at her local post office! I turn them in to her once a month and I can't wait to see how many coupons you all send me (to address above). Normally I turn over an envelope full of coupons. Wouldn't it be wonderful to turn over a shopping bag full of coupons every month?

Have you heard of Wordle? Wordle is a web-based word game developed by Josh Wardle. Every day, a five-letter word is chosen which players aim to guess within six

tries. After every guess, each letter is marked as either green, yellow or gray: green indicates that letter is correct and in the correct position, yellow means it is in the answer but not in the right position, while gray indicates it is not in the answer at all. I started playing the game ten days ago. It is so much fun and I am already totally addicted.

Wardle initially created the game for himself and his partner to play, eventually making it public in October 2021. Google has even created a special Google Doodle when one searches for “Wordle”, with the site’s logo becoming an animated game of Wordle to find the word “Google.”

The game was purchased by The New York Times Company in January 2022 for an undisclosed seven-figure sum, with plans to “initially keep it free for all players.” Fans expressed worries that the acquisition meant the game would eventually be put behind a paywall. As the game operates entirely using client-side code run in the browser, download the webpage and bookmark it for offline use so you can continue to play the game for free. Here is the link to the webpage: <https://www.powerlanguage.co.uk/wordle/>. Source: Wikipedia

I’m sure you’ve all admired the beautiful National Parks quarters. This series of 56 coins ran from 2010-2021, with five coins issued from 2010-2020, and one coin issued in 2021. A National Park, Historic Site or Landmark was chosen from each state, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Territories. For 2022, the U.S. Mint is starting the American Women quarters program. This will be a series of quarters featuring notable women in U.S. history, commemorating the centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which granted women the right to vote. The United States Mint will issue up to five designs each year from 2022 to 2025 for up to 20 total designs. The distinguished American women celebrated on the 2022 quarters will be:

1. Maya Angelou – celebrated writer, performer, and social activist.
2. Dr. Sally Ride – physicist, astronaut, educator, and first American woman in space.
3. Wilma Mankiller – first female principal chief of the Cherokee Nation.
4. Nina Otero-Warren – a leader in New Mexico’s suffrage movement and the first female superintendent of Santa Fe public schools.
5. Anna May Wong – first Chinese American film star in Hollywood.

Our member **Rich Bouska** is also a member of RUPA (Retired United Pilots Association). Rich is responsible for organizing their cruise each year. The cruises in 2020 and 2021 were cancelled, but RUPA is planning to have a cruise in 2022. This cruise will be Holland America’s 14-Day Great Alaskan Explorer departing Vancouver on September 18 and returning on October 2. The ship will be the Noordam. This is a cruise to experience glaciers, fjords, inlets, rivers, streams and wildlife galore. You will sail the Inside Passage, visit Ketchikan and Juneau, cruise Tracy Arm, visit Icy Strait Point, cruise Glacier Bay, visit Skag-

way and Sitka, and cruise the Misty Fjords and Inside Passage again on the return. You can view all the info on this cruise on the Holland America website at www.hollandamerica.com. In the destination box, select Alaska & Yukon, in the duration box select 9-16 days, and in the departure box select Vancouver. This cruise will be the last one on page 2. Also, as Rich says, this cruise is open to all - friends and family, flight attendants and RUAEA members. The more the merrier and the greater our group discount!

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

- ▲ Monday, March 7 at 11:00. — Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mt. Diablo Street in Concord. We order from the regular menu and have separate checks. Must RSVP to **Diane Griego** at dian-griego@aol.com or (925) 676-6097 by Thursday, March 3.
- ▲ Monday, April 4 at 11:00. — Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mt. Diablo Street in Concord. We order from the regular menu and have separate checks. Must RSVP to **Diane Griego** at dian-griego@aol.com or (925) 676-6097 by Thursday, March 31.
- ▲ Monday, May 2 at 11:00. — Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mt. Diablo Street in Concord. We order from the regular menu and have separate checks. Must RSVP to **Diane Griego** at dian-griego@aol.com or (925) 676-6097 by Thursday, April 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

Happy 2022 New Year and Chinese New Year of the Tiger. We are still going back and forth with this virus – masks on, social distancing, food being delivered by many of our great restaurants, OK to eat outdoors, carry your vaccination cards with you as you may be asked to provide it, avoid large crowds, get those booster shots ... on and on. It’s a real challenge knowing what to do.

We had a lovely Christmas luncheon with 27 lively members attending. Our January meeting was a small one but we are looking forward to our February 28th meeting as we are doing something different. We will be holding our regular meeting at the Foster City Recreation Center at 11:00am – this will be a social half-hour, 11:30am will be a short general meeting and then we will get in our cars for a short 8 minute drive to a local Chinese eatery, Tai Wu

Restaurant, located at 1080 Foster City Blvd., this is next door to the Ranch 99 Grocery store and not difficult to find. We'll play Follow the Leader. President **Vera Kina** and many-hats **Ginger Dahlberg** had lunch and spoke with the owner who was pleased to know that we wanted to bring a group for lunch with him! Lunch is at 12 noon, there are 3 Special Combination Plate Lunches, or you can order off the extensive menu. So, bring your cash, don't forget tip money, come and enjoy some very tasty food – chopsticks for all (they do have silverware!) Mark your calendars and come have some food and fun. Coming? RSVP to Ginger ASAP. (I need to let the restaurant know how many might come.)

Our Treasurer, **Peter Cooper**, has asked those of you who have not sent in your dues, please do so as we want to get our roster up to date. Dues are \$20 per person. Peter has paid our room rental and squared everything with the IRS regarding our non-profit status. Thank goodness he can add 2 x 2 and come up with 4 (not my specialty.)

Our Membership Lady, **Barbara Underhill**, passed on information that **Ella Mae Donovan** had a fall and broke her pelvis. It is next to impossible to bandage this type of break so she is spending a good deal of time lying down. She is slowly recovering and will be getting her share of physical therapy. We will miss both Bob & Ella Mae for the time being. Speedy healing! **Milt & Doris Schafer** are sticking close to home – medical issues keep them home-bound. Doris was president of the AARP Chapter here in San Mateo for many years and was very active. **Margaret Reelfs** is having some aches and pains so keep these folks in your thoughts - send 'em a card to cheer them up. December brought sad news that **Pat Stephany** had passed away. A long-time member of our group – homecoming High School Queen, Stewardess with United, married and had to resign as UAL rules said no to marriage. A fun lady to be around, she and her family traveled extensively. She was married to Bill for 55 years. She organized family excursions and enjoyed working for the SFO Hyatt Hotel – she was a real go-getter.

Our Travel Guru, **Ginger Dahlberg**, says a cruise on the Columbia River is being set up for October 11 – 20, 2022. The trip will start in Clarkson, WA and end in PDX. Call her if you want to join the group (phone number above) and she will send you a flyer. Day trips are in the making – a train trip across Canada, several day excursions – come join the gang and let's get travelin' again!

Our "Rafflette," **Harriet Kunze**, doled out money to **Bill Heinrich, John Bogdanoff** and **Colleen Wood**. Most everyone attending went home with donated goodies. Thanks to those who bring in their treasures to share.

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



HANGTOWN MINERS

Jane Gibson

Secretary

tired-dogs@comcast.net

Welcome to 2022! And, we're off and running! As I type this, 3 weeks have disappeared already - hang onto your hats, everyone!

Things were a bit "disjointed" so I'm going to do my best to get topics in order. **Rudy Blazius** handled this meeting, you'll understand as we proceed. **Diana Bell** and **Duncan Nielsen** set up our delicious January luncheon at the Forester Pub & Grill in Camino. It's been some time since we dined here, the food is still great, as well as the service we received - with 21 members in attendance, our server was hoppin'! Lots of visiting and laughing all the way around. Rudy extended our thanks to Diana & Duncan. For some reason - too cold perhaps - there are no anniversaries in January. But, we have two members who celebrate their birthdays in January - **Angie Dellinger** and **Bill Gibson**; to you two we say Happy Birthday! If you have a birthday this month but were just not at the luncheon, that extends to you as well.

President ~ Continue reading.

Vice President ~ This was very difficult, Rudy, thank you for handling things so well. I know how especially hard all of this has been for you, and for our members too. To **Linda Dinette**: Linda, we all send our thoughts and prayers to you and your family. We are here for you (all).

On January 5, 2022, we learned that our Hangtown Miners president, **Bill Dinette** passed away. Rudy filled all of us in on what happened. Going back to July of last year, Bill started having stomach issues. There were a number of various visits with doctors. A colonoscopy was scheduled but they were not able to do the procedure. Bill continued to have pain and problems. In December he wound up undergoing emergency surgery to correct a hernia that was pinching a portion of his intestines and making the intestines twisted - thus causing the abdominal pain. Bill was in the hospital a bit longer than expected, but was finally allowed to go home with oxygen.

Back in the 60's, Bill was in the Air Force and worked as a crew chief on a weather reconnaissance plane - he was chasing things like hurricanes! He was then reassigned to a helicopter and based in Thailand/Vietnam. His helicopter was outfitted with spray rigging to be used with Agent Orange. In later years, it was determined that he had lost 20% of his lung capacity due to that chemical which forms crystals in the lung. Bill had been going to the VA for breathing problems, but every year his lungs just got worse. What happens with this is that the lungs lose their flexibility so they can't flex properly/efficiently and a person's oxygen absorption drops.

Bill was home (with the oxygen) when he began having severe difficulty breathing and the family took him back to ER. A couple days after being readmitted to the

hospital, Bill stopped breathing. It was about 15 - 20 minutes before they could get him onto a ventilator. Tests showed that there was too much brain damage due to the lack of oxygen and Bill was removed from the ventilator.

Roy Martin shared that he and Bill spoke mid-December while Bill was in the hospital. Bill was told that there was a 40% chance for him to recover and he figured that was better than nothing! Even though he knew he was in "trouble", Bill kept his upbeat attitude. We don't have any information yet on services for Bill. Linda, Aaron and Kevin will let us know when and where.

For general information, a discussion began and **JR Heier** shared some information for those who have military benefits. If you served in any of our armed forces, you can take advantage of the veterans' final services program. There is a (relatively) new National Cemetery in Dixon where you can have your and your spouse's ashes buried. They have nice "staging" areas where they have a very nice service for the veteran - including a flag presentation. On Veterans' Day every one of the headstones are decorated with a wreath and ribbon - sponsored by Reach Across America. There is no charge for this! So, when you are getting your "things" in order, know that this is available. JR worked with the American Legion and already has his plan in place. Look into this.

Treasurer ~ **Tom Kenny** was able to join us today! January usually finds us discussing charities to receive contributions. Tom suggested that we wait for a few months to allow our balance to rebuild before we decide if and how much to send out. He also reminded us that several of our members still need to send in their annual \$10.00 dues! If you're not sure if you've already paid or not, you can contact Tom and he will check for you. If you're smacking your head and saying, "I forgot!" then get out your checkbook and write a check for \$10.00 made out to Hangtown Miners and mail it to **Tom Kenny**; 3481 Parleys Canyon, Placerville, CA 95667. Also, remember, our bylaws now read that our annual dues are \$10 thru the end of March; after that they increase to \$20.

