



# Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

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



ISSUE NO. 617

JANUARY 2026



## *Fun times at RUAEA 2025 Denver Reunion*



*Mike Webb in 1st officer seat in simulator*



*Judy & Ken Decker  
Denver Flight Training Center*



*Rosalie Tripicchio, Patricia Borys and  
Lynn Hagele*



*Lyle & Louise Auerbach*



# GENERAL NEWS

## Letter From The President



I hope that you all have either had or are planning a great Holiday, depending on when you receive the Newsletter.

Some of you know that I live in Colorado, on the western slope and we have just received our first snowfall of the season, unusually late, but welcomed for the moisture is sadly needed. It feels as if we have jumped from a mild end of summer into winter, as temperatures drop into the low 20's and high teens each night, completely skipping fall. The change seems pretty quick, but is necessary to enable the seasons to continue moving through to the highly anticipated renewal of spring. Much like our lives continue to change and the older we get the faster it seems to happen

In my last note for the Newsletter, I spoke about the challenges of RUAEA, declining membership, increasing operating cost and that the board will be working on how to address the elephant in the room, what changes need to be made to ensure the sustainability of RUAEA. The Executive Board will begin meeting in January, and hopefully on a monthly basis as we plan out going forward. Stay tuned, check the Newsletter and Website for updates.

In looking back, I cannot believe that the first year of my term has already passed by, that being said my term is for 2 years ending in December of this year. If you are interested in taking part in the leadership of RUAEA, feel free to reach out to me or one of the other board members for more information, about any of the elected positions.

Take care,

**Ruth Morabito**  
**RUAEA President**

## 2026 RUAEA Reunion Hotel Reservation



RUAEA 2026 Reunion Hotel Reservation at the Holiday Inn Intercontinental Airport in Houston (15222 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Houston, TX 77032) is now available. You can now reserve your hotel room using one of the following three options:

1. Scan the attached QR code with your smart device (phone, tablet, etc.)
2. Use the link <https://bit.ly/482SrRi>
3. Call the Holiday Inn Hotel reservations

department at (800) 465-4329 and mention Group Block Name "RUAEA September 2026" and Group Block Code "RUA".



The contract is for 2 persons per room and breakfast for 2, at \$109.00 per room night plus tax. If other accommodations are needed, i.e. more per room or a Handicapped room, please identify those needs when making reservations. The rate is good from September 25<sup>th</sup> - October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

The hotel provides free Airport transportation every 30 minutes. Hotel parking is free and with your Reunion Badge, a 15% discount is applied to meals at the Blue Dixie Restaurant, located in the hotel.

Please note that this is the Hotel Reservation and it does not include the Reunion Registration. Reunion Registration will be available in June 2026.

Please plan on joining us, RUAEA Members, RUPA Members, ARECA Members, along with members of Clipped Wings and RAFA; family and friends all are welcome. However, the first step is to register at the hotel, which helps us in our planning activities.

We hope to see many of you there.

**United Airlines and Travelport Announce Long-Term  
Strategic Relationship to Accelerate Modern Airline Retailing  
December 2, 2025**



United Airlines and Travelport have entered into a strategic relationship that represents a new model of collaboration between an airline and a multi-source content provider.

This marks a significant evolution from the traditional airline-distributor relationship, with teams from both companies working closely together to enable new capabilities and functionality for agency and corporate buying communities.

Through this deal, Travelport will gain early access to United's NDC technology roadmap and co-development opportunities, helping to ensure travel counselors benefit from the most sophisticated merchandising tools in the marketplace.

*"Our new model for cooperation with Travelport helps ensure that United's travel agencies and corporate buyers benefit from the most innovative retail travel solutions available,"* said Andrew Nocella, Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer of United Airlines. *"Together, we're setting a new standard for transparency, flexibility, and value in air travel distribution."*

*"This long-term relationship with United Airlines marks a major milestone in accelerating airline retailing for agencies and corporations,"* said Greg Webb, Chief Executive Officer of Travelport. *"By combining United's advanced NDC capabilities with Travelport's next-generation platform, we're delivering richer content, better service solutions, and more choice for all our customers worldwide."*

**Early Access, Co-Development and Online Booking Tool Extras** ~ Travelport will receive early access to United's innovative NDC-enabled extras with teams working together to co-develop new features and bring them to market rapidly.

***Technical Cooperation:*** United and Travelport will work together on a deeper level of technical collaboration than traditional airline-distributor relationships, with dedicated development resources focused on creating new capabilities specifically for Travelport+, a modern retailing platform built for travel agencies that provides an all-in-one solution with faster search, better content, and built-in automation.

***Accelerated Innovation:*** Through Travelport+, the relationship has an ability to accelerate the deployment of new features and functionality to travel agencies and corporate buyers.

***Priority Development:*** United prioritizes development efforts with third parties who can move the fastest and bring innovations to market successfully, with Travelport serving as a key strategic partner.

***Online Booking Tool Extras:*** United will bring its portfolio of Online Booking Tool (OBT) extras to Travelport's Deem OBT platform. Over time, this inclusion will introduce several new customer-friendly capabilities, including the ability to pool unused United travel credits, directly enroll in the United MileagePlus® loyalty program, use United Jetstream amenity funds as a form-of-payment for ancillary purchases, and more. OBT extras will also be available in Travelport+ to bring the functionality to travel counselors.

The collaboration will be implemented in phases, with initial capabilities launching in early 2026 and additional features rolling out throughout the year. United will deploy specialized support teams to assist travel agencies during the transition, including enhanced NDC capabilities to ensure smoother adoption of new technologies and maximize the value agencies may receive from the relationship.

This multi-year deal reflects both organizations' commitment to modernizing airline retailing while supporting the vital role that travel agencies and travel management companies play in the industry.

**United CEO to employees: "You have come together to take care of our customers"  
November 11, 2025**



United team:

I am writing to thank you for your extraordinary performance over the last several days.

Last week's FAA directive to cut flights during the government shutdown, which we supported, came without much notice and our team sprang into action – by the end of the day Thursday we had already cut hundreds of flights scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. And many of you worked through the weekend as we planned additional cuts

for this week.

We acted quickly and strategically, while keeping safety a top priority. And we gave our customers as much notice and flexibility as possible knowing the circumstances were ever-changing.

We decided early on to focus on doing what's right for customers and crews without worrying about the expense or short-term financial impact. That meant that United was the first (and in many cases, the only) airline to implement customer friendly policies like:

- ▲ Publish our cancellations on a dedicated site - [United.com/GovShutdown](https://www.united.com/GovShutdown) – and update it on a rolling, three-day basis. That gave our customers a real-time resource to help them plan.
- ▲ Proactive, advance notifications to customers of alternative flights, using our award-winning app to tell people if their flight changed and to offer rebooking options.
- ▲ And we offered every customer – whether their flight was cancelled or not – the opportunity to get a refund (even if they had purchased a nonrefundable ticket).

Most importantly, these policies were complemented and amplified by our frontline teams. Their instinct to be open, direct and transparent with our customers - before their trip, at the airport, and onboard – and offer a helping hand at every step along their journey made all the difference.

And here's the proof: while this weekend had more FAA staffing triggers than any day in history - Saturday alone saw more than 7,500 industry delays nationwide - the past week also produced our fourth, fifth and sixth highest NPS days of the entire year and among the top 25 NPS days since 2022! It's extraordinary that some of our best NPS days of the past four years came during one of the most operationally disruptive weeks of 2025.

It's clear that the way that you have come together to take care of our customers has made an impact and is a genuine reflection of Good Leads The Way.

Thank you for all you've done during the longest government shutdown in history to take care of our customers and one another.

I've never been prouder to be on this team with all of you.

Scott

### **From The Executive Vice President** **United Airlines Denver Flight Training Center**



During the RUAEA Reunion held in Denver, attendees had the opportunity to tour the United Flight Training Center. It is located directly across the street from the Reunion Hotel. The site was once part of the Stapleton airport, which could no longer accommodate the ever-increasing flights and was closed. Despite the closing of this airport and construction of the Denver International Airport some fourteen miles away, the training facility remained. Throughout the years, the center has grown, doubling in size from just two buildings to four large buildings; to date, the cost for the center exceeds ½ billion dollars. For those of you that did not attend the Reunion, this will provide you a summary of what we learned about this amazing place during the tour.



Located essentially in the middle of the city, surrounded by houses, hotels and shopping malls, there is no indication what these four buildings contain. Aside from a small United sign on the entrance with the globe logo, one would not have the slightest idea what takes place within. However, once you enter, you quickly realize that this is not an average United facility. The lobby is ultra-modern, and you feel that you are in a very special place. The facility is the only training facility for all our pilots, but also one of two used to train our flight attendants, the other being in Houston. Additionally, some of the 1,350 employees assigned there, write, maintain and update the flight operations manuals.

Originally constructed in 1968 with 16, state of the art simulators, 6 more were added in 1992, and an additional 10 added in 1997. During the years that followed, more simulators were added, bringing the total in 2025, to 86. There are two types of simulators used, fixed and full motion. The 34 Fixed Training Devices (FTD's) are simulators that give a true feeling of flying when looking out the cockpit windows. There are 52 Full Motion Simulators (FFS), which provide full range of motion. Both have the capability to have airports from around the world displayed on the cockpit windows. The display provides an extremely detailed and very realistic view of not only the airport but cities, mountains and other details. Additionally, the simulators can provide communication from air traffic control. Aside from the captain and co-pilot seats, simulators have seats



for observers, such as FAA inspectors and of course the training instructor. The instructor has during the 4-hour simulator session, control of various functions. These include shutting down engines, inducing electrical issues and water landing, to name just a few. Thus, training pilots to handle a variety of emergency procedures.

Having the opportunity to sit in an Airbus A320 flight simulator was the highlight of the tour. You feel as if you were truly flying. Although it was not a full motion simulator, it was difficult to just sit still as the aircraft makes you feel like you were taking off, climbing and turning. I almost felt that I needed to ensure my 'seat belt was securely fastened'. Being able to take hold of the side stick controller, taxi and take off was the experience of a lifetime. Fortunately, there were no passengers aboard our flight as the takeoff was a bit squirrely, but I did manage to get it in the air and fly over New York. Understandably, we were given just a short time and the flight ended simply by turning off the simulator, which was a shock to the body.

The United Training Center provides the best possible training for new pilots and the 17,000 current pilots; training for more than 300 new hires monthly and 6-month recurrent training at the rate of over 1,000 active pilots daily. Training takes place 362 days of the year, closing only for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year. The simulators are used 20 hours each day, from 6AM to 2AM. Each day, 4 hours are set aside for maintenance of these \$18-25 million dollar simulators. Annual training cost averages ¼ billion dollars.

Although a large portion of the training center is focused on pilot training, space in the facility is dedicated to flight attendant training. An emergency escape cabin simulator, resembling the interior of an aircraft and can go completely dark, with simulated smoke, all the while, rotating. There is an emergency slide training section, water flotation and raft room; training room for each of the various types of cabin doors and galleys, for our entire fleet of aircraft. During the tour, we also were able to see the training module being used to train flight attendants on the new FAA mandated cockpit security door and process. Although not all the flight attendant training area was visited, we certainly saw enough to understand the level of training they receive, to ensure the safety of our passengers.

Jack Cronan, our tour guide, a pilot and instructor himself, was ever so knowledgeable and exhibited the professionalism and pride in our company that the training center has provided him. Also of note was the friendship exhibited by each person we encountered. You were truly in the "friendly skies."

The United flight training center is the largest in the world, ensuring that the largest airline in the world receives the finest training possible. Walking this massive facility and viewing the most technological flight training simulators made you proud to have had the opportunity to have worked for United.

### **The Writer's Column – Udvar-Hazy Air & Space Center** **By Janet Baltas - SFOSW**



Whether you come for a visit or live in the DC area, a visit to the Smithsonian's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Center (UHC) in Chantilly, Virginia, allows one to admire the beauty of Concorde, the world's first supersonic transport (SST).

