



RUPANEWS

Journal of the Retired United Pilots Association

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Photo: Ed Condit

RUPANEWS

Editor Jock Savage

2207 Thurm Ave. Belmont, CA 94002-1547

Tel (650) 592-2380, FAX (650) 592-2380

CompuServe & Internet: jock_savage@compuserve.com

RUPA Website - www.rupa.org

OFFICERS

Captain George Howson, President Emeritus

President W. E. "Bill" Smith, 145 Bella Vista, Belvedere, CA 94920 415-435-2516

Vice-Pres. W.R. "Bill" Bartel, 260 Sebastian Dr. Millbrae, CA 94030 650-697-9266

Sec/Treas. Cleve Spring, 1104 Burke Ln. Foster City, CA 94404 650-349-6590

Asst.Sec/Treas. Floyd Alfson, 517 Kentucky Ave., San Mateo, CA 94402 650-344-8359

Membership Bill Richards, 9435 Olympia Fields Dr. San Ramon, CA 94583 925-829-5229

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PREZ SEZ

Fellow Ruparians, Just a couple of things this month. The plans for our convention in November are going well under the able guidance of our gang in LAS. However since I am also part of the tennis committee, I would appreciate for any of you tennis fans out there to let Barry Dixon, Walt Holland, or myself know ASAP who is interested, ratings, and what sort of competition. [mixed doubles, etc.] We would like to keep it fairly low key, however.

EDITOR'S NOTES

One item that slipped my mind in the press of last month's events was that while discussing the liaison duties volunteered by Milt Jensen and his cohorts, I had meant to also mention the volunteer services of the "Retirees Travel Desk" which I first heard of while in Portland in March. When visiting with Dick Clack, and his charming wife, Susan, she told us of a volunteer project at Portland airport in which she is involved. She is one of some volunteers who man (and woman) the phones at a Retiree Travel Desk on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:00 to 14:00 Pacific time. They are there to help retirees with queries or problems regarding flight schedules, flight listing, or travel information.

As far as I know, Portland and Seattle are the only two airports to have such an organization, although there might well be others. Anyway, the thought crossed my mind that it's a good idea which should be emulated at other places. Perhaps a project for our various area lunch banches to investigate.

For those living in the Portland vicinity who seek advice or help in the areas mentioned, here are the phone numbers of the PDX Travel Desk – (503) 249-4142 & (503) 249-4143.

Another item worthy of mention is the response of members with suggestions about proper placement of my deceased friend's W.W.II diary and other items. His son told me that he had calls from at least half-a-dozen members, whom I assume that he has by now personally thanked. It is heartwarming to know that our members are willing to take the time to be of assistance in such cases.

We continue to have unexplained (thusfar) delays in mailing *RUPANEWS* to some locations. For example, the magazine was mailed on the 7th April, and did not reach my home, one mile from the Post Office, until the 16th. Our mailing team is having a meeting with the Post Office honcho in early May, and hope to have the matter successfully resolved.

I would also like to give Milt Jensen, our liaison committee chairman, and board director in the ORD area great credit for taking on his liaison task. It would be in all of our interests to reflect on his article in the Apr. *RUPANEWS* and communicate your thoughts about such matters to one of us, or Bruce McLeod, the RUPA website genius, so that we can use that medium as a "Chat Room" so to speak. Good Enuf for now.
Bill

Just a quick mention to those of you who contact me electronically – don't forget to mention who you are, because most e-mail addresses don't give me a clue, and I really don't have the time to research the innards of the directory to match wives with names in the few cases that do.

Oh, and another thing, would those of you who are "snowbirds" please make sure to call Cleve's 800 number when you undertake your annual emigration. That way you'll continue to receive the *RUPANEWS* more or less uninterruptedly – given the vagaries of the USPS.

In this issue, you will read the report of our "Webmeister", Bruce MacLeod. Bruce has put and is continuing to put quite a bit of work into setting up our own web site which it is hoped will progress into a most useful tool for RUPA communications. Thusfar, however, its meager use has been disappointing. As Bruce explains, the website is intended merely as an adjunct to *RUPANEWS*, not any kind of replacement – some had suggested a letters to the editor section, which would be somewhat superfluous, as *RUPANEWS* is mainly one long letters publication. Given its limitations – Bruce, like the rest of us involved in publishing *RUPANEWS*, does have another life too – which prevent his running as fulltime sysop, overseeing chat rooms etc., there is a golden opportunity for exchange of information just waiting, if members who are online will make use of it.

Bruce is in the midst of improving the website, and I hope to have him give me the odd article, from time to time, on some hints for helping those of us who are just getting our feet wet in the internet.

Memorial Day is just around the corner, and with it the onset of summer, which will doubtless see our footloose membership off to all corners of the globe to garner new experiences with which to regale us in print on their return, as well as, we hope, a continuing supply of tales of aerial derring-do from years past.
Editor Jock

**PLEASE SEND ALL
POSTAGE CHECKS
and
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to
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Please send all postage & address changes or other INFORMATION to me by one of the following methods.

**Use answering/FAX machine... "1-800-787-2429" or
E-mail me on CompuServe 105300,427**

Those not on CompuServe 105300.427@compuserve.com

or

Snail Mail--1104 Burke Lane, Foster City, CA 94404

INFORMATION about Membership & Postage Fees.

One Time Lifetime Membership Fee.....\$50

Annual Postage Fee.....\$20

U. A. Retired Pilots Foundation, Inc.

Send all donations for the United Pilots Foundation to:

**Capt. T. S. ATed@ Bochniarz, Treasurer
11165 Regency Drive
Westchester, IL 60154-5638**

MORE LAS VEGAS INFO - - -

RUPA has been allocated rooms for the night of November 11th for those of us who wish a longer stay. Please keep in mind that to try to use passes to get out of Las Vegas on a Friday is pretty much impossible. Friday traffic is always very heavy. Hotel rooms (if any) will be at the weekend rate. Some "Ruparians" going to Las Vegas have booked tickets as "seniors" - there are a certain number of seats in this category on each flight and at a slightly more attractive fare. . . .

More info next issue. *Floyd Alfson*

REGISTRATION FORM FOR RUPA CONVENTION '99

Obtaining accommodation is the sole responsibility of the member. Reservations may be made directly with the convention hotel, Harrah's Hotel and Casino, by phoning 1-888-458-8471. To obtain the special rate of \$55 per room per night between the 7th and 11th of November, 1999. mention "Group code retired" when booking.

Name. _____ Companion/spouse _____

I enclose \$15 per person registration fee \$ _____

I enclose \$35 per person for the convention banquet. \$ _____

Selection: Prime rib _____ Salmon _____

Interested members are encouraged to register early for events in which they wish to participate, so that the organizers may be assured that they will have the minimum number to hold the event. Some activities could be cancelled for lack of interest. If you register for an event that is subsequently cancelled, your money will be cheerfully returned. If you do not wish to register at this time, please indicate if you intend to participate by checking the space for entering the fee.

The present tentative schedule of events is:

Tennis (minimum 20 required) afternoon of Nov 8th, at Flamingo Hotel courts.

Round-robin tournament. Fee \$15 per person - soft drinks, tips and prize.

State level of play. _____ \$ _____

Golf: Nov. 8th at 9 a.m., Nov 10th at 7:30 a.m. Fees are \$165 per person for green fees for both days, transportation to and from course and prizes.

Enter handicap _____ \$ _____

Sporting clays (minimum 10 needed). Nov. 10th a.m. Costs will be minimal.

\$30 per person/round. Shotgun rental \$5/day plus ammo and transport to and from Nellis AFB. Total fee to be advised. Check on the line if you plan to shoot. _____

Lake Mead Lunch Cruise (Minimum 25 max. 60). Nov. 9th. \$35 p.p. covers

Transportation to/from boat, box lunch and soft drinks. Cash bar. Cruise time via Hoover Dam 1:30. _____

Tour of USAF Thunderbirds facilities at Nellis AFB. This is still a work in progress. We hope to organize, at minimal cost, a tour with, possibly, lunch at the Officers' Club at Nellis. It will likely be limited to only 50 people. Check if interested. _____

Total \$ _____

The cut-off date for registration for all events is 1 September, 1999.

Send your personal check made out to RUPA to Secretary/ Treasurer, Cleve Spring at the address on pg 4.

LAS VEGAS SHOWS

Most Las Vegas showrooms have two cocktail shows nightly, although a few hotels still offer a dinner show. The early shows usually begin between 7 & 8 p.m., and the late show starts at midnight. Some productions have added performances on Friday and Saturday.

Reservations for most shows can be made in Las Vegas by telephoning or visiting the showroom reservation office. In addition, there are a number of ticket agencies in Las Vegas that specialize in booking entertainment. They are listed in the classified section of the Las Vegas telephone directory, under "Theater & Sports Ticket Services" or "Tourist Information."

For 24 hour recorded information: (Las Vegas): (702) 225-5555
Visitor information (888) 226-9011

Major Show Room Telephone Numbers

Bally's Las Vegas	(Celebrity Room)	(800) 237- SHOW
Jubilee Theatre	(Jubilee)	(702) 739- 4567
Bellagio	(Cirque du Soleil's "O")	(888) 488- 7111
Caesar's Palace	(Circus Maximus)	(702) 731- 7333
The Desert Inn	(Crystal Room)	(800) 634- 6909
Flamingo Hilton	(Flamingo Showroom)	(702) 733- 3333
Hard Rock Hotel	(The Joint)	(702) 474- 4000
Harrah's Las Vegas	(Spellbound Theatre)	(800) 392- 9002
Imperial Palace	(Imperial Theatre)	(702) 794- 3261
Las Vegas Hilton	(Hilton Theater)	1-800- Starlight
Luxor	(Luxor Theater)	(800) 557- 7428
MGM Grand Hotel	(MGM Grand Theater)	(800) 929- 1111
Hollywood Theatre		(800) 929 - 1111
The Mirage	(Siegfried & Roy Theater)	(800) 374- 9000
Monte Carlo	(Lance Burton Theater)	(702) 730- 7000
New York New York	(Broadway Theater)	(702) 740- 6815
Riviera	(Splash Theater)	(702) 477- 5274
La Cage Theater	(An Evening @ La Cage)	(702)477- 5274
Sahara	(Congo Theater)	(702) 737- 2515
Stardust	(Stardust Theater)	(702) 732- 6325
Stratosphere	(Broadway Showroom)	(800) 998- 6937
Treasure Island	(Cirque du Soleil Mystere)	(800) 392- 1999
Tropicana	(Tiffany Theatre)	(702) 739- 2412

*Shows may also be booked through [Http://www.bigticket.com/shows](http://www.bigticket.com/shows)
or their telephone number: 1 800 244 8497*

SEATTLE "GOONEY BIRDS"

13TH ANNUAL "CO-ED LUNCHEON"

SEA-TAC Marriott Snowqualmie Room, 11:30 May 20 1999.

\$15 pp (tan & tip incl.) Send check for RSVP by 5/14 to:
Ray Dapp, 3112 SW 300th Place, Federal Way, WA 98023

Hey Fellas - This will be the only notice given, so reserve now!

SEA Gooney Birds

The Seattle Gooney Birds met at the usual time and place. No program as usual and as desired by the attendees.

Present were:

Harv Beery	Bill Cotter	Ray Hull
Chuck Podhasky	Tom Turner	Vince Evans
Dick Woodin	Gus Tuit	Gerry Pryde
Vince Wormser	Dick Anderson	Bob Berkey
Garry Dunn	Ralph Stevens	Doug Christensen
Bob Stewart	John Cordell	Bob Reid
Jack Bard	Jack Brown	Neil Webb
Toby Dunlap	Bob Berg	Bill Brett
Roger Baird	Neil Johnson	Glenn Jewett

Next meeting will be our annual co-ed meeting--always an enjoyable get together with the fair sex. It will take place at the same time at the Airport Marriott. Everyone is welcome. Contact Ray Dapp for reservations.

Editor's note: I have received a request from Elizabeth Weber at SEAFO to place the following on the Social Calendar: Retirement Party for SEA Chief Pilot Jess Marker on Saturday, October 9, 1999 at the Museum of Flight. Thought I'd give you locals a heads up on it.

Denver Good Ole Boys

Dick Wagner (irwagner@ix.netcom.com) Golden, Colorado, 20 April 1999

We are looking forward to a big turnout next month on Ladies Day on the 18th of May. We want to extend a special invitation to our solo Ladies. We do have a schedule conflict. I understand United has a Stockholders meeting on that date, but hope our luncheon will prevail.

We had 20 "Good Ole Boys" in attendance today, and Howard Reid regaled us with stories at our end of the table. We meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month; 18 May, 15 June, at 11:30 hrs at the Country Buffet, 7200 West Alameda (Villa Italia Shopping Center).

Attending were:

Tom Hess,	Bill Hoygaard,	Phil Spicer,
Bob Clipson,	Dick Wagner,	H. W. Reid,
Bob Ashworth,	Ralph Barksdale,	Jim Cox,
Bob Blessin,	Russ Ward,	Warren Mugler,
Curly Baker,	John Thielen,	Sunny Bragg,
Virg Vaughan,	R. O. Stewart,	F. M. "Babe" James,
Jerry Kennedy,	Chuck Gaasch	

This year's picnic will again be held at the *Palo Alto Elks Club*. The date will be Wednesday, August 11, 1999, so you can mark your calendars. Further details will be announced later.

Washington Area Eddie O'Donnell Luncheon April 21st

With the Forsythia in full bloom and the Azaleas starting, the Washington Area group braved spring showers and gathered at the Belle Haven Country Club on April 21st for lunch. On this occasion, we had as our guest the widows of our friends flown west and our wives and we thoroughly enjoyed their gracious presence. Long time acquaintances were renewed and much fellowship was enjoyed.

