



RUPANEWS

Journal of the Retired United Pilots Association

Volume 1, Number 1

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February, 1999



Put Out to Pasture in the Desert

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RUPANEWS

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fellow RUPArians,

Welcome to the New Year, and our new *RUPANEWS* format. If nothing else, it will be more convenient to stack on the ever growing pile(s) on our desks. It should make for easier reading, and will save us a few bucks in mailing, though not enough to reduce our annual postage fee of \$20. At least we are not looking at any postal increase in the near future: however, I do hear that, as of 10 Jan, there was a frantic search for one cent stamps at post offices across the nation.

With the recent resignations of Bill Knight, and Scotty Devine from the BoD, I have selected Joe Ferrie to replace Bill. Joe will continue as Convention Site Selection Committee Chairman, as well as being a worthwhile representative of the North East part of the country. Still looking for a "volunteer" from the South East to fill Scotty Devine's position. Keep your cards and letters coming in.

The *big* item that will be present in the next nine month's *RUPANEWS*, both in this column and other parts of the pub, will be the *NOV 7 - 11* Convention in Las Vegas. Would I be too optimistic to hope for 500 members, plus their wives, to attend? The list of activities is extensive, and we *need* to know a.s.a.p. how many will be attending, so we can make some firm commitments. Transportation should be no problem, as we picked a period with no other big conventions going on, and the room rate certainly reflects that. **THEY WANT OUR BUSINESS!!!** We will have golf, tennis, tours, "crazy quail" shooting, shows, hospitality suite, etc., the details of which are covered on other pages in this *RUPANEWS*.

RUPA VP, Bill Smith, just returned from visiting the LAS Area group, and came away *very* impressed with what has already taken place at this early stage, but a successful event is only possible with the participation of the membership. Just Do It!

Sandy and I are off to Kadena AFB, Okinawa, tomorrow (18Jan) to be present when daughter-in-law of "son-the-youngest" presents us with our 2nd grandchild (their first), and to help out for a few weeks. Our son just returned from Turkey (his third time patrolling the "no fly zone"), and the USAF has promised him several more of these tours as a reward for flying the F15C. Oh, joy! And I couldn't wait for my next trip to far off lands. Somehow, he doesn't think we had the same accommodations as they have in Saudi's "sand box". We will return here for a week, then off to FL to retrieve our coach and continue the Great RVenture. Plan to visit as many of the FL Area lunches as possible while there.

'Nuff for now. Scotty

EDITOR'S NOTES

This is the long awaited upgrading in size and change in format of our *RUPANEWS*. I do hope that our members will find the new format not only easier on their eyes, but more convenient to use and find their way around. This issue is upgraded with a vengeance - not all future issues will be this large, but I had to catch up with the backlog of letters which accrued while I took time off in December (laughingly called a vacation) to master the mechanics of laying-out in desktop publishing, while our mailing specialists were getting together with the post office to ensure that we met their requirements for our new (cheaper) mailing procedure.

When the dust settles, and we resume our normal size of 48 pages, I hope to perhaps introduce some new features. Also, I hope to continue to refine and improve the product as I gain experience with the new software, to bring you a RUPA-worthy magazine.

While editing some of the members' letters, I did take the liberty of changing their use of the word "newsletter" to that of *RUPANEWS*, in an attempt to get you all thinking "magazine"; for we have now grown to that dimension, thanks to the volume of our correspondence, which makes us the envy of other retired pilot groups. Their magazines, some of them high-gloss, classy publications, are issued only quarterly, at most. That we have previously published and plan to continue to publish monthly attests to the prolix fecundity (you write a lot) of our contributors - please keep those letters coming.

As more of our members either join at an earlier - I mean more recent- age, and are therefore computer literate - and others of our older members venture into the electronic medium, it is to be expected that we will receive more e-mail etc. Please let me repeat to any beginners amongst you. KISS (Keep It Simple Stupid) Please don't trouble yourselves by trying to present me a paste-up-ready transmission. It can seldom be done. All I ask is ASCII e-mail. If given clean text, I can manipulate the material to see what you see here - and better, when I become more competent. What I'm trying to get across is the fact that we want your input - without tears on your part. Speaking of input I encourage any online members to visit our Webpage at www.ruipa.com. Webmeister Bruce McLeod is champing at the bit to get some action going there. While mentioning websites, VP Bill Smith recommends www.twa.com for those with an interest in the crash of TWA 800. Happy New Year, Jock

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

SEEKING HARRY LaCHANCE

07 Jan 1999

Mr. Prescott- My name is James R. LaChance and my father G.H. 'Harry' LaChance was a UAL pilot from 10/24/55 (I remember this from waiting on 'stand-by') until his retirement in 1989.

He has been listed as a missing person with the Escondido CA PD for several years since his mysterious disappearance near his home.

I am asking you to help me find out if anyone who may have flown with him has seen or heard from him in the last 2-3 years.

Over his career he was based in NY,Cleveland and, most recently, in LA. He retired a DC10 Captain, but I think he spent most of his time as a 737 Captain. He is a real nice guy. Thank you for your time, and I hope you can help. My E-mail is:jrlachance@hotmail.com and my phone number is 603 383-4046.

November Folding and Stuffing Meeting

We only had 35 members attend the December 2nd Folding and Stuffing. This was our second bulk mailing and it went very well. We would like to give a big thank you to Larry Wright for pursuing Thanks again to all those listed for taking up the slack and getting the Newsletter out.

Bob Ahrens	Chuck Hoffman	Jock Savage
Floyd Alfson	Dick Hooning	Dr. Bud Schwartz
Larry Barr	Milt Jines	Jim Shirley
Rich Bouska	Deete Johnson	Bob Soergel
Tom Bredis	Phil Johnson	Cleve Spring
Bob Clinton	Dwight Lubich	Rose Spring
Roz Clinton	Norm Marshall	John Stefanki
Evelyn Conde	Bruce McLeod	Peggy Strand
Chuck Cooke	George Mendonca	Gene Tritt
Russ Cottle	Mitch Mitchell	Ray Wolff
Scotty Devine	Bret Morris	Larry Wright
Bob Ebenhahn	Giles Mottl	

DEN GOOD OLE BOYS

Dick Wagner(irwagner@ix.netcom.com)15 December 1998

We had 15 Ladies attending our "Good Ole Boys" Luncheon today. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves at this Pre-Christmas Party. The unseasonably mild, sunny weather seemed more like Southern California than Colorado. We were happy to welcome newcomers: Capt. Howard Morgan and Patti Bruder. Our next luncheons are January 19 and February 16, 1130 hrs, the Country Buffet, 7200 West Alameda (Villa Italia), always the 3rd Tuesday of the Month. Those who attended were:

Gary & Marian Gore	Bill Meston	John & Marguerite
Bill & Eve Hoygaard	Hal & Janet Meyer	Schoonhoven
John Holody	Pat Ward	H. W. Reid
Bob & Laura Ashworth	Bill & Luci Pearce	Howard Morgan & Patti
Ted Wilkinson	Curly & Opal Baker	Bruder
Gerry & Jane Zimmerman	Jim & Peggy Cox	Dick & Ilene Wagner
Bob & Ann Blessin	Casey & Gail Walker	
Bill & Mitzi Fife	Bill Bates	

RUPA --NORTH COASTERS December 17, 1998 Dick Orr: Wooster, Ohio 44691: IDL LGA EWR CLE ORD The "Cleveland Crazies" enjoyed another monthly gathering today at TJ's Restaurant in Wooster, Ohio--- to close out 1998. Even though the "snow birds" have begun to depart for warmer winter quarters, the loyal brave souls challenged gray skies and the threat of the first snow of the season to enjoy our usual luncheon. We even surprised "Miss Vickie" (our regular waitress) with a Christmas bonus from last months' passing the hat. As luck would have it, just as we were finishing up our meals, the news came in that it was now snowing. Perhaps there will be a white Christmas after all ---- in spite of the warmest December on record so far. The north coasters wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year!!

Attending were: Ed and Barb Griffith, John Cusick, Dave Suits, Jim Tight, Dick Sanders, Jim Burrill, Ken Wheeler, and Dick Orr. Dr. Chuck Hoyt was our guest today. He is a flight surgeon and performed many FAA flight physicals for United pilots while there was a domicile in Cleveland. Now he provides this service for Cleveland based pilots of Continental Airlines. He also announced the possibility that a glider club may be coming to his landing strip near Wooster ---and that they will be looking for a few tow pilots. Any takers among the retirees?

The news of our November gathering (written by Capt. Ed Griffith) took issue with all the "expense" of the "passing of the hat". So this month, those who attended got a "free ride", since there was no hatpassing at all! Instead, Dick Sanders asked for the group to decide what should be done with funds left over from the Cleveland employees cruise. It was decided to place it in a savings account as seed money to help fund the next outing. Dick also announced that Jim Francis may try for the first flight of his fully restored (gorgeous!!) Beechcraft stagger-wing on December 18th.

As always, meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at TJ's Restaurant, 1 P.M. till? The active pilots are a vital part of our group and always welcome, and all gatherings are co-ed. Fly-ins to the Wayne County Airport (Smithville, Ohio) can call Dick Orr at (330)262-58 11 for wheels.

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA GROUP

The South Florida gang met at the flaming Pit Restaurant on Wednesday, December 9th for a fine reunion. I wasn't there but we had the best turnout ever. This bothers me. In December, for the first time, we sent out postcard reminders of the luncheon. I would like to think that this was the reason for the large group. We will continue doing this for the foreseeable future. Our one problem now is that we succeeded ourselves right out of the room we were meeting in. The resolution was to move the luncheon up a day to the second Thursday of each month and we have secured the room for this day through April. The next meeting will be Thursday, January 14th at 11:30 A.M. Hope to see everyone there. The Flaming Pit remains at 1150 Federal Highway in Pompano Beach, about a mile north of Atlantic.

The gentlemen at Thursdays affair included Jack Wink, Warren Hepler, Pete Gallant, Hambone Wilson, Duane Harrison, Ed Wheeler, Ham Oldham, Hank Fischer, Dick Baese, Wes Paget, Terry Lewis, Will Lambert, Dave Pete, Bill Falkner, Burt Olson, Bill Dutour, Tom Sheeran, Stan Blaschke, Jimmy Carter, Carl McQuigg, Ned Rankin, Tom Llewellyn, Earl Harned, Noel Summer, and Kyran McGowan. Gene Chapman and Don Sullivan flew in from the west coast.

As always, transportation requests, questions, etc., call Jimmy Carter at 561272-1860, or Stan Blaschke at 954 581-0145. The list of people getting the postcards is without a doubt incomplete. If I have missed you, have your address wrong, or if I don't have your zip code, please call me a 561994-6103. Jerry Bradley for Jimmy and Stan.

NORTH EAST FLORIDA GROUP LUNCH

Larry Horton 2677 Slow Flight Drive Daytona Beach, FL 32124

The Northeast Florida RUPA Group held their Christmas Co-Ed luncheon on Dec. 15, 1998 at the Spruce Creek Country Club. It was obvious that Christmas shopping was finished, because 48 people attended and all were in a festive mood. Following is a list of attendees:

George & Shirley Spaniel
Nelda Ewald
Jim Myers & Gail Wood
Jim & Shirley Bennett
Bill & Ginny McKillo
Frank & Carole Altomari
Rich & Mary Ann Yoder
Earl & Tootie Myers
Dave & Gloria Bishop
Sherwood & Lillian Myers
Bill & Glen Lea Steger -

Bud & Betty Thompson
Jessie & Dottie Jernigan &
Wanda Sperry (Dotties
Mother) -
Bob Schaet
Ray & Teddy Vandenheuvel
Steve Moddle -
Dick & Wilma Russell
Chuck Weber & Ellen
Gonzales -
Arlyne Hetterman -

Nelson Funkhouser
Lowell & Anne Johnston -
Ed & Judy Gentry -
Larry & Janet Horton
Charles Wright-
Bud & Karen Gammill -
Curt & Susan Simpson -
Vic Forte

The next gathering will be on Tuesday, February 16, 1999 and will be stag.
Mark your calendar and plan to attend. s/ Larry

SE FLORIDA WIDOWS

Five widows met to discuss the problems that arose when our husbands passed away, and to recommend solutions to the wives of the RUPA members. In October, then in November, we invited the wives, to share with them what we had experienced. In addition to the wives, Pat Bradley (Jerry), Annette Carter (Jim), Patty Petrovich (Ed), and Rae Rankin (Ned), we welcomed another widow, Gloria Perrin (Howard).

In December, in addition to several of the previous attendees were Dottie Arsenault (Bill), RUPA members: John and Betty Bieger (Elmer), and Mary Kay Follin (Warren) and Minerva Hepler (Gene) and Theresa Homan, (Carl) and Dolly McQuigg, and her sister Mary, Ned and Rae Rankin, Murray and Ellen Warren.

The original widows are Lina Baldwin (Jack, Sally Kirbert (Russ) Jean Mayer (Buzz), Lois Means (Paul) and Marty Morehead (Moose). We hope to have quarterly meetings, with enough advance notice to attract a larger group. Happy New Year, **Marty**

LAS VEGAS LUNCH

Las Vegas, Nevada aka Convention City

Hello from the Land of Luck. We had our first time ever RUPA gathering at Big Dog's on Tuesday January 12. We were well represented by 15 card carrying RUPAs, 10 wives and 6 guests including RUPA VP Bill Smith. Names to follow. We decided to meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1100 hrs and to stay at Big Dogs for the time being. VP Bill Smith provided the latest info on the convention in November. Our local convention chairman, Barry Dixon, provided preliminary insight into some of the activities planned and solicited ideas from the group. I think those planning to come will be pleasantly surprised with this convention.

Those in attendance:

Arcamuzi, Harry and Georgia
Campbellf Jerry
Crandall, Bill
Dixon, Barry
Doyle, Larry and Mary
Drommond, John and Neola
Gilbertson, Hank
Holland, Walt and JoAnn

House, Clyde and Marie
Lamski, Gene and Mary
Mattern, Hugh and Kathy
Meronyk, Walt and Emma
Porter, Oak and Fern
Swirnow, Don
Whitlow, Lloyd and Donna

and guests Bill Smith, Fred Boesvert, Elaine Meronyk-Walt's daughter (an American pilot), Ron Kakeldy-retiring this year, and Jack and Margaret Healy who are moving back to California.

Three members were recognized for their successful campaign against the ravages of time-75+ years. We closed with a silent remembrance of those 'Flown West'. We welcome all guests to our next gathering February 9 at Big Dogs. Call Gene Lamski-702-658-6168. Adios for now.

Congratulations on forming a new "lunch bunch". We'll be looking for future reports of increasing numbers of attendees. Ed.

ROADRUNNERS LUNCH

The Phoenix Roadrunners met for lunch at the Macaroni Grill in Scottsdale on Friday Jan. 8th.

ATTENDING:

Fred Anderson,
Mac & Betty Bleser,
Frenchy & Millie Bourgeois,
Don & Jan Eiken,
Ken & Phyllis Killmon,
Otis Kline,
Phil & Betty Johnson,

Ralph & Ruth Johnson,
Mitch & Pat Mann,
Bill Morrison,
Gene Paquette,
Karl & Mona Runkle,
Dorothy Skiles-Guest of
Ginny Coleman,

Don & Joan Toeppen,
Tom & Bev. Workinger came
all the way from Tucson,
Ralph & Helen Wright,
Bob & Berynice Wagner.

Our next luncheon will be at Falcon Field in Mesa. A tour of the Champlin Fighter Museum is scheduled for 10:00 A.M. Ray Courtney has made all of the arrangements. AIRLINE DISCOUNT PRICE \$4.75. Please arrive early, so payment can be made to Ray for the group. Following the tour we'll meet at Anzio Landing Italian Restaurant at 12:00 Noon for lunch.

The Fighter Museum is located at 4636 Fighter Aces Dr., and Anzio Landing is at 2613 N. Thunderbird Circle.

March 12th LAKES CLUB IN SUN CITY

April 9th OAKWOOD COUNTRY CLUB IN SUN LAKES

Please call 602-948-1612 for reservations and directions to the Fighter Museum. The Museum is very interesting and has a collection of Aircraft from W.W. I and W.W. II. The Food at Anzio Landing is reported to be excellent-so please plan on coming and bring any Sno-Birds you may have

visiting. Have a HAPPY, HEALTHY, NEW YEAR, FRENCHY, & MILLIE

Dick Wiesner Seattle December 17, 1998

THE SEATTLE GOONEY BIRDS met as scheduled for the last meeting of the year. It was well attended considering that many of our members seem to prefer southern sun to NW rain and cold during the winter.

Attending were:

Gus Tuit	Glyn Bryan	George Nicolai
Bob Berg	Clyde Strauss	Don Anderson
Neil Johnson	Curt Miles	Roger Baird
Ralph Stevens	Ed Gross	Fred Sindlinger
Jeff Roberts	Rus Stephens	Chuck Westpfal
Dick Wiesner	Bob West	Bill Stoneman
Lee Biermann	Keith Rice	Howard Holter
Vince Wormser	Chuck Podhasky	Clark Crawford
Donn Foreman	Ken Eckley	Vince Evans
Tom Smith	Jack Schultz	Ray Hull
Bill Raimer	Al Grout	Al Haynes
Ray Hanson	Ed Duclos	

Next meeting will be January 21, 1999 at the Marriott Hotel and will continue through the year the same place on the third Thursday at of each month.

SUNDOWNERS LUNCH

Jim Feneley, 3246 Hyde Park Drive, Clearwater FL 33761

Meeting in the lounge of the Countryside Country Club were a dozen regular Sundowners and their guests Lil Borneman came by today and advised that next year's dates have been reserved with the club. However, it will still be necessary to call me at 727-785-5791 two days prior to our meeting date, so that I can advise Lil of the planned attendance. She then advises the club management for the required accommodations..

December is coed, meeting on the 2nd Thursday (December 10th) Same place, Countryside Country Club in Clearwater, and same time, 11:30 AM.

Attending November 19th were: Jamie Kraph, Stan Crosier, Jim Irwin and his brother in law, Chuck Peternel, Woody Lynn, Ray Schlage and his daughter Sandra, Jack Moran, John Papadakis, Paul Fidler, and Jim Feneley with his son, Craig.

Hopefully 1999 will see some more of our RUPA neighbors joining the regulars. JFI RS, & JI.

SUNDOWNERS

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

Dear Jack: Lil Borneman worked her magic and the Club provided the Bay Room for our, The Sundowners, December (Christmas) luncheon. A bountiful buffet followed the social hour, where first-timers, Ballard & Mary Leins, Ken & Lucille Poh, and Ken Vanderhyde were welcomed by the regulars., The regulars attending were:

Ray & Rhodell Schlage,	Jim & Hilda Feneley,	Bud and Jessie Huffman,
Bob and Lam Van Housen,	Lil Borneman,	Woddy & Diane Lynn,
Jamie & Elaine Kraph,	Jim & Ellie Irwin,	Jim Wilson,
Paul & Nell Fidler,	John & Edna Papadakis,	Don and Jenny Deyer.
Ray White,	Jack & Toni Moran,	

As always, RUPAs and their guests are most welcome. The next luncheon, January 21, 1999 will be stag, Countryside Country Club in Clearwater at 1130 hours. So that an estimate of planned attendees can be made, please call me at 727-785-5971 on or before the Monday previous to meeting date. JF, RS, JI

JIM BARBER, 5900 126th Ave S.E. Bellevue, WA 98006 Missed the annual postage date, time is moving faster, I have to run to keep up. Any old and maybe some young members of VP-1 7/VA(HM)-10, the reunion information is as follows:

NAVY REUNION

WHO: VP-17/VA(HM)-10 MEMBERS .WHAT: REUNION. WHEN: SECOND WEEKEND NOVEMBER 1999.

WHERE: HOLIDAY INN, PENSACOLA, FLORIDA.

WHY: BLUE ANGELS HOMECOMING.

CONTACT: WOODY CECIL 333 BUNKERHILL DR. PENSACOLA., FLORIDA 32506 904 455 6312

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA GROUP

We met again at the Flaming Pit Restaurant on Thursday the 14th of January. Walt Kimmey just came from the dentist and gummed a little cream of wheat while the rest of us had something more substantial. We agreed a couple of meetings ago that we would always pick up the lunch bill for the oldest member present. I really hate to pass on a rumor, but it was heard around the room that Hambone Wilson may have stopped at Carl McQuiggs house on the way to the meeting and let the air out of the tires on his car. Just a rumor, but the fact is, Carl didn't show, and Ham ate free. The next meeting will be at 11:30 AM on February 11th at the Flaming Pit, 1150 Federal Highway in Pompano Beach.

The January gang included:

Stan Blaschke,
Walt Kimmey,
Ham Wilson,
Earle Worley,
Ham Oldham,
Hank Fischer,
Will Lambert,
Wes Paget,

Dave Peat,
Ned Rankin,
Jerry Bradley,
Bill Lancaster,
Peter Gallant,
Jimmy Carter,
Kyran McGowan,
Bob Silwanicz,

Ed Wheeler,
Burt Olson,
Les Eaton,
Warren Hepler,
Fred Schryver,
and two youngsters, Dan Kurt
and Russ Burleigh.

As always, transportation requests, questions, etc. call Jimmy Carter at 561 272-1860, or Stan Blaschke at 954 581-0145. See you next month. Jerry Bradley for Jimmy and Stan

IAGA GOLF NOTICE

Hello airline friends in golf and travel: LISBON: FEB 28-MAR 5, RENO, NEVADA: MAY 16-22, WHISTLER, CANADA: JULY 4-9, KONA, HAWAII: SEPT 19-25 !!!!!!!

Just a short note to let you know that we have recently sent out a black and white flyer and a color brochure of our 1999 events that have been firmed up! Please let me know if you did not get these in the mail! I am still very busy with the IAGA organizational changes and seeking sponsorship support from the Industry and all of our commercial airline companies. Your support during these changing times is greatly appreciated.

I encourage you all to read about our schedule and make your plans to join us at one or more of our vacations with your family or friends. Note the entry deadlines carefully please, to avoid disappointment. Lastly, please "help us help you" by telling all airline personnel you come in contact with about our worldwide golf association. As you can imagine, the costs of marketing our programming is very expensive, so your "word of mouth" marketing is really helping to keep our costs low, and so keep our programming costs lower. A short note FROM YOU to your airline Company employee newsletter editor would also be most appropriate, and appreciated by all. Your comments and suggestions are always most welcome!

Thomas Stark, Executive Director IAGA....the only worldwide golf association for commercial airline professionals.

You are cordially invited to view our updated website ...<http://www.iaga.net>

Editor's note: Although this notification does not meet our policy of providing advertising only to non-profit organizations, I had thought to make a minor exception to give our golfing members the opportunity to note the details and make contact on their own of they wished. Ed.



Washington Area Luncheon

The icy grip of winter was broken this week with temperatures in the mid 40s and low 50s so that driveways and back roads were finally melted clear and 52 of the Washington Area RUPArians were able to gather for lunch January 20th at the Belle Haven Country Club. Considering that the attendees traveled from the Shenandoah Valley, Tidewater Virginia, Central Virginia, Hampton Roads, Maryland and West Virginia we should maybe consider ourselves the Mid Atlantic group. Of course that would call for a committee and a study and a membership poll and a check of the records at the copyright office. Maybe we could get a grant for a feasibility study.

The Senior Members welcomed the attendance of some of the newly retired, including Bob Buck who returned from his last flight on January 7th. A laugh was enjoyed at the expense of three of the Junior Members who had recently accepted an invitation to a "Free Lunch". Some of us just never learn. Some of us just continue to put our trust in those Seniors whom we have held in such high regard for all their work and leadership. The end result was that Carl Miller, Chuck Smith, Ed Miller and Bud Ruddy have taken the opportunity to perform the "Load Shed Procedure" in an exemplary manner. No Check Airman could have found fault with the smoothness or the speed with which the procedure was completed. The three Juniors were left breathless and dumbfounded, but it was too late to pick up the tab for our own lunches. Bob

Engl, Jack Evans and E.K. Williams, being grateful for small favors, are thankful that the Seniors agreed to continue as "Consultants" and we are trying to get their signatures on long term contracts. There is some question as to just what a consultant really does.

Concern was expressed for Jim Hoak and Chuck Jarriel who are reported to be having health problems. It was good to have Tex Goppert in attendance and looking good after having had a quad bypass. Then there was discussion on the pleasures of the personal computer and the good deals for as little as \$600. The pleasure of e-mail.... FREE e-mail even. Three members told of using the internet to research information regarding health problems. We did collect quite a few e-mail addresses from the members.

Attending were:

Hal Cockerill	DaveDyer	Bud Boyd	Ed Miller
Ed Crowther	Hank McBride	Bob Morf	Bob Goodman
Jack Evans	Frank McKenzie	Jerry Goebel	Tom Cosgrove
Dave Specht	Chuck Wafel	Dick Perry	Bill Nolan
Jack Groome	Joe Soltis	Tex Goppert	Bob Aldridge
Cliff Wolf	Bill Eblen	Bud Ruddy	Fred Streb
Cliff Wolf	Tony Keffer	Ray Best	Art Wright
	Carl Miller	Roger Lemieux	Chuck Smith
E.K. Williams	John Linderman	Bill Golemon	Dave Malone
Bob Bell	Bob Patterson	Chuck Beatley	Dick Edwards
Bernie Schwartzman	Jim Foster	Norm Moore	George Paull
Bob Buck	George Elliott	Dick Baldwin	Andy Yates
Don Mainwaring	Dub Crawford	Roy Ellis	Joe Luton
Don Mainwaring	Bob Engl	Lou Lubozynski	

We continue to meet quarterly at the Belle Haven Country Club south of Alexandria at 1115 with lunch served at noon.

Our 1999 schedule is: April 21 Coed, July 21 Stag and October 21 Coed.

We invite any of RUPA in the area to join us for lunch. Contact Bud Ruddy 703-858-1552 (tbrud@erols.com), Bob Engl 410-827-9332 (rjengl@friend.ly.net), Jack Evans 540-882-3496 (jevans95@juno.com) or E.K. Williams 540-338-4574 (EKWJR@compuserve.com) to ensure a place at the table and a bean in the pot. As I found out ... it is not a free lunch.

E.K. Williams Round Hill, Virginia 540-338-4574

STANDARDS FOR CARRY-ONS OPPOSED

The brouhaha over carry-on bags arises from concerns over competition, not safety, Continental Chairman and Chief Executive Gordon Bethune told the Luggage and Leather Goods Manufacturers of America (LLGMA). In a letter to LLGMA President Anne DeCicco, Bethune argued that Continental has spent millions of dollars retrofitting aircraft bins to hold more carry-on bags while competitors have removed closets to increase seating.- *Aviation Daily*

TREASURE COAST LUNCHEON

Since the last edition of this newsletter the Treasure Coast Sunbirds have met twice for lunch. Both luncheons were at Miles Grant CC, in Stuart, FL, and both were on the second Tuesday of the month (Dec 8, '98 and Jan 12, '99).