Tom works at Placerville's True Value Hardware Store and as a result, he meets many interesting people. One of those "people" is involved with the A&P mechanics program at Sacramento City College. He learned that there are several students who could really use some help with getting tools! Now, our group just happens to have quite a few mechanics who worked as A&P mechanics! If you have extra tools that you're not using, don't need any longer, and would like to get rid of to make room for new stuff, bring those tools to our luncheon(s)! Tom will take on the task of getting the tools to the school as donations to those students who need them. Tom will be sure to get a receipt for you and you will be helping a new generation prepare for their future. As it turns out, one of our own, **Bill Gibson**, attended that very same school program back in the 60s! Testimony to a good program.

Secretary ~ **Jane Gibson** did not have anything to address at the meeting. Underneath the menu is an "Important UAL Numbers" - good to have.

Sunshine ~ **Suzanne Kenny** didn't have anything to report either, however, she just learned that **John Muir** has had Covid and is recovering. Please, if you know of any of our members who may be ill or just in need of "help", let Suzanne know so she can follow thru with a call and/or card. Oh, and if you have something "good" to share, let her know that as well!

Historian ~ Our new Historians, **Roy & Dawn Martin**, now have possession of our chapter's history! Thank you, Pati, for taking care of all this for the past 3 years. Roy said they were talking about the albums and had the thought that maybe members might like to "check out" a book and take it with them to browse thru in the comfort of their own homes. Kind of like a library book! Diana & Duncan brought in a flight schedule from 1956! Well, it turns out that's the year **Jack Fitzpatrick** hired on at UAL! Jack shared that he was willing to do pretty much any job to get his foot in the door, as they say! So, for 5 months Jack washed airplanes in Denver! Seems his physical found that he was color blind, but he told them "Put an airplane in front of me, and I'll wash it!" Way to go, Jack!

New Business ~ Circumstances have put us in the position of needing to have an election. Rudy, as our Vice President, has agreed to step up to the President position. **Diana Bell** nominated **Rudy Blazius** for our president; **Rosemary Heier** seconded the motion; vote - unanimous. With Rudy assuming that position, a Vice President is now needed. **JR Heier** volunteered to fill the spot. **Duncan Nielsen** nominated **JR Heier** to handle the Vice President position; **Kerry Kozelka** seconded the motion; vote - unanimous. Thank you to all for supporting these nominations. By the way, Rosemary noted that this is the first time JR has volunteered for anything since he retired!

Old Business ~ There's no old business to be addressed at this meeting.

Contributions ~ **JR Heier** wanted to encourage everyone to be sure to keep up with your regular health check-ups and to also follow up when you have anything that may concern you. No one jumps up and down with glee when they get that notice for their colonoscopy, but, JR has been thru colon cancer and had they not found the problem and taken care of it right away, the outcome could have been different. Also, push your children to get checked as well. I understand that the medical recommendation for these procedures has been moved to 45 years of age. There are lots of jokes about colonoscopies, but they do save lives and worth the time it takes.

Rudy brought our meeting to a close and ran our raffle for the last time - handed over the tickets (in a dandy carry bag) to JR! Winner of the donator's prize was **Cindy Blazius**. A big "Thank You" to all who brought items for the raffle: **Bell** - dish towels; **Kenny** - preserve gift box; **Fitzpatrick** - candy; **Gibson** - plant; **Martin** - knife set; **Kenney** - 2 candle holders; **Heier** - wine; **Dellinger** - candle; **Biro** - wine stops; **Kozelka** - diffuser.

Our February luncheon will be on Monday, February 14th! **Bill & Pati Kenney** have arranged with the Round

Table Pizza in Cameron Park to use their party room. Check it out - there's more than just pizza!

Take care all of you, stay safe and warm, and we'll all get together soon.



RESANS
San Diego, CA
Barbara Drews
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La Mesa, CA 91942
sdsailorgirl@yahoo.com

The winter weather is upon us, record cold and we are spoiled living in sunny San Diego; we are not used to the gray, cold days. It has meant staying in and reading a good book or heading off to a warmer destination. The Midwest and the East Coast are not on the list of places to go.

There are no Birthdays on my calendar for March.

We had 20 retirees, a good turnout at our breakfast, and it was good to see some of our new retirees joining us. **Judy Farwell** joined us to for the first time and is looking forward to being part of our group.

Bruce Shropshire joined us from Chicago and we love it when someone comes to visit and we all share news and travel experiences.

One topic of conversation is the new process of unloading standbys by the computer with no regard for seniority. A person on the top of the standby list may end up with a seat in the back in coach and some with lesser seniority may be seating in Economy Plus and even First class. One of our retirees was seating in a center seat with several empty rows of seats on the airplane. The agents working the flight did nothing to rectify the situation and on one flight, the agent was not happy with all the requests for seat changes. It's just another issue to deal with along with all the covid issues complicating our travel.


We continue to meet at the Pt. Loma Cafe on the first Thursday of every month. They have done a great job of accommodating us in spite of their staffing shortages. This month we asked for an RSVP for those attending since it's helpful for the restaurant to know ahead of time so we may continue with this until all the Covid issues are solved.

You are very welcome to join us. I will be happy to put you on the list. We will be even happier to see you!

Calendar:

March 3 – Breakfast, Pt. Loma Café, (619) 226-0255, 4865 North Harbor Dr., San Diego, CA 92106

Happy St. Patrick's Day



**SACRAMENTO
GOLD
DIGGERS**
Sacramento, CA
Ron Bertacini
Secretary
sgd@surewest.net

The Gold Diggers met at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Roseville and had 24 in attendance. This included new members **Lavern Lee**, his wife **Diana** was unable to attend and **Louise & Lyle Auerbach**. Lavern is a retired Flight Attendant who had worked for Delta. Louise had many positions with United in San Francisco from Flight Attendant to Reservations, Passenger Service, Ticket Office and Red Carpet Room.

After a nice lunch with ice cream dessert, President **Dave Garland** opened the meeting by introducing the new members. Vice President **Barbara Bertacini** acknowledged the new members and hope that we could encourage more to join our monthly socials. Secretary **Ron Bertacini** reported that there was only one wedding anniversary for January, **Michiko & Bob Allen** with 49 years. Next month's luncheon/meeting will be on February 23rd at Lucille's in Rocklin hosted by **Dave & Robin Garland**. At this time we have no volunteers for the rest of the year. Please consider hosting a lunch at your favorite place. If you can host any future month please let Ron know via email at sgd@surewest.net.

Ken Norton, filling in for **Judie King**, reminded everyone that the 2022 dues are due; \$10.00 per couple. You can forward your check to **Judie King**, 11886 Heather Lane, Grass Valley, CA 95949 and be sure to make the check payable to the Sacramento Gold Diggers.

Our Sunshine Lady **Angie Dellinger** had a lot of news: She sent Get Well Cards to **Judie King** and **Orville Harshbarger**. Judie had recovered from Covid only to fall and break a bone or two. Orville is recovering from a stroke. She also sent a sympathy card to the Dinette family; **Bill Dinette** had been the President of the Hangtown Miners. Angie also passed on a note from **Michiko & Bob Allen** saying they have both had some health issues and that with the Virus they would not be attending our luncheons in the foreseeable future. She also had a note from **Barbara & Harold Mitchell** saying they also are dealing with health issues; Harold battling cancer and Barbara with work on her knee. They forwarded a picture wishing the Gold Diggers a Happy New Year.

Our Historian **Stephanie Norton** had nothing other than we are all making history. Our Roster guy **Jack Raynor** hopes to have our 2022 Roster completed by the end of March. Our Regional Director **Sonda Sandstedt** was unable to attend but is hopeful that she will see us next month.

Dave filled us in with some trivia ... others who have January 26th birthdays are Douglas Mac Arthur (1880), Cora Baird puppeteer with Kukla, Fran & Ollie (1912),

William Hopper who played Paul Drake on the Perry Mason show and the son of columnist Hedda Hopper (1915), actor Paul Newman (1925), Bob Uecker baseball catcher, announcer, actor (Mr. Belvedere) (1935) and Gene Siskel, movie critic (1946). We moved on to important date in history for January 26th, a short summary follows. In 66 the 5th recorded passage of Halley's Comet, 1784 Ben Franklin is unhappy that eagle has become America's symbol instead of the turkey, 1837 Michigan became a state, 1871 US income tax is repealed, 1905 world largest diamond found in South Africa the Cullinan 3,106 carats, 1911 Glenn Curtiss pilots the first hydroplane in San Diego, 1926 first TV demonstration in London, 1954 ground breaking for Disneyland, 1956 Buddy Holly's first recording session, 1960 Oakland enters the American Football League, and in 1972, Vesna Vulović survives a 33,000 foot fall without a parachute.



Vesna's story is truly incredible. Vesna Vulović (January 3, 1950 – December 23, 2016) was a Serbian flight attendant who holds the Guinness world record for surviving the highest fall without a parachute: 10,160 m (33,330 ft; 6.31 mi). She was the sole survivor after a briefcase bomb exploded in the baggage compartment of JAT Flight 367 on January 26, 1972, causing it to crash near Srbská Kamenice, Czechoslovakia. The Yugoslav authorities suspected that Croatian nationalists were to blame, but no one was ever arrested.

Following the bombing, Vulović spent days in a coma and was hospitalized for several months. She suffered a fractured skull, three broken vertebrae, broken legs, broken ribs, and a fractured pelvis. These injuries resulted in her being temporarily paralyzed from the waist down. She made an almost complete recovery but continued to walk with a limp. Vulović had no memory of the incident and had no qualms about flying in the aftermath of the crash. Despite her willingness to resume work as a flight attendant, JAT Airways (JAT) gave her a desk job negotiating freight contracts, feeling her presence on flights would attract too much publicity. Vulović became a celebrity in Yugoslavia and was deemed a national hero.

Flight 367 departed from Stockholm Arlanda Airport at 1:30 p.m. on January 26. The aircraft, a McDonnell

Douglas DC-9, landed at Copenhagen Airport at 2:30 p.m., whereupon Vulović and her colleagues boarded the plane. *"As it was late, we were in the terminal and saw it park,"* Vulović said. *"I saw all the passengers and crew deplane. One man seemed terribly annoyed. It was not only me that noticed him either. Other crew members saw him, as did the station manager in Copenhagen. I think it was the man who put the bomb in the baggage. I think he had checked in a bag in Stockholm, got off in Copenhagen and never re-boarded the flight."*

Flight 367 departed from Copenhagen Airport at 3:15 p.m. At 4:01 p.m., an explosion tore through the DC-9's baggage compartment. The explosion caused the aircraft to break apart over the Czechoslovak village of Srbská Kamenice. Vulović was the only survivor of the 28 passengers and crew. She was discovered by villager Bruno Honke, who heard her screaming amid the wreckage. Her turquoise uniform was covered in blood and her 3-inch (76 mm) stiletto heels had been torn off by the force of the impact; Honke had been a medic during World War II and was able to keep her alive until rescuers arrived.