Joining us also were DCA Chief Pilot Roy Liggett and DCA Manager of Administration Herb Petitt. We were briefed on the expansion of service at IAD. The Chamber of Commerce estimates that new office construction in the Dulles Corridor, to be completed in 1999, will be equal to one third of the SFO area office space. This is expected to support the service increase and the re-entry of UAL into the Dulles north/south market. Service is being increased in the transcon, Boston, and New York markets and expanded to Atlanta and Orlando, with more yet to come. We have carried 214,000 passengers this month, as of April 20th, with a high load factor. We were informed that the telephone exchange for our offices at IAD has changed from the old 661 to the NEW 572- and there is no longer a recording to tell callers of the change. Herb pointed out that the phone on the wall by the entrance to the stairway to Flight Ops. is connected to the Flight Office and someone will come to escort visitors to the Office, where they are welcome.

It was reported that Pete Snyder's wife, Annie, has been hospitalized for two months with complications of pneumonia and with viral infections contracted in the hospital. She is in critical care, with Pete and their daughters staying with her around the clock. The good news from Chuck Jarriel is that his surgery in January was successful and chemo and other therapies were not necessary. Carl Miller has recently encountered heightened health problems and is confined close to his respiratory treatment.

Due to family commitments, Bob Engle found it necessary to resign as RUPA Area Representative and E.K. Williams has stepped into that job. Carl Miller and Chuck Smith have served in that capacity for many years, and we all appreciate their work. Ed Miller has passed the treasury to Jack Evans, and it is reported that we are solvent. Carl Miller has enlisted Jerry Goebel to manage the phone tree and Bud Ruddy has passed the mailing list on to E.K. Williams. These men have worked hard and accomplished much in maintaining the information necessary to keep up with our membership. Jerry and I will need the help of all of the group to keep the information up to date and not waste the work of these highly paid volunteers. Please report any changes to us. Jerry, in particular, asks that you keep him informed regarding illnesses and deaths in the group.

Our next luncheon will be July 21st, at which time we will be replaying a tape of the documentary television show about the recovery of the P38 landed on the ice in Greenland by Harry Smith. Make a calendar note now. The following were in attendance.

Bob Aldridge,	Dick & Libby Bennett,	Lee Boyd,	Bud & Helen Boyd,
Ernie Bressins,	Bill & Alma Eblen,	George Elliott,	Jack & Jeanie Evans,
Bard Flemming,	Jerry Goebel,	Bob & Bo Hughle	Earl Jackson,
Fred & Patricia Keister,	Roy Liggett,	Roger Lemieux,	
Clyde & Claudette Luther,	Frank McKenzie,	Lou Meyer,	Ed & Dolores Miller,
George Paull,	Herb Petitt,	Larry Rooney,	Bud & Theresa Ruddy,
Bernie & Bonnie Schwartzman,	Ralph Sewell,	Chuck Smith,	Joe & Gloria Soltis,
Ray Trimble,	Don & Kathryn Utz,	E.K. & Betty Williams,	Andy Yates,
Ernestine McMann,	Faith Osborne,	Betty Wolfe,	Jeannette Bond,
Ulla Chunn,	Jane Floege,	Eleanor Forsythe,	Jean Franklin,
Barbara Jones,	Ophelia Nickel,	Janice Smith,	Margaret Suits,
Shirley Soule,	Mamie Thompson,	Bill & Rosemarie Carrigg,	Joyce Lopez,
Bob Patterson,	Jerry Keyes,	Dave Malone,	Bill & Edna Nolan

We continue to meet quarterly at the Belle Haven Country Club south of Alexandria at 1115 with lunch served at noon. Our 1999 schedule is: July 21 Stag and October 21 Coed. We invite any of RUPA in the area to join us for lunch. Contact Bud Ruddy 703-858-1552 (tbrud@erols.com), Jack Evans 540-882-3496 (jevans95@juno.com), Jerry Goebel 703-719-6353 (JRGoebel@aol.com) or E.K. Williams 540-338-4574 (EKWJR@compuserve.com) to ensure a place at the table. *E.K. Williams*

April Folding and Stuffing Meeting

We had 30 members attend the April 7th Folding and Stuffing meeting. I think we have the new mailing system pretty well figured out. It only took about an hour and a half to complete the task and that's very good considering the small number of people we had. Those great members are listed below.

Floyd Alfson	Bill Bartel	Al Bernard
Jo Bernard	Rich Bouska	Georgia Bouska
Tom Bredis	Bob Clinton	Roz Clinton
Chuck Cooke	Russ Cottle	Sam Cramb
Bob Ebenhahn	Dick Hooning	Milt Jines
Bob Kallestad	Bob Kibort	Bruce McLeod
Don Merucci	Giles Mottl	Bob O'Leary
Jock Savage	Dr. Bud Schwartz	Bob Soergel
Cleve Spring	Rose Spring	Ralph Stamps
Gene Tritt	Gene Walter	Ray Wolff
Larry Wright		

Las Vegas, Nevada April 18, 1999

We held our monthly meeting April 1, again at Big Dogs Casino. Our group was smaller this month as people are starting to gear up for the summer and heading out of town. Clyde House has agreed to chair the May meeting to be held on the first Thursday, May 6th. Please contact Clyde, at 896-8821, no later than May 3rd if you are planning to attend.

Barry Dixon filled us in on further plans for the convention and everything seems to be coming along nicely. Also Jock Savage is doing a good job of providing us with latest up to date convention news in *RUPANEWS* Thanks Jock.

The following is a list of the attendees:

Barry and Ruth Dixon	Hugh and Kathy Mattern
Larry and Mary Doyle	Hal and Shirley Morris
Clyde House	Bud Puckett
Ron and Jan Kakeldey	Bob and Misty Roland
Gene Lamsk	

Two of our regulars, Bill Balboni and Bill Crandall, have been a little under the weather, so we wish them a fast recuperation and look forward to their return.

The walleyes are calling in Minnesota, so I'm out of here. Adios from the Land of Luck
Gene

LAX Lunch

The LAX luncheon meeting was held at the Hacienda near LAX on 4-15-99. Dave Tank could hardly get a word in edgewise to get the official meeting going. All the attendees were sharing wild airplane stories with arm waving and hand signals. Quite a few members own aircraft, and someone said how great it would be to have a fly-in at Santa Paula Airport and trade airplane rides! (There, I said it.)

Other than capable leader Dave Tank, who tries to quit at each meeting but was ignored as usual, those attending included: *Margaret Barnard, Charlie Barnard, Jim Turner, Ken Williams (Buecker Jungmann owner), Gene Gawenda, Mel Heflinger (Harlow owner), Bob Tyree, Sue Tyree, Ken Everson, Rex May, Don Krueger, Walt Albright, Jim Day, Jack Moore, Ken Kuecker, Jack Hanson, and Shirley Hanson.*

Next meeting will be at Billingsley's near Van Nuys Airport, on Thursday, May 20.

It was sadly noted that Hal Balatin passed away about two weeks after surgery for a brain tumor. There may be a memorial service at Torrance Airport for him later, but details should be confirmed. He will be remembered as a proud Glassair owner/pilot, and his plush hangar replete with carpeting, couches and chairs, refrigerator, and coffee table loaded with airplane magazines. We'll remember him in his red Corvette, living a life.

North Coasters

Despite the rainy April day, we had a near record crowd for our monthly gathering in Wooster. Several snow birds are back and some of the wives were being 'punished' and forced to attend! We were also graced by old friend Jack Roderick in for a visit from Chicago and nearly ready to retire. We talked about the death of Dave Boyce and had a nice note from his widow, Dana, thanking Jim Burrill for attending the funeral in uniform and representing all of us. It was decided that we make a contribution to his Memorial Fund which will go to completing the ball fields he helped build in Alliance.

Ken Wheeler mentioned the SPBQSI sing along in Massilon, but it will be over before this newsletter comes out! We heard good reports about Art Benson and we hope you will all keep him in your prayers. Next month we are eagerly awaiting the return of our official scribe, Don Kariaskos, until then I volunteered to relieve our Grand Leader for the month whilst he struggles to get computer literate and joins you 'online' at rnojlo@bright.net then he hopes to E-mail our monthly news report to the Journal! Here's who were there:

Barb & Ed Griffith(back from FL)	Jim Burrill,
Dan Seiple(third visit)	Dave & Kris Suits,
Rick & Ronnie Ogden,	Harv & Pat Morris,
Jack Heiszek,	Ken Wheeler,
Jack Roderick(ORD)	Dick Sanders,
Dick & Joanne Orr,	John Cusick.

Next month we meet again at the same time and place. May 20, 1999 at 1300 at TJ's in Wooster. Fly into Wayne county and call Dick Orr for transport. Wives and active pilots always welcome.

Ed Griffith

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA RUPA - "THE OUTLAWS"

Most of the Snowbirds had flown north by the time of our April luncheon. As a result, only 26 people came to hear Monica tell us about her "fling" with Bill. Trouble is, Monica didn't show. She's a hot item on the "date" circuit now. She appeared at the Oscars; at some Hollywood Birthday Bash; and various places like that. Rumor has it that she went to the Kosovo Peace Talks on the arm of Madeline Albright. That's why she didn't show at our gathering. Ha! See if SHE ever gets invited to one of our luncheons again!

As it was, we got to hear the straight scoop from our leader, Chuck Monahan: "We aren't gonna have a May get-together!" So, the April fling was the last one until next October. The winner of the \$100 door prize was a retired TWA pilot who showed up thinking he was gonna hear some titillating tale from Monica. That's the way it goes. Maybe Chuck will offer another \$100 door prize as an incentive to get more folks out for the October gathering. Here's the list of those who attended on April 12th. (I didn't get the TWA guy's name. He left in a hurry. However, he looked suspiciously like one of the retired UAL guys from the Florida East Coasters. First our breadsticks, and now our door prize! Have they no shame at all?) :

Chuck Hughes	Ed Prose	Faith Osborne	
Warren Schroeder	Mamie Thompson	Jack Taffe	
Gary & Janice Crittenden	Flower Whipple	Chuck Wagner	Hal
Storey	Bob & Eliz Maben	J. Sutton	
Norb & Carole Cudnowski	Carl & Carolyn Jordan	Gene Chapman	
C. P. Monahan	Buzz Osterbusch	Al May	
Don Sullivan	Al & Shirley Verhage	JimDavid	
(Mystery Prize Recipient) ?			

Sorry to hear that "Duckie" Duckworth died in February. He and I were enlisted men together during the Korean War, based at Goodfellow AFB while awaiting assignment to an Aviation Cadet class. Great guy and long-time friend. Life's definitely too short, ain't it?

Carl B. Jordan - Official Correspondent for the Florida Outlaws, and Official Guardian of our Olive Garden Garlic-Coated Breadsticks!

Phoenix Roadrunners

The Phoenix Roadrunners met at the Sun Lakes C.C. April 9, 1999.

ATTENDING:

Bill & Lillian Bay, Engel, Johnson, Mona Ruckle, Berynce Wagner (Berynce' sister Marilyn Lebens visiting from Minn. Nice to have some Tucson people. Thanks for coming Tom & Bev. Workinger.	Mac & Betty Bleser, Don & Jan Eiken, Ralph Johnson, Les & Doris Shea,	Frenchy & Millie Bourgeois, Bob & Bev. Gerdes, Otis Kline, Don & Joan Toeppen,	Marv. Phil Karl & Bob&
--	--	---	---------------------------------

Ralph Johnson brought his Log Book from 1934 to share some of the names. Many of our members recognized some of his Capt.s he had flown with. Ralph wore his "MATE" Wings of the period. He was flying the Ford Tri-motor from Chicago to Newark.

We also had a Video sent to us from Bob Grady about Aircraft Carrier operations. Karl Runkle was in charge of this part of our program.

This concludes our luncheon's until Oct when we will meet at Nancy's Country Cupboard in Sun City on Friday Oct. 8th 1999. Time 11:00 A.M. Wishing all of you a Healthy Summer, From The Cactus Garden

Millie & Frenchy

SUNDOWNERS

Jim Feneley, 3246 Hyde Park Drive, Clearwater, Fla. 33761

Ten SUNDOWNERS met for the March 18th stag luncheon in the Oasis Room at the Countryside Country Club.

Attending this select gathering were:

Bob Van Housen, Jamie Krapf, Ray Schlage, Woody Lynn, Paul Fidler, Bill Tyers, Jim Irwin and yours truly, me.

April 15th the luncheon is coed, 11:30 at the Countryside Country Club in Clearwater. Please let Jim Feneley know by April 15th at 727-785-5971 if possible so I may give Lil Borneman a rough estimate, and then makes arrangements with the Country Club. We look forward for your attendance. *JSF, RS, JRI*.

Birthdays Received Mar. 24 thru Apr. 3, 1999

Merle E Akins, Donald M Anderson, Nettie Aucutt, William H Baker, Donald K Beckenhauer, Richard J Bellack, Ronald A Berkowitz, Louise Bernier, P K Bonde, Ben A Brower, James F Buehner Jr, Lyle W Burry, Frank J Cambria, Leo W Clark, Mckinley B Cohagan, William J Cook, William M Corotis, John G Cusick, Terence R Davies, William F Ewald, Carl G Fein Jr, C Howard Gallion, Claude F Giddings, Raymond E Gilliland, Edward J Gilroy, Burl K Hamilton, Joseph A Hart, Chester B Hector, Robert F Helmchen, Francis D Hopkins, Charles N Houk, Willard T Huff, James E Jeskey, Robert T Jocz, Joseph R Keown, Ernest W Knutzen, Robert A Kramer, Edward P Krieger, Mary Krock, George T Krosse, Margaret Kuhn, Charles F Lapple, Jane C Leonard, William W Martin, Andrew J Mc Clain, Lois Means, Betty Mee, John A Millard, R Hoot Moninger, Marty Morehead, William E Mossop, Dallas E A Nelson, Virgil D Nolte, Robert D Patrick, Frederick K Patterson, Donald M Ramsey, Maxwell W Rasmussen, W Don Rice, R Frank Schlarman, John J Schuster, Robert S Tanons, William A Thorsen, Robert S Tinsley, Joseph J Udovch, Robert D Van Nostern, Walton W Warner, Joseph G West, Kenneth H Wheeler, Bobby G Williams, R John Wisda,

Birthdays Received Apr. 4 thru Apr. 17, 1999.

