



# RUPANEWS

Journal of the Retired United Pilots Association

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## IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message  
Notices

Page 3  
Page 3-15

Letters  
In Memoriam  
Calendar

Page 16-29  
Page 29-30  
Page 32

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm happy to inform you that we have signed a contract with the *Seattle Marriott Airport* hotel for the 2007 RUPA Convention. It will commence on September 20<sup>th</sup> and end on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. This is the same hotel the *Gooney Birds* hold their monthly luncheons, which I have attended, and it is a very fine facility. You will find more information in this issue and much more to come as the many tours and events are put together. You can thank Ron Jersey, Rich Bouska, Dick Anderson and Robert Reid for getting us off to an early start. I have only mentioned the men here, but we all know that the wives are the "power behind the throne." Rose made me write that which only proves the point!!

We recently changed telephone companies and for some reason our 800 number has been deactivated. I'm in the process of correcting the problem and hope to have it resolved in the near future.

I'm still receiving dues checks that should be sent to Jim Olson, our Sec/Treasurer. Check the inside cover, page 2 of this issue, for Jim's new address where you should be sending your checks. His telephone number and email address are also listed there.

Till next month. Cheers, *Cleve*

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## DANA POINT RUPA LUNCHEON

Another glorious day was enjoyed by the South Orange County RUPA group at our September get-together. The "shoulder" seasons of Spring and Fall bring some of California's most pleasant weather, and we had it in spades today. With temperatures in the low 80's, and wonderful seashore scenery all around us, it's no wonder that tourists pay good money to come out and share some of this bounty with us.

The pleasant al fresco setting of the *Wind and Sea* restaurant also seems to invigorate the troops, because there was no shortage of animated conversation about many of the same topics we've covered so often before, however, with new jokes, and new perspectives on the political and pension areas.

With respect to the political area, it was pointed out that with the possibility of a change in majority control of the House of Representatives this November, that California Congressman George Miller, who has been a stalwart supporter of United retirees, stands to assume control of the committee which deals with pensions. This means that some of the legislation he has introduced and fought for, and which is important to all of us, might finally see the light of day, instead of being stonewalled, as it has been by the current administration

Airline merger speculation was once again ignited by major newspaper stories, in particular the one which links United with Continental. Who'd a thunk it? Just a few years back, United was the eight hundred pound gorilla, and Continental was on the ropes. Now, the possibility, if this comes to fruition some where down the road, that Continental might be the surviving carrier, was enough to spark all kinds of conjecture: pass travel, pension effects and you name it. Sends a shiver up my spine!

At the end of the fine luncheon which we enjoyed, there was some consternation as to the large tip we seemed to have left for our lovely waitperson, Laura. As is our custom, we pass the bill around, and everyone on his honor kicks in the amount of his own meal, tip and tax. Well the better than 30% tip seemed excessive, until Laura "fessed up" that she had forgotten to add in a number of drinks for some of the late comers. I hate to say it, but we seem to be destroying the mystique of the "Cheap Pilot" and we exhibited a bit of integrity instead today.

On deck today were Park Ames, Carlos Bernhard, Bruce Dunkle, Bob Fuhrmann, Rudy Haluza, Peter Hansen, Jack Healy, Ed Judd, Ed Krieger, Bill Meyer, Bill Rollins, Glenn Schwarz, Bill Stewart, and last of all, myself, Joe Udovch. 14 wayward souls who came together today for a little fun and companionship. What a kick!

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## SFO RUPA PICNIC

August 24, 2006

It was a beautiful summer day when the SFO contingent of RUPA met for their annual summer picnic. The *Palo Alto Elks Lodge Picnic Ground*, under the shady oaks, was the setting. A number of those attending provided a nice selection of hors d'oeuvres to accompany the beverage selections. For lunch, barbeque beef and chicken, potato salad, green salad, corn on the cob, chili, bread and watermelon wedges were served. The dessert table consisted of various desserts, also provided by attendees. No one should have gone away hungry. Keep in mind that this is an annual event and a great way to keep in touch with past acquaintances and share experiences as pilots. YOU are always welcome.