Air safety investigators attributed Vulović's survival to her being trapped by a food cart in the DC-9's fuselage as it broke away from the rest of the aircraft and plummeted towards the ground. When the cabin depressurized, the passengers and other flight crew were blown out of the aircraft and fell to their deaths. Investigators believed that the fuselage, with Vulović pinned inside, landed at an angle in a heavily wooded and snow-covered mountainside, which cushioned the impact. Vulović' physicians concluded that her history of low blood pressure caused her to pass out quickly after the cabin depressurized and kept her heart from bursting on impact. Vulović said that she was aware of her low blood pressure before applying to become a flight attendant and knew that it would result in her failing her medical examination, but she drank an excessive amount of coffee beforehand and was accepted.

There is a lot more to her story if you are interested, just Google Vesna Vulovic.

President Dave continued with some industry news. The 'big' item is that Retiree Parking Returns to SFO MOC. Retiree parking at the MOC has returned with some conditions. First you must have retired from the MOC secondly there is a 14 day time limit on parking. To extend beyond the 14 days you need to contact the security supervisor at 650-874-5718. Permit can be obtained from security at the main entrance by the flag poles. The permit can be obtained after hours by calling security on the phone outside of the main entrance. They will send someone to give the permit. For more information you can call security at (653) 874-3010.


The U.S. air transport system would grind to a halt, stranding tens of thousands of passengers all over the world and further disrupting the supply chain by critically disrupting cargo. At least, that's what the airline industry predicted would happen if AT&T and Verizon pressed ahead with their 5G wireless networks. The telecommunications companies agreed – grudgingly - to a further delay

to let the FAA and the aviation sector work out where interference with radio altimeters might occur and on what aircraft. By the end of last week, most aircraft types and major airports had been cleared, so the crisis was averted, partially. Regional airlines still don't have clarity on much of the smaller airports they operate to and on certain fleet types. So now, the U.S. has a mostly functioning air transport system, but slower mobile internet.

IATA warns high jet fuel prices will push in airline operating costs. In October of 2021 jet fuel was going for \$77.8 a barrel; on January 21, 2022 it was up to \$101.1 a barrel.

Since there was only one birthday for the attendees in January there was no birthday "roll-off" and **Angie Dellinger** was a few dollars richer.

We ended with our monthly raffle of donated prizes.




SAN JOAQUINERS
 Rosie Walls
 (209) 984-5672
jawrmw@sbcglobal.net

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

The San Joaquiners Chapter always meets on the second Thursday of each month at various locations. We would like to issue an open invitation to anyone to join us. Please contact our president **Steve Foster**, (209) 328-1210 if you would like information about our chapter.

With the local hospitals full with the latest variant of



SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY
 San Jose, CA
www.southbayruaea.org
 George Midwin
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Covid, it was decided to cancel our planned meeting. Officials are stating that they expect the situation to be much improved by March and we can once again meet as a group.

In the meantime, some individuals have taken to meet with other members at their favorite places. I can report that **Tony & Sally Urso** are doing well, however they do limit going out for safety reasons. One place they are 'regulars' at is Armadillo Willy's, you can see them there most Saturday nights enjoying Chicken and hamburgers (extra pickles for Tony please). **Bill & Rosie Reichard** have been taking advantage of the nice weather, by visiting local areas, including the coast, which was especially nice. **Ben & Cheri Scales** have made it out to a few estate sales looking for aviation related items, although Covid has

drastically reduced the number of events being held. **George & Julie Midwin** have been going back and forth to Stockton continuing to make repairs to her mother's house. **Albert Grossman** has reported in and doing as well as can be expected and is looking forward to meetings again. We all miss hearing from **Jean Jenkins** and her explores, whenever the topic of discussion has anything to do with history or famous people.

Quite a few birthdays in March: **Irene Lloyd, Rosemarie Reichard, Gayle Moorhead, Hiroko Caster, Jean Jenkins** and **Sally Urso**. Happy birthday to all!

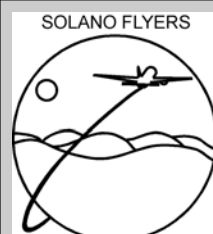
Anniversaries for the month are **Keith & Ann Olthof** and **Dave & Robin Garland**. Congratulations!

George Dye, our resident scuba diver, who has dived around the world and provided us with some fantastic stories and photographs, has passed away. He fought health issues for over a year and yet still made some of our meetings. He will be missed.

Our annual Vasona picnic is back on for this year and to be held June 14th. This is always a great time, with plenty of food and fun. Don't forget to mark your calendars. It will be catered as in the past and held in the covered pavilion.

Officer positions need to be filled, particularly our leaders', as he will be moving on to the sunny desert. With meetings once a month, this will not be such a task as has been when meeting weekly, please consider the position.

We all look forward to being able to once again have members who have been reluctant to attend our meetings in person, due to this terrible virus, will find improved conditions in the coming year. If you would like to join us, please feel free any time. We meet the first Monday of each month at 10:00. The restaurant is located at 998 S. De Anza Blvd, San Jose, just off highway 85.



SOLANO FLYERS
 Allan Pochop
 119 Carlsbad Circle
 Vacaville, CA 95687
 (707) 447-4980
apochop@aol.com

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



COLORADO



President **Don Burbank** opened the meeting with the Pledge Of Allegiance to our flag. There is a RUAEA Board Meeting next month in San Diego to plan for this year's RUAEA Convention in October. We are looking at possible nametags for raffle. **Mike Malesardi** is now Membership Manager replacing **Cas Spokas**.

Marianne Zahnle reported that during October and November, United Airlines participated in a training program for the new single bag drop program and equipment. It was a 4-week training program on site at Denver International Airport. United Airlines was very efficient and prepared a very good team of Supervisor professionals to facilitate each educational session. This program allowed the United baggage agents to assist customers with a modified three belt system that regulates weight, additional costs and verifies customer flight information. This project was activated during the 2021 Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. It has been a very innovative new baggage drop program for United Airlines and their customers at the DIA.

Our 50/50 winners were **Rich Conner, Jim Spate, Nancy & Tom Goodyear, Tom Ueberschaer** and **Yumi Trujillo**.

Our next meeting will be March 3rd. We look forward to seeing you there.

Following is another installment of "*It Happened To Me – The Big Boom*" by **Mal Malesardi**.

In 1979, as a young mechanic at JFK, I was on the midnight shift. Before going home, I was offered overtime to go out on an engine run. This was for a repair and confirmation of the repair. It was a DC-8 that had an acceleration issue on the #2 engine.

This was going to be a chance to work with the early bird crew. They were on shift from 5am to 1 pm. Very senior and highly experienced. As always, working with them was a chance to learn something new. I told the supervisor, I'm IN.

Then I was instructed to get a tractor and towbar and hook it up. The early birds came out and we pushed the airplane out of the hangar and over to the blast fence. I was then told to get 12 chocks. When he saw my amazement, they said, we have to take #2 engine on an acceleration check to take off. It has to get to takeoff in so many seconds and we don't want the airplane moving. All main and nose gears chocked.

After we were all set up with 2 mechanics in the cockpit, along with me and a supervisor on the ground, a long headset cord was installed to have instant eye contact.

This was for hand signals in case of any problem and could be seen directly out the front windows. Because the DC-8 had to be fully supported (air and electric), the engine was started and equipment was removed. I gave the OK to accelerate to takeoff.

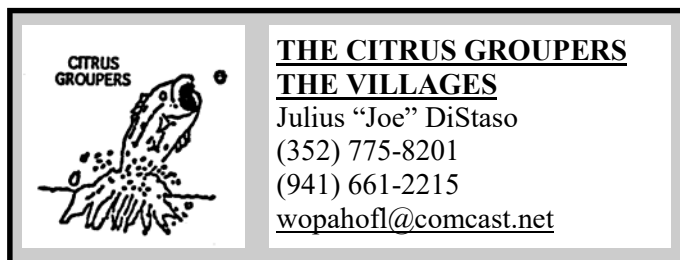
We proceeded with a quick spool up and then, what happened next was the most bone shaking "**boom**" I have ever experienced, followed by a flame coming out the back of the engine that hit the blast fence and went down into the rental car parking lot on the other side.

With the engine shut down, the team said to tow it back in the hangar and setup for the engine change. After getting a stand up to get the run crew off, they said, "*That was pretty loud, wasn't it?*" I said "*Dad that was the loudest sound I've ever heard*". Yes, the mechanic in the left seat was my father. We didn't have to paint any rental cars either.

What brought this memory back was after watching the "Dog Day Afternoon" movie. This movie was based on a true story from a bank robbery gone bad in Brooklyn. The movie was filmed in 1975 and has a scene of the police escort driving down the Belt Parkway at night. The camera was elevated on the airport and shot across hangar 8 and the ramp where this occurred. In the scene are 2 DC-8 (freighters) parked on the freight side of the hangar.

I had the pleasure of working with my father for one year. When I stayed overtime, I would occasionally work with him. Great experience, great memories. Not only did this happen to me, it happened to us.

FLORIDA



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 or **Rich Capozzi** at rca-pozzi@rocketmail.com.





THE ORLANDO REAL McCOYS

Elaine Tillman-Mannella
7307 Everleigh Court
Orlando, FL 32819
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emt6250@yahoo.com

President **Al Fields** welcomed two of our past Presidents to today's meeting ... **Ernie Vosges** and **Richard Llewellyn**, to a huge round of applause; followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, for which we all stood. He reminded all of us to pay our dues of \$20/per year for the new year 2022 and to "save the date" for our April 5th Picnic which will be held, as in past years, at Cypress Grove Park in the Pavilion on property. It will most likely be a BYOL (Bring Your Own Lunch & drink) as in the past two years, due to COVID concerns.

Treasurer **Charlotte LeGrand** took the floor to explain the movement of money to accommodate the members decision to donate \$300 each to Russell House and the VAVS for Veterans, as our Christmas gift.

Secretary **Elaine Tillman-Mannella** read 2 very nice letters from the Vets and Russell Home for Atypical Children, which came with a picture of some of the residents, happy and smiling.

Charlotte called **Gloria & Richard Armistead** and Richard has been bedridden for several months. Address: 13108 Cog Hill Way, Orlando, FL 32828.

Maureen Sterinsky had a second surgery on her elbow/arm, injured back in September – Ouch!

Julia Montalvo's son, **Leonardo**, joined his dad, **Angel**, for lunch today. Julia is suffering with severe neck pain.

And **Diane Lewis**, our energizer bunny had a 5th surgery on February 10th. Prayers please for all our United family that we know about and those we don't, prayers for healing and strength for each day.

Our Getting-To-Know you guy is **Mack Chandler**, who started his career on 10/2/1957 in CLEMK/CG, with a break from '61-'63 in the Army. The STL Cardinals wanted him, but he returned to CLE and in May '92 transferred to MCOCG, where he was a fueler, instructor & a card-carrying member of the Umpire Assn. Mack has an amazing singing voice and knew the likes of Roberta Flack and Otis Williams of the Temptations, back in the day. He retired 12/1/1998 and continued umpiring and singing in a dozen nursing homes every week! What an amazing guy - who knew! PS. Many of us have one of his very professional CD's of that great voice! We knew!

