



# RUPANEWS

Journal of the Retired United Pilots Association

Volume 2, Number 8

(Journal 493)

August, 2000



IN THIS ISSUE

Notices	Pages 3-10
ALPA News	Pages 11-12
Historic Photo	Page 20
Nailing Shingles	Page 25
Sun Safety	Page 26
Obits. & Flown West	Pages 29-31
Calendar	Page 32

*Nelson Gardner*  
DOUGLAS DC-4  
1946-1957

# RUPANEWS

**Editor** Jock Savage

2207 Thurm Ave. Belmont, CA 94002-1547

Tel (650) 592-2380, FAX (650) 592-2380 Email: jock\_savage@compuserve.com

RUPA Website - www.rupa.org

## OFFICERS

**The late 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

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

**Convention Sites**  
**Fold'n 'n Stuffin'**  
**ALPA MEC Liaison**  
**WHQ Liasion**  
**Widows Coordinator**  
**RUPA Web Site**

**Joe Ferrie**  
**Cleve Spring**  
**Felix Isherwood**  
**Milt Jensen**  
**Jackie Abel**  
**Bruce McLeod**

## Area Representatives

**Chicago -**

Bernie Sterner

**Los Angeles -**

Dave Tank

**Denver -**

Dick Wagner,  
Curly Baker

**New York -**

Ray Bernosky

**Florida - N. E.**

Lowell Johnston

**Ohio (North Coasters)** Dick Orr

**S. W. (Outlaws)**

Chuck Monahan

**S. E. (Gold Coast)**

Stan Blaske  
Jimmy Carter

**PHX "Roadrunners"** Frenchy Bourgeois

**Tampa Sundowners**

Jim Fenely

**Treasure Coast**

Bob Schaet

**San Fernando Valley**

Walt Tyler

**San Francisco**

Sam Cramb,

**Honolulu**

Buddy De Costerd

Cam McEachern

**Las Vegas -**

Clyde House

**Seattle**

Ray Dapp,

Dick Weisner

**Washington D.C.**

E. K. Williams Jr.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Floyd Alfson, Joe Ferrie, Milt Jensen, Milt Jines, Walt Ramseur, Bill Stookey, Gene Tritt.

RUPANEWS (USPS 017-562) is published monthly, for members for \$20 per year by the Retired United Pilots Association, 1104 Burke Lane, Foster City, CA 94404-3636. Periodicals POSTAGE PAID at San Mateo, CA and additional mailing offices:

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to RUPANEWS, 1104 Burke Lane., Foster City, CA 94404-3636

*For the best steak ever - come to the annual  
RUPA Potluck Picnic  
at the Palo Alto Elks Club  
(4249 El Camino Real)*

*Date: August 9th*

*Time: 4:30 P/M*

**What should we bring ???**

As always, we are depending on you to provide a scrumptious array of salads, barbecue or baked beans, breads and desserts. Each dish should serve a minimum of 10 (five if solo). Bring serving utensils, (labelled for identification). Bread should be sliced, buttered (garlic optional), and wrapped in aluminum foil.



**Important !!!!!**

In an effort to cut down on Telephone Tag, we ask that you indicate on your reservation check what you wish to bring to the picnic, and we will call you only if changes are necessary.

Rose Spring (650) 349-6590

Send a check (\$17 per person) to:

**Cleve Spring**

1104 Burke Lane Foster City, CA 94404



**SAM CRAMB  
SAYS THAT  
THERE WILL  
BE LOTS OF  
GOOD  
BEVERAGES!**



**PLEASE SEND ALL  
POSTAGE CHECKS, MADE OUT TO RUPA , and ADDRESS CHANGES  
to  
CLEVE SPRING**

**CHECKS: 1104 Burke Lane, Foster City, CA 94404  
ADDRESS CHANGES: 1104 Burke Ln, Foster City, CA 94404  
Or Answering/FAX Machine..."1-800-787-2429  
Or E-mail me at 105300.427@compuserve.com**

**Snowbirds & Others:**

**The Post Office will forward the RUPANEWS for only 60 days. We can keep two addresses in the data-base for each member. If you want your address changed, just let me know by one of the methods listed above and I will switch them.**

**Also**

**Check the RUPA Directory and make sure we have the correct information listed for you.**

**INFORMATION about Membership & Postage Fees:**

**One Time 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. "Ted" Bochniarz, Treasurer  
11165 Regency Dr, Westchester, IL 60154-5638**

**U. A. Historical Foundation**

**Send donated artifacts to:**

**United Airlines Flight Center Mail Room  
Attn: Tom Angelos  
7401 Martin Luther King Blvd.  
Denver CO 80207  
Phone 303-780-5537**

**RUPA WIDOWS COORDINATOR**

Jackie Pancoast Abel, Huntingdon Beach CA 92649-3024

My thanks to all who have pitched in and helped the widows. Sorry that more luncheons aren't in operation. Let us remember that an organization is only as good as its members.

The most exciting news, THANKS to Bruce McLeod, is that a Widows Page has been added to the RUPA web-site. (web@rupa.org --- click on Widows Page).

Bruce wants info, comments, etc. for the Page, so any help you gals or guys can give me will be appreciated. Again, thank you, Bruce.

For those of you going on the RUPA cruise in Nov., the SAN Sheraton Marina will be available the night before the cruise at \$125 a room.

Just got back from the Barnard BBQ in **Ojai**. As usual a grand time was had by all. It was attended by a few widows whom I had the opportunity to speak with.

Since the pilots are in negotiations and the proposed UAL/USAIRWAYS transaction is in discussion, the concerns of the widows seem small in comparison. When these things are finalized, we will again try for such things as Companion Passes.

RUAEA (Retired United Airlines Employees Association) just had their convention and have elected a new President. I will approach them and suggest that they appoint a counterpart to the RUPA Widows Coordinator from their association. I, unfortunately, am unable to help all the widows on the system. As best I am able, I have tried to help those who have called and are not RUPA widows. Another good point, is that there is strength in numbers. Til the next time. **Jackie**

## **Cruise Information**

Arrangements have been made with the Sheraton Hotel & Marina for rooms the night before our cruise (November 2nd). The rate is \$125 per night, single or double. There is a hotel tax imposed by the city of 10.5 % . The hotel is also offering us "Superior View" rooms at \$145 per night. The same arrangements should be available for those wishing to get to San Diego a day or so earlier or those who wish to stay in San Diego the night that we return from the cruise. These are lovely rooms with a nice view of either the harbor or the ocean. The hotel has transportation to and from the airport which is about five minutes away.

The reservation number to call is 1-877-734-27267. Mention that you are a "retired United pilot" in order to get our contracted room rate. There will be transportation from the hotel to the ship, but details have not been finalized at this time. The rates being offered to us by the hotel have a cut-off date about the middle of October and these rates are not guaranteed past that time, so it really would be a good idea to get the reservations in before too long.

Some sort of get together at the hotel the night before the cruise will probably be planned if enough cruisers indicate an interest. More about this later.

There is transportation available from several Southern California cities to the cruise ship on the day of departure on Amtrak, Sandiego Coach and possibly other carriers. For more info check with Holland America or Milbury Travel.

Jerry Poulin of Milbury travel will be contacting those going on the cruise for final payment prior to Aug. 18th. He plans to answer any questions that you might have at that time. You can also call him or Todd at (800) 966-6007

## **DANA POINT LUNCH**

Ted Simmons E-Mail [tsimmons5@home.com](mailto:tsimmons5@home.com)

The monthly get together of pilots in the Dana Point ,CA area was held at the *Wind and Sea* restaurant in the Dana Point Harbor. This seems to become a great chance for a few of us to swap jokes ,talk about airplanes, union contracts... and any thing else.

We meet at 1200 on the Third Thursday of the month. (this is a new date)

The name of Lowell Heacock came up. John Callahan mentioned that Heacock was a neighbor of his. He is a retired UAL pilot, in his 90,s. Does anyone have any info on Capt Heacock? At any rate John said he is the 2nd oldest pilot still around.

Present: Bill Meyer, Ken Dey, Bruce Dunkle, Pete Hansen, Park Ames, Tony Testa, Ted Simmons, John Callahan, Jim Keeshen, Bob McGowan and Gary Jenkins.

Anyone in the area next month , drop in on us.

*Ted Simmons*

---

## **Denver Good Ole Boys**

Dick Wagner, Golden, CO 18 July 2000

We had twenty "Good Ole Boys" at our luncheon today, which is a good turnout for the middle of the summer.

We are still sharing the room with a ladies bridge club and no complaints, so far! We welcomed these newcomers:

Dick Grant, Fred Sortwell and Henry Suta. We meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month; upcoming: August 15th and September 19th at the Country Buffet, 7200 West Alameda (Villa Italia) 1130 hrs. Guests welcome! Those present were:

Bill Bates,

Fred Sortwell,

Dick Wagner, John Holody,

Curly Baker,

Bill Fife,

R.O. Stewart,

George Maize.

Bill Hoygaard,

Ted Wilkinson,

JimCox,

Bob Clipson,

Charles Fellows,

Jim Harris,

Dick Bennett,

Russ Wright,

Bill Pearce,

Dick Grant,

Warren Mugler,

Henry Suta,

## DENVER COUNCIL 33 ANNUAL PARTY

We are pleased to announce that this year's Council 33 Annual Party will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel Denver on Saturday, September 23rd, 2000. It will be a special evening for honoring our pilots who have retired between August 1, 1999 and July 31, 2000 for their years of service to United Airlines and the Air Line Pilots Association. We will also be recognizing other pilots who have passed significant milestones in their career...namely those in Denver who have received their Initial Captain Award, as well as those who are new to the Denver United family. If you attended last year's party, then you know what a great success it was! We know that you will want to give this event your enthusiastic support.

### PARTY INFORMATION:

Date: Saturday, September 23, 2000

Time: 5:30 PM Social Hour  
6:30 PM Dinner

Program: Honoree Recognition  
Dancing to Steven Paul

*Guest Speaker: MEC Chairman, Capt. Rick Dubinsky*

Location: The DoubleTree Hotel Denver, 3203 Quebec Street, Denver, CO 80207 (303) 321-3333

Entrees: Combination plate – Sliced Sirloin of Beef with Bordelaise Sauce and Chicken Breast with Lemon Caper Sauce Cost: \$50.00 per person.

The DoubleTree Hotel has offered a special price to ALPA for sleeping rooms of \$62.00 per night. Reservations will be required by September 2nd if you are interested in those accommodations.

Please mark this date on your calendars and return your RSVPs by September 15th. 2000

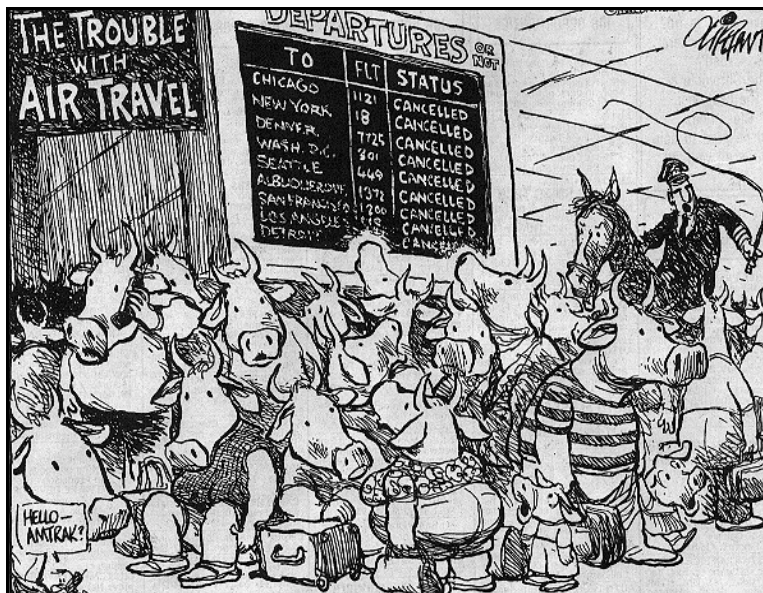
*RSVP: Gayle Bebee: 303-780-5070*

## RUPA members, wives and widows S.E. Florida meeting

RUPA luncheon Sat., October 21, 2000, at Deerfield Country Club, 50 Fairway Drive, Deerfield Beach, FL.

Take I-95 to Hillsboro Blvd. (Exit 37), east to the first stoplight, north on Fairway Drive, next door to the Hilton Hotel. 954-427-4400.

Social hour, 11:30 a.m., lunch 12:30 p.m., dress casual.. \$16.00 incl. tax/tip, plus beverages, \$5.00, if desired. RSVP to Marty Morehead, 561-338-0570, Voice mail 561-338-05700, FAX 561-361-7872, E-mail [Martymorehead@cs.com](mailto:Martymorehead@cs.com).



---

## July Folding and Stuffing Meeting

The summer season is still cutting into the number of F & S'ers helping to get out the RUPANEWS. 32 members attended this folding and stuffing session. They still got it out in record time. The names of those hard workers are listed below.

Bob Adams	Bob Ahrens	Jo Bernard	Hugh Berry	Georgia Bouska
Rich Bouska	Tom Bredis	Bob Clinton	Roz Clinton	Scotty Devine
Bob Ebenhahn	Dick Hooning	Phil Johnson	Cam McEachern	George Mendonca
Mitch Mitchell	Sam Patrick	Vilma Patrick	Mel Peterson	Jay Plank
Walt Ramseur	Jock Savage	Jim Shirley	Bob Soergel	Rose Spring
John Stefanki	Gene Tritt	Carol Walter	Gene Walter	Ron Weber
Ray Wolff	Larry Wright			

## Guppy Gathering

*Guppy Gathering, September 30, 2000, Depot Park, Sonoma, Ca, 95476, Noon 'til Five PM.*

Last year approximately 85 pilots, flight attendants and spouses made this first-ever fleet reunion an outstanding success. We are hoping that you Guppy pilots of the Early Years will make the effort this year to attend, and inform and bring those who did not make last year's picnic. The same format exists this year-bring yourselves, your lunch, your beverage, your cameras and your memories to share with us at the Depot Park, 270 1st Street West, Sonoma.