Those attending were: Akin, Ed; Alfson, Floyd & Charlene; Berg, Marty & Jean; Bernard, Al & Jo; Blaseck, Walter & Celeste; Bourgeois, Leon & Mildred; Bouska, Rich & Georgia; Breitschopf, Kenneth & Marian; Callaghan, Bob & Burkie; Campbell, John; Chapman, Chappie; Clinton, Bob & Roz; Cramb, Sam & Billie; DeLisle, Gerry & Sheila; Devine, Scotty & Emily; Donnely, Mike; Downs, Bob & Virginia; Duffy, Ed & Peg; Egbert, Frank & Cece; Garcia, Sharon; Gillett, Carol; Gordon, John & Rita; Hamley, Barry & Ginny; Hastings, J. R.; Hooning, Dick; Johnson, Richard & Jeri; Jundt, Howard & Pat; Kaapuni, Richard & Clarita; Mazzola, Kay & Frank; Minor, Chuck & Bonnie; Mitchell, Mitch; Muzinich, Lawrence; Nelson, Barrie; O'Dell, Lois; Olson, Paul & Brigitte; Patrick, Vilma; Porter, Dan; Price, Jimmy & Carol Starbuck; Puryear, Bob & Norma; Rennie, Bill; Roberts, Virginia; Smith, Bill; Spring, Cleve & Rose; Stefanki, John & Dorothy; Stewart, Emiko; Strong, June; Sutherland, Hedy; Taylor, Jim & Evelyn; Thomas, Perry; Tobie, Dick & Dottie; Traube, Isabel; Tritt, Gene & Glenna; Walter, Gene & Carol; Wright, Larry & Pat.



Pictured: Cleve Spring, Millie & Frenchie Bourgeois (Scottsdale AZ),  
Dan Porter, & Sam Cramb.

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## DEN GOOD OL' BOYS

The September meeting of DEN Good ol' Boys occurred on a delightful mid September day and a good turnout eventuated. Happy hour was its usual rousing success, and the coffee was hot and plentiful for those so inclined. The dinner bell sounded at noon on the dot, and this humble scribe heard some kudos and no complaints for the grub. The compliments were forwarded to the caterer.

The obligatory attempt at humor went off fairly well, and was followed by toast to Bob Clipson, who has just successfully celebrated his 90th birthday. All of us hope to be in as good health if we make it to 90. Many happy returns to Bob.

The meeting was turned over to Jim Krasno who updated the assembly on the legal situation as relates to the court decision regarding the non qualified pension. Hopefully there will be some back pension forthcoming.

Too late to eat, Chuck Fellows made an appearance, and it was certainly good to see him. He is undergoing a medical regimen and cannot eat ordinary food. Our best wishes go out to Chuck.

At some un-definable point the meeting devolved into fertilizer slinging which proceeded with élan and there is no record of when (or whether) it may have abated.

Those in attendance included: Bob Sannwald, Rick Madsen, Dick Garbrick, Bill Bates, Tom Hess, Bill Hanson, Ed Riehl, Jim Harris, Russ Wright, Maury Mahoney, Duane Searle, Tom Johnson, Bob Dietrich, Barry Edward, Ken Schroeder, Dave Murtha, Mike Williams, Bill Fife, Ralph Wright, Al Dorsey, Fritz Meyer, Bob Blessin, Jack Turner, Dave Johnson, John Thielen, Roger DeLozier, Ed Cutler, Jim Hixon, Warren Mugler, Jim Jenkins, Bob Clipson, A. J. Hartzler, George Maize, Jim Krasno, Bob Crowell, Tom Gordon, and the scribe and coordinator, *Ted Wilkinson*

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## NORTH BAY RUPA LUNCHEON

A congenial group gathered at the Petaluma Sheraton's *Tolay Room* on the first Wednesday of the month, September 6th, for our monthly lunch, and get-together. Best wishes were sent to the group from several unable to attend, and no guests were present. The latest news and rumours were thoroughly discussed, and a chart that depicted comparative current airlines pilot salaries was passed around for discussion. After checking for any under-age attendees, Captain Rick Saber, (Norton I), recounted his recent experiences at the annual "Burning Man" festival in the Nevada desert country. A most interesting account of an unusual event!