Birthday Balloons and Cake go out to my hubby, **Joe**, on February 16th and **Al Mollet** on February 18th!

The McCoys are planning our Annual Picnic for April 5th at Cypress Grove Park. BYOM (bring your own meal). The next meeting at Denny's will be March 1st. See you all then!



SW PELICANS DROP-INS

Margie Burg, Correspondent
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Fort Myers, FL 33908
(239) 400-2544
burgmarge@aol.com

We held our luncheon meeting at Summerlin Café on Friday February 4. There were 12 members in attendance. As much as we enjoy getting together, the Covid problem has changed our meetings. Wishing it would just go away doesn't make it happen. There just isn't a lot to report.

New members are always welcomed. Our luncheon meetings take place the first Friday of the month at 11:30 am. We presently meet at the Summerlin Café, 11370 Summerlin Square Drive, Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931. Please call (239) 888-2744 for more information.



THE SAND DOLLARS

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

Due to some continued concerns about the number of Covid cases in our area, the Sand Dollars have decided to delay their monthly luncheons for a short while. For information about our group, please contact **Ginger Hyde** at ASDIP920@aol.com, or phone (941) 360-6671.



TAMPA BAY CHAPTER

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

Our February 7th meeting at IHOP had 6 members and a new retiree joined us so that made 7 at our breakfast; we welcome **Tim Zauner** to our retiree group. Everyone introduced him/herself and where they worked for UAL. We talked about all the jobs our retirees had.

We also talked about upcoming events, especially our Spring Picnic. We will discuss more at the March meeting.

Since we are a social group, we had a very laid back meeting. Breakfast/Lunch was served.


Jon talked about IAM news from their magazine.

We wished Happy Valentine's Day to all!
Meeting was adjourned.

Calendar:

March 7 – IHOP, Trinity, 10:30

April 4 – Spring Picnic, Anderson Park.

	<u>TREASURE COAST</u> Stuart, FL Al Popek President ualpbi@att.net
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There is no report this month from the Treasure Coast chapter of RUAEA.

HAWAII

	<u>HONOLULU MENEHUNES</u> Patricia Thomson, Treasurer P.O. Box 1709 Honolulu, HI 96806-1709 (808) 946-7847 hnlrua@gmail.com
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Aloha! The Honolulu Menehunes is an active chapter and we meet for lunch at various Honolulu restaurants on the 3rd Thursday of February, June, and September. All retirees are welcome to join us. If you are planning to be in Honolulu and would like to attend, just send your email address to HNLRTUA@gmail.com and we will email you the details.

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

	<u>PAU HANA KUPUNA</u> (Hawaii, The Big Island) Ann Eaton Medve P. O. Box 190726 Hawi, HI 96719 (808) 889-1636 annmedve@icloud.com
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Aloha from The Big Island! Pau Hana Kupuna is a very old RUAEA group which has become moribund. I would love to hear from anyone who would like to help me get things going again ... lunch meetings, potlucks, good times, and more. If you are interested, please send your email address to annmedve@icloud.com and/or call **Ann Medve** at (808) 889-1636.

IDAHO

	<u>BOISE GEMS</u> Shirley Dempsey rickshirley.dempsey@gmail.com
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Happy Valentine's Day everyone!

The Boise Gems did not meet in February. Our next scheduled meeting will be in late March. Members will be notified of time, date and location the first of March.

ILLINOIS

	<u>CHICAGO SKYLINERS</u> www.chicagoskyliners.org Chicagomainliner.com Jan Gawenda (847) 917-9586 jawenda@gmail.com
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March—Cold winds blowing in with a promise of a lovely spring after a snowy and strange winter. Remember the lion and lamb comparison, we'll see which it is. November and December were mild, then along came January and a very snowy February. I'm surprised the groundhog could even see anything with the snow covering up his little cave. Six more weeks of this, hmmm, we'll see. How was January and February? Anything good happen? Did you stay above the snow line? Most of my friends stayed in, kept warm and cozy. I decided to clean out 'stuff', what a shock! You probably have things from 50 years ago, when you first moved into your home. Maybe even books and papers from your kids when they were in college, don't laugh, it happens, if you're there long enough and don't check out those hundreds of boxes in the attic or basement. Even if you're not moving, at least open one box a week/month, and throw stuff away. It's ridiculous. I found ash trays that I stole from Europe back in the 60's from Cinzano, Martini and Rossi and a cute little bar in Heidelberg. Then let's talk about fashion ladies, are you holding on to those wide brimmed straw hats from the 60's or earlier? Platform shoes? Garter belts, two nylons not sewn together? Wow, we are going way back! Guys, what about all of those tools, need them? Or old dried up cans of paint? How about household items, **Rose Nesser** told me white milk glass, carnival glass, or old crystal is worth a lot of money. I think antique stores might know where you can go for an appraisal. I found an old vase and lamp, very old, maybe 75 years, can't get rid of it, too many memories. That's our hang-up, memories of grandparents, births, parents, vacations, even accidents or sad events. We're too attached and sentimental. Just think, we can't

do it, but our kids will come in, day after our funeral, and start pitching our treasures out of the window, door or garage. Maybe they'll get one of those big garbage trucks, with a conveyor belt, and just shoot those memories into the abyss. I recently preplanned my funeral, I asked for a U-Haul truck versus a hearse. When they drive me into the cemetery, my friends will say, 'My God, Jan figured a way to take it with her'.

First thing to remember in March is to move your clocks one hour ahead/forward/lose an hour sleep, but gain more sunshine for eight months. Glorious! Why do we do that? There are a few states that never change their clocks, Indiana, Arizona, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and some islands. We go back November 7th to the dark months. March is Women's History Month, also Deaf History, Irish American, Colorectal Cancer Awareness, and Optimism Month. Something we can use more of all the time. March's flower is the happy-faced daffodil, it just makes you smile. The gem is the aquamarine, gorgeous teal-blue color. Some of the people born in March are Dr. Seuss, Albert Einstein, Michael Caine, Elton John, Martin Short, Andrew Jackson, St. Nicholas, Casimir Pulaski, and me. I'm in good company, or are they? LOL.

Fun days in March are, Refired, not Retired Day, Dr. Seuss, Grammar, Peanut Cluster, Get Over it, Funeral Director Recognition, Smart and Sexy, PI Day, Ides of March, Panda, St. Patrick, St. Joseph, Awkward Moment, Alien Abduction, Live Long and Prosper, Weed Appreciation, and Grass is Always Browner on the Other side of the Fence Days. Find any you like? Embrace them and enjoy! March 20th is the first day of Spring, hope it brings an end to a snowy winter. March 2 is Ash Wednesday, that means Paczki Day is the day(s) before. Find a good bakery to get your paczki, otherwise you won't get the true deliciousness of that delicacy. Easter isn't until April 17.

Our Northside breakfast only had four people on a very cold day, **Joan Teister, Jerry Tipperreiter, Marge Stamm and Dave Dunham**. Our Southside meeting was canceled because of cold and only one would attend. The Mechanics breakfast had about 10 people, but I was only able to get three of the men's names, **Larry Stilwell, Bill Durr, and John Kovacik**. We're getting to an age that we only know the ones sitting next to us. The Foremen's breakfast had **Bob Smietanski, Bart & Sue Kendall, Glenn Hill, Stan Chmieliwicz, and Tom Abraham**. Topics of conversation were of United, insurance, the weather, or aches and pains, and our old laughs at work with some of the nicest people we ever met. We really were lucky to have been there when we were. Sure, we complained about our salary, fellow workers, passes, but we knew we had it good. If not, we sure now it now! The IAM celebrated Chinese New Year with a delicious lunch from a local restaurant. Since we had a snowstorm for two days, we only had 55 participants. There were meals left over, but they were properly taken care of. No one was hungry, they had a yen for Chinese food.

By now you probably heard United has started a pilot training school in Goodyear, Arizona, called Aviate. On

January 27, the Academy had its opening ceremony at the Phoenix Airport and welcomed the next generation of pilots to the United family. The new school will teach aspiring pilots how to fly to our high standards from their first day of training. United plans to train about 5,000 new pilots by 2030, at least half of them women or people of color. Five UAA branded Cirrus aircraft were displayed on the field. Students kicked off the day with demonstration flights for guests, piloted by academy flight instructors. They also were able to talk to instructors and share insights of the technology and training materials they'll have access to. United and Chase Bank are providing 2.4 million dollars in scholarships. If the people don't already have a Private Pilot License, UA and Chase will cover the cost, a \$17,750 value. First, they must be accepted to the Academy for the PPL, after the application and interviews. The scholarship funds are distributed through four partner organizations: The Latino Pilots Association, Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals, Professional Asian Pilots Association, and the Sisters of the Skies. Once these students get their Private Pilots License, that should take about a year, then they can interview for Aviate, the flight training, at United, only one of three training campuses in the U.S. If a person already has his/her PPL, they can apply immediately to Aviate. Then the cost starts at \$18k for private pilot training, \$18k for Instrument Rating, and more depending how much training is wanted and needed. Then they will be ready for the 'big jet' training and applying at United Express, for a start. More years of training involved, this is not easy, not 1-2-3 poof, you're a pilot. That's why our pilots are the best. At least I think so. Good luck, kiddos, it's a long road, but so worth it. I always wanted to fly, but dad said, no, I guess he knew me better. But, it's ok; I still got to see the world from the Friendly Skies under the Big Tulip.

Our Skyliner Club is going to postpone our Spring Luncheon for March. Since the Covid is still out there, we'd like it to be a little safer before we have you gather together. Let's try for April or May, see how the world goes. We're all hoping for better times, we miss you. Good news for the Skyliners, we have two new members, **Marlene Koerner and Eileen Mieszala**. Welcome, thank you for joining, hope to see you at our next breakfast or luncheon.

A little shout out to **Joan Anderson**, poor girl had a few falls last year. She had difficulty walking and recuperating, so she has gone to a facility in Schaumburg, where they treat her like the queen that she is. Joan still has her cell phone if her friends would like to keep in touch. I've heard of a few other friends that had to slow down. I've been asked to not mention their names, but if you haven't heard from somebody in a few months, maybe you can call or write them. Think how happy you would make them, and you'd feel better too. Now, we've talked about this before, folks, reach out and talk to someone, ya know, it could be you next time. Amen ... Look down one paragraph, there are 19 of our former co-workers that have passed on, in a month, never to be seen again.

Last month I wrote about a little grocery store closing, Valli. One of our members, **Lynn Kalweit**, wasn't aware until she read about it. She called me and said they in fact, have changed their name to Value Fresh Market. Lynn said most of the personnel were still there, but little signs of the change were definitely evident. We both had virtual tears about losing our favorite store. Many changes out there, everywhere. We have to adjust and go with the flow, about everything, I guess. Nah, we can still complain, somebody might listen. It makes us feel better and lowers our blood pressure.