Jerome B Adams, James A Bailey, James D Barnard, W J Beck Jr, Raymond P Best, Robert H Blessin, Jared C Brandt, Kenneth O Breidenfeld, Ralph R Briggs, Harley L Brown, Mae Carlin, Richard L Carlton, E W Mike Carmichael, William Christie, Joseph R Cook, J Russ Cottle, Louis E Da Harb, William G Daily, Charles S Davis, Herbert E Delker, Monte R Duran, William M Dutton, Paul M Eagleson, Robert A Ebenhahn, Thomas V Erickson, John E Foster, Victor L Fox, Edward E Gentry, Richard A Gilbert, Gordon C Gimple, John L Glaze, Richard H Goodlow, Lynn R Grady, Edward S Hall, Gloria Hansen, Leonard L Haynes, Kenneth S Hendrickson, Louis L Hibbs, Russell T Holloway, William A Hoygaard, Milton L Jines, Dannie T Keith, W Don Kile, James B Kinne, John R Lange, Ray L Lewis, John J Marten, R G Matty Matheson, Russell Mc Donald, H Carl Mc Quigg, Alvin J Menting, Marvin C Meyer, James W Miller, Richard B Miller, Dona Moberly, Raymond G Moffett, Harley F Moon, Edgar R Musser, Marion O Donnell, Patrick A Ogle, Samuel J Orchard, Dale R Paterson, Hunter C Perkinson, Melvin N Peterson, Raymond E Pierce, Kingsley G Purton, Terrence R Rogers, Robert G Rohe, Sue Ross, Norbert E Rupp, Anton P Satorius Sr, Thomas W Schroeder, Walt E Schroeter, Edward R Schwab, Terry J Seanor, John E

Sende, Irvin F Smith, Jan Sprecher, George L Steven-
son, Dorothy May Stiffler, Robert J Swanston, John M
Thielen, August Tuit, Frank E Vancini, Paul L Wal-
lace, Russell A Ward, Helen Welter, Mike O Wil-
liams, C M Pete Williams Jr, Carl E Williamson, Tom
E Willman, A Hamilton Wilson Jr, Samuel B Wiper,
Vincent J Wormser,
Birthday Checks Received Apr

Council 52 Retirement Banquet

Fellow Retirees, I am returning to BLI after attending
the Council 52 annual retirement banquet. These par-
ties have been getting bigger and better each year.

Around 300 attended this year. The party was at the
Sheraton EWR March 29. Bob and Barbara Beavis
hosted them for several years, but got a rest this year
with a new committee. Pat Brannigan, Joe Clapfey,
Frank Lyons and Fran Groff headed the committee
and did a first class job of organizing the festivities.
Nineteen graduates were honored and with a 3 minute
time limit the evening moved along nicely. Raffles
and door prizes were awarded for hotel rooms, condo
visits and airline tickets. A "Year Book" was pub-
lished with photos and ads from sponsors.

Matty Kosonen now has a wife and bought a hotel
near the Finnish/Russian border. Some of us thought
Matty would never marry, but his wife is a charming
lady. Congratulations on graduation and consumma-
tion.

For all of you Council 52 folks, save a weekend next
March to attend the banquet. The hotel provides ac-
commodations, yes a discount, so you can leave the
next day. The party was a huge success and will worth
the effort to attend. Meet me there after Y2K. *Glen
DeVore*

Normal

Southeast Florida Group

Our last meeting for the first part of 1999 was a great
success. We will not meet again now until October.
At this time the plan is still the same, the second
Thursday of each month at 11:30 AM at the Flaming
Pit Restaurant in Pompano Beach. I'll put a note in the
RUPA Newsletter in September as a reminder and the
post cards will go out as usual.

The usual banter and libations prevailed at the lunch.
Charlie Steward drove down from Melbourne and
Carter Briggs came from Sabastion to the meeting.
We were all glad to see our old friends again. Carter
had a stroke a while back and for those that are inter-
ested, we looked him over very carefully and decided
he is not at all the worse for wear, least of all his sense

of humor. Pete Gallant is on sick list presently and
has missed a couple of meetings. We all pray for his
quick recovery.

Present on April 7th were, Jimmy Carter, Carl
McQuigg, Stan Blaschke, Ham Oldham,
Will Lambert, Ed Petrovich, Paul Livingway, Warren
Hepler, Tom Llewellyn, Ned Rankin, Jack Wink, Jerry
Bradley, Dick Baese, Burt Olson, Walt Kimmey, J.T.
Palmer, Hambone Wilson, Hank Fischer, Jim Murphy,
Carter Briggs, Charlie Stewart, and two youngsters,
Dick Bodner and Glen Hall.

I hope everyone has a great summer, I intend to. See
you in the fall.

Jerry Bradley for Stan Blaschke and Jimmy Carter

Financial Status

I have perused the RUPA First Quarter Financial
Report supplied to me by our Secretary/
Treasurer, Captain Cleve Spring and it accurately
portrays the current excellent financial condition
of our organization.

Fraternally, *Floyd L. Alfson*, Director

Overzealous brushing

Excessive brushing can actually damage the teeth just
as inadequate brushing can. Brushing your teeth too
vigorously, or more often than twice a day, can cause
the gums to recede and can damage the exposed root
surfaces. Those surfaces are much softer and more vul-
nerable to decay than the enamel on the crowns of the
teeth.

Aspartame safety

I've been using the sweetener aspartame (NutraSweet)
for several years. Recently, I've heard people say it's
toxic, and I saw an infomercial that said it causes brain
tumors. Are those risks real?

It's impossible to prove that anything is absolutely safe,
and some scientific controversy over aspartame's safety
has lingered on since the FDA approved its use in
1981. But studies done both before approval and since
that time have found no convincing evidence that as-
partame harms the brain or any other part of the human
body.

The only people who need to be concerned about aspar-
tame (now sold as Equal, NutraSweet, and NarraTaste)
are those with the uncommon inherited disorder
phenylketonuria, or PKU, who must limit their intake
of the amino acid phenylalanine, a component of aspar-
tame.

RONALD A. BERKOWITZ, 11850 Winterlong Way, Columbia, MD 21044-4412

I am thrilled to have retired! A wonderful career for which I am grateful to United Airlines, but forever indebted to Benke and ALPA for making it exceedingly worth while.

This is a "new beginning" in my life, and I've put flying airplanes behind me and am already deeply involved in several art classes.

Thanks RUPA for giving me the means to reacquaint myself with previously retired pilots. You do a great job. Ron

LOUISE K. BERNIER, 1 South 572 Route 53, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Dear Cleve, Your phone call strengthened my connection to UAL plus the pin, I wear it always. Seeing so many names in *RUPANEWS* always recalls so many fun times and memories.

Hope to see you at the November convention.

Enclosed my lifetime membership fee +. Louise

ROBERT H. BLESSIN, 762 Olive St. Denver, CO 80220 303-377-9114 rhblessin@juno.com

Dear Jock; Ann and I returned from our 4th winter on Oahu, just in time for a nice spring snowstorm. Oh well, one per year isn't bad. While we were in Hi, we ran into the RUPA 5 gliding geezers {by day we soar, by night we pour} at Dillingham glider port. I got a very nice ride with Milt Jines, and I'm thinking of trying it next year. It was also at this time I learned of Scotty's untimely demise. My condolences to Sandre. This summer will be very busy with camping, motorcycling, fishing and traveling to the pacific northwest. Looking forward to seeing everyone in Las Vegas.

Sincerely:

Bob and Ann Blessin

RALPH BRIGGS 12421 Richmond Ct., Conifer, CO 80433 65-95

Dear Cleve, Hello to all the good guys and gals out there. These years are just flying bye. Been very dry here in the mountains. Hoping for a good snow up here at 9T feet to get some moisture on the ground. We are all on wells and it would help. Enjoy reading about all the travels going on and have crossed off a couple of things on my list as well. One nice thing about retirement is I know where I'll be on Sundays and Monday nights during football season. Anybody else going through football withdrawal? Many thanks to all the F&S for all the work they put in. Check in mail. Take care, *Ralph*

BEN A. BROWER, 9807 N. Davies Rd., Lake Stevens, WA 98258 8564

Dear Cleve and readers, The main purpose of this letter (other than pay my dues) is to encourage those retirees who have not toured the country in a motorhome, to try it. Barb and I just returned from a five month trip primarily of the South Key West to Phoenix. While we were gone, Seattle had over 100 days of rain and we had just four, but we were lucky (except in Las Vegas).

I could fill the *RUPANEWS* with descriptions of the sights and scenery we saw, and the wonderful restaurants we visited. Incidentally, when in Tampa area, go to Sam Seltzers for the 32 oz. prime rib for only \$16.95.

But there is one big negative. Most people are "aggressive drivers" (tailgating, speeding, changing lanes, running red lights). Everyone thinks he or she is a NASCAR driver. Maybe you could buy a Prevost or American Eagle and they might be afraid of you.

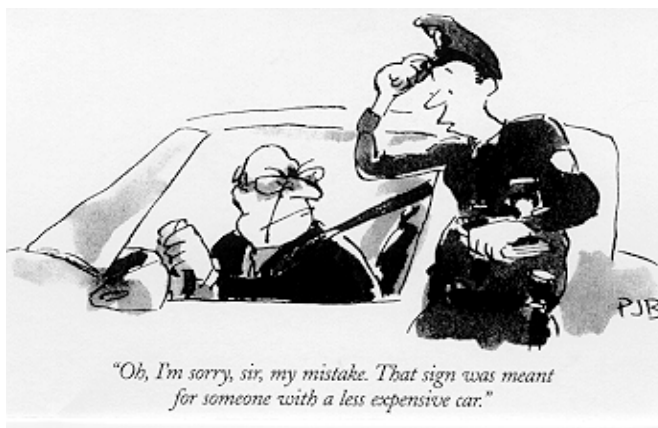
If the following is political, just delete it; but, I am surprised at the negative comments about ESOP from some of the retirees. I think it is the greatest thing to happen at United in my career. I know that United Airlines will not end up like PanAm or Eastern. Good health to everyone. Ben

JAMES F. BUEHNER, JR, 407 W. Oden Bay Rd, Sandpoint, ID 83864

Dear Cleve: The usual mantra "sorry about the late payment." Well, there is always next year.

Just took delivery of a computer. Maybe next letter will be in an "up-to-date" format. Thanks for your steadfast service. It is very much appreciated. Sincerely, Jim

Send your next letter by email, Jim, then you don't have to worry about formatting.. Ed.



OJAI BARBEQUE

Charles D. and Margaret C. Barnard

The Flight Crew members, Dispatch personnel and friends barbecue at the Barnard Ranch, 505 West Fairview Road, Ojai, CA, at 2:30 PM on July 10, 1999, will feature barbecued New York steak or chicken at a cost of \$22 each.

Persons desiring to remain in the Ojai Valley may do so at the Best Western motel, the *Casa Ojai*, at 1302 East Ojai Avenue, Ojai, 805-646-8175. The manager called recently and generously extended the offer of a discount to the person who calls them at 800-255-8175 (their own 800 number), and mentions the barbecue. Last year there were 30 rooms rented by RUPA members.

Other Motels:

Los Padres Inn, 1208 East Ojai Ave, Ojai, 805-646-4365,

Capri, 1180 East Ojai Ave, Ojai. 805-646-4305.

Casa Manana, 11794 North Ventura Ave, 805-646-6697

El Camino Lodge, 406 West Ojai Ave, Ojai. 805-646-4341.

HARLEY L. BROWN 17050 Arnold Dr. Riverside, Ca 92518 LAX-SFO 51-80

1998 was a bumper year. I lost my Precious Peggie to Ovarian Cancer, had a little eye trouble with a cyst, then discovered I had prostate cancer. Luckily I now live 30 minutes from Loma Linda hospital, a world-renowned cancer treatment center. After 15 Proton & 25 Radiation treatments, my PSA went from 16.3 to 2.37 in 3 months, and I hope it goes close to 0 eventually.

This last year-and-a-half has been the busiest year of my life. Paying doctor, hospital, medical bills, changing address, restructuring my estate & writing a new Living Trust. Two happy events were spending a month in Florida with my sister, and going through the Panama Canal. Also being invited to the Stocken Air Show in Nov. as a special guest, with all expenses paid. Bob & Delores Hope were the honored guests who we were near part of the time. Diz Laird, a Navy Ace Fighter Pilot, and myself were escorted by a pretty lady in her car, who obtained meals and drinks for us all day Sat. In the afternoon, Diz and I were invited to the podium for an interview. When we were leaving the podium, the M. C. said "If it wasn't for W.W.II Heroes like these two Ace Fighter Pilots we wouldn't be here today, much less give them a rousing send-off. Diz and I felt ten feet tall at being given a standing ovation by 100,000 people. Of course most of them were already standing.

After losing Peggie, the only good part of being a

Solo is I don't have to remember to put the toilet seat down every time.

Check to Cleve. Cheerio, Harley "The Red Baron"



AIR LINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION SFO COUNCIL 34 COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

SFO CODE-A-PHONE UPDATE

1633 Bayshore Highway Suite 145 Burlingame, CA 94010 (650) 343-UALP

Monday April 19, 1999

REGIONAL JETS BACK ON THE FRONT BURNER

The UAL-MEC this month directed the negotiating committee to receive a Company proposal to amend our RJ letter of agreement. This occurred after the company told the MEC that the present cap on the number of RJs is unacceptable to them as it limits United's feeders to 65 RJs while other carriers have hundreds. American currently has 329 RJ orders, Continental, 274; Delta, 354; and United, 65.