Rick appeared very healthy, and relaxed...must have been the desert air.

On the sign-in sheet: Larry and Dee Whyman, Bill Greene, John Baczynski, Clyde Wilson, Rick Saber, Leon Scarbrough, Bill Smith, Bill McGuire, John and Carol Reed, Gardner Bride, Barney Hagen, Dwight Daley, Wayne Heyerly, Jim Mansfield, Dan Bargar, Sam and Mickie Orchard, Bruce Milan, J.R. Hastings, Bob and Doris Donegan.

Lunch is always on the first Wednesday, at the Petaluma Sheraton...time 12:30; if you're in the area, come and join us!

Further info: [fatherdon@aol.com](mailto:fatherdon@aol.com)

### **United Airlines Retired Pilots Foundation, Inc.**

Send all donations for the United Pilots Foundation to: Capt. T. S. "Ted" Bochniarz, Treasurer  
11165 Regency Dr., Westchester, IL 60154-5638



*Annual SFO Area  
RUPA  
Christmas Party & Dinner Dance*

All Members, Friends and Family Welcome

**Friday December 1, 2006**

At the

**Sheraton Gateway Hotel**

**600 Airport Boulevard**

**Burlingame, California**

6:00 to 7:00 Cash bar with dinner to follow

\$50.00 per person

You have a choice of Chicken Breast with Shrimp Scampi

Grilled New York Steak

Or

Salmon with Herb Butter Sauce

Please indicate your meal choice.

Rooms are available at \$99.00 for the night.

Call the hotel direct at 1-800-827-0880 to make your room reservation,  
mention RUPA to receive this rate.

You are asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy, for the Toys for Tots Program  
We will accept monetary donations for the Toy for Tots if you are unable to attend.

RSVP Deadline Monday, November 27, 2006

Make check payable to: RUPA

Mail registration to:

Rich Bouska

2734 Crater Road

Livermore, CA 94550

925-443-4339

rbouska1@comcast.net

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Last Name

First Name

Spouse/Guest Name

Meal Choice (Indicate #):  Chicken  Steak  Salmon

Check enclosed for the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_



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## WRIGHT BROTHERS MASTER PILOT AWARD

John Baczynski was recently awarded the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award, Friday the 1st of September, at the San Francisco Quiet Birdmen Hangar, in Oakland, California, by Howard Manning, of the Flight Safety District Office (FSDO), Alameda, CA.

The plaque inscription read:

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION**

**THE WRIGHT BROTHERS "MASTER PILOT" AWARD**

**PRESENTED TO: JOHN LEWIS BACZYNSKI**

**IN APPRECIATION FOR YOUR DEDICATED SERVICE, TECHNICAL EXPERTISE,  
PROFESSIONALISM, AND MANY OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS THAT FURTHER THE  
CAUSE OF AVIATION SAFETY.....JULY 1, 2006**



The Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award recognizes the efforts of pilots who have followed and continue to follow the precaution and awareness of safe operations. Most of all, FAA recognizes pilots who have contributed and maintained safe flight operations for 50 or more consecutive years of piloting aircraft.