As usual, everybody enjoyed the tasty buffets. In case any of the attendees don't know it, we are actually guests of Dave Arey while at Miles Grant CC. He is a member of this private Golf Club. For the group, Dave, many thanks! Sunbirds attending on Dec 8 were:

Bill Cole,	Glenn Hall,	Dick Starita,
Will Lambert,	Ham Wilson,	Don Jefferson,
Ted Osinski,	Jack Boisseau,	Jim Dowd,
Joe Mahoney,	Burt Olson,	Clay Grant,
Percy Wood,	Bill Northup,	Lloyd Barry,
Kirke Watkins	Andy Lambert,	Bob Schaet,
Carter Briggs,	Dave Arey,	Clark Luther.

On Jan 12 Sunbirds attending were:

Lloyd Barry,	Andy Lambert,	Bill Hellerstedt,
Clay Grant,	Jack Boisseau,	Dave Arey,
Bill Cole,	Bill Northup,	Ham Wilson,
Jim Dowd,	Percy Wood,	Burt Olson,
Murray Warren,	Clark Luther,	Ron Bull,
Ted Osinski,	Charlie Steward,	Bob Schaet.

In addition to our regular members who attended on Jan 8, there also were present, seven members of the NE Florida group from Spruce Creek, who came down the coast to dine with old friends. Five arrived by car: Nelson Funkhouser, Ed Gentry, Vic Forte, Steve Moddle And Larry Horton. Two arrived by plane: Dick Russell And Lowell Johnston. They flew down in Dick's T-3

At the luncheon, I heard it said that other RUPA groups in Florida can expect to see these fellows from Spruce Creek at their luncheons in the future.

The Treasure Coast Sunbirds would be happy to have as their guests any other RUPA members from Florida or any other part of the USA. We meet every second Tuesday.

For additional info please call me at 561-747-2796 or E-mail cavok@flinet.com Bob Schaet

Mark Your Calendar
Time: November 7 thru 11
Place: Harrah's Hotel and Casino
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
EVENT: RUPA'S 1999 CONVENTION
Rooms \$55 per night
CALL: 1-888-458-8471 for Reservations
GOLF TENNIS TOURS GAMES SKEET
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE COME ALONG AND MEET YOUR FRIENDS
For further information or to offer help
Barry Dixon, Local Chairman
(702) 363-3089 E Mail lb_dix@compuserve.com
If there are any questions please call (508) 832-3063
Regards..... Joe Ferrie Convention Sites Chair

CONVENTION '99 7 - 11 IN LAS VEGAS - A WINNER

RETIREMENT PARTY NOTICES

**SAN FRANCISCO
HAIL & FAREWELL RETIREMENT PARTY
SATURDAY, APRIL, 24, 1999
STARTING AT 6:30 P.M.**

SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT WESTIN HOTEL

The SFO Retirement Party Committee is in process of contacting retirees whose active service with United ended in 1998.

We try to send a personal letter to all eligibles, but in case we have missed anyone, if you know of anyone who flew mostly out of San Francisco but commuted elsewhere just prior to retirement we need to hear about them. Please contact:

Capt. Bob Lawrence
SFO Retirement Party Chairman
1624 Candace Way
Los Altos CA 94024

**SEATTLE RETIREMENT PARTY
SATURDAY MARCH 13TH, 1999
STARTING AT 6:00 PM
SEA-TAC DOUBLETREE (FORMER RED LION)**

All United Pilots active, retiring, or retired and their friends and family are invited and encouraged to attend. We try to send our personalized letter to all retirees, however we miss some from time to time. If you know of anyone who needs information just let me know.

Brian R. Hope
1802 Larkspur Ct. SE
Puyallup, WA 98374

**JFK COUNCIL 52 ANNUAL
PARTY
FRIDAY, MARCH 26TH 1999
SHERATON HOTEL, NEWARK AIRPORT (973) 690-5500
(ASK FOR UAL PILOTS COUNCIL 52 SPECIAL ROOM RATE OF \$79)
DINNER COST \$65 - MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CO. 52 ANNUAL BANQUET**

**MAIL TO JOE CLAFLEY
COUNCIL 52 ANNUAL BANQUET
PO BOX 3 MECHANICSVILLE, PA 18934**

ANY QUESTIONS CALL FRANK LYONS (215) 321-0888

WE HEARD YOU! YOU WANTED:

- **Complimentary cocktail hour. Better jokes - shorter stories. Party Friday - Sleep in Saturday - and yes, there will be dancing!**

GENERALNEWS

TRAVEL BENEFITS CHANGES

- Retirees can use Credit Cards for Discounted Industry Travel (as announced & effective 7-1-98). Companion Travel benefits extended to STAR Alliance network, excluding Thai Airways (as announced 7-1-98).
- Elimination of International First Class capacity restriction. All other age, dress & accompaniment rules will continue to apply. Previously total First Class boarding could not exceed 75% of the First Class seating capacity. Effective: 12-1-98.
- Review of standby boarding procedures. A thorough review of current boarding procedures will be undertaken. Results will be communicated to retirees to ensure standbys are not left at the gate when empty seats are available.
- Eligible Dependents can purchase Industry Discount tickets. Currently only employees & retirees may actually purchase industry discount tickets (on or off-line), even though dependents may use them. This change will allow eligible dependents to purchase these tickets from a UA ticketing facility if the dependent shows a government issued ID & is in the Apollo FNZ profile. Effective 12-1-98.

UPDATE ON 1999 COMPANION PASSES

- Each eligible retiree receives a yearly allotment of 24 personalized companion tickets, each good for one flight segment;
- Once the tickets have been signed by the retiree, anyone can use them. The retiree whose name appears on the companion ticket will be charged for the travel & is responsible for the behavior of the person traveling, so retirees should keep track of their coupon numbers & who is using them;
- Retirees, whether in the U.S. or other countries, will receive their companion passes at their home addresses. Retirees who have not received their passes by 12-16, and who have a U.S. Social Security number, can request passes by calling 1-888-PAL-LINE and following the prompts to request their companion ticket replacements;
- Retirees who do not have a Social Security number or who do not have access to a United toll-free number can write to United Airlines, WHQIN-Travel Benefits, P.O. Box 66100, Chicago, IL 60666, to request replacement companion tickets;
- The 1999 coupons can be used from 1-1-99 through 1-31-00. This means that travel must be completed by 1-31-00;
- Companion passes are valid only for travel on United or Shuttle by United; they are not valid on United Express, Star Alliance carriers or any other off-line carriers;
- Retirees who have other questions can call the Benefits Service Center toll-free 1-800-482-5236.

UNITED WILL PRINT MORE WORLDWIDE TIMETABLE BOOKS TO REPLACE CITY TIMETABLES
Beginning in Jan. 1999, United will eliminate City Timetable Booklets & print more Worldwide Flight Schedule Timetables to replace them. All stations & other locations that now use City Schedules will receive adjusted shipments of United's Worldwide Timetables to share with customers. By discontinuing the city versions, the company will save 1.1 million dollars in printing costs.

The City Booklets contain only the scheduled flights to and from a particular airport. The Worldwide version includes all flights and connections United offers, including United Shuttle, United Express & Star Alliance

TENNIS OR SKEET SHOOTING AT LAS CONVENTION

Nellis Airforce Base is interested in providing their Sporting Clays range for us during our RUPA Convention 1999. It would be available for the three days 8,9,10, Nov 1999. Costs would be \$30.00 per person/round (1 round = 100 shots); \$5.00/shotgun rental/day Ammo will be available at the range, cost unknown at this time, and also available in Las Vegas at numerous places.

A minimum of 10 persons required to have the range available. The range is well known, and a number of competitions country wide are held there. Approx. 60 days prior to the shoot, I will need the names of the participants for the USAF to ready permits to access the range.

Also, we wish to run a tennis tourney concurrently with the convention, if enough interest is shown.

Let me know as soon as possible if you are interested in either or possibly both of these activities, so early arrangements can be made.

PH.# 702-363-3089 E-MAIL lb_dix@compuserve.com Barry Dixon, Chairman Convention 1999

L.B. Dixon, 3025 Golf Links Dr. Las Vegas NV. 89134

AL VAN LEUVEN--Cocoa Beach, FL -55/88- SEA LAX

We enjoyed another year of good health and doing whatever pleases us. Many years ago, I was told that a person could not be truly retired until he learned to put off until tomorrow what should have been done yesterday. I do my best to implement the full meaning of this statement.

1998 travels included Branson to soak up Ozark culture, Virginia Beach for a Navy reunion, Colonial Williamsburg to acquire knowledge of Early America, and the Las Vegas Consumer Electronics Show to see the new electronic devices. Like it or not, digital Home Electronics is the wave of the future, and digital is not compatible with analog without converting, so plan for this if you're buying TVs, etc., in the near future.

I've always wanted to visit New Zealand, so we were delighted to join Bob & Marilyn Williams, LAX & DEN in a time share condo on N.Z.'s North Island. If I were a young man looking for a new country to settle in, N.Z. would be my choice. A N.Z. bungee attraction offered free bungee jumps to Seniors, and I can't pass up a bargain. Free falling 150' is OK but the Kumba roller-coaster ride in Tampa, Florida is more thrilling.

We ran into retired Dick & Gert Ionata on board our Panama cruise. We spent a few evenings at the piano bar with them, singing old tunes. After a few martinis one night, I soloed with a jazzy version of "Shanty Town" (1938). I haven't sung this song for years, so a few lines were shaky, but it was good enough to get some applause, plus 2 drinks from Dick Ionata, along with his request, asking me not to sing again.

I had problems with EXO trying to get my refund from UAL's health insurance overpayment. The money disbursement was to be finished by May, so starting in June, I called Retirement Benefits each month. The next 5 months I received nothing but excuses, something EXO offices are good at. In November, I was told my form requesting disbursement of the money had not been received (BS) and another was being sent for me to fill out. A month later, I had not yet received a form and when I phoned in December, no one knew what I was talking about. Finally I asked a question that I should have asked long before. "Do I have to file a grievance with ALPA over this?" Without further ado, wheels were turning, and with no forms to fill out, my check was in the mail. If you haven't received your refund yet, just mention ALPA. to get results. The best of 1999 to everyone. --- A | Van L euv en

DENIS O'MALLEY, 10310 Grandview Dr La Mesa Ca 91941 palmsup@earthlink.com

Sent the check to Cleve; first time thoughts about "lifetime" subscriptions after one year of normal retirement. Hope it's a good deal. Health's fine; blessed with a few little problems without which I'm sure there would be big ones.

Surprisingly (to me) I read the Newsletter from cover to cover and look forward to receiving it. Many thanks. I don't seem to have had a day off since I retired; and like many of us, can't get caught up. The thought of stacks of revisions enters the occasional nightmare; but waking always brings a grateful smile. Retirement is great! I do miss the old friends and; the camaraderie, discussions and "conspiracies" in Dispatch

I've been "bulking up"; (mostly muscle) by pushing palm trees and cycads around in my nursery What I did on my days off before, consumes most of my time now; I am a successful grower at least, and have even had to rent another yard to make room for all the plants; Next step: learning; to sell them. It is still, to my mind, less expensive than owning a plane or boat, though I have been thinking about a crane. In '99, I am hoping to exchange some hated rentals into a retail/wholesale Nursery and get some pictures and text on my website which has had an "under construction" sign on it since March.

Still have the Maui condo, but someone always wants to rent it when we are thinking of going over, and there are always so many things to take care of here. There's a push to get the acre-and-a-half at home looking like a respectable botanical garden, which involves lots of negative cash flow. Luckily, I've been well trained in that aspect.

Good health and best wishes for 1999 to all. Drop by and say hello and visit the jungle here if you're in the San Diego area Denis

JAMES O. WALLACE(Joe) jow80@compuserve.com

Dear Jock, This computer hasn't helped any in keeping paid up for postage but I'll keep using it any way. My schedule stays about the same each year. Health in the good range so far. Not so with golf but enjoy it just the same. *RUPANEWS* still number one on the reading list and a big thanks to all of you who keep it coming. Check to Cleve to get me paid up. Regards to all, Joe

BOB & SYLVIA VANDERBUILT 3947 Knollcrest Dr., Montgomery TX 77356

Greetings! First year of retirement X'd off already! Retired 1/1/98, my collection of hotel soaps & shampoos only lasted until Labor Day!

I spent the first 6 months doing a restoration of my '82 Avanti II (Studebaker), worried that I wouldn't finish it before closing on the sale of our home in Barrington, IL. I just barely did and closed 7/10. Now renting at the above address until we either get a house built (wife's desire) or find a suitable one in same neighborhood ready for move in (my desire). Having second thoughts about hassle of building, but y'all can probably see the likelihood of what I'll be doing this year.

We've owned a water front lot on Lake Conroe for several years, about 1hr north of Houston. Beautiful lake about 19x2 miles in size with an interesting shoreline of coves and bays. Already have my boat, a 22' Bowrider which we've enjoyed this summer. Just discovered an active UAL pilot living just down the street from my lot. Small world! John Lindh, commutes to 777 F/O @SFO. Swell folks, had us over for dinner already.

In August we did an Alaska cruise with my brother and his wife. Took a sightseeing flight in a Beaver. The PIC happened to be their chief pilot. Naturally, I pushed everyone aside as I scrambled for the right seat. He seriously offered me a job for the next summer season when they usually take on about 20 extra pilots. Said he liked "mature" pilots. TEMPTING!

My brother, one year younger, retired early from Mobil Oil and built his retirement home only 3hr drive away over in Austin. This is the closest we've been since we went our separate ways from Montclair, NJ in 1956. It's great to be relatively close again after hardly seeing him all these many years. How'd two kids from "joisey" ever end up in TEXAS!

I got to put on my uniform again in Dec. Little bit emotional, sure was proud to wear it for 34 years. The occasion was Houston's Fantasy Flight. Several Houston area pilots and one other retired pilot, Horace Cain, showed up to mingle with the 98 kids we had in the gate area before and after their 1hr flight at 4000' in a 737 around the area. It was fun. The kids really soak it up. Drats, I didn't get to go with 'em! So that's it for year #1. Check's in the mail with a tad extra. Thanks to RUPA staff for your dedication! Bob.

TOM SHEERAN, 19150 S. Saint Andrews Dr., Miami, Fl. 33015

Well, another year, another Christmas, and I've just celebrated(?) the big 70. I just can't believe that I've finally reached "middle age". (I obviously ignore those "dorks" that seem to have to comment on the number of people that have attained the age of 140.) We've been in good health, and counting our blessings.

Anne has been getting up early in the morning and jogging four miles. She's looking great. The O.F. sleeps in until about 0700, rolls out of bed, stretches, (to see if anything additionally decided to come back during the nite), then hobbles out to the kitchen to get my kick start with two cups of coffee. As you can imagine, my day takes off like a skyrocket after that inspiring start. Considering everything that's happened over the past 31/2 years I'm doing great. -----

Our year officially took off in Feb. with a five day shorty cruise to Cozumel, Key West, then back to Miami. We enjoyed it so much, that in June we followed it up with a quick four-day "pick-me-up" cruise to Key West, Great Stirrup Key, back to Miami. Anne likes the ports, (shopping you know), and I like the sea, a quiet nook on the ship and a good book. (My how things have changed!!!) In July we traveled to Breckenridge. While Anne rested after the strenuous, 31/2 hrs. in First Class, I traveled on to Grand Junction, hooked up with the son, Tom Jr. and Grandson Joshua, and continued on to Moab Utah. We took a four wheel drive tour from Island in the Sky down to the Colorado river, then climbed in a Jet boat and powered back up the river to Moab. The following day we left Moab Airport in a Cessna 182, (yes we had a pilot), and made the trip to Capitol Reef N. M., then south along the reef to Lake Powell, then returned via the Colorado river, Canyonlands Needles area, Cataract Canyon, over Arches N.P. hen back to the airport. This was a trip that I had dreamed of making in a small acft. since flying over the area in a DC-6 on the way from GJT. to LAS Vegas many, many moons ago. An unforgettable week-end. ----- Returning to Breckenridge, Anne and I took a driving trip to Jackson Hole, Grand Tetons and Yellowstone N.P. We returned thru Salt Lake City and Salina Utah, then I-70 to Green River Utah. This has to be one of the most spectacular sections of Highway in the U.S.

In October we flew the airplane, a real Bonanza (V-tail), up to Gatlinburg to visit my Brother Emmet and Irene. I think that Anne has added to her agenda a small plot of ground and a cabin on a mountain top in that area. ----- Well, that about wraps up this year. We hope that you've all had a happy and healthy year and that the coming one will be even better. Have a wonderful Christmas and holiday season and all our best for the new year and remember, our door is always open! Tom and Anne.

BOB GASSAWAY, P.O.Box 1300 Grass Valley, CA 95945

I almost made it on time, I could have, but after 17yrs of retirement I didn't want to spoil my record. Had a great year with some surface travel around the West and BC. Played a lot of golf, but not old enough to shoot my age yet. Added two rooms on the house, had to have a place to store the junk. Living in the foothills is next to paradise. See you at BNO. *Bob*

DICK KOBAYASHI, 4197 So. Olive St., Denver, CO 80237

Hi Jock, nothing really new here. We did take two trips of note: One was a tour of China with a Yangtze river cruise in Sept.; right after the devastating floods they had. Second was a squadron reunion of VA-115 members in San Diego in Oct. Among the old "Spad" drivers present were UAL ers: Mike Clements, Tex Goppert, Dick Howard and myself. Sent check to Cleve. Regards to all. *Dick*

JIM LOYD, 500 E Quinton St, Broken Arrow OK 74011-8841 SEA LAX DEN LAX ORD LAX SFO 55-90

My birthday has come around once again so I'll do the e-mail trick again to continue my subscription to RUPANEWS (check is in the mail to Cleve). I haven't done anything exciting or interesting to report. My class did celebrate our 50th Reunion of high school graduation ,and I ,with my handy dandy computer, did make up a pretty nice booklet for each attendee. I was coerced into doing it, but it was fun. Of course I had to buy a scanner and a color printer to do it right. Next year, *Jim*

DICK ECKERT 1623 Ben Roe Dr. Los Altos, CA 94024

Jock: As one of the pilots who has had kidney cancer, I was not surprised to read that we [pilots] are twice as likely to have kidney cancer.

Be advised that kidney cancer can develop with NO symptoms. Mine [cancerous tumor] was the size of a baseball, and was only discovered by a blood test during a routing medical exam. My red count was down from the previous year's, but still normal. My doctor was concerned, and after a series of tests, a CAT scan found [the tumor.]

Needless to say, if you have blood in your urine or pain in the kidney area, see a doctor immediately. Keep getting physical exams, it may save your life - it saved mine! *Dick Eckert*

JACK SCHLEMER 967 Cascade Way, McMinnville, OR 97128-9511

Just a note to say that I'm still alive and fairly well.

Just wanted to send greeting to all from the land of the Spruce Goose. Starting the 18th year of retirement, hoping to make it to the 19th.

Sending check to Cleve. Keep up the good work. *Jack*

RUSSELL J. WRIGHT 2695 Alkire St. Golden, CO 80401-1620

Howdy Jock: Twenty three years on the beach. A couple aches and pains, but no restrictions on my activities.

DEN Wx this past summer closely resembled the "gulf coast" humidity. Bad for folks with allergies and arthritis.

While I am on the subject of bad, Aug.1st was REAL BAAAD. My old horse died. Charlie and I were constant companions for thirty five years .He was two when we joined up.

Producing the RUPANEWS has to be a labor of love .It sure can't be for the financial remuneration. What ever the reason, it rates top line on my list. Thanks to the whole group. Check to Cleve.

Merry Xmas to everybody and y'all stay healthy- *Russ*
Thanks for the plaudits, Russ. The whole crew will have undergone a challenge by the time you read this.

The editor has tried to partially master "desk top publishing", while the label-printing crew, Floyd Alfson , Larry Wright and Cleve Spring, have attacked the requirements of our new, cheaper, mailing system, and the Folders & Stuffers (actually labelers & sorters) have also had to learn a new procedure.

We're doubling everyone's volunteer wages, and if that isn't enough - floggings will continue until morale improves. Just joking - we're a happy, if underpaid, bunch, who are glad to help. Ed.



W.A.(BILL) PHILLIPS ,ORD,DCA,ORD,DCA,ORD, LAX

'GREETINGS, SEASONS OR OTHERWISE! From 611 Richard Road, Murfreesboro, Tennessee,37129.

Just a quick recap of what went on during 1998(I meant for it to be quicker)

January, Inge spent our Granddaughter's (Melody) birthday and a few more days in New York with Deborah and Melody. Bill stayed home to mind the spread and mainly to avoid New York. Later in the month we visited Deirdre and Tim in Sumter, S.C. There we saw the workings of Tim's Auto Parts as it began it's growth toward domination of the Junk Yard business In South Carolina. Also in January, Bill began year number two of retirement from the big birds.

In February we passed through Sumpter on our way to see friends in the Florida Keys We found out, first hand about the shortage of motel rooms in central Florida during Speed Week in Daytona. We also found out about the traffic jams on I - 4 around Orlando. We drove through Alligator Alley and actually saw several of the critters along the way. We spent a week freeloading on our friends, had a birthday, and caught some fish.

On the trek north, we missed the tornadoes that flattened Kissimee by only a few hours.

In March our lives were changed when we adopted Max. Things have not been the same since he came. In fact he has totally taken over and really rules the household. Also in March we went to Chesapeake, Va. To see David, Diane Pookie and Sasha for a few days. David is still in the Navy, flying the E2C off boats. Diane is working on advanced degrees in nursing. Pookie and Sasha are just being good kitties.

Max spent a few days with his Uncle Eric in Nashville. Eric is our expert on television production and other technical fields of mass communications. He spends his working hours (and a lot of them) for News Channel 5 (CBS) in Nashville..

Melody came to spend two weeks with Omie (German for Grandmother) and Max practiced his disappearing act for her, most of the time.

Just in case you wonder about Max, we do too. He is an eleven -and- one- half pound American Short -Haired Tabby (alley type from the pound) basically Brown in color, Pussy Cat.

In April after the IRS took its pound or so of flesh, we went to Germany for about a week. Max went to Nashville to chew up on Eric again.

May caught up with Inge, and to escape she went to work on her birthday, to Dusseldorf..

The first of June, Inge decided to have her feet repaired(Bunionectomy on each foot). She came through well and healed nicely. In fact she healed so nicely that in July we hit the road again. First to David, Diane and the cats' place. It was Max's first car trip and he and Sasha really hit it off. How two little cats can sound like a heard of buffalo is beyond me.

Next stop was in New York to see Deb and Melody. From there it was on to the north woods of Maine to see Laura, Scott and Boom. We spent a couple of weeks house sitting and a little less time Boom sitting. Max and Boom came to an agreement to give each other a wide berth.We explored the Maine coast all the way up to East Port. In a word, Beautiful

Another event took place in July, Inge hung up her In-flight gear and retired from United.

In August, we went on a short tour to Prague, Czech Republic. We had a great time in a story-book land.

Unfortunately the communist rule left the people quite poor, and this was in evidence in the small towns we passed through.

Getting home proved to be interesting, as Northwest and Air Canada chose to cease operations due to labor problemsGetting home proved to be interesting, as Northwest and Air Canada chose to cease operations due to labor problems. (Pilots).

October took us to Minnesota to a 3500 acre wild rice farm. We celebrated a classmate's number 60, and his retirement from UAL.(ORD 777 will never be the same).

Got to drive a huge tractor Case International Quad Trak and pull a 25 foot wide disk. Had to pay back the freeloading in Florida last Feb. Stopped in on friends in Illinois on the way up and back to Tennessee.

November and December have found us busy redoing our house. We have added a 1/2 bath, moved the laundry room to the garage, and are making headway on the kitchen. That's about all we did in 1998. *Bill*

DOUGLAS SPICKELMIRE 61 Gamble Lane, Port Ludlow, WA. 98365

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to one and all. Late as usual. The time sure is flying, the last two months seem like only days. We are fine now but I did have a problem last fourth of July. I had a heart attack while running up the stairs here at home. Loretta gave me a nitro pill and called 911, so I was in the hospital in short order. I feel great now, and am watching my diet as well as my weight. The doctor will advise me in January what the prog will be ,but gave me a good chance for full recovery. *Doug.*

JOEL B. STRATTON, PARADISE BAY, FRANCOIS LAKE, B.C.

MAILING ADDRESS R. R. No. 2 Burns lake, B.C. Canada VOJ 1EO Phone: (250) 695-6567, Fax: (250) 695-6566

December 1, 1998. Ten years ago today I landed the 747 in SFO for the last time. So ten down, 25 to go. I figure I worked 35 years for them so, now they should pay me retirement for 35 years. I probably won't make it to 95 though. I am a diabetic on insulin and although, so far, I've been able to keep it under control, it will eventually get to me. I'm still much better off than many of the pilots I read about in the RUPA newsletter.

However ... retirement benefits are another thing. Last July, my wife submitted some doctor bills to Conn. General. In September she heard from Conn. General to the effect that they could not pay the bills because our insurance had been cancelled effective Jan. 1st. She called the benefits center and was told "Oh yes, we have gone over to Blue Cross. Didn't anyone tell you?" (No) "You will have to resubmit all your bills to Blue Cross." "Do you have your Blue Cross card?" (NO, of course not, If so I wouldn't be calling you.) "Well, do you have your Blue Cross number?" (NO). So it took another 11/2h months to get a Blue Cross card and number. Of the two doctor bills resubmitted she has heard of one of them (went towards the deductible). The other bill she has never heard about.

In the meantime the "employee owners" of United Airlines have continued to deduct \$92.40 each month from my pension for "health benefits" which I have effectively not had since Jan. 1, 1998.

Now: Companion Passes -On August 11, 1998 I called the benefits center to inquire about the Companion Passes. Talked to a Ms Toni. When she asked why I had not called sooner I informed her that I had called the Benefits center 3 times before this year and was told each time that the passes were being printed and I would receive mine soon. No one from United Airlines ever informed me that such a thing as companion passes existed. I heard about them from another pilot the first time.

Ms Toni checked to see if the Benefits center had my correct address. (They did.) She checked to see if any of the passes in her desk had been returned as not delivered. (NO luck) Her explanation. No explanation. I asked her when I could expect to receive companion passes and was told that I would not be receiving them.

It seems to me that since the ALPA-sponsored ESOP on United Airlines, the new employee-owners have done everything they could to withhold benefits from former employees. In my case It seems to me that since the ALPA sponsored ESOP on United Airlines, the new employee owners have done everything they could to withhold benefits from former employees. In my case, anyway, it has been that way. It takes 2 to 3 months to get 95 ID tickets on Air Canada to fly from Prince George to Vancouver. One person in the benefits center even suggested that I drive from my home to the Vancouver airport and back (700 miles each way) in order to go to the UAL ticket counter and buy 95 ID tickets to fly to Vancouver. When my wife's mother in Oregon is ill and in the hospital, she drives to see her. (2 days each way) If I need to fly to SFO to see my daughter, I either have to spend 2 months getting 95 ID tickets on Air Canada or pay full fare. Some airline. Some company.