While studies started in the early 1950's to form a committee to study supersonic transport, it wasn't until 1962 that France and the UK signed a treaty establishing their development project. Construction began in 1962 with the first flight taking off in

1969.

In total, four countries would get into building SST's: Great Britain, France, United States and Russia. In 1973, when Russia's version of the SST - a Tupolev Tu-144 - crashed at the Paris Air Show, they pulled out of the SST project altogether. In the United States, Boeing and General Electric could only come up with 10% of the money needed resulting in them having to ask the government for the remaining 90% which would be paid back via royalty payments for each production airplane sold. While Boeing went to D.C with their "hat in their hand" for money, the British and French in 1962 built their SST, Concorde, jointly rather than two countries building the same airplane. Concorde would go on to seat 100 passengers and fly at Mach 2 while Boeing's SST would hold 298 passengers and fly at Mach 2.7. At that load and speed, Boeing's SST would have produced twice the seat miles per hour as a 747 and would equal the seat mile cost of the 747. By 1969, Concorde had only 74 orders from 16 airlines while Boeing had 122 SSTs on order from 26 airlines; so far, so good.

One of the "perks" I've experienced being a docent at UHC since it opened in 2003 on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wright Brothers first flight is that I've met many visitors who've had interesting experiences and/or occupations. The following was told to me by John Swihart, who was a major player in the following 1970

incident. After being a B-29 pilot in WWII, he went to work for Boeing and as an executive was later tasked with going to Washington, DC with his “hat in his hand” to garner financial support for the 90% Boeing and GE needed for their project. When his presentation was over, he was enthusiastically offered support and congratulations by all the senators except for one, Senator John Cooper of Kentucky. After questioning John for 45 minutes, Senator Cooper said that it was a great presentation and that the USA needed an SST, however, there was no way he could vote for the program because, “Your Senator Magnuson from Washington introduced the Senate bill that put the health hazard sign on cigarette packages and I’m from a tobacco producing state”. Boeing lost by three votes and this action helped pave the way for the killing of the SST program in the US. Say goodbye to United Airline’s six SSTs that we had on order.

With Boeing’s SST hopes dashed, along with the winding down of the Apollo program, and the ongoing Vietnam war, Seattle took a major financial hit. Boeing cut 60,000 jobs. One billboard even had a message for, “The last person leaving Seattle to turn off the lights”.

This left just British Airways (BA) and Air France (AF) in the game and in 1976, Concorde made its debut with simultaneous takeoffs. BA flew to Bahrain while AF flew to Rio de Janeiro. Flying at an altitude of 55,000 to 60,000 feet at Mach 2 (about 1,350 mph), it carried 100 passengers. Normal flight time from Heathrow to JFK was 7 to 8 hours; Concorde flew it in 3 hours 30 minutes with the fastest flight time being 2 hours 52 minutes in 1996. I always like to tell visitors on my tour that passengers were essentially buying time; you’d take off from Paris and arrive in New York three hours younger! Here’s a good visual for you: With simultaneous takeoffs they had a race between an Air France 747 flying from Paris to Boston and an Air France Concorde flying from Boston to Paris. After passing each other over the Atlantic, the Concorde landed in Paris, refueled, and after sitting on the ground for 68 minutes, flew back to Boston passing the 747 that was still on its way to Boston. Final Score: After crossing the Atlantic twice, Concorde landed in Boston 10 minutes before the Boston bound 747 landed after just one single Atlantic crossing.

On July 25, 2000, Air France suffered the first and only crash of an SST. After a Newark-bound Continental Airlines DC-10 left a 17” x 1” rogue strip of titanium on the runway, Concorde ran over it. This resulted in tires being punctured with the disintegrating tires being thrown up into the wheel well severing wires. This caused a shock wave that fractured the fuel tank and ignited fuel resulting in a catastrophic fire. This resulted in a crash that killed all 100 passengers, 9 crew, and 4 people on ground.

All SSTs were grounded for 13 months with a “return to service” flight scheduled for September 11, 2001. Flying from Heathrow it was over the mid-Atlantic when the World Trade Center attacks happened and was turned back to Heathrow. Even though it was scheduled to return to full service later that week, 9/11 proved to be the proverbial “final nail in the coffin” for Concorde. I was stunned to learn that in the collapse of the World Trade Centers, Concorde lost 50% of their frequent fliers. Many were those who didn’t fly on Concorde but had the authority to sign off for underlings to fly on Concorde. And after 9/11, the very wealthy went to private aircraft. In 2003, BA and AF announced they were retiring their Concorde’s citing low passenger numbers following the 2000 crash, the air travel slump after 9/11, and rising maintenance costs.

### **The Writer’s Column – Mechanic Caricatures** **By Francis Domaratius**

I had worked on the DC-8 heavy maintenance visit (HMV) in dock 7 as a paint mechanic before going into the Air Force in 1966. The DC-8 HMV was accomplished in one week, 6 to 7 days in 1966. When I came back after my time in the Air Force, I was assigned to work the DC-8 HMV in Dock 3 as a paint mechanic. There were some caricatures displayed upon entering Dock 3 of the skills that were used during the heavy maintenance visit. These caricatures were not in dock 7 when I went into the Air Force. The mechanic caricatures were of fuel, general mechanic, sheet-metal, hydraulics, radio electrician, rigging, engine, cabin, paint and cockpit mechanics.

After watching all the mechanics for decades performing in the skills that they were proficient in, I saw a vague similarity to a different profession, the Physician. The mechanics worked on vehicles and the surgeons worked on human beings. The sheet metal mechanics worked on metal skins and structures. The dermatologist physician worked on human being skins. The orthopedic physician worked with the human living structures. Electricians and cockpit mechanics worked with what was connected with wires, cables and several other

systems the neurologist worked on, the central nervous system. The hydraulics Mechanic reminded me of a vascular physician. The general mechanic worked the entire aircraft and reminded me of the General Physician.

During the HMV visit, the aircraft could be hot electrically and could have fuel in the wing tanks. As the days go by, parts of the A/C would move. The aircraft could be flapping its wings, extending the gear for a landing. The first time I saw the rudder move immediately, it was more than eye opening. United had designed a panel so that the cockpit mechanic could energize or de-energize the different parts of the aircraft so that it was safe to work on it. The A/C could be in an anesthetized state to do what is necessary while power was on. Every time I watched the cockpit mechanic perform his work, it was like watching an anesthesiologist keeping the aircraft alive enough for us so that we could do our work on it. It took a lot of planning to coordinate all that work safely.

It was such an amazing thing to see the HMV aircraft that we had worked on go out the hanger to be handed over to the test crew in 6 to 7 of 24 hour days.

### **January Financial Detox: Recovering from Holiday Spending**

**By Malcolm Horn, CFP®**



Retirement and  
Investment Services

The holidays are here and gone, and with them, it must be said, a considerable amount of money. Not all of it is money that folks intended to spend.

Fifty-four percent of Americans made some sort of impulse purchase over the 2023 holidays, according to Bankrate.<sup>1</sup>

Many of us do these things to bring a bit of holiday cheer to our loved ones, but it can lead to some stress once it comes time to pay off the debt. Here are some things to think about as we financially recover from the holidays and consider seasons yet to come:

- ❖ As your financial professional, I can help you develop a holiday spending strategy that covers the essentials while also allowing for some flexibility for unexpected extras.
- ❖ Once you have that strategy, stick to it!
- ❖ Discuss with your loved ones the idea of sharing responsibilities for your holiday get-togethers. You don't need to take it all on yourself!
- ❖ Look into managing your overall well-being. The holidays can be a stressful time for many.

You can both recover from the holiday season and start new, smarter practices, and you can keep going when the next one rolls around! That would certainly make this a Happy New Year!

Do you want to get a fresh look at your financial plan? Start off 2026 right with a call to me or my team – our contact info can be found at [aris.alliantcreditunion.com](https://aris.alliantcreditunion.com).

1. bankrate.com, October 30, 2024

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**Scan attached QR code to make an appointment with Malcolm.**

**Torgy's Travel Tips – January 2026**  
**My Employee Travel Management (myETM)**



**Kathie Torgison**

Late last October, things got a whole lot **easier** for all of us who utilize our pass privileges. A new resource entitled “**myETM**,” short for My Employee Travel Management, is now available on the FlyingTogether website. As the name suggests, this is where you *manage your travel-related data* (not your actual flight bookings). Here’s a list of what you can currently access on **myETM**:

- Add or change Enrolled Friends
- Check your pass balances
- Access your Pass Travel Report (important for income tax info, by the way)
- Link MP# for you and your eligible travelers
- Save your credit card information
- Input TSA information (Known Traveler or Redress numbers)
- Edit day of flight contact information

Before **myETM** existed, the task to access and change information related to all of the above was indeed a cumbersome process. Most of the time we had to click on Quick Links in the employee booking portal, even if we were not trying to make a booking or listing. Thankfully, we now have the opportunity to quickly zero-in on precisely the topic that needs attention in its own dedicated area of FlyingTogether. And all of your existing data migrated over to the new system and is now visible for you to see. To check it out go to: <https://ft.ual.com/Travel/myETM>

You will be prompted to log on as usual and then the screen switches directly to the **myETM** Home Page. You can also just log on and then click the Travel dropdown menu and select **myETM**. Once the Home Page is displayed, in the top right corner you will see a box with your name, file number, MP#, and Known Travel # (if you have one), as well as a clickable link to *View My Profile*. (I will discuss that further on in this article.) In the main body of the page are 3 items: Alerts, Pass Balances, and Active Pass Riders

- ▲ Alerts will remind you of major changes or upcoming deadlines, such as for changing your Enrolled Friends.
- ▲ Pass Balances contains a table of all your available passes and when they expire, as well as the ability to check your history and links to explanations of the rules governing Personal vs Vacation vs MyUAdiscount travel.
- ▲ Active Pass Riders lists your current eligible riders.
- ▲ Click the blue box Add a Pass Rider to add a new Enrolled Friend.

Add a Pass  
Rider

One of the best parts of **myETM** is what you can manage when you click *View My Profile* back at the top right corner of the Home Page. Here is where you can add, change or delete information related to the following categories: TSA Secure Info, Travel ID #, MP #, credit card data, and day of flight contact info. Additionally, your United seniority and country of residence is visible.

Off to the right side of the page are helpful links to Other Airline Travel, Refunds, and the Help Hub. A photo box at the bottom of the page allows a quick link to travel partner ID90.com so you can check for car, hotel, and cruise discounts.

I think **myETM** is one of the nicest enhancements on the [ft.ual.com](https://ft.ual.com) site, making it easier for us all to quickly access the information we need. Now you can answer questions for your fellow retirees and they will think you are a computer whiz!!

**Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter**

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

Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to John Chu at [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com) and [ruaeatl@qwestoffice.net](mailto: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.*



# LOCAL NEWS

## ALABAMA



### SWEET HOME ALABAMA

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

## ARIZONA

### PHOENIX RE-UNITED'S

Dakota Morris-Terry  
Correspondent  
[dcddmt03@cox.net](mailto:dcddmt03@cox.net)



For those who couldn't come to breakfast this month, we missed you. Thank you to those who did. The search for a breakfast home ended today. The Broken Yolk turned out to be the absolute favorite, by everyone today. The reason for the surveys for the last year has been for this reason. Many thought it was time to make a brake with The Black Bear for somewhere new, different and with a different menu. We have eaten at many breakfast restaurants that we have loved this year. A lot of thought has been put into this as many have said you would prefer breakfast be at the same restaurant. This restaurant offers that plus a private room; the food is ample and good. Our ReUnited breakfast will be at the Broken Yolk starting in January thru June. There is no breakfast in December. Lunch will continue to be at various restaurants which I hope you will enjoy.

We also had a great turnout at our December luncheon at Brio. A few members of our group have been there before, including Debbi and Mitch, who suggested we try it. Let's thank them when we see them again. The food was good.

It was nice to see members who have not joined us in a while. One of our members who just got out of hospital was **Donna Smiley**. If you have time, send her a get-well message.