Last year two of the three "legends" of the early guppy years attended, and we hope those two and the third will be able to attend this year. The third legend is having back surgery the 26th of June. And if you Guppy pilots of the 80's want, please join us and you can continue the celebration.

*Leon Scarbrough* Vickyjune@aol.com 707 938 4575 fax 707 938 4565

*Bob Chaber* RChaber@compuserve.com

*Larry Whyman* DLWhyman@aol.com

## McHenry Lunch

The McHenry County Branch of Chicago RUPA met at the Warsaw Inn in McHenry IL on July 11, 2000. In attendance were:

Muriel & Ken Bergsma	Dale & Glenys Bird	Lyle Burry
Jerry Collins	Ed Cook	Tom Fasiang
Marty Gallagher	W.L. (Buck) Goodman	Milt & Ina Jensen
Gene Johnson	Ken Kensick	Rob & Linda McCutcheon
Al McNutt	Claude Nickell	Jim Cook
Weldon Smith	Leroy Bair	Dave & Dottie Wege
Phyllis Capuzezo	Dale Dopkins	Dan & Joan Anderson
Hap Arnold	Paul Wember	Tom Boyle
Roger Ehm	Gene Mobley	Jim Hueman
Bernie & Rachel Sterner	Howard & Majorie Nelson	Don & Katie Gregg
Jan & Jim Noble	Penny & Bob Burns	Chuck Peterson
Leo Wiedenfel	Ralph & Barb Mi	Norm & Sandie Clemetsen
Barry Davidson	Ted Bochniarz	Jim Heauman
William Rogers	Joe Carnes	

Milt Jensen once again did an outstanding job as M.C. . The rest of the day is always brighter after listening to Milt. It was nice to see a few old friends that have become snow birds and are not around in the winter. George Mathis asked Captain Brad Thomann (Chief Pilot at ORDFO) to attend as a guest and give us a brief rundown on what's happening on the line. What a good choice that was. Think Milt said it best "with managers like Captain Thomann, the company is in good hands". Captain Thomann talked about the current seniority list i.e. two-year captains, the merger, contract negotiations, load factors i.e. 87% in June and lots of other topics. We kept him busy with questions until he had to leave. Thanks Brad.

The next meeting of the McHenry Country branch of the Chicago RUPA will be Oct. 10, 2000 at 11:00 a.m. The place will be the Warsaw Inn in McHenry IL. Don't forget the lunch in Itasca in Aug.

### Corporate discount movers.

I have been informed by member Rod Violette that he contacted the movers Hassett, the Allied Van Lines rep. who has the UAL contract, and was informed that they cannot do intra-state moves. If anyone knows of an intra-state mover who can give retirees the corporate 61% discount, please let me know. *Ed.*

### N.E. Florida Meeting

The N.E. Florida group met at *Spruce Creek Country Club* in the Spruce Creek Fly-In on June 20, 2000. This was the last meeting before the summer recess. The next meeting will be on October 17, 2000. There were 25 in attendance at this coed affair, including several active pilots and their wives who live in the community and are always included. Again this month Earl and Tottie Myers made the trip from Orange City and everyone was glad to visit with them.

The attendees were:

Steve Moddle,  
Larry & Janet Horton,  
Earl & Tottie Myers,  
Al & Joann Peterson,  
Ed Gentry,  
Charlotte Forte,

Bill Oliver,  
Charlie Steward,  
Donna Paulsen,  
Ray Vandeneuvel  
Curt & Susan Simpson,  
Lowell & Anne Johnston.

John & Gayle Richardson,  
Phil & Marilyn Harman,  
Nelson Funkhouser,  
Ted & Edith Vass,  
Judy Chiles,

*Submitted by Lowell Johnston*

### THE (OHIO) NORTH COASTERS

July 20th Meeting

Another record turnout enjoyed a luncheon at *TJ's* restaurant in downtown Wooster today. For the second month in a row, our increasing numbers would not fit into the old meeting room ----- so the staff at *TJ's* quickly prepared a larger room for our meet

Dick and Ruth Barros visited us this month, coming up from Punta Gorda, Florida. Dick was sporting his new chest "zipper" scars, since having by-pass surgery just four weeks ago. He looked just great, too. Dan and Bev Seiple announced that they have moved closer to us---- now residing in North Canton, Ohio. Could it be that the "drawing power" of the North Coasters caused this action? It does cut their driving time in half.....

Others attending were: Ed Griffith, our faithful "regular": Bill Dilzell, Dave Fuller ( our PA resident ) John Cusick, Jim Burrill, Thomas and Sandy Race, Rick and Ronnie Ogden (he retired, and she's still working UAL cabins), Harv and Pat Morris.

Since Don Karauskos and Ed Griffith have left the task to me, this is submitted by yours truly, Dick Orr, who had the pleasure of sharing this lunch with his wife, JoAnne. She again had to listen to a run down of the happenings in Virginia last month

The North Coasters ( AKA The Cleveland Crazies ) welcome active and retired pilots and guests to our luncheons, the third Thursday of every month, 1 P.M. at *TJ's* restaurant in beautiful downtown Wooster, Ohio. Always co-ed..

### Voice Activated Listing Service Now Available

Beginning 6/1/00, the speech activated employee/retiree listing service was available for travel on United, United Shuttle & United Express flights. Retirees, Eligibles & companions can access the service by calling 1-800-UAL-LIST (1-800-825-5478). The previous number used to access the service, 1-888-NRSA-FLT, will no longer be in service.

The new service offers: more consistent & detailed flight load information; space available bookings for retirees, eligibles & companion ticket travelers; no busy signal or waiting on hold; the ability to change, cancel or delete listings & bookings.

Retirees also can list for NRSA travel through basic Apollo & for NRSA travel on SkyNet through Weblist 2000.



---

## Sundowners

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

A few of our group have gone North for the summer, but eleven regulars lunched in the Oasis Room at the Countryside Country Club. Those attending our coed luncheon were:

Paul & Nell Fidler, Ray & Twila White, Woody & Diane Lynn, Jim Wilson, Lil Borneman and Jim Irwin, Jack Moran, and me, Jim Feneley.

Hangar talk, the weather, and attendance were the subjects of the day. The consensus regarding attendance at our luncheons, was, if we did not see someone at our meetings for a year, their name would be eliminated from the monthly postal reminder card. The last page of the *RUPANEWS* publishes the regularly scheduled luncheon dates for the Sundowners. If you find yourself in the vicinity, give me a call and come join us. Guests are always welcome. *JF/RS/JI*

## Washington Area RUPA, Eddie O'Donnell Luncheon July 19, 2000

Today the rain held off until we all had an opportunity to get off of the Beltway and ahead of the afternoon traffic. We had particular pleasure in the presence of Charlie Ake, Carl Miller, Rusty Via and first timer Bob Sagers.

During a lunch of cold tater soup that had no lumps, and prime rib with baked potato we searched for solutions to political, social, cultural, financial and world problems. Some attention was given to the UAL/USAIR proposal. After dessert, Ed Miller [told of a plan to make companion] passes available for the Widows of our Friends Flown West. The idea of individuals volunteering a portion of their companion allotment for the use of widows, with safeguards for payment of pass charges, was well received by the group.

It then was time for the door prize drawing. Once again the Master of Vintage (he knows all about aging to perfection) roamed the tasting rooms of Loudoun County and chose the very latest in the Fine Wine of Nineteen Ninety Nine. It helps that the vint [missing]

Today there were 36 in attendance. Charlie Ake, Bob Buck, Hal Cockerill, Tom Coffey, Dub Crawford, Ed Crowther, Bill Eblen, George Elliott, Jack Evans, Brad Fleming, Jerry Goebel, Phil Gum [Sagers Guest], Bob Jocz, Fred Keister, Roger Lemieux, John Lin [rest missing]

Gentleman, we need your help in keeping the mailing list up to date. Please send to me any changes to your address, postal or email. Also remember, that if you do not keep Jerry Goebel informed of the illness and death in the group, he will not be able [missing]

Our luncheons are quarterly, the 3rd Wednesday of Jan, Apr, July and Oct, at the Belle Haven Country Club south of Alexandria and we invite any of RUPA to join us. Next is October 18 and will be Coed but stags are always welcomed and encouraged. Social

E.K. Williams, Jr.

Washington Area Representative

*For some reason or other, pieces dropped out of EK's transmission to me. I tried, but was unable to contact him to fill the gaps before printing time. Ed*

**JOHN RENSCH** 5253 W. Oberlin Dr. Denver, CO 80235

**ALPA TENNIS ANYONE?** First I would like to let old friends know that I made it to age 60 and retired off of the 777 after 35 years and 19,000 hours just last February. It was a great career. Next, I want to put in a good word for the ALPA Tennis Tournament held each October. This is a wonderful time and a great value. We start with a cocktail reception Sunday evening and then tennis from 8 to 5 the next four days with a banquet on Thursday evening. We play singles, doubles, and mixed in the Open, A, B, and C player ability brackets. Winners and losers are matched for each day so you are not out of the tournament after two days even if you lose both days.

This years event is Oct. 15 - 20 at the Shadow Mountain Resort in Palm Desert, Ca. Entry forms are in the July ALPA magazine. Call me at 303-989-4280 for more information. Hope to see some of you there. **John**

### SEEKING TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Former NASA-Ames scientist, Dr. Richard F. Haines is seeking reports of visual sightings of anomalous aerial phenomena (or objects) made by pilots. He will keep all information confidential. Write to him with brief overview of your sighting and he will contact you. Write to P.O. Box 880 Los Altos, California 94023-0880

## RUPA.ORG

The website has had further changes over the past few weeks. A "Widows' Page" has been added. Jackie Abel, RUPA Widows' Co-ordinator will be keeping me up-to-date with info she receives.

Another addition is the "UAL-ALPA" page. This will have links to various documents of both historical and current interest. The first two offerings are Pat Palazzolo's "From Wooden Wings" – a chronological look at the events leading up to the Strike in '85, and Rick Dubinsky's Special Report, written June 16, 2000, on the proposed UAL – USAIR merger.

Kenny Danielson has provided his personal experiences with Windows 2000 on the PC Software page.

The first info for the "Pensions" page, via "BENEFITS", is an excellent overview of the Federal Tax situation regarding the ESOP. Great info for those that retired during the ESOP, as well as for those who have or are retiring now that the ESOP is complete.

I put a "hit counter" on the "Home Page" and there have been about 670 hits in two months. That is more than in the 2 ½ previous years! Too bad that most were in response to my "mass" email effort in early June, and not so hot when you consider that over 925 members tell us they have email (internet access).

Re: the survey on a RUPA email address book. The "NO's" carried, and one will NOT be on the WebSite. I have and I am maintaining the only useable RUPA Email address book. It is strictly confidential, and will *not* be available to the membership. It will only be used for time-critical membership notifications.

Now would be a good time to review your personal 1999 RUPA Membership Directory entry and notify Cleve of any additions or corrections. The US Post Office does a pretty good job, and I forward changes that come thru RUPA.ORG. Please keep us up-to-date!!

The Site has been developed for membership use. I depend on you to provide the content. How about some input. Luncheon news, area reports, pictures of general and local interest, information on Benefits, both Fed and State tax law changes, -- you name it – if it relates to our membership's welfare, interests, or benefit, send it to me – email or USPO, we'll get it in.

*Thanx, Bruce M*

## Jumpseat Authority

For those interested in getting cockpit jumpseat authority for retirees, here is what the UAL/ALPA jumpseat coordinator recently said on the subject. "I have been in contact with our attorney in Herndon regarding ....retired/furloughed pilots on the jumpseat. He has run this up the FAA flagpole before, and the response was frightening.

The feds said that at our request, they would open up the whole jumpseat system for review and change. Off the record, we were warned that we had much more to lose than gain. We don't want to jeopardize the system." *Ed*



## STANFORD RESEARCHERS SEEK MORE PILOT GUINEA PIGS:

AVweb told you in February about a study on pilot performance at Stanford University in Palo Alto, Calif., and your response was so generous that the researchers are hoping you'll come through again. The study has been expanded, and another 15 to 25 pilots are needed. The scientists are studying the effect of a drug used to treat Alzheimer's disease.

NOTE: AVweb's Newswire <<http://www.avweb.com/newswire/news0028b.html>> contains details of the study and how to contact the researchers. It says, phone Kevin Morgan 650-493-5000 ex. 65633  
*Ed.*



## **UAL MEC Negotiating Committee**

*July 14, 2000*

Dear United Pilots,

Negotiations, this week, were given exclusively to “quality of work life issues” as planned. We discussed Sections 5 (Hours of Service), 8 (Filling of Vacancies), and 20 (Allocation, Assignment, and Scheduling of Flying). We have not had such an in-depth session on these issues in months. Some progress was made and much of the credit is due to the joint ALPA/United “scheduling sub-committee” which we described in our July 30 report. After many weeks, this group has conclusively demonstrated what we have suspected for years...it is entirely possible for modern computer programs, like the ones used by the company to assemble ID’s and lines of flying, to dramatically improve pilot schedules. The sub-committee provided to the two negotiating committees a list of recommendations, which we worked on, for most of the week. The subcommittee will continue to meet in an effort to develop still more recommendations for our consideration. Two of the big areas of improvement they were able to program were schedules with many fewer “sits” and schedules with many less “long duty days.” They are also attempting to reduce “time away from home” excesses. The challenge for us will be to find contractual ways to ensure that improvements to schedules will be permanent. We hope to return to these sections of the contract in the week following the July 24th MEC meeting.

Unfortunately, the progress we were experiencing came to a screeching halt on Thursday morning. It is a long story but here is the short version.

On Wednesday morning, we suspended negotiations for several hours and were visited by MEC Chairman Rick Dubinsky and by three senior UAL managers, Executive VP Andy Studdert; Senior VP of Flight Ops Steve Forte; and VP of People William Hobgood. The idea of the meeting, held in the presence of the mediator, which was planned last week, was to talk about the frustrating lack of progress we have experienced for many months and to clear the air.

There was a frank discussion about where we find ourselves (1 ½ years of effort with little to show) and even more discussion about how the process should move forward from here. Of course fingers were pointed at everyone and no one was to blame.