A check for \$ 40.00 US to cover the additional cost of mailing to Canada has been sent to Cleve.

J. B. Stratton

Buck, I hate to rain on your parade, but your monthly premium will be increasing - assuming that you are in the full coverage Traditional Plan. I just received a notice that my premium would be increasing from the \$204.04/month I paid for two people for the last year, to \$239.82/month. Your premium is less, I presume, because you turned 65 and joined Medicare four years before I did. The reason was not given, but I have heard that the increase is necessary to cover not only inflation, but the increased costs of treatment for those persons not cherry-picked by HMOs, which try to pick only the youngest and healthiest among us for their cost-effective, managed care ministrations.

As for companion passes, of course you should be receiving them - I received a package of new ones to use in 1999. If you have no further success with the United Retiree Service Center at 1-888 -825-0188 (Mon. -Fri 0700-1700 CST), call Lisa Kwilas, Benefits Assistant with the MEC at 847-292-1700. She's been most helpful in sorting out problems for some retirees, when all else has failed.

In the case of the ALPA- sponsored ESOP, done at essentially gun-point to save their jobs and our pensions, don't think that you've been especially singled out. From what I read, the working pilots don't think it's meeting

HERB ERMOLIK 57-90 MDW SFO DEN SFO

I had a nice year where a lot of time was spent at our cabin on the Klamath river. From there, it was convenient to meet for lunch with the Southern Oregon Aviators. I missed the Reno air races this year, and, instead, had some great exercise and enjoyable scenery while deer hunting around the California Oregon border. Regards, *Herb*

BOB SOERGEL 13733 Harleigh Ct. Saratoga , CA 95070-5140 DCA-SFO-LAX-SFO '50-'87

Have been quite busy doing airplane things with my 1946 Cessna 140, including the West Coast circuit of Airshows & Fly-ins. Starting with the Watsonville Antique Airplane Fly-in on Memorial Day weekend where the "Songbird" was awarded BEST CESSNA. .Neo Classic Age 1945-1955. Moving over to the 41st annual Merced West Coast Antique Fly-In two weeks later, the Award was: CESSNA 140 FIRST PLACE; Neo-Classic Age 1946-1971. One week later it was the Porterville "Moonlite Fly-in for a GOOD time. Enroute back to SJC, I stopped at Egale Field near Los Banos, CA where some of you pre-Tracy Aces may have had your early exposure to Army Air Corps flying.

The July 4th weekend was spent at a beautiful small town airport in Cottage Grove, Oregon for the West Coast Cessna 120/140 Club (which I was one of the co-founders in 1972). A fun weekend doing spot landings, flour bombing & balloon busting! August 28-30th it was off to Big Bear, CA (airport elevation 6740') for their second Annual Fly-in. While there, a charter operation with two stock Stearmans was selling rides (temp 85 degrees & TRW's in the area) one got caught in a downdraft & crashed & burned off-airport with serious burns to the passenger & the pilot suffered less injuries. Victims of hollow air !

Time for another airshow: this time it was Hayward AirFair '98, where NC89544 was awarded "Vintage Masterpiece, in the Vintage Division. Next stop was the Annual Fall Meeting of the West Coast 120/140 Club Sept 11-13 at Georgetown, CA another beautiful small airport with camping facilities, (which I don't do) in the heart of the Gold Country. Was awarded the plaque for the : OLDEST PILOT (I still pass a 1st class physical).

Now on to the International Cessna 120/140 Convention @ Chino, CA (home of the Planes of Fame Museum) From there many of us went international & flew in (loose) formation to Catalina Island, (RUPA member Hugh Smith is the Mayor for a 3rd term) While wandering around the main town of Avalon, happened to notice a lovely lady dressed in Navy Whites & shoulder boards with 4 stripes, who just happened to be Susie Regeimbal (daughter of RUPA's Freddie of DCA fame). Susie graciously invited me & two fliers in my party to cruise on underwater sightseeing vessel which she commanded!



Cessna 120 the

Winding up the flying year was a one day luncheon jaunt to the quaint (now private) Carmel Valley Airport for good grease

During the month of September, the above scheduling was rather critical, because our daughter Sandy was due to deliver Phyllis & me our first grandchild; the Sky God's timed the arrival perfectly because Olivia Sarah Hernandez arrived @ 12:25 PM Sept. 18, 1998.....WHAT A JOY...She arrived with her very own Web Site: <http://members.aol.com/ih8poodles/baby/index.htm>

On December 8, 1998 @ 8:50 AM our door chime rang, and before I made it to the front door, there was a loud pounding, I said: " Who is it?" The response was : "Santa Clara County Sheriff" My first thought was: 'Some Attorney has come up with a new creative theory to relieve me of MORE of my retirement benefits.' When I opened the door, there stood a sheriff with only a calling card & no papers to serve.

The Department had been asked by the Monterey County, CA Sheriff's Department to advise me that our oldest son Ron had passed away in his sleep December 6, 1998. He was 42 years old , not married and under doctors care for diabetes & high blood pressure. He worked for TCI in Monterey, CA and was a Radio personality in the San Francisco & Monterey Bay areas since 1976. Our family was all together for Thanksgiving, so we will have that to remember. I know many of you in RUPA have experienced a similar loss of a child, because I have read about it in these pages. It will be difficult with Ron's birthday the day before Olivia's.....Ron's death the day after Sandy's birthday..... Phyllis' birthday the 23rd & mine the 25th December. THE master crew scheduler is NOT @ WHQ !

s/ Bob

Bob: I feel sure that I can speak for the membership of RUPA when I say that you and your family have our most heartfelt condolences on your sad loss. Jock Savage, Editor

THOMAS D. WILLIAMSON JR., 9530 Elk Horn Rd., Lorton VA 22079-3310

Dear Capt. Jock: Three years into retirement, the best thing about writing this note is that I still can, considering the alternative.

We very much enjoyed the cruise this Fall. We had the pleasure of being seated with Earl Bach and Leroy Scroggs. According to my calculations, Earl retired two years after I started with UAL in 1966, and Roy about 12 years later.

Needless to say, I got a lot of flak about being the "junior man". This went on until I informed Roy that RUPA is the only flying organization in which I'd be more than happy to remain the "junior man" for the rest of his life.

Many thanks to the crammers and benders. *Tom Williams.*

JERRY SAUL

Having survived another year, I now hold you hostage to my annual ramblings. Like most, Bev and I have done a little traveling. Mainly to the Kona coast and the inland passage to Alaska. Couldn't fly direct to Vancouver, BC on United due to Air Canada and Northwest being struck at the same time. Did fly to Seattle and rent a car one-way to drive to Vancouver. What a surprisingly pleasant trip with beautiful scenery all the way.

Although I have various flying dreams, including the big iron, my most persistent is flying just above the pavement down a broad tree-lined avenue with the tree branches overhanging the street. There is no way to climb out of this situation, because of the trees. I see intersections ahead that appear to be wide open; but on arriving at the intersection, there are telephone and electric wires crisscrossing each opening. I never seem to be worried or concerned in any way, because I'm flying a Piper Cub, and know that I can land on the street at any time. It is a pleasant dream and I am enjoying the ride. I must admit, that I sometimes give wide streets I'm driving on serious inspection, to see if I could use them to fulfil my dream.

Jerry

BILL AND MARIA SCHELL, 6027 N. Ponderosa Way, Parker Co.

FAA decided to pull my medical due to diagnosed Kidney Cancer in Jan. (only symptoms were night sweats and chest colds) and surgery for removal of same plus right kidney in Feb. also some lung mets [metastases] removed. Am being treated with Interferon and Interlukin-2 now for residual mets. - Bummer!

As a result The Mooney is for sale, participation in Orbis flying is cut off, and other activities are curtailed. I tried to E-mail last year's letter, it didn't work, something amiss in my addressing I suppose. Our address wienielormi.net. I enjoy the newsletter, thanks to you all who help in its publication. Check to Cleve.

Got this message O.K. Bill. Hope you are soon on the mend. Jock.

WM. L. RUTHERFORD, 5823 N. FOREST PARK DRIVE PEORIA, IL 61614

Dear Jock: We are still building and improving Wildlife Prairie Park here near Peoria, and we are always looking for RUPA members to come enjoy our wonderful animals in large, natural areas. All of our animals and as many plants as we are able to protect or reestablish portray Illinois at the time of the pioneers, as most people do not realize that black bear, cougars, otters, badgers, wolves, and elk were native along with the bison, deer, and the many small animals. The bobcats can sleep in the tree; the cougars can climb different ones, if they like; the old bear digs her own cave for her winter snooze; etc.

For our special guests, such as our RUPA friends, after the general public has left for the day, it is fun to drive out into the pasture into the bison or the elk herds and experience the sounds and the smells and the closeness of the animals, especially when one of them sticks a curious head into the window for a close sniff. If you haven't slept recently in a reconverted caboose, teepee, log cabin, grain bin, silo, stable, barn, or chicken house, or heard a rooster crow in the morning, then bring the grandkids and let me share some of this fun with you. Between Wildlife Prairie Park and a little time doing paper shuffling for the United Airlines Historical Foundation that Bill Arnott and Kay McMurray have been promoting so faithfully, along with more of our volunteer friends from United, it doesn't leave much time to practice law or even train my dog.

If you have not seen the beautiful American Airlines Museum at the Dallas Airport, I urge you to see it, and then help us build an even better one for United.

Best wishes,

Bill

William L. Rutherford

STATISTICS

The most exact of the false sciences - Jean Cau

The art of lying by means of figures - Wilhelm Steckel

A group of numbers looking for an argument. Anon.

AL ROBERTS 60/93 ORD/SFO/ORD/SEA/ILAX/ORDALAX/SFO Dec/'98 13680 Bass Trail, Grass Valley, CA 95945 arobertsQnccn.net

Some things never change, and being late with this check and letter is apparently one of them! We have had such a busy year that it has been impossible to keep up with correspondence, so it has suffered.

The highlight of the year was our initiation into the use of Mileage Plus overseas to Munich. What an interesting trip that was! First, we discovered the term blackout dates (always when you want to travel). Then the perplexity of using another airline when the few seats available (for mileage plus) are filled on UAL; then the impossibility of getting information about gate location (concerning a connecting flight) when your initial flight is delayed an hour and a half (UAL, of course) and your layover was only 1:40! I do have to take my hat off to Lufthansa for whom I have the greatest appreciation of their assistance and cordiality at every point. We had positive space and paid only \$30.00 for a round trip of SMF to Munich, their coach seats were comfortable and large enough for my long legs, and their flight attendants the most gracious and hard working of any I have ever met. I do think in the future (with UAL's change of policy in First Class) I just might wait for a BP8B; might even try Jock's suggestion on the "Priceline" discount service.

Our reunion of "MAIT officers at Furstenfeldbrook, Germany for six days was a real memory item; some of us had gotten together before on ski trips, etc. but never as a group back at the "home base." There were not that many changes in the surroundings of the town or the base and the old "O club" brought back so many fond memories with the group (over seventy-five) all there. Some of our German students were there, the mayor, and off-base friends attended, and visiting the old haunts of the countryside of Bavaria like Hitler's Eagles Nest, Garmisch, and the Starnberg See with its fabulous golf course was a great treat. I had been single at that time, so my wife, Mariann, was delighted with all the sights and people that she had not seen before and we had a marvelous experience with so many of our friends. Now when I reminisce, she'll understand all the places and people that I'm talking about.

Our son is on the Sugar Bowl ski team (forty-five minutes away), so we estimate we will ski at least fifty days this winter; what a pleasure that is with the new "cut & carve" skis that came out last year. The movement is all in the ankles, which is a welcome relief to the old knees and thighs that have taken a beating with age. You know that you are getting old when all your sons look like Stein Erickson skiing (in his younger days!) and you feel like Methuselah trying to keep up with them. It appears that Mariann and I can either be instructors or act as "Hosts" for the ski area, which gives us free passes, free ski uniforms, and a great deal of fun when we feel like it. In any case, I still intend to be skiing at least through my seventies, with the normal pilot's enjoyment of getting free lift passes.

My contracting business is very healthy, we are too, and the stock market (with a little help from a great management firm!) keeps us smiling all the time. Life is certainly good after retirement and my only regret is not moving into the foothills sooner. One thing that I have learned is perspective since I have gotten into genealogy. Having over 14,000 relatives already in my family tree, and learning of their trials and tribulations will tend to make you appreciate just how fortunate we have been in our own lives. Sort of like looking at Clinton (Bill who?) and realizing how really stupid people can be; reminded me of Jock's note of the Latin meaning of politics: "many blood-sucking creatures." (must be a pun there somewhere!).

BILL AND TERRY TAYLOR, 100 Vinita Lane, Loudon, TN 37774

All is well in Tellico Village, Eastern Tennessee, as we get ready to spend our first winter in our new house. The move from Pensacola was OK, but unpacking and getting settled seemed to take a lot longer than in previous moves. However, it was great to have friends come visit us throughout the summer. We've become proficient tour guides of the area, i.e., the Smokey Mountains National Park, Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge (and the outlet stores), and nearby Knoxville. As a bonus, our son, Chris, has bought a 21' Chaparral cruiser that he lets us keep for him (he flies out of JAD for Atlantic Coast Airlines), and we've really enjoyed it on Lake Tellico. It's the best way to "own" a boat: have someone else make the payments on it!

At the end of September, we sailed from SFO on a 2-week cruise down the coast of Mexico, through the Panama Canal, then into the Caribbean before ending up in FLL. We had a great time, and found the all-day transit of the canal especially interesting.

As I write this (right after Thanksgiving), we're looking forward to having all the kids and grandkids with us for a 'Tennessee Christmas'. We understand that the Knoxville area usually gets about 10 - 12" of snow a year (significantly more up in the nearby Smokies), so maybe we'll even have a white Christmas. At any rate, we wish everyone a blessed holiday season and a happy, healthy 1999. Hope to see you next year!

Many thanks and much appreciation to all who make the RUPANEWS so great. *Bill*

UPDATE ON THE HORSE

August Twenty-Ninth: We Celebrate!

Many of you were there at Tallix. You know what a great party it was: a chance to look at the final 24-foot clay model; a chance to meet the sculptor and assistants responsible for it; a chance to thank 11-year old Chelsea Krueger for her contribution; a chance to hear a scholar and an Italian Consul General praise the gift of The Horse.

The day also provided an opportunity to welcome and thank a very special guest, Mr. Frederik Meijer, who was the driving force behind a second casting of The Horse, which will become "The American Horse," and be displayed in the Frederik Meijer Gardens in Grand Rapids, Michigan We originally thought that perhaps 200 people would RSVP, and they did. But the number began to climb ... 300 ... 350 ... 400. We lost count at over 450, and that did not include the local Beacon townsfolk who began dropping in just to see what all the fuss was about.

The August 29^F Pre-'Cast party was a celebration of work done well, a thank-you to our contributors, a chance for new visitors -potential donors -to become part of the project, and an opportunity for the media to snap some current photos and write some updated stories. Undoubtedly, part of the unusual interest in the party was generated by a cover story by Nancy Mohr on The Horse in the September issue of *Smithsonian*. Still, most of the attendees were loyal supporters and donors who have steadfastly believed in this project and backed it with contributions of money and time.

The event opened with Roger Enloe, Master-of- Ceremonies, standing at the podium with Chelsea Krueger by his side. No less passionate a contributor because of her young age, Chelsea had written, "Dear Mr. Enloe, I have been saving up my money to go to the mall and I have saved up \$ 10, but after reading about The Horse, I have decided to send it to the Horse." And so she did.

Next to speak was Board Vice-President Rod Skidmore who had the distinct pleasure of introducing sculptor Nina Akamu. Incidentally, had there been a "longest distance traveled" door prize, Rod's relatives would surely have won it: they came all the way from Australia!

For sculptor Nina Akamu, this gathering was an opportunity to publicly thank Artistic Director Rod Skidmore, for his dedication, Greg Glasson who oversees the Horse at Tallix, and the team of assistants who were responsible for transferring "the subtleties and nuances" of the eight-foot master model to the full 24-foot clay.

She also thanked Board Treasurer/Secretary Diane Skidmore and the Sculptors Advisory Committee for their support and advice during the many months of development and enlargement of the model.

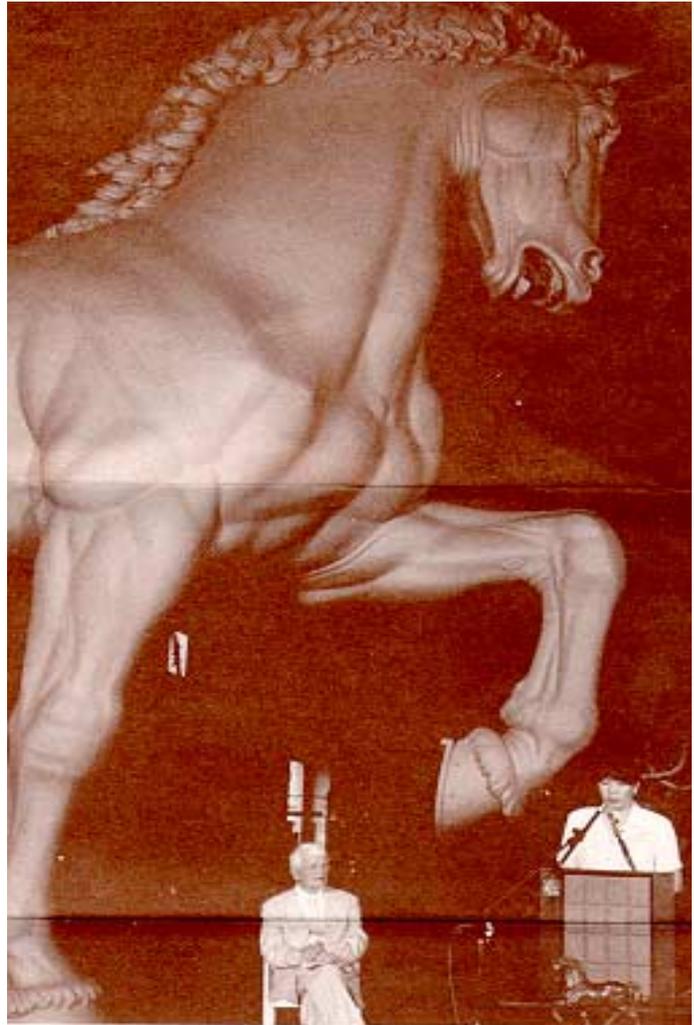
What followed was Nina's outline of the thinking and development as she abstracted the studies of drawings and the creative solutions that were needed to arrive at the final Horse. -She surprised many in the crowd with this tribute: "In

the left pupil of the giant Horse's eye is inscribed the name of Charles Dent. And in the right, the name of Leonardo da Vinci. Together they unite in a singular vision that has resulted in the realization of 11 Cavallo which pays tribute to the colossal genius of the man Leonardo da Vinci."

She added "I am honored to have been given the chance to contribute in my own way to this creation and experience of a lifetime."

Professor Chandler Kirwin, of the University of Guelph in Ontario, gave a scholar's perspective of The Horse: "This is an extraordinary, unequaled object we have in front of us. It is without a doubt the greatest achievement since Leonardo put and penned this thought on paper in that one by two-inch size [referring to a Leonardo sketch of a horse]. The miracle is not simply in the enlargement of from one by two inches to 24 feet, but in the collective will that was required to insure that this project would be successful." Mr. Kirwin asked those present to raise their espresso glasses and toast "Il Cavallone."

Last to speak was Mrs. Anna Brigante Colonna, the Consul General of Italy in Philadelphia. She spoke of growing up in Pavia, 30 km south of Milan. "And I must tell you that to grow up in that city and in that area you do learn that Leonardo is a real presence the Last Supper in Milano, but also the contribution that Leonardo gave to the building of the Castello Sforzesco and the Cathedral of Pavia as well as the drawing of the locks of the Navello canal feeding into the Chino River ...



Nina Akamu, sculptor, at the podium; Roger Enloe, President LDVHI, sitting in front of the colossal horse. **Photo: Melville D. Maclean**

all those elements were actually present in my mind as a child, as a student.... But you know, sometimes we get lazy and we take it for granted.

"Believe it or not, I had to come to Philadelphia to learn about an unaccomplished project that Leonardo had designed.... It is amazing that actually this is something I learned in the United States. And I want to underline that, because it really shows a lot about the universality of culture."

In closing she said, "I must here pay tribute to Charles Dent's memory for I can see he was a man of wonderful imagination, generosity, and a wonderful contributor to the diffusion of culture... I can hardly wait until September 1999 to be there in the front line in Milan to receive this wonderful gift of yours."

For those of you who have recently joined our ranks and are wondering just what this all about, the late Charlie Dent was a retired United pilot, and the person whose vision, enterprise and energy got this whole project off the

JOSEPH FABBO 75423 Greed Dr. Indian Wells CA 92210-7655

Jock: Had a great year travelling the world. London, Dublin, Hawaii, New Zealand and Australia.

Lots of golf, still trying to shoot my age. See you in Vegas, *Joe*

P.S. Check to Cleve.

This is a poem from a 1941 high school mate in New Jersey - nice!

CHRISTMAS

*I have a list of folks I know, all written in a book
And every year at Christmastime, I go and take a look.
And that is when I realize that those names are a part
Not of the book they're written in, but of my very heart.
. For each name stands for someone who has crossed my path sometime.
And in that meeting they've become the rhythm in each rhyme,
And while it sounds fantastic for me to make this claim,
I really feel that I'm composed of each remembered name.
And while you may not be aware of any special link
Just meeting you has changed my life, and a lot more than you think
For once I've met somebody, the years cannot erase,
The memory of a pleasant word or of a friendly face.
So never think my Christmas cards are just a mere routine
Of names on a Christmas list, forgotten in between.
For when I send a Christmas card that is addressed to you,
It's because you are on the list of folks I am indebted to.
For I am the total of the many folks I have met
And you happen so be one of those I prefer not so forget.
And whether I have known you for many years or few,
In some way you have been a part of shaping things I do.
And every year when Christmas comes, I realize anew,
The best gift life can offer is meeting folks like you,
And may the spirit of Christmas that forever endures,
Leave the richest blessings in the hearts of you and yours*

JAMES F. WILSON-jwilson..fl@worldnet.att.net, 2712 Sedgefield Ct. E., Clearwater, Fl. 33761. MDW, ORD, DEN, JFK. Hi, Jock: Time for the annual letter. I'm starting to feel like an old timer at 77. But when you run into some of the real old timers like Read and Lippincott on the cruise, you get the feeling that there could be a lot of good time left.

We enjoyed the cruise. It is always fun to find some of the copilots you enjoyed flying with but haven't seen for 20 or more years and see that they have changed to distinguished looking senior citizens.

We have had a good year with no health problems other than the usual wear and tear that seems to be the price we pay for the privilege of longevity.

We do a good deal of travel to visit 26 grandkids, plus a trip or a cruise once in awhile. Salmon fishing in AK was great. Brother Bill, son Tom, and I could pick up our 18 Silvers in a couple of hours most days.

Check to Cleve. Happy New Year to all the RUPA family. Thanks to all who make the newsletter possible. I will send a copy via snail mail in case I'm not right with cyberspace. Jim.

JIM & GINNY DOPP

Not much new to report so will just say thanks to all the worker bees who keep this great RUPA going. Check to Cleve. Still on my knees saying thanks for all the United ALPA people who made this retirement so great for us.

Fraternally, Jim & Ginny Dopp

HANK DIRKMAAT, 3702 West Fairway Drive,
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815.

E-mail:dirkmaathw@aol.com

Luckily I am healthy and feel much younger than 76, but have experienced a long year of a bad case of loneliness since my dear wife of 52 years passed away of cancer a year ago.

I have tried to pass the time by doing lots of travelling to many places, but without a companion, that gets old very fast. I am sure there are many among you who have experienced the same. Every day you can share with your wife is a blessing, and spoil her while you can. My children, living all over the U.S., have been supportive of me when possible, but of course they have their own lives to live.

I am looking forward to a good year in 1999. Things will get better. I have been enjoying our pass privileges and hope to be able to do so for many years to come.

Wishing all of you good health and a great 1999.

Hank.

CHARLES & BERNADETTE FOY P.O. 6687,
Glendale AZ 85312-6687

Here it is three days before my birthday, so I'm not quite two years late.

This past year has been a tough one, spent six months doing radiation and chemotherapy for lung and abdominal cancer. Then in September I had surgery for the removal of abdominal cancer. Because of radiation we had to cancel a trip to Europe, but were able, two weeks after the surgery, to cruise from LA to Fort Lauderdale through the Panama Canal.

We also spent 18 days in Hawaii in late November to celebrate my wife's big 50.

We are planning a trip to China in May, and another cruise - New York to Nova Scotia and back in August.

Have a great New Year, and our thanks to all the folders and stuffers. *Charlie Foy*

P.S. Sorry I'm still computer illiterate and have no typewriter. Check to Cleve. [*Happy to do it Charlie - y'all stay well now! Ed.*]

JACK M. DE CAMP, Los Angeles: EWR LGA
JFK -LAX '53 -'83

15 YEARS COMES NEW YEAR'S EVE, THE BIG DIAMOND ONE. No complaints, and I have some pearls of wisdom for the senior set. A contemporary



UP PERISCOPE

had a heart attack this past spring and his Dr. ordered a 3 oz. Glass of red wine daily.

Do you know what the name of the house organ of the American Heart Assn. is?

Circulation. Red wine was also mentioned in a TV piece about Macular Degeneration.

It couldn't hurt. Secondly, golf handicaps seldom come down after 70. A few months ago I stated that if I ever quit

the game, after playing 63 years, it would be because of putting. I've recently switched to cross-hand putting and the problem has disappeared. Trust me Herb, it works. To quote Mickey Mantle, If I knew I was going to live this long, I would have taken better care of myself." Till next December. Capnjacl05@aol.com *Pete*

EUGENE D.& ROBERTA COPPOCK 11320
Lorenson Rd Auburn CA 95602. P1T DCA EWR
DCA MIA LAX ORD Also temporary duty YIP ORF
LGA, 1-57/1-88

All is well on this side of the plane, and still flying for the County Sheriff's Dept. Also had a new interior put in my Baron. The first trip on the new leather was to 3CK. Then motorhome camping at Oshkosh. Met with Greg Herrick, the new owner of the Stinson A. He has a museum north of MSP, the town of Anoka, and has many more rare airplanes in his collection.

I also would like to share some information that my brother-in-law received from the Dept. of Veterans Affairs. Enclosed - use if you wish. [*Thanks, Gene, I'll place it in this issue, space permitting. Ed*]

Trow will be missed. Regards, Gene.