Both the MEC and the company recognize that passengers will fly regional jets before they fly props, thus putting United at a distinct competitive disadvantage. Therefore the RJ issue is once again on the front burner. Please note however that the size limit is not at question. The cap of 50 seats on regional jets remains non-negotiable, and the company has not indicated an interest in changing that.

The issue before United's pilots is how shall we, as a pilot group, keep United competitive, but protect our interests as well.

Northwest Airlines has ownership of the actual jets that their feeders fly. American owns American Eagle and Continental owns Continental Express and their pilots have worked out flow-through agreements and scope. Air Canada's pilots fly regional jets but have tremendous turmoil regarding the integration of seniority. Last month, Delta Air Lines announced that it would purchase Atlantic Southeast Airlines for \$700 million after losing Business Express to American in the Northeast, SkyWest in the West to United and the independence of ComAir is readily apparent. There is no question that feed is essential to an airlines' strength.

So far, United Airlines has focused on a short-term to medium range strategy that sets up contractual agreements for set periods of time (approx. 5 years) with separate feeder airlines without equity or ownership of these feeders airlines. Where will we be in 10 years? What is ultimate control? How do we best protect

United Pilots on the United seniority list and not strangle our own company? How long will the regionals be satisfied to operate smaller jets? Are regional pilots going to pass on the opportunity to fly bigger jets? Should we rely on contracts and scope clauses to save United Pilot's jobs in the long run? What happens to United pilot jobs if our feeders leave us or are taken away?

The question of whether regional jets will become a major part of commercial air travel is over -- they're here to stay. Today's feeders will be regional airlines in 10 years. For example, ComAir's market capitalization is 2½ times more than America West's.

The current position that we find ourselves in (i.e., Regional Jet Letter of Agreement) is unacceptable to the company and unacceptable to the pilots' long-term interests. The Master Chairman recently referred to our agreement as a "thumb in the dike". We will not "punt" and give another 65 jets for some token quid. Where do we go?

1) Do we "Buy and Fly" and take away the financial incentive to "whipsaw" one pilot group against another and work out the seniority integration?

2) Do we want UAL to obtain equity and ownership and fight the evils of revenue sharing and whipsawing with scope?

3) Do we want UAL to own the regional jet aircraft operated by all United Express regional carriers and maintain control of the feed through the ownership of the actual jets like Northwest?

The regional jet issue is here again, and it's time to control our destiny. Allowing another 65 regional jets without ultimate control over the issue would certainly be a mistake this time. The MEC awaits the company's long-term and strategic proposal. And your council officers await your thoughts and input.

DELTA SEVERS CODE SHARING AGREEMENT WITH KOREAN AIRLINES FOLLOWING LATEST CRASH

In a move that recognizes the importance of safety and quality to passengers, Delta Airlines this week severed its code sharing agreement with Korean Airlines following that airline's latest crash. This week a Korean Airlines MD-11F crashed after takeoff from Shanghai, killing the crew and people on the ground. This is Korean's third accident in 18 months. Delta's other code sharing partner, Swiss Air, suffered a fatal crash late last year as well.

Ironically, the day before the crash, Korean announced it would hire over 150 foreign pilots, with many of them to be placed in management positions.

Friday April 23, 1999

POSSIBLE SPECIAL MEC MEETING ON COMPANY R.J. PROPOSAL

Your council officers report that they are expecting a special MEC meeting to be held sometime within the next few weeks to review an expected proposal from the company to modify the RJ Exception Letter of Agreement.

This is not going to be a tentative agreement, but a proposal from the company. The MEC then may direct the negotiating committee to submit a response to their proposal.

The company has been wanting to lift the cap on the limit of 65 regional jets in order to compete with the other major airlines who don't have such a cap. Your officers have said that any modification to the current letter of agreement must include protections and enhancements to the pilots' career growth expectations.

SUPREME COURT TO HEAR CASE BROUGHT BY UAL PILOT APPLICANTS

This month the Supreme Court will hear arguments in a case brought by two UAL pilot applicants. At issue is whether, under the Americans with Disabilities Act, an applicant who meets the requirements of an FAA first class physical can be denied employment as a pilot because of more stringent physical requirements imposed by the airline.

The case, Sutton vs. United Airlines, involves two experienced commuter airlines pilots, Karen Sutton and Kimberly Hinton, identical twin sisters, who were rejected for pilot employment in 1992 because their uncorrected vision exceeded United's requirements. Their corrected vision, however, met FAA requirements.

The two sued under the ADA law protecting the disabled. But lower courts have disagreed on this issue. Some courts have refused to let the law apply to those whose disabilities were correctable. This placed applicants like Sutton in a catch-22 where if their vision was not correctable, they would most certainly not be employable, yet by their vision problems being correctable, courts have ruled that their case did not fall under the scope of the law.

COMPANY AND IAM REACH TENTATIVE AGREEMENT ON NEW CONTRACT FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENTS

United and the IAM announced today that they have reached a tentative agreement on a new contract for United's 19,000 customer service and reservations agents. These employees voted in July to become represented by the IAM. That vote was organized labor's

biggest private-sector win in more than two decades. According to press reports, United's CSRs now work under a wage cap of just under \$9 per hour - about half the industry norm. The low pay resulted in high turnover rates and less than ideal customer service. Once source close to the negotiations said the tentative agreement has a duration of one year and will be amendable in April 2000, along with the other IAM employees.

Patrick Palazzolo

Council 34 Communications Chair

FRANK AND 90 CALDERARO 1753 Wood"Old Rd. MarOnsville, NJ 08838-2343 EWR JFK CLE ORD

A bit late, but not too bad. Nothing now to report except a few (3) new grandchildren, including twin girls, now totaling fourteen(14). Still flying that DC-10 for ORBIS. Just squeaked thru another PC, probably my last. (But I said the same thing last year, just hard to quit) Haven't gotten into all those good retirement endeavors like golf, tennis, fishing, etc. I'm really not good at any of them, although I try all of them occasionally. Sis and I are blessed with good health as are all our children and grandchildren. (Naturally all of our grandchildren are very very smart - even smarter than their parents - it's OK, I never let my kids read this.)

We have taken several trips, I won't bore you with where and what a wonderful time we had. However, I will mention one coming up that should be great. I'm taking the ORBIS DC -10 from Casablanca to Paris to be displayed at the Paris Airshow. We will stay there five days, then take the plane to London. I'll run some tours through our plane, but for the most part, we (Sis and I) will be enjoying the show. I'm also planning to go to Oshkosh this year. That ought to satisfy the airshow requirement for a couple of years. I am now 70 minus 3 years old - I say it this way so the big 'SEVENTY" won't be so traumatic. I've been extremely lucky with almost everything in my lifetime - so I still have nothing to bitch about. My annual THANKS go to the RUPA workers, I thoroughly enjoy the new format... Frank

McKINLEY B. COHAGAN, 1642 Wellington Place, Westlake Village, CA 91361

Dear Cleve, Another birthday and all is well here. I enjoy the RUPANEWS and thanks to all those who devote so much time to RUPA! M.B.

JOSEPH R. COOK, 22 Willow Lane, Belmont, CA 94022

Dear Cleve, "As The Boat Turns" The adventure of cruising continues with my mate (wife of ... could it be 30 years?) aboard our sailing vessel, RED DOT. We set sail and slipped under the Golden Gate in early fall. The California coast provided opportunity for a few stops before reaching San Diego where provisioning was primary, in preparation for cruising to Mexico. We hoped to encounter Captain Bob Ray, (retired SFO), last known to be bobbing around in the Sea of Cortez.

While dancing on a table in Cabo San Lucas, an amorous Senorita sang a ditty about the sailing vessel, *GOOD PLEASURE*, on the Sea of Cortez. Captain Bob was named as her infamous Skipper. Setting sail immediately for intercept, we arrived in Mazatlan four days later, Thanksgiving was celebrated in shorts and tees with fellow Gringo cruisers, but alas, no sighting of Captain Bob.

After extensive land explorations aboard colorful autobuses that seemed to enjoy permanently deferred maintenance, we took a Southerly heading to Puerto Vallarta. Contact was established with Captain Ray one dark and starry night while at anchor off Chamela. The vessel, *GOOD PLEASURE*, signed on the 'Southbound' ham radio net. I hear you loud and clear," Bob. "What is your location?" I asked. He had received my location, and then there was only static and more static until radio contact was abandoned. Christmas in Puerto Vallarta turned into a long lay-over of several weeks. Things turned incredibly warm and balmy as we cruised the islands and West Coast of Mexico in January and February. Temperatures continued to rise to such an extent as to require some topless sailing on the way to Acapulco. By March we moored at the Club de Yates de Acapulco and remained for several weeks.

I sometimes smile as I reflect on all the uniformed 12 hour duty days with shorter and usually colder lay-overs of UAL. Oh yes, . . . Captain Bob Ray finally did appear at aisle 11 of Safeway, Belmont, CA. All crews were forced to report to the reality of home and taxes. He plans to continue cruising in warm waters with a newer and bigger sailboat. I wonder if he will name this one *ULTIMATE PLEASURE*? Joe

LOU & PEGGY DaHARB, 2733 Lake Park Way, Longmont, CO 80503 Things are great here in Colorado. We do enjoy our travel privileges as we visit family and friends. We enjoy the *RUPANEWS* and all the effort that you all do to put it together and get it mailed. Sorry I'm late but have been involved with difficult family situations. Thanks once again. Lou

WILLIAM M. COROTIS, 652 South Third Street,
Columbus, OH 43206

Dear Cleve, Last March 1, I will have been retired 10 years. Still living in Columbus and the winters are getting milder. After several arthroscopies on my knee, I got a new one for Christmas. What an improvement.

Last Spring, I saw London and the Cotswolds of GB. The roundabouts made me dizzy and driving on the left with a stick shift was near impossible for me.

I enjoy reading the RUPANEWS and appreciate everyone's efforts. Bill

JOHN A. DRAPER

Somehow, the article that I sent in for the March issue of RUPANEWS received the wrong heading. It was headed (p. 14) M. Kent Draper by mistake. My name is Jack Draper (John A. Draper 15977 LAXFO). There are two of us that retired in the last two years with the surname "Draper".

The favor I would like to ask is that you re-print the original article under "Jack Draper" and that you change the phone number in San Diego to read (619) 464-7227 (the 464 part was missing in the article and was probably my typo.) Thanks for your help. Jack
Your letter arrived with no full name, and I was able to deduce that it was from a Draper. I had a fifty-fifty chance, and guessed wrong. Sorry that space doesn't permit rerunning your letter again, but here's the correction.

Things do get kind of hectic around here, and I get busier than a one-armed paper-hanger, so anything our correspondents can do to keep things clear will be appreciated - such as clearly titling your e-mail with a heading giving your name. Thanks. Ed.

WILLIAM M. DUTTON - 7760 E. Montebello,
Scottsdale, AZ 85250 vjobill@ix.netcom.com

Dear Cleve, I just got the latest issue of the RUPANEWS and noticed the mailing label said I expired on 10/23/98. I was going to write and tell you the rumor of my demise was premature, but then I realized that meant my postage was only paid to 1998. My most humble apologies. Since I was so late on last year's postage, I will be early on next year's. Enclosed is my check for two years postage to get me paid up to 10/2000. I hope RUPA is Y2K ready or I will be in trouble next year.

Thanks to all the folders and stuffers and people who make the NEWS possible. Bill

Not to worry Bill, just ran a Y2K check on the computer today and passed with flying colors. Ed

TOM & JULEE FOLWELL - 206 RAINBOW DR.,
ST 10608, LIVINGSTON, TX 77399

Dear Jock, I didn't want to be the only person that got my annual message in on time, so I thought I would wait 6 weeks. We have changed our mailing address to a mail forwarding service in TX as we are still full time residents of a motor home. We have been spending winters in south Texas and summers in the northern tier of states. We plan on traveling the west coast from north to south this summer and end up in Mesa, Arizona next winter. Hope to drop in on the Phoenix "Roadrunners" during our stay.

Check to Cleve. Tom

BUD GIMPLE 717 Birdie Drive, Grand Junction,
Co. 81506

Dear Jock; I almost made my birthday month - better than most years.

I spend quite a bit of time playing with my 1955 Cessna 180. I have found a number of mountain and desert strips compatible with old taildraggers (and old pilots).

My kids and grandkids have used most all of my buddy passes. Not the greatest deal in the world, but better than what we had.

If any of you get near Grand Jct give a call.

Check sent to Cleve. I really appreciate the efforts by all of you great guys and gals. Thanks, Bud Gimple

J. L. JACK GLAZE - 5300 N Rainbow Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89130 Another year has gone and another 9000 or so miles by bicycle. Just got back from 2 weeks in Mallorca and a week in Germany. I spent a month touring New Zealand this year and have plans for a trip to Eastern Europe in August and a ride of the Pyrenees in September. All this is by way of wondering if I am the only retiree that likes touring by bicycle? If there are any more crazies out there, drop me a note at my E-Mail address: jglaze@compuserve.



"Wunderkinder come and go, but old farts are forever"

C. B. CHET" HECTOR, 4839 Cabrillo Pt., Byron, CA 94514

Hi Cleve: 13 years since the last Flight. All goes well at our house. Barbara and I spent our four weeks at Kona, had a month long trip in the motor home to Canada.

I had to join the Prostate Club. Had seed implant and all is well. My new PSA is 0.3. Be sure everyone gets an annual check. Be sure everyone gets an annual check. In October we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary and have spent the winter in Indio. Now is the time to go back home. Chet

WILLIAM A. HOYGAARD, 12182 E. Amherst Circle, Aurora, CO 80014 hoygaard@world.att.net

Cleve: Enclosed is the birthday check ... a couple of days early. The new format is great ... very readable typeface which is appreciated.