John joined the Air Force in 1954, joined PAA in 1964, and came to UAL 1986, and retired in 1994

For those interested in checking out the web site, it is [http://www.faa.gov/safety/awards/wright\\_bros/](http://www.faa.gov/safety/awards/wright_bros/)

### United Airlines Historical Foundation

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

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## LOS ANGELES VALLEY RUPA LUNCHEON

After weeks of triple-digit heat, the San Fernando Valley temperatures were in the low 80's when the Los Angeles/Valley RUPA met at Mimi's Restaurant on Thursday, Sept. 21. Only complication was smoke and ash in the air from the fire that started near Lake Piru days ago, making it difficult for some people to breathe at times. Santa Ana winds kept changing direction. Santa Paula and Ojai (near Fillmore omni) were alerted to the west, but were all right so far (the optimist's creed).

Herb Goodrich said that Jim Day was feeling better, good enough to keep reservations on the RUPA cruise. Also, Herb said that his granddaughter is a registered nurse at St. Joseph Hospital in Burbank, and is staying at his home in Northridge to keep him company. He has a full staff of grandchildren to visit with him. While sitting at the luncheon table, Herb's cell phone rang, playing a lengthy tune before he could shut it off. It reminded Bob Mosher and Rex May about the times they were on standby in the 70's, all they had were beepers, but they were just as disruptive and effective, however.

Gene Biscailuz reported that Ed Hale had passed away. No news yet about a memorial service for Buddy Joffrion who passed away in early September. Reports are that Cliff and Phyllis Chaney may be a source of information about Buddy.

John Joyce reported that he saw pictures of Karl Fechner fighting a 200-pound tuna, which John said that he, himself, hadn't done for years. Karl was strapped to a rail in standing position, which doesn't sound too easy. Karl also goes back to Nebraska to hunt.

Some who heard about the Citabria available to rent at Santa Paula Airport got misty-eyed and made plans to renew their tail-dragger experience, Norm Marchmont, for one. Norm also spoke highly of the Christen Eagle and said he was much impressed when he visited the Christen factory. Deke Holman and his Christen Eagle II were on the cover of the August RUPA News.

Rex May and Jack Hanson reminisced about their landing a 747 at O'Hare when the wind changed to a 50-knot crosswind, with an icy runway. They took out 13 runway lights on both sides of the runway, and when they played the cockpit recorder back, there were 13 "Oh, you-know-what's".

The California Pilots Assoc. will hold its annual meeting on Oct. 6th and 7th. Subject will include "Protecting Your Airport", dealing with developers, noise complaints, management, and how to form an airport association. Guest speakers will include Clay Lacy.

Remember to tell everyone about our Christmas party on Thurs., Dec. 7th, at the Hacienda Hotel at 11 am. All RUPA members are invited, along with wives, friends, widows, flight operations--the more the merrier! There will be another notice in the next issue of RUPA News. Price is \$25 each. You know how busy things get at Christmas time, so it isn't too early to plan a date.

Braving the late summer doldrums to attend the luncheon in September were: Don McDermott, Rex May, Gene Biscailuz, Bob Mosher, Mike Herriot, John Joyce, Norm Marchmont, Trudy Ann Buck, Ray Engel, Herb Goodrich, Jack Hanson, and Shirley Hanson (your scribe).

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## HAWAII ONO NENES

Dear Ono Nene,

The last day of August was full of nice trade winds at *The Kona Brewery* in Hawai'i Kai. Although only three of us showed, we enjoyed the time and missed the rest of you. We did decide to hold September's meeting at *Sam Choy's Breakfast, Lunch and Crab*. In attendance were Jef Fleener, Corky Sorensen, and me.