Our next event will be January 8<sup>th</sup> at The Cheesecake Factory located at 6613 E. Southern Ave., Mesa, AZ 85206, at 11:00AM. I will follow this up with more information later. I know you all want to be there, so this is a heads-up to mark your calendars. Next breakfast will be at The Broken Yolk on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

We, the committee, want to thank you all for your participation, helpfulness and kindness throughout the year. We hope you have a wonder holiday and please be safe, whatever you do.

### TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

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 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month except in November and December, when it is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday. All retirees are welcome to join us.

If you would like to attend our luncheons, you can e-mail **Pat Sommer Di Lallo** at [rpdgarlic41@comcast.net](mailto:rpdgarlic41@comcast.net) or call either **Pat Di Lallo** (520) 825-7370 or **Sandy Lawyer** (847) 826-2640 for information.

We look forward to seeing you.

## CALIFORNIA

### CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATERS

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

### CENTRAL COASTERS



Mike Zoldak  
President  
537 Morning Rise Lane  
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420  
(805) 473-2908 (H)  
(408) 396-5605 (C)

As you know, we do not have a secretary/correspondent and the prospect of getting one is not looking good but we are still a RUAEA Chapter.

We want to invite any active / retired airline employee living on The Central Coast (Pismo Beach, North & South) to one of our luncheons which are held the third Wednesday of the month at 11:30 at various local restaurants. We meet every other month, February, April, June, August, October, and December. If you are interested or if you happen to visit our area and would like to join us at one of our lunch dates, please contact **Mike Zoldak** at (805) 473-2908 or E-Mail: [zoldak1@msn.com](mailto:zoldak1@msn.com) for further details.

Happy Holidays!

### DESERT SUNBIRDS

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



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

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

### EAST BAY DIABLOS



Contra Costa County  
Jan Soderstrom  
30 San Piedras Place  
San Ramon, CA 94583  
(925) 833-9184

Happy New Year to everyone from the East Bay Diablos group! As I write this on December 7, it's a cold and foggy day. Winter definitely has arrived. I know that all you folks back east are probably saying "Cold, give me a break. You California people don't know what cold is!" At my symphony concert last night, the conductor said that one of the musicians told her she was from Connecticut, and she was as cold here as she'd ever been back east. I'm originally from Michigan, and I can say that no matter how cold it gets in California, it is nothing like the penetrating, bitter cold I experienced while growing up in the Detroit area and going to college in East Lansing. A huge winter storm with lots of snow is now working its way across the country,

causing many flights to be delayed or cancelled. Kudos to all the airline employees, past and present, who keep things running and passengers safe. I'm sure you all have many stories and memories of working extra hard during winter storms.

December 7, 2025 marks the 84<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. However, today only 12 survivors, all centenarians, are still alive. Survivors have been present every year in recent memory except for 2020 - when the Navy and the National Park Service closed the observance due to the corona virus pandemic—and this year, because none of the 12 survivors are able to make the pilgrimage to Hawaii. That means no one attending will have firsthand memories of serving during the attack, which killed more than 2,300 troops and catapulted the US into World War II.

In the San Francisco Bay Area, those of us in the East Bay live near Mount Diablo, part of the Diablo Mountain Range. At 3849 feet in elevation, it is visible from most of the Bay Area. As mountains go, Mount Diablo isn't particularly high. However, it is surrounded by low, rolling hills and broad, flat valleys, so the view from the summit is remarkable. When conditions are best, you can see almost 200 miles. Mount Diablo boasts the largest view shed in the western United States. The view from the summit encompasses 80,000 square miles, and includes 60% of California.

The "Eye of Diablo" is an aerial navigation beacon at the peak of Mt. Diablo, which looks out on one of the finest views in the world. It was installed by Standard Oil Company in 1928 to assist in transcontinental aviation and was originally lit by Charles Lindbergh. It is one of four guiding beacons that were installed along the West Coast and is the only one known to still be operational. The mountain's beacon was extinguished in 1941, shortly after war was declared on Japan, for fear it could enable an attack on California. It stayed dark until Pearl Harbor Day in 1964, when Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander in Chief of Pacific Forces during World War II, relit the Beacon in a commemorative ceremony and suggested it be illuminated every December 7<sup>th</sup> to honor those who served and sacrificed. Since that day, Pearl Harbor veterans and their families have gathered every December 7<sup>th</sup> to see the Beacon illuminated. The Beacon is lit at sunset and shines all night. It underwent an extensive restoration process in 2013 thanks to a campaign led by the local nonprofit Save Mount Diablo. On Sunday, April 11, 2021, Save Mount Diablo concluded a year of lighting the Beacon weekly to bring light and hope to our region during the worst of the pandemic. Beginning in 2022, it is also lit on Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Sources: Wikipedia, [www.visitconcordca.com](http://www.visitconcordca.com), [www.savemountdiablo.org](http://www.savemountdiablo.org)

Our group holds in person monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month all year long. The restaurants are still dealing with staff shortages, so we have to give them a count beforehand. If you are going to attend, you must RSVP prior to the meeting. I have put the dates of our upcoming meetings and the RSVP deadlines below. We alternate between the Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord and the Lazy Dog Restaurant in Concord. We like the Old Spaghetti Factory because they have both a regular and a senior menu with reduced portions and soup or salad, ice cream and beverage included. They also reserve a room for us. The Lazy Dog has been our other "go to" restaurant for over a year. We average about 14 people at our meetings throughout the year, but more members come to our summer picnic meeting which is at a member's home. Social hour starts at 11:30 and our meal is typically served around 12:15.

Our December meeting was held on December 1 at The Lazy Dog Restaurant in Concord with 15 members in attendance: **Tracey Blanchard, Rich & Georgia Bouska** and guest Carla, **Nancy Boyle, Diane Griego, Tom Johnson, Russ & Glenda Kennedy, Dee Moreci, Carol Parks** and guest Emmalou, **Jack & Judi Smith** and **Jan Soderstrom**. **Russ Kennedy** graciously picked up **Tom Johnson** at his board and care home so he could attend. Thank you Russ! We missed **Barb Cunningham** and **Joe & Wilma Leather** who could not attend due to health issues. We hope Barb and Joe will soon be feeling better.

President **Russ Kennedy** started our meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. **Carol Parks** brings a piece of candy for everyone and this month we all got Hershey bars. Our December raffle is a bit different. We ask everyone who wants to participate to bring a "nice" gift. Everyone is given one ticket, and then the persons conducting the raffle, in this case, **Russ Kennedy** and **Tracey Blanchard**, drew the numbers. We had a wonderful selection of wine, Christmas decorations and See's candy. I got **Carol Parks'** very creative gift—a cake making "kit" with her recipe for a delicious wine cake. She included the cake mix, box of pudding, a bottle of dry sherry, nutmeg and the recipe. She said it's the most delicious cake you'll ever eat. I'm going to try it and report back in a future newsletter. We also collected Toys for Tots and **Diane Griego** delivered them to a local fire station.

**Barbara Cunningham** collects both new and used Christmas cards. She donates them to a local special education teacher who uses them in his classroom. He has told Barbara he can use "all the cards he can get." The students make gift cards which they sell at the school fundraiser. This teacher needs just the cards, no



envelopes. The money they raise is for special outings like field trips and other enrichment activities for the special needs students. Barb met the lady who helps cut up the cards for the students to use, as they are not allowed to have scissors for safety reasons. Barb has seen some of the gift cards and they really are pretty. If you have cards you'd like to donate, please hold on to them for now as she cannot deliver cards again for a while, I'll let you know when you can resume mailing cards to her.

**Jan Soderstrom** is collecting coupons for the charity Support our Troops. This is a service project of her Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) chapter. I would like to renew my request to have you cut out coupons and mail them to me at 30 San Piedras Place, San Ramon, CA 94583-3018. The cost of groceries has skyrocketed in the last year or so. Unfortunately, at the same time, manufacturers are cutting back on the coupons they are issuing, especially on food items, just when people need help the most. So anything we can send to the troops is greatly appreciated—food, nonfood, baby and pet; and both current and expired. This is such an easy thing to do to support our troops. For the price of a first class stamp, you can get about 90 coupons in an envelope. If you have more than one ounce, invest in some additional ounce stamps - the cute ones with the school bus. The coupons have to say Manufacturer's Coupon. If they come in a strip, please cut them into separate coupons. The collected coupons are then distributed to overseas military personnel for use in their commissaries. The commissaries honor them for six months after the published expiration date so expired coupons can be sent too. However, please send me coupons at least every other month so the troops have a longer time to use them. All of my coupon donors are complaining that they are getting very few coupons now, so the only way we can maintain our level of support is if more people send me coupons. Ask your friends and neighbors, and the people at your RUAEA meetings, to send me coupons as well!

I am so grateful for the kindness of all the RUAEA members who are helping me with this project. I have been turning in coupons every month since May 2022. On December 6, I turned in 429 coupons. Thank you so much to the members in my local RUAEA chapter and to members from all over the country who are sending coupons. This month I received coupons from **Marilyn Carle** in IL, **Barrie Hooley** in IN, **Katie King** in CA, **Margie Klaus** in NV, **Carol Koslosky** in NY, **Betty Ogburn** in NJ, **Georgia Rutkowski** in NV, and **Jim Taylor** in FL.

“Dumpster Diving.” It's when you go through the wastebasket at your post office, apartment complex or assisted living facility and pull out junk mail flyers with coupons. **Carol Koslosky's** granddaughter Samantha is an incredible Dumpster Diver! She goes through the trash in her apartment complex mailroom and gets a ton of coupons that way. So, please consider rescuing abandoned coupons from your mailrooms. You may only get a handful of coupons in your own mail, but you can get many times that in your mailroom.

Helpful hint when cutting out coupons. Please make sure you do not cut off any part of the barcode or the expiration date. The narrow strip coupons for Claritin etc. are the worst. It's very easy to cut off the “5” in the expiration date of 11/01/25, for example, which is right next to the edge of the coupon. The coupon cannot be used and has to be thrown away.

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

- ▲ Monday, January 5 at 11:30. The Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mount Diablo Street, Concord. Social hour starts at 11:30 and we eat around 12:15. Separate checks. Must RSVP to **Jan Soderstrom** at [janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com) or (925) 833-9184 by Friday, January 2.
- ▲ Monday, February 2 at 11:30. The Lazy Dog Restaurant, 1961 Diamond Blvd in the Willows Shopping Center, Concord. Social hour starts at 11:30 and we eat around 12:15. Separate checks. Must RSVP to **Jan Soderstrom** at [janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com) or (925) 833-9184 by Friday, January 30.
- ▲ Monday, March 2 at 11:30. The Old Spaghetti Factory, 1955 Mount Diablo Street, Concord. Social hour starts at 11:30 and we eat around 12:15. Separate checks. Must RSVP to **Jan Soderstrom** at [janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:janet.soderstrom@yahoo.com) or (925) 833-9184 by Friday, February 28.

Until next month, watch your steps and do everything you can to stay healthy!

## **GOLDEN GATERS**

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



There are not many days left in 2025, the year has flown by with high hopes that 2026 will be a better one. Our local hospitals have added new wings onto them and should have United Airlines emblazoned on the walls. Too many of our friends have seen too many days in them. A saving grace is that our local hospital cafeteria has some decent food and some terrific staff members. After one has gone over the patients' menu for the second time, it's time to escape! Jello only comes in four flavors and chocolate cookies are not on the menu! (Much to our chagrin, this is like "Kilroy was here,")

Our meeting in November was the last one in 2025 as our Christmas luncheon is this coming Monday – no meeting, just going to Bellinis' Italian Bistro for a lovely meal and some laughs. Our meeting was rather chaotic - our regular meeting place has an elevator that had been out of commission for several months. We were pleased to know that the elevator was finally fixed and our November meeting was to be back to our regular room above the Library. Communications were sketchy and we did not get the information that all was not well. Wishful thinking as the elevator suffered a major set-back and was not working (again.) There must be a hospital for ailing elevators – ours needed to be there. It is still not working and, hopefully, the New Year will see that it has recovered. Our plans are to be meeting at The Vibe but an email will be sent to members as soon as that has been confirmed.