January was a tough month for losing friends, every year many leave us after Christmas. **Gilberto Romero**, ORDHN, **John Marzillo** and **Bob Fintak** ORDCG, his son, **Rob** also works in CG, **Tom Pieniazek**, **Larry Pitzer** and **Bruce Wallace**, ORDMM, **Scott Slayton**, ORDCG/TPACS, **Kevin Romer**, Cargo Sales, **Judy Bauza**, ORDCG (?), **Stuart Oshiro**, EXO Training Dept, **Frank Holt**, ORDCG (?), **Sidney Tiemann**, ORDFO, **Marjorie Scholtz Terlisner**, EXO Marketing, **Judy Cygar Bach**, ORDCS, **Elaine Zupance-Kelley**, ORDSW, **Steve Furuta**, Sales Dept, United's past president, **Dick Ferris**, EXOPO, and two personal friends of mine, kind and funny, **Pedro Franco**, ORDJL, his wife **Lidia** worked in ORDHN, and **Harold Ogle**, EXOAU, at 101 years young, a wonderful, smart man who worked here from 1945 to 1981, a true pioneer of United. I'll miss all of our friends.

Also gone from our world include Jack Brickhouse's wife, Patricia, musicians, Marilyn Bergman, lyricist, Jimmy Johnson, jazz/blues guitarist, Ronni Spector from the Ronettes, Sonny Turner, from the Platters, and the infamous Meat Loaf, designer, Nino Cerruti, fashion journalist, Andre Leon Talley, Bill BJ Jackson, who had a Chicago kids show, Peter Robbins, the young voice of Charlie Brown, Lani Guinier, civil rights theorist, Charles McGee, 102, Tuskegee Airman, actors Yvette Mimieux, Dwayne Hickman, Monica Vitti, Vachik Mangassarian, Kathryn Kates, comedian/actor Louie Anderson, very funny Howard Hessman from WKRP in Cincinnati, America's dad, talented Bob Saget from Full House, and Chicago's own Richard Duchossois, owner of Arlington Race Track, and Richard Christiansen, Chicago Tribune theatre critic.

Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Elly's Restaurant, 8:30 A.M., 372 E. Golf Rd., Arlington Heights, IL (**March 10**). Second Thursday of the month.

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

ORDMM Breakfast - Maxfield's, 9:00 A.M. Plum Grove & Schaumburg Rds. (**March 17**) Third Thursday
IAM 1487 Luncheon, Seville, 700 S. Barrington Rd, Streamwood (**March 3**) 11:00 A.M. First Thursday.



INDIANA



INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN
Frank N. Ingegno
(317) 428-7741
figenius@sbcglobal.net

As usual, the Indy Racers chapter held our January meeting. In attendance were **Bob & Myrtle Duty**, **Frank Prins** and **Frank Ingegno**. Due to the limited number of attendees, we didn't discuss any new business.

I was recently notified that long time Indy Racers member **Hannelore Brabo** has moved to sunny California to live closer to family. We wish Hannelore all the best in her new home.

The RUAEA Indy Racers chapter is always open for new participants. Any United/CO retirees living in the Indianapolis area are welcome to join. Come check us out at one of our monthly meetings. We also welcome visitors. When visiting Indy, consider joining us at one of our meetings for lunch and conversation. We always enjoy meeting new United friends.

Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 12 Noon. Location of our meeting is Emmy Pancake House and Grill, 7508 Beechwood Center Road, Avon, IN 46123, (317) 272-7200.

Our future meetings schedule:

- **March 8** at Emmy's
- **April 12** at Emmy's
- **May 10** at Emmy's
- **June 14** at Emmy's

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

MASSACHUSETTS



NOR'EASTERS

New England
Dick Vee Vecchione
107 Bunker Hill Road
Auburn, NH 03032-3521
(603) 264-3430
NH4Vee@aol.com

Greetings to All!

Due to the Covid pandemic, we have not had any meetings and there have not been news from members.

Calendar:

Our meetings are cancelled, but be sure to get your COVID-19 shots and boosters.

MICHIGAN



GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Gwen Dyc-Schwendemann
(248) 667-9258
bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net

It was a difficult month for our Detroit United family: **Bernie McManus** passed away on January 30th. He was a former supervisor at Detroit Metro airport. He worked for United for 38 years. Cards may be sent to his wife, **LaCinda**, 13185 Lakeview Drive, Belleville, MI 48111-4600.

Gloria Alexander's husband, **Herb**, passed away on January 22 after a long illness. Gloria retired from United, having worked in DTWRR and DTWCS. You may reach out to her at P.O. Box 685, Inkster, MI 48141.

Our deepest sympathies to both Cinda and Gloria.

Our dear friend, **Joanna O'Brien**, is experiencing health issues. Cards would be appreciated and can be sent to her at 464 Red Cedar Blvd, Williamston, MI, 48095. Joni retired from United, having worked in DTWRR and DTWCS.

Please pray and remember our United friends and their families.

Thought for the month: *"What if you woke up today with only the things you thanked God for yesterday."* ~ Tracee Ellis Ross.

MINNESOTA



NORTHERN LITES

Connie Glattly
82300 Wold Road
Willow River, MN 55795
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crglattly@frontiernet.net

Every month when this gets written, the prior year's submission gets a look. It's interesting and sometimes sad to see how different and sometimes similar! The events of one look like another. Some of the names are no longer with us, which brings in the sad part.

Last year at this time, we hadn't been able to venture out much yet. We hadn't resumed the monthly lunches yet. Thankfully, at this time, the virus trend is on the downswing, so maybe we'll be getting more people interested in venturing over to Lucky's 13 each month.

In January, the gathering was a real **dud**. Too close to the holidays, everyone was partied out, or broke? Too bloody cold? The sole attendees were **Gordy & Lou Ol-**

son and Mary & Jim Brennan. They waited a bit to see if others were going to show up, then moved to a table for four and had a good visit with their lunch. The Up North contingent (**Kelleys & Glattlys**) opted out that day because it was pretty darned cold. A hundred plus miles in bitter weather each way didn't appeal to us. Guess we're getting' old ...

Well, Dear Readers, that's the extent of what I know. Haven't heard from anyone lately, so this is it. Talk to you again next month!

We meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 11am, at Luckys 13, 1352 Sibley Memorial Hwy, Mendota Heights, MN 55150. Phone ~ (651) 452-1311, Website: <https://www.luckys13pub.com/>

NEBRASKA



OMAHA GOLDENEARS

Jan Cornish
(402) 571-6031
kcornish6031@msn.com

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

NEVADA



LAS VEGAS SILVER LINERS

Don Rutkowski
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Las Vegas, NV 89134
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geodon1192@gmail.com

A month has gone by since we had our Christmas Luncheon. I have not heard from any members on any activities they are doing or have done.

At the Luncheon, Secretary **Don Rutkowski** and Treasurer **Jeannie Rolland** announced they are stepping down and requested that members step forward and fill the positions. As of 1/9/2022, not one person has made contact with us willing to fill the positions. So, the Silverliners are in limbo as to any future Luncheons dates. We will do what we can to keep the Silverliners together and hope for the best. With the resurgence of the different viruses dominating our every day lives it will be hard to say when we will get together again.

Due to one of our members being very proactive, **Ar-lene McCorry** who went out and located a place where we can hold our next Luncheon. She set it up for March 17th (St. Patrick's Day) at the Durango Hills Golf Club here in

Las Vegas. They do not require any minimum number of attendees and the menu and price are very reasonable. So, a big "Thank You" to Arlene for her efforts to get the Silverliners together. Not too much else to talk about since no one has come forward to fill the 3 vacancies in our Board. We have not had a President for over 3 years and the Treasurer and Secretary have stepped down, but still helping out till a replacement is found.

The Silverliners will try to hold their Luncheon Meetings on the second Thursday of every even month. Now with COVID and declining membership we are on hold for when we will meet next; that will be addressed at a future date. Email **Don Rutkowski** at geodon1192@gmail.com or call him at (702) 300-4038; we will be glad to see you.



RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP
 Pat Zoboli
 5860 Lone Horse Drive
 Reno, NV 89502
 (775) 856-2044
zobolilady@aol.com

There were 11 members at our January Luncheon at the Black Bear Diner. Reservations for this year – 2022 – have been secured at the Black Bear Diner for the second Monday of each month.

January birthdays were celebrated by **Mary Withers**, **Duncan Scaife** and **Kathy Robinson**. The 50/50 winner was **June Roe**. **Barbara Leusing** brought a one pound box of See's chocolates to be shared with the group. Everyone enjoyed a piece before lunch because as they say: Life is short, eat dessert first.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, February 14 – Valentine's Day – at Black Bear Diner at 11:00 am.

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

The Garden Staters did not meet in January or February. Here is another stroll down memory lane:

Normandy Cemetery in France ~ Of the many places Violet and I visited, Holland and the beaches of Normandy in France were always high on our priority list. Holland is special because all of Violet's family was still there with

the exception of her mother, father, and her younger sister Sadie. Traveling in Holland has always been a pleasure. You can speak of its great ports of Amsterdam Rotterdam, its priceless art museums, its canals and waterways, and its magnificent fields of tulips; but in reality, it's the people. Wherever you go, whenever you needed assistance for anything, there was always a smile and speaking in Dutch saying, I can help. The fact that Violet could speak the language fluently helped a lot, but nothing can take away from the good-natured and friendliness of the Hollanders. One other thing, besides the great food, their cheese is still the best, at least as far as I can see, they just make it better.

After our visit as always, we drove from Holland through Belgium into France along the Normandy coast, on our way to the great American Cemetery at St. Laurient St. Mer. That is where my brother Harold who was seven years older than me is buried. I speak of this still with much heartache, even though it has been more than 70 years since my mother was notified that he was killed in action near St. Mer, Eglis, he was only 22. He was with the 79th division, and the 315th infantry Regiment. Joining the Army in January 1942 shortly after Pearl Harbor, we only saw him twice until he went overseas to prepare for the Normandy invasion. On June 25, 1944 he was reported killed in action. Visiting the cemetery has always been a solemn occasion. As you enter it you can't help feeling a reverential quietness that comes over you as you begin to understand the immense sacrifice by the American army as you move between the crosses and the stars of David.

I always thought it was peculiar that the names on the grave markers didn't face the entrance. I was told by the administration that was deliberate; they wanted all the names to face across the ocean so that a grateful nation will never forget what they did here. On one end of the cemetery, there is a large tile mosaic that explains how the invasion took place; on the other end, there is a small memorial chapel that overlooks "the beach". Inside it says "think not of their passing but remember the glory of their spirit". Nothing says it better.

I have often wondered how my life would have been affected had my brother lived, fate sometimes takes a strange twist. As I reach the twilight of my life, memories of my brother grow dim, still I weep silently for a life that could have been.

NEW YORK




BUFFALO CHIPS
 Jerry Stevens
 130 Countryside Lane
 Williamsville, NY 14221-1308
 (716) 418-6887
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.