Aloha, *Jim*

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW.**

**WHAT: LAX RUPA HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**

**WHEN: Thursday, December 7th**

**WHERE: *The Hacienda Hotel, 525 North Sepulveda Blvd. in El Segundo. This is just south of LAX.***

**WHO: All RUPA members, active pilots, present or former flight office personal and active or former flight attendants are invited. Widows and spouses of any of the above are invited also. Bring a friend if you like.**

**No host bar at 1100 followed by a sit down lunch at noon.**

**Cost is \$25.00 per person. It sneaks up a buck or two every year.**

**Send checks to Rex May, 6677 Vista del Mar, Playa del Rey, CA 90293-7545.**

**Checks must reach me by Monday, Dec. 4th as I must pay and confirm by Dec. 5th.**

**Please make an effort. We had 80 people last year for an enjoyable gathering.**

**Best wishes. *Rex May***

**THERE IS STILL SPACE ON THE WALL OF HONOR**

Every time we run a reminder about the Wall of Honor, we pick up a few more names for the RUPA Wall of Honor at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum. Even though we have more than 1400 names on the RUPA Panel, there is still room for more names. If you wish to place your own name or the name of a fellow RUPA member on the Wall, contact me for the proper forms. Many of the individuals named on that panel are no longer with us. They have Flown West as have the crew members we honored lost on 9/11 on flights 93 and 175. We have also honored the 65 charter members who formed our organization.

RUPA has far more names on its panel than any other group. We are the only airline to honor our members. If you wish to be included, you may contact me at 925-443-4339 or by email at rbouska1@comcast.net.

Submitted by *Richard C. Bouska*

**Address changes, Snowbirds & Others:**

The Post Office will forward the *RUPANEWS* for only 60 days. We can keep two addresses in the database for each member. If you want your address changed, just let us know by one of the following methods:

**Write: James E. Olson, PO Box 3203, Springfield, MO 65808-3203**

**Or: Phone 800-787-2429**

**Or: E-mail jimboymo@yahoo.com**

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

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## 2007 RUPA CONVENTION

The date has been set for the next RUPA Convention. It will be held in Seattle Washington, with registration on Thursday September 20<sup>th</sup>, and closing with the Banquet on the night of Sunday September 23<sup>rd</sup>. We have selected the *Seattle Marriott Airport* hotel as our headquarters. The *Marriott* is an outstanding hotel that has recently undergone a complete renovation with frequent courtesy airport transportation. We are sure you will be pleased with the sleeping rooms and banquet facilities. The group in Seattle, headed by Dick Anderson and Robert Reid, will be arranging the tours. Certainly one of the highlight tours will be a visit to the Boeing plant. There are many interesting things to see and do while in the Seattle area; see the sights, visit with friends, and have a good time. Now set aside these dates for the 2007 RUPA Convention.

Submitted by *Rich Bouska*

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## SAN DIEGO RUPA LUNCHEON

We had six at our luncheon. Paul Whitby, Bob Harrell, Don Trunick, Bill Paulsen, first timer Gary Johnson, whose keepers let him out for the day, and myself.

With our seniority the talk is not about pension but more on health. We do get a little flying in. Hugh Wilson is home and thinks he might make the next meeting.

*Bob Bowman*

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## THE SEATTLE GOONEY BIRDS

The Seattle Gooney Birds met at the *Marriott* 9-21-06.

Attending: Jim Adams, Pat Williams, Frank Carpine, Dick Anderson, Dean Turner, Jim Bleasdel, Jack Brown, Dave Carver, Rex Joseph, Jim Barber, Jerry Pryde, Fred Sindlinger, Dan Jessup, Herb Marks, Ken Case, Chuck Westpfahl, Howard Holder, Bob Reid, Al Tiel, Don Anderson, Jim Chilton, Bill Brett, Brent Revert.