Our meeting was held in the Library in a room where 17 members managed to squeeze themselves into. We were able to hold a short meeting as we were due to our luncheon spot at IHOP. We will meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month as usual; 10:00am to 10:20am – Board meeting, 10:20am to 11:30am, general meeting and social time. Our tentative plans for luncheons are as follows:

- ❖ January 26 – Meeting TBA (to be announced) BJ's restaurant in the Bridgepoint complex, Foster City
- ❖ February 23 – Meeting TBA, Tai Wu Chinese restaurant on Foster City Blvd.
- ❖ March 23 – Meeting TBA, Lazy Dog Restaurant in the Bridgepoint complex, Foster City
- ❖ April 27 – Meeting TBA, Jacks' Restaurant in San Mateo, Highway 92 and El Camino Real.

Stay tuned as these places may change – we will let everyone know.

We have several members on the illness list: **Lydia Rolfe** is having difficulty walking, **Charlie Bogert** and his wife, **Rosemary**, are getting special attention at assisted living places, and **Pat Marsala** has been in the hospital for too many days. Keep them in your prayers and thoughts as they all need some TLC.

We did have a raffle and the lucky winners taking home some \$\$ and cents – **Vera Kina** and **Bill Heinrich**. Members **Diane & Bill Heinrich, Vera Kina, Ben Ramos, Andy King, Pat Ortega, Gary Chong** and **Eliza Vargas** all managed to take home some nice donations. Thanks to all who brought in the "goodies."

Stay well y'all and have a Merry Christmas and Happy, Healthy New Year. Thank you for your loyal support! Kudos to the Board members for keeping us afloat. See you Next Year!

Conundrum of the Day: *Is there ever a day that mattresses **ARE NOT** on sale?*

Come join us if you are in town, all United and Continental retirees are welcome - we hopefully will meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at 10:00AM at The Vibe, Teen Center, 670 Shell Blvd., in Foster City, behind the Tennis/Pickle Ball Courts. Note: Our mailing address is UAL-SFO Bay Area Retirees, c/o **Ginger Dahlberg**, 821 Magellan Lane, Foster City, CA 94404.



## **HANGTOWN MINERS**

Jane Gibson  
Placerville, CA  
Secretary

Well, my friends,

Here we go – lots of changes in so many areas of life right now. Sometimes it feels so mellow, calm and easy; then it can switch to crazy, busy and hectic. But, no matter which way you headed at the moment, ask yourself, "Could things be worse or better?" I believe we can always look forward to and reach out for "better".

Sure, there are varying degrees of “better”, but, it is the right direction! We are all still looking at the green side of the grass, we have warm homes, good food and friends who we can depend on to be there. Yup, it’s definitely the right direction.

This month is quite a busy month. We celebrate and say thanks to all those who serve(d) our country with their time in the various military services. And this month we get to say thanks to our forefathers who settled here so many years ago. But, in between those events, we got together as the Hangtown Miners at the Moonraker Millhouse restaurant in Cameron Park. Good food – and generous portions – I noticed several “to go” containers! **Rudy Blazius** extended our thanks to **Gina Kenworthy** for arranging this luncheon for us. We had plenty of room to relax, chat and laugh.

Rudy asked if there were any guests, and then shared that Cindy’s brother, **Ernie Helliwell** and **Diane Wilson**, who are frequent guests, decided to join us officially! So, welcome to Ernie and Diane who are no longer “guests”! Turns out that **Pati Kenney** is the only member having a November birthday but she does share it with the United States Marine Corps (250 years)! Happy Birthday to both. No anniversaries this month. On to our Officers’ reports.

*President* ~ Rudy thanked everyone who brought toys to be shared with local families. **John Muir** and **Ann Marie Sutherland** will take all these delightful gifts to the Marines who will combine them with other donations and distribute them. Tis the season for giving!

*Vice President* ~ **J.R. Heier** said he didn’t have anything he needed to “share” - not to be confused with “talking”.

*Treasurer* ~ Our fabulous treasurer, **Tom Kenny**, is on vacation. So, we didn’t have a report this month. But I do know that he and Suzanne have been to the Smith Flat House and gave them our deposit for the December luncheon.

*Secretary* ~ **Jane Gibson** didn’t have a “secretary report” but keep reading for more action!

*Sunshine* ~ **Suzanne Kenny** is, of course, on vacation with her hubby, Tom! But Rudy shared that she’s keeping track of a couple of our couples – **Angie & Frank Dellinger** are dealing with a some health issues – not to worry, but they have restricted their ability to get around – as in driving. **Irv & Sherrie Wolfram** are also having the same frustration regarding driving. So, if you live in their area, and think you could give them a ride to one of our meetings, please give each a call ... actually, give them a call anyway – it’s always fun to hear friends’ voices.

*Old Business* ~ This is a kind of an “old + new” subject. Jane came prepared to take in the annual membership dues for year 2026! Can you believe it? Our annual dues are \$15.00 per member with the spouse included in the employee’s (primary) membership. Quite a few took care of their 2026 dues today, but for those who weren’t at the luncheon, please make out a check for \$15.00 to Hangtown Miners and mail it to **Tom Kenny**; 3481 Parleys Canyon; Placerville, CA 95667. Also, in case you may want to take care of your cost for the December luncheon – which is just \$15.00 per member – you can get it done as well with just one check. Keep reading:

For our December luncheon; since we have chosen to enjoy either prime rib or salmon as our main course, we need to let the restaurant know our number count giving them enough time to get these delicious foods. Also, please keep in mind that in December, we bring (pounds) of foods for donation to families in your area.

So, when you’re shopping the next week or so, please, grab an extra can, box, container of non-perishable food. Things like vegetables, fruit cups, applesauce, beans, soups, baby food. Also, consider things like spices/salt & pepper, tea bags and coffee (instant but they also sell coffee bags!), tuna, dish soap/detergent, feminine hygiene products are a luxury, hand wipes. You may consider donating dog or cat food too (may be a way to find homes for those dog scarves, Pati!). You know, things that are low on preparation needs (i.e. milk, butter). If at all possible, select a can that has a pull top as not everyone may have a can opener. If you have the plastic utensils (in a sanitary bag) that maybe you came home with from a take home order and you didn’t need it - keep those (thru the year would be great) and put them in with your donation. You can also grab a gift card from a local grocery store - like Lucky, or Safeway - and the recipient can purchase things they need. I found that I could buy milk that doesn’t need to be refrigerated! Use your imagination and help make a big difference for another during this season of joy and happiness. Thank You for what you always do to help others.

Next: Officers for 2026! Yep, it’s that time of the year – voting. Now, Rudy took nominations for the officers at our October meeting. You had a whole month to consider whether or not you liked the names/people who were nominated; they had a month to be sure they wanted to take on the position. Rudy opened the floor to any new nominations – there was total silence in the room – which is unheard of with this group! So, **Judy Fitzpatrick** motioned that we accept the panel of nominees who are: *President* ~ **Rudy Blazius**; *Vice President* ~ **JR Heier**; *Treasurer* ~ **Tom Kenny**; *Secretary* ~ **Jane Gibson**; *Sunshine* ~ **Suzanne Kenny**. **John Muir**



seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. How's that for a surprise? This is such a great group of people, it wasn't a hard sell.

The sign-up sheet for hosts for the 2026 luncheons was passed around as we had 4 months not covered. But, three members picked from those months and signed on the line. I just spoke with **Roy Martin** and he and **Dawn** will take the last open month! So, a big "Thank You" to everyone who will be hosting our 2026 luncheons. In case you would like a reminder of the month you chose, here's the line up: January - **Blazius**; February - **Kozelka/Barton/Kenney**; March - **Kenny**; April - **Heier**; May - **Duncan/Diana**; June - **Akin**; July - **Muir/Sutherland**; August - **Biro/Ceci**; September - **Martins**; October - **Trebnik**; November - **Kenworthy**; December - group. It's going to be a fun year!

*New Business* ~ Rudy shared that at the National Cemetery in Dixon they will be placing a wreath at each grave on December 13, if you're in the area, take a few minutes to go by and just absorb the feeling of the place and enjoy the beauty of all these wreaths. Ann Marie, who is president of the American Legion Auxiliary, shared that at all cemeteries with military personal buried there can have a Star of David put on their stone. It costs \$17.00 for each star, so if you would like to donate to this project, you can contact her.

I'm not sure where Rudy came up with this information, but it rather astounding to hear!

The Unclaimed Baggage Department in Scottsboro, Alabama has a 50,000 sq ft storage building for unclaimed baggage. They receive 7,000 items per day from airports every day. Airlines conduct a 3 month search for the bags' original owner. After that travelers receive compensation for lost luggage.

Then the luggage is opened, inspected, cleansed, graded and are sold, donated or discarded.

Some items found in luggage will amaze you: Ancient Egyptian artifacts dating to 1500 BC; Medieval armor and weapons; basketball signed by Michael Jordan; Rolex watch valued at \$64,000! - sold for \$32,000. 2 million bags are lost or stolen each year. Airlines return 99.5% of missing bags. Can you imagine? We know a gal who dealt with missing luggage in Oakland and I know that they go to extreme lengths to find and return these items.

**Pati Kenney** brought a couple bags – one with dog scarves that their dog refuses to wear and a bag of 2026 calendars so step right up and make your selection!

As is his custom, Rudy brought us some extra fun. There are a few pages of this info, but here's a sampling: The 1% Age Group: This special group was born between 1930 & 1946 - a 16 year span. In 2023, the age range was between 77 & 93.

- You saved tin foil and poured fried meat fat into tin cans.
- You can remember milk being delivered to your house early in the morning and placed in the "milk box" on the porch,
- You are the last generation who spent childhood without television; instead, you "imagined" what you heard on the radio.
- With no TV until the 1950's, you spent your childhood "playing outside", there was no little league.
- Telephones were one to a house, often shared (party lines), and hung on the wall in the kitchen. Typewriters were driven by pounding fingers, throwing the carriage, and changing the ribbon.
- "Internet" and "Google" were words that did not exist. Newspapers and magazines were written for adults and the news was broadcast on your radio in the evening.
- You weren't neglected, but you weren't today's all-consuming family focus.
- You grew up at the best possible time, a time when the world was getting better.
- More that 99% of you are retired and you should feel privileged to have "lived in the best of times!"

If you have already reached the age of 80 years old, you have outlived 99% of all the other people currently in the world! You are a 1%er!

So with that, Rudy gave JR a nod and JR took off with our raffle. Our new member, **Diane Wilson** won the donator's prize! A huge thank to all who brought items for our raffle: **Heier** – candle & towel; **Blazius** – wine; **Wilson** – candy; **Dinette** – Venus fly trap & mug; **Fitzpatrick** – cookies; **Kenney** – scarecrow basket; **Trebnik** – autumn apron, pot holder & mitt; **Gibson** – Nutcracker candy; **Biro** – cookies. We also raffled several table decorations that were bowls of candy that hadn't been eaten!

Okay, my friends, I'm wrapping up this report, looking forward to next month. Our luncheon in December is always so nice, delicious – perfect way to send out the old year!

If you're traveling for Thanksgiving, please, be careful but enjoy yourselves. For those of us sticking close to home, have a wonderful, peace filled time eating turkey – or whatever you find on the table.

Remember, stay healthy, stay busy, stay strong and keep laughing! It's good for every part of your body and soul.



## RESANS

San Diego, CA

Barbara Drews

Secretary

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

We got the Holiday season off to a good start with lunch at Hunter's Steak House in Oceanside. There were 22 attendants who braved the traffic and the drive from San Diego to Oceanside.

It was a chance to reminisce about our past year, cruises we took and travel experiences, and fun times with family and friends. There was also a sad moment of reflection on the death of **Roberta Berchtold** who passed away on a diving trip.

There were two December Birthdays: **Wendell Johnson** on December 18<sup>th</sup> and **Maria Pollack** will be celebrating on December 30<sup>th</sup>.

We are facing some changes for the 2026; one of them involves Alight, now handling our insurance and changes being to our retiree benefits, travel privileges; it's already very confusing to many.