For me, the most bizarre portion of the meeting was listening to Mr. Hobgood and Mr. Studdert critique our committee. I listened politely while thinking about the joint facts that the employee situation at United, as

overseen by Mr. Hobgood, is the worst I have witnessed in over thirty years and the operation of United, as overseen by Mr. Studdert, is a very public and embarrassing disaster. Neither of them have ever been involved in a pilot negotiation, but of course they know all about what we should be doing and how we should be acting.

Mr. Studdert claimed that if he was in charge of both committees he would fire us all if we could not reach an agreement in 60 days. He failed to mention that he holds the purse strings on his side and no open purse means no agreement. There is nothing about our activity that cannot be modified by a few, or for that matter even one industry-leading management proposal.

We were also informed this week that company committee chairman Mr. Ed Delgenio, a pleasant and dedicated 30-year employee, has been replaced by Mr. Tom Manly. Mr. Manly, an outside attorney and friend of Mr. Hobgood, with absolutely no experience in pilot issues, was originally hired as a facilitator but has slowly taken over the company negotiating effort more or less as a one-man show. He has informed us that if he is not present at the table no progress can be made, because only he can bind UAL. On Thursday morning at 1000 he left town for Atlanta. A response to a proposal we made Wednesday evening never materialized. Mr. Manly said the company needed at least until Monday to respond but was going to work hard all day (Thursday) on it. He left an hour later. Some of his own committee showed up for a joint meeting with the “sub-committee” unaware he had left town. We all wonder when Mr. Manly made his Thursday flight reservation.

Regardless, we will do business with whomever they sit in front of us. We will continue to insist on acceptable solutions to the concerns of United pilots and we will continue to have an attitude problem until “industry leading” proposals we can work with show up at the table.

*July, 21*

Dear Fellow United Pilots:

This week, as planned, we addressed Retirement and Insurance issues. Many proposals, many concepts, and a lot of conversation were exchanged back and forth across the table. The Company negotiators worked hard to respond to our concerns and concepts and to our desire to move the R&I portion of the negotiations toward a conclusion.

Among the many topics addressed were the "A" Plan,

the Directed Account Plan, medical and dental benefits, insurance benefits and pilot disability benefits. One agreement will actually go into effect on September 1, 2000. It is the ability for a pilot to withdraw their lump sum contribution account at an early, normal, or late retirement date. This change makes the contribution account available without the current necessity to retire one month or more early. It allows a pilot to work until their 60th birthday, or beyond as a second officer, and still have access to the lump sum option. Any pilots retiring on September 1 or later should please look for information in their retirement packet, in Unimatic, or in their mailbox.

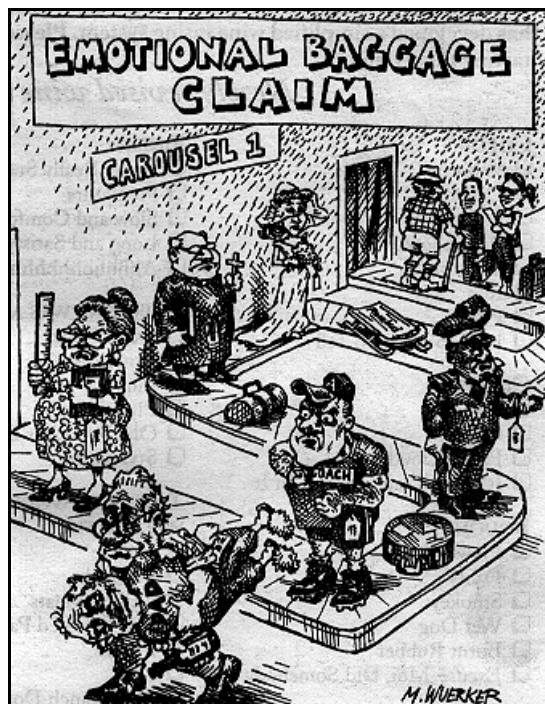
Other new concepts are agreed to. For example, pilots will have a short-term disability plan, a benefit that has eluded us for years. There will also be a pilot and dependent "wellness program" which will provide for paid preventative medical exams especially after age 50. Other progress has been made but final language is not written. A full report of our progress on R&I and other issues will be made to the MEC at the upcoming meeting.

The Company appeared this week to be much more responsive than in the many past months, which resulted in acceptable progress. Meaningful exchanges of proposals are more consistent with past negotiations that have led to agreements. We want to believe this week's activities are a precursor to more productive negotiations but it is too soon to tell.

Fraternally,

*Wendy Morse, Member*

*UAL-MEC Negotiating Committee*



**WALLACE E. AMLING**—1650 Leora Ln., Leucadia, CA 92024

Cleve, Enclosed is my check for the *RUPANEWS*. Not much to report. Margie and I still healthy. Have to remember I'm getting older and can't do things like jet skiing across boat wakes on Lake Mojave. I hurt my back a year ago, Memorial weekend, jet skiing and am now just about back to normal and able to play tennis, golf and surfing.

Thanks for all of your effort putting together the *RUPANEWS*. Wally

*Thanks Wally, but all the credit for putting this great magazine together goes to our editor, Jock Savage!*

**MYRWIN H. ANDERSON**—828 Santa Helena, Henderson, NV 89015

Dear Cleve, Enclosed are my dues for 1999 and 2000.

I just noticed that my mailing label shows that it expired on 6/21/1999. I'm sorry that I missed it.

My wife, Dawn and I really enjoy receiving the *RUPANEWS*. It keeps us up to date on the people we know. You and the people that help you deserve kudos all around.

I would like to thank ALPA for a wonderful retirement party given to the pilots that retired in 1999 at SFO. It was well attended. Our president William Smith was there, which was a nice gesture. Thanks Bill.

It has been almost a year since I retired and it seems that I'm working more than when I went to work. How is that? Oh well its for a good cause.

Hope to see you all on the cruise this year and Las Vegas Next. Andy

**VAN H. BLAKE**—9111 Loma St, Villa Park, CA 92861

Dear RUPA Ranks, Just a short note of thanks to all of you who donate time, energies, and ingenuity in getting the "*RUPANEWS*" out to us. I for one really appreciate all you do. I also appreciate all those who provide info on the company and some of the progress that is taking place through the Union for us "bygones". For a lot of us the main big perk that we are forced to rely on has to do with the health and medical challenges. One of the things that I have become aware of is the length of time to process payments to the Dr.'s and clinics from the time of the Dr. visit to the time the claim is processed. For instance I had an annual physical Feb. 1999, and my Dr. and associated medical helps are just now getting paid, (1 year and 4 mo. later.) In this day of high speed everything, that is almost criminal, and certainly a total disservice to the Medicals. Maybe its about time some of us RUPA's with some authority, should have a visit with the company and present some of our complaints and sugges-

---

tions. [ *We have in position, as was noted some months ago, a system whereby volunteer members will collate and forward complaints to our ALPA and UAL liaisons for onward transmission and, hopefully, some corrective action. Please send complaints about Blue Cross, Blue Shield to Capt. Dan Jessup, and complaints about CARE drug supplying to Capt. John Baer – they're in the directory. Ed*]

We have had a wonderful and busy year and just this past month we added two new baby grandsons. Such a fun and great blessing. We've traveled a lot for and with family and had a great birthday bash for my dad's 90' birthday. It was fun to hear about the good old days.

Thanks again, and the best to all of you, *Van*

**CHARLES W. BLOOM**—601 Pattee Canyon Rd, Missoula, MT 59803

Hi Jock, Can't believe it's been five years since Uncle Sam decided I should retire. Every time I see a contrail I still wish I were back at work, but oh well. Still having fun flying my 210, Kayaking, and recording musical groups for CD's. Keep up the good work, the *RUPANEWS* is terrific. *Chuck*

**DICK & BEV BLUNDELL**—1619 North Mar Dr, McHenry, IL 60050

I am happy to report that life has definitely improved since a year ago. The bovine valve is working well, and with the help of the pacemaker, I am able to enjoy. I'm truly blessed. By November of '99 we were able to relax for a week in Bermuda. It was great to get away. In June, Bev arranged a long Father's Day weekend in Boston. Granddaughter Lisa, now 21, and living in Rhode Island, was able to join us for the festivities. All of us packed a great deal in those 3 touristy days! Our future plans include a trip to Hawaii where we will visit friends and cruise the islands. This is in celebration of our 19th anniversary. Meanwhile we have enjoyed the theater in Chicago and our own local talent performing in Woodstock. Bev likes opera and we saw "Carmen." I'm getting cultured, finally.

Seems like a lifetime ago I was flying the Friendly Skies and yet the 13 years of retirement have flown so quickly. My advice grab all the gusto you can, and God bless. *Dick & Bev*

**JACK & BILLEE BROWN** 1258 Fernside Dr. S. Tacoma, WA 98465-1303 (253)564-3277  
e-mail <jb22bj@earthlink.net 11/64-7/92 SEA-ORD-SF0-LAX-SEA

Yes, we have joined the computer age, so I can no longer pride myself on being "computer illiterate", although I leave most of its use to my wife.

She fittingly named our lime green IMac "Marguerita". With scanner and printer we are in business.

This last year, my 8th in retirement, has certainly been a full one. Last August we did a backpack trip in the Olympics with 3 of our grandsons, one son and a son-in-law to Sunnybrook Meadow, just west of Mt. Constance. It was 6 miles in and 4200' up, so on a hot day, with 50-55lb packs it was a challenge for us older types. The last 3 1/2 miles gained 3500' and was a real pull. Once in the meadows, with flowers still blooming, it was well worth it. My wife outdid herself in the meals she planned and prepared over our 2 little mountain stoves. Even served blueberry pancakes for breakfast.

No wonder her pack was so heavy, what with a frying pan and Mrs. Butterworth's syrup! Climbing nearby peaks and ridge running made for a memorable trip. In September we headed standby for Maui, and managed to get first class both ways. Really unheard of, but nice since we were celebrating anniversary #48. We spent one week in the Hana area where we hiked all the nearby trails in to waterfalls, hidden pools and along the "King's Highway", and, of course, visited Lindberg's grave. The next week we drove to the summit of Haleakala to watch the sunrise, then donned our packs and descended into the crater where we camped 2 nights and hiked the crater floor during the day. The crater was interesting with its varied terrain of lava flows, pumice cones, grasslands, forests and the unique silver sword plant. We never did get to the beaches on the south and west end of the island.

The year 2000 started off with another challenge. We left in mid January for Tanzania, east Africa, to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro. Our U.S. guide was again Craig Van Hoy who had led us on our 2 Nepal treks and one Mt. Rainier climb. Our party of 8 included 7 of us who were aged 60-78, so we called ourselves the C.E.C. (Chronologically Endowed Climbers). Because of our ages we opted for the standard "Coca Cola" route as it is the easiest. Kilimanjaro is a big mountain, some 50 miles long and 25 miles across. Our route was about 60 miles round trip, and although certainly not technical, is still a challenge because of the altitude. I was concerned about Billee as she had problems with altitude at 17,000' in Nepal so this time we both decided to try Diamox, a medicine many climbers use. It worked and neither of us had any problems. The hike is through different vegetation zones, from agriculture and jungle, forest, moors and grasslands, alpine desert and finally the arctic summit with some permanent glaciers. The accommodations were huts and the Tanzanians do a good job of maintaining them and the trails. Each guide carried a litter bag, and picked up trash along the way.

---

Even more important, the outhouses were kept clean. This was certainly different than our experience in Nepal, which has become a polluted trash dump. Our group of 9 (including our guide) grew to 27 with the addition of 5 local guides and cooks, and 13 porters, very similar to Nepal. We planned six days round trip rather than the usual 5, in order to give more time to adjust to the altitude. We spent two nights at 12,200', climbing to 14,100' on the off day and returning to 12,200' for the night. Our final hut was at 15,520', but we weren't there very long, as the climb started at 12:15 AM.

One woman had stayed at the 12,200' camp with health problems, and one had to turn back with diarrhea after an hour on the final push to the top. At 7:40 AM the rest of us reached the 18,635' crater rim. Our 78 year old woman, who is all of 5' and 90 lbs, became the oldest woman known to have reached this point! She and Billee descended from this point, while the rest of us continued on to the final summit at Uhuru Peak, 19,340'. Our party was 75% successful, which is higher than the 40% which we were told is the average. Not bad for us old timers! The rest of the trip was a photo safari to the Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater and Lake Manyara, all parks which we had visited in 1986. Unfortunately the viewing of animals was disappointing in comparison with our last trip and I would hesitate to recommend going to these parks to anyone. We have loved them to death!

After returning home we left for our annual trip to ski at Big White in Canada with 22 of our Mountaineer friends. As always, a great time and great snow. In April we traded our Chalet (a folding camping trailer) for a Class B "Leisure Travel" van conversion motor home, which we found used for a good price. We left then for a 2 month trip through the southwest visiting national parks and monuments and doing as much hiking as possible. Oak Creek Canyon, Chiricahua National Monument, Black Canyon of the Gunnison, Sand Dunes National Monument to name a few. Struggling to the top of the highest sand dune in 40 mph winds was one of the highlights. Along the way we also stopped at Biosphere II near Tucson AZ and spent some 4 hours touring. A really fascinating place which is now run by Columbia University and is conducting research on environmental and climactic problems.

In two weeks we head the van eastward to Chicago to attend our 50th high school class reunion. How time flies. On the way home we plan to take the route across the southern part of the Canadian Provinces. As for the rest of our family. All are doing well. 4 of the 16 grandkids are in college now, and we continue to give some help toward their tuition. Great to watch

them grow and mature.

Thanks again to the folders and stuffers. I enjoy everyone's letters, and look forward to each issue.