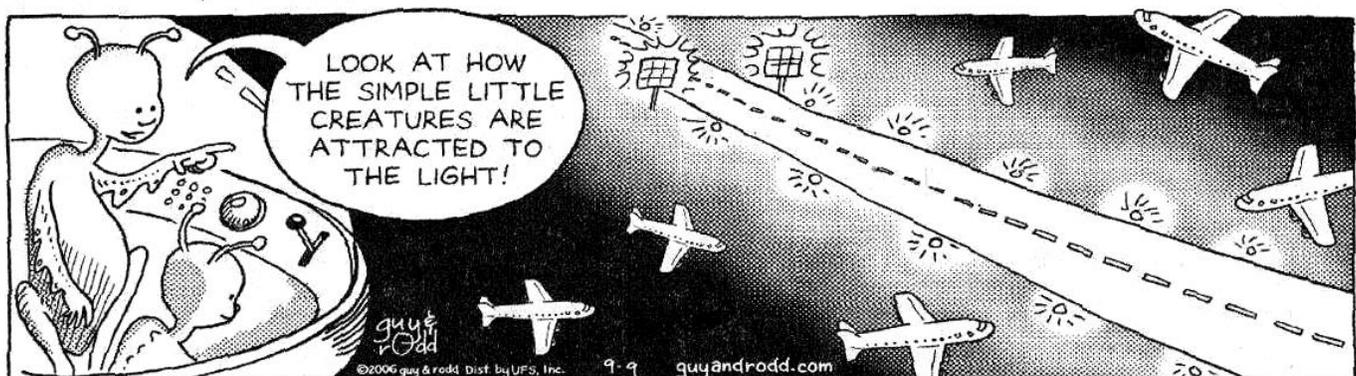
Thanks were given to Bob Reid for cheerfully taking on all responsibility for hosting the National RUPA Seattle visit.

Lots of gifts were brought for Mark Gilkey's birthday, but had to be returned since he didn't show.

Great jokes and lots of conversation were shared by all.

*Brent*

### **BREVITY** *Guy and Rodd*



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## DO STATINS HELP YOU LIVE LONGER?

By R. J. Rowen, M.D.

It's a well-known fact that statins will lower your cholesterol. Many studies have demonstrated that the drugs do, in fact, work. But the question isn't, "Do statins work?" The real question is, "Do statins help you live longer?" And, believe it or not, we recently received the answer from the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

The article shows the results of a huge 513 multi-center trial. The study compared the all-cause mortality of users of *pravastatin* to "usual care" (lifestyle changes) for high cholesterol. The average starting total cholesterol was 224, HDL 48 and triglycerides 152. And the average age was 66.

The researchers gave pravastatin (40mg) to 5,170 and "usual care" to 5,185. Pravastatin was found to reduce cholesterol by 17% vs. 8% with "usual care" over four years. "Bad" LDL cholesterol levels were reduced by 28% with pravastatin vs. 11% with "usual care." With the frenzy over cholesterol as a killer, and medical suggestions that half our population should go on these synthetic chemicals, you might lay odds that the pravastatin group did better. Good thing you were not in Las Vegas. The house would have won.

In fact, the all-cause mortality of the groups was essentially identical. The authors soft-pedaled the truth with the following conclusion. "The results may be due to the modest differential in total cholesterol (9.6%) and LDL-C (16.7%) between pravastatin and usual care compared with prior statin trials supporting cardiovascular disease prevention."

What they're burying is that lifestyle changes do as much as the costly statin to save your life. So what is society getting for thousands of dollars per year per patient for this class of chemicals? Thinner wallets and congestive heart failure (caused by the statins) — that's it!

I've said for years that statin therapy may lower your cholesterol, but that it won't help you live longer. And this study proves it. Before you start taking any drug therapy, get your doctor to prove that your life quality will be improved or lengthened. Just because it changes some arbitrary number doesn't mean it will save your life.

*Ref: JAMA. 2002 December 18;288(23):2998-3007.*

### **ABOUT THE COVER:**

This beautiful 1941 Stearman, N2S-3, owned by John Reed, is a stock Navy Stearman, with a 220 hp Continental Engine, hangared at Schellville, Sonoma Valley Airport, Sonoma Valley, California.

John came to United after eleven years in the U.S. Air Force. Beginning as an enlisted man, he transitioned from B-47 maintenance, through the Aviation Cadet program, to navigator/electronics warfare officer on the B-52. As a commercial pilot, he was hired by United in 1967.