As I approach year six of retirement, I find I keep myself busy although winter can be long. Even with a small yard, there is a little seasonal yard work always waiting. We are planning our first camping trip of the season ... unless there is too much snow ... and hope to get out on many more camping trips before the camping season is over for '99. Still enjoy target shooting and shooting a little trap too. The Idaho grandchildren are cuter and smarter each year ... absolutely no prejudice here! Sometimes the difficulty with flying on a pass is enough to encourage driving! With the price of gas rising, tolerating a little delay on the pass flights will look a bit better. In January, while in southern CA, we visited a retired UAL friend (Wayne Coddington) that I first met in Portland in 1947 where he was in dispatch. We talked a lot about things that were and things that are with UAL. He is but one of many great people that I had the pleasure of working with during my 46 years with UAL.

Thanks for all of the volunteer effort in putting out the newsletter. **W. A. "Bill" Hoygaard**

ROBERT A. VANDERBILT ravanderbilt@mcia.com

Jock, Here's a follow up on my ESOP 1099R error alert of 3/28/99.

I received today, 4/21, by UPS overnight, my corrected 1099R along with a letter from John E. Camp, Principal, State Street Global Advisors.

He writes:" Enclosed please find a corrected 1099R detailing your 1998 distributions from the UAL ESOP.

We have changed the distribution code in box 7 to G. I apologize if the code H caused you any confusion. You should know that there is no difference from a tax perspective between the two codes as both indicate a

rollover distribution and are not used in anyway to determine future taxability of any subsequent withdrawals from your IRA."

Well, that's nice to know and may be so, but G is still the correct code for rollover to an IRA verses H for rollover to an annuity.

Us pilots, by nature, like things to be neat & tidy, i.e. correct, but apparently this discrepancy isn't a big deal tax wise.

Remains to be seen.

Just thought I'd pass on State Street's response.

Cheers, *Bob Vanderbilt*

Thanks for the update for the benefit of others in your situation. Ed.

MILT JINES, 1752 Monticello Rd, San Mateo, CA 94402

Another birthday! I have a may birthday..May or May not. Actually, right now I'm confused. I'm having amnesia and déjà vu at the same time and I cain't think of another word for thesaurus. But life is (still) good (a still life?) Here's my twenty bucks, keep the good stuff coming. Milt

P.S. My foot just fell asleep...I Hate that... now it's going to be up all night!

JOE WEST 1620 N.W. Dixon, Corvallis, OR 97330

Dear Jock: Having started the habit of writing my letter in March for my April birthday month, I'll continue the tradition, and plunge into this. It involves repeating material I mentioned in previous years, which does have a significant probability of affecting anyone who happens to read it.

I am referring to the massive stroke I suffered in October of 1986, at age 58 1/2. My CVA (cerebrovascular accident) came right out of the blue, and was a big surprise to both our company doctors and my FAA doctor. I have said before that I'm convinced that the reason I survived was an exercise program that involved consistent aerobic workouts (jogging and heavy farm labor).

My recovery is plugging along quite well, because I still exercise as much as I can - swimming and brisk walking. Believe me guys it's a blessed privilege to exercise after having half, and nearly all, your limbs paralyzed - especially when medical experts said it wouldn't come back.

I previously mentioned that there is a significant probability of most folks being affected by this malady.

That fact is confirmed by the national statistics and the experience of some other RUPAs.

Check to Cleve.

Sincerely, Joe West

CIRCUS ACT

Nov. 11th/98. The wing of an Asiana 747400 cuts into the tail of a parked Aeroflot IL - 62 at Anchorage International Airport while trying to make a U turn in a parking bay. No serious injuries reported.

The best part of the story was forwarded by a Captain witnessing the event from a safe distance:

Gudday folks, true story, worth reading... Just into Anchorage and looking at all the Korean debris on the airfield. What a beautiful job the Asiana boy did in his 747 - 400. Asiana is KAL's "opposition" company, also run by the military cronies. Pranged in Anchorage trying to do a "U" turn in a parking bay... in a 747-400???? Poor Aeroflot was in the way though, minding his business, parked at the gate with passengers on board.

Asiana thumped his # 1 engine against Aeroflot's wing and tore open the engine cowling and fuel lines on the 747, pissing fuel all over the apron.

With standard Korean procedure, that calls for more power so you can get out of the way and hope nobody saw! This he did, but it was icy as hell on the ramp. The skid started and took out two Evergreen staff vehicles, sending the occupants fleeing for cover. the circus had begun!

Still more power and he put his left wing (last 15 - 20 feet) into the vertical stab. of the IL - 62 and cut into the tail about 15 feet. When he reached the main spar of the vertical stab... the 747 stopped... you guessed it, more power!

I think he thought there was still time to run for it, but he didn't seem to be going anywhere, so - more power! In trying to escape the grips of the Russian aircraft, he managed to reach take off thrust, and in so doing, put a bunch of containers behind the aircraft through the terminal building and trashed it. Heard NCA got it in the clamps, the Japanese must be pleased about that! Still no shutdown or evacuation (fuel still pissing everywhere over the apron from the 747 #1 engine)

The Yank ground mechanics finally managed to run over and told them to shut the aircraft down, but the crew were busy writing a report for management to apportion the blame.

After the entertainment ended, spoke to our crew driver, and she said the two (ground) vehicles he hit during his exhibition were badly trashed. The Asiana aircraft is looking quite sad. Took all day yesterday to separate the two aircraft and in desperation, the mechanics finally had to cut about 20 feet of the Asiana left wing off to get the aircraft apart. Talk about "dog lock"! The engine is off and the cowlings are all torn open.

The opposition (Aeroflot) was taking cover in the hangar ... Good idea!

Well, not to be outdone, KAL landed a 747 freighter the very next day on the runway lights on 6R!!! Lights, tires, stuff everywhere.... you know the rest. Ah yes, another boring day in aviation!
Internet - Hughes Images/Aviation



ILUSHIN IL-62 Russian long-range transport, has four 23,150 lbs.t. turbofans in horizontal pairs at fuselage rear, manually operated controls. Crew of 5 plus 186 passengers. Cruise speed 560 m.p.h.; range 5,715 miles

SHIRLEY KEITH - 428 Harborview Dr. #138, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Hi Cleve, Next month I will have been a widow for 23 years. Phil dying May 8, 1976, and I still appreciate the RUPANEWS for there are still a few names (people) I recognize.

I sold my house in January and moved to this condo, therefore, the change of address.

Even after all these years, I still get a tingle when I see a plane in the sky. Phil and I were "High School" sweethearts, so memories go back a long way, and thank god they're good! I was fortunate to have married a very special person. Thanks again for the RUPANEWS. Shirley

KEN WHEELER, 2982 E. Military Rd., Zanesville, OH 43701

Dear Cap'n Savage: Almost two years of retirement, and I've has six days with nothing planned to do. My mother used to say it's better to wear out than rust out. I'm busy with barbershopping and working with AH-SOW - Ancient Harmonious Society Of Woodshedders (as you can see, we take ourselves very seriously.)

Also still pickin' and grinnin' with the good old country music. The next project is to get involved with adult literacy - I might as well use that teaching degree.

We bought the house in Zanesville, large enough to have my Dad and Nancy's Mother (both 84) in with us. Neither is yet ready to give up their independence, but who knows when that will change. We kept the house in Reynoldsburg, and our daughter and family are living there. Because of health problems with both my daughter and her husband, Nancy's been minding

the store there for a while. It's called being in the "sandwich generation."

We're both mainly staying healthy, I'm still a dinosaur (no computer), so snail mail will have to do.

I really enjoy hearing from the old friends in *RUPANEWS*.

Many thanks to the F&Sers, you folks do good work. Sincerely, Ken Wheeler

JOSEPH R. KEOWN, 7010 S. Fox Circle, Larkspur, CO 80118

Dear *RUPANEWS*, I always look forward to reading the *RUPANEWS* and hearing about old friends. Sue and I are still located about an hour south of Denver near a beautiful golf course in the foothills of the Rockies. We have four grandchildren now and the grandkids, golf in the summer, and looking for a warm place to hang out in the winter seem to be the focus of our lives. We're building a summer cabin on some family ground in the Black Hills of South Dakota and are contemplating moving to Arizona and traveling back and forth on a seasonal basis. We're going to look at Florida next winter before making the final decision.

Currently we're both healthy. Sue had breast cancer last year, but now has a clean slate so we feel fortunate. My best to all the UAL pilots I've known and worked with through the years. My years at DENTK taught me that you guys really were the BEST! both personally and professionally. Thanks to the RUPA staff for all your work in keeping us together. Joe
joekeown@msn.com

JANE CHRISCO-LEONARD, 1211 Billy Walker Rd, Asheboro, NC 27203 336-625-6318

Hey Jock, sorry I'm late with my check. However, with a move back to the small town where I was born I should have a good excuse?

Please change my address as shown. I'll be waiting out by the road next month for the mule that comes by occasionally with the mail. I need *RUPANEWS* for the outhouse. Of course I read it first!

Jane

Now there's a double-edged compliment. We hope you'll be too enthralled to put it down – so to speak. Ed.

RUSS McDONALD, Heber City, UT

Dear Jock

Just finished 12 years of retirement and keeping busy having fun. The best thing I have done since my last letter was to move from Park City to Heber City, Ut. I am now only three miles from the airport where I keep

my P-51 and Pitts Special, instead of 30 miles as before.

I still fly around five times a week, and do seven or eight airshows each year in the Intermountain area with the Mustang. There has been lots of snow in the ski areas for skiing. I still race in the Masters Div. Our EAA Intermountain FLY-IN will be held at the Heber Valley Airport on Sept. 24-25th. We usually have over 150 planes attend. For more info. call me at 435-657-2815.

Best Regards Russ McDonald

Annual Postage check sent to Cleve.

B.FRANK MCKENZIE 406 Mckenzie Drive Occoquan Va.22125-0270 -1946-88.

Check sent to Capt. Cleve Spring last month. I purposely delayed this letter to get results from a C T scan of the abdomen & pelvis. I have been on Chemo since last Oct. for Gastric Lymphoma. The results are good ? I guess, a 50/50 chance of cancer returning. Scan every 3 months. Started having stomach problems shortly after family M.D. put me on cholesterol lowering pills to get mine below 170 .

On a happier note we took our whole family to Nags Head NC. Last July for our 50th wedding anniversary. Two houses on the beach; 11 grandchildren, oldest 22 & married ,youngest grandson 5 yrs. Three daughters & spouses. Niece raised & her 3 girls. Good Times. Like the new format and appreciate all your efforts. Regards *F rank*.

LOIS H. MEANS, 671 SW 6th St. #VT206, Pompano Beach, FL 33060

Capt. Spring, Sending check for postage. I'm a little late due to a complete change in my life. I moved to a retirement place, retting rid of a four bedroom house and coping with being a widow.

I'm out of touch ever since Mimi Stewart moved to California. She was our font of news here in South Florida.

Please note my new address. Lois



"The Balkans. This is where I came in"

Bad breath: What your best friend can't tell you.

Are you reluctant to open your mouth when your dentist or dental hygienist approaches? Many times, I've encountered patients who are, and not because they're afraid I'll hurt them. Rather, they're afraid they'll "offend."

Such fears are no doubt fueled by the inescapable ads for breath mints, sprays, washes, and pills. Surveys show that 55 to 75 million Americans now consider bad breath a principal concern in social encounters. But while chronic halitosis, the medical name for true bad breath, is not entirely a Madison Avenue myth, it's much less common than the ads or surveys suggest. When it is present, it's almost always due to problems in the mouth that can be readily remedied

Natural breath odors.

Certain breath odors are common, but they're generally mild and temporary. Many foods can taint your breath immediately after a meal. Two of the main offenders, garlic and onion, can actually stay on your breath for 24 hours or more. That's because the active chemical travels through the digestive system to the blood, to the lungs, and back out through the mouth. Even when rubbed on the skin, the odor of garlic eventually finds its way to the breath. Smoking and drinking, of course, also leave their distinctive mark on the breath.

If eating and drinking too much of some things are bad for your breath, eating too little can at times be no better. Dieters may develop the mildly unpleasant "hunger breath" when certain metabolic wastes reach the lungs. (A well-timed snack curbs hunger breath, but at some cost to the diet, of course.)

Then there's "morning breath." While you sleep, your tongue moves less and secretion of saliva slows almost to a standstill. Dead cells that are continually shed from the tissues lining your mouth are no longer rubbed off, washed away, and swallowed. The normal bacteria in the mouth break down those dead cells, releasing malodorous by-products. But the odor disappears as soon as you brush and floss your teeth, or even when you have something to eat or drink.

Oral care and odor culprits

Problems involving the teeth, gums, and tongue are the main cause of true halitosis. Without scrupulous oral hygiene, the teeth become coated with bacterial plaque, which can eventually give rise to gum disease as well as tooth decay. And badly decayed teeth smell pretty bad. But even relatively mild gum disease can generate unpleasant odors, as plaque and its hardened form, tartar, create pockets that collect pus. For that matter, rotting food that's impacted around faulty fillings or just between the teeth can also create

a stink.

Recent research shows that heavy bacterial plaques can also form on the back of the tongue. Because of its large, rough surface area the tongue readily retains the bacteria, along with shed cells and even food debris. And the tongue bacteria are mostly the type that can easily putrefy those accumulations, generating a variety of sulfur compounds and other odoriferous compounds.

If gum disease threatens your teeth and fouls your breath, you should seek professional care. But you can help prevent gum disease by keeping your mouth clean. That means brushing twice a day, flossing once, and getting regular professional cleanings.

You can also keep your tongue clean by brushing it gently once a day with a soft wet brush after you brush your teeth, or by periodically scraping the rear portion with a bent spoon. (You can even buy a specially designed tongue-scraper in a drugstore).