OHIO



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



OHIO BUCKEYES
ualohbuckeyes@gmail.com

Only thirteen Metros at this month's luncheon. Maybe the remnants of our blizzard kept some away, though the roads are in good condition. No one had news (fit to print!), so I'll just tell my "scam" story. The first time my "grandson" called, about two years ago, it went like this:

Me: *Hello.*

Him: *Grandma, it's your grandson.*

Me: *Which one?*

Him: *Grandma, it's me.*

Me: *Are you in trouble?*

Him: *Yes, Grandma.*

Me: *Good. Get a decent job and make something of yourself.*

I think I offended him, poor baby.

Well, he called about a month ago - same exchange of dialog. This time, when he answered "Your oldest grandchild," I said "But you are twins. Which one are you?"

I think I offended him again, as he just hung up. Funny, I can't remember giving birth to a child, so how did he get here? I know you should not answer them, but sometimes it's fun to string them along.

Our 50/50 drawing was won by **Nick Manfredo** and **Nick Manfredo**. He's so lucky.

Frank Ferrara and his friend **Judy** are back in Florida tripping (I hope not!) the light fantastic. Line dancing, having lots of fun.

Happy February birthdays to **Evelyn Schroeder**, **Ron Feingold** and **Kenneth Kleinhut**! Also, long-absent member **Vic Carnevale**.

Please keep those who are not doing so well in you general prayers.

To the baby just born on United Airlines: What country will you put on your passport? What clever name will you pick? Will you get free lifetime passes? Best wishes from your UAL family.

Calendar:

March 2 - Davenport Press.

A big "Hello" from the Ohio Buckeyes and welcome to March. We hope everyone is staying safe and getting your Covid-19 vaccine shot. Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years has come and gone but it seems like the Covid virus is still staying with us. However, on the news they are saying the Covid casualty numbers are decreasing. Let's pray that it stays that way. At our age, with all the other problems we end up health wise, I don't think we need to add other things like this Covid virus.

Food prices are soaring along with car fuel, home heating natural gas and electric; plus, the fact that if you can scrape up a little money to do some shopping, the shelves are empty or near empty. Delivery is very slow with a shortage of truck drivers and store personnel to stock the shelves. Our members want to know when is our next luncheon and where. We did reach out to the restaurants in mid-November, but had a hard time getting the restaurants set up for our chapter meetings because they did not know what the cost of the food would be that far in advance. We did cancel February's luncheon and it's a good thing we did because of all the snow that hit us in the first week of February. But we are planning on starting up again for March. Everyone will receive an email, and those without email will receive a phone call saying "We're Back".

The world is going green which is the color of our money, so I guess that means we will be paying more for everything. Speaking of going green, I see where United is buying 100 19-seat ES-19 electric planes from Swedish start-up Heart Aerospace, as the carrier eyes battery-powered aircraft for regional routes which can fly customers up to 250 miles. The order is conditional on the aircraft's meeting safety, business and operating requirements. I'm beginning to see more and more battery powered equipment. Motor vehicles are moving to electric vehicles at a very fast pace, which means we will be using a lot more electricity. I see more and more homes putting up solar panels. I know that we are using more and more electricity each day and it seems we have days when it is really hot, it can cause overloads and the loss of electricity altogether. I hope we can keep up with the demand of charging all the new vehicles being added to the list of electric users.

In the January 2022 issue of RUAEA Newsletter, **Veronica & Francis Domaratius** announced that was the final issue for them. After many years they are retiring. We have talked with them over the past years many times and they have helped us as well as all the other chapters. We would like to thank them and wish them all the best.

**St. Patrick's Day**

We have enjoyed talking with them as much as they have enjoyed helping us publishing our newsletters. They are not leaving RUAEA, and will be seen at conventions.

We are still seeing many of our chapter members struggling with health issues and can use our prayers. Our group is getting smaller with the passing of 10 members last year. That is the most members lost in a single year. It is with sadness that we announce on January 26, 2022 the passing of longtime chapter member **Jennette Long**. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers. Again, I want to stress that many of our chapter members are having health issues. There are 3 members that have moved into Assistant Living facilities. Everything has hit us all at once. Please join the Ohio Buckeyes in prayer for all members, their family, and friends to get through this; and for a much better life in the future.

Our luncheon schedule is as follows: "January" is Never scheduled. The rest of the year, we meet on the First Wednesday of each month. The only exception is a holiday, or Ash Wednesday when we meet the second Wednesday (like March 9th, 2022 is the day). If you are ever in the Cleveland area at the time of a luncheon and would like to attend, please contact us at our email address ualohbuckeyes@gmail.com and we will set it up for you. "Yes"! - spouses, family, and friends are "Welcome". The restaurants are great, and you can't beat the company. One of the favorite places is our Annual Picnic in MetroParks at the "Chalet" in Strongsville (indoor or outdoor eating available). Always scheduled for the first Wednesday in August (August 3rd, 2022). We did have 116 attend one year, and the lowest count of 99. Retirees come from all over like Pennsylvania, Virginia, D.C./Dulles, Florida, Arizona, California, Denver, and Chicago) just to name a few. The next RUAEA Newsletter will have our schedule which will start March 9th.

We wish everyone a Safe, Healthy, and Happy 2022!

Calendar:

March 9 - The rest of the year, we meet on the First Wednesday of each month.

August 3 - The Chalet in Strongsville

OREGON

	OREGON DEW-ER'S Portland Terry Hotchkin 17308 NE 27 th Ave. Ridgefield, WA 98642 (360) 946-4750 tthotchkin@gmail.com
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Our group still has not yet been able to meet in person, since our meeting place has yet to re-opened, and with the Omicron variant raging through the country, no telling when that might be. We continue in a holding pattern.

A bit of news:

- ❖ **Inge Pempeit** is now living at Rosewood Park, an assisted living/memory care facility in Hillsboro. If anyone wishes to contact her you can send an email to her via her daughter Regina at reginape78@gmail.com.
- ❖ **Sandy Moore's** wife (**Shireen**) passed away last August. He was just getting around to notifying us. Sandy was a Ramp supervisor in PDX from 1986-2000 when he retired. We hope Sandy will join our luncheons once they resume.
- ❖ **Frank Bullis** is struggling a bit. He had a colectomy last year but was left with stage 2 cancer. Had more surgery in December. Anyone wishing to send a card should send it to him at home: 601 NW 110th Way, Vancouver, WA 98685.
- ❖ **Lois Gruenberg** reports that **Carl** had some surgery in December to improve circulation in his legs, which went well, then more surgery in January to clean up an old foot ulcer. He is healing well at the rehab unit at Mt. Angel.
- ❖ **Tom & Karon Gilles** moved back from LA to Portland in September to be closer to family, and now live in the Rose Villa Retirement Community.

And now, a little humor with a few tidbits of philosophy thrown in until I officially retire. Enjoy!

- ☺ I just fired myself from cleaning my house. I don't like my attitude & I got caught drinking on the job.
- ☺ I got to eat out recently. I told the waitress that my steak was bad. She picked it up, slapped it, put it down and said: *"if it gives you more trouble let me know!"*
- ☺ Getting older gives "Twist & Shout" a whole new meaning ...
- ☺ I have put myself in time out until I can play nice with others ... this may take a while!
- ☺ I hate it when you can't figure out something on your iPad and the resident tech expert is unavailable. Because he's 5, and he's at kindergarten.
- ☺ I am not an early bird or a night owl. I am some form of permanently exhausted pigeon.
- ☺ It's okay to fall apart sometimes – Tacos do, and we still love them!
- ☺ If you ever want to know what a creative person's mind feels like, imagine a browser with 2,857 tabs open, all the time.
- ☺ Don't get me started ... I don't come with brakes.
- ☺ Of course women don't work as hard as men ... they get it right the first time.
- ☺ I am getting really sick and tired of food having calories.
- ☺ I just saw on the news that they are suggesting that people check on the elderly. I'm usually up by 6 or 6:30. Bring donuts!
- ☺ Maybe if we start telling people that the brain is an app, they'll start using it.

- ☺ Kid: “Grandma would say yes”. Mom: “Well, it sounds like my mom is way cooler than yours.”
- ☺ Sleeping in could be my superpower if it wasn’t for my arch nemesis, having to pee.
- ☺ Seriously, when am I going to wake up with a flat stomach and 5 million dollars?
- ☺ I hate when people say, “Act like an adult”. Have you seen adults lately? That’s horrible advice.
- ☺ I don’t always walk the walk or even talk the talk, but if you ever need someone to drink the drink, I am totally there for you.
- ☺ After watching copious amounts of crime dramas, I have concluded that serial killers only kill women that wear matching bra and panty sets. I feel so much safer now!
- ☺ Maybe money can’t buy happiness, but I think it’s only fair to give me some and let me learn that lesson myself.
- ☺ After ignoring you for 20 minutes, you’d be surprised how quickly employees at Lowe’s assist you when you try to start a chainsaw.
- ☺ I’m at the age now where I can either do a daytime activity or a nighttime activity but I cannot, under any circumstance, do both.
- ☺ Have you ever just looked into a mirror and thought ... Oh, Hell no! That can’t be right!
- ☺ This morning, I accidentally changed the GPS voice to “male”. Now it just says, “It’s around here somewhere. Just keep driving.”
- ☺ I enjoy a glass of wine each night for its health benefits. The other glasses are for my witty comebacks and flawless dance moves.
- ☺ Me: “It’s not about how many times you fall. It’s about how many times you get back up.” Officer: “Yeah, that’s not how field sobriety test works.”
- ☺ I have not failed. I’ve just found 10,000 ways that won’t work.
- ☺ Counting to 10 only makes it premeditated!
- ☺ My kids used to believe my kisses healed their boo-boos. I wonder if they realize now that their hugs magically heal my heart!
- ☺ The word queue is ironic. It is just a ‘q’ with a bunch of silent letters waiting in a line.
- ☺ Sorry, I am not interested in your workout routine. I am happy just getting my leg through my underwear without falling down.
- ☺ I don’t want to say I’m old and worn out, but I make sure I’m nowhere near the curb on trash day!
- ☺ Amazon just got approved for drone delivery. We now have skeet shooting with prizes.
- ☺ I’ve concluded that I have a memory like an Etch-A-Sketch ... I shake my head and forget everything!
- ☺ Ever notice when geese fly in a V formation, one side is always longer than the other? This is because there are more geese on that side.
- ☺ I rescue books trapped in the bookstore. I am not

a hoarder; I am a hero!

- ☺ I am grateful that no matter how much chocolate I eat, my earrings will still fit.
- ☺ Procrastination is totally a good thing. You always have something to do tomorrow, plus you have nothing to do today. It’s a win: win!
- ☺ Did you know there are more airplanes under water than submarines in the air?
- ☺ I replaced my litter box with an Amazon box. Now, when it is full, I just tape it shut and put it on my porch for someone to steal.