John has a long standing interest in antique planes. He also has a 1936 Waco cabin biplane and a 1959 Cessna 180. Restoration of a 1941 deHavilland Rapide is almost complete. To ensure that he has no spare time in retirement, he is working to restore a 455' long WWII cargo ship, the SS Red Oak Victory, in Richmond, California.

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## THESE ARE THE PEOPLE WRITING OUR LAWS

### Perhaps this explains a few things...

A Washington, DC airport ticket agent offers some examples:

1. I had a New Hampshire Congresswoman ask for an aisle seat so that her hair wouldn't get messed up by being near the window.
2. I got a call from a candidate's staffer, who wanted to go to Capetown. I started to explain the length of the flight and the passport information, then she interrupted me with, "I'm not trying to make you look stupid, but Capetown is in Massachusetts," Without trying to make her look stupid, I calmly explained, "Cape Cod is in Massachusetts, Capetown is in Africa," Her response - click.
3. A senior Vermont Congressman called, furious about a Florida package we did. I asked what was wrong with the vacation in Orlando. He said he was expecting an ocean-view room. I tried to explain that's not possible, since Orlando is in the middle of the state. He replied, "Don't lie to me, I looked on the map and Florida is a very thin state!"
4. I got a call from a lawmaker's wife who asked, "Is it possible to see England from Canada?" I said, "No." She said, "But they look so close on the map."
5. An aide for a cabinet member once called and asked if he could rent a car in Dallas. When I pulled up the reservation, I noticed he had only a 1-hour layover in Dallas. When I asked him why he wanted to rent a car, he said, "I heard Dallas was a big airport, and we will need a car to drive between gates to save time."
6. An Illinois Congresswoman called last week. She needed to know how it was possible that her flight from Detroit left at 8:30 am and got to Chicago at 8:33 am. I explained that Michigan was an hour ahead of Illinois, but she couldn't understand the concept of time zones. Finally, I told her the plane went really fast . . . and she bought that.
7. A New York lawmaker called and asked, "Do airlines put your physical description on your bag so they know whose luggage belongs to whom?"  
I said, "No, why do you ask?" She replied, "Well, when I checked in with the airline, they put a tag on my luggage that said (FAT), and I'm overweight. I think that's very rude!"  
After putting her on hold for a minute while I looked into it (I was laughing) I came back and explained the city code for Fresno, CA is (FAT), and the airline was just putting a destination tag on her luggage.
8. A Senator's aide called to inquire about a trip package to Hawaii.  
After going over all the cost info, she asked, "Would it be cheaper to fly to California, and then take the train to Hawaii?"
9. I just got off the phone with a freshman Congressman who asked, "How do I know which plane to get on?" I asked him what exactly he meant, to which he replied, "I was told my flight number is 823, but none of these planes have numbers on them."
10. A lady Senator called and said, "I need to fly to Pepsi-Cola, Florida. Do I have to get on one of those little computer planes?" I asked if she meant fly to Pensacola, Fl. on a commuter plane. She said, "Yeah, whatever, smarty!"
11. A senior Senator called and had a question about the documents he needed in order to fly to China. After a lengthy discussion about passports, I reminded him that he needed a visa. "Oh, no I don't. I've been to China many times and never had to have one of those." I double checked and sure enough, his stay required a visa. When I told him this he said, "Look, I've been to China four times and every time they have accepted my American Express!"

12. A New Mexico Congresswoman called to make reservations, "I want to go from Chicago to Rhino, New York." I was at a loss for words. Finally, I said, "Are you sure that's the name of the town?"