JIM COOK P.O. BOX 14 MCHENRY, IL. 60051
Enclosed is my annual contribution to the stamp fund. Eleven years into retirement and all is well. After the surgery I had 3 years ago I seem to be winning the battle with cancer. My HMO is fabulous, still no premiums, no deductibles, and no paper work. Even the \$3200 shot of lupron every 4 months doesn't cost me a cent. Still go to Tucson in the winter and still fly my Cessna quite a bit when I can catch it. With 8 pilots in the family now, (2 with American) it keeps pretty busy. Thanks, *Jim*

JACK W. SWART, 360 Electric Ave. Seal Beach, CA. 90740

before 1999. This has been a busy year or do I just assume it's been busy? We sold our cabin at Mammoth this last October after its being in the family since 1929. It was a heart-breaker, but necessary. Nothing lasts forever but memories and we're very fortunate to have many good ones.

Dot and I are still hanging in there health-wise. It seems to get harder every year. I ran across this the other day, I thought you might like to read it.

OLD FOLKS ARE WORTH A FORTUNE.

With silver in their hair, gold in their teeth, lead in their feet and gas in their stomachs.

I have become a lot more social with the passing of the years; some might call me a frivolous old gal. I'm seeing five gentlemen every day.

As soon as I wake, Will Power makes me get out of bed.

Then I go to see John.

Then Charley Horse comes along, and when he is there he takes a lot of my time and attention.

When he leaves, Arthur Ritis shows up and stays the rest of the day. (He doesn't like to stay in one place very long, so he takes me from joint to joint.)

After such a busy day I'm tired and glad to go to bed with Ben Gay.

What a life!!

P.S. The preacher came to call the other day. He said that at my age I should be thinking about the hereafter. I told him I do that all the time. No matter where I am...in the parlor, upstairs, in the kitchen or down in the basement, I ask myself, "Now what am I hetre after?"

I plan on writing again next year, so don't count me out. Love to read the RUPANEWS. Enclosed is something for the postage. Jack

HAL CAMPBELL Ord-Cle-Ord '66-'93 202 KyFields, Weaverville, NC 28787 hfcprc@aol.com (828) 645-7722

Dear Jock: I pass this info on for anyone intending to withdraw after tax voluntary contributions from their B fund. There is a tax trap awaiting the unwary or uninformed!

1-This is ONLY for those retirees who made voluntary after tax contributions to their B fund. As I assume everyone knows, those funds, having been taxed, will not be taxed on withdrawal. The trick, however, is getting them out without being taxed on the attached EARNINGS!

2-Pre-1987 after tax contributions and earnings are treated differently than post-1986 contributions and earnings. Rather than saying anything further in this regard, it's covered in your withdrawal paper and in your Frank Russell Manual.

3-The KEY is to ROLL OVER any attached earnings, rather than having them sent to you. Think of it as a withdrawal that is to be rolled over into an IRA. Only the ELIGIBLE PORTION (MEANING THE EARNINGS) can be rolled over, the after tax contribution portion will be sent to you and ,consequently, you'll owe no taxes until you withdraw earnings.

4-If you contact Frank Russell and give them an amount, they will break it down between after tax contribution and earnings.

5-Fill out the parts in the withdrawal papers you request from UAL pension dept as follows:

Part IV-I hereby elect to withdraw \$_____ from.....VII.

Part VII-Check off, sign, and date Option B, Distribution-Single Sum

Part VIII-Check off: I elect a direct rollover.....

Check off: I would like 100% of my eligible money rolled over. (Any remaining amount will be sent to me.)

Complete the IRA information

There are other sections to fill out, obviously, but the above are the key sections to roll over your earnings, so you don't have to pay tax on them now and can continue to grow them tax deferred! It's a way around the rules that no longer allow you to take out your after-tax dollars first! Hal Campbell

CHUCK COOKE 462, 23rd Ave. San Mateo CA 94403-2242

Dear Jock: I am baby-sitting my granddaughter Nini's MAC 6500 computer while she is back at Rutger's University completing work in Library Science.I have been away from United Airlines computers for 13 years, but am now starting to send e-mail.. Sincerely, Chuck

P.S. Check to Cleve

[Editor's note: The foregoing was printed on a legal pad and arrived snail mail]

KEN KENSICK 860 Wedgewood Drive Crystal Lake, IL 60014

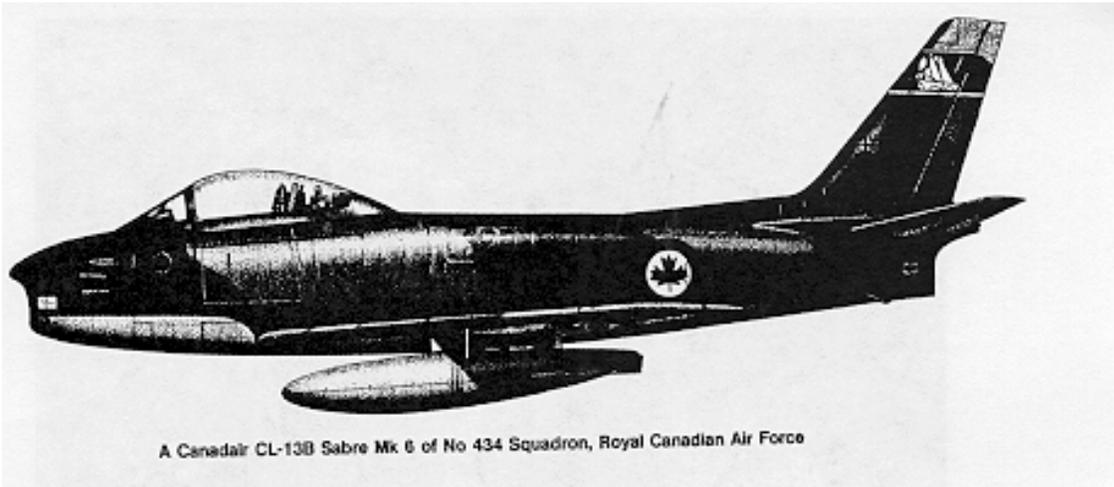
Jock: I now know what they mean when they say "time flies when you're having fun". It's been a year and a half. Maureen and I have spent a lot of time visiting our three sons. We were out west in November to see the oldest, Steve fly his F-18 off NAS Lemoore where he recovered on the carrier Carl Vinson which is enroute to the Gulf for six months. This is his second tour there. In 1997 when he came back from his first tour on the Kitty Hawk, I flew out to Honolulu and sailed back with him to San Diego. It was quite a sight watching them launch and recover.

We made two trips to Germany to visit #2 son Mike who was flying the F-15 at Spangdahlem AFB. It was just a coincidence that the wine fests were on at that time, so we were forced to partake of some Mosel wine.

Big difference from when we were over there in the 60's, Jock. There are only 2 USAF fighter bases on mainland Europe. Canadians are non-existent. The O club is a morgue. Beer sales are off and car accidents are down. Can these guys be having fun?

Mike is back at Langley AFB.

Number 3 son, Dave, is flying F-16s with Madison Air Guard and moonlighting as a UAL 737 co-pilot based at ORD.



We sold the old residence of 27 years and moved into a townhouse so I don't have to mess with the yard stuff. I have a Cessna 170 and am in the process of restoring it back to original. The taildragging is fun.

Weather permitting I drive the '30 Model A out to the airport. We will warm weather in Maui for a month this winter. Maureen and I did Paris just before Christmas. Had to leave when they ran out of escargots. We got first class on the 777 both ways. Pretty nice service and we managed to do big damage to UAL's Dom Perignon inventory. We would not have been able to ride up there under the old 75% load rule.

Enjoy the mag and hearing from most of those OLD guys I flew co-pilot for. You are a natural for the job, Jock. Will send the check to get rid of the black mailing label.

"Kenny Concrete" the terror of the Air Div - or one of them anyway, it's good to hear from you. Booting pigeons in the park, "It's trad Dad!" eh! Sounds like you have raised your own air force. Maybe I'll see you at the SPAADS reunion in BC in 2000. I've put in a picture of the "Queen of the skies" in honor of our times together in AirDiv in the sixties.. Jock.

JOSEPH R. KENNEY, 6980 E. Girard Ave. Denver, CO 80224-2915 SFO-DEN-SFO-ORD, 1945-1982.

Belated Happy New Year to all.

In September 1945, Slim Grider and I reported to SFOFO, as DC-3 F/O's. In March 1946 I went to DC-4 school in SFO, and flew with Fuzzy Cain, George Howson, and our instructor, Leo Kriloff. That was a fun school!

We moved to DENFO in March 1, 1947. In 1948 I went to DC-6 school and flew with Joe Bohl also, flew the next 4 months with Joe. The first DC-6 trip with a flight engineer was on a Notre Dame charter to Los Angeles with Capt. Lloyd Schram and Glenn Nyman, flight engineer. (Score ND-14 -USC 14). Lots of good years and times. We ran into Dave Landry and wife at the Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, Michigan, last Labor Day weekend. Also a 303 BG member, Jack Johnson, said to say "Hello" to Jim Taylor.

Enclosing an article on stewardess hiring in 1933, a church bulletin, and "Not so famous last words".

HELLO to all the good guys. *Marcee and Joe*

WILLIAM M. DUTTON UAL# 57614

I was sent this joke on the internet and thought you might like to publish it in *RUPANEWS* to get a chuckle out of our members.

The wife of a Southern Baptist preacher talks to her Sunday School class about a wonderful religious experience that she had last week.

"The other day I went up to the local Christian book store where I saw a "honk if you love Jesus" bumper sticker. I was feeling particularly sassy that day because I had just come from a thrilling choir performance at church, so I bought that bumper sticker and put it on the back bumper of my car. I'm really glad that I did.

What an uplifting experience followed I was stopped at the light of a busy intersection, just lost in thought about the Lord, and I did not notice that the light had changed. It's a good thing someone else loves Jesus or I may have never noticed that the light had changed. I found that lots of people love Jesus. Why, the guy behind me started to honk like crazy and then he leaned out his window and screamed, "For the love of GOD, Go! . . . Go! Jesus Christ! Go!" "Everyone was honking.

I leaned out my window and waved and smiled to all those loving people and I even honked my horn a few times to share in the love. There must have been a man from Florida back there because I could hear him yelling something about a sunny beach. I saw another guy waving in a funny way with only his middle finger stuck up in the air. When I asked my teenager son in the back seat what this meant, he said that it was nothing, probably a Hawaiian good luck sign or something.

Well, I have never met a person from Hawaii, so I leaned out the window and gave him the good luck sign back. My son burst into laughter. Why, even he was enjoying the love of this religious experience. A couple of the people were so caught up in the joy of the moment that they got out of their car and were walking towards me. I bet they wanted to pray or ask what church I attended, but that is when I noticed that the light had changed so I waved one more time to my loving brothers and sisters and drove through the intersection.

I was the only car that got across the intersection before the light changed again and I felt kind of bad that I had to leave them and all that love that we had shared. So I slowed the car down, leaned out the window and gave them all the Hawaiian good luck sign one more time as I drove away."

Thanks to all for their dedication to a fine newsletter,

ROGER NEILL

Hi Jock: This year Dorothy and I joined the Medicare Club. I even got my card laminated as a kind of birthday gift to myself! We have had a busy year traveling and hosting out-of-towners. Spent a couple of months RVing in the south with the Texas Big Bend area as the main destination. On the way home I fell off a lava cliff in New Mexico trying to get a better photo. Banged myself up a bit, but my copilot patched me up, then drove the truck and 5th Wheel to Socorro, where a doc stitched me up. No broken bones, luckily. We took our 3-1/2 year old grandson on a two-week RV trip to Canada to meet his Canadian cousins. We must have done something right, since he never once asked for Mom and Dad. Had fun touring my French cousins around the Seattle area in August. Later that month I attended the first RCAF All-Weather Fighter Pilots' Reunion held in Winnipeg. Unfortunately not too many from my squadron (433 AWF) were there. On the way home I got to ride in the cockpit of Air Canada's A319 Airbus during descent, approach and landing. Brought back lots of memories.

Still serving as a docent at the Museum of Flight when I am in town. For those of you who have not visited Seattle's MOF I'd highly recommend it. This year our B17F (Boeing Bee) was finally finished and is now undergoing flight certification. So now we have two flyable aircraft, the other being the Boeing 247. Word has it that we're about to acquire the only DC-2 in flyable condition from the Douglas museum.

Keep up the good work, Jock, and many thanks to you and everyone else involved in putting out the RUPA - NEWS. Sent my dues, with appreciation, last month.

Cheers, Roger

BRUCE ALEXANDER

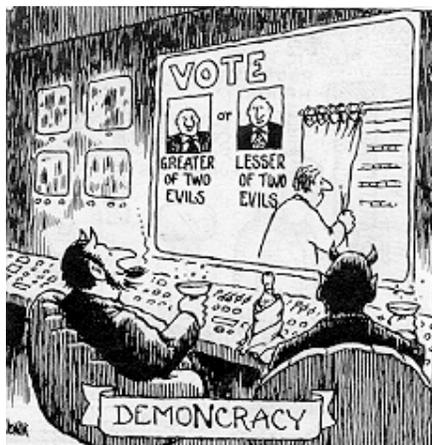
Seasons greetings to all. Everything is fine here at Dog Blossom, Tennessee.

In my contest with prostate cancer I ran into a great little book written by R.A. Block called "Fighting Cancer". He battled and beat lung cancer and as a result started the R.A. Block Cancer Foundation at www.Blockcancer.org or

816-932 8453. These are good people, all volunteers, and help is their primary mission, not money. Block is the

R in H&R Block and is doing excellent work. Check their web page or call them or me 615 264 3039 for more information.

Thanks for all the dedicated work all you folks do in getting out the letter. Check in the mail to Cleve... Bruce



GEORGE J. FURCH 61 Sunrise Mesa Dr., Canon City CO 81212 1937-1974, OA,NK,JL,CX,SA, Alaskan Operations, DV, LNK, SFO, DEN ORD. Birthday 1/18/15. Now 84.

Dear Jock: Birthday month, and sent check to Cleve. Fond memories - remember Western sleeper 101 & 102 - Chief may go and Chief no go.

Looking forward to a trip to Disney World in Orlando next month.

I miss the bush flying in Northern Ontario 1980-86. We had a Beaver and a Cessna 185 on floats and skis. The wx here has been good this winter thus far - a little snow today.

Thanks again to all of you folders, stuffers and editors who keep the *RUPANEWS* coming.

Best regards to all, *George*

DAVID P. JONES 2304 Falcon Trace Lane, Nokomis, FL 34275 (dpjones1@mindspring.com)

Dear Jock: All is well here in the warm climes of sunny Florida and we are doing good healthwise. Betty and I just returned from a Holiday swing through North Carolina where we encountered snow and freezing rain. Brrrr!

Included in the holiday was the 11th celebration of my retirement. The big event of the year was the purchase of a second home in the mountains of North Carolina. It will serve as a retreat from the hot weather in the summertime as well as a gathering place for family members from all over.

We really enjoyed seeing friends on the Fall Cruise and many thanks to the people in RUPA who work so hard to make these things happen. That of course includes you, Jock, for your work in producing the

RUPA NEWS. It continues to be a great journal. Check to Cleve. *Dave*

MIRIAM & JOHN O'CONNELL Sycamore IL 60178 56/90 SFO/ORD

This old year is about history. We have both enjoyed each and every newsletter. Our hats are off to those who make it happen. Thank you also for the RUPA wings.

We had a busy year with our first experience trying to make some sense out of all the paperwork that goes with medical services. After a particular trying experience I told the Doctor, "If the Airlines ran their business like the medical profession, they would have aircraft spread all over the face of the earth". Enough of that subject.

Did a bit of traveling south of the border. Did an INTRAV (USAA) tour to Peru, Ecuador, & the Galapagos islands. INTRAV runs a first class tour all the way, and we had a grand time. Also took in the Amazon trip. Not quite up to the INTRAV experience, but glad we made the trip. Machu Picchu & Galapagos were the highlights, and we highly recommend them. Watch out for the altitude 11,000' and definitely a VFR airport at Cusco, Ecuador. We are leaving for a 45th anniversary celebration next week in Kona. Then back for the holidays in IL before heading to Prescott for the winter. Our address there will be : 4933 Summit Circle Prescott, AZ. 86301 <mmoc@primenet.com> or IL <mmoc@tbcnet.com>

A Very Merry Christmas to all and a Happy and Healthy New Year. John

December 19, 1998

James Goodwin, President
United Air Lines

P. O. Box 66100 Chicago, IL 60666

Dear Sir:

May I submit the following suggestion for your consideration?

A change in the pass policy to permit buying a Non-refundable ticket and using a pass to move up in class, on the same flight, when available.

Happy holidays and. good luck to you in your new position.
Sincerely

Robert L. Bowman #4770

cc: Michael Glawe, ALPA MEC Chairman
Jock Savage, RUPA Newsletter

TOM MORGAN - Pensacola, Fl. 32507

Dear Jock:

Its that time again and another one has rolled around. It goes faster every year.

We did a bit of traveling this year, to Pennsylvania, Michigan, Oregon, and Washington, DC. for the Capital reunion, but the one event that I attended I didn't need to leave town. I joined the RAPA group here for their convention in early November. One of the highlights was having front row seats to see the Blue Angels perform. They performed their usual spectacular maneuvers on a perfect day. Not a cloud in the sky.

I was surprised to see the United contingent from SFO and one from ORD at this RAPA convention. They were Scotty Devine, Milt Jines, John Stefanki, Bud Schwartz, Cleve Spring, Ted Bochniarz, and my good friend Gene Tritt. Carol and I sat with Gene and Glenna for the banquet, and he and I swapped "war stories" from our days in the Flight Office. He in SFO, and me in ORD.

My check for postage is in the mail to Cleve. Thanks again to all those who work so hard to keep the group going. Happy holidays to all.

Tom and Carol

BILL & MARY LOU MOORE 31655 SW Arbor Glen Loop, Wilsonville, OR 97070-9440

Dear Jock: Just got off a beautiful flight, daylight the whole way: Munich - 767 (sterling silver) - Dulles - A320 (tin cans) - Portland OR. Spent a few days in Bavaria: Garmisch, Salzburg, Innsbruck, stomping around in the snow and drinking Austrian beer. Snowed every day, temps - 32 - 22 degrees, with Austria all decorated for Christmas, good time to go. The Dulles - Munich flight is a fairly new run for UAL and not famous yet. First class was about 7 stars. 767 captain first flew with me in 1969 (737s) and now he will retire in two years. "Wow! Don't look behind, they may be gaining on us! (Satchel P.)

Signs of the times. You get on board the airplane and, in passing, you ask the first Flight Attendant, "Who is up front?" and she innocently says, "I haven't the slightest idea."

Bill Dunkle, you have a point, staying home is hard to beat, one has high school football on Friday, college football on Saturday, the pros on Sunday and Monday, and baseball and basketball. It takes a lot of squeezing in. There is kind of a cooling period in February, so we will be going down the Amazon River, with the extra excitement of riding on a foreign airline.

Well, we've seen 1998, and 1999 should be another phenomenal year. Stay in shape.

Thank you. *Bill*

CHARLENE MARKS

Dear Jock: Hope you enjoyed a happy holiday season. Thanks to all the good people who contribute their time and efforts so that retirees may keep in touch and receive such helpful information. Thanks also for the RUPA pin. Fred always wore his [ALPA one] with pride. I am honored to have it in his stead.

Haven't been doing much traveling, but sure enjoyed a trip to the coast cities of Maine in Sept. Beautiful area and they take good care of it. We are very lucky in this country to have so many diverse places to visit.

Planning a trip to Spain and Portugal with my daughter, who is a F/A for United. All my children and grandchildren are here in IL so I don't have to travel far to visit them.

Love to read about all the interesting things going on in the lives of other retirees. Reading some of the letters, you'd never know they were retirees because of all their busy lives. Makes me feel like a slacker. Best to you and check to Cleve.

Char

Good to hear from you Char. Fortunately, I was able to track you down via your e-mail address. Just a reminder to our increasing number of electronic correspondents, don't forget to put your full name somewhere in your message. We like to know who's writing us. Ed.

JOHN BROWN 17997 Sunol Rd. Hayward, CA 94541
(Flight Dispatcher MDW ORD SFO ORD WHQ 57-94)

Dear Capt. Savage; This is my first attempt at sending my birthday letter to you by e-mail, and hopefully I won't louse it up too badly. Coming up on the 5th year of retirement already, and, as far as I can tell, it just keeps getting better! A little less travel this year than in the last, with a planned trip to Mesquite, NV for a retiree golf tournament shot down by some bad food. Otherwise, a couple of trips to Chicago to visit family and friends, an outing of golf in PHX, and two trips to KOA for visiting and golf

The weather here in the Bay Area has certainly been screwy the past few days, as you well know - snow in SFO, freezing temps the last couple of nights...I thought I left that all behind in Chicago. My fireplace is getting quite a workout.

My thanks to all of the F&Sr's for their time and efforts, and best wishes to all for a happy Holiday season Best regards, *John*



DON KYTE DVKYTE@AOL.COM 266 Ostego Rd. Ft. Myers Beach, FL 33931

Hello Jock, About a month late for my yearly letter for the usual reasons.

A VERY busy summer in Alaska on my 10th and final year operating my Glacier View Airways business with my Republic Seabee. The business was fantastic and the weather better than normal. We actually had more business than we could handle and had to call in help on a number of occasions. This was good as it gave the fellow with the Cessna 180 float plane who wants to replace me a chance to get his feet wet (so to speak) and meet some of my customers. He did a nice job and they are happy with him, but said they are going to miss the good old Seabee. It truly was the ideal plane for that work. Nothing on the market equals its performance and visibility. It is safely stored in a hanger for the winter, and in the spring, I'll get all the systems up to snuff and put it on the market.

Jean and I needed a year off to do some other things but we are already missing Alaska. If the old 'Bee doesn't sell next summer (\$100,000. firm) we may go back in 2000.

Last winter and spring before leaving for Alaska I had a chance to fly co-pilot several times in a Grumman Albatross and on one round trip in a Beech Starship. Great fun and nice to learn I can still handle right seat duties. *Don*

D.F. "DON" KING Boulder, CO 8030.3-3718 55/90

Three months late this year, due to 50-60 hour weeks as volunteer construction manager at our church's \$7.7 million building project. It will be completed in January, for which I'm very thankful.

Ellie and I did take two 10-day vacations this year, the first in Jan. to the Holy Land with our church group. It was very special to walk the same areas that our Lord had walked. In an interesting sidelight, our guide said there was a United pilot who was a monk in Jerusalem. With almost a "yeah-sure" attitude, we had almost forgotten, when on the next to last day, we met Bob Winkler complete with monk's robes. John Budko, also a RUPA member, and I had our pictures taken with him. He said to write him: Brother Bob Winkler, Garden of Gethsemane, Jerusalem, Israel. In Sept., we took a ten-day bike tour in East Anglia, NE of London. Ellie had had spinal fusion in mid June, L4 & L5, but did very well on the trip.

Many thanks again to all who make the RUPA Newsletter possible. Check sent to Cleve. *Don*.

EARL E. BACH, Mantoloking, NJ, Class of 3/71, EARLYBIRD85@WORLDNET. ATT. NET
RETIRED 28 YEARS -OUR KEYS FOR A LONG, HEALTHY, & HAPPY LIFE

1. -FINANCIAL SECURITY -Plan early -invest 10% of your income every year, so when you retire, your investments will work for you, 24 hrs a day, 365 days/yr., for the rest of your life. If you bought AURA, NASDAQ keep it, the potential is still there. Advise everyone to use Viagra, helps my Pfizer. The best tax shelter PDC.

2.-Don't SMOKE OR BREATHE IT!!!

3.-BE A POSSIBILITY THINKER -an optimist, never a pessimist. Your mind is the best medicine you have, use it, heal yourself.

4. -WATCH YOUR DIET -we are what we eat, cut the sugars, salts & fats. Try the Pritikin Diet for 1 month & see how much better you feel.

5.-TAKE GOOD VITAMINS & ANTIOXIDANTS EVERY DAY -Have been taking Life Pak 4 yrs + Phygum & Saw Palmetto for prostate. Get up in the morning ready to whip the world, well, maybe just Alyce.

G.-EXERCISE REGULARLY -TENNIS -I like tennis because it exercises your whole body and mind, but most important it is not work, it is fun.

7.-HUGS-How often do you hug the one you love? Hug a stranger to-day.

8.-DO IT NOW -When anything needs doing, DO IT NOW!

9.-LIVE FOR TO-DAY -enjoy every minute of it, it's yours to enjoy.

10.-HAVE A SMILE FOR EVERYONE -Smile on a stranger every day.

11.-PRAY IN YOUR QUIET MOMENTS FOR EVERYONE. My favorite quotation

"I shall pass this way but once; any good thing that I can do, or any kindness that I can show, let me do it now. Let me not defer it or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again." Louisa Garfield Monroe Four years after losing Marion, my wife of 60 years, I married Iris Ackland, a Canadian. In January after spending 6 wks with Iris in Canada, including the ice storm, she told me she could not return to Mantoloking with me. Have not seen her since. Now a divorce In March, my daughter Virginia asked me to take the place of her friend who could not make a cruise to Panama. A friend of Virginia's, Alyce Wolfersberger, sat at our table. we talked and I told Alyce about my problems with Iris, but was still hoping for a solution. We said good bye after the cruise and I really never expected to see Alyce again. In June a good friend's daughter was being married, I asked Alyce if she would go with me. Alyce agreed, and a most beautiful relationship blossomed. Alyce went on the RUPA cruise from Montreal, it was fantastic.

We are very disappointed, no 199 RUPA cruise planned yet. However there is good in everything if you look hard enough, RUPA's convention in LAS next October is a perfect place to hold a tennis tournament. Now, all you tennis buffs, lets hear from you loud & clear, tennis, tennis at LAS. Somehow I have been dubbed "Big Buck", so I have named Alyce "Little Doe", although I do not believe we will every have any little fawns, we will never give up trying. 1999 is going to be a very good year.

Virginia is still buried in her health problems, kidney, eyes & ear. Sandra still flying stew for good old UAL west out of LAX. Earl Jr just bought his dream home on Lake Tahoe, hope we can get UP there soon. No report would be complete without mentioning my kids, Heather a 13 yr old Cairn Terrier, and Mickie five yr. old Pekinese, they give so much love, they are worth their weight in gold.

Play indoor tennis Mon. Tue. Wed. Thur. & Fri 9-11 AM at Atlantic Club, weather permitting Sat & Sun at BHYC. My goal still is to play singles (tennis that is) at 100, however with only 12 yrs to go, maybe I should raise my sights. Still flying Jersey Aero Club's 5 planes, it sure feels good to grease them on. Will this be the year for that parachute jump, and flying a jet fighter?