Later, Jack & Billee

### **WP (BILL) & MARY GAGE CAMPBELL**

On July 9, 1999 I set the parking on an old "Rope Start" in Honolulu. A year has gone by and I haven't missed it a bit. In 1985 I was wondering why I went to work for this c--- s--- outfit. In 1999, thanks to ALPA and 96/96, I'm glad I did. Retirement as a beach bum in Windy Hill, S.C. and a clothed person in Raleigh, N.C. is good. Thanks to all the volunteers of RUPANEWS for their work and keeping us informed. One point however; my wife of 41 years reads RUPANEWS too. All of this writing about traveling and cruising is beginning to influence her. She and three other girls just spent ten days in Paris and she's whining again. Anybody else having this problem? Check's in the mail. *Bill*

### **CLIFFORD W. CHANEY: cliffnphyl@aol.com**

Dear Jock. On this birthday month I have always said happy birthday to Scotty and Howard Anderson. But Howard has left us so: happy birthday Scotty. The June issue had a couple of airplanes that I flew at Cheyenne. The Fairchild 24: I and Bud Jordan was doing the dual x-country. Ran out of oil, landed in a farmer's back pasture. He provided a couple of gallons of oil and we proceeded on to CY. I had another funny one in the airplane. I was on my solo x-country over Fort Morgan, had to go to the bathroom real bad. Tried to get in the back seat for a bottle, to no avail. So propped the door open with my head, got on my knees, and let it go. I later thought, wouldn't it have been something if I had accidentally fallen out, and the airplane was found a couple of hundred miles away. That would have been something for the CAA to figure out. Had George Wilbur as my instrument flight instructor in the Waco. And Charlie Doyle as my 247 instructor, Nat Messer in the DC-3. Seems like only yesterday instead of 58 years plus. Phyllis and I have been remodeling the home we have purchased in St. George. The work is just about done, and we are very pleased with the result. I rebuilt my 172 and it is looking very well. Soloed a 78-year-old man in a Beech Musketeer, yeeeah!. And have a 57-year-old woman in a Grumman AA1a. She should solo this next week. Another 65-year-old, who had polio as a young man, is just about ready to solo. So my mornings are busy. And in the afternoons go to Gold's gym. Where else? My best to all the folders and stuffers, and all the fellows that put up

---

with me during the 35 and-a-half years. Oh yes, Milo Bacon came and visited me the other day. What a man. I sure enjoy seeing and hearing from him.

I didn't mention at the start. 1/13/42. SF, PD, CG, LA, SFO. What wonderful memories. Have a good year.  
Cliff.

Check to Cleve.

**MARIE COSBY** 14390 E. Marina Dr. , #506 Aurora, 00 800145528

Dear Jock: Thanks for sending the *RUPANEWS* to me. I enjoy it very much. I don't know many of the names now in the newsletter, as most of those I worked with in OPBFO, DENFO and DENTK have flown west, sad to say.

The format of the newsletter now is great, and I don't miss the political jabs!

Sincerely,  
*Marie Cosby*

**CARL DE LEEUW**, 1328 via Margarita, Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274 CD310@aol.com

It has been 21 years since I undid the safety harness. Denise and I are both healthy and still traveling. Still running the China-Burma-India conventions (800 plus people) and it's lots of work, but fun. Can't keep up with what should have been done a week ago! We have joined the computer age, but I mostly fix it!  
Carl

**DON EIKEN** eikendj@aol.com

Hi Jock, It was a pleasant surprise to see that former "Cleveland Crazy" Jerry Smith and Mary Beth have purchased a winter home in Sun Lakes. Jerry is a great golfer with a single digit handicap. Makes duffers like myself look bad! Had the privilege last week to observe our son, Steve, land from his "fini" flight in the F-16 at Luke AFB. The squadron was very gracious to include us in the activities. Next week, Jan & I are going on a golf vacation to Canada with some friends from Sun Lakes. Have to get out of some of the "dry" heat! It's great living near a shuttle hub. We manage to get out of town regularly and can get first class a good part of the time.

Cordially, Don

**RICHARD L. EMERY**—9415 Nicklaus Ln., Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Hi Cleve: I am a little late with my postage check, but only one month. When I retired in 98 I tried to convince Betty Lou to move back to California but since we were anticipating grandchildren my plea fell on deaf ears. Since I was still not happy with the home we

had been living in for the past 20+ years, we decided to build a new home on the Red Tail Golf Course south of the city. It took me 18 months to design and find a builder I could work with on an everyday basis. But we moved in on June 5th and are so very pleased with the way the new home turned out. And by the way, our first grandson, William Louis Emery, arrived May 10, 2000, so Betty & I are extremely happy that we made the decision to stay in Crystal Lake. Please note the new address. Dick

**JIM ENRIGHT**, 1220 Burr Oak Lane, Barrington, IL 60010. [airspeed@mindspring.com](mailto:airspeed@mindspring.com)

Hi Jock: Another year and health and family OK. Last October I crewed on a 41' Trawler, which we delivered from Lake Michigan to Marathon, FL on Vaca Key. A Trawler is defined as a rather large heavy vessel, grossly underpowered -10 kts max. The trip was a five-week odyssey on rivers to Mobile, AL. Then across the Gulf to Tarpon Springs and south to Marathon. Locked through about 30 locks and inched under many bridges with less than 2 ft clearance. We had an excellent weather window forecast for the 160 mile crossing of the Gulf, so we departed at sundown. Three hours out, the wind picked up and we pressed on. The wind and seas increased until we were barely making steerage way in 8 ft seas. Then one engine quit (coolant hose broke loose from the pounding). Now we were no longer steering a course or direction, just groping for the best ride. So much for the excellent forecast. We rode out the weather for 20 more hours and finally limped into Tarpon Springs for rest and repairs. The whole trip was an interesting adventure. River navigation is much more intricate than I expected, and night river navigation is a total thrill - like those moments of stark terror we all heard about. Continue to enjoy the newsletter and appreciate your time and efforts getting it to press. Bravo Zulu.  
Check to Cleve. Best regards to all.

*Jim*

### **ESOP Questions?**

Jock, as we do not have a Q & A page on the new web site, [*I believe that there is an equivalent replacement. Ed*] perhaps you could pose this question to the membership. Feel free to edit it as necessary or forward it to the proper place to get the information. ESOP Stock, how do you value it? If you rolled over ESOP I & II into another 401k, when you sell it, what is the basis of the stock and how do you treat the income? Same stock and you sold it in your 401k and purchased another stock, when you sell the new stock, what is it's basis and how do you treat the income?

---

ESOP III Stock, again what is the basis of the stock when the shares are issued, and how do you treat the income? Does it make a difference if you took the distribution over 5 years?

*Carl Hakenen*

chakenen@aol.com

*Carl: In the interests of expediency, I sent your queries to one of our members, George Mathes, whose expertise he has often placed in use of ALPA Forum members with such questions. Here is his reply. Ed.*

### **ESOP Questions?**

Jock, happy to help.

1. No need to worry about cost basis for ESOP 1 & 2, unless you want to compare what you paid in wages/benefits to what you got back after taxes when it is sold. It is treated the same as any other money coming out of a 401k or IRA - taxed as ordinary income. Capital gains doesn't apply. It doesn't matter if you sell it within the IRA and then buy another stock within the IRA either. All monies coming out of the IRA are treated as ordinary income. One of the advantages to trading stocks within an IRA is not having to worry about capital gains issues. The main disadvantage is that all withdrawals are taxed as ordinary income.

2. ESOP 3 stock is a different issue. ESOP 3 stock is non-qualified and taxed as ordinary income at the time of distribution. When it is distributed it is assigned a value by UAL and it is so noted on the statement accompanying the distribution. For example, the first of the five equal installments starting in April of 2000 was valued at \$61 and change. That is the basis for capital gains purposes going forward. For tax purposes it is treated like any other stock after distribution.

I will be happy to discuss any of these issues (or any UAL retirement matters) at my toll free number - 1-877-gmathes. As you know I work for an investment management company with several hundred retired pilot clients, so I don't want anyone to be misled. I will say, however, that it is mostly a hobby job and I try very hard to make contacts feel comfortable that there will be no hard sell from me. Obviously we want pilot business and I feel strongly about the potential of our program as compared to others or I wouldn't be there - as an employee or client. In over 12 years we have never lost a UAL pilot client and it is our goal not to offend any potential clients whether they end up with us or not.

Feel free to edit as required to meet your standards for publication.

*George*

**DAVID FAIRMAN**—515 Knauss Rd., Nazareth, PA 18064

My apology for the late postage check. Can't believe another birthday has come and gone with not much ado about it. It seems I have one about every six months or is this what happens when you've been retired since 1988.

Life is good here in Pennsylvania with all the gardening, restoring cars, caring for grandchildren, and traveling. Billie and I will be traveling to Northport, Long Island, NY for my 50th high school reunion in September. That should be fun and give us all another chance to think how old everyone looks while they're thinking the same thing about me. Isn't that the way it goes?

Thanks to all who make this newsletter possible. It is a great way to keep up with the people who helped make United a great airline. **skip**

PS: As most of you already know I lost my wife Christine to cancer in 1998 and am now remarried. Please change the RUPA Directory SPOUSE column to read "Billie".

**MELVIN H. FRANZEN**—2575 Anaconda Trail, Maitland, FL 32751

Cleve, thanks for a nice publication and for all the folks who help put it together. And thanks to Bill Smith, our Prez, who paid my dues last year. He is a 56V classmate in USAF pilot training and takes care of us old folks. Sincerely, **Me1**

**A. M. 'MAX' FRIEBEL** 4441 South Meridian #323, Puyallup WA. 98373

Dear Cleve, I am quite sure that someone took the month of June out of my calendar! ! Can't believe where the month went. I had all sorts of plans to getting my annual letter etc in on time, but obviously blew it! Have just returned from a short trip back to the family cottage by a lake in Canada. Big celebration for "Canada Day" and a high school reunion that brought back memories of good times and bad! Have been spending quite a bit of time in the Bay Area, spoiling my grandson and attending to some "Honey Do's" in the East Bay! ! Will be taking the 185 to Colorado at the end of July for our annual vacation, with a couple of days in Vegas on the way home.

Havin' a ball

Life is good!

Regards to all the RUP's past, present, and future. Sincerely, Max N9463N@cs.com





---

**DICK FUNDERBURGH** 9728 Hathaway Ln, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126

Dear Cleve, Enclosed is my annual postage check for the *RUPANEWS*. I'm a little late this time, but then, after ten years of retirement, I don't worry as much about deadlines as I did in the past. Still reasonably healthy, flying little airplanes, and enjoying it as much as ever. Thanks for all the news!

Best Regards, Dick

**WARREN HEPLER** PO Box 28, Hegins Pa. 17938

Dear Jock, Sent check to Cleve and now this note to let you know I am still alive and kicking. Just about the last day of June so I am still on time. We have had our problems with Caremark with my wife's drug Prilosec. We get notes with the delivery stating that we will have no refills (we had 2 or 3 refills on the prescription) and we should be examined by the doctor in 3 months. This happened about 5 or 6 times in a row. The doctor said he did not authorize this or ever remember talking to them. The office help said they receive a fax usually and they ignore it or don't answer it.

Other than this, we are enjoying retirement spending the summers up here in Pa and the winters in Fla. Specially enjoy reading the *RUPANEWS*.

Keep up the great work. Hep.

*Ensure that you send all details to Capt Bob Baer, who is keeping track of Caremark problems for us. Ed*

**RICHARD A. HOEFER**—24366 Totuava Cir, Mission Viejo, CA 92691

Hi Guys, We were so busy last year I didn't write. So here comes 2 years as briefly as I can. Flew a lot of UAL and 172 stuff. Went to a lot of '99's things. Marie and Teri flew again in the "Palms to Pines" air race. Finished in the top half again, which is really good for our old, bent-up 172, that spent 17 years in the El Toro Aero Club. Teri wants to fly this year, but she will be 6 months pregnant so we'll see.

We went to Austria so Marie could be Godmother for a baby of 2 pilots. I think this is worth telling. The parents were visiting us. The father is a vice-president with a European airline and has a typical flight manager personality. Marie corrected him so many times at dinner that he slammed his fist down on the table and said, "That does it, will you be our child's Godmother?" She was flabbergasted.

This year, besides continuing our work with the AFS, we did a lot of flying in the 172 and went on a seven-week trip visiting our AFS kids and friends. SNA-LAX-SFO-KIX. Lufthansa to FRA-MUC-CDG. UAL, CDG-LAX. Everything went great except three shots SNA-SFO and two shots FRA-MUC. Seven weeks out

of one carry-on back pack each, and never stayed in a hotel.

The kids of this world are so great they are unbelievable. We love them. Now some of my old friends are another matter. They get more cynical with every ache and pain.

I have the honor of making a speech, in Kawanishi, at a Japanese girl's wedding in April or May so I'm going back to Saddleback college to brush up on my Japanese. I got my transcript, and it said I had 45 semester hours. It takes 60 to graduate so I'm thinking about it.

My e-mail is filled with letters from every continent except Antarctica. Even from an Eskimo girl from Nuuk Greenland. I love it.

I am so lucky to have had the chance to live the life I'm living. Very sincerely, *Rick*

**MONA L. HOWELL**—1825 19th Dr, Mukilteo, WA 98275

Thank you for the *RUPANEWS*. I am hoping to attend another convention in the next few years. I loved the idea of the cruise, but I had already signed up for a cruise in the complete opposite direction.

My year has had ups and downs very much like many others I read about. Last winter was a total loss because I had to sit in a chair night and day for four weeks due to a back injury. Now I have a real understanding of all those people with back problems. Fortunately, now I am up and about almost as usual. No skiing last season and perhaps never.

I spent a month in Norway this spring. Since I have many more relatives there than here, so the time was well spent. It was my best trip ever.

After my return, my sister and I spent a week in New Orleans. It is hard to believe I had never been there but now I know what all the bragging is all about.

What a grand place!

At the moment, I'm busy working on a CD release party for my friend, Cindy D, a smooth jazzy vocalist. The CD turned out so well we are looking forward to sharing it with friends and fans and perhaps new fans. The numbers are good old standards, so you can understand the appeal.

I appreciate the work you do to get out the *RUPANEWS*.

Best regards, *Mona* (Mrs. Jay H. Howell)



---

**FRED HUNTER**—7120 Tatler Rd, Carlsbad CA 92009

Dear Cleve; Please find enclosed forty dollars to renew my membership. I am a great procrastinator and as time goes by so quick I miss the dates. Retirement is a very busy time and we are not home that much. Most of time is spent in Hawaii or Chicago with our Grandchildren. Life in California is not too bad either, don't miss snow or cold one bit. Have traveled quit a bit by car; flying not much fun anymore. O'Hare can be one long day of frustration. Still have coffee with a bunch of the boys Friday mornings, nice to see how healthy some of our 80-year-olds are.