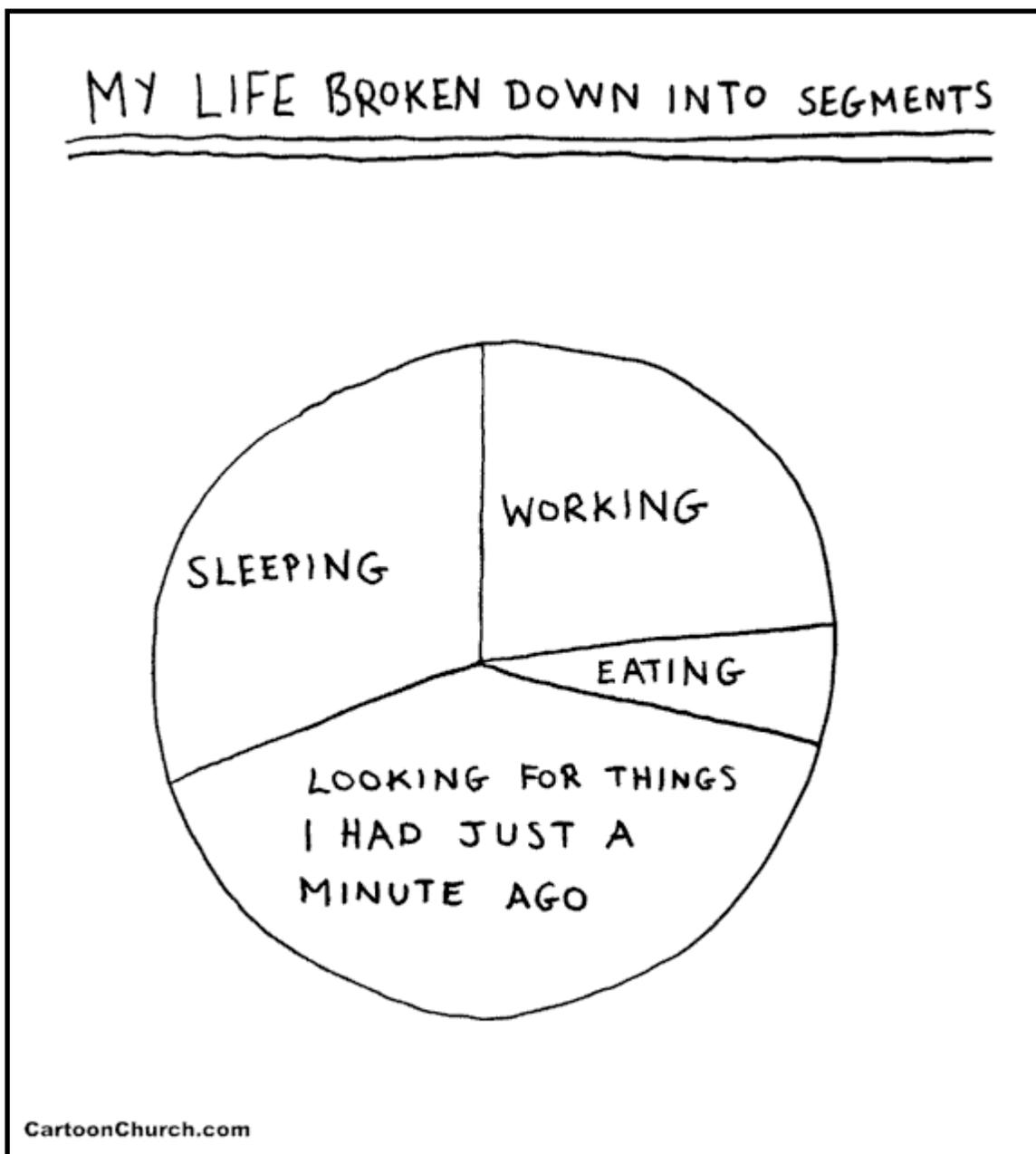
"Yes, what flights do you have?" replied the lady.

After some searching, I came back with, "I'm sorry, ma'am, I've looked up every airport code in the country and can't find a Rhino anywhere."

The lady retorted, "Oh, don't be silly! Everyone knows where it is. Check your map!" "So I scoured a map of the state of New York and finally offered, "You don't mean Buffalo, do you?"

The reply? "Whatever! I knew it was a big animal".

Your Tax Dollars at Work