Calendar:

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

PENNSYLVANIA

	<p><u>THE INDEPENDENTS</u> Philadelphia, PA Joyce W. Lindenmuth Wesley Enhanced Living 100 Halcyon Dr., Room C-107 Media, PA 19063 (610) 521-2291 joycewildenmuth@gmail.com</p>
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There is no report this month from the Independents chapter of RUAEA.

	<p><u>PITTSBURGH</u> <u>PIT-STOPPERS</u> Bill Chicots 2419 Rochester Road Sewickley, PA. 15143 (412) 352-7375 firechief158@gmail.com</p>
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Submitted by Mary Jane Stewart

I recently heard from **Marilyn Marcy** about the passing of **Marguerite Carey**, the wife of **Al Carey**. Margie and Al started together at United on April 1, 1950.

Many of us worked with Al, who was the Reservations Manager in both Pittsburgh and Cleveland Reservation. I was reminded that Al was a World War II Bomber Pilot. Margie’s obituary described her as adventuresome. In addition to her life with Al, she was an Independent Trip Director traveling internationally and on Cruises. I will always remember her dignity and poise. She will be missed most of all by her lifelong friends **Tom & Marilyn Marcy**.

We have had a mild winter up until 3 weeks ago, then we had a weekend storm which dropped about 6” of snow

in most areas. It turned cold with lows around 0° with highs in the low teens. Just this past week, it warmed up and started raining Wednesday evening through Thursday evening, then turning to ice; most areas got between ¼” and ½” of ice through Friday; late morning turning to snow with most areas getting 3”- 5”, now it is turning cold again. Thank you Punxsutawney Phil!

February Birthdays ~ **Kay Yauch, Ted Polinski and Jack Tinney.**

TENNESSEE




TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS
 Carolyn Hartshorn
 5957 Warrenpark Lane
 Knoxville, TN 37912
 Home (865) 951-1198
 Cell (303) 886-9537
carolynhartshorn@aol.com

There is no report this month from the Tennessee Rocky Tops chapter of RUAEA.

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


UTAH



SALT LAKE RETIREES
 Rich Papworth
pappys72@hotmail.com

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


WASHINGTON



EMERALD CITY SLICKERS
 Seattle, WA
 Kathie Torgison
email4torgy@aol.com

The Omicron variant is still running rampant in the area so most of us are double masking and not gathering indoors with groups. That means continuing our pause in chapter meetings. As mentioned last month, our main focus is aiming for an outdoor picnic in the summer, similar to the last time we met in August 2021.


Sadly, we've lost 3 UA colleagues recently: **Tom McManus** (SEACS, SEAOO), **Vi Lou Gray** (SEARR) and **Jim Hirning** (SEAKQ). **Tom McManus** was a beloved CSR and great passenger-planner for 36 years at SEA and was married to **Vannie Ng** of SEARR. Those of us who worked the gates always relied on Tom's expertise and gentle manner. **Vi Lou Gray** came to SEARR from CLERR in 1990 and retired after 9/11. Although she worked exclusively over the phone, Vi Lou never was one to shy away from flamboyant colors and styles! **Jim Hirning** worked behind the scenes keeping Apollo and Unimatic systems running for SEARR. Jim met his wife **Sylvia Urquidi**, who worked on the Apollo Help Desk at SEARR in the 1980's. All these folks will be sorely missed.



LILAC CITY FLYERS
 Sharon Holmes
 5120 N. Riblet View Lane
 Spokane, WA 99212
 (509) 924.4959 (H)
 (509) 953.5088 (C)
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

Our January luncheon was attended by only 16 people; the weather in the D.C. area has been quite cold and only the hardiest amongst us were inclined to battle the freezing temperatures and forge on. We missed those who did not join us, but had a wonderful time with our small group. Because of the smaller group, this was solely a social gathering. We dispensed with the usual formalities including the 50/50 drawing. We did distribute a few gift certificates for free appetizers, as door prizes, from Glory Days Sports Grille in Reston, VA.

We have had a great relationship with Glory Days for many years. They have regularly provided us with discount coupons. Twice they have catered our end-of-year (June) party at a great price and fabulous food. Clipped

Wings was also welcomed for a meeting there with generous perks and great service. We are so appreciative to have the sponsorship of this marvelous chain of restaurants. I am especially proud of the relationship we have developed with the manager, (Head Coach) Wali Ghouse. He and his staff can always be counted on for a friendly reception, great service and mouth-watering food.

January luncheon attendees:



Above Picture - Left to right: **Marie Libby, Tammy Alvarez, Judy Dunlap, Mari McColl, Everett Alvarez, and Dick Libby.**



Above Picture - Left to right: **Hank Heuser, Kerrie Schneider, Dutch Schneider, Mike O'Meara, Faye O'Meara, Sharon Wright, Bob O'Roark and Tom Melgaard.** Missing from this picture are **Jon Beckett**, our chapter photographer because he left before I took this picture. Also missing is **Gale Heuser**, a very valuable member. Gale is missing because our photographer had left, leaving the photography to an amateur. Gale was sitting next to her husband Hank.

We had two guests at this luncheon: **Tammy & Everett Alvarez.** **Tammy Ilyas** (IADPSR) was a Red Carpet UAL employee before there was a Red Carpet Club. One bright day, Tammy was assigned to meet a flight bringing in **Everett Alvarez**, the longest held Prisoner of War in Viet Nam. That was the beginning of a lifelong love affair which included marriage. At a future date (TBA) they will give a formal presentation to our chapter regarding their two very fascinating life stories.

Last month, many of our members (along with many members of the public-at-large) had planned to attend a stage presentation by **Angela Knight.** Angela, as most of you know, is a very accomplished opera singer. She has starred and appeared on Broadway, and more recently at the Kennedy Center. This musical is based on the life of Princess Diana. Unfortunately, the show was cancelled

due to increment weather. With great joy, I am announcing that the show has been rescheduled for March 27th at 2:00 and 7:00 pm at Hill School in Middleburg, VA. There are still some tickets available for the price of \$25 for the matinee and \$75 for the later show which will include a wine and cheese reception. I have tickets in my possession if you are interested, (703) 731-5281. It will be worth your travel time.

Henry Heuser has a great deal of first hand information regarding hearing aids from Costco. He is very happy with the ones he purchased. The price was \$1,500, top of the line and totally covered by our Aetna Advantage policy. It also comes with some very valuable perks such as free replacement for a lost hearing aid. In this day and age of putting on and taking off masks, this is **big.** Also, they clean the aids and replace the covers, free of charge, every 3 months. He is extremely happy with the sound. Many of us in our industry have been aware, for many years, of hearing loss from our proximity to the roaring engines of those big beautiful jets of ours. We do not know how long our insurance will bless us with this coverage. Take advantage of it now and once again enjoy the ability to hear the conversations around you. There are other plans and providers out there, but this one comes highly recommended.

Our meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Please join us at the Golden Corral @ 10801 Bullock Drive in Manassas, Virginia. We gather at 11:30 am, and look forward to seeing you there. Until then, stay warm and safe.

NATIONAL

	<p><u>CLIPPED WINGS</u> Barbara Dunkelman Clipped Wings Vice President barbdunkelman310@gmail.com</p>
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Dear RUAEA,

As I write this month's newsletter to you, I am still in Florida. When you receive it, I will have returned to Pennsylvania where it is still quite cold.

One good thing about this cold dreary month is that Daylight Savings Time begins March 13th; for some reason when I know that is happening I seem to feel better knowing that spring is right around the corner. This spring, Ash Wednesday is early and will be observed on March 2nd. We then have St. Patrick's Day on the 17th. It is always fun to see what things will turn "green", including the Chicago River! Let's hope the Luck of the Irish is with all of us.

We are very happy as our membership is still growing and we now have 997 members. That is such an impressive number! Thanks to all of you who have introduced new members to our organization.

We had our Executive Board meeting recently, and plans are really coming along for our Portland Convention. Please make sure to mark your calendars for August 31st - September 3rd.

A friend recently sent this to me and I thought I would share it to all of you.

A Little Poem for Seniors.

*Another year has passed
And we're all a little older.
Last summer felt hotter
And winter seems much colder.
There was a time not long ago
When life was quite a blast.
Now I fully understand
About 'living in the Past'
We used to go to weddings,
Football games and lunches.
Now we go to funeral homes
And after-funeral brunches.
We used to go out dining,
And couldn't get our fill.
Now we ask for doggie bags,
Come home and take a pill.
We used to often travel
To places near and far.
Now we get sore asses
From riding in the car.
We used to go to nightclubs
And drink a little booze.
Now we stay home at night
And watch the evening news.
That my friend it how life is,
And now my tale is told.
So enjoy each day and live it up ...
Before you're too damned old!*

If you know any former or current UAL/CAL Flight Attendants that would like more information about Clipped Wings, they can find us at www.unitedclippedwingsinc.org. We are a fun group even when we are apart and Zooming.■

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



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 2022**:

Angelos, Pete, DENMM, 12632 Tamarac St., Thornton, CO 80602

Duffy, Patrick, 921 Via Gandalfi, Henderson, NV 89011
Murphy, Roberta, WHQWH, 38127 N. Bolton Pl., Antioch, IL 60002

Slater, Carol, SFOLM, 131 Sea Ranch, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

Young, Susan, WHQFM, 204 Dublin Ln., X1, Schaumburg, IL 60194■



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 2022**:

Mary Agbayani, Amparo A. Arriola, Edward T. Barrett, Gary W. Bartlett, Donald D. Boyer, Mary G. Brennan, Edward A. Carnes, Carol J. Cersosimo, Joseph M. Donnelly, William A. Engler, Jeannie Evans, Alice Feng, Janice F. Foster, Travis E. Glass, Robert Goetz, Henry Gosselin, Carl L. Gruenberg, Helene L. Guay, G. Joseph Heinen, James L. Hernandez, Vicky Heuer, Barrie Hoo-ley, R. Lee Johnson, Agnes J. Jones, Linda L. Keim, Jean M. Kerman, Larry A. Knaub, Donna Kopec, William J. Krainak, Nadine Kramer, Arnold E. Lakso, Joan P. Lane, Frank Leo, Frank .P McAnulty, Linda McCormack, Thomas H. McLean, Edward F. McMartin, Edward J. Meyer, Lacides Miranda, Alan Morishita, Roberta Murphy, Irene Nightingale Nettler, Rollo G. Opp, Donald E. Park, Marlene Proch, Ronald E. Pryer, Margaret A. Rodehorst, Eugene R. Rollins, Elizabeth Roman, Patricia J. Schultz, Janet Soderstrom, John M. Soja, Carol Suminski, Patricia Ann Thomson, Theodore Tollefsen, Mary E. (Betty) Tomaino, Michael Vasko, Virginia L. Vlach, Homer E. Warner, Paul D. Weatherford, Judy Ann Wika, John M. Wiser, David Zane.■

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, 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.

Correction: In the last issue (February 2022) we listed **Renee Prost**, wife of **Raymond Prost** as deceased. In error, we listed **Raymond Prost** also deceased, he is alive and should have been listed as surviving spouse. We apologize for the error.