We could wish nothing finer for every one of you, than that you enjoy the health and happiness we do. May the Good Lord bless and keep you and yours. May God grant you his peace.

BOB CHABER, Box 310, Boyes Hot Springs, CA 95416 707-996-5558 rchaber@compuserve.com
3/68-8/96 DCA, LAX, ORD, MIA, ORD, SFO

Jock, Since I retired early, I guess I should get my dues in early, too. My check is on the way to Cleve, more than a month early. Another great retirement year has just raced by.

I enjoyed two big trips: Bali and Belgium. Took a great WW1 battlefield tour from Brugge, Belgium. (Quasimodo Tours, Tel. 050/370.470).

My "work" is at Sebastiani Vineyards in Sonoma, CA, where I conduct tours and pour wine in the tasting room. Check out www.sebastiani.com. When you visit, we give an airline discount on wine purchases if you mention my name.

I serve on the Board of Directors of the United Retired Pilots Foundation. RUPA members are well aware of the assistance that has been given to some of the pioneers and their widows. We need to be certain that the active pilots, especially the younger ones moving up so fast, are aware of our existence and mission.

Bob

ED GRIFFITH, Hudson, OH 442361DTW PIT EWR CLE ORD 56/91

Had a nice trip to San Francisco last January, and although we were rained out at the ATT-Pebble Beach golf tournament we had a great time the week before. Got to fly Business Class on the 777, too. Barb's nephew, who lives in Carmel Valley, showed us all the sights. He also knows an assistant pro at Pebble, and since we couldn't get a tee time, he kindly took us all on a golf cart tour of the layout, which we all enjoyed, probably more than playing -less frustration!

The whole family, all 24 of us, plus one son's mother-in-law and our youngest son's girl friend, rented a house on Virginia Beach for a week in August!! We had a ball and all took turns cooking so Barb got a rest too!

Missed the Capital picnic, but enjoyed the Cleveland Crazies re-union cruise on Lake Erie. We had over 200 former CLE based people aboard the Nautica Queen for a wonderful cruise and lunch on a picture-perfect day. We had the Smith's and Nelson's stay with us, for a great visit and a little golf. We really enjoyed seeing everyone, and missed those who were unable to attend. We hope to do it again soon!

We are off to Michigan for Christmas with son Jay, Linda and family. Then plan to visit son Bob, Denise and family enroute to Florida for six weeks. Looking forward to seeing all the Ruparians at the Fort Meyers meeting.

Until next year -good health and Happy New Year Check to Cleve, thanks to all who put out the 'News'. Ed

DALE FERNANDES P.O.Box 610, Walpole, NH 03608 66/93

I'm either 11 months late, or one month early. So, I'll send two years stipend, since I believe it's the former. Another year of good health and good fortune. Travel this year took us to London, Norway, and Sweden. A little known, but great experience, was a trip up the Norwegian coast on the Coastal Express, the mail boat that stops at every little town and fishing village on it's 1200-mile journey from Bergen, to 300 miles north of the Antic Circle around the North Cape to Kirkenes, on the Barents Sea. The ships sail daily and carry from 300 to 700 passengers, -depending on which ship you take. They are working ships, not luxurious cruise liners, but they have comfortable, if small, staterooms and the food is excellent, but not elegant. Very few Americans, some English, mostly Scandinavians and Germans. Lots of time for sightseeing, and the scenery is spectacular. It's a good opportunity to get caught up on your reading, because there is no entertainment provided, except for the ceremony crossing the Arctic Circle. Highly recommend it. To top it off, we flew back from London to Newark on the 777, First Class, first try!

The parts that I have been buying for the past 6 1/2 years are now officially an airplane. The FAA gave me its Airworthiness Certificate on April 1. The first take-off was more thrilling than any other I can remember, including the engine failure on take-off, at Vr, in a DC-8 out of Boston, max gross en-route to Lisbon in 1967. The Glasair IIS-FT flies beautifully. Cruises at just over 200 mph at 75% power; 24.5" @ 2450 rpm., on a 180 HP Lycoming 10-360 engine.

BERNALD S. SMITH, 1019 Whitmer Ct.; Fremont, CA 94539;

bernard@juggernaut.com SEA/SFO/LAX/SFO/TK/SFO/SEA/SFO/LAX/SFO 55/93

Here's my memo for the year, having separately sent \$\$ to Cleve. Sorry to continually miss all the great RUPA activities; retirement continues to be more active than anything I ever did! Having fun in DC may be hard to understand, but dealing with the AvFeds of more than one country has become addictive. That middle 757 coach seat is my second home. Ugh!!

This year we spent 3 weeks in Toulouse (a growing source of UAL aircraft) with three consecutive week-long meetings, affording the opportunity to finally visit Andorra, from which I used to collect stamps back in the '30s. Great driving E-W thru the Pyrenees, too! And two different visits to Sweden within three weeks proved, once again, it's one of the most expensive places in the world to take a taxi if you're not careful!

Finally got back in the air after several years, flying my AirSailing-based (near Reno) PW5 glider, albeit very, very little, because of the many different organizations and their activities in which I'm involved.

Marilyn's and my medical anomalies pale in comparison with what I read some of you go through; our best wishes for your good health. Has anyone made any sense out of the health care/long term care insurance situation? I take this opportunity to say how great it is to read reports from old friends/acquaintances and, of course, tell those who manage RUPA and its newsletter how much we appreciate your efforts. B S

JAMES O. MARTIN, 4N129 Person Creek Rd, St. Charles, IL 60174

Tis the last day of 1998. If only it was the last we heard of Billy Boy!

When we were leaving the Christmas Eve church service, who should walk by but Dick Schultz! I hadn't seen him for over twelve years, but recognized him immediately and even called him by name! What a memory! As we went out into the cold night, he said I now know why I left this place!

I'm not flying the T-34 Lima Lima at airshows, since the airplane was sold a year ago. Still buying time in the T-34, so I can get my fix now and then. I land once-in-awhile on Gene Ruder's farm strip. I always enjoy the grass between the corn. We do a little acro while I'm there.

Arlene and I are sticking close to home this winter. We have our lovely ten-year-old granddaughter living with us for the remainder of the school year.

I have a week of skiing in January with some old ski-buddies at Steamboat. I'm in the phone directory. Happy New Year! If you are wearing a beret, junk it! Regards, **J.O.**

JAMES R. IRWIN, 37 Camino Loma Seco, Lamy, NM 87540 505-466-4624 Email lrwinx@aol.com

To paraphrase my old railroad pal Gordon Cardall, "You wake up with nothing to do, and go to bed with only half of it done." Where has this year gone? Sold the house, moved into a rental, bought a piece of land, started designing a new house; been to Europe twice; five weeks of water skiing and fishing in northern Idaho; houseboating in New Mexico; ten days at the horse races in Arkansas; lost count of the visits to old friends and acquaintances. Bertie is still working - It gives her a chance to regain her sanity, and me time to learn how to fly fish, now that I realize that golf and guitar playing to any degree of skill are lost causes. Felicidades to all. **Jim**

ROBERT C. LUCEK, 155 County Road 573, Englewood, TN 37329

Dear Cleve, Just completed my first full month of retirement and it's everything I thought it would be. I'm enclosing my check for membership and 1999 postage. Sorry this is a little late but my desk was piled high with paper work and I just uncovered it today. As I write this, Chicago is getting 22 inches of snow. I sure miss being in the middle of all that: Ha Ha !!

I have many projects planned for retirement and I've already started on one. I am redoing my woodworking shop and I have bought several new power tools. I have "orders" for a Grandfather Clock, a desk and I have to finish a kit car for my wife, Bonnie, that I started a number of years ago.

Looking forward to reading future issues of *RUPANEWS*. Thanks for all your time and efforts towards our organization. Yours truly, **Bob**

THOMAS H. BRANCH, 4700 Lakeridge Rd, Denver, CO 80219

Dear Cleve -Only a month late. That month used up pretty much with planning and going on a trip to Manzanillo, Mexico, with the whole family to celebrate Katie's and my 40th anniversary. Traveling at holiday time precluded S/A travel, so full fare all around. I didn't think I could be uncomfortable boarding early (and I wasn't) but it sure felt funny! Still enjoy hearing about all with whom I was fortunate to be associated, and thanks to all of you who are active in making all that happen. Check for mail enclosed -Happy New Year! **Tom**

JOSEPH A. ZAHNISER, 300 Empire Trail, Warner Robins, GA 31088 1941-1981BUR, SEA, LGA, MDW, ORD, IAD

Jock, Thanks for doing *RUPANEWS* The last issue, which had some photos of members, had the names of the person in the photos. That is good. Many of us see each other so seldom that we can't recognize our old friends and acquaintances in a group picture, or any picture. A name is most welcome, and we are pleased to see who is who. Thanks, **Joe**

JOHN H. HANSEN, 47 Oakwood Drive, Madison, CT 06443 60/95 BOS EWR ORD JFKWent to Moscow in September to see Yeltsin. He was sick. Went to the Kremlin to see Lenin. He was sicker, but not by much. Scott and Ebner will provide details. **Jack**

ROBERT C. COLLINS, 17890 Bernardo Trails Place, San Diego, CA 92128 bobshirle@access1.net

Time for another input to the stamp fund and a chance to bring you all up to date. I'm now on oxygen most of the time. It's OK if I'm not moving around much. But, if I want to walk at a normal pace or go up stairs, I need oxygen. At least, the medication seems to have stopped the progression of the disease which is called Ideopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis, (IPF). It's not curable, but if it is arrested, one can expect a near-normal life span. Hopefully, that is the case with me. Time will tell. Tell your grandchildren to be careful about what they allow into their lungs. It doesn't come out until many years later, and then in a way that is not pleasant. **Bob**

JOSEPH LUBOZYNSKI, 7518 Oakmont Dr, Frederick, MD 21702

Dear Cleve, My \$25 for the next year of the RUPANEWS. All is well at 75. Lost a good friend of over 60 years, Capt. Tom Schronovich. Brain cancer got tom in late May and he was gone late in November >98. Sure will miss him. **Lulo**

JOSEPH A. PATALIVE, JR., 65 Woodlawn Rd, Sparta, NJ 07871

Hi Cleve, Thanks for putting me on the RUPANEWS mailing list. As I'm now am a retiree (5days) I'm still getting used to the idea. Feels good so far.

Enclosed is a check for membership and postage. **Joe**

BYRON H. DONAHUE, 5768 Greybull Hwy., Cody, WY 82414 57-91

Hi Cleve, Sorry about the handwriting, but no computer or typewriter to help out. Time does fly and I seem to get further behind each year. \$20 for last year, \$20 for this year and \$10 to United Pilots Fund. Thanks, **Byron**

ROBERT L. BUMS, 770 Gilbert Hwy, Fairfield, CT 06430

\Dear Cleve, Enclosed is a check for my annual dues etc. Have a new Email address & it is 66thFIS@msn.com (my old Fighter Interceptor Squadron at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska). Turning 68 this month of January, 1999. Time sure does fly when "you're having fun".. what a career !..I remember my new hire days well.. seems like yesterday when I was living at the Officers Club at "21st & R" in Washington, D.C. for \$40 per month-not too bad; they had a dance every night & two on Saturdays & Sundays. Finally moved to the "Hunting Towers" in Alexandria, VA, where the rent was upscale.. \$85 for a studio. DCA was a great place to be based... most of the Captains I worked under were WWII pilots ... neat bunch of "guys".. thanks "gents" for showing us the way! Like a lot of my buddies, I flew with the Air National Guard at Martinsburg, WVA flying the F86H ... same flying machine I flew on active duty with the 532nd Fighter Day Squadron at Seymour Johnson AFB, Goldsboro, NC. First time I was ever issued a new helmet & flying suit... seems like the states had better funding then the Feds. They called the F86H the "Last of the Sport Models"-which it really was - it was right before the "Lead Sleds" made their debut. Always felt that flying single engine fighters was good for one's "attitude adjustment".. one time in the "flameout pattern does wonders for the "stress tolerance".

Lost two dear friends this year -both retired UAL Captains. Bill Gates & Pete McIntosh. Words can't express my feelings.

Regards to all & thanks to you & Jock & all the gang that make the RUPANEWS possible. **Bob**

JOHN F. CLIFFORD, 102 Whipstick Rd, Ridgefield, CT 06877 41/83 foxcliff@freewwwweb.com

BUR,SEA,MDW,BOS,IDL,ORD,SFO,JFK

Made it to the big 80 with no changes, and both Shirley and I are doing fine. Last summer I took another Elderhostel bicycle tour - this time through East Anglia. The United morning arrival at LHR that matched the tour's Virgin Air arrival was booked solid. I had to arrive the night before when everything was shut down, hire a 2- hour cab trip to Colchester, and plan my own extra nights' lodging 'til the group caught up to me. The bicycling was great, and very educational, but then came the return from LHR. It was the Gate 17 non-rev waiting game. I was the only non-rev, and when I was handed my ticket I had to run to the departure gate just as they were closing the door at the scheduled departure time for their push-back time slot. This presents no problems with the luggage, since the plane sits without starting engines for quite a while, and the baggage has plenty of time to beat the departure. I was told that if I hadn't made that flight I would likely spend several days doing my thing at Gate 17. To heck with the passes, I'll travel with the tour group hereafter.

I sure do like the great job that is being done with the RUPANEWS. **John**

Thanks much, I've missed it. **Bob**

JAMES W. ADAMS, 3514 Tahoma Place W., Tacoma, WA 98466

Dear Cleve...Let's see now, I only have to remember two things today. Eat birthday cake and send a check to Cleve. Since I'm wiping cake crumbs off my face, it must be time to write that check. And the best part, by cleverly having a birthday on the 9th instead of the 10th, the stamp will cost 32c instead of 33c. Yes, its true what they say about airline pilots!I really enjoy reading about all the guys in the *RUPANEWS*. Many thanks to all those whose outstanding effort makes it possible. Best wishes to all, and have a great "99".....*Jim*

CHARLOTTE BRESNAHAN, 1638 Linda Mar Blvd, Pacifica, CA 94044

Dear Cleve, I am sorry I have not been of help in sending out the *RUPANEWS*, as I don't drive and have not been able to attend the mailings.

It's been over a year since I lost my husband, Bud. I am doing fine. Also want to tell you thank you for my RUPA pin which I wear with pride.

Please say hi to the members when next mailing takes place. Sincerely, *Charlotte*

PETE R. KOBYLUK, 1747 Walnut Dr, Mountain View, CA 94040

Hi Cleve, Enclosed checks for Boys Night Out and stamp fund. Hope1999 will be a better year than last year. My wife and I were in a taxi accident in Boston in May while attending the RUAEA convention. My brother, Mike a retired UAL mechanic, passed away in November.

Hope to see some familiar faces at Boys Night Out. *Pete*

HARLIN E. BELL, 1288 Kasey Lakeview Dr., Moneta, VA

Still the same place, just a 911 address change. Hoooo Boy. Lucked out and got another year of that fantastic retirement. Thank Heaven, nothing new. Straightened up the closet, still have one blue uniform shirt, (just in case I get "Junior manned" for a 6A cargo liner - how old is that shirt?), but, still have two brown ones in the wrapper, problem is the pants don't fit the waist.

Health holds up, fishing so-so. Haven't been up north for a hunting trip for 2 years now, would like to get in at least one more. Too many nice people taking that West bound flight.

Best to everyone, separate check to U.A.R.P.F.

STEVE WILKEY, 1307 Soundview Trail, Gulf Breeze, FL 32561 850-934-3927 CST/ORD/LAX 60-93

Dear Cleve, Only five years late joining, pleased to see those with battle stars running things. My wife Annie (a retired UAL Flight Attendant) and I have been enjoying life on Santa Rosa Sound for nine years now; five in a home we built ourselves on the water. There is plenty of sailing, water skiing, fishing and dolphins which we enjoy with lots of company, but mostly my three grown sons and eight grandchildren. The boys are all doing well. David has a new wife, four children, and is still working for McDonnell Douglas having survived their merger with Boeing. Jim and Deb are enjoying their two children and Jim flies for Southwest Airlines to pay the bills and F16-C's for the Air Force Reserves to keep the juices flowing. Rick and Toni have two children, Rick has left the Air Force reserve and flies for American. In the few months of winter we experience, I've resurrected my rifle hobby and enjoy football in front of a warm fire. My wife takes to the computer, piano and lucky for me, gourmet cooking. Unfortunately, we are not enjoying hurricane repairs, as we've been hit five times in five years. Looks like we're staying in the area, but moving to higher, dryer ground. The mail will be forwarded, phone should stay the same, and Annie checks email at auntannie@prodigy.net daily. Wishing you all a Healthy, Happy 1999.



HORRACE D. CAIN, 9838 Canterbury Dr, Humble, TX 77338 281 446-1077 cainfly@aol.com

Dear Capt. Spring, Here's another check for another year gone. Three years in retardment and I haven't missed anything but the paychecks. Of course there is some jealousy when I see the snotty nose child Captains with hair on the back of their collars. I was hired in '68, and took 10 years to get the first FO position. Oh well, I didn't get furloughed, so there is a good thing.

I enjoy the newsletter, and many thanks to the labor force that produces it. After reading some of the letters in the "Rupa News", I wonder if some of the other retirees have noticed any bad feeling towards retirees when they go on passes. Maybe it's just me, but I really believe that I've been put at the bottom of the barrel several times. I never make a stink, and I do not use many passes. It always seems that the younger passenger agents are the resentful ones. I'll appreciate any feedback about that.

On a better side, if anyone out there is into Radio Control Model Aircraft (Fred Rogers, where are you?) and wish to come to the Houston area, let me invite you to the Jetero RC Club, Inc. flying facility, north east of Houston and about 25 miles east of Bush IA. We have been working on this facility for almost 3 years now and we have a very nice field. 600x100' nicely contoured grass runway, large pit area, 3800 sq. ft. metal shelter over concrete, 30 club-owned acres bordering 70 acres fly-over (I let 'em). Electrics, water and kitchen plus indoor facilities. Hopefully we can get that 700 ft. hard surface within next 2 years to fly the now readily-available turbines. Anyway, the wx allows flying here year-round, so ya'll come on down.

My problem is that summers find me either in my summer place in UP of MI, or on the RV road. I did the Prince Edward Island/Nova Scotia in '96 and points between and from Houston/MI/ Montana/Alberta/Yukon/Alaska/ and back through Washington, Utah, Colorado and points between in a 4 month period in '97. You know, if I could go back to work, I might get some rest!!!

Totally Retired, *Horrace*

STAN HARSCH, PO Box 38-4012, Waikoloa, HI 96738 Email sharsh@aloha.net

I retired 7/31/82. I started working in Oakland, CA in May 45, but since I was still in high school, working part time, my employment date is shown as 8/18/45. This will be the first year I get my check in on time. Must be the fact that this is the big "70". Been playing golf 5 or 6 times a week until recently. After two back surgeries, looks like #3 is coming up. We live on the 9th fairway of the Waikoloa Village Golf Course. There are a number of UAL retirees here, Chuck Wilson, Don Weber, Ray Stellingwerf and many more scattered around the island. Had a great trip to a golf tournament in Australia last May - went 1st class both directions -really nice. Went to UAL tournament in September in Mesquite, NV. Good time was had by all. Looking forward to going again. Happy New Year to all. *Stan & Ruth*

ROBERT & WILLI SCHWARTZ, 55 Oyster Landing Lane, Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

Cleve, Please restore me to the RUPA Newsletter mailing list. Don't know why I let it lapse, but enclosed amount should make up my deficit of the past. Will supply more funds without fail, by my October BIRTHDAY.

The Top 10 Reasons Why We Improved Our Coach Meal Service Dan London, Portland's City Manager for United Airlines provided us some humor during the "Timberfest" breakfast at Convention. He passed on the top ten reasons United changed its meal service, as presented by J.F. (Joe) Laughlin, Director of Sales/ Business Markets for UAL, during a leadership dinner earlier this year:

10. The dinner rolls were being used as footrests.
9. Our most requested item was Happy Meals.
8. The desserts were giving fruitcake a good name.
7. Passengers thought the meal service was the in-flight entertainment.
6. Parents were overheard telling their children, "If you don't settle down, I'll make you finish your meal."
5. Passengers were redeeming Mileage Plus awards to get a first class meal.
4. Consumer Relations was getting too many letters from passengers complaining that they did get meal service.
3. The poultry industry was suing for product tampering.
2. The lasagna could be used as a flotation device.

.... And the number one reason: Passengers were asking flight attendants to take the first bite!

Submitted by Vicy Morris Young, Clipped Wings Historian

RAY AND CINDY WOOD, 8 Margarita Court, Hilton Head, SC 29926 LRayWood@aol.com

Dear Cleve, Only a month late with the postage check ... hope things improve as I adjust to the retirement mode. Won't use the 'busy' excuse, but the first year really does go by quickly. Got moved to warm weather, and still involved with building a retirement home.

Quickly realized that the only thing better than being a -400 Captain is being a retired -400 Captain. Thanks for all your great work! Really enjoy the *RUPA NEWS*. Regards, Ray

RICHARD J. MCCORMICK 4378 Summerfield Dr., Napa, CA. 94558

It's been a busy year for us. Started building a new house in April. Lots of decisions to make but it was a great experience. Moved in October, 15. Six months from start to finish not bad. Flew to Oshkosh in July. What a show. It keeps getting bigger. Two trips to Hawaii this year. Visited family, played lots of golf but still not ready for tour. Took the C-185 to Wichita for the 180-185 convention. Great fun, got to tour the Cessna factory. As you can tell we are making the most of retirement.

Enjoy the newsletter. Thanks for your efforts. Check in the mail for postage please update file with new address given above. Our E-Mail address is: N3090B@aol.com. Dick

RICHARD S. WHITE, PO Box 278, Vail, CO 81658

Dear Cleve: Another year, #4, and things have calmed down. Prostate cancer is gone (into 3rd year of .02 or less PSA after surgery) and that's good. I have my boat ready for charter in 1999. See ALPA magazine under charters, CHUG-A-LONG. I will give retired/active pilots good discounts, so call if interested. Thanks for all the good work. Dick

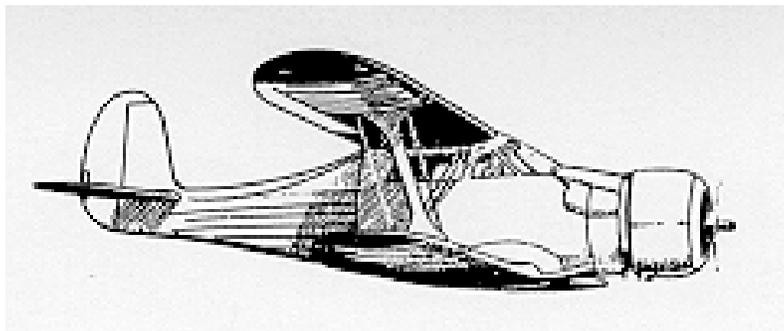
JAMES S. FRANCIS, 214 Fairways Blvd N, Tullahoma, TN 37388

Dear Cleve: January 1, another birthday, and three years into retirement. Haven't looked back, enjoying it too much.

This past year has been a busy one. On July 13, Doris had double knee replacement surgery. Recovery has been slow, but progress is being made.

Finally got the G17S Staggerwing finished after almost twelve years of work. Was issued a brand new Airworthiness Certificate by the CLE FSDO on December 17, 1998 (The 95th anniversary of powered flight).

Finished my BFR two days ago so am ready to hit the fly-ins this coming season. When anyone sees a Spartan Green trimmed in Berry



BILL & MITZI FIFE, 5081 W. Rowland Ave., Littleton, CO 80123

Nineteen years retired and it has been enjoyable. Growing up on an Iowa farm in the '30's I didn't know many retirees. Now I know many on the airline. We enjoyed our year with some winter motor home stay in Arizona and summer and fall in Colorado. Used passes to Maui and Iowa and our family enjoyed some companion passes. Thanks to all for the newsletter. Bill

GLENN A. BITTNER, 217 Keystone St, Meyersdale, PA 15552

Made another year. 86. Nothing matters much anymore. My wonderful Evie departed this world in November. Had been with her over 51 years and will always miss her lots. Glenn

LOYD L. KENWORTHY, JR., 3071 Deluna Dr, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274

Dear RUPA members; I have now finished my first year of retirement. For you that have just retired or about to; May I make a suggestion: For decades you have been in an occupation where absolute competency prevails or you may not continue to work. This also includes the manufactured product, parts, maintenance, dispatch, controllers, flight attendants, pilots, controllers and ETC. This environment has been the norm. After retirement I was suddenly plunged into the Civilian world and not prepared for what I found. I made the mistake of remodeling the interior of my house including a totally new kitchen. This forecast two and a half month project took eleven months! I found total incompetence at most every level. Architect sent different plans to cabinet

factory, that would not fit kitchen -and just try to change that in a computer once it starts production! Wrong everything. Expensive range required five service calls and three months before it would work. Hood parts required four reorders and three months 'till installation could be finished. New refrigerator required four service calls. New disposal two service calls. Sink faucet hose leaks. Wrong micro-wave literature sent. Kitchen electrical wiring replaced twice due to wiring errors. Contractors failing to show up as long as forty days at a time, right in the middle of a project, while promising to be there, twice a no-show for thirty days. Try to get away with that as a pilot! I could go on. .

I was not prepared for the incompetence I found at every level of consumer goods and the building trades. My first year of retirement was a disaster of my own doing. My advice to new retirees: "Prevent this aggravation". "Kick back and give yourself a year or so to become acquainted with your new environment before you dive into any new project. Good luck, retirement should be fun!" Loyd (LAXFO)email: Loydkenworthy@coMpusmexom Phone: 310-833-5036 Fax: 310-547-5434

JAMES W. WRIGHT, 65 Jensen St, East Brunswick, NJ 08816 DCA-EWR-JFK 51/85

Dear Cleve, 14 years of retirement and at age 77 I am still hanging in there. Again we are sad to see more friends who have flown west. I was especially sad to learn about Capt's Bill Borneman and Paul Means. I had a lot of respect for both of them, as they were a big help to me when I was a new co-pilot.

Last March, we took the auto train to Florida and with sailing friends we chartered a 320 sailboat at the Burnt Store Marina in Punta Gorda. We sailed down the Gulf to Fort Myers Beach and back. We visited a former neighbor in Naples and saw Marco Island and visited the Space Center at Cape Kennedy.

I had to cancel my second back operation in Nov. as I failed a stress EKG. I had an Angiogram and an Angioplasty with a stent. I will decide next fall if I will have the operation. I do not want it to keep me from sailing this summer.

Notice that my telephone area code has changed for the RUPA directory 732-257-4068.