If those measures are inadequate, you can add a potent mouthwash. So far, two types of products have substantial scientific evidence to back them up: *Listerine* and a prescription rinse available as *Peridex* and *PerioGard*.

The widely advertised product *BreathAsure* capsules containing parsley-seed and sunflower oils - built its success on claims that it eliminates bad breath by working within the digestive system. That's doubtful.

If not dental, maybe medical

If there's nothing wrong in your mouth, you may be one of the few people whose halitosis actually signals a medical problem. Most often, it's a local infection of the respiratory tract (the nose, throat, windpipe, and lungs), such as chronic sinusitis or bronchitis. Other possible medical causes include diabetes, kidney and liver disease, gastrointestinal problems, and rare metabolic disorders. Finally, halitosis can also result from anything that dries the mouth - fever, medications, salivary-gland disorders, or just breathing through your mouth.

But don't let all this give you the wrong impression. Bad breath requiring the attention of a dentist or physician is relatively uncommon. There's even evidence suggesting that as many as one in four people who believe they have chronic bad breath actually suffer from halitosis phobia. They'll often remain convinced of their offense despite objective evidence to the contrary.

Still, if you're concerned about your breath, ask a professional for an honest appraisal. Your best friend may not tell you, as the old commercial warned, but your dentist or doctor will.

DUKE MILLER 1033 Kaneohe, HI 96744

Can't believe it almost four years since retirement. We are still spending most of the time here in Hawaii, enjoying the good life. Our group of United friends is still here, and we have added a few more who are still working, and moved into our complex. Spent most of the summer either traveling or working on the house in California. Our son was in Singapore working as an intern in a law firm so Janine and I went over to visit when he was finishing up. The three of us then went on up to Bangkok to see Ken and Joy Ledwith, and got to see a lot in a short time, thanks to them. Had great luck traveling, even with our son on companion passes. Got first or business on all the legs - Great Service. Good seeing everybody on the cruise again this year, and had a great time in Montreal, found some great restaurants. Check to Cleve and keep up the good work Jock. Like the new size Duke

www.rupa.org

by: Bruce McLeod

Since communication is the heart and soul of any organization, it was hoped that a Web Site would help bring us closer together. Our official RUPA WEB SITE has been open since January 1998. If you're not a computer user, you probably know someone who is, and can enjoy the benefits of modern communication through your friends. In 1997, the domain name was acquired and, being the "elected" Web Master, I developed the site just prior to my retirement, and the opening was announced in the *RUPANEWS*. The format was pretty well what you see today, with minor changes to make it more useable. Early on, I was asked to put everyone's email address on a page on the site. I said no, because the site is available to the "on-line world" and those addresses would be open to all sorts of abuse, limited only by the imagination of the perpetrator. I was also asked by several members to open a "letters to the editor" page. I asked each of them if they would accept legal and moral responsibility for the content, to be the arbitrators of acceptability. No one would accept - no time - not interested - why me- you gotta be kidding!. Questions, usually relating to pensions, rollovers, medical benefit entitlements, travel benefits, Medicare, etc. started to come in. Since we are just Ruperians like everyone else, we can not be expected to find answers to all the questions everyone could ask. I opened a Q & A page; publishing the questions and asking the membership to respond with answers based on their own experience or research, to be published next to the question. Well, members' participation was again zero. Never received one answer to



"Kids, your mother and I have spent so much money on health insurance this year that instead of vacation we're all going to go in for elective surgery."

any question, even from the person who posted the query originally, and I am sure they must have come up with an answer, somewhere. This was an early, futile attempt at an interactive web site.

The officers of RUPA have had email addresses at rupa.org as well as their own personal ones. I have forwarded email that has come to rupa.org to them, IF it was the only address. Likewise, I forwarded any mail that arrived, with no specific recipient, to all the officers. Because of personal commitments for the next few months, I will not be able to guarantee this forwarding service, so please use the officers' personal email addresses, available in *RUPANEWS* or Membership Directory.

Early this year, on the site, I announced that I was going to redo the site with a new, more interesting format, and asked for some ideas on what you would like to see. The response was nil. I went to our host ISP for a count of "hits" on the site, and it showed almost no activity since the beginning of this year, and just over 100 since the site opened. The "new" site is currently on hold, and because of personal commitments, the current site will be neglected for a while. Please understand that this is not a shutdown, just a hiatus, and I am still planning a future for the site. That is, unless there is someone else wants to take over as Web Master. Just let me know, and you can have the job NOW!!

For the future: We are looking at a voluntary email address list, and possibly a forum. Your address would be published only at YOUR request. Neither RUPA nor I would be in any way responsible for the content of messages on the forum. We need more ideas on what *you* want! I will be off line, (in UK), no email UFN, so write me via snail mail with *ideas* - **Bruce McLeod, 1110 Southdown Road, Hillsborough, CA 94010-7246.**

Thanx, Bruce_M

MARTHA T. MOREHEAD - 1260 N.W. 16th
St, Boca Raton, FL 33486

Dear Cleve, Enclosed check is for 1999 postage. The *RUPANEWS* is so professional in the new format and easy on the fading eyesight that seems to happen each year. Still hangin' in there. **Marty**

BILL & VI MOSSOP, 1400 Colorado St, Boulder
City, NV 89005 65-92 SFO ORD SFO

Dear Cleve, I was saddened to read of Scotty's passing. I had a long phone conversation with him just a few weeks ago. We were new hire classmates. Consequently, we were well aquatinted, and good friends over the years. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Sandy and family.

Thanks to all those who produce and distribute the *RUPANEWS*, including the person who types this! I have a word processor, but the Pony Express was faster than my letter writing with it.

Warmest regards, **Bill & Vi** 702-293-6882

EDGAR R. MUSSER - 801 Butterfield Trail, Can-
yon, TX 79015

Cleve, It is stamp money time again. Included is a little extra for the folders and stuffers' coffee kitty; or perhaps doughnuts or something else equally bad for them. **Ed**

GEORGE W. NIXON - 275 Stuyvesant Drive, San
Anselmo CA 94960

Greetings Cleve and fellow Ruparians, I have been listed as expired since 03/13/98. My apologies. I am sending funds to repair my status forthwith.

Heather and I have done some traveling since my last writing, mostly England, Wales and the Netherlands, where we have friends and family. Taking the train across Canada was great, especially the Rocky Mountain Express with the Gold Leaf Upgrade. I had my first buffalo hump stew in Jasper. Our health continues to be good to very good. We took beginners tap dancing and almost mastered a simple routine.

There is a letter circulating in the greater bay area that starts "From the desk of George W. Nixon Capt. UAL". My financial advisor mistakenly generated this letter through an administrative misunderstanding, I do not know where he got his mailing list, but it was not from me.

Flying and PC nightmares have decreased in frequency and in severity, I'm starting my fifth year of retirement and seeing more of my children and grandchildren. Joined E CLAMPUS VITUS last year but that's another story for another time. Regards to all, **George**

ROBERT D. PATRICK, 11860 Lower Bench Rd,
Emmett, ID 83617

Enclosed is a check for postage. My birth month is December not March, as is listed on the address label.

Spending my time, working on the Taper Wing Waco that I am building. The only big trip I did last year was a cruise through the Panama Canal. **Bob**

HUNTER C. PERKINSON - 5100 Plentiful Lane,
Mineral, Va 23117

Greetings to all! After thirteen years of retirement I am still down here on Lake Anna, my favorite spot on earth, enjoying life and reading about the terrible shape the rest of the world is in. In my dreams the Crew desk still calls me for a trip from time to time.

I recall in my youth many times sitting on a river bank with a fishing pole in my hands. Occasionally I would look up, see an airplane flying over, and wish I were up there. When I became a pilot I flew over that river, would look down on that scene and wish I was down there with a fishing pole in my hands. Now I have completed the full cycle and find myself on lake Anna with a fishing pole in my hands, looking up at the contrails overhead and wishing I were up there generating contrails.

There has to be a moral there somewhere, and if I ever find the time, I am going to give it a good thinking.

Best regards to all, **Hunter P.**

RAYMOND E. PIERCE - 815 Wild Oak Drive, Santa
Rosa, CA 95409

Hi Cleve, It must be the Millennium Bug. Finally, we are mailing the \$20.00 check for the *RUPANEWS*. We have been traveling a bit, which has also contributed to our neglect. We traveled to England to visit with our youngest daughter's family and our new grandson. Winter in England is cloudy, foggy and cool. However, when the sun shines all the natives come out and it's quite enjoyable. There are many sites to visit and within quick driving distances. Those roundabouts are something else, I left the driving up to my son-in-law. He's pretty good at it.

After returning home, we traveled to Southern California to visit our son and play golf in sixty degree plus weather and very little rain. At Balboa Park, San Diego, CA, there is a W.W.II display from the Russian Museum of Moscow. This Russian W.W.II display will only visit seven cities in the United States, and I believe is worth the senior's price of admission, which was \$14.50. A bit pricey, but what caught my interest was the display of a fully restored aircraft used by Russian women pilots to attack the German lines at night. The aircraft appears to be of WWI vintage, low wing

radial, open cockpit. An aircraft you'd like to fly, but not for the purpose of warfare. The German soldiers called the pilots the Nachthexen (do correct my spelling), translated the night witches. During the day, the women would make up homemade bombs. At night they delivered them to the German lines, by cutting the engines and gliding over their targets. The German soldiers never knew when they were coming, until they could hear the singing voices of the women pilots. After bombing, they would fly through the German communications, slicing them apart, disrupting communication. One of the Russian women pilots shot down twelve German fighters. At 22 years of age she was killed in action. I thought the historical displays were quite candid and honest. I had to admire the willpower of the Russian People to resist the German Invasion.

Until next year, looking forward to a lot of golfing and traveling. **Ray & Marie**

Ray, one should never underestimate the capabilities of a determined and resourceful foe – regardless of their lack of modern arms. I hope that NATO knows enough to know that. Ed

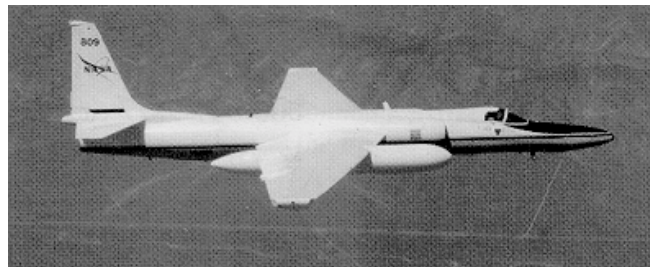
DEMONSTRATION FLIGHT OVER THE NORTH POLE

United Flight 895 from ORD to Hong Kong took a new flight path over the North Pole. The flight was a demonstration of communication & navigation equipment on a route that United & other carriers hope to use on regular basis later this year. The flight passed within one degree of the geographic North Pole, flew over Siberia, Mongolia & China. The flight path is shorter than those currently flown by commercial aircraft between the U.S. & the Far East, offering the promise of reduced flight times plus lower fuel usage. After years of discussions between the U.S. & Russia, the Russians have agreed to open up air space that previously was off limits. Our demonstration flight shaved 21 minutes off the normal flight time, also saved about 10,000 pounds of fuel by flying north of the head winds normally encountered between ORD & Hong Kong.

UAL Press Release

What you see is news, what you know is background, what you feel is opinion.

LESTER MARKEL



"New" U-2 Aircraft Set World Records

Two updated variants of the venerable U-2 spyplane have established new records for altitude in a set of flights over California.

An ER-2S, a research version of the U-2 used by NASA, flew to a height of 68,700 feet while on a mission to study the Earth's atmosphere. The previous record was held by a P-42, a specially configured variant of the Sukhoi SU-27 "Flanker," that flew to 62,500 feet in 1988.

Flying from Air Force Plant 42 near Palmdale, California, a U.S. Air Force U-2S set two records by carrying a 3,314 pound payload to an altitude of 49,215 feet. The records were set in the class and unlimited categories.

Both aircraft are the most recent developments of the original U-2 spyplane, originally conceived in 1954. Built by Lockheed Martin's Skunkworks, the "new" U-2 can be considered an entirely new airplane. Today's U-2 is forty percent larger, can carry up to four times the original payload for longer duration, and is equipped with a new array of sensors.

BUD & GAYLE POPKEN - Lake Delavan, WI
Cleve, Thanks for sending the *RUPANEWS*. After being on the bench for 7 years due to Ma Nature, its nice to hear about some old acquaintances. My wife, Gayle, and I hang our hat at Lake Delavan, WI. these days, where we enjoy sailing, ice boating, and cross country skiing. We are also active at the EAA convention as I head up a group of volunteers who act as ground control, trying to get all the planes (and pilots) where they want to go. Hint: I'm always looking for new volunteers. God forbid, I'm even on a first name basis with the FAA.

Sending you a check electronically by Checkfree. Tell Jock to keep up the good work. Bud

KINGSLEY G. PURTON, 918 Centerbrook Dr.,
Brandon, FL 33511 57
90 DTW. LAX, JFK, EWR, CLE, MIA, ORD

Nine years into retirement and how time flies. Twenty two years at Marco Island and We relocated to Brandon, FL (Tampa suburb) to reunite the family. As each boy graduated from college they got their first job in Marco, then Naples and then on to Tampa where there

weren't retirees willing to work for pennies on the dollar.

The sailing will change to where I will be the little fish in the big pond. Lots of J 24s on Tampa Bay. It will be a relief to have the boat at Davis Island Yacht Club, twenty five minutes away, rather than the three hour commute to Naples I did for nineteen years.

The tennis will be tough to duplicate. I doubt I will ever find another target like Jack Taffe better known as fast as a cat.

As you travel up and down I 75, we are only four miles East, stop and say hello. I am always good for a cold beer or a round of golf

I hope retirement is as good to you as it has been for Madelon and I. Thank God for ALPA. King

ROBERT C. RAY 68-97 JFK -ORD-LAX-SFO

Dear Jock,

The new format is great!