Spouse – **de la Mater, Esmee**, on 6/27/2021, wife of Lyall Davies de la Mater, DENTK (deceased), 4163 S. Pearl St., Englewood, CO 80113

Retiree – **Ferris, Richard J.**, on 1/16/2022, EXOHR, husband of Kelsey K. Ferris, 9754 Green Island CV, Windermere, FL 34786. Note: Richard was United Airlines CEO 1979 - 1987

Retiree – **Franco, Pedro**, on 1/8/2022, ORDJL, husband of Lidia Franco, 1250 W. Central Rd., Apt. 243, Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Spouse – **Fudge, Ann P.**, on 11/27/2021, wife of George K. Fudge, ORDMM (deceased), 218 Maxon Ln., Streamwood, IL 60107

Spouse – **Graham, Colleen**, on 1/28/2022, wife of Gerald (Gerry GG) Graham D., DENMM, 408 Scranton St., Aurora, CO 80011

Retiree – **Hacke, Carl E.**, on 2/1/2022, DENFF, husband of Sandra R Hacke, 21740 E. Heritage Parkway, Aurora, CO 80016

Retiree – **Ogle, Harold W.**, on 1/23/2022, EXOAU, cousin to Carlton & Judy Hibbert, 1071 South Moorings Dr., Apt. 5311, Arlington Hts., IL 60005

Retiree – **Schimke, Robbin (Rob) L.**, on 12/7/2021, ORDFF, husband of Linda Lance, 254 23 W. Columbia Bay Drive, Lake Villa, IL 60046■

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

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

Michelle Abbey, Ranelle Brandt, Jerry Breed, Edward Carnes, William Engler, Peter Gayford, Helene Guay, Gail Harris, Barrie Hooley, Christel Ilg, R. L. Johnson, Susanne Johnson, Agnes Jones, William Kinson Jr, Donna Kopeck, Frank Leo, Richard Libby. Teresa McNamara, Rollo Opp, Donald Park, Gary Peters, Ron Pryer, 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

Thank you for your notice.

I retired from United Airlines in 2001 after 42½ years in PDX.

Eventually Jerri and I moved to Historic Astoria, Oregon, where the Lewis and Clark Corp of Discovery Expedition wintered over in 1905.

Luckily, I am still able to certify to drive our 114 yr old River Front Trolley.

Come visit Astoria with so much history. But bring your raincoat!



Marguerite Burg, 15791 Prentiss Pointe Circle, Apt. 102, Fort Myers, FL 33908

I want to thank **Veronica & Francis Domaratius** for all their years of service to the RUAEA Newsletter. After all their dedication, they deserve some free time. Many others continue to give of their time and talent to keep RUAEA going. The group, as a whole, is fortunate that so many are willing to volunteer.

The article by **George Midwin**, "On the Road With Julie", in the February newsletter, was fun to read. I'm sure Julie, despite all her misgivings, was happy to be by George's side in his quest to find California landmarks.

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

My husband and I enjoy and read every word of the newsletter. Thank you for the great job everyone does to keep all of us informed. Stay well and Happy 2022, may it be a better year for all.

Arlene Shabino, 12344 Chippewa Trl., Culver, IN 46511

Sorry this is late. I had thought it was taken care of around Ken's birthday. Thank you for the reminder.

Ken is in his 10th year of coping with Parkinson's. So this leaves me with all of the correspondence responsibilities. We do still enjoy the Newsletter. Thanks for keeping it going.

Notes

William Courtney

Any really smart people know anything about this or how to read it. The text below is what I found on Google.

When the Wright brothers first took to the air in 1903, there was no need for coding airports since an airport was literally any convenient field with a strong wind. However, the National Weather Service did tabulate data from cities around the country using a two-letter identification system.

Early airlines simply copied this system, but as airline service exploded in the 1930's, towns without weather station codes needed identification. Some bureaucrat had a brainstorm and the three-letter system was born, giving a seemingly endless 17,576 different combinations. To ease the transition, many existing airports placed an X after the weather station code. The Los Angeles tag became LAX in 1947, Portland became PDX, Phoenix became PHX and so on. Incidentally at the historic sand dune in Kitty Hawk where the first flight occurred the US National Parks Service maintains a tiny airstrip called FFA—First Flight Airport.

Interesting clock. However, by the time you figured out the time, you probably missed your plane. I simply



bought a cheap Timex watch that gives you the time in all 25 worldwide time zones.

My son found this at the OAK terminal. He asked me if I could read it. I said, "Of course I can, it's 12:43."

Anyway, that's not what he wanted. He wanted to know what all the other stuff was. Anybody know what airport identifiers were before the universal 3 letters we use now?

Travis E. Glass

I appreciate your fine team and look forward each month to the publications. I have included a small amount for the postage of our great monthly issue.

Mary E. (Betty) Tomaino

Thank you Veronica & Francis for all your hard work on our Newsletter for so many years.

Thomas H. McLean

I have been lucky to remain healthy over the last couple years. I am planning to do some traveling this year. Got all my shots, so I'm raring to go.

Joan R. McNab

I take care of my family; my daughter who has gotten sick within the past five years with Lyme disease and several co-infections; she is bed ridden and has a feeding tube. We have seen numerous doctors around the US looking for treatment.

I also ride my horse Bella in dressage. I have met wonderful people working for the Airlines and travel has always been my passion. To experience other countries and people through travel, one enriches their life.

Marlene Proch

Thank you for all the wonderful work you do to put this newsletter together.

Janet Soderstrom

I hired on with United in 1968 right out of college. I started at DTWRR, transferred to SFORR in 1974, and took the big buyout in 1984. Those were the "good old days" when flying was fun and glamorous. Going standby was usually not a problem. Passengers dressed up to fly and behaved themselves in airports and on flights. In-flight meals were good in coach and gourmet in first class. Stewardesses (now flight attendants) wore dresses and suits created by famous designers.

After I left United, I missed my travel benefits terribly, and I still do. I have stayed in touch with some of my UAL friends all these years. When I joined the East Bay

Diablos RUAEA chapter about eight years ago, I have rekindled some SFORR friendships.

Irene Nightingale Nettler

I loved viewing the photos from the recent convention. I wish sometime a convention would be held on the East Coast. Montpelier, Vermont is difficult to travel from and connect to.

Edward J. Meter

RUAEA has always been a well-run organization and a great source of information for us retirees. We have enjoyed the Newsletter and Conventions over the years. All of this is a credit to the hard-working volunteers both past and present.

Now we can only hope and pray that this pandemic goes away so our social lives can return to normal.

Henry Gosselin

RUAEA means lot to me, as I have been a member since 2000. I have been a VP of Conventions - Vice President and President for two terms. I am now the VP of Conventions and planning a Convention in San Diego for 2022. Wonderful organization and outstanding members.

Mary Agbavani

I just updated my new address.

Gabrielle I. Dentravgues

Thanks for all your hard work.

Elizabeth Roman

Hello, I'm a United retiree and would love to connect with F/A's who live in the city (Chicago). It would be nice to get together over coffee and just see how all are doing during these challenging times. Thank you.

Linda L. Keim

We're doing well enough in this Covid era. Unfortunately 2021 was a year of loss for some of us. Our dear friends **Pete & Marion Mason** both passed away within 8 weeks of each other. Pete retired from DENRR and was widely known for his teaching/training abilities. They will both be missed.

Ron & I are staying pretty close to home these days. He'll be 89 in May and I'm on the brink of 77. With Covid around, traveling isn't in the cards. We're actually quite content in our home in Fruita, CO, which is a town of 14,000 on the western slope. Small town living is so much less stressful for us. Let's hope 2022 brings better times. Thanks to all of you for keeping us informed in these difficult days. ■



The Contact Column



Updated 11/2021

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 (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>

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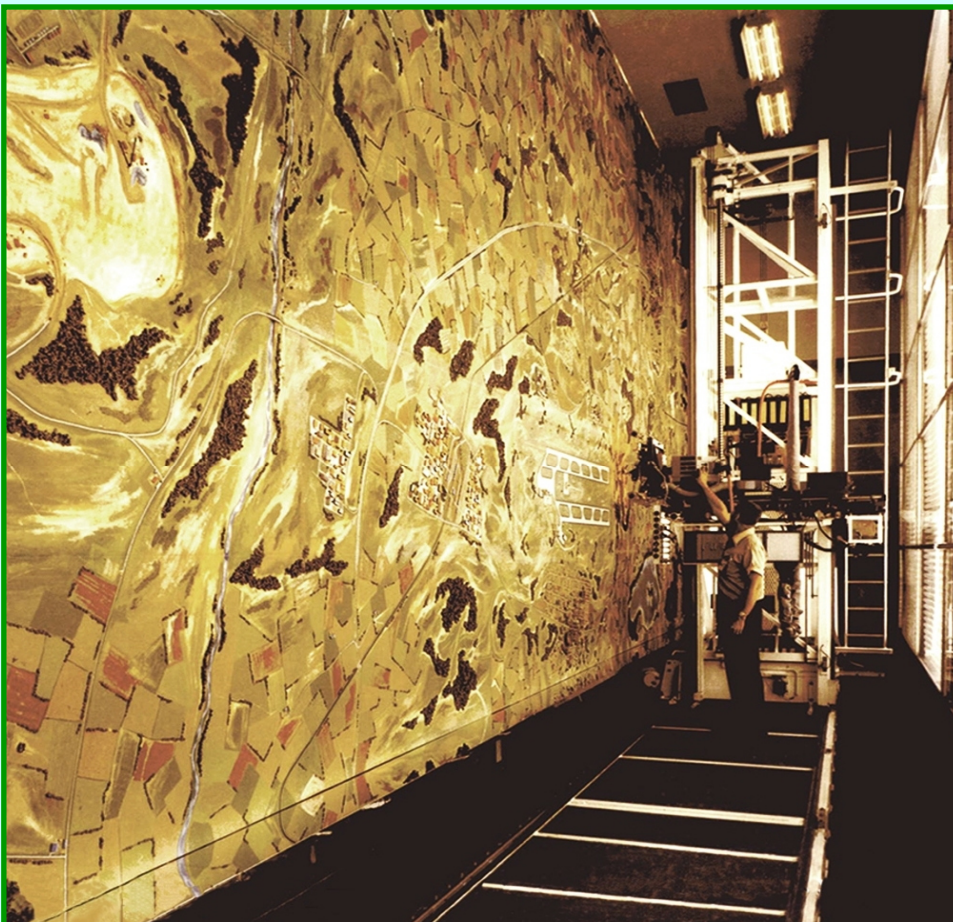
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A closed circuit TV system was part of the DC-8 Flight Simulator which Link Aviation installed at DENTK.

The system included an accurately scaled 3-D model of terrain and an airport. A camera mounted on a track parallel to the model displayed a picture on the DC-8 simulator screen.

Movement of the camera was synchronized with the speed, altitude and direction as determined by the pilot's use of controls.

Specifications of the training aid were developed by Douglas Aircraft Company.

The equipment was known as the Link Visual System, Mark IV.

By Marvin Berryman DENTK Retired.

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