Enclosed is postage money and I will sent my annual check to the Retired Pilots Foundation. Jim

DONALD C. DUREY, 13 Ardbeg Rothesay, Isle of Bute, Scotland PA20 ONJ 1956-1990

Hi Cleve, Here is postage for another year. Carole and I are both in good health. We are still in Scotland, and enjoying the slow pace of life on an island. *Don*

HOLBROOK MASLEN 120 Horizon Dr., Boise ID 83702 E-mail lucky2m@aol.com

Happy 1999! After surviving a mid-air 2 years ago, life is still good. I had lots of reasons to celebrate in 1998; including my 65th birthday. I shot a 5 point bull elk, spent time fishing at my cabin on the middle fork of the Salmon, traveled to Africa to take hospital supplies to my sister and husband who are donating their retirement years to medicine, and while in Uganda, I climbed the mountain and enjoyed the gorillas at very close range. On the business front, I sold my cattle, closed flight operations in Honduras, due to the death of my partner, and I'm in the process of bringing my planes back to the US. I plan to maintain my house in Trujillo and spend winter months on the beach.

I'm actively utilizing my CFII with C.A.P and scouts, a check pilot for Angel Flight, and serve as a director for Idaho Aviation Hall of Fame Museum. Due to my past life with the LAPD, I'm still an active member with the Harley crowd and pay my dues to 4 ex-wives.

I reached a very important goal in '98 when I entered my Formula One in the Reno Air Races. I crossed the finish line in second place with a dead stick and a smoking tail after leading all the way. One of these years I plan to ride in an unlimited. The most important accomplishment in my life time, however, is 14 years of sobriety through the AA program.

I would like to extend my respects to the Dunbar family and hope the happy memories of Dave will help them through the lonely times without him. We enjoyed like airplanes ... the C 185. Mike

JAMES M. TROSKY, 34780 Nokomis Trail, McHenry, EL 60050 Email 76627.162@compuserve.com

Dear Cleve, Thanks for the copy of *RUPANEWS* ... used to pick it up in HNL on layovers and have always enjoyed it. Looking forward to retiring in March of '99. Let those young "whippersnappers" have a go at it now. I think everybody should have a chance to realize their dreams ... I did for 35 years and what a great ride it's been! Thanks to the pilots who went before me, this has been, and continues to be, the best job in the world ... if you like flying!

Check for lifetime membership and postage is "in the mail." God Bless, *Jim*

Z. CLARK DUCKWORTH, 20530 N. Meadow Ln, Barrington, EL 60010

Dear Cleve, What a great job you guys are doing. Please accept \$25 for next year. Kids gave me a computer this year. Soon as I can figure the thing out I'll e-mail Jock a note.

Thanks, have a great year. Ducky

THOMAS P. VAN SCIEVER, 1150 8" Avenue SW #2715, Largo, FL 33770

Cleve, Enclosed please find RUPA dues and postage for 1999. Seems a long time back to 1935. Signed many a clearance, most memorable, Nov. 1939, 29 1h flight Thanks for all the news. Sincerely, *Tom*

GLEN A. DE VORE, 5938 Pearl Ln, Ferndale, WA 98248 360-380-3376

Dear Cleve, The second year of graduation is coming up, so here is money for postage. Please note change of mailing address. We are moving to Ferndale WA. Vince Young said the wind always blows in BLI and he is right.

We haven't gone on any vacations, just work. 1999 should get better as we download responsibilities.

Son Michael is going to DENTK January 11 to begin school. I'll go to give him his wings if I can get into my costume. He has been operating a weed whacker at COMAIR.

Who broke the code on HMO group health around SEA north to BLI? We thought we would try the HMO now, but don't know who is a good Doctor in the program near by. We usually just need our teeth cleaned, pap smeared and prostate checked, but the primary physician is probably important for referrals to specialists if that becomes necessary.

We hope to join the festivities of the group soon. Glen & Madeline

W.D. "BILL" PORTER, 8430 E. Ponderosa Dr., Parker, CO 80138

Dear Cleve, Enclosed is my birthday check. My thanks to you, Scotty and Jock, for your collective efforts in putting out a fine newsletter. It gives me pleasure to hear of all the great people I flew with, even the sour grapes! Three years into retirement and Joy and I continue to be blessed beyond all expectations. Three grandkids, all under three, keep things hopping here at home, while we enjoy warmer months flying the 0-1 Birddog or a Skyraider (I'm backup pilot) in 16 airshows around the country. Am flying the 69th Battalion Special Operations Group's downed pilot rescue act involving Special Forces jumpers, ersatz NVA Troops firing AK47's, an 0-1, 0-2, Twin Otter, the Al Skyraider and a truck load of pyro for the strafing, bombing and nape sequences. I generally fly the 0-1 FAC role and am shot down and crash in a ball of flames every show (don't celebrate yet BC, it's only an act!) unless I'm flying backup in the Skyraider. We dedicate every show to pilots of all services who didn't make it back from Nam. Know we hit the mark when we're surrounded after the show by vets with tears in their eyes. Shows flown mostly West of the Miss. River 'cause we have to move five airplanes and fifteen people for the act, but we do have one next summer back East at Patuxent NAS. Have had pleasure of seeing some of my old UAL cohorts at shows last year at Luke AFB and Medford. Look forward to seeing more as we travel about the country with the show. If anyone had suggested before I retired that I'd be spending a good bit of my retirement blowing things up, I'd have had a good laugh.

Off to Honduras in Jan-Feb. to fly a few weeks of relief missions to the interior in a Twin Otter. Glad to be able to pass on some of the blessings the good Lord has showered on us. Expect to spend our usual month in June gunkholing around the Bahamas. This retirement stuff is tough duty ! How'd I ever have time to work? Regards to all *Bill Porter*

PAT BOLING, 2074 Highway One Pescadero, CA 94060 1941-1975 (650) 879-1252

"Merry Christmas Everyone." Now that is a trite wish for the most important holiday of the year. But the word Everyone in this case is active and real. Please let me explain. Sarah sends out dozens of cards for Thanksgiving and she hosts several parties (one hundred guests at our "Gathering of the Greens"). I am always late and I usually send out a few cards on December 24th.

So, after rooting all day for the 49ers (wasted energy) and then for the Detroit Lions (more wasted energy), I am sitting in front of the fireplace feeling guilty and thinking how can I send out a sincere card two days before Christmas? Everyone will know that I put it off until the last day and they will say as one: "Why in the name of St. Nicholas doesn't he send them so we can at least get a reply out before Valentine's Day?" (I'd write what they really say, only this is a family publication).

So I started leafing through the 1996 (couldn't find 1998) mailing list and my aging brain began flashing old

names and old events. After several pages I had checked dozens of names. I knew I could not send out that many cards without hate mail crashing back at me like a Tsunami, so I thought, "I'll just write a few cards and say Merry Christmas to the rest." After a few more pages I thought, "Why not wish everyone a Merry Christmas?" I started over and it took me four hours, but I wished 3, 100 (thirty one hundred) of you a Merry Christmas and-since it wasn't much extra effort-a Happy New Year.

"Big deal. Thanks for nothing," you say?

But it made me feel better, and in this world of wireless communications, is it a giant stretch to think that the words were actually transferred from me to you? I choose to think they were, so you all have one more blessing than before.

Among all the names were great friends who I miss deeply, a few enemies who I hope will forgive me and be my friend, and altogether a golden group in a golden age which I am proud to be a member of. I hurt for all those who have logged out.

I still owe the Retired Pilots some old tales from the past, but I did not want to dilute my Christmas gift to you all. P. S. Try browsing the mailing list yourself and toss a few good wishes. You will feel better, too. *Pat*

JEAN A. LARKIN (STOREY), 25228 Henderson Rd, Sycamore, IL 60178 4/23/52-Jan 1,84

I meant to get this written before the November 18th deadline, so that it would make the December issue and I would wish everyone a Merry Christmas, but I can still wish you all a HEALTHY New Year --and hope the millennium hype doesn't push us all over the edge. Since the Aztec calendar went to the year 2012, I do not anticipate the end of the world in the next two years..

Like most years, it was up and down. Last of the Larkin Shelties died in the summer. Ground was like cement so I had to build a crypt out of cement blocks and gradually got it covered with dirt--- and planted, but I doubt that salt water helped the plantings very much.

Now it's me and the two cats I seem to have inherited from Barb ... she's currently in Sydney Australia, and will be going back to South Africa in January. Jody is now a licensed Edw Jones stock broker-opening an office next door to her husband; in Shawnee Ok. She was such a terrific JR high math teacher. I had mixed emotions about this but she said, "Mom, I'll still be teaching. Just adults Instead of teenagers." Midge is still doing massage therapy twice a week at a chiropractor's, and has her days fully booked with private clients the rest of the time. Grandchildren all working, going to school and growing up much too fast.

I still go to the bookstore afternoons most days, and no longer pretend to keep hours. Sign on the door says UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, OPEN BY CHANCE ONLY. Took the guilt out of my life because if I cant get there by 1:00 or 1:30 I don't sweat it, and if I never get there that day, I don't sweat that either. It's done wonders for my mental and physical health..!! Ifs a good thing I'm the boss or I'd be fired. Life is good. So much to be grateful about. I read every word of *RUPANEWS* and I don't often recognize a name, but I love everybody who writes!.' Folders, Stuffers, etc. United hired good people ... Jean

CURTIS L. TAYLOR, 15988 Fortune Ct, Brighton, CO 80601 Email ctaylorl0@compuserve.com .

Six months have slipped by since I flew my last trip on the 400. I bought a place on a small lake near Boyne City, Michigan, where we spend the summers. There are several great golf courses nearby, so I decided to buy some clubs and take up the game. I still have the airplane disease which I treat with periodic flights in my Stearman and Cessna 310. Also, just returned from Florida after making the trip from Hampton VA to Ft. Lauderdale with my brother in his new 55 ft Viking. We went via the ocean to make better time, however I would like to do it via the Inland Waterway next time. *RUPANEWS* is a great publication, and I thank those that contribute to its publication. Please find a check for \$20 enclosed for '99 postage. *Curt*

RICHARD E. RANDLE, 6660 Bonny Doon Rd, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 831-426-0110

Hi Guys, Enclosed is a check for my annual contribution to the annual publishing and mailing cost. We appreciate the work that you folders & stuffers do.

Nothing to report. Still recovering from the heart surgery. Plan on hanging it up next Spring. Will have mor to write about then. Rich Email hifly1acruzio.com

JACK G. FROST, 31350 Genesee Rd, Sterling, IL 61081

Capt. Spring: Here is my check for my 1999 RUPA dues. Sorry I'm a bit late. My birthday was a few days ago, but maybe this is close enough.

I enjoy seeing names I still recognize and reading about them. Thank you. *Jack*

GEORGE P. OHLMAN 9993 S. Highway 83, Franktown, CO 80116

Everything is fine here except the weather, -18 degrees this morning, and we are feeding about 150 cows. Great retirement.

Thanks to all you guys. George

JAMES E. BROWN, P. O. Box 197, Elmhurst, IL 60126

Cleve, This note is too short to fire up the word processor! Check should cover two years mail. Keep left over to RUPA's causes. Thanks for all the hard work by the staff. *Jim*

DAVID W. SICA, 1643 Ryder Cup Dr, Westlake Village, CA 91362

Dear Cleve: Enclosed is our postage check, a little late (birth date in November.) We joined with the lifetime membership option back in May, but have enclosed the Membership Information form herewith, which we did not complete at that time.

Well, my last flight with UAL was Thanksgiving Day and the day after. Flew SFO-HNL and return the next day, with my wife on board and my son in the cockpit. Son, David, is a First Officer on the United Shuttle so he'll be keeping the Sica UAL pilot tradition going for many years to come!

We had a nice layover in Honolulu -took the crew out for drinks on Thanksgiving night and I was "leied" at the HNL departure gate by the flight attendants. Am happy to report that I escaped reprimands from my wife by making two of the best landings of my career on the trip, but leaving that cockpit for the last time was an emotional experience.

After sending son David on back to LAX, Patricia and I spent the night in San Fran before leaving on Amtrak for Denver through the Sierras and the Rockies. Great trip, although the sleeper car was reminiscent of the size of some of the United layover hotels I've experienced in my 37 year career.

After arriving in Denver, spent the night at the Doubletree -it was certainly a more pleasant experience without a PC hanging over my head! Left the next day on a flight to Dulles, where we rendezvoused at the airport with other RUPA members, Nate and Eleanor Hall, who had flown in from LAX. The four of us spent several days as tourists in DC and had a wonderful time. The highlight was a five hour tour of the Paul Garber aircraft facility in Suitland, Maryland (about twenty minutes by taxi from center of DC.) This is where they store and restore air-related items for the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum and well worth the trip... a fabulous facility.

Guess I'd better cut this off -didn't mean to babble on for so long... I must be using delay tactics before starting on the Honey-Do list that Patricia has been preparing for months in anticipation of my retirement!

Thanks to all that do the work on the RUPA business and Newsletter -certainly appreciate our efforts! David
Email skipper747@cis.co

SIDNEY F. SIGWALD, 8928 S.E. Star Island Way, Hobe Sound, FL 33455

Dear Cleve, enclosed is my postage check for \$20. Georgeanne and I went on a Baltic cruise to St. Petersburg in June and then spent August and September visiting in Madison, CT. I am well, but Georgeanne hit a bit of bad luck and is now recovering from surgery and goes into radiation treatment in 3 or 4 weeks.

To all my friends who are still on the green side of the sod, Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year; for the too many who have "flown west" my constant prayers go with you.

Regards, *Sid*

JOHN N. NASH, 12 Page Lane, Greenville, SC 29607

Another year has gone by and as usual I am late with the postage money. I really do have good intentions but somehow things don't always go as planned.

The last year has been one we would not have like to happen but again things don't always go as planned. The better half "Jewell" was diagnosed with cancer a year ago November, and the rest of the time has been spent fighting this terrible disease. I'm happy to say that due to the many prayers of our friends, her will to fight, and the doctors and medicines of the present day medical system she is still here with me fighting everyday. The days are not pleasant for her but she goes on.

As for me, I'm doing just about what I want to, which in most cases is nothing. Always busy but nothing accomplished. Isn't that what retirement should be? Hope to do better with the money next year.

Would like to say "hello" to the people I knew at UAL and hope your coming year is a good one. *John*

RUSSELL F. HACKETT 1203 Windward Dr. Osprey FL 34229

Dear Cleve, Enclosed is check for annual postage. For the past three years my youngest son has been lining up financial support to start a low-cost regional airline called "Shuttle America" based at Bradley Airport in Windsor Locks, CT. My family was privileged to be on the inaugural flight, November 12, 1998, from Bradley to Buffalo, NY; unfortunately I was relegated to teaching a pilot's basic indoctrination class for his new pilots which I've been doing since mid-August. Bookings are strong, but a startup airline faces huge challenges. I had no idea what was involved in starting an airline and have been in awe of the persistence and energy of my son's youthful and competent associates. They have no secretaries, only computer terminals. Should be an interesting 1999! Keep up the good work and thanks for a most enjoyable publication. Russ

F. WILLIAM CLEM, 313 San Lucas Dr, Solana Beach, CA 92075

Dear Capt. Spring, Today we celebrate the anniversary of Pearl Harbor, and I in turn, my birthday. All is well in Solana Beach, but it seems to be more crowded every week.

Maye and I wish all of our United friends a Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year. Sincerely, *Bill*

GLORIA PERRIN, 1130 N.W. 19^h Terrace, Delray Beach, FL 33445

Dear Cleve, My check is enclosed as I do wish to continue receiving the Newsletter. Howard's birthday was November so I'm a bit late.

Thank you, everyone, for all the work you do in publishing the Newsletter. Sincerely, Gloria Perrin, .MIASW

CLEM A. ELLINGTON, 39700 Elna Way, Cathedral City, CA 92234

Dear Cleve, Not many remember me. I have been retired a long time, also I worked a lot of night trips. Have seen many a beautiful sunrise while I was 30 something thousand feet above mother earth.

Hope to make BNO in 1999. Happy Holidays to all. Clem



RUBY CORDES, 9161 Joyzelle Dr, garden Grove, CA 92841

Noticed on my address label that EXP 11/17/98 meant I needed to renew. Howard always looked forward to the LAX luncheons and the RUPANEWS. Hard to believe he's been gone almost a year come January. Sincerely, Ruby Cordes

FRED L. RODGERS, 140 Clover Hill Ln, Barrington, IL 60010

Dear Cleve, I just completed my first year retired and already I'm two months behind. So many fun things to do. I intended to buy a computer and see if I could make it work, but so far I haven't found the time to do it.

Our family has kept us busy too. They are spread out around the system but all came home for the 4th of July and I plan to be back for Christmas. We had a new granddaughter in May and spent some time with them in Arkansas.

Here's a check for postage. I really enjoy the Newsletter and hearing from so many of the people I used to fly with. Keep up the good work. Thanks, *Fred*

BUD BERLINGERI, 5 Roosevelt Place #4N, Montclair, NJ 07042

Cleve, Sorry to be late, as usual, with my dues. After writing the check I remembered that I wanted to send some stamp money, thus the second check.

BERNARD SCHWARTZMAN, 1105 Redbud Rd, Winchester, VA 22603

Dear Cleve, The big '60' arrived today. Enclosed is my lifetime membership fee and annual postage fee. I am now ready to join my fellow band of brothers, those who I have known and those who I have not. You have all made my career at United Just wonderful. *[Welcome aboard, Bernard. Ed]*

I started out on the trailing edge of aviation technology, and by retirement I was on the leading edge. I retired on the B777. What a wonderful welcome greeted me after landing at Dulles from London. A fire truck was waiting at the entrance to the ramp and sprayed the aircraft as I taxied by. Flight Office personnel were waiting on the ground and captured the event on two cameras I had left with them.

In Operations I was welcomed with a farewell cake and coffee. I had the opportunity to bid farewell to all of my friends and to the Washington Flight Office personnel who have been just wonderful all through my career.

My wife, Bonnie, my son Andy and his wife accompanied me on the flight to and from London. Everyone involved with our departure and arrival was just wonderful, CSRs, Flight Attendants, mechanics, ATC and, yes, especially Olive at the Leinster Arms Pub in London.

My son Andy is carrying on for me. He was hired in February and is currently flying F/O on the B737-300 in Chicago. I am still amazed that he didn't have to start as a S/O. I sat sideways for 10 years, but I was lucky in that I didn't get furloughed.

Bonnie and I plan to remain in Winchester and do our traveling out of Dulles. With hunting and fishing still good in the Valley we don't plan on leaving. I also don't plan on missing any more fishing trips to Yakutat. Are you listening Jim?

Regards, Bernard Schwartzman (540) 667-0022 e-mail: bschwart(@shentel.net

BARRY D. THOMPSON, 2178 Camino Brazos St., Pleasanton, CA 94566

Hi Cleve: It's hard to believe that I've been retired for one year. We have done some traveling and I've played lots of golf. Time sure flies when you are having fun.

I appreciate all the work you and Jock do. I have enclosed a check for postage and BNO. Happy New Year, *Barry*

JACK AND MARIE BARD, 4210 Lupine Dr., Mt. Vernon, WA 98273

Cleve, This first year of retirement has gone awfully fast. I really don't know how I found time to go to work. I have managed to avoid flying standby almost completely, and that has been one of my positive changes in retirement. Had I the choice, I would trade our s/a tickets for 1/2fare positive, on any fare basis, then treat me just like the rest of the cattle. Sorry, I digress. Great job getting out the magazine, and hats off to all the volunteers.

Please find my annual check in here somewhere.

Regards, Jack

D. K. "DEKE" HOLMAN, 39 Skylark Ct, Napa, CA 94558

Well it happened again, one month late. Last year I was right on time. This has been another good year, I haven't made the obit page yet so it has been a great year. Still flying for the winery. On an early morning trip I think about retiring but I am having too much fun. My instrument approaches are still pretty good, so I'll continue for a while. My hammer-heads in the Eagle are still on the money, so the Eagle is not for sale yet. Skied Mammoth Mountain this year, and what a great mountain. Even though it shakes once in a while it is still great. Went to Tucson for a week of golf in February, golf was lousy. Went to Palm Springs in March, golf lousy. Took our granddaughter to Disneyland in March, she is two, had a great time. Oshkosh was another great year, my 21st. Visited my daughter in Massachusetts and did some sight-seeing, beautiful part of the country. To Kona in November to our time-share, great weather, golf was lousy. Took the McCormicks with us and had a great time. Now it is almost Christmas and I'm not ready. Retirement plus 14 and more aches and pains, but we are still having a great time. Just not enough time to do everything.

Best wishes to all, and am still trying to get down to help the Folders and Stuffers. Thanks for the Newsletter. Deke

ANDREW HARMATIUK, 105 Seney Dr. Ext., Bernardsville, NJ 07924

Dear Cleve; Birth month here so better get my act together. June and I enjoyed the cruise and are hoping for another one in the future. I keep out of trouble volunteering at our local hospital, put in 12 hours a day twice a week, otherwise just try to keep up with the honey-dos. Check enclosed.

Thanks to folders and stuffers and all who get the Newsletter out. Happy Holidays to all. *Andy*

ALEX M. DUNN, 319 0 Avenue #201, Kirkland, WA 98033

Dear Cleve, Enclosed is postage for the coming year. Although my *RUPANEWS* comes with the correct ZIP code, there is a small error in my ZIP code in the 1998 RLTPA Directory. It should read 98033-6211.

My thanks to all who work hard on behalf of RUPA. Regards, Alex

Hi Alex, the Directory uses the same database that the labels are printed from, so that means that your ZIP code has already been corrected Cheers, Cleve

ROBERT L. DAVIS, 8612 Oakwood Dr, Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Dear Cleve, My ninth year of retirement finds me very happy for the choice I made. Not being on that short chain from the schedules and the telephone is a great relief. We snowbird in the winter and enjoy the new friendships we make. We are taking a closer look at everything I looked at from high altitude all of those years. Very happy years, for they have provided us with the opportunity to enjoy what we are doing now.

My thanks to the dedicated group of folders and stuffers. I/we enjoy and look forward to reading each issue. R.L. Davis

WILLIAM M. MEYER, 5011 Seashore Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92663

'65-198 ORD-LAX-ORD-DCA-ORD-LAX-SFO-LAX DC-6/7, VVC, 727, DC-8, DC-10, 747,747-400

Dear Captain Jock, This is way too soon to join R.U.P.A. Hey, I'm still just a young guy! I had such a fun ride for the most part, and for those comprising the rest, you know who you are. The last flight was LAX/SYD with wife Sheryl nicely ensconced in first class. My good friend and also flight manager, Greg Colliton, deadheaded along so he could command the return 28 hours later, and he even knew my name. We stayed there for over a week before returning first class. A good time was had by all. I sure will miss the -400, the DC-10-30, any DC-8, and DC-6-BII, but can now work on my own fleet of five ships for antique/E.A.A. flyins and akro contests, and also maybe get back into the good swingin' music business again. Who knows?

Enclosed is my lifetime membership and postage for this year for this great publication. Regards, Bill

NEIL & TAMMY DAHLSTROM, 2015 Rancho Verde Cir. W, Danville, CA 94526

Cleve, One check postage, one for salmon BNO. The Montreal cruise was wonderful. Quebec City is a must revisit.

Prior to the cruise we drove from Montreal to awesome Niagra Falls. Stopped in Uppa, NY to visit LDS prophet, Joseph Smiths origins.

Post cruise, we went to Ellis Island to see Tammys Italian Grandparents, Coletti, on the immigrant wall.

Had dinner with fellow Ruparians, John & Joannie Miles, at a wonderful Persian restaurant called Naders. It's location is 29' and Park in Manhattan and is owned by my old navy skipper, Carl Tanner. Carl, John and I were in VA-144 at Miramar and did the Oriskany cruise in '59260. For any of you navy guys that remember Carl, he'd like to hear from you.

DALE A. DOPKINS 13N 390 French Rd., Hampshire IL 60140

Dear Cleve, Please find enclosed check for postage for three years. This is, amazing, over two months early. Oh yes, the other forty bucks are for '97 and '98 which I somehow failed to get mailed.

We are still busy raising our three grandkids. Exciting and busy.

Thanks to you and to Jock for his good work on the "*RUPANEWS*" and to all the people who keep this organization afloat. Dale

RICHARD C. CLACK PO Box 4367, Vancouver, WA 98662

Cleve, Enclosed check for years postage. Only a month or so late. I've heard of people being six months late, so guess that isn't too bad for an old memory.

See you and the "Geezers" in HNL January '99. Dick

NORMAN J. BENNETT, 7030 Prestwick Ln. SW, Port Orchard, WA 98367

Cleve: I'm really late! My 40-year-old son, Kenton, underwent a bone marrow transplant on 12 August. I was one of the primary care-givers. Everything else has just blown past me this year. I seem to be six months behind on everything. Norm

WILLIAM T. ANDREWS, 1187 Merrill Rd, San Juan Bautista, CA 95045

Cleve, About ten days late with my birthday postage check, but here it is-with pleasure. Keep up the good work and keep the RUPA Bulletin coming.

All is well in San Juan Bautista after seven delightful years of retirement, but hate to hear of the deaths of some of the greatest, i.e. Murph Casey and Johnny DeCofano. It was my privilege to fly with them. Have a good holiday!
Bill

JAMES F. TALLY, 1745 S. Allison St. Lakewood, CO 80232

Dear Everyone: Who ever received Link Training in years past or heard my voice in a Flight Simulator --Merry Christmas --and a Happy New Year. As I start my 23rd year of a long & happy retirement, I wonder how many from the old days are still around. I see so few names I remember in the *RUPANEWS*. At least I keep looking for those I knew and hope have not flown west. Enclosed find check for another year. Old Jim

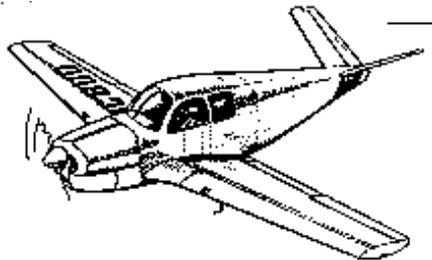
F.W. (BABE) JAMES, 7490 E. Windford Street, Parker, CC) 80134

It is hard to realize this is twenty-one years since I retired. Health is fair but I will not complain. My wife is doing as well as can be expected in the nursing home. Enclosed, please find my stipend for the next year. Babe

LOWELL E. JOHNSTON, 1789 Mitchell Ct, Daytona Beach, FL 32124

Dear Cleve: Coming up on five years of retirement this month, and have a Medicare card in my pocket. Who would have ever thunk it. Anne and I are both well and enjoying life. It is just like a comment that a friend told me that he had heard on Charles Osgood's TV segment. An acquaintance of his had retired a few years back, and Osgood asked him how it was going. "Great" he said "I get up in the morning with nothing to do and by noon I'm behind schedule." I can relate to that.

I see that Ted is to get the UPF donations directly, so I will send the mail money to you and send Ted the UPF that I usually sent to you. Sounds like a better way to do it.