Two years into retirement and no time for my old day/night job. Cheryl and I have enjoyed the sailboat cruising in Mexico so much that we are moving up to a bigger boat. It will also have the capability to extend our horizons further. So hello 'New Passage' and adios 'Good Pleasure'.

Fair winds, Bob

bob@worldnet.att.net

The crew of Pearson 28 "Sloopstream" envy and salute you. Smooth sailing. Ed.

BOB & MARGIE REID

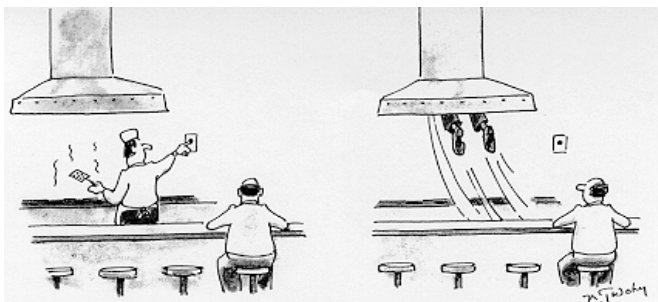
Bob_Reid@email.msn.com

Hi Jock

Two for two. Two years retired and two checks for dues sent on time. Not much is new except now that the 21st century is about to begin I'm joining the 20th.....I have a computer and an E-mail address. It's great to be back on the joke pipeline, but does anybody do any real work on these things – except you that is.?

Life is good here in the northwest, thanks to you and all who work so hard.

Bob



ANTON SATORIUS, SR – 17250 Berlin Station Rd, Berlin Center OH 44401

Hi Cleve, Enclosed herewith is stamp money for the coming year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff, for the wonderful job you do putting out the letters. It is appreciated and something we look forward to.

Looks like we made it through another "Ohio" winter. A few weeks in January were difficult. We had a lot of snow and ice, and at time, (being unable to get out), felt like we were under "house arrest!" talk about "cabin fever!!"

I've rekindled my interest in ham radio, and enjoying it more than ever. Was able to work a fella at the South Pole. Very interesting.

Still trying to regain more of my strength back after my three months hospital stay. Thanks again, Tony

JOHN J. SCHUSTER, 5426 W. Peninsula Rd, Waterford, WI

Although my powers of retention are fading fast I actually am on time! Nothing new in the north country other than we're getting fed up with the "fat rain" and am ready for Spring. Have the usual aches and pains associated with age. Will be 78 April 25. I ain't dead yet! Made it to Alaska and Germany last year and only Hawaii so far this year. Haven't had too much trouble getting on as an SA so far. John

JOHN & DOLORES SENDE Saratoga, CA

Dear Jock: I will try to print as neat as I can [*you get an A+ John*] would love to be scanned - I think! 'Tis a beautiful format for the expanded RUPANEWS, and the talent is obvious that goes into its production.

We are planning on the Las Vegas gathering. I'm sure that it will be quite a turnout. We were there with friends from Florida two years ago, and the entire "strip" was either brand new or under reconstruction of "exotica" hotels. The downtown area of the Nugget Hotel and Mall is worth seeing. Lot of good shows at the big hotels. We stayed at the "Mirage" (nice), with fantastic, large, pool, with waterfalls and spas, and a center with dolphin training pools and "show" tiger cages.

A good time will be had by all - don't miss it!

J ohn

Justice is the tolerable accommodation of the conflicting interests of society, and I don't believe there is any royal road to attain such accommodation concretely
Judge Learned Hand

I.F. (IFFY) SMITH - 3N-011 Morningside Ave,
West Chicago, IL 60185

Dear Cleve, It's the same old story - plenty to say till it comes time to write this letter. I'll just let everyone know I'm still with you and say hello to all. **Iffy**

SUE ROSS 5011 W. 134th Pl. Hawthorne CA 90250
Well. I'm past due - just like a pilot - I guess as a FOSR I've just worked with the guys too long. I have lots of quarters also.

This past year has been a good one, even though I haven't won the Lotto and can now retire. I am definitely the senior FOSR in LAX, only Martin in SFO has more seniority on the system. I know lots more retired pilots than working ones - although I try hard to learn the new guys' names.

It is really good to read about everybody in the *RUPANEWS*. I try to write a few of the guys now and then.

Went to the LAX RUPA Christmas Luncheon, and then in January. Quite a few retirees showed up at the retirement party. It is always good to see the pilots I grew up with.

Our phone has changed at LAX FOSR Desk to 310-342-8757.

Money and note to Cleve. Talk to y'all next year
Sue Ross

LAXCM, FOSR. 1960 - still going.

BOB & MARIANNE SWANSTON, 18517 Parada Cir, Rio Verde, AZ 85263

Dear Cleve, Sorry to be so late with postage. Another senior moment. We actually have not received issues for months until March. Nice new format, large print. Bob has adjusted to retirement, I'm not sure I have. You know, for better or worse but not for lunch. He's off playing golf now. We'll be heading back to the island in Wisconsin about a month from now, where we repeat the agenda there, golf and fishing, with the exception of his being part of a flying club there. He loves the grass strip, I love the triple 7's. I'm sure part of the attraction is crossing the pond to Michigan to visit the casinos and get a blackjack fix from time to time. Always home by dark, but never any richer. We've really missed the trips to Europe and hope to squeeze in a few days in London this spring. At least I do, can't cure the wanderlust. What a wonderful career he had!! Particularly with someone else arranging for hotels and limos. What a luxury. Oh, but life goes on.

Thanks for all you RUPA's do. We both love the "*RUPANEWS*" and am trying to find a way to make convention in Vegas this fall. **Marianne**

JACK BARD

Jock: I just read the alert by Robert Vanderbilt in the *RUPANEWS*, and having checked my own ESOP distribution, found that State Street Bank made the same error on mine. This likely has been a pervasive error in the 1099's and I am wondering how serious the consequences may be. [*Not much, apparently, see Bob's update on page 18.Ed*]

By the way, you may add my E Mail address to your list, jab@fidalgo.net

Jack Bard

P.S. I have found that married men should forget all their mistakes. There is no reason for two people to remember them.....J

GUS TUIT Greenbank, WA EWR/ORD/SEA 57-91
Hi all,

Not a lot of news the last year. Did make the ORD retirement party last fall & most of the SEA RUPA luncheons. Also got to visit with some Good people. Went to dinner with Jim & Suzan Goodson in Bradenton, FL last Oct. They live a couple blocks away from a former neighbor from Illinois. Also had lunch with Dick & Bev Goodlow in Oro Valley, AZ last week. No complaints up here on Whidbey Island.

Thanks to the *RUPANEWS* workers.

Gus

JOE UDOVCH 22486 Camino Esteban Laguna Hills CA 92653

Enclosed is my check for a couple of years' postage, as seems to be par for the course, late; but in the words of the immortal bard, who recently passed away, "The devil made me do it." More seriously, it just seems to take us recent retirees a while to accept the new state of affairs and get up to speed with all the changes taking place in our lives.

Took my formal retirement at last in November of 1998, after sticking around a bit past age 60 to resolve some medical questions. Now that I'm actually "free" it looks like my anti-computer prejudice is slowly breaking down, because I can see how useful being on-line is to everyone around me, and the RUPA community as well, with the communications capabilities available through e-mail. Hope to be tech-literate in the not too distant future.

It sure is nice to read the letters in *RUPANEWS* because they reflect the diverse personalities of the correspondents, just like when we were flying the line. Thanks to all who do such good work in putting the magazine together.

Joe Udovch

Travails of Pass Travel

by Rod Violette

In April my son Greg and I decided on the spur of the moment, to take a quick trip to Scotland to play four days of golf at the old classic courses; Royal Troon, Carnoustie, Old St. Andrews among them. We prepaid the golf tour to begin Apr. 12th in order to reserve tee times. On Apr. 10th we flew from SFO to IAD as the SFO to LHR flights looked impossible. IAD has three flights daily within four hours of each other. The evening before the first flight on Apr 10th looked very good. When we arrived at Dulles, we learned that due to missed connections from the night previous, all three flights were now overbooked by about 30, 90, and 30 respectively. No non-revs got on that night. Things were so bad at the podium that the police were called on two occasions to escort irate full fare passengers away from the podium.

We decided to try again the next night. Again all three flights were oversold to the same degree as the previous night. One SA got on the first flight, and another on the second. My son and I were lucky enough to get two of three remaining available seats on the last flight. We had it made, or so we thought. As I got our boarding passes I reminded the agent to release our bags, she replied that it was all taken care of.

Well, you guessed it, our bags did not arrive,

now we had lost the first day of our tour, but decided to stay at Heathrow, pick up our bags the next morning, fly up to Edinburgh on an early flight, instead of the train as we had planned, and still make our tee time for the second day of the tour. Well guess what, two of the four bags did not arrive, including my golf bag. We needed our golf bags because they contained our golf shoes and our rain gear, and the weather was inclement. Now, even if our luggage arrived on the flight two hours later, we would be too late for the second day of golf, so we decided to cancel the whole thing in the hopes of getting some of our money back.

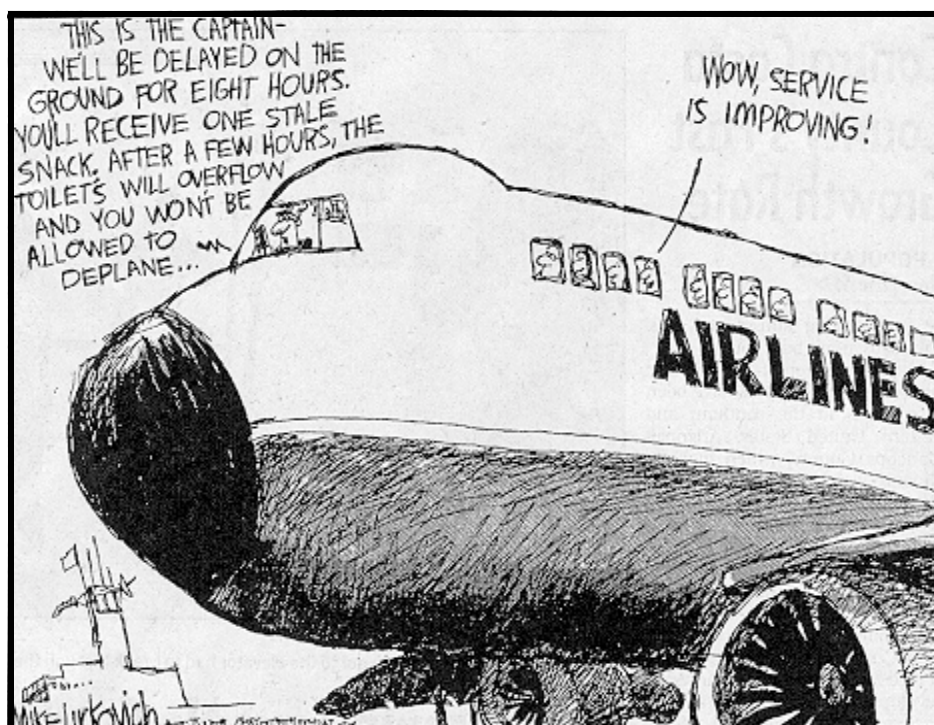
We flew LHR-SFO, and my bags did not arrive until the following flight. Furthermore, none of the nine SAs involved with these flights received their luggage on time at Heathrow

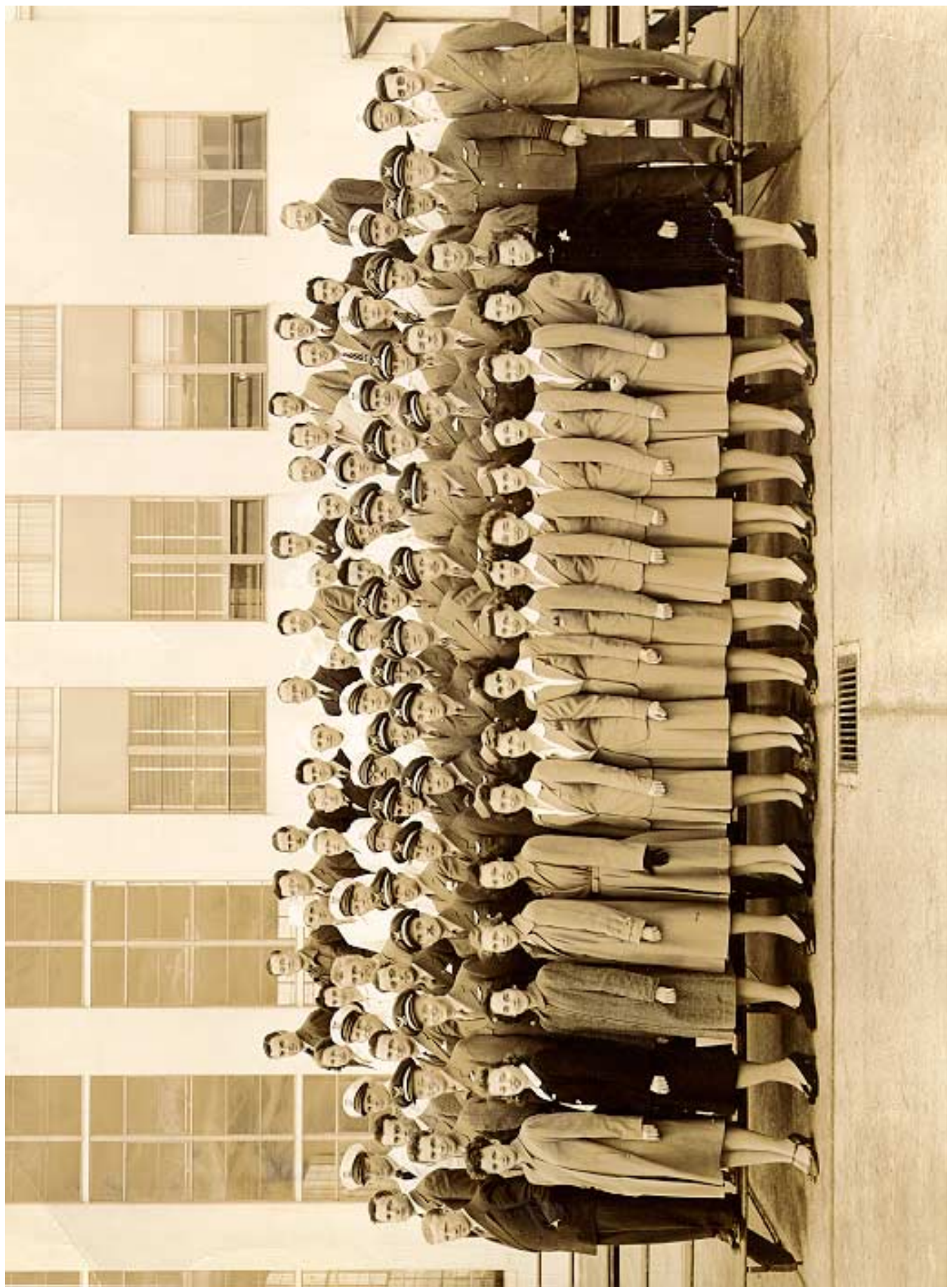
One other problem arose. While standing by at IAD, we discovered that the agents are not consistent in rolling over the stand-by list.