Our first Breakfast of the New Year, 2026, will be held on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

### Calendar:

**January 8** - Breakfast.





**SACRAMENTO**  
**GOLD DIGGERS**

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



Lance & Trudy Engeldinger



Tom Miehle, Pat Guinn & Vicky Enriquez



Dave Garland, Jim Simon & Veronica Domaratius



Marge & Jack Raynor



Angie & Frank Dellinger



Lyle & Louise Auerbach



Louise Auerbach  
& Joyce Spivey

The Sacramento Gold Diggers did not meet in November as our usual meeting date is the last Wednesday of the month and that would be the day before Thanksgiving. We did meet for our Holiday Social on the third of December at the Casa Del Lago in Granite Bay. The owner Eli welcomed us and we were served by Andrea and her very efficient helper, a nice young fellow with name unknown. We had 19 members in attendance; those attending were **Louise & Lyle Auerbach**, **Barbara & Ron Bertacini**, **Angie & Frank Dellinger**, **Veronica & Francis Domaratius**, **Trudy & Lance Engeldinger**, **Vicky Enriquez**, **Robin & Dave Garland**, **Pat Guinn** and **Tom Miehle**, **Marge & Jack Raynor**, **Jim Simon** and **Joyce Spivey**.

After enjoying a very nice Mexican lunch, President **Francis Domaratius** started the meeting as dessert was being served, warm churros infused with chocolate and whipped cream to dip them in. Francis thanked **Barbara & Ron Bertacini** for making the arrangements. Francis then called on Barbara and Ron to report on future meetings. We are set for the next three months, January 28<sup>th</sup> will be at Bennett's Westside Grill in



Rocklin, February (Past President's Luncheon) on the 25<sup>th</sup> at Skipolini's in Rocklin almost next door to Bennett's and March 25<sup>th</sup> at BJ's Brewhouse near the corner of Roseville Parkway and Galleria Blvd. **Ron Bertacini** mentioned that we usually talk about new officers at our December meeting and asked if anyone was interested in any of the positions ... no taker so you all are stuck with the current officers for 2026. Ron also mentioned that there were no anniversaries for the month of December but that there was one in November that being **Rose & Ed Rheam** with 73 years!

Moving on, Francis called on Sunshine Lady **Angie Dellinger** who gladly had no news. Next was our Treasurer **Robin Garland** who reported that we are still solvent and that the lunch was subsidized thanks to the response to our monthly raffles. Robin was also collecting dues for 2026 at \$10 per household. Francis called on **Dave Garland**, Dave commented that the RUAEA Reunion for 2026 will be at the Holiday Inn in Houston. The rate is \$109.00 plus tax and includes breakfast for two per night. The hotel also offered free shuttle from and to the airport and for those driving, free parking. Hotel booking is available now by call 866-465-4329, and be sure to use the code RUA or RUAEA 2026 to get the rate. If you even think you might be attending, book your room early as RUAEA has a block of rooms at this discount rate and this can fill up fast. Also remember making a room reservation does not register you for the Reunion, this is done separately and that information will be available by early June. Note: *More details on Reunion hotel reservations is available in the General News Section.*

**Jim Simon** thanked the chapter for our contribution to the Flights to Freedom project. Jim also reported that he had attended their fund raiser which was inspiring and quite successful. Jim also had a poem for us that we found very meaningful for this time of year. See below.

We thank all the members for their generosity with the Toys for Tots collection and had a couple of prizes for those donations won by **Pat Guinn** and **Lyle Auerbach**. We moved on to the birthday roll-offs ... there was only one birthday in November, **Louise Auerbach**, but for December we had two, **Vicky Enriquez** and **Francis Domaratius**; it took two turns for Francis to be the winner. Lastly, we had our monthly raffles with many bottles of wine, some holiday gnomes and other assorted items. Francis closed with a "Merry Christmas to all" and a Happy New Year.

### **Once Again by Jim Simon**

*Once again it's that time of year  
When we wish each other holiday cheer.*

*A time to reflect on things of the past  
And a time to remember that none of them last*

*A time to be grateful that we are still here  
And a time to appreciate another full year*

*Not all of the year has gone so well  
I've lost some friends that were quite swell*

*Many of you have experienced the same –  
And we often take time to remember their name*

*We just try to be grateful that we're still here  
As we think about them and shed a moist tear*

*But as for me – just wanted to say  
I wish all of you – a great holiday*

*Enjoy your time with family and friends  
And take from this – all the love that it sends*

*Wishing you well as I do now and here  
And hoping to see you in the very new year - Merry Christmas everyone!*



### SAN JOAQUINERS

Bob Scoble

Treasurer

(925) 642-2465

U079237@att.net

Hello everyone,

It's the Holiday Season. The regular monthly meeting of the San Joaquiners was held on November 13 in Valley Springs; we made some final plans for our annual Christmas Luncheon. Since restaurant prices have continued to climb, we decided to move away from traditional restaurants. **Bob & Mary Brown** have offered their home as a place to meet for lunch, so our Christmas luncheon will be held on December 11 at their home. We discussed a Christmas gift to share and decided on a donation to a local food bank. If you can, place a few dollars or a gift card in a sealed envelope to give to Mary and Jacques, they will donate your gifts to a local food bank as a gift from the San Joaquiners. In past years, our group would donate \$100.00 to 4 local charities. This year, our chapter treasury does not have an adequate balance to make that happen.

Back to the luncheon, Bob & Mary will host and provide most of the dishes; if you have a favorite side dish or drink to share with others, bring that also. Most importantly, contact Mary, Steve or myself to let us know if you can join us so we can plan for the day. We want to know either way: **Yes** – you're attending or **No** – you're not available. The chapter will donate the hams for the meal.

As we move to the New Year, Bob and Steve are asking for volunteers to take over scheduling our monthly luncheons. There will be no January meeting as in the past. We will meet in February, the second Thursday, the 12th at a place to be determined.

If we don't see you at Bob & Mary's for our Christmas Luncheon, we want to take this time to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### SFO/SJC SOUTHBAY

San Jose, CA

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

George Midwin

1879 Foxworthy Ave.

San Jose, CA 95124

[midwin5u@hotmail.com](mailto:midwin5u@hotmail.com)



Five members attended our December breakfast gathering. The majority of our members are looking forward to the annual Christmas celebration just a week later, on Dec 8<sup>th</sup>, with 30 people signed up.

Pencil in the 2026 RUAEA Reunion in late September, to be held in Houston, TX; much to see and do there, as well as seeing old friends and making new ones. Southwest has a direct flight from San Jose and United has many flights from San Francisco, flight length of 3hr 40 min. Or for an adventure, you can drive the 1,900 miles, in 27½ hours for about \$275 in gas, one way. Anyway, think about booking your room to ensure you have a room, you can cancel at a later date if necessary; hotel reservation information is printed in the General News Section of this newsletter.

We meet the first Monday of each month at the Bill of fare restaurant in San Jose at 10AM. All UA retirees are welcome to attend. It is just off highway 280, at 1069 Saratoga Ave.

SOLANO FLYERS



### SOLANO FLYERS

Larry Jackson

President

(707) 624-0030

[larry-cindy@comcast.net](mailto:larry-cindy@comcast.net)

We met at Denny's in Cordelia on November 18<sup>th</sup> with the following in attendance: **Larry Jackson, Linda Schutte, McKinley Nelson, Robert Allen, Stewart McCale Sr., Stewart McCale Jr., Frank Uhl, Chauncey Baine, Rudy Arsaga, Bob Richie, and Joanne & Billy Blizzard.**

Birthday ~ **Robert Allen.**

Anniversary ~ None.

50/50 Winner ~ **Larry Jackson.**

Our next meeting will be on December 16<sup>th</sup> at Black Bear Diner in Vacaville.

## **COLORADO**

### **DENVER MILE HIGHERS**

Tammi Thompson  
[tbt1958@aol.com](mailto:tbt1958@aol.com)



The Denver Chapter held their Annual Christmas Party at Tedz Place on December 4 with 40 members and guests in attendance. A terrific lunch including dessert was served. A raffle was held for attendees and small gifts were distributed as well as gnome center pieces found new homes with those in attendance.

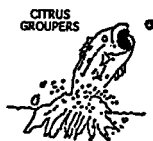
Attendees were very generous in bringing children's toys that will be distributed later in December at United's Fantasy Flight.

Our next meeting is Thursday, January 8, 11:00AM, Tedz Place, (303) 287.7544. We hope to see you there – bring a friend! Address: 5271 E. 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Commerce City, (303) 287-7544.

## **FLORIDA**

### **THE CITRUS GROUPEERS THE VILLAGES**

Julius "Joe" DiStaso  
(941) 661-2215  
[wopahofl@gmail.com](mailto:wopahofl@gmail.com)



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

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

### **THE ORLANDO REAL McCOYS**

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



There is no report this month from the Orlando Real McCoys chapter of RUAEA.

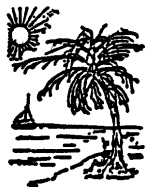
### **SW PELICANS DROP-INS**

Ray Jensen  
(239) 888-2744  
[rmmjensen@msn.com](mailto:rmmjensen@msn.com)



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





### **TAMPA BAY CHAPTER**

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

There is no report this month from the Tampa Bay chapter of RUAEA.

### **TREASURE COAST**

Mary K. Wetherington  
8849 Egret Isle Point  
Lake Worth, Florida 33467  
(772) 240-2354  
[mwether700@gmail.com](mailto:mwether700@gmail.com)



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

### **HAWAII**

#### **HONOLULU MENEHUNES**

William Tinsley  
[HNLRTUA@gmail.com](mailto:HNLRTUA@gmail.com)



Aloha from Oahu! The RUAEA Chapter Honolulu Menehunes are finally back. We have luncheons 3 times a year on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in February, June, and September. For the mainland retirees—If you are planning to be in HNL and are interested in attending the luncheon, please let us know beforehand and we will get the information to you. Mahalo!

### **IDAHO**

#### **BOISE GEMS**

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



At the present time, our Boise Gems are not meeting; however, we want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Best wishes to everyone!

### **ILLINOIS**

#### **CHICAGO SKYLINERS**

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



January 2026 ~ Welcome to a whole new year, 2026! Not sure I ever thought I'd live to see this huge number. Actually, I never thought I'd see 80, and yet, here I am. And here you are! Congratulations to us all. What should we do this year? Visit relatives or old friends? Finally see the Acropolis or the Great Wall? If

somebody would fly me over the Wall in a helicopter, I'd be very happy, that would be the assignment accomplishment. Don't need to see it that badly. Maybe we should stay closer to home and wake up one morning and say, 'Let's misbehave today'. Nothing illegal, or too strenuous, but just a little levity to start the day, put a smile on ours and our friends' faces. A little practical joke, put together a bunch of funny words, take your friend for a surprise ride to Wisconsin or Galesburg, or downtown Plainfield. It was in the paper last week that Plainfield is the newest booming town in Illinois. I can remember going there as a teen to roller skate at Electric Park. What fun, couples only, girls only, skate in reverse, with real organ music. Girls didn't wear pants yet, had to wear skirts back in the 50's, didn't you? Falling could really be a catastrophe and an embarrassment, plus getting skinned up from the wood floors. But so much fun, not a care in the world, round and round. Let's just keep your curiosity alive this year, continue to learn, and not let the fear of time stop you from enjoying life. Every day is a new opportunity to create, to laugh, and to show that it's never too late to move forward with enthusiasm and joy. How's that for your new assignment for the year 2026? Let's boogie, kids!

Holidays and Happy January Days include New Year's Day, Rose Bowl Game and Parade, then Happy New Year for Cats, Stop Spam Day, Dimpled Chad Day, (remember those?) The Epiphany and Three Kings Day, Invisible Pain Day, Bubble Bath Day, Play God Day, Save the Eagles Day, Rubber Ducky Day, Fetish Day, Popeye Day, Bootlegger's Day, Winnie the Pooh Day, Popcorn Day (yeay), Martin Luther King Day (19<sup>th</sup>), Penguin Awareness Day, Hug your Puppy Day, Irish Coffee Day, Holocaust Memorial Day, Fruitcake Toss Day, ending the month with Curmudgeon Day. There, have we covered everybody?

The full moon, called the Wolf Moon, is full on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, still pretty full and low in the sky. The name comes from the belief that wolves howled more frequently due to hunger in the winter. Maybe they're just looking for other wolves hiding, trying to keep warm. It's also called the Cold and Center Moon.

The January gem is the garnet, usually red, symbolizing good health, wealth, and happiness. That's a good stone to start off the year! The flowers are the carnation, in a myriad of colors, and the Snowdrop.

The Northside breakfast had ten people, **Charlie Lewis, Marsha Sealock-Weber & Paul, Dave Dunham, Dennis Zachara, Marion Osail, Debra Paget, Jerry Tipperreiter, Kathy Cufar, Lynn Hagele**, and long time no see, **Lynn Hildebrand**.

The ORDMM mechanics enjoyed their Thanksgiving breakfast together. **Fred Seibert, Frank Wenig, Jim Kraft, Walt Chornomaz, Bob Palm, Harry Kargenian, Boris Spitz, Jim Vitte, Rich Protsman and Don Kramlich**. They reminisced their years with **Pierre Lupori**, who hardly ever missed these gatherings until he became ill. He'll be missed by all of us.

The ORDMM supervisors had **Bart and Sue Kendall, Tom Abraham and Glenn Hill**.

All the groups were thankful that they got to spend at least one day a month together. They were friends for many years at UAL.

The IAM 1487 club had their Christmas Party at the Seville last month. As usual, it was spectacular with over 100 attendees. The raffle was well stocked and many walked out with lots of gifts. Not sure when their January meeting is since it's on the Holiday. **Dave Roderick** will have it in his monthly newsletter.

The Skyliners Christmas Party had over 80 people. Delicious food, happy people and lots of cash raffles. Half of the money went to the members, the remainder went to the United Employees Relief Fund. The entertainer was Wayne Messmer, very popular singer and keyboard player from our Chicago sports teams, plus he plays at many clubs around the Chicago area. We had lots of sing alongs and many sentimental favorites. I thank all of my Board and planners, **Jim Sommerfield, Rene Jakus, Kitty Bystrom, Janice Galliland** (who supplied the candy), **Charlie Lewis, Toni Van Kampen and Tom Pelc**. Thanks also to **Jackie Monilaw** and all of her workers from the Mainliner Club. The Belvedere didn't disappoint us, they treat us so well, and we did get our squash soup. Our next Skyliner Luncheon will be Tuesday, July 21, at the Belvedere. Our entertainment will be the Ukelele Moonshiners, you'll love them. Save the date!

Starting February 1, the TSA says travelers without a REAL ID who want to fly can pay a \$45 fee to use a modernized alternative identity verification system. This process will differ from airport to airport and the TSA is working with private industry to proactively offer airline payment options prior to arrival at the airport. If you don't have your REAL ID yet, this might be the time to make an appointment at your DMV and get one. You can use your passport also. This went into effect May 7 of this year, they warned us about getting the ID for a long time. But now they're adding the \$45 fee to 'encourage' you to get the real thing. It was established to enhance security following the 9/11 attacks. It aims to standardize id requirements across states to prevent fraud and improve safety in air travel.

Found some information on the new tax codes for 2025. There will be higher deduction limits for every filing status. Taxpayers over 65 or blind can claim an additional standard deduction amount of \$2,000 for single

or head of household filers, and \$1,600 per qualifying individual for married couples. You can deduct unreimbursed medical expenses that exceed a certain percentage of your Adjusted Gross Income. If you're at least 65, you can claim a deduction of up to \$6,000. Better check on the specifics of that. My article didn't give very good details, but it sounds good. There's also a new form, 1-A, used to calculate and claim deductions for tip income, overtime compensation, interest paid on car loans and people who are at least 65 years old.

In Illinois, there are some new laws also. One is the 'Squatters Bill,' which allows police to remove squatters more easily, and a law requiring landlords to inform tenants of housing rights for survivors of domestic violence. Another to mandate county recorders to notify property owners of any filings related to their property. Here's a good one regarding medicine. Insurance companies will be required to cover a brand name of a medicine when the generic version isn't available. Another House Bill will require insurance companies to cover medically necessary yearly menopause visits and colonoscopies. Also, a Bill to cover molecular breast imaging or breast MRI's when medically necessary to diagnose and treat breast cancer. Here's one that should help many, insurance companies will be required to cover medically necessary screening tests for peripheral artery disease, eliminating many unnecessary amputations per year. Check up on more listed, they're actually good for us!

Some of our fellow workers that flew West last month include, **Pierre Lupori**, great mechanic from ORDMM, also, **Jean Smietanski**, wife of **Bob**, ORDMM, **Dolores Good**, wife of **Harry**, ORDMM, **Debbie Robison**, **George Howe**, and **Nancy Ranucci**, ORDSW, another flight attendant from many domiciles, **Iris Peterson**, 104 years old, **Hokan Haraldsson**, and, **William J. Downing, Jr.** ORDCG.

Also from our world. ABC News reporter, Jim Avila, Jamaican reggae singer, Jimmy Cliff, song writer/guitarist, Steve Cropper ('Soul Man', from Booker T and the M.G.'s), Singer, Chubby Tavares, (Tavares, 'More than a Woman'), architects, Frank Gehry, designed many Chicago landmarks, playwright, Tom Stoppard, (Shakespeare in Love), Chicago radio personality, Joe Colborn, (Eddie & JoBo), actor Sally Kirkland (Anna).

Let's make this a year to remember! Live, love, laugh and be happy!

#### Calendar:

Northside Breakfast - Rose Garden Restaurant, 9:00AM, 800 E. Higgins Rd., corner of Higgins and Scott St., Elk Grove, (**January 8**), second Thursday of the month.

IAM 1487 Lunch - 1487 Lodge, 11:00 A.M., 50 W. Oakton St, Des Plaines (Holiday is on the 1<sup>st</sup>) ~ To be announced

ORDMM Breakfast - Maxfield's, 9:00AM, Plum Grove & Schaumburg Rds. (**January 15**) Third Thursday.

RUPA Lunch – Location to be announce, (**January 13**).

### INDIANA



#### INDY RACERS

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

Our most recent meeting was on November 11<sup>th</sup>. In attendance were **Bob Duty**, **Frank Ingegno**, **Alan Miller**, **Mike Herskynal**, **Fred Mosier**, **Mike Cutler** and **Jack Mason**. We discussed the planned Christmas lunch for our December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting to be held at the Olive Garden restaurant.

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

Our future meetings schedule:

- ❖ February 10, 2026 at Emmy's
- ❖ March 10, 2026 at Emmy's.
- ❖ April 14, 2026 at Emmy's.

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



## MASSACHUSETTS

### NOR'EASTERS

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



There is no report this month from the Nor'Easters chapter of RUAEA.

## MICHIGAN



### GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Detroit, MI  
Gwen Dyc-Schwendenmann  
(248) 667-9258  
[bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bigwheel1981@sbcglobal.net)

**Pam Shamey** hosted our DTWRR retiree luncheon at Archie's Tavern in Livonia, Michigan on November 10. In attendance were **Patty Gates**, **Joyce Lyon** and her husband, **Gary Cippoloni**, **Rose Gyorke** and her husband, **Joe**, **Brendan Heaney** and his daughter, **Shannon Anderson**, **Sue Smith**, **Vi Thomas**, **Lynn Manzi**, **Camille Wade**, **Anna Noeske**, and **Pam & Tom Shamey**. It was a nice turnout and an enjoyable time was had by all.

We are always looking for a retiree to host a future luncheon. Contact **Marguerite Venn** to schedule a date. You can text her at (313) 909-9053.

Thought for the month ~ *"Helping one person might not change the world ... but it might change the world for one person."*

Wishing everyone a beautiful and special holiday season! Merry Christmas!

## NEBRASKA



### OMAHA GOLDENEARS

Rita Purkapile  
16016 Lindenwood Cir  
Bennington, NE 68007  
(402) 301-8154  
[r.purkapile@cox.net](mailto:r.purkapile@cox.net)

The Omaha Goldenears met at Cascios Steak House in Omaha. The weather was great so there was no driving issues for members to get there ... unless you came via the downtown route; so many blocked streets ... due to the streetcar installation.



30 of us joined in reminiscing about our days at the airport, while enjoying our choice of steak, chicken or fish for lunch. We were blessed with dessert provided by **Elaine Boner's** "baklava", it is the best.

We have a gift exchange with our Christmas Bingo game ... when you win, you pick a gift off the table ...

**Tony Sortino** served as the Bingo Caller!

A good time was had by all! Ha!

Our next meeting will be March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026, first Wednesday of the month at Pizza Ranch.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year in 2026!

Stay Healthy and Be Safe!

## NEVADA

### LAS VEGAS

#### SILVER LINERS

Arlene McCroy

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



After over twenty-five years of sharing memories of our days at United Airlines and our new lives as retirees, the Las Vegas Silverliners dissolved with a final luncheon on November 20. The decision was not an easy one; however, sicknesses and deaths have significantly reduced the number of members.

In August, **Mike Vasko**, retired from LAXMM, passed away. Mike and his wife, **Eleanor**, have been RUAEA members since the early 1990's. Last month, **Joann Sanders**, retired from SFOLX, moved out of state to be near family; Joann was a loyal Silverliners member.

Contact information for all current members was sent to each member. We will continue to support each other through correspondence and an occasional shared coffee or lunch.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2026!



### RENO SIERRA

#### ROUNDUP

Pat Zoboli

5860 Lone Horse Drive

Reno, NV 89502

(775) 856-2044

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

There were 10 members present at our November 10 meeting.

Open Enrollment is almost finished. Hopefully, everyone was able to find a plan that meets their needs. John and I are staying with Aetna Medicare Advantage. We are waiting to find out what the 2026 premium will be.

The 2026 RUAEA Convention will be in Houston.

We collected and totaled the cost for the December Christmas Lunch. We are looking forward to our annual event. Remember; wear your merry and bright Christmas attire to add to the atmosphere. We will do our 50/50 raffle, as well as have other goodies for the raffle.

The 2026 chapter dues will remain \$5/person. We will collect the dues in January.

The November birthdays are **Allen Robbins** and **Teresa Rhine**. The winner of the little fall owl was **June Roe**. Me, myself, and I won the 50/50 – a nice surprise! And no, I didn't draw the ticket! Pictures of Kathy are in the October newsletter and will be shared at our December Christmas Luncheon. We are hoping to be able to face time with Kathy.

9 members attended the December Christmas Lunch – **Zobolis**, **Roes**, **Borchers**, **Leusings** and **Rhine**; a good lunch was enjoyed by all at Biscotti's at the Peppermill Resort & Casino. The winners of the 50/50 were **Barbara Leusing** and myself. The Leusings treated us all to a bottle of Prosecco for our Christmas toast.

## NEW YORK

## **BUFFALO CHIPS**

Jerry Stevens  
130 Countryside Lane  
Williamsville, NY 14221-1308  
(716) 418-6887  
[jerste130@msn.com](mailto:jerste130@msn.com)



**BUFFALO CHIPS**

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

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



NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

## **NEW YORK METROS**

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

We had our annual Christmas party lunch on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. a good time was had by all. It was nice to see **Angie Paris, Roberta Manfreda, Patrick Hannon, and George Riggi** once again at our gathering.

Winners of the table center pieces were **Donna Feingold, Angie Paris, and Illeana Falcon.**

Winners of the gift bags were **Chip Kieronski, Patrick Hannon (2x), Angie Paris (2x), Donna Feingold, Nick Manfreda, Suzanne Lagasi, and John Klos.**

The 3 winners of our 50/50 were **Nunzo Milazzo, Nick Manfreda, and Nunzo Milazzo**, again.

Birthday wishes to **Madeline Klos, Margaret Hansen, Ann Hluboky, Peter Korsch, Maureen Pascale, Werner Buck, Helene Ammon, Donna Cardenas and Bernadette Halagarda.**

We will not have a meeting in January, see you on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

Merry Christmas and wishing you all a happy, healthy New Year!

## **Calendar:**

**January** – No Meeting

**February 4** –Meeting

## **OHIO**

### **OHIO BUCKEYES**

Cleveland, OH  
Susan Broderick  
President  
[broderickual62@aol.com](mailto:broderickual62@aol.com)



The Ohio Buckeyes Chapter met at The Diamond Event Center on December 3. 47 retirees and friends or family attended and every one of them loved the great food and had a fabulous time getting together. In attendance were Pres. **Sue Broderick**, VP **Sharon Minelli**, **Bernie Garrah**, **MaryLou Mack**, **Jeff & Judy Spooner**, **Barb & Frank Wachs**, **George & Nancy Oncu**, **Betty Krischker**, **Candy Kane**, **Mick Hoban**, **Ron Weisbarth**, **Jack Wright**, **Jeff Wright**, **Tom Duta**, **Sharon Gatesman**, **Steve Rak**, **Tim Baker**, **John & Carrie Kercel**, **Tom & Marty Hassell**, **Hanna Beish**, **Gene & Jackie Craig**, **Clara Dietrich**, **Shirley**

McCarthy, Dave & Sharon Simpson, Nancy McLaughlin, Kay Preston, Jennifer Schreiner, Bernie Kazimer, Marianne Skala, Nancy Cleary, Marilyn Cicco, Marilyn Kulikowski, Sam Bennet and 4 of his family, Cheryl Goodson, and Mary Lou Mack. Three members had to cancel due to difficulties, **Ralph Bruggerman, Donna Feierabend** and **Lee Rak**. We hope they are all fine and on their way to a healthy Holiday.

**Ben Bougucki** called to say he was recuperating from surgery and wished everyone well.

We started our lunch with a couple announcements. In my last newsletter I had the wrong Bernie bringing in the large puzzle, sorry **Bernie Garrah!**

We will not meet in January or February but already have plans for the upcoming year. Susan and Sharon are talking to different restaurants. We already know we will be at Sully's Irish Pub in March, Das Schnitzel Haus in April, Malleys in November and Diamond Event Center again in December.

We had 5 pots for the 50/50, 1 to the chapter and the following people each took home \$35.00 per pot, **Sue Broderick** (yes!), **Jennifer Schreiner, Betty Krischner, and Jackie Craig**.

We were very happy blessed to have so many people attending. The best part of the day is to hear people laughing and enjoying seeing each other.

Our Christmas Event had a visit from Santa and every member received a token of appreciation!

Thank you for flying United, and God Bless us all

The Ohio Buckeyes Schedule is as follows, if you are interested in attending or if you are a Buckeye at heart, please contact **Sue Broderick**, (312) 215-0326 for additional info as we would love to see you.

★ Diamond Event Center – December 3 (Special visit from Santa planned)

Thank you for flying United, and God Bless us all!

## OREGON



### OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland

Terry Hotchkin

(360) 907-3868

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

We had 23 people in attendance at our October luncheon. **Russell Stinnett** won the door prize (free lunch), **Penny Korbe** won the Birthday drawing and **Steve Borbely** won the 50/50.

Other Birthdays include **Paul Russell** (10/2), **Linda Tracy** (10/10), **Penny Korbe** (10/11) and **Bonnie Miller**.

Fortunately, there is no more bad news this month!

And now for a little humor, with some philosophy thrown in occasionally, to make your day pass with a little more fun!

- ☺ My mind is a dangerous place, but my mouth is worse. It has no filters or brakes. If it hit my brain, it is going to fly out of my mouth!
- ☺ As a kid, I used to watch The Wizard of Oz and wonder how someone could talk if they didn't have a brain ... then I got social media.
- ☺ I had the rudest, slowest cashier today. I guess it's my own fault of using the self-check-out lane.
- ☺ I've been searching for my sanity, but I think it took off with my motivation, the matching socks, and the good Tupperware lids.
- ☺ I don't want to be an adult anymore. I don't even want to be human. I want to be a goat, jump around randomly, eat what I want, and head butt anyone who annoys me!
- ☺ Life humbles you as you age ... you realize how much time you wasted on nonsense.
- ☺ Whenever I see chocolate, I hear two voices in my head. One of them says, "Eat the chocolate" and the other one says, "You heard it...eat the chocolate!"
- ☺ I'm so old; I remember one bathroom for the whole family, a phone on the wall, no internet, and a TV with rabbit ears and just 3 channels. And we still made it. Amazing!
- ☺ Why are people allowed to be stupid, but I'm not allowed to point!
- ☺ I read that cinnamon is good for weight control. So I started eating 5 cinnamon rolls every morning.
- ☺ The key to aging is not to mourn what's lost, but to celebrate what remains.



- ☺ I was going to do something amazing today, but then I realized that resting is also an art and I am a **True artist!**
  - ☺ Ever consider that some nurses will spend 20 minutes looking for a blood vein while a mosquito can locate our blood within 5 seconds in the dark while humming a tune!
  - ☺ I just asked the Wal-Mart girl where the nuts are ... She said, "pretty much every aisle."
  - ☺ Dear Santa, I've been good all year ... Most of the time ... once in a while. Never mind, I'll buy my own stuff.
  - ☺ Dashing through the snow, in my rusty Chevrolet, down the road I go, sliding all the way. I need new piston rings. I need some new snow tires. My car is held together by a piece of chicken wire. Oh, rust and smoke, the heater's broke, the door just blew away. I light a match to see the dash and then I start to pray-ay. The frame is bent, the muffler went, the radio's okay. Oh what fun it is to drive this rusty Chevrolet!
  - ☺ I don't get enough credit, for the things I manage **not** to say!
  - ☺ You really only need two tools in life ... WD-40 and duct tape. If it doesn't move and should, use WD-40 ... If it moves and shouldn't, use duct tape!
  - ☺ Old age is a thing ... last night I was in bed for 20 minutes when I heard the pizza guy cough. Then I remembered that I came to my room to get my wallet.
  - ☺ So, I got a call from a telemarketer, and he said he couldn't understand me. I told him to press 1 for English.
  - ☺ My boss came into work complaining about the cashier at Wal-Mart. Considering my recent experience and being a royal witch, I asked her if she used the self-checkout. Somehow I still have a job.
  - ☺ A recent study found people who drink their coffee black are more likely to exhibit psychopathic traits ... while people who order a quad shot, nonfat, vanilla soy, extra foam, light whip, with caramel drizzle are more likely to be their victims.
  - ☺ Sincere apologies to the older folks we used to judge for eating dinner at 5 and being in bed by 9. You guys were really on to something!
  - ☺ I'm always speeding ... just so I can get there before I forget where I'm going!
  - ☺ Common sense is **not** a gift, it's a punishment. Because you have to deal with everyone who doesn't have it.
  - ☺ A truck loaded with Vicks VapoRub overturned on the highway. Amazingly, there was no congestion.
  - ☺ I dusted once ... it came back. I'm not falling for that again!
  - ☺ My friend David had his ID stolen. Now he's just Dav. Groan!
  - ☺ So, apparently, I have an attitude!
  - ☺ Sometimes I wonder what happens to the people who ask me for directions.
  - ☺ Being a functional adult **every day** seems a bit excessive.
  - ☺ Don't piss off Old People. The older we get the less "Life in Prison" is a deterrent.
  - ☺ I get most of my exercise from shaking my head in disbelief.
- Until next month!

Calendar:

**January 8** - Meetings at Colwood Golf Center Grill – Social Hour 11:00AM, Lunch served at noon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month.

## PENNSYLVANIA

### THE INDEPENDENTS

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(610) 358-3498  
[gailpbrad@icloud.com](mailto:gailpbrad@icloud.com)



Hi from Philly,

Once again our meeting isn't until December 8<sup>th</sup>, Monday. We will be celebrating our Christmas Luncheon. It will be the last one until April. We will collect items for our veterans at Coatesville Hospital. We will also

bring items for our silent auction. Also, we have a large Wheel (made by **Al Edwards** years ago) it will have 50 scratch offs from the PA lottery. There will be one winner, it's a lot of fun.

Hopefully everyone will have a great holiday with lots of memories with friends and families.

We'll be back next month! Have a Happy New Year!

**PITTSBURGH**  
**PIT-STOPPERS**

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

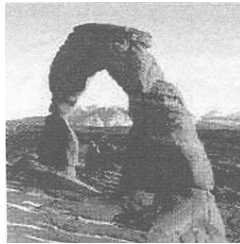


There is no report this month from the Pittsburgh Pit-Stoppers chapter of RUAEA.

**UTAH**

**SALT LAKE RETIREES**

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



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

**WASHINGTON**

**EMERALD CITY SLICKERS**

Seattle, WA  
Ken Storey  
(206) 244-9026



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Seattle City Slickers. We are looking forward to our December 9<sup>th</sup> Holiday get-together. So far, 25 members, friends and family have signed up to attend. We'll report on this meeting next month.

A reminder that the Mechanic Breakfasts are still being held on the second Thursday of each month at Trotters Restaurant, 8:30AM. One of the topics that we always discussed is the group responsible for deicing the planes since it's a job that you don't want to do but you have to do it. The deicing is now being done by the ramp service and the mechanics do not feel bad about it.

Seattle still has not received any snow yet. Have a great year!

A reminder that the Mechanics get-together is scheduled at 8:30 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at Trotter's Restaurant in Auburn.

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

### THE DULLES LOUNGERS

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



#### Submitted by Carl Alford, President

We began our November meeting on a sad note. **Mary Beth Collins** informed us of the passing of **Benita Bell** the night before. Prior to some health issues arising in the last few years, Benita was an enthusiastic adventurer and avid collector of aviation memorabilia.

On a much brighter note, the meeting was a Toys for Tots success! As you can see in the photo, our group did a fantastic job of donating toys for this worthwhile cause. As always, we were fortunate to have a Marine on hand to collect our donations. Sgt. Klink (pictured with our officers) was not permitted to wear his uniform as a result

of the Secretary of Defense's response to the government shutdown. He made up for the lack of color with an informative presentation and displaying a genuine passion in his support of the Marines' signature charity. In addition to all the toys, we made a monetary donation of \$1005.00 to Toys for Tots, which is an outstanding amount for our small group! Needless to say, Sgt. Klink departed our luncheon with a full toy box, stomach, and heart.

If you find yourself in the DC area on the second Wednesday of the month, please join us. We meet at 11:30AM at the Golden Corral in Manassas, VA, September through May. Happy holidays to all!

## NATIONAL

### CLIPPED WINGS®

Kathleen A. Freeman  
Clipped Wings  
National Vice President  
EWRSW - Active  
[cwkfreeman@gmail.com](mailto:cwkfreeman@gmail.com)  
<https://unitedclippedwingsinc.org>  
(732) 300-7638



**The True North Pole: Remembering United's Most Meaningful December Service** ~ For over 30 years, United Airlines has hosted one of its most cherished and emotionally powerful traditions: The annual Fantasy Flights to the "North Pole". This December tradition, which takes place at major hubs worldwide—including Newark, Chicago-O'Hare, Denver, and Washington-Dulles—is a profound demonstration of the airline family's commitment to community and compassion.

**The Magic Mission:** The Fantasy Flights are customized experiences created to bring holiday joy to deserving children, often partnering with local nonprofits, hospitals, and organizations like Make-A-Wish to select those facing serious medical conditions, disabilities, or other hardships.

The journey is simple but spectacular:

1. Check-In & Departure: Children receive genuine printed tickets (sometimes with the airport code "JOY" for the North Pole!) and board a festively decorated United aircraft.
2. The Flight: The plane takes a short, scenic flight (or sometimes just a taxiing excursion) to sell the magical ruse. Pilots may even announce they are flying at Mach 3 to reach Santa's home quickly!
3. Arrival at the North Pole: Upon "landing", the children are escorted to a huge surprise: A transformed airport gate or maintenance hangar decked out as a spectacular Winter Wonderland. This space is complete with twinkling lights, Christmas trees, games, real reindeer, and, of course, Santa, Mrs. Claus,

and dozens of elves.

A Labor of Love, the Volunteer Spirit: What truly makes the Fantasy Flights special is that they are entirely organized and staffed by employee and retiree volunteers. Flight attendants, pilots, mechanics, customer service agents, and support staff donate their time and holiday spirit to create a truly unforgettable day. Clipped Wings members who live close to some of United's major hubs often join in as volunteers as an all hands on deck are always needed. In particular, our Chicago Clipped Wings chapter has participated for the last 15 years at this wonderful event held at O'Hare Airport. Clipped Wings Chicago member, **Christel Ilg**, has proudly volunteered and coordinated the chapter's involvement for United's annual holiday flight for very ill children from local hospitals and organizations. After being sent off by Chicago animated characters, the families return to a gate transformed into Santa's Village for lunch, gifts, character visits, and a chance to meet Santa, a truly magical experience for all.

As one retired employee may attest, volunteering on these flights is often the most rewarding experience of the year. It's a day when the usual pressures of the airline fade, replaced by genuine joy and the simple miracle of creating hope for children in need. Volunteers are often struck by the resilience and strength of the children, and many crew members describe the excitement as the children board their airplane to the North Pole.

This December, as you celebrate the holidays, take a moment to remember the sheer magnitude of goodwill generated by United employees and retirees. The Fantasy Flights represent the very best of our airline's culture, proving that the United family's mission to serve extends far beyond commercial air travel.

*Find a Chapter and Join the Momentum* ~ The wings may be clipped, but the momentum of service remains unstoppable. We salute every Clipped Wings member who continues to log countless hours of dedication. Your second careers—the unsung ones—are truly your most inspiring.

If you are looking for volunteer events in your hometown, we encourage you to connect with us and explore a chapter near you:

- ★ Website: [unitedclippedwingsinc.org](http://unitedclippedwingsinc.org)
- ★ Facebook: Clipped Wings® Chat Corner (Crew Lounge)
- ★ Business Facebook: United Airlines Stewardess Alumnae & Flight Attendant, INC.
- ★ Instagram: @clippedwingsual

## NEW MEMBERS

The following new members joined RUAEA during the month of **November 2025**:

George Angermeir, San Jose, CA  
Jean Brinckerhoff, Sarasota, FL  
Mitzi Craney, Redondo Beach, CA  
Shiela K., Haiku, HI  
Stan Novak, Olmsted Township, OH  
Jeanette Ortiz, Aurora, IL  
Steve Shultz, San Diego, CA  
Samuel Tomlin, Hamilton, VA  
Terrence Walsh, Wheaton, IL  
D. L. Wilson, Benicia, CA

## CONTRIBUTIONS

We appreciated monetary contributions from the following members during the month of **November 2025**:

Muriel A Bergsma, Marvin E. Berryman, Barbara Bertacini, Ronald Bertacini, Jean Brinckerhoff, Levita J. Burnette, Richard L. Dean, Marsha L. Disanto, William A. Engler, Judy D. Godlove, Paul L. Grossman, John B. Hagen, William D. Hamilton, Harold W. Hedrick, Lilly Kodama, Arlene C. McCroy, James B. Micallef, Lacides Miranda, Mildred L. Monson, Kay E. O'Brien, Matt Ohr, Patricia Ortega, Murray Pomerantz, Barbara L. Rothermal, Deborah Runyeon, Irene Scheuerell, Sue Sealey, Steve Shultz, Howard E. Sibley, Dora L. Starr,



Dewitt F. Story, Henry A. Suta, Harry I. Takaki, Ralph Thinnes, Roberta R. Tidmore, Stanley T. Tsunemoto, and Richard S. Walcha.

## OBITUARIES

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

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

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

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

Retiree – **Dahl, Robert N.**, on 11/9/2025, SFOUS, husband of Judith E. Dahl, 2060 Madelaine Ct., Los Altos, CA 94024

Retiree – **Levine, Jordan I.**, on 8/18/2025, JFKFP, husband of Mary R. Andriola, 1 Grove Isle Drive, Unit A 1008, Miami, FL 33133

Retiree – **Lupori, Pierre (Papi)**, on 11/17/2025, ORDMM, husband of Antonia (nee Boldao) Lupori, 988 Brantwood Avenue, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Retiree – **Soohoo, Wing**, on 11/22/2025, SFOJJ, husband of Doreen Soohoo, SFOJJ, PO Box 4212, Foster City, CA 94404

### Letters & Notes



**We appreciate your letters & notes. Please keep them coming. Send them to:**  
**RUAEA, 7401 MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207**  
**-or- [johnqchu@hotmail.com](mailto:johnqchu@hotmail.com).**

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

Charlene Anderson, Linda J. Brown Marek, Levita J. Burnette, Carol N. Dean, Roberta Fensch, James B. Micallef, Judi Nelson, Nancy K. Norris, Mary K. Robinson, Sue Sealey, Dora Starr. Ric Walcha, and Lucille L. White.

**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.)*

**Ruth Marston, 425 Maggie Cir., Flint, TX 75762**

Hello to all,

I'm sorry I didn't renew my membership earlier. I just had my 95<sup>th</sup> birthday; my health is basically good. I use a walker around the house and a wheelchair when we go out; mostly because I move so slowly walking.

I am very blessed to have my daughter (Patti Meyers) who lives with me; my son Dwight lives nearby. I now have 27 great grandchildren and 4 great-great grandchildren. I stay pretty close to home.

Best wishes, good health and happiness to all!

**Randy Tidmore, 8515 Costa Verde Blvd., Unit 708, San Diego, CA 92122**

Hi, thanks for all you do to keep us together and up to date. I'm really sorry I missed this year's Reunion but I heard it was great.

I keep looking for names I recognize but I seldom if ever see one but that's quite understandable since I'm 103½ years old.

**Dora Starr, 3900 N. Sabino Canyon Rd., Unit 4500, Tucson, AZ 86750**

My husband, **Gordon Starr**, who once served as RUAEA Executive VP, used to have a subscription to the RUAEA Newsletter but he has been gone for over 5 years now. I would like to renew the membership. I retired from UAL LAXSW (in 2003? I think) after about 30 years as a flight attendant.

**John Brinnon, 2618 Hampton Ave., Redwood City, CA 94061**

Thank you for many years of your excellent publication. I look forward to each and every issue. It's always great to have up to date information regarding benefits and travel. Much appreciated.

**Ken & Muriel Bergsma, 2809 N. Dutch Circle, McHenry, IL 60051**

Ken & I are noticing how very quickly the days and years pass by as we age. I have many happy memories of the years I had with United and the many friends made during that time of my life. However, it's sad to say we have lost many of our friends within the last two years. I heard it said that it's wise to make friendships with folks 10 years younger than yourself – I think those words hold true to fact.

We still have our "snowbird" home in Green Valley, AZ, but time spent there changes due to medical situations that arise back in IL. However, we truly enjoy our time in the sunny Southwest when we're there. This year, it looks like January before we can leave here.

I thank everyone for all the work they do to keep the Newsletter alive and running. We enjoy being kept up to date on what's going on with all the current and upcoming happenings.

**Notes**

**George Angermeir**

I now join the rank of United retiree.

**Jean Brinckerhoff**

I think my husband George might have been a member? I would like to join RUAEA.

**Shiela K.**

I would like to join. I desperately need help with retiree medical insurance.

**Marvin E. Berryman**

I am continuing my “association” with United through United Airlines Historical Foundation. I am attending the Friday “Wings” Ceremonies at The Training Center and writing monthly RUAEA newsletter articles for UAHF.

**Terrence Walsh**

I would like to join RUAEA.

**V. Kay Innocenti**

I am still traveling, mostly using the 80% discount plus miles domestic. I have been traveling internationally using my vacation passes with my sister on buddy pass. We just returned from AMS in Polaris class. So glad we have the ability to check loads and standby riders.

**John E. Klos**

I read the RUAEA Newsletter to keep up with other chapters’ news items. Sometimes I recognize a name from the past.

**DON'T MISS  
IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS  
ON THE NEXT PAGE**

# The Contact Column



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

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

<https://flyingtogether.ual.com>

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

## **United Employee Service Center**

1-877-825-3729

1-847-825-3729 - International Use

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

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

## **Employee Travel Center**

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

## **United Airlines Technical Service Desk**

**1-800-255-5801**

For Flying Together password assistance

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

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

**PBGC** - for all retiree pension questions

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

## **Social Security Administration**

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

## **Alliant Credit Union**

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

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

Malcolm Horn, CFP®, Financial Consultant

Alliant Retirement & Investment Services

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

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

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

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

1-844-635-3401

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

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



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Toni Van Kampen  
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(847) 209-8149 - M-F, 9:00AM-5:00PM Central Time

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

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**INCLUDE FILE NUMBER IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE**

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

	<u>Membership Dues</u>		
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One year	\$30.00	\$47.00	\$52.00

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

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

**"IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP."**  
**"DISREGARD THIS MESSAGE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID".**

**"YOUR MEMBERSHIP WILL EXPIRE UNLESS YOUR DUES ARE RECEIVED."**  
**"PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR DUES PAYMENT AT THIS TIME."**  
**"DISREGARD THIS NOTICE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID."**



United Airlines  
Historical Foundation

"Preserving the Past,  
Inspiring the Future"

## United Airlines Captain Milt Jines' Last Flight



**M**ay 20, 1994 – Friday: After nearly 27 successful years flying with United Air Lines, I flew my final flight - Boeing 737-200 – Flight 1014 - from Santa Barbara to San Francisco. This was the final leg of a four-day sequence which began on May 17<sup>th</sup>. My Copilot was SFO First Officer Cory D. Jones,

who had flown the month in schedule with me.

The last two days were very memorable, indeed. The night before my last day, I passed through San Francisco and picked up my wife, Sunee, and my oldest son Mark (a Jetstream Captain with Westair) and we flew to Ontario, California for my last layover (ONT Hilton). Son Mark and my good friend, UA Captain Jim Rosenbaum rode on the cockpit jump seat(s) just to keep me “honest”

In Ontario, we were joined by my good friend and UA employee, Linda Graham, and we all went out to a Mexican dinner in Ontario. The following morning, early (0645!) and legal, we left Ontario for San Francisco where we picked up my other son, Todd, and another good friend, UA Captain Art Goldenstein (who displaced Jim Rosenbaum off the jump seat to a seat in the back of the airplane.) Son Mark stayed on the other jump seat (of course), and more well-wishers, UA Captain Jim McGivern and his wife, Elaine, a UA CSR who rode as passengers with my wife Sunee and son Todd on the Santa Barbara round trip.

On takeoff from San Francisco, the Air Traffic Control Center, Oakland offered to take us on a “retirement tour” of the City of San Francisco, Alcatraz Island and the Golden Gate Bridge. It was a beautiful clear day so the Center kept us at 2,000 feet and let us fly a Grand Circle around the City and the Bridge, being careful to keep us over water at all times. It was the most exciting, not just for us in the cockpit, but for our passengers as well. I was careful to keep it slow (220 knots) so as not to cause a disturbance on the ground. I made an announcement on the PA system assuring my passengers it was perfectly safe and that they were the beneficiaries of a Very Special and Rare Occasion. This was just not done routinely! All seemed to enjoy the magnificent view(s).

Someone on the radio asked if we were going to fly under the Bridge, to which I replied: “No, Real Professionals Fly over Bridges”. ~ Captain Milt Jines, United Airlines Pilot

If you are interested in donating United or Continental memorabilia for display in Rooms A102 - A104 at the Historical Exhibit at the Denver Flight Training Center, please contact **Judy Schweppe**, UAHF Secretary at [schweppejr03@comcast.net](mailto:schweppejr03@comcast.net). ■



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*Kathy Denker and  
Kathy Freeman*



*Elizabeth Crawford, Wilda Squires  
and Loel Crawford*



*Joy Carlson, Pat Kucera, Mike & Diane Webb,  
Ernie & Renee Jakus and Bruce Shropshire*