Sold my M model Bonanza and jumped right into a S model that needed extensive avionic and cosmetic work. Come to think of it, that is about what I need.

We enjoy reading the newsletter every month, and thank all of the people that put it together. You do a great job and we really appreciate it. Thanks,
L owell

Hope this is the correct model type - with the

CLARK E. LUTHER, 1498 SE Brewster Pl, Stuart, FL 34997

Dear Cleve: As 1998 draws to a close along with my 73rd year, I find myself in reasonably good health but feeling a bit older. Most everything is going up including my golf handicap, my medical bills, my taxes and the temperature in our new location at Stuart, Florida. We moved here from Ponce Inlet, FL in June of this year and are now in a golf community where I can own my own golf cart and live about 2 minutes from the first tee. We are now about 45 minutes from West Palm Beach airport, compared to 90 minutes to Orlando from our previous condo, which was on the ocean but about 30 minutes from the Sugar Mill Golf Club. While there, I only played golf once and sometimes twice a week, and my game really deteriorated and has not recovered yet, even though I am playing about four times a week.

Have attended several of the RUPA luncheons hosted by the Treasure Coast chapter and have really enjoyed associating with that group.

Have recently traveled to Minneapolis to spend Thanksgiving with our daughter's family, and will travel to Phoenix to spend Christmas with our other daughter and her family. Other than an occasional trip and golf, most of my time is spent with my computer and an occasional round of bridge.

Incidentally, for computer buffs, there is a neat Screen saver you can download from www.jackdaniels.com. Try it and you might like it even if you don't like bourbon.

Am enclosing a small check to help offset mailing and other miscellaneous costs. Best Regards, Clark Class of 1984

KENNETH G. POH 11190 SW 71' Ct, Ocala, FL 34476

Hi, Little late with letter this year. Cruised this year to England, Estonia, Russia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Norway.

Enjoyed birth of first great granddaughter.

Just passed 15th year of retirement, and Lucy's and my health good. Sincerely. Ken

HENRY E. McBRIDE, 20248 Gleedsville Rd, Leesburg, VA 20175

Hi Cleve: I hate to admit I do forget some important things. When my address label said EXP 2/10/98: I checked that out and sure enough it's true. I do apologize for this oversight, not loss of memory.

Enclosed, you will find a check for '98 and '99 postage. Will try to do better next time. Sincerely, *H.E. Mc Bride*

LOUIS GUST, J14 1203 W. Glenn Lane, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

All is well at the Gust household. Keeping busy with grandchildren, computers and old cars. Thanks, L. Gust

MILT REEL, 15103 Wilson Ct, Apple Valley, CA 92307, LAX SEA MIA SFO LAX DEN 66-89

Hi Cleve. Check enclosed should handle postal fees for a few years? Only missed my birth month (Aug) by five! April 1999 makes 10 years of retirement. Time must be accelerating, it seems to me it was only last month when I stepped out of that clunky 737 left seat for the last time. During these years I've kept busy with my machine-shop toys, obtained a patent on a device to improve steering and eliminate uneven tire wear on Ford F250 pickups, learned how to drive a computer, which nearly became my downfall, and designed a new house which has yet to be built. I spend a great deal of time fixing and or rebuilding practically every new item I buy. It seems the quality of manufactured products has certainly decreased in recent times, NAFTA? I wonder what Y2K will bring??

As far as traveling, we've used our passes several times in the past; we now purchase full fare tickets, positive space is the only way to go!

Although, I missed the November 30 deadline to upgrade information, my phone number has been changed to 760 242 1305. I applaud and thank you, and all the others, for the work and time you put into the newsletter.

Best Regards to all the good guys.. Milt

GEORGE J. KIDERA, M.D., 1432 Bel Aire Rd, San Mateo, CA 94402

Dear Cleve, Enclosed is my overdue postage check for 1998.

In September Jean and I attended the christening of a 747-400 named for William A. Patterson. I was flattered when I was asked to speak at the christening ceremony. It was a heart-warming event paying tribute to Pat. At the luncheon that followed, Percy Wood and Rex Bruno spoke about Pat's philosophy and his people oriented approach to "his" employees.

Good Show!! George J. K idera M.D.

KENNETH E. LEDWITH, 310 Cardiff Ct., Roseville, CA 95746

We have been spending the past year living in BKK. Our son Kevin is learning the Thai language and the Thai customs. Now his job is to teach me how to converse in Thai. I come back to the states every four to five weeks to pay the bills and to keep the batteries charged on the cars and my airplane.

Duke and Janine Miller, plus son Michael, came to visit us in Thailand a few months ago. We were able to give them a quick glimpse of the wonders of Thailand. [Land of smiles, traffic and smog.]

Enclosed is a check for postage, etc. Jock, I look forward to your writings in the *San Mateo Labor Newsletter*.

Keep up the good work. Ken

HAROLD M. MARTIN, 14815 134th. Ave. E., Puyallup, WA 98374

Dear Cleve, My birthday was a long time ago, but better late than never with the stamp money. Carolyn's breast cancer is now a thing of the past and we have two-and-a- half years towards that magic five year no cancer mark. Carolyn had decided to have a naturopath build up her blood with massive doses of vitamins and minerals while the oncologist was tearing it down with chemotherapy and radiation. This worked so well that the oncologist is now looking at this for other patients. Also for anyone who is going down that same dark road as Carolyn did, ask about lymphedema and make sure you get a complete answer. It's important for anyone who has had lymph nodes removed and travels by air to know all about it. So long 'til next year, *Hal*

DOUG NICHOLSON, 373 Laurel Lane, Marysville, CA 95901

Dear Cleve, Here is a check for Boys Night Out. Please put me down for the prime rib. See you in February. Also included in the check is my yearly postage. It is hard to believe that it has been a year already. I find I'm working harder than ever, as I got carried away and bought a second farm. Now I don't have any days off any more, and can't call in sick. But I sure don't want to trade it. Thanks, Doug dougjohnie(@,aol.co 76637.75@compuserve.com

CHARLES W. STEWARD, 446 Riverview Lane, Melbourne Beach, FL 32951

Hi Cleve, Enclosed check for another two years. Still enjoy the Newsletter, even though names are now appearing that aren't familiar. Hard to believe retirement was 16 years ago. Anyway, I'm still hanging in there with medical problems and aches and pains that are reserved for people in my age group. Charlie

ROBERT G. MABEN, I Springbrook Ter, Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849

Hello Capt. Spring, I have now been retired for six months and am finally getting near the bottom of my "to do" paperwork, thus finding my RUPA application. I may be retired but I'm certainly not out of work, and I have been forewarned of that. Enclosed is the lifetime membership fee and postage. I'll just join those other "sorry to be late" guys. I enjoy your publication very much. Happy Holidays, Bob EWR JFK MIA

HERBERT E. CREES, PO Box 202, Grants Pass, OR 97526

Sorry I am slightly late with my annual greetings. The time seems to be getting shorter and slip away more quickly each year. Suppose this happens with age?!!!! Mary and I can't complain, as we remain in good health and have a very active schedule. We've had sadness in the family with the death of Mary's brother in CA last May. Then joyous events with wedding of our granddaughter in June, and wedding of our son in July. Also, Herb's Youngest granddaughter presented us with the first great grandchild last Sunday. You all know about S/A travel these days, this was quite an experience, we were lucky enough to board the plane first class but remained on the plane on the San Francisco runway for approximately 8 hours with frequent updates from the Captain, waiting for electrical storms to clear in the Chicago area. Was quite an experience to say the least. However, "safety first" cannot be questioned. Our flights to Hawaii for three weeks in February and

a trip to Minneapolis in August went off without a hitch.

Try to live in the belief that "thinking young we may stay young"! So far so good. Sorry we had to cancel the cruise this year. We have always enjoyed it. Hope to see you all in Las Vegas next year. Until then, thanks to all for getting the

VICTOR R. HANSEN, 18404 Cook Rd. SE, Yelm, WA 98597 61/92 JFK-SFO-SEA

Hi Cleve, Six-and-one-half years, and still miss looking out of the windows of the "Best Seat in the House". However, in all honesty, I still bless all those wonderful fellow pilots and ALPA members who made our retirement possible.

My wife Beverley and I now have a winter home in Tucson. We still maintain our home at Western Airpark in Yelm, Wa for the summer. Our biggest accomplishment is that my brother and I donated our 1928 biplane, an OX-5 powered Alexander Eaglerock, to the Museum of Flight in Seattle. Enjoyed flying it for seven summers. Now others may enjoy it and I don't have to babysit it over the winter. I still have my Cessna L-19 to stay current.



Cleve, I still remember the day that you rode the DC-6 jump seat BOI-RNO-SFO for a job interview. UAL sure made the right choice when they hired you. Many thanks to you and Rose.. //c

Email vnbbd19@aol.com

HAROLD R MEACHAM, PO Box 1066, White Stone, VA 22578

Hi Cleve, Annual postage enclosed. All is fine with the Meacham family. Winters on the boat in Marathon, FL. At home on the Chesapeake Bay in the summer. Can't beat that, Hal & Bobby

CLYDE W. HOUSE, 872 Crest Basin Ct, Las Vegas, NV 89123

Cleve, Enclosed is a check for two years postage fees. Have been so busy since retirement that I can hardly keep up.

Bought a new home in Las Vegas and finally got moved in. Things are looking better all the time. Thanks for everything. Clyde Email

clydie@concentric.net

BRUCE DUNKLE, 3495 One Nation Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89121

Dear Cleve, Enclosed is my annual postage check. Peggy and I are both doing fine, although I had to part with my prostate last March. Viagra came along just in time!

Thanks to all concerned for another year of fine informative Newsletters.

See you in Las Vegas next November. Bruce

AL W. JOHNSTON, 5 Yeoman Lane, Salem, SC 29676

Dear Cleve: Today's my birthday, so I had better get my annual note and postage check off to you B-4 I blow out all those 74 candles and am too tired to write, or forget to! Everything still fine and quiet in Keowee Key. No holes in one yet, but did find out how to shoot my age without having to live to be 100, play a PAR-3 course. Enjoy the *RUPANEWS*. Keep them coming. Al

GEORGE F. BENKENDORF, 6190 S. Kilimanjaro Dr, Evergreen, CO 80439

So here it is, my first contribution. I guess I'm supposed to at least register a pulse each year, just so all the skeptical cronies who wondered if I'd make it to retirement, would not be too surprised that 66 was possible. A highlight of the year was an impromptu pick-up in a hot little homebuilt Glasair III. Dave Cronin of UAL 811 notoriety, flew over from his hideaway in Incline Village, NV, (Truckee CA Airpatch), picked me up in Aspen, aviated over to Telluride, had a nice lunch, and returned to Aspen all in one typically beautiful Colorado day. The leaves were turning, the air was smooth and the company superb. Telluride unicom tenders lined up outside for their highspeed pass were duly accommodated, and the appropriate 360 overhead at Aspen prompted the comment of "Nice to see high performance aircraft once in a while." Just boys and their toys.

Keep up the great work. Postage enclosed. United's oldest teenager, George

JAMES E. CROSS, 17668 Tam O'shanter Dr, Poway, CA 92064

Dear Cleve, Many thanks to you and all the others who make the RUPA publication possible.

I'm saddened that recently each month seems to bring news of an illness or passing of fellow crew members for whom I have fond memories and great respect.

Best wishes for Happy Holidays!! Jim

G. L. (BILL) SUTHERLAND, 524 Craig Rd, Hillsborough, CA 94010

With a lot of moanin' and groanin' this past decade, I made it to 80 on Nov. 7. Here's a tale from my memory bank. The winter of 1945-46 was my first winter as a Captain on passenger flights. I was 27. Approaching ELKO, we got no answer when we called in over Carlin. I didn't know that ELKO was closed account the big snow storm that had gone through. (I probably wasn't paying attention when I should have been.) I went ahead and landed in 2 feet of powdery snow. The runway was discernible by tall sage brush. Finding no activity at ELKO, I turned around and took off in my own tracks. I rather enjoyed the little adventure. I think the Copilot, Stewardess and passengers were perplexed, to say the least. *Bill*

RICHARD L. LAMMERDING, 26505 Dutcher Creek Rd., Cloverdale, CA 95425

Hi Cleve, Happy Thanksgiving Podna!

Here's postage for the past two years, and for my first REAL year of retirement which starts 6 days from now. Luv reading the *RUPANEWS*, occasionally some real helpful stuff in there besides just the sheer enjoyment of reading it, ie. Bob Kibort's recent message.

Nan and I are enjoying our nu "countrified" living here in Cloverdale. Look forward to joining y'all in an activity in the near future. L&K, Dick

DAVID & RUTH HAUCK, 952 Castle Hill Rd, Redwood City, CA 94061

Just a note to accompany Dave's December birthday check and say he is recovering, but slowly, from a damaging stroke which occurred on Palm Sunday.

He is currently in rehab, and planning on water therapy soon. Keep the cards and notes coming and please pray for a miracle of healing.

Appreciatively, Ruth & Dave

RON & CATHY BOLICK, 13220 Houston Ave. #190, Hudson, FL 34776 crbolick@world net. aft. net
Short memory, but a long E-mail address. About the memory part, check enclosed for '98, '99, &'00. One letter and check every three years is not too bad. I just have to learn to stay a year ahead of myself. Cathy & I are planning on moving back to the East Coast area of FL. We lived in Ft. Lauderdale for 5 years when I was flying out of MIA. We are looking for about 10 to 20 acres of land in rural (?) Palm Beach, Martin or St. Lucie counties. We have been looking for about six months without any luck. Several realtors have told us they sell houses not land as it's not worth their time. Must be nice, maybe I should study for a Real Estate License! If anyone knows of any land (sans house) please contact us at the above or Ph: 727 862-4219 Fax: 727 868-9164. Thanks, hope all have a

NORMAN A. LITTLE, 12331 Woods Rd, Worton, MD 21678

A day late and a drachma. short once again. Retirement days go by so fast that my October anniversary whizzed by before I realized it was time to pay up once again. Hardly seems like four years. Must be having fun, eh? Truth is, we are doing just that. Just got back from a 16-day trip to Greece. Toured 1600 miles (that's a lot of kilometers) throughout Greece and walked and climbed in the footsteps of Alexander, Plato, Homer, the first Olympiads and all those who laid the foundation for our Nation. It was awe inspiring to say the least.

Still miss all the stick and rudder action a lot, but it goes without saying that schedules, PC's and early morning Crew Desk calls are easy to do without. Especially when the snow between home and the airport is piling up. Nice to imagine the crew desk calling and just saying "no". Still all in all, was the best a kid could dream of to do when he grew up. Got there but never really grew up.

Now and then we are lucky and meet up with a fellow UAL guy and tell war stories so that keeps the great memories vivid. Hope to see more of you guys around the tarmac sometime. Keep the white side up. Thanks for your diligent efforts on the *RUPANEWS* You folks do good work.

Best Regards All, *Norm* Email posabe(@dmv.com

JOHN C. OWEN, 9403 Wildflower Dr, Waco, TX 76712

Dear Cleve, Sorry I'm a bit tardy, but here's the money. Just a bit for the dues and some stamp change.

We are about to bid adieu to Seattle. Going back to the spouse's roots. Waco, TX

It's been a good year. No hospitals and only a few doctor visits. I guess we'll be off the beaten path a bit as far as UAL is concerned. But, she still has friends and relatives around close. We'll probably divide our time between there and western NC where some of my kin are John

ART & LORRAINE DOEHMER, 7810 Swarthmore Rd. Woodstock, IL 60098

Both of us are in good health, so we keep on traveling. Going to college three days a week keeps me out trouble. Still spending the winters in Florida.

Enclosed find my yearly postage check. Keep up the good work Art Email ualart(@aol.com

JACK SCHAUF, 867 1 G SW 97hSt., Ocala, FL 34481

Our twelfth is about to end and has been an uneventful time for us. We enjoy good health. The 65 year old DUI driver who killed our two Granddaughters last November was recently sentenced to 20 years in a State prison, closing another chapter. Not the best way to spend retirement! I thoroughly enjoy the Newsletter and learning about the activities of a great group of pilots. Check enclosed. Jack

JOYCE SIMPSON, 31853 Saint Anne Dr, Llano, CA 93544

Dear Cleve: Enclosed is my check for stamps. Everything is going along OK with me. I still enjoy reading the *RUPANEWS*. Thanks to all of you who put it out. Sincerely, Joyce

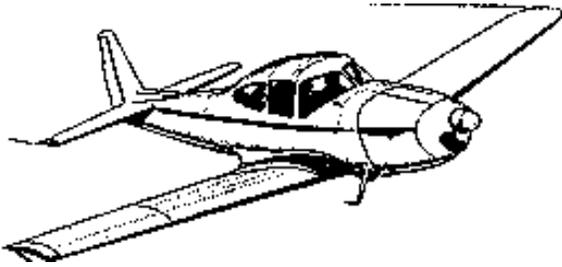
THEADORE A. BOERSTLER, 15 Lynn Rd, Englewood, CO 80110

Dear Cleve, Just a big "Hello" to all with a very special "Merry, Merry Christmas" to those few who are left of the "Ol Gang of Mine". Down the line, would love to hear from any one who might remember or knew me from the old days.

Ol' Ted

WILLIAM P. NOLAN, 15271 Williamsport Pike,
Greencastle, PA 17225

Cleve! Retired 5 years now, enjoyed the flying (still fly little airplanes-bought a Navion) but life after work is still wonderful. Must be an inversion, my wife of 46 years and I stay the same, but our kids keep getting older (baby almost 40). God bless, *Bill*



JACK & JESSICA WINK, 360 Galt Ocean Dr. #5C
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308-7602. E-mail wnk@webtv.net

Hello Jock, The past year we cruised the Med & Black Sea, visited NY State for the Fall color, and took a bus tour of the canyons out west. What beautiful scenery, we highly recommend it!

The bugaboo of our age, prostate cancer, caught up with me, and after careful consideration, I elected surgery. I was very fortunate to have Dr. Mark Solway, the head of Urology at the U. of Miami Medical School, as my surgeon. He is one of the outstanding people in his field. I highly recommend him! If anyone would benefit from my experience, I would be happy to discuss it with them.

Jack & Jessica Wink

WALT & MARGE SMITH 847, N. Humboldt
#410, San Mateo, CA 94401

So, 82. Health good, but Marjorie has a wry and often painful neck from a fall, capping narrowing cushions between the discs.

Skill and strength, particularly with tools, slipping. Distance off the tee, down. Travel mostly domestic, and not to wild places. But all of this is, as Chevalier said, far better than the alternative.

We continue to admire and appreciate the job you do with the *RUPANEWS*. Check sent for the postage fund, for a small encouragement to keep it going. Cc. and checks for postage and BNO to Cleve Spring.
Walt

List of Checks Received

Birthday Checks received Nov. 21 thru Dec. 5, 1998

L W Alves, J C Andersen, R R Bales, R K Barmore, R G Bates, G F Benkendorf, P N Bennett, A W Boehmer, T A Boerstler, R M Bolick, G P Bracke, T A Bredis, J A Broderick, G M Brown, H Crees, J E Cross, E A Demar, R K Devries, B Dunkle, N D Eastment, R J Engl, P E Felton, J F Ferrie, S Fisher, R French, L A Greene, F M Grott, R D Hanna, V R Hanson, G F Haslett, D W Hauck, R D Hill, J F Hoak, J G Hornbaker, C W House, A W Johnston, L E Johnston, I R Jones, J H Kalde, Annabelle Keck, R L Keller, B C Kennedy, G J Kidera, D F King, E E Klein, Mary Krock, D V Kyte, R D LaBarre, R L Lammerding, E R Lamski, K E Ledwith, N A Little, R B Lundgren, C E Luther, E W Madsen, A W Marshall, H M Martin, H R Meacham, R K Meadows, J G Moffet, T Morgan, G H Morris, J H Mulligan, R J Neill, R W Newman, E Nibur, D Nicholson, W P Nolan, P R Osborne, J C Owen, D R Park, M Reel, Viola Reid, W R Rogers, P W Rollock, J J Ruddy, W W Satterlee, J W Savage, J W Schauf, W E Schell, W C Schuermann, D E searle, J E Shipman, J P Simpson, J B Sml, S S Smilan, R W Soergel, J F Stevenson, C W Steward, J B Stratton, J M Strong, G L Sutherland, J W Swart, C Walker, D J Wege, W B Whitten, H M Whitney, R J Witherow, C F Wolff, R J Wright, G G Yerdo.

Birthday Checks received Dec. 7 thru Dec. 19, 1998

J B Alexander, Eileen Anders, W T Andrews, J G Bailey, J J Bangma, J Bard, R J Baumann, N J Bennett, J F Boucher, K E Bourke, T I Bringas, R V Carlson, G F Casey, R C Clack, Jacquelyn Clark, F W Clem, J O Conklin, E B Conrad, J D Cook, E D Coppock, C W Covert, R D Covert, N R Dahlstrom, R L Davis, H W Dirkmaat, D A Hopkins, J T Dopp, A M Dunn, J V Fabbo, R G Ferguson, D A Frailey, G E Greenleaf, T L Grey, Grace Grider, G R Gurley, L Gust, R F Hackett, B J Haley, A Harmatiuk, G G Heinz, D R Henry, J D Hofacket, D K Holman, J D Holmes, F W James, G M Johnson, T W Keffer, J A Lane, R W Leonard, R G Maben, H E McBride, T H McFadden, M R McGee, A McIlraith, J A McKneely, H J McManus, J M Mead, W P Meinert, W M Meyer, S S Moddle, D L Moffett, J C Moody, Lois O'Dell, K Peterson, K G Poh, Viola Reid, W H Rennie, A H Roberts, J S L Roszel, Ulla Rudd, J L Rudisill, W L Rutherford, G D Savage, B Schwartzman, E H Sengstacken, T A Sheeran, D W Sica, W G Silvester, E W Skone, B S Smith, D F Specht, D W Spickelmire, D E Stearns, J E Sutton, J F Tally, W L Thomas, B D Thompson, F Tonyes, J B Tweddell, R Tyree, R H Ward, J F Wilson, D R Wine, J Wolfe.

Birthday Checks received Dec. 21 thru Dec. 31, 1998

C J Alderson, R J Aldrich, J S Allen, H F Anderson, H J Aurand, Jeff Baily, J A Barber, E V Barrus, E V Beeby, R W Bell, S Berlingeri, J R Berquist, G P Beyer, R A Biberacher, G A Bittner, S P Boehm, M L Boling, K J breitschopf, J E Brown, J P Brown, R W Burson, J D Burns, R A Chaber, M L Charlier, D M Christensen, R R Cordes, J E Correll, P B Cramer, W O Crawford, J M DeCamp, M Demitchell, G DeVore, J R Drommerhausen,

Z C Duckworth, D Eisenbeiss, C A Ellington, D A Enstam, D R Fernandes, W A Fife, J G Frost, R E Greene, D A Gregg, T E Griffith, J W Halloran, Q Hansom, R D Hanson, J F Helmer, B C Hepp, D M Hendry, R A Hitt, B J Hopkins, D N Jackley, D E Jefferson, D S Johnson, R S Kallestad, W W Keith, L E Kensick, L L Kenworthy, K A Kerscher, H L Kuntz, W N Lambert, Jean Larkin, J E Laubaugh, G A Laube, E Lea, J E Loyd, D J O Malley, H W Manny, H Maslen, R H May, J L McCall, D McDaniel, H E McKeown, J E Meadows, C L Michaud, J J Miron, W J Moore, J D Murphy, J N Nash, G P Ohlman, Gloria Perrin, W A Phillips, R E Pollard, W D Porter, R E Randle, R D Reser, N Ridenour, A K Rimkus, I M Rockhold, F L Rodgers, T J Saul, S F Sigwald, J D Sodergren, A Steidinger, R L Steiner, C L Taylor, G F Thuotte, Patricia Travis, J M Trosky, K D VanBeek, T P VanSciever, J R Wells, D M Wight, J W Wright, J A Wilfahrt, I E Williamson.

Birthday Checks received Jan. 2 thru Jan. 15, 1998

J F Adair, J W Adams, L A Bachus, W R Bartel, H E Bell, H A Boyer, R H Brady, T H Branch, D L Breit, Charlotte Bresnahan, H Broiles, T D Brown, J M Buck, R L Burns, H D Cain, R P Callaghan, A K Chevalier, C M Cooke, R C Collins, J M Dillard, W J Dixon, B H Donahue, A J Dunn, D C Durey, R J Eccles, G E Foxe, C J Foy, J S Francis, G J Furch, R C Garbrick, R L Gassaway, R B Gifford, B C Goodman, T M Gordon, D H Guinn, C D Hall, J H Hansen, M A Harris, D H Harrison, S W Harsch, H A Hensley, T E Holden, J R Irwin, P Jenkins, R L Johnson, D P Jones, J R Kenney, J W Keyes, F M Kilgore, T B Kirby, R T Kobayashi, P R Kobyluk, V C Krebs, D J Landry, D C Lee, T A Lewis, N A Little, J Lubozynski, R C Lucek, R R Maddox, Charlene Marks, J O Martin, S Martin, D G Maxwell, R S Mayer, H C McAfee, R J McCormick, G T McCullough, D L McKee, C T Minor, D E Mosack, J D Musick, R A Neithercott, B A Nelson, R J Nichols, H Oas, J A Patalive, A D Pratt, E V Rombauer, R P Schwartz, E T H Shaffer, T Shronovich, G L Siebold, W C Stonema, J E Snyder, H L Tassej, W L Taylor, R A Utzke, R A



UAL PILOT STATISTICS

UAL hired 86 New Hires in four NOVEMBER classes, and 23 in one DECEMBER class. UAL has hired 543 in 1998. It must be noted that UAL allowed 18 weeks with no NH classes. This explains why there were only 543 hired in 1998.

The average age of all UAL pilots less than age 60 is 48.91 years old. The average age of the 1998 New Hire is 35.14 years old. There are 9,807 UAL pilots on the S/O seniority list. There are 9400 pilots less than age 60. Of these, 123 are on MD/IL status.

There are 425 pilots past age 60 on the seniority list. Of these, 274 are flying as S/O, and 151 are on MD/IL status. The total number of pilots on MD/IL is 274. The total over 60's flying is 274, with just 53 opting this year. The number electing to remain past age 60 continues to decrease, as well as the number of over 60's electing to keep flying.