So, a word to the wise, do not depend on the agents rolling over the standby list to the next flight. Go to the podium and check yourself in again.

When you get your boarding pass, remind the agent to release your luggage, although that did not work in our case.

Enjoy your pass travel





Historic Picture

The photo on the facing page was sent to me last June by Chuck Fitch of Dallas, OR.

At that time we did not yet possess the means of doing justice to it, what with the smaller format and 20% reduction involved, so I resolved to hold it until it could be suitably reproduced, with a chance that the faces would be distinguishable enough to have them identifiable.

In his cover letter, Chuck noted that the photo was taken around mid-summer of 1941 at the United terminal/office building at the old Portland Columbia Airport, long before it became PDX International.

Chuck continues, "After all these years, many of the faces are still familiar, but names have a habit of escaping me! Names that come to mind are:

Jack Worden	George Eberting	Jim Stirling
Everett Taylor	Chuck Fitch	Jim Ungry
Pat Maroney	Bill Wiess	Ernie Wiess
Dave Ellis	Bud Rhenstrom	Ernie Garbutt
Jim Going	Dick Thornton	Bill Groen

When I phoned Chuck, needless to say, he had given up on its being published, but willingly agreed to my suggestion that he act as collector of any more names that our more senior members may recollect, so that when I return the photo to him, he can, hopefully, provide a more comprehensive list of the staff depicted before donating the historic photo to the UAL Historical Foundation. (All this assumes that our printers can give us a good reproduction – and I'm confident they can.)

Chuck told me that he had been a radio operator until that position was deleted, at which time he went to AIRINC, where he retired as manager. At AIRINC Chuck allows as how he spoke with a great many United pilots over the years.

So, Ruparians, your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to identify as many of the staff as you can and send the names to:

Chuck Fitch
450 S.E. La Creole #124
Dallas, OR 97338
Phone: (503) 623-4292
Email: W7ENS@aol.com

N.B If you look Chuck up in the directory, it lists his winter address, but he'll be at this one all summer.

Jock Savage, Editor.

FRANK E. VANCINI – 4195 Sky Harbor Dr, Coeur D'Alene, ID 83814

Dear Cleve, Here it is my birthday month and I've remembered my dues! No reason as yet for taking gingko. The past year has been fun. Not too much flying, lots of hunting, fishing, skiing, travelling, river running and generally enjoying ourselves here in beautiful North Idaho.

This is my last year, and I am currently recovering from rotator cuff surgery. Not a fun thing to go through, as it really curtails ones activities.

I like the new newsletter format very much. You people do a wonderful job and it is greatly appreciated. Enclosed is a little extra for folding and stuffing. By this time next year we'll be on line, since we just ordered a new computer with all kinds of good stuff included with it. Best of all, our kids, both of whom work with computers, are going to be shanghaied into checking Monika and me out on how to really operate the thing. I'll let you know when our email address is up and running. Once again, thanks to all for their time and work and you all have a great summer.

Keep the blue side up! Frank

MIKE O. WILLIAMS – 31736 County Rd. 17, Elizabeth, CO 80107

Well Cleve, here is my postage check

It has been one year and a most enjoyable one. It has been busy with the ranching and hunting. I was able to spend almost 6 weeks in Wyoming hunting on horseback with friends and fellow pilots. Hunted pheasants for the first time in 30 years in Kansas and Colorado, and waterfowl in Colorado. Have been flying my C206, but not as much as I would like. It is on a private runway close to my house, so if anyone is coming by, stop in. There are extra tie-downs.

My wife, Patti, has finally adjusted to having me home so much, and after 42 years, things are better than ever. Every month, I look forward to the *RUPANEWS*, but always seem to dwell on those that have flown West. It should make us all realize what we have, that we should cherish it and enjoy it fully. Thanks to all the folks that work so hard keeping RUPA running.
Mike

HMOs. Nationwide Facing Financial Crisis

Experts warn of more bankruptcies

By Michael A. Hiltzik and Davan Maharaj
Los Angeles Times

The nation's private health care system is on the verge of a multibillion dollar financial crisis that could lead to bankruptcies and closings of hundreds of physician groups, government supervision of others, and temporary disruptions of medical services for millions of

Americans.

The scale of the problem is dramatically illustrated by California's seizure Thursday [Mar 11] of the giant MedPartners Provider Network Inc., whose 1,000 doctors provide care for 1.3 million Californians through its contracts with health maintenance organizations and other insurance carriers.

It is estimated that 50 to 90 percent of all medical providers in the state are experiencing financial troubles, according to testimony Wednesday before the State Senate Insurance Committee. Just last year, San Diego based FPA Medical Management, a physicians management group like MedPartners, collapsed without warning, leaving more than 400,000 patients without provision for health care.

Until now, consumers and lawmakers have considered the main problem of the health industry to be inadequate care and have directed much of their lobbying and legislative efforts in that direction. Now, lawmakers will increasingly address the industry's financial instability, which is attributed in part to mismanagement, overly aggressive expansion, and low reimbursement rates.

Experts in health care economics say the financial soundness of health care providers ranging from hospitals to physician groups has been seriously undermined nationwide.

During the past year, state takeovers of sick HMOs and physician management groups have become increasingly common.

Only this week, a New Jersey judge dissolved HIP Health Plan of New Jersey, the state's oldest HMO, sending 82,000 members scrambling to other plans for emergency health coverage.

In Texas last month, the state Department of Insurance took over a financially unstable HMO after the company became insolvent, jeopardizing care for its 17,000 members.

Recently, cash strapped health care companies have filed for bankruptcy or have been taken over by state regulators in Florida, Arizona, Maryland and Mississippi.

Medical and legal experts familiar with the problem say that patients' access to adequate care is not likely to be permanently affected.

But as the crisis unfolds, there are sure to be serious disruptions of care for thousands, if not millions, of patients forced to find new doctors after their existing medical groups fold or lose insurance contracts; severe pressure on state and federal lawmakers to improve regulation of health care companies of all kinds; and changes in the economics of U.S. medicine that could dwarf those provoked by the rise of managed care in the 1990s.

"Does this mean a number of medical groups will go belly up?" asked Peter Boland, the head of Boland Health Care, a Berkeley based consulting firm. "The answer is yes. There will be many MedPartners." To be sure, some health care experts believe the MedPartners case reflects some peculiarly Californian circumstances unlikely to be widely duplicated around the country.

"There are some unique circumstances to the MedPartners situation," said James Robinson, a health economist at the University of California at Berkeley, a national expert in managed care. "The consolidation and amalgamation of medical groups in Southern California went further than anywhere else in the country. At the same time (insurance) premiums have been held to lower levels in California than in any other state."

Boland and others say the signs are already clear, however, that the financial crunch afflicting California medical groups is being replicated around the country. The roots of the crisis can be found in the rise of managed care in the late 1980s and early '90s, when health maintenance organizations and other health plans promised to control spiraling costs by closely monitoring how doctors provide service to patients.

In many such cases their preferred technique was known as "global capitation." The health plans paid medical groups a set monthly fee per patient and ceded them the responsibility for providing all the care that patients needed - whether that meant no care at all to a healthy member, or a long bout of costly kidney dialysis for a patient needing it.

In effect this system shifted the risk of unexpected health costs from the insurer to the doctor group. That placed an unprecedented strain on the managerial skills of those groups and jeopardized the soundness of any that miscalculated its potential costs.

"If you haven't properly estimated the cost and service profile for group (of patients)," said Boland "Then you're hoping to make out based on luck and happenstance. But you don't know your costs."

Health care experts say the crisis could lead to dramatic changes in the structure of health care in the United States, as healthy medical groups buy up failing groups in an effort to improve their bargaining positions with similarly consolidating managed care plans.

HOSPITAL

The only place you can get into without luggage

Will Rogers

A place where friends of the patient go to talk to other friends of the patient.

Francis O. Walsh

OBITUARIES

In memory of **CAPT. WILLIAM S. ARNOTT**: we say a sad goodbye to one we can unreservedly call, "CAPTAIN UNITED." His effervescent enthusiasm for flying and his love and respect for United Air Lines was par excellence and above reproach. Bill was enthusiastically curious about the execution and intricate techniques of Celestial Navigation as used by United's Navigators, prior to United's switching over to the utilization of the Inertial Navigation System, (INS). He was also actively involved in the functions of The Institute of Navigation. During a conference of the I.O.N., at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, Bill gave a spell-binding presentation that held the attendees' undivided attention throughout, and was climaxed by a thunderous applause. I won't forget that event, ever. Above all, he really made "UNITED LOOK GOOD!" I'll be eternally indebted to Bill for his supportive approval of my book entitled: *Airman's Integrated Dispatch Essentials, Dictionary of Flight Rules and Regulations*, and to display it in the United Airlines Historical Foundation (UHAF). Archive copies of this book may be found in the libraries of: Stanford University; President Herbert Hoover's Library of War and Peace; in a number of International Air Attaches, including USSR's; and the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum. The main thing here is, Bill liked it! Thanks Bill, for your kindness and great spirit!

MELVIN N. PETERSON, 1159 Elmsford Drive, Cupertino, CA 95014

WILLIAM E. WEST JR. (Bill) died peacefully on March 2nd at the age of 63 years in his Lake Tahoe home. Although he had been diagnosed with cancer a year-and-a-half ago, his life quality was strong up until two weeks prior to passing away. He became increasingly sick during those last two weeks, yet was able to enjoy his life, children, and wife. Bill had the chance to see his two sons, two daughters, two stepchildren, and three grandchildren within a few days before his death.

His wife, Helena, was at his side at 3:15pm on March 2nd, when he quietly slipped away. He was able to stay at his home, and be comfortable. He received care because Helena is a hospice nurse by profession. She feels that his passing was very peaceful, mostly because of the calm surrounding of Lake Tahoe, the comforts of their hilltop home, and the strong love they shared. They had a very supportive and comforting atmosphere.

Bill was born in Providence, Rhode Island on November 2, 1935. He graduated from Attleboro High School in Massachusetts in 1953. Bill continued his love for education at Brown University and graduated from Boston University Law School as a member of the Law Review. He served as a pilot for the U.S. Navy from 1953 to 1963 and was a member of the Naval Reserves until 1976. During that time, he started his law career at his private practice in Attleboro. In December of 1966, Bill joined the United Airlines and served the Grievance Program. He was stationed out of SFO for 25 years. He was a Captain on a Boeing 767 when he retired, after serving the United Airlines for 29 years.

Bill had many passions, but his life long love was flying. He also enjoyed sailing in BVI and boating on Lake Tahoe. He learned downhill skiing at the age of 60, reminding us all that it is never too late to teach an old dog new tricks. Not only did he become a proficient skier, he also taught his two sons, Timothy and Thomas, to love the snow and all the recreation the mountains have to offer. He was constantly sharing his passions, including golf, with his boys and teaching them life lessons that some day they will understand.

His grave site services were held on March 8th at San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery. It was on a beautiful sunny morning in the company of his closest family and friends. He was honored with a 21-gun salute and his casket was draped by the U.S. flag, a token of the country he served.

Helena would like to thank everyone who has shown their support by sending flowers, cards, emails, and for calling to share their grief. Bill also enjoyed this newsletter immensely, always opening it first when the mail came. Thank you.

Ode to Bill:

To My Billy

Fly high my love

high past the clouds

towards the sun

in the wind.

up up up

RUPA'S SOCIAL CALENDAR

- May 12 NYC Lunch – Pals Cabin, West Orange.
- May 20 SEA Gooney Birds CO-ED Lunch - SEA-TAC Marriott (3rd Thu.)
- May 20 LAX Lunch – Billingsley's Van Nuys (odd months), Hacienda, El Segundo (even) (3rd Thu.)
- May 20 Ohio North Coasters CO-ED Lunch – TJ's Wooster (3rd Thu.)
- May 20 Sundowners lunch – Clearwater CC, Clearwater FL (3rd Thu.)
- July 10 Ojai Barbeque – Barnard Ranch
- July 21 Washington Area Stag Lunch – Belle Haven CC
- Aug 11 RUPA Picnic – Elks Club Palo Alto
- Oct 8 PHX Roadrunners Lunch – Sun City (2nd Fri.)
- Oct 8 SEAFO – Retirement Party for Jess Marker – Museum of Flight
- Oct 11 SW Florida Outlaws – Lunch (2nd Mon.)
- Oct 14 SE Florida – Lunch (2nd Thu.)
- Nov 7-11 RUPA Convention – Las Vegas

June Deadline – 19 May

Folder's & Stuffer's – 2 June



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