Was not too happy with my ESOP stock - would have been nice to have received the price at which they issued it. Fred

**JIM IRWIN**— 7106 Fallbrook Ct., New Port Richey, FL 34655

Dear Cleve, Attached hereto please find my check for RUPA dues and a little note.

Not much new here, no change in the amount of my pension since June 1979. But we get by. The same old aches and pains, plus a few new ones, but what can one expect at 81 years young.

I looked for years for two videos, *Island in the Sky*, and *High and Mighty*, both adapted from books by Ernie Gann. None of the Video stores had them, but my daughter found them on the Internet, and now I have them, and really enjoyed them. Can you believe there is no cussing in them, and nobody crawling in bed with someone of the opposite gender. Oh, how sweet it was! I have the paperback, *High and Mighty*, and found a copy of *Island in the Sky*, but the seller wanted \$350.00. No thanks!

We all know how many of our letters to RUPA are printed, but do not know how many are not printed. Not politically correct I guess, although it would be nice to know how many each year are not printed. You all keep the faith, and many thanks to all who contribute to the publishing of the *RUPANEWS*.

Regards, *Jim*

*Jim: I don't know what you mean by "politically correct", an essentially meaningless term; which changes with every user and merely indicates that the user disagrees with the views in question.*

*All of the letters I receive are published. Since the change of policy, members have used their innate good sense and courtesy toward others to refrain from attempting to inflict their political or religious views on their fellow Ruparians. Sorry to disappoint anyone, but there is no stack of repressed free speech in the editorial Gulag. Ed*

**RICHARD L. JACOBSON**—27 Mott Dr, Alamo, CA 94507

Hi Cleve, We took a great two week cruise through the Caribbean this spring, leaving Belize and arriving in Barbados. The ship is the *Windstar*, a smallish sailing ship, 140 pax and 90 crew, and it's the ship itself plus perfect weather that made the whole trip so much fun. We're keeping up on the activities of United through our son Rick, who has been with United a year-and-a-half now and is an F/O on the A 320 in SFO. He says that just one year's seniority will get you the right seat on ANY equipment in SFO, including the 747- 400. Just when promotions are really rolling, UAL decides it wants to buy US Airways, a bum deal if I ever saw one. As my dear grandmother from Germany used to say, " immer etwas" (always something.)

Thanks again to all the folks who work on the "*RUPA NEWS*." Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Best regards, *Dick*

**JERRY JULSON**—HC 57, Box 147, Reed Point, MT 59069

*RUPANEWS*: Latch string is always out for anyone interested in the vicissitudes of an old cowboy in a line shack with the best view in Montana. Regards, **Jerry** 406-749-2315

**DAVE & MARY LOU MACKIE** - 25691 Meadowview Ct. Salinas, CA 93908  
mdcmackie@aol.com

Hi Jock: When I was still working I would read in *RUPA* about guys that said they didn't know how they ever had time to go to work, and I had a hard time believing them. Now I am a "full believer." There just doesn't seem to be enough time in the day to do all that you want to accomplish in retirement.

Of course I guess the main thing to remember is that each one of us is number one on a seniority list of one, so we have pretty good seniority to pick our "schedules."

Another full year gone by. Last summer Mary Lou and I took her cousin and husband to London on companion passes out of ORD. We were given one First Class seat and then three in Business. Two steps from the cabin door some guy in front of us faints. By the time they pulled his luggage and got medical personnel there, a connecting flight from DEN arrived with "revenueurs" and so we all got bumped back. Ah well, that's the risks of SA.

Took the "Chunnel train" to Paris after London. Very nice ride...exactly three hours to the center of the city. Flew home from there and this time we DID get First and Business. Then we went back to my 45th HS reunion in Fredonia, NY (what a blast those are - every-

body looked different at first, but in 15 minutes or so, I realized nobody had really changed that much, and we were all pretty much the same as we were in HS 45 years ago). This was followed a few days later by a big family reunion. Also great fun!

Just prior to that we stayed several days at the Chautauqua Institution near Jamestown, NY. (Had not been back there since our HS Men's Glee Club sang there in 1954). Chautauqua is a summertime center for music, performing arts, education, theology and recreation, with world-renowned speakers in all these areas. We stayed at the famous Athenaeum Hotel there, (the first hotel in the world to have electric lights). It has also hosted nine U.S. Presidents, the first being Ulysses S. Grant.

In August we escaped to Maui for three weeks with sons, daughter-in-law and grandsons. The RUPA convention in Las Vegas was really a fun time! Saw many people we had not seen in ages. Our son Scott also works there as a photo-journalist for station KTNV, so we had a good tour of the station and sat in on a newscast. (Have to boast here a bit - last month he won an Emmy for a piece he shot in Piazza San Marcos in Venice).

Mary Lou had to return to UCSF Hospital in March. She went ostensibly to have the hardware that was installed in her back three years ago removed. But they found that not all of the bone graft had fused properly and she had to have more rods and screws re-installed. A more extensive bone-graft, however, was performed and hopefully this last procedure will have better results.

We had such a good time last Aug. in Maui that we're going to do it again this Aug.

Our sincere thanks to all of you that keep this thing going!

Best regards to all, Dave



**DAVE LINSLEY** Aramission@aol.com

Hi Jock,

Another birthday in July. The check's in the mail! Doesn't anyone else wonder why UAL pilots are still flying after paying five years to buy the airline and still not "owning" it? Perhaps the management really cares about money?

That's probably why I still haven't received my first two month's retirement pay! After 3-1/2 years! Still flying though. Just delivered a B-767-300ER from Phoenix to Brunei. My flying partner was a guy I flew with in Africa at Air Gabon in '97. Small world... Moved from FL to the beautifully forested hills of western North Carolina near Asheville in Feb. Lamenting the recent loss of Earl Bach, a RUPA gentleman who taught me so much in the DC-8 at JFK in '69. Earl loved aviation poetry. Thirty-one years later I can still hear Earl reciting:

*Upon the canvas of the skies, so many skies  
So many years, I've watched the restless  
trinity of sun and cloud and wind  
combine as if in foreordained design,  
long bidden by a higher will  
To make a pilot's heart stand still.*

**-Gill Robb Wilson**

*Dave Linsley*

**SHERM MANCHESTER** 50 St. Andrews Drive,  
Novato, CA 94949

Jock, Cleve and all the others.

Another year ..... the flying dreams are starting to fade. Now, instead of wandering in some anonymous airport looking for my airplane, I find myself lost in sand traps.

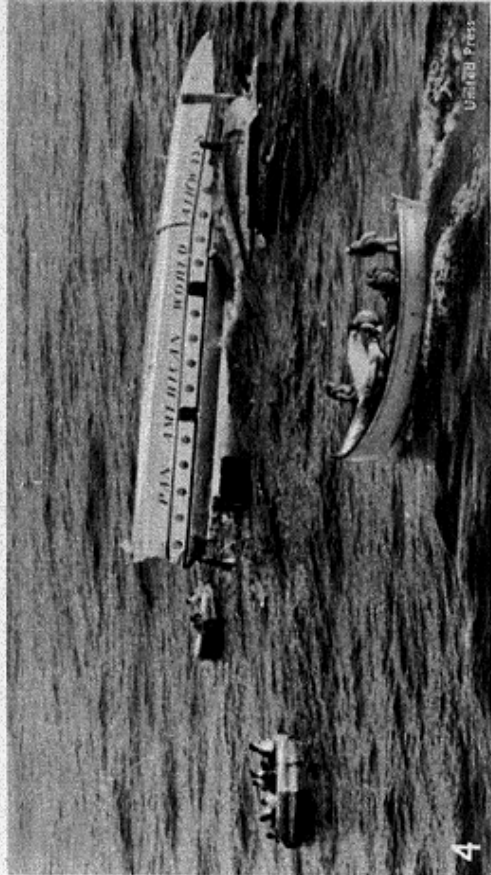
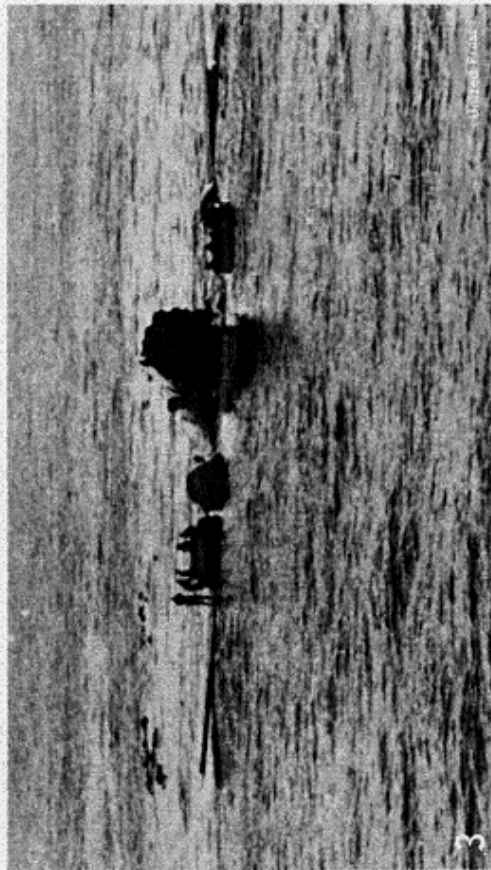
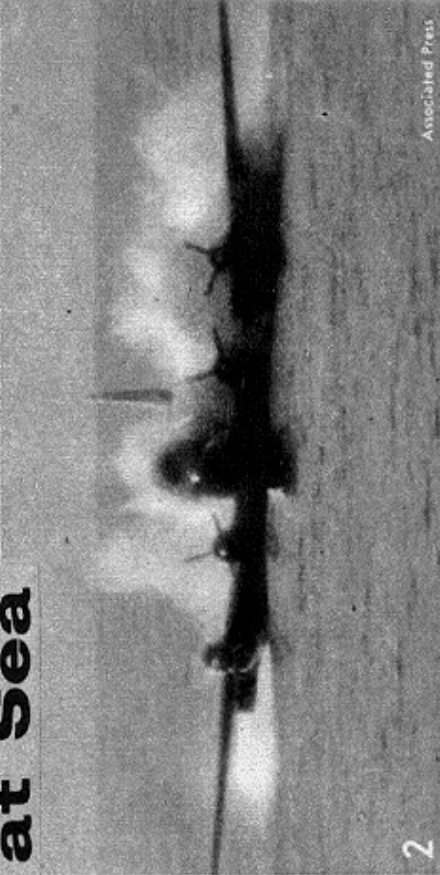
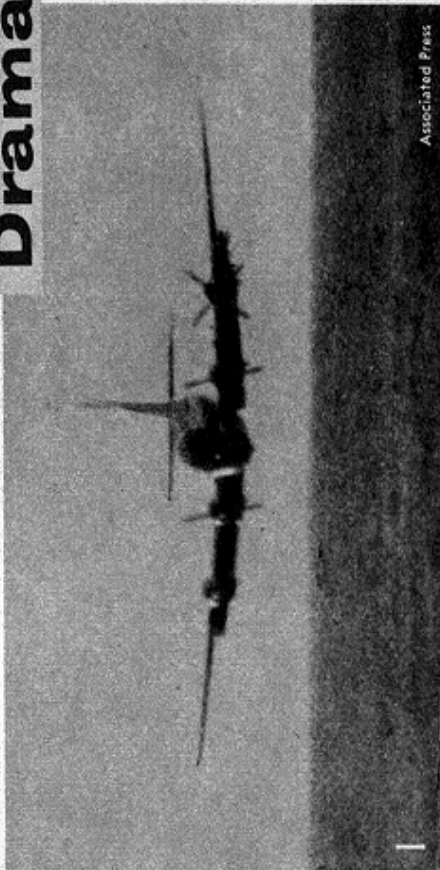
Oh well, at least it's usually daylight!

Last year, Carol and I traveled to Alaska (cruise), Florida (to see old friends and play golf), Palm Desert (get out of the La Nina rains), Connecticut to attend my oldest daughters' wedding (she married an Austrian chef from Vienna and they are now living in Sydney, Australia). With the other daughter living in Vermont, my relatives all in So Cal, and friends all over the world, we are doing our part to keep the Microsoft stock price up. Isn't E-mail wonderful?

We decided we liked the California desert a lot, so we bought a place at Ironwood Country Club, in Palm Desert. That means golf, sun, and El Paseo Drive. Lord save the MasterCard ..... although it does help to get a business class seat. Are we the only ones who think UAL must be making money, since the airplanes are always really full?

The new address for winter: 73-239 Boxthorn Lane,

# Drama at Sea



DITCHING OF DISABLED PAN AMERICAN CLIPPER in Pacific, 1,150 miles from San Francisco, photographed from coast cutter which picked up all 31 aboard.  
1. Plane swoops low for landing. 2. Spray flies as craft smacks water. 3. Passengers on wing (left) take to life raft. 4. Broken plane moments before it sank.

## HISTORIC PHOTO

**FRANK KILGORE**, Sleepy Hollow, IL  
flambeau@compuserve.com

Dear Jock: In November 1956 I had just turned twenty three, recently having been married, was flying with the Duluth ANG and was three years from starting a career with United Air Lines. So the events surrounding the ditching of a Pan Am B-377 were far from my mind. I wasn't aware that it had even happened. Recently, looking through the Nov. 11, 1956 issue of the *Chicago Sunday Tribune Magazine*, I came across a sequence of photos taken from a Coast Guard Cutter during the ditching. Perhaps a Pan Am pilot or someone else might know the whole story.

Copies of this sequence on 8.5x11 photo paper are in the mail.

### Frank

*Frank's photo sequence is displayed on the opposite page. Lest the text not reproduce too clearly, it states: "DITCHING OF DISABLED PAN AMERICAN CLIPPER in Pacific, 1,150 miles from San Francisco, photographed from coast guard cutter which picked up all 31 aboard.*

*1. Plane swoops low for landing. 2. Spray flies as craft smacks water. 3. Passengers on wing (left) take to life raft. 4. Broken plane moments before it sank."*

*Anyone having more information about this ditching please send it to the editor. Perhaps our former Coast Guardian, Bob O'Leary, can enlighten us? Ed.*

### Tracy Photos

In the July issue of *RUPANEWS* I notice that my good friend Bob Grady took issue with what I purported to be a picture of the second class at Tracy. I apologize to Bob and will try to explain.

I had found in my old papers laying around, a panorama-type picture with no date on it, of the first three classes at Tracy. The first class is in front of the Waco, with some ground school instructors and mechanics kneeling in front. This picture was not published, as a better picture of the first class under a DC-3 was substituted, Bob was shown in that one, kneeling, second from the right.

The second class is shown in front of one of the Fairchilds, with three mechanics and the flight instructors kneeling in front. The problem is that when I separated the pictures of the first and second class, I should have separated between Bob at the far left and Johnny Grosso, thus putting Bob in the first class where he belonged. This brings to eighteen the number pictured in the second class. I think there were one or two no-

shows in each picture.

The third class shown in the April issue was split in two, so that I could blow up the original picture and make the faces more recognizable. It shows twenty in the class, but Bob was correct – there were twenty-five to start.

I wish Bob could see what I started with. It was about 8" x 20", yellowed, bent and torn. I scanned it, cleaned it up and enhanced it on a photo program and was quite pleased with the results. Not really knowing the date it was taken, I just guessed at Jan. 1941.

I hope this will explain what happened, to Bob and any other Tracy Aces who picked up any discrepancies

Best Regards,  
*Hoot Moninger*

*Well, in any event, I'm sure all appreciated your archeological work on recovering those photos for publication. Ed*

### Boeing 377 Stratocruiser

The cover picture of the Stratocruiser in our June, 2000 issue occasioned a bit of input from members, including the ditching photos and the photo overleaf from Ray Lemmon.

According to the *Complete Encyclopedia of World Aircraft*, the Model 377 was developed from the B29 Superfortress, and used the entire wing and engine layout. "At first view the fuselage of 'double-bubble' section appeared to be entirely new, but in fact the lower 'bubble' was basically a B-29 structure, and so was the tail unit attached to the new (and larger) upper 'bubble'. This became the military C-97, followed by the KC-97 variants, of which the most numerous were the KC-97Gs, with 592 built.

The Stratocruiser, in various models, accommodated from 55 to 112 passengers. Of the 55 that were built, Pan Am was operating 27 at one period. British Overseas Airways Corp. also acquired 17 for transatlantic operation, following the failure of the Comet. Only six were original purchases from Boeing, the remainder were from other airlines (including United).

Before Stratocruisers disappeared from service in 1963, a few had been modified to a cargo configuration—the oddest of which was the 'Pregnant Guppy'.  
*Ed*

**RAYMOND A. LEMMON**—267 Bierys Bridge Rd, Bethlehem, PA 18017-1742

It's that time again - check enclosed. Just received latest *RUPANEWS* with Stratocruiser on the cover.

Am enclosing a picture of another one taken by then Cpl. Ray Lemmon returning from FECOM (Japan) at HNL August, 1952. I was working at a ML US Army hospital at Sendai, Japan when I received word of a

death in the family. I was authorized to return to US by air, Haneda-HNL-SFO. I took this photo during stopover at HNL. The sailor in the picture was traveling with me. I have a 20x30 print (Framed) of this that I would like to donate to UAL Historical Foundation in DEN. The problem is how to get it there undamaged? Was wondering if I could put it on a flight out of ABE thru ORD for hand carry (COMAT ) to DENTK? Any suggestions? One of our pilots volunteered to take it with him when he goes for his PC in the fall, maybe that would be the best. *[The last method sounds best. Ed]* Anyway, I don't recall too many photos of one of our favorite Boeings and thought they might like it.

Let me know what you think - and please send back the photo enclosed if you can. Sincerely, *Ray*

P.S. On closer inspection, the plane on the cover and my photo appear to be one and the same (N31231) isn't that something?

*Thanks for entrusting us with the photo, Ray. As soon as it is returned from the printers it will be returned to you. Ed*

**SHERM MANCHESTER** 50 St. Andrews Drive, Novato, CA 94949

Jock, Cleve and all the others.

Another year ..... the flying dreams are starting to fade. Now, instead of wandering in some anonymous airport looking for my airplane, I find myself lost in sand traps.

Oh well, at least it's usually daylight!

Last year, Carol and I traveled to Alaska (cruise), Florida (to see old friends and play golf), Palm Desert (get out of the La Nina rains), Connecticut to attend my oldest daughters' wedding (she married an Austrian chef from Vienna and they are now living in Sydney, Australia). With the other daughter living in Vermont, my relatives all in So Cal, and friends all over the world, we are doing our part to keep the Microsoft stock price up. Isn't E-mail wonderful?

We decided we liked the California desert a lot, so we bought a place at Ironwood Country Club, in Palm Desert. That means golf, sun, and El Paseo Drive. Lord save the MasterCard ..... although it does help to get a business class seat. Are we the only ones who think UAL must be making money, since the airplanes are always really full?

The new address for winter: 73-239 Boxthorn Lane, Palm Desert, CA 92260 (760) 837-3730.

I'll send the check, and second address to Cleve by snail-mail.

**Sherm**



*United Air Lines Boeing -377 Stratocruiser at Honolulu*

**DONALD L. MOFFETT**—322 Buckingham Pl, Prescott, AZ 86303

Dear Cleve, I believe I missed sending you my annual renewal, so here it is.

Some of our retired friends who can still maintain a second class physical may be interested in a new business venture I am involved in. I have purchased my first T- 6 and am in the process of purchasing my second. When I have the second plane and have finished all my legal work, I will be selling rides to the tourist out here in Arizona, Nevada, California and the southwest in general.

I am fitting the airplanes with smoke systems, laser gun sights, and machine guns which fire a mixture of propane and oxygen, making a lot of noise and big flashes. We will be selling air combat maneuvering, formation, and other types of rides. I am looking for pilots who have had tail dragger experience in the past and unlike our favorite friends in the FAA, I don't care how old they are if they have a second class physical and can give me a few days a month. Anyone interested can contact me at the above address or phone number. Best regards, *Don*

**JIM MOREHEAD**

I have been procrastinating for the last two years in writing a letter to the *RUPANEWS*. I enjoy the publication, and believe I have been receiving it for the last 25 years.

I still stay in close touch with many of the retired pilots through various retirement dinners and luncheons. Mom still routinely writes and attends the convention since Dad died a few years ago.

I have a few more good years left, and am presently based in SFO on the 400. I see your loyal (bad choice of words) editor at most of the Council 34 meetings. Jock does a wonderful job with the publication. The larger readable magazine size is an improvement over the old smaller version.

---

I am sure by now our humble servant Jock has figured out that you can't please everybody all of the time. I appreciate his space fillers in the publication and a mix of current UAL/ALPA News. Many of the Retired pilots often ask me about what is going on at United. And the answer to that likely concerns the end of the ESOP, the current effort to get a contract now, the lack of overtime flying by the pilots, the impending USAir/United merger if that wasn't enough.

Two years ago we moved from Medina, Ohio to Incline Village, Nevada. It's a great place to live and I hear there are lots of pilots in the area but they all must be home studying for PCs or doing revisions because I rarely see many of them. Bonnie is the Treasurer of the Pilot's Wives group. It is mostly retired people with very few of the group being active pilots. A number of the pilots in the group have sons working at UAL.

We have been on the first two RUPA cruises and plan to do the Mexico cruise in November. It's a good time to see old friends and still see places via cruise ship. I am trying to talk Mom into going on the cruise, but she doesn't like boats and thinks the boat is like the SS Minnow from Gilligan's Island!

I owe dues from two years and want to start a subscription for Karen Jackson. Karen is the widow of my long time friend Ed Jackson who died of cancer in 1997. As our editor has pointed out, United does not always furnish information on people who retire early or do not reach the normal retirement age no matter what the reason. Please send the first Year subscription to Karen Jackson at 2673 Robert Oliver, Amelia Island, FL 32021

#### **IM MOREHEAD**

**EDGAR R. MUSSER**—801 Butterfield Trail, Canyon, TX 79015

Dear Cleve, My RUPANEWS has been expired longer than the fashionable amount of time. What is the policy about sending enough to cover two years postage? If it is acceptable, I would like you to renew me for two years from last April and put the surplus in the Fold'n 'n Stuffin' refreshment kitty. Ed

*(Ed, there is no official policy, but several members do pay two years at a time. The F & S'ers thank you very much!). Cleve*

**BUD PETERS**—2144 E. Poppy Hills, Eagle, ID 83616

Hello Jock & Cleve, Birthday time again, postage fee enroute to you Cleve via snail mail. For the directory, our e-mail address is Budpat68@aol.com. A tad over two years into retirement and loving every minute of it. We are enjoying our new digs here in Idaho.

Lots of good golf courses in the area, one of these days I may even break ninety. Good fishing streams also. Kudos to you both and to the fold and stuffers.

I really enjoy the RUPANEWS and reading notes from fellow retirees that I haven't seen in a long, long time. Thanks to all of you for the effort that goes into the publication of the newsletter.

Best wishes to all of you. Bud

**JOHN & JOANN PINTER**—5442 Willow Lane Vermilion, OH 44089

Aloha Cleve, WOW! It's been almost a full year since I have retired and has it flown by. Now I can appreciate the comments by other members when they remark about how short the time is between the postage checks. Why do I think the time is only going to get shorter instead of longer <grin>.

After two and one half years in Hawaii it was good to get back home to Vermilion Ohio. Its a good feeling when your friends miss you and give a warm welcome back. We just picked right up where we left off as though we were never gone. We did a major remodeling project and that kept us busy most of last summer. Of course we returned to Honolulu and did some scuba diving for the winter but we were back in the spring.

When I was flying I had a good excuse not to join and work on committees. As soon as I retired they swooped down on me so I am keeping busy. I haven't even followed up on a flying job that was available to me. So busy as a matter of fact I still haven't gotten to some of the things I wanted to do around the house. I just finished school and am now an A+ certified computer repair technician, I know just enough to be dangerous. I became the Fleet Captain at the Yacht Club and will work my way through the bridge to Commodore. I am Chairman of the Rules and bylaws Committee at the condominium complex where my mother lives. I guess they felt that since I laid over in Philadelphia I must have picked up some lawyer lingo.

We will be gone most of July with friends on their boat (Tartan 46) going from Quebec City to Halifax Nova Scotia. Then on to Kona for some scuba diving with friends the end of August and to look for a winter rental for next winter. September will take us to Hilton Head for a week of golf than a few weeks to travel back to Vermilion visiting friends along the way. Then things should slow down a bit until after New Years when we will head for Kona to spend the winter.

Jeeze, I'm getting tired just writing about it so I'll continue this very soon when it's time to send in my postage check again. "Free at Last"

**John**

---

**NORTON D. PLADSEN**—15627 Orchard Ave,  
Caldwell ID 83607

Here's postage, late again in spite of having the reminder on the computer. Almost nine years since my last working flight. I must be having fun, seems like maybe three. Most of my sport is as a spectator at grandchildren's activities. Yesterday watched son and grandson participate in catch and release of 7' 8" Snake River sturgeon.

Carol and I enjoy the *RUPANEWS*! Thank you much. We're thrilled with travel benefits. Not !

**MERLE E. POOL**—352 Santa Elena Rd, Palm Springs CA 92262  
SFO, CHI, SEA, LAX, SFO, ORD, DEN.

Birthday month again, boy they sure come around fast. Seems they speed up every year. This year so far is looking a lot better than last. Healthwise, I'm great and hope I can stay that way. Wasn't able to do any traveling last year, but am doing some this year. Twice to Baja CA, a two week trip to the Copper Canyon in Mexico and just finished a month-long trip that included 22 states, a River Barge trip up the Mississippi, New Orleans to Memphis, and then on up north to Canada before heading back home. I also made a trip to Pensacola for a Navy convention, actually two conventions tied together, Mariner/Marlin, and the ANA. Til next year, **Merle**

**R.M. (Bob) PURYEAR** P.O.347 Trinity Center CA 960091-0347 43-81

Today, 7-14 -00 is Bob's 79th Birthday. When I reminded him that he was due for a RUPA letter, his reply was "I have nothing new to say, go ahead if you want to write a letter." All I have to say is that we are both healthy, happy and busy. I do note that people seem to be still having problems with medical insurance through UAL. We solved that, to our satisfaction, in 1996. When UAL costs seemed to get higher and higher each year, we looked into getting a Medicare supplement policy in lieu of UAL. We settled on Blue Shield of California and have never regretted it. The premiums for the two of us are \$280/month. That covers everything that Medicare does not - no co-payments ever. We have not spent one cent on medical bills since that time just the monthly premium and that included 7 days in the hospital for me

still no co-payment. Medicare even sends the bills on to Blue Shield so I have no billing either. Just a file of notifications of payments. Our premiums have raised as we approach 80 but that will be the last age related raise. After that, and in between, it is only when Medicare changes charges and co-payment levels that our premiums go up. For us it was a savings in

monthly costs and has been very satisfactory. [*Glad it seems to have worked out for you both. Currently, monthly premiums for two for the UAL insurance are \$132.56, but that rate is due for reassessment and will undoubtedly rise some. Does your insurance have an unlimited benefits cap as does the UAL one?Ed.*]

We both read and enjoy the *RUPANEWS* monthly. Seems as we "mature" that too many friends fly West or have bad things happen to them, but that is life, like it or not.

We'll hope to see many of the "old timers" as well as much welcomed younger pilots at the SFO Picnic/BBQ and Barnards 'Ojai BBQ tomorrow.

Best regards, *Bob and Norma*

**JOHN SCHMITZ** johna@cmc.net

Hi Jock: Another year gone by and this is the "BIG ONE". The big "8 zero". But, I'm still upright and the sun is still shining - so in spite of arthritis, bad politicians, over enthusiastic environmentalists, and push one-- push two telephone service, it's still a pretty good world to live in! I felt a little vulnerable when I looked at the picture of the Tracy graduating class in the last *RUPA Magazine* and found that over half of those good men are not with us any more. They are all in my age bracket!

Jock, you and your co-workers are doing an excellent job and deserve a huge "THANK YOU" from all of us. Certainly appreciate it!

Larry Peet--I enjoy your write ups.

Y'all stay well and happy, John

**HOWIE SHAW** 3 Possum Path, Coram NY 11727  
HASHAW@aol.com

Thanks to all who make the *RUPANEWS* possible. I read every word. This will be a short travelogue and medical report.

We packed up the car with all the oxygen needed to get me to Florida, and left in late Jan. Had snow, sleet, freezing rain and dense fog during the three-day trip, but arrived safely.

First task was to bury my brother, who had passed away just before we left New York. Then got my sister-in-law settled in an assisted living facility. Then I made an emergency trip to the hospital with an abdominal blockage. So what else is new?

Returned to New York at the end of April. Very uneventful trip. Thankfully. Even had oxygen left over. Thank to liquid oxygen I am quite mobile. Returned home to plan our 50th wedding anniversary party and had everything finalized when I went off to the hospital again with the same problem. Postponed the party until July. Hope I make it.

I feel quite lost since losing my two closest United



friends. First Bob Senger, and then in Jan., Frank Kelly. I keep puffing along (on oxygen). Check has already gone to Cleve, as my wife was bothered by the expires notice on the mailing label.

s/Howie

### **Nailing shingles**

After itching their way through chicken pox in childhood, many adults assume they're permanently immune to the virus that caused it. But the fact is, once you contract the varicella zoster virus, it lurks in the roots of your spinal nerves forever. In up to 20 percent of people who have had chicken pox, the virus eventually reawakens, attacking one or more adjacent spinal nerves and causing severe pain and blistering of the skin overlying the path of that nerve. That viral flare called shingles can strike at any age, but the risk increases for people over 50 because the body's immune system defenses wane with age. Individuals with a compromised immune system, such as AIDS patients and bone marrow recipients, are also at increased risk. The rash of shingles typically lasts for several weeks, and the pain can be severe. But for some people, that pain can sometimes drag on for months or even years, long after the rash has disappeared.

Drugs that treat shingles work best when administered as quickly as possible. So knowing how to spot the early signs of this disease will help ensure that you receive speedy and crucial medical care.

#### *Symptoms to watch for*

The earliest sign may be excessive skin sensitivity in a band like region on one side of the trunk, face, head, or neck. This may soon be replaced by pain - an often intense burning, itching, aching, or stabbing sensation. After about three days, the painful area breaks out in tiny white blisters, each surrounded by a small circular red area. The blisters are usually grouped in a line along the path of the affected underlying nerve. Over the course of two or three weeks, blisters dry out and form scabs. When the scabs fall off they sometimes leave small darkened areas in their wake.

#### *To launch a counter attack*

See your doctor as soon as you suspect shingles. Taking an oral antiviral medication can stop the virus from multiplying and causing further nerve inflammation. The newer antivirals famciclovir (Famvir) and valacyclovir (flaltrex) are more readily absorbed by the body and more convenient to take than the older drug acyclovir (Zovirax).

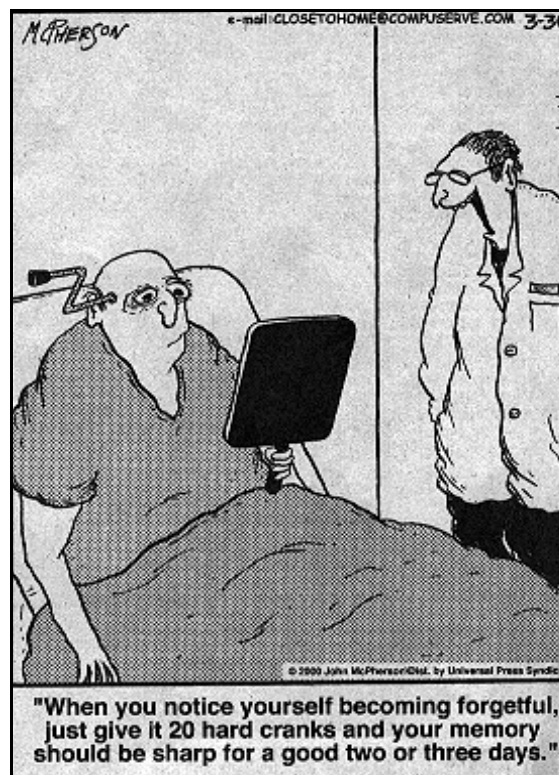
To be most effective, medication should be started within three days after the rash appears - the sooner the better. The prompt use of an antiviral medication can also help ease the acute pain and speed healing of the rash, and it may minimize the duration of chronic shin-

gles pain, which can last long after the telltale rash disappears.

There's no surefire way to curtail shingles pain, but certain medications can help control it. Over-the-counter pain relievers such as aspirin or acetaminophen can relieve mild pain. Prescription narcotics may be required for more severe pain. A local anesthetic injected into the root of the infected nerve can often provide temporary relief from severe pain. Over-the-counter capsaicin topical creams (Capzasin P, Zostrix) are also available, though not all experts are convinced that creams are effective. For pain that persists after the rash has healed, treatments include one or more of the following: narcotics; oral tricyclic antidepressants such as amitriptyline (Elavil), desipramine (Norpramin), or nortriptyline (Pamelor); the oral antiepilepsy drug gabapentin (Neurontin); or a new skin patch (Lidoderm) containing a local anesthetic that eases pain.

Researchers are now also studying the possibility that the chicken-pox vaccine, which prevents the disease in children, can be used to reactivate the adult immune system against the virus. The hope is that this will prevent or lessen the symptoms of shingles in adults. This large clinical trial, called the Shingles Prevention Study, is being conducted by the Department of Veterans Affairs at 22 medical centers across the U.S. Individuals age 60 or older who haven't had shingles may be eligible to participate. To volunteer, call toll free: 877- 841-6251.

*Consumer Reports On Health April, 2000*



**DON J. STOVNER**—1996 Palo Verde Blvd. S, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403 SFO-DEN-ORD-LAX

RUPA: Enclosed is another years dues, time flies when one is having fun. Just moved to another house. This one needs some work to be habitable, not easy in 115° temperatures. Oh well!

New address above. Thanks, Don 520-453-1492

**FRED STREB**—1010 Country Club Dr., Vienna, Va.22180 EWR, DCA, CLE, ORD, JFK

More than happy to send my yearly fees. Time always in short supply as helping my son's lawn care operation makes the days very short lately. Soon to have 9 grandkids, so lots of reasons to explain the 17 handicap on the golf links. VP

23rd reunion in Sept. And hope to hit the Navcad one next year.

Thanks again for the great job everyone involved is doing with the RUPANEWS. Best regards, Fred

**JIM TIGHT** 3384 Poe Rd. Medina, OH 44256

Dear Jock: Each year about this time, I have to say, I rather enjoy preparing this little missive. Often I start putting it together a little early. I rather think that's a reflection on how much I enjoy the RUPANEWS each month.

Spent the past full year pretty much on dry land, no cruises this time around. Not to say though, that we were idle. A week in a houseboat on Lake Powell in Sept. was wonderful. Also took in such things as the National Bull Riding Finals. We were f [missing...] Over recent years we've spent a fair amount of time on Holland America Line. I have to say that the prices for the RUPA cruise are excellent values in all categories. As usual, Joe has done a very good job for us. Interestingly, we were already booked [ on another cruise?.. missing]

While on the subject; I seem to recall, some months back, one of our members mentioning that HAL has a "no tipping" policy. Not true. While tipping is "not required", be assured that tips are both expected and accepted.

Hope everybody enjoys the November cruise. Sorry we'll miss out. JIM T



### Shedding New Light on Sun Safety

In Tucson, I'm lucky to bask in the sun's warmth year round, but Arizonans pay a steep price for this privilege with the country's highest rate of skin cancer. Although largely preventable, more than a million cases of basal and squamous cell carcinomas (the most common, slower growing types) and melanoma (the deadliest form of skin cancer) are diagnosed in this country each year.

Unfortunately, I've learned the hard way the importance of good sun protection. I've undergone frequent cryosurgery to freeze precancerous lesions (called actinic keratoses) off my scalp, the result of too much sun exposure in my younger days. Now, I'm more cautious all year long, even on cloudy days, when up to 60 percent of the sun's rays can still penetrate our atmosphere. In addition, the sun's harmful UVA and UVB rays can also lead to wrinkles, cataracts, and possibly macular degeneration, a leading cause of vision loss in older adults.

To reduce your risk of sun damage, keep in mind the basics: Avoid direct sunlight between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. during daylight savings time, when the sun's rays are the most damaging. And cover up from head to toe. This means wearing a broad-brimmed hat or cap, sunglasses, sunscreen, and tightly woven cotton clothing when you're outside. In addition, here are some interesting facts you may not already know about being sun savvy: *An ounce of sunscreen is worth a pound of protection.*

Use sunscreen generously, at least 1 ounce (about 2 tablespoons) on exposed body parts, and reapply the same amount every two hours while outside and after swimming. Many people use much less sunscreen, short-changing their skin on protection. Choose brands that offer both UVA and UVB protection with an SPF of 25 or higher. However, don't use the SPF number as an excuse to stay outside longer: No sunscreen offers total protection against the sun's rays, and recent research has raised questions about the ability of sunscreens to protect against melanoma.

A recent FDA ruling is aimed at simplifying sunscreen labels, by adding skin cancer warnings and banning misleading claims such as "all day protection." Look for new labels within the next year or so. Protect your children, too: The American Academy of Pediatrics now recommends sunscreen for infants six months old and younger.

*All sunglasses are not created equal.* When shopping for shades, look for brands that block 99 to 100 percent of both UVA and UVB rays, regardless of lens tint. Choose wraparound or close fitting sunglasses that keep rays from shining through the sides.

Antioxidants offer additional protection. Recent studies suggest that regularly supplementing with mixed carotenes and vitamin E can help protect against sunburn,

---

possibly by reducing damage to skin cells caused by compounds called free radicals. While these results are exciting, it's important to use supplements in addition to, not as a replacement for, the commonsense measures already discussed. Take 25,000 IU of mixed carotenes and 400 to 800 IU of natural vitamin E as part of the daily antioxidant regimen that I recommend to my patients.

*Andrew Weil, June, 2000 Self-Healing*

**LARRY WATKINS**, Incline Village, Nevada 50/85 Hi Jock, Lil and I were sitting on our deck swing, which overlooks Lake Tahoe, and we both said how lucky we are to live here. It's been 28 years since we decided to leave the Bay Area and we have never regretted the move. Our house sits at 7300 ft. elevation, nestled in among 100 year-old Fir and Pine trees. We enjoy the mountain wild flowers and the wild life here, and even have a resident brown bear that lives at the end of the street. It's a 25 minute drive to the bustling Tahoe Truckee airport to hop into the Baron with our bikes for a short flight. One of our favorite trips is to fly into Mather Field (ILS practice) and cycle to the American River Bike Trail. From there it's only 16 miles to the city of Folsom where we have lunch at the Cliff House Restaurant overlooking the city. On other trips we cycle west to Old Town Sacramento for lunch at the Monterey Restaurant. What a Life! This summer the Mount Rose ski area is installing a new lift on the Northwest passage. It will be a detachable six-passenger (6 pack) that will get to the top in 3 1/2 minutes! Got to run now, we are watching a towering thunderstorm with lightning crashing into the lake. Check to Cleve. Hi Cleve.

*Larry*

**PAUL & LINDA WEMBER**—921 N. River Rd, McHenry, IL 60050  
Medicare birthday, Supplemental Ins. & RUPA postage due. Just got back from New Zealand Vacation with Ed & Em Morrison. Ret. '97. What a beautiful country, wonderful people, and for pilots, a good currency exchange rate. If you can still stand the long flight, I highly recommend NZ as a delightful destination. We are back home in McHenry. Still like the Midwest. Our nine grandchildren are within 30 miles, and five of our six children have settled back in this area. That gives us somebody to say goodbye to as we do our winter escapes. Two of our sons fly for FedEx. Pay and duty rigs are pretty good over there. Hours stink, and coffee is not served. The 2nd officer passes up the thermos. I was ready with my tomato to pitch at our last DC8 Cargoliner. Their airplanes don't smell like rancid strawberries though. We have a new RUPA

group that has its luncheon only 10 minutes from home, good attendance. It's very nice to see the others who stayed in the O'Hare area. The museum of Science & Industry get together are also a good time for sharing. One young brat asked me, while I was working the exhibit, "Are you a real pilot, or are you just part of the museum". Made my day! Finally on a good note, "I started with nothing and still have most of it left." *Paul*

**KENNETH H. WHEELER**, Zanesville, OH.  
DENTK,ORDFO,CLEFO,ORDFO.

Dear Jock: Sorry I'm late this year, but it's been fun. I've had my Dad in the hospital twice so far, 15 days each time. The last time, in April, he had a mini-stroke. His right side went numb, but, praise the Lord, it all came back in about six hours. At 85 he's doing so-so.

Nancy's Mom has also been in and out of the hospital. A couple of months ago, she had her left leg amputated above the knee, so Nancy's tied up with her full time – as a result I was late with the check to Cleve. I've had a small blood pressure problem, but I think I'm now on the right medication and doing well. I still don't have any spare time. How'd I ever find time to work? The last three years have whizzed by. I very much enjoy the *RUPANEWS*, kudos to all involved.

Sorry about the handwritten note, but I'm a dinosaur; no computer, and no desire to have one, I'd rather be singing barbershop or country music.

Happy holiday, Ken

**STEVE AND ANNIE WILKEY** 1307 Soundview Trail, Gulf Breeze, FL 32561

Dadagain@prodigy.net Steve's. Auntannie@prodigy.net, Annie's. ORD,LAX

Dear Jock, Hope a picture is still worth a thousand words: Here is Steve with twin son "Jake"; here I am with them both, "Jake and Eddie", at 3+ months of age. More important than anything else I can report, our new sons haven't known an unhealthy or unhappy day

Bringing the number of Steve's "sons" to FIVE, our miracle babies John Stephen, "Jake" and Edward Carson, "Eddie" arrived six weeks shy of my 50th birthday, and were born weighing 7 lbs and now at eight months are 23 & 25lbs. . I enjoyed the most remarkable pregnancy, carrying the boys full term, without incident.

Are you wondering why we couldn't behave like normal grandparents? Well, we have loved our roles as Nana and Papa to Steve's 9 grandchildren these past 13 years, but as Steve says "the children kept taking their

Children home with them.

Steve says "My second family has triggered my second childhood. I don't mind the night shift with these twins; but I wouldn't do the 747 all-nighter past 60 if you paid me. I was born to be retired."

Sent the annual dues to Cleve. We both enjoy the publication. Steve says he'll write when I load the "via voice" software on the computer. **Annie.**



*Sorry guys, but when it comes to a choice of photos of babies or bikes for a mainly male readership, well... Enjoy your twins.*

**EDGAR W. WILLIAMS**—24801 DOCKTON RD. SW, VASHON ISLAND, WA 98070

RUPA Association, Ten years since last ride with UAL. Where does time go? Best trip ever to Tahiti, staying in over water huts, snorkeling with rays and sharks everyday, then cruise around islands.

We still don't have a computer and don't want one.

**Ed**

**E.K. WILLIAMS** [EKWJR@compuserve.com](mailto:EKWJR@compuserve.com) 66-97 DCA, SFO, ORD, CLE, ORD, DCA, ORD, JFK, DCA, ORD, HNL (Difficult to hit a moving target, eh?)

My personal New Year is approaching, and I wish a Happy Birthday to all who share the month of July with me.

It has been an interesting year and a pleasant one. Pleasant most particularly because of the contact with the RUPA group here in the Washington Area. Enjoyed the convention last November and the great group of guys on the sporting clays range. Looking forward to the convention in 2001.

**E.K.**

**LARRY D. WRIGHT**—16242 Acorn Dr. Sonora, CA 95370 [sonoraoldies@jps.net](mailto:sonoraoldies@jps.net)

Dear Cleve, Jock or anybody-- My yearly note does not have a great deal to report, however, there are a couple of things to pass on to my fellow compadres. The good things are I am a grampa again for the tenth time. She is as sweet as the rest of the grandchildren, ranging from first year of college on down. Needless to say, I'm proud of each one.

Marillyn's mother passed away in April and all the legal ramifications of a trust have kept us busy for awhile.

My health has been excellent, especially since I had open-heart surgery two years ago. I am now walking and jogging each morning for which I am very grateful. My cholesterol level (154) is the best it has ever been. However, the thing I want to pass along is, when I retired eight years ago, I took the maximum amount that my years of service, etc., would buy. I figured with the additional amount, I could get a nice ten year life insurance policy that would more than cover the needed expenses my wife would require in the event of my death. Wrong move. My advisors and I never once thought of the possibility of not being able to renew my policy when the ten years ran out. Even though I am in the best of health, low cholesterol, great blood pressure, and active as can be, I am finding it hard to impossible to get life insurance when my policy runs out. (Any suggestions please send me a note). The point being, we cannot make ALL the mistakes in our life time and it is imperative to capitalize on the mistakes of others. Hopefully, by exposing my mistake in this instance, it will prevent someone else from doing the same. I do not know what the future holds, but I do know Who holds the future and that alone is my comfort.

Thanks to all who keep our great organization going. I am proud to be part of such a group. Check is in the mail to Cleve. **Larry**

---

## Medical Q & A

### **Q How effective is saw palmetto against urinary problems associated with an enlarged prostate?**

A The herb's effectiveness has been proven in numerous studies in other countries. But in the first US study of its kind, saw palmetto was shown to shrink swollen prostate tissue, thereby relieving frequent urge to urinate ...difficulty urinating . . . and inability to empty the bladder fully. More good news Saw Palmetto had no effect on testosterone levels. That suggests that use of the herb does not reduce sex drive. Diminished libido is a common side effect of certain drugs used to treat prostate enlargement

*Leonard S. Marks, MD, clinical associate professor of urology, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Medicine. His study of 44 men with benign prostatic hyperplasia was published in the Journal of Urology.*

### **Q Can you tell me about the new hernia operation?**

A The "Plug-and-patch" method is cheaper, safer and faster-healing than the standard surgical techniques. The plug, shaped like a badminton birdie, fills the hernia defect. A mesh patch covers the repair site. Plug patch is done with local rather than general anesthesia. Patients can resume normal activity in three days, as opposed to weeks or months with standard techniques. The recurrence rate with plug-and-patch is virtually zero, in contrast to 10% to 15% for other methods. The technique is now widely available.

*Keith W. Millikan, MD, associate professor of surgery, Rush Presbyterian - St. Luke's Medical Center, Chicago.*

### **Q Can taking antibiotics help prevent traveler's diarrhea?**

A Antibiotics can be taken to prevent traveler's diarrhea. But the best approach in many cases is to take chewable bismuth tablets. Bismuth is the active ingredient in over-the-counter remedies such as Pepto-Bismol. Chewing two tablets four times daily throughout the trip should keep traveler's diarrhea at bay. Still important: When traveling in developing countries, don't drink tap water avoid salads and eat only well-cooked foods served hot.

*Bruce Yaffe, MD, a gastroenterologist and internist in private practice in New York City.*

## **Exercising**

Physical exercise is good for you. I know that I should do it daily, but my body doesn't want me to do too much, so I have worked out this program of strenuous activities that do not require physical exercise. You are invited to use my program without charge.

- 1) Beating around the bush
- 2) Jumping to conclusions
- 3) Climbing the walls

- 4) Swallowing my pride
  - 5) Passing the buck
  - 6) Throwing my weight around
  - 7) Dragging my heels
  - 8) Pushing my luck
  - 9) Making Mountains out of molehills
  - 10) Hitting the nail on the head
  - 11) Wading through paperwork
  - 12) Bending over backwards
  - 13) Jumping on the bandwagon
  - 14) Balancing the books
  - 15) Running around in circles
  - 16) Eating crow
  - 17) Tooting my own horn
  - 18) Climbing the ladder of success
  - 19) Pulling out the stops
  - 20) Adding fuel to the fire
  - 21) Opening a can of worms
  - 22) Putting my foot in my mouth
  - 23) Starting the ball rolling
  - 24) Going over the edge
  - 25) Picking up the pieces
  - 26) Sidestepping issues.
- Happy Exercising!

# OBITUARIES

## **GAYLE B. ROLLINS**

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the passing of my wife of 46 years, Gayle. She had been battling the dreaded cancer for over 13 years.

After her first battle in 1988, she was relatively cancer free for 9 years.

During the last few years she put up a valiant fight, but finally ran out of options on April 6. She is terribly missed by our 4 children, 6 grandchildren and myself as well as her many friends. *Jim Rollins* LAX ORD LAX '96.

**ELOISE CROSS**—16925 Hierba Dr. #337, San Diego, CA 92128

I deeply regret to report that Eloise, my dear wife of fifty five years has passed on. She was a wonderful wife, mother and great grandmother. Our family and her many friends are deeply saddened. She was ill for several years and now she's in God's hands.

*Jim*

## **LETSON**

Edna Lillian "Sue" Letson, widow of deceased Capt. Lorenz H. Letson, passed away 6/20/00.

---

**JEAN EDWARDS**, 8 Crocus Place, Menlo Park, CA 94025 650.854.1530

My Jeanie went to sleep for the last time on July 15 after a long battle with cancer. Her many friends will gather on July 23 in her memory.

*Eddie Edwards*

### **VINCENT "OZZIE" NELSON**

Passed away peacefully on July 19, 2000. A native of Tescott, Kansas he was 86 years of age. Vincent is survived by his beloved wife Mildred Elizabeth Nelson. Loving father of the late Ronald Vincent Nelson. Devoted father to Sherry J. Baccelli and Thomas J. Nelson. Dear brother of Orphy Compher.

Vincent was a life member of San Mateo Elk's Lodge #1112, and the Retired United Pilots' Association. He was an avid golf and bridge player.

Interment was at Holy Cross Cemetery in Colma..

### **BILL RIGHTMIRE**

*By Kit Miniclier and John Aguilar The Denver Post*  
Family and friends rallied around a Jefferson County teen whose father, mother and younger brother were killed when the small plane the father was piloting crashed in a wooded area near Aspen. James "Bill" Rightmire Jr., 51, a pilot of 22 years who worked for United Airlines, died in the crash. Also on board the plane were Rightmire's wife, Rhonda, 42; a son, Keith, 16; and a friend of Keith's, Eric Sherwood. Both teens attended Conifer High School.

The couple's other son, 18 year old James Rightmire III, had stayed behind at the family home near Tiny Town off South Turkey Creek Road in Jefferson County.

The news of the crash shocked those who knew the Rightmire family. "If we could model our son after anyone it would be the Rightmire brothers," said MaryBeth Abdo, who sometimes had the boys over to baby-sit her young son. "It's a true loss for anyone associated with this family."

Officials for the National Transportation Safety Board were investigating the cause of the crash. They would not confirm the names of the victims, but information about the deaths of the Rightmire family was obtained from friends and United Airlines.

The plane left Pitkin County Airport in Aspen at 11:06 a.m. Saturday and was reported missing Sunday afternoon on a flight to Denver with a scheduled stop in Leadville.

The Colorado Civil Air Patrol found the wreckage near Woody Creek and the old lodging community of Lenado on Monday morning. Within an hour, rescue

units from the patrol and Mountain Rescue Aspen reached the crash site and confirmed there weren't any survivors.

The plane, a Cessna 195 built in 1949, was registered to Rightmire and was based at Front Range Airport, according to Federal Aviation Administration records. Rightmire had flown for United for 22 years and had recently received his certification to fly commercial Boeing 777s, according to neighbors. He also was a flight trainer for United. Neighbors said he was an excellent small plane pilot as well.

Pitkin County deputy coroner Tom Walsh, who retrieved the remains from the scene, said the bodies were so mangled he couldn't even confirm their sex. All died instantly of severe trauma, he said.

The crash, in a heavily wooded area, touched off a fire. However, because it had rained recently, rescuers said it did not spark a major forest fire. Each wing of the aircraft was ripped off as it crashed through the trees and the fuselage had been peeled back by the impact, said reporter Scott Condon of the Aspen Times, who was at the scene.

Walsh said that it was the fourth plane crash in the same area.

*Denver Post 7-11-00*

### **IN MEMORIAM – CAPT BILL RIGHTMIRE**

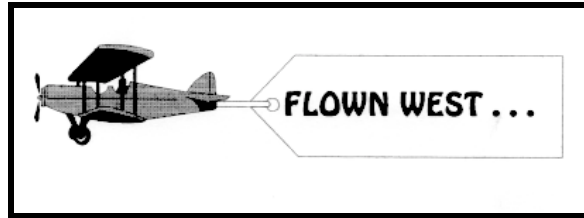
As many of you know, United Airlines and the Air Line Pilots Association suffered a great loss when Capt Bill Rightmire, from Morrison CO, was tragically killed when an airplane he owned and was flying crashed near Aspen this past weekend. Along with Bill, those also lost were his wife, his 16 year old son, and his son's friend.

Bill began his career at United in 1978. At the time of his death he was a SEA-based 777-job share standards captain. Although presently assigned to Council 27, Bill had been a long time member of Council 33.

Bill was a man of great faith, and active in his local community. He was also a longtime member in good standing of ALPA. Sadly he leaves behind an 18-year-old son. I'm gratified to report that Bill's family have come to that young man's aid and are with him now. We have expressed to Bill's son and family our most heartfelt condolences and have volunteered our services in any way we can help.

Plans for a memorial service have not been finalized, but when they are, please take the time to attend. You will be honoring one of our own and demonstrating to Bill's surviving son the kinship we share as ALPA pilots.

We will post memorial service plans on the web site and the code-a-phone as soon as we know what they are.



**JAMES "BILL" RIGHTMIRE \* DENFO 9 JULY 2000**

**VINCENT "OZZIE" NELSON SFOFO 19 JULY 2000**

**\*NONMEMBER**



## **HIGH FLIGHT**

*By John Gillespie Magee, Jr.*

**Oh, I have slipped the surly bonds of earth  
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered  
wings;  
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tum-  
bling mirth  
Of sun-split clouds — and done a hundred  
things  
You have not dreamed of — wheeled and  
soared and swung  
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,  
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung  
My eager craft through footless halls of air.  
Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue  
I've topped the windswept heights with  
easy grace  
Where never lark, or even eagle flew.  
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod  
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,  
Put out my hand, and touched the face of  
God.**

---

## RUPA'S SOCIAL CALENDAR

### Regularly Scheduled Lunches

- 2nd Mon. SW FL Outlaws – *Summer Break* – 941-793-5251  
2nd Tue. FL Treasure Coast Sunbirds – *Miles Grant CC* – 561-747-2796  
2nd Tue. LAS High Rollers – *Summer Break* – 702-658-6168  
2nd Thu. SE FL Gold Coast – *Summer Break* – 561-272-1860  
2nd Fri. PHX Roadrunners – *Summer Break*— Litchfield Park – 480-948-1612  
3rd Tue. DEN Good Ole Boys – *Country Buffet* - 303-279-4348  
3rd Tue NE FL—*Summer Break 'Til 18 Oct* - 904-760-9736  
3rd Thu Dana Point — *Wind & Sea* -  
3rd Thu. LAX – *Hacienda, (Even Mth.) Billingsley's (Odd)* - 310-373-2283  
3rd Thu. Ohio Northcoasters – *TJ's Wooster (Always coed.)*. 330-262-5811  
3rd Thu. SEA Gooneybirds – *Airport Marriott.* – 206-242-1242  
3rd Thu. TPA Sundowners – *Countryside CC. (odd mths. Stag)* 727-785-5971

### Other Events

- 16 SEP ALPA Co 11 Retirement Party Radisson Alexandria  
23 SEP ALPA Co 33 Retirement Party Double Tree Denver  
10 OCT McHenry Lunch—Warsaw Inn  
18 OCT DCA Eddie O'Donnell Lunch (also Jan 17.) Belle Haven CC  
26 OCT NY Skyscrapers Lunch, *Moreno's*, Greenwich, CT  
27 OCT ALPA Co 12 Retirement Party, O'Hare Westin  
3 NOV RUPA Cruise – Mexican Riviera – 800-966-6007

**Deadline:** Always the second last Wednesday of the month.

**Mailing AKA Folders & Stuffers:** Always the first Wednesday of the month

Sep Deadline – 23 Aug

Folder's & Stuffer's – 6 Sep

---



**PERIODICALS**

## **RUPANEWS**

1104 BURKE LANE  
FOSTER CITY CA 94404

PLACE LABEL HERE

Subscription expiry date on label