William Powell, [UAL/ALPA] Membership Data Base keeper

ALPA's New General Manager

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4 /PRNewswire/ -- Jalmer Johnson, a head financial advisor, negotiator, and senior strategist with the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA), has been appointed General Manager of the union, which represents 51,000 pilots at 50 airlines in the U.S. and Canada. Johnson succeeds Howard W. Pike, who is retiring after serving as ALPA's General Manager for the past 24 years. As General Manager, ALPA's senior staff position, Johnson will have staff responsibility for ALPA's financial and strategic planning, budgetary performance, and administrative activities. Johnson will also oversee the union's operations, including collective bargaining, air safety, communications, government relations, and the personnel administration of ALPA's 400 employees. Prior to his promotion, Johnson served as director of ALPA's Economic and Financial Analysis department and was responsible for strategic planning and financial analysis related to ALPA's collective bargaining activities. Johnson served as a primary financial advisor to ALPA pilot groups during numerous negotiations and restructuring transactions, including the United Airlines Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) in 1994, and negotiations at US Airways in 1996 and Northwest Airlines in 1997. Johnson also spearheaded the establishment and operations of the International Pilot Services Corporation, an ALPA subsidiary providing strategic advisory services to pilot unions worldwide.



**AIR LINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION
SFO COUNCIL 34 COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
SFO CODE-A-PHONE UPDATE**

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

Thursday December 17, 1998

COUNCIL ELECTIONS SIGNAL CHANGE AT THE MEC

The recently concluded rounds of council elections for the term beginning in March has signaled a significant change in philosophy of the majority of the MEC with most new members bringing with them reputations as strong trade unionists.

Most of the incoming members, including the two new representatives from San Francisco, have previously expressed a desire to change the way our union conducts business, conduct meetings in a more open and less secretive environment, and to be more responsive to the interests of the membership.

Three of the incoming Captain representatives have said they expect this MEC to be a stronger MEC and much more assertive with the MEC officers and the company than previous MECs. They also expect that the elections of future MEC officers will reflect the new philosophy of this incoming MEC.

MEC REMOVES PROTECTIONS FROM HNL SIDE LETTER

The MEC voted last week to approve a side letter of agreement with the company that removes all protections from the original HNL side letter that were designed to protect the seniority of mainland based pilots.

In October the MEC had directed the negotiating committee to seek veto power over all future new equipment domiciles in HNL in exchange for removing these protections and restrictions on HNL flying. However, the tentative agreement the committee returned with, contrary to MEC direction, removed all the restrictions, but did not contain the veto power the MEC sought. Our council chairman said it appeared the negotiating committee was confused about the direction they had been given at the previous meeting. While some at last week's MEC meeting advocated sending the committee back to obtain the veto power, or other protections for the pilots in exchange for removing the restrictions, a majority of the MEC voted to accept the tentative agreement as is. As a result, all protections for mainland based pilots are now removed and the MEC will not have veto power over future equipment domiciles it had sought in exchange for giving up the protections.

Council officers George Hise and Ed Manning voted against the agreement and John Biggs voted for it.

ESOP Management's Opening Letter

United has delivered its opening letter to ALPA for Contract 2000. In the letter United says it wants to open all areas of the contract for re-negotiation. Just as prior management has done in every recent contract negotiations, current UAL management is couching the need for concessions as an essential element for growth. Former UAL Chairman Richard Ferris successfully used that strategy in 1981 when he won the concessionary Blue-Skies contract from United's pilots. His successor, Stephen Wolf, was less successful when he tried to tie aircraft purchases to concessions.

The company also indicated in its letter to ALPA that it wishes to seek concessions from the pilots in three important areas of the contract ~prior~ to reaching agreement on a new contract. These are:

1. Concessions in the Regional Jet Letter of Agreement, including the likely request for ALPA to waive the cap on the number of jets. 2. Concessions in the Shuttle Agreement. The company is likely to seek concessions in areas they have already approached ALPA for

- * Extension of the 750nm limit,
- * Increase in the cap on the number of shuttle aircraft,
- * Elimination of the size restriction so they can use larger aircraft such as the 757.

3 Changes to the restrictions on international and domestic code sharing.

In addition, the company indicated in its letter that it seeks to negotiate changes to the contract involving the following:

- * Duty Rigs,
- * What the company is calling "International sub-domiciles."
- * "Schedule modifications."

-
- * Crew augmentation
 - * Reserve guarantees and rest.
 - * What the company is calling "International Relief Officers."
 - * Bid Restrictions/ Bypass Pay/Down bidding
 - * Rest after training
 - * Vacation Deferrals.

The company also indicated in their letter the desire for concessions in the following areas:

- * The company said they want United's pilots, who already fly more time each month than most other carriers, to be able to fly even more time.
- * The company said they wish to do away with the 8 in 24 protections.
- * The company wants ALPA's agreement to implement a "preferential bidding system" that would allow pilots to have input into the construction of their monthly lines of flying. ALPA has opposed this in the past, for a number of reasons, including the ability of the company to minimize or eliminate a pilot's vacation override.
- * The company says it wants to re-write the contract into a more readable and understandable format. At the same time, the company said it wants to "evolve past the legacy of a suspicion-based rulebook mentality."

COUNCIL OFFICERS COMMENT ON COMPANY'S OPENING LETTER

Since the company has indicated their desire for concessions involving the RJs, the Shuttle and code sharing prior to negotiating a new agreement, Council Chairman George Hise said "a healthy skeptic" can assume the company will try to push through one or more tentative side letters of agreement prior to the new MEC taking office on March 1st.

It has been reported on this update and in Craine's Chicago Business that the new MEC taking office on March 1st is expected to be far less accommodating to management than the current MEC. Some have felt the recent election results from around the system are indicating that the pilots feel this MEC has been too concessionary in agreeing to various side letters in the past. Chairman Hise and both incoming council officers have said they would not be surprised to see a special MEC meeting called prior to March 1st for this purpose. Hise said he also would not be surprised to see the company offer the carrot of already-planned expansion in return for concessions. Hise said the company knows that strategy worked with this MEC before and it is only natural the company will think it can work again.

Incoming Council Chairman Dan Ashby said the company's opening letter "goes right to the heart of what we have left to protect, since we don't have much left to protect." Ashby said, "We're going to have to be very careful. We've already gone too far, giving away protections with the recent HNL side letter." Ashby described that as very unfortunate, and said, "You can expect the company's going to come after us because they're smelling blood following the HNL give-backs" earlier this month.

Patrick Palazzolo



Ray Lahr

Well, we lost a great guy when Captain **WILLIAM SLEEPER ARNOTT** passed away. Bill and I called each other "Old Buddy". We came from the same neck of the woods. Bill was born in Montana, and I was born in Wyoming. We were a couple of cowboys who spent our careers herding people instead of cattle. Bill had a very colorful career. Early on, Bill developed a love for flying. He somehow financed flying lessons and had his private pilot license prior to World War II. That and his patriotism led to his enlistment in the Army Air Corps. After the completion of training, his class was assigned to various bases around the country. Some bases were naturally more desirable than others, so the class was allowed to draw straws for the best ones. Bill won one of the coveted assignments to California. One of his classmates was Kerkorian who later went on to become a famous billionaire. Even then Kerkorian was relatively well off, and wanted in the worst way to be assigned to California. He ultimately prevailed upon Bill to trade their assignments in return for \$600, a handsome sum in those days.

Bill went to a base in Missouri where he soon met Dean, his bride to be. So Ann and Alice (their daughters), can thank Kerkorian the next time they see him for bringing their parents together.

After the war, Bill returned to California and was looking for any flying job he could get. His first good job was flying for Otis Nelson, a United captain who was operating a military charter operation on the side. After a while, Otis recognized the talent of this bright young man and personally arranged an interview for Bill with United Air Lines. Bill was first assigned to the maintenance base in San Francisco where he helped test the aircraft coming out of overhaul. But the pendulum swung back, and Bill was among the group of junior copilots who were temporarily furloughed.

Shortly before this time, Howard Hughes had run into difficulties with the Air Force regarding the Spruce Goose. The sacrificial lamb for the debacle was one of Hughes' vice-presidents whose name I can't recall. The vice-president resigned, and Hughes set him up in a charter business in Ontario. Bill's next job was flying PBYS for this operation. About this time, Howard Hughes wanted to prove that the Spruce Goose really could fly, but he had never flown an amphibian. Bill was assigned to take a PBY over to the Santa

Monica airport and meet Howard Hughes so that he could check out Hughes in an amphibian. Well, this is an interesting story all in itself, but the mission was finally accomplished. The upshot is that Bill indirectly gets partial credit for getting the Spruce Goose off of the water for its one and only flight. There were some other very interesting missions in the PBY which I must forego telling in the interest of space.

After two or three years, Bill was recalled by United Airlines. After a few more years, Bill became a captain. His personality was even noticed by William Patterson, the president of United Air Lines. In fact, Mr. Patterson sometimes requested Bill as his personal pilot when his travels brought him to California. Later, Bill would get to know another great president of United Air lines, Edward Carlson, who would help him arrange a trip which I will mention next.

Bill was an energetic pilot with a lot of interests - among them navigation, an interest which drew Bill and me together. Bill was always anxious to help young people get started in aviation. As a member of our pilot speaker's panel, he was invited to speak at Mount San Antonio College by Stew Angle, the head of its dynamic aviation department. Bill soon began teaching navigation and became a fixture at the college. This was during the turbulent period of the mid sixties and a positive program was needed to counter campus unrest. Thus was born the idea of the "Classroom in the Sky", teaching combined with the joy of flying. It was a yearly trip conducted in a chartered United Airlines aircraft. It started out modestly at first and reached its peak in 1973 with a trip called "Fourteen Days Around the World". This included overflying the north pole and the south magnetic pole, a first time ever for a commercial aircraft.

For those of us fortunate enough to participate, it was the highlight trip of our careers. But to show the dedication necessary to get such a trip off the ground, both Bill and Stew mortgaged their homes to get the initial financing. It also required Eddie Carlson's support to spring an airplane out of schedule long enough for us to make the trip. Fortunately, after all of the bills and the mortgages were paid off, there was about \$200 left over. Everyone had a happy glow, and United Airlines received some favorable publicity for its first trip around the world.

While the Classroom in the Sky was getting established, Bill perceived another educational need. Mount San Antonio College provided the classroom instruction and sponsored an initial flight training program at nearby Brackett field. But another step was needed to launch the students into careers as commercial pilots. A follow-up program involving simulators was needed to help fledgling pilots get their commercial rating. Bill formed a corporation with some of his associates which was called Arnautical, Inc. Bill contracted with United Airlines to

use its simulators in off hours, when they were not being used for United's own training. Here was a program where everyone benefited. The students obtained a reasonably priced program to obtain their commercial ratings, United obtained some extra revenue from its simulators and was able to hire the cream of the crop as they came through the program, and Bill and his associates were fulfilling their need to make an extra contribution to aviation.

This close association with the training center led to Bill's last great dream. Bill had long been a collector of aviation artifacts and tools. In fact, after Dean passed away and Bill sold his home, he had to unload all sorts of things. Since our interests are parallel, a good portion of the things he had accrued ended up in my workshop. I can hardly turn around in there now. My wife began to shriek when Bill would arrive with his car piled high. But long ago the items worthy of display began to appear on the walls of the training center. Bill had a good working relationship with UAL management. There was nothing in United's budget for such displays, but the training center director was able to give him permission to mount the displays. The director also set aside some office space for Bill and gave him a phone. With characteristic gusto, Bill attacked the project. In addition to unlimited hours of time, Bill was racking up several thousand dollars in expenses for office equipment. Several of us lose to Bill decided that this was above and beyond the call of duty.

In 1993 Captain Don Toeppen brought us together and we formed a foundation which, with United's permission, was called the *United Airlines Historical Foundation*. We solicited donations and have been reasonably successful in raising money to keep the foundation operating. We have since raised our sights and would like the foundation to be the nucleus for a museum representing all of United Airlines and all of its employee groups. Bill was such a likable guy, always cheerful and enthusiastic. The museum was his baby. He recently had hip surgery, and all he could worry about was who was going to take care of the museum. He was just getting back on his feet and was on his way back to his beloved museum when he collapsed at the Ontario airport. Bill coined the phrase, "Preserving the Past to Inspire the Future". Well, the United Airlines Historical Foundation will continue, and we hope, with United Airlines' help, to make Bill's dream come true.

Marcia Hillman

"My dearest Aviator, **BILL (JAMES WILLIAM) HILLMAN** died JAN 2, after a four year long battle with cancer.

Bill started flying at the age of sixteen in Moline, Ill. He was in WW2 with the US Army Air Corps and joined United in May, 1951. Bill was a 34-year employee.

Our family is grateful for all those years, because UAL was good to us. He belonged to ALPA, and strongly believed in unions. Bill died at home with our daughter and me by his side, and our two sons came the following day. I tell the children that "he is up there teaching the Angels how to fly".

We thank everyone who has called, and sent beautiful cards and flowers.

Thank you for all the years of the NEWSLETTER he so enjoyed!

My sincere wishes, Marcia Hillman

JOSEPH WILLIAM HILLMAN

Joseph William (Bill) Hillman, age 74, of Camarillo died Jan. 2, 1999, following a lengthy battle with cancer.

Born Dec. 7, 1924, in Buckner, Ill., he was a Ventura County resident for over 40 years. Bill served as an aviator in World War II, flying with the U.S. Army Corps and discharged as captain. His love of flying led him to a 34 year career flying for United Airlines, retiring as a Boeing 747 captain. He was a member of Quiet Birdmen and Elks of Lake Almanor.

He will be dearly missed by his wife, Marcia Hillman, to whom he was married for 49 years; son, Scott Hillman (wife, Debra Belding-Hillman) of Somis; daughter, Robin Nyborg (husband, Niels) of Ojai; granddaughters, Shauna Nyborg and Annie Nyborg; son, Craig Hillman (wife, Sue) of Highlands Ranch, Colo.; and step-granddaughter, Sarah Adams-Hillman.



WAYNE LEROY FROMM, 79, died Nov. 17, 1998, at Life Care Center of Reno. A native of Hope, Kan., he was born Oct. 14, 1919, to Theodore and Irma (Hoffman) Fromm, and had lived in Reno for the past 23 years, coming from Huntington, N.Y. Fromm was a pilot for United Airlines and was an Air Force veteran. He was a member of the American Contract Bridge League. Surviving are son Brad of Kewaunee, Wis.; daughter, Jeanne P. Poskie of Madison, Wis.; sister, Betty Wrigley of Buzzards Roost, Ga.; and one grandchild.

ALLEN DOTSON STEELE

I regret to inform you that my father Capt. Allen Dotson Steele passed away peacefully in Greenville, SC on the 19th of December at the age of 84.

Al grew up in Statesville, NC where he learned to fly, and later he flew some of the first airmail into the town. He was a graduate of Oak Ridge Military Academy and attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. He began his airline career with Pennsylvania Central Airlines flying Boeing 247D's. During WWII he was assigned to instruct Navy pilots on the R4D in Roanoke, Virginia, as well as working for the Military Airlift Command flying DC-3s as part of PCA's war effort. After the war he resumed his airline career and was with Pennsylvania Central as it transformed into Capital Airlines. When Capital and United merged, Al was a Vickers Viscount Captain. He later flew the Sud Caravelle with United, finally retiring on the Boeing 727 at United in 1974.

He was an active outdoorsman who relished deep sea fishing in the waters off Delray and Boynton Beach. Al also had a love of horses and enjoyed horseback riding in Estes Park, Colorado with his family in between training at DENTK. He was a proud member of the Retired United Pilots Association, Quiet Birdmen, and the Capital Airlines Association.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth "Betty" Steele, daughter Elizabeth Forman of Richmond, and son Allen of Tampa, FL, and four grandchildren.

Dear United Friends:

I am building a scrapbook for myself and my father's grandchildren. If there are any interesting stories about my father that you would like to pass along, please feel free to either mail them to me or to my email address. We are also looking for any pictures that may include my father. Thank you so very much for your time and the great friendships you all have provided to our family.

Allen Dean Steele

J-41 FO

Atlantic Coast Airlines (United Express)

Email Adsteele13@aol.com

Mailing Address P.O. Box 2917, Tampa, FL 33601

JACK EVANS 39031 Old Wheatland Rd., Waterford VA 20197

Dear Jock, In my letter to you last month, I mentioned Capt. Tom Shronovich's condition. I'm sorry to report that Tom passed away. I told his wife, "Rusty", that I'd let you know. We've lost another fine friend and pilot.

Sincerely, Jack

Enclosed please find Tom's obit.

THOMAS SHRONOVICH, retired airline pilot

Thomas Scott Shronovich, 77, of Airport Road, Eighty-Four, died at 10 p.m. Saturday Nov. 28, 1998, at his home following an illness of the past six months.

He was born Oct. 10, 1921, in Cokeburg, a son of the late Thomas Scott and Anna Zitkovic Shronovich. Mr. Shronovich was a 1940 graduate of Bentleyville High School and received his initial pilot training at the Belle Vernon Airport

He was a World War II veteran, serving with the U.S. Army Air Corps, 2nd and 4th Divisions as an air gunner. He was also an instructor and member of the Standardization Board.

Mr. Shronovich retired as a DC-8 captain with United Airlines in 1981. He was a private flight instructor and organized the "Ramrods," which established the first Washington based domicile, "Fly In," held at the Frederick County Airport, Frederick, Md.

During 1940-1942 and 1946-1951, he was a welder for the Ontario Mine. In 1951 he started as a DC-3 co-pilot with Capital Airlines based in Pittsburgh and continued his flying career with United Airlines until his retirement on October 10 1981.

Mr. Shronovich served as past president of the retired United Airline Employee Association. He was also a member of the Retired United Pilots Association, Capital Airline Employees Association, Croatian Fraternal Union of Cokeburg and the Nemaolin Country Club, Beallsville.

.On Dec. 5, 1942, he married Mauvorean E. "Rusty" Brooks Shronovich, who survives.

Additional survivors include one daughter, Mrs. William (Judith E-)Donaldson of EightyFour; two brothers, Frank of Eighty Four and George of Avella; two sisters, Agnes Gruhalla and Kay Shumaker, both of Eighty Four; and one granddaughter, Erica Nicole Donaldson.

RICHARD E. TRAVIS

Dear Friends and Family:

It is with deep sorrow that I write to you this Christmas. On Oct. 12th, I lost my wonderful husband and my best friend. After more than a year of fighting a Heroic battle, he lost his life to melanoma. We did everything we could. We spent eight months in a hotel suite in Houston so he could see the best doctors at MD Anderson Cancer Center. He was doing well when we returned to C.L. in late May, having survived two major surgeries, seven months of Chemo, and countless pokings and prodding's. In July, when it reappeared in his eye and brain, we went to a world-renowned group of Doctors at LTIC. Over the next two months, he endured two major brain surgeries as well as radiation. I was Honored and Blessed to be able to care for him during this whole ordeal. He died peacefully at home surrounded by family. The Mass of the Resurrection was said for him on Oct. 16th, followed by a Military Burial, 21 gun salute, Taps, and presentation of the Flag (He was extremely patriotic- a historian and antique gun collector, so I'm sure he was watching from above and was proud). Tom delivered a heartwarming Eulogy; Rick and Kevin did the readings; and Mike, Kathy, Beth, and Brenda brought up the Communion gifts. Linda read a beautiful poem at the gravesite. Tom and Linda were married in March, and we welcome Linda and her son Brad into our family.

He has left us with a terrible void in all our lives. Our seven children and their spouses lost a great Dad, our ten grandchildren lost a loving Grandpa, and my loss is indescribable. He never once said "why me". To the end, his main concern was for me and our family.

How can I thank all the wonderful friends who supported us during this difficult time. Jack and Bill who kept The Keep running in our absence, with Jack bringing Communion and Prayers to us daily while we were in Crystal Lake. Robert who sent his St. Christopher Medal for Dick to wear. Jean, Joan, and Mom who sent us goodies while in Houston (I think Jean has to buy a new oven ; I'm sure she wore hers out). And all our dear friends who bombarded us with words of encouragement through phone calls, letters, and cards. Your prayers gave us the courage and strength we so greatly needed, for which we will be eternally grateful. I thank you for your continuing prayers and support. It means more than you can possibly know.

Thank God for our wonderful kids -Kathy "our nurse" , Tom "our rock", and all the others who each took turns helping out in so many ways, and who continue to support me and each other in our time of grieving.

Beth is cooking Thanksgiving dinner for us tomorrow, and in spite of everything, we do have a great deal to be thankful for. Dick's early retirement from UAL allowed us to travel everywhere for the last several years and create wonderful Memories. We also had many precious moments as a family during the past year.

I have been very busy with business and personal paperwork. Tom will be joining the staff at the Keep in January following his retirement from the Air Force. Brenda and I will go to Maui on Dec. 15th . She will stay with me for 2 weeks. It will be very hard to go back to "our" favorite place without Dick, but he will. be there in Spirit, and our Maui friends are all like family. I wish you and yours Love, Blessings, and good Health this Holiday Season and in the New Year. Please remember us in your prayers, and make the most of every day.

Love Pat

Winter Address: Honokeana Cove, 5255 L. Honoapilani Rd.,Lahaina, Maui~ HI 96761.Phone: (808) 669-8585

Hugh M. Wilson Fallbrook, CA

I am sad to report the death of another of our fellow pilots, nonmember, **WAYNE L. FROMM**. He died November 17th in Reno, NV of a heart attack. he had been in poor health for the last few years. He was 79.

Wayne and I were in the same new hire class in February 1946. We were good friends through the years and were both based at Chicago and New York/Newark in our earlier years on the airline.

Many of you from our era will remember Wayne, who was a colorful character. He was mostly bald, with red hair and of stocky build. He flew with the air corps in WW2 and Korea, wore a red baseball cap when flying, was an avid poker player and gambler, notorious for his snoring and he loved to eat. He always had a weight problem which UAL finally gave up on. He also had a sly sense of humor and a heart of gold. We will miss him!

Hugh

Bob Kallestad, 26958 Lauderdale Ave., Hayward, CA. 94545 SVO/DEN/SFO 56/90

Hi Jock: Sadly, I must report that in the late afternoon on Sat. Dec. 19,1998 **JIM BEATIE** died in his home at Arnold, CA. He had just come inside after working on an outside project and collapsed suddenly after putting a log in the fireplace.

A couple things that I shall remember about Jim: (1) He was a superb professional airman. My experience with

him was on the DC-8 and B-747 aircraft. No-one knew these airplanes and their systems better than Jim did. He proudly preferred to be called a flight Engineer and never had much use for the more generic title of Second Officer. (2) tie was an independent thinker and set high standards for himself and expected the same from those around him. You always knew where you stood with Jim and he wasn't afraid to stir the pot if he felt it needed stirring.

He was a friend of mine and I shall miss him. *Bob*

THANKS FOR "HIGH FLIGHT"

Dear Mr. Prescott:

My adopted daughter Michelle Stephens, a real whiz on the computer and Internet, was the person who "found" you and obtained the words to "HighFlight" from your website. I have long loved that poem and knew that it really described how my Father felt when he was flying as part of a B-29 bomber crew during World War II, and later with the Strategic Air Command.

I wanted the poem to use in the script for my Father's funeral service, but couldn't find it anywhere. Michelle found it for me through you. I thank you sincerely for "being there" to help me plan the service for my wonderful Father -- Gerald M. (Jerry) Rupp.

I have great respect for ALL of you who have "slipped the surly bonds of earth and danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings"... I loved my father above all things, and was very proud of his 20 years service in the U.S. Air Force.

I thank all of you who fly and take care of the rest of us who can't. My best wishes to you and your organization. May this be a prosperous year for you all.

Suzi Rupp, The Rupp Company
4520 Ulysses Drive
Sacramento, CA 95864

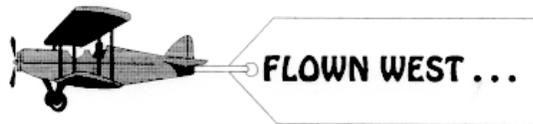
RODERICK DUANE BEEBE

Roderick Duane Beebe of Parker, a pilot, died Wednesday in Aurora. He was 65. Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Parker Funeral Home, 10325 Parkglenn Way. Internment will be in Fort Logan National Cemetery. He was born Aug. 30, 1933, in Baldwinsville, N.Y. On Sept. 1, 1956, he married Beverly Houck in Baldwinsville. Beebe served in the Navy from 1952 to 1956 and was a pilot for United Airlines from 1965 to 1992. He is survived by his wife; two daughters, Carrie Rhodes, Aurora, and Mary Rowden, Bennett; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Captain PETER SZWEZ JFKFO

Pete Szwez died suddenly and unexpectedly on Nov. 18th, 1998 near his home in Madison, CT. Born in 1942, raised in NJ, he attended Rutgers, then entered the U.S. Navy Flight Training in the summer of 1964. He flew the S-2 and P-3 aircraft and left active service in 1969. He completed 20 years of combined active and reserve duty. Pete joined UAL in 1969 and flew Captain on the B-727, 767 and 747 aircraft. His infectious smile, warm personality and easy disposition were his trademarks. He will be missed by all of us, but especially by his wife Carol and their children: Laurie, Peter and Jennifer.





RODNEY S. GREENE	LAX	25 SEP 1998
RICHARD E. TRAVIS	ORD	12 OCT 1998
WAYNE L. FROMM *		17 NOV 1998
PETER SZWEZ*	JFK	18 NOV 1998
REX MODE*		24 NOV 1998
PETER H. McINTOSH	JFK	26 NOV 1998
THOMAS S. SHRONOVICH	IAD	28 NOV 1998
ALLEN D. STEELE	MIA	19 DEC 1998
JAMES M. BEATY	SFO	19 DEC 1998
JOSEPH W. "BILL" HILLMAN	LAX	2 JAN 1999
RODERICK D. BEEBE	DEN	6 JAN 1999
WILLIAN S. ARNOTT	LAX	

* 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

- Feb 9** Las Vegas Lunch - Big Dog's (2nd Tue. of the month)
- Feb 9** Treasure Coast Sunbirds Lunch- Miles Grant CC (2nd Tue. of the month)
- Feb 11** SE Florida Lunch - Flaming Pit (2nd Thu. of the month)
- Feb 11** NE Florida Lunch (stag) - Spruce Creek CC (3rd. Tue of the month)
- Feb 16** DEN Good Ol' Boys Lunch - Country Buffet (3rd Tue. of the month)
- Feb 18** Ohio Northcoasters Lunch - TJ's Wooster (3rd Thu. of the month)
- Feb 18** SEA Gooneybirds Lunch - Marriott Hotel (3rd Thu. of the month)
- Mar 12** PHX Roadrunners Lunch - Lakes Club, Sun City (2nd Fri. of the month)
- Mar 13** SEA ALPA Retirement Party - Doubletree Hotel
- Mar 26** JFK ALPA Retirement party - Newark Airport Sheraton
- Apr 24** SFO ALPA Retirement Party - Airport Westin Hotel
- Nov 7-11** RUPA Annual Convention - Harrah's Hotel, Las Vegas
- Nov 12-14** Navy VP-17(HM)-10 Reunion - Holiday Inn Pensacola FL

DEADLINE 17 FEBRUARY

NEXT F&S 3 MARCH



RUPANEWS
1104 BURKE LANE
FOSTER CITY CA 94404

PERIODICALS

Place Address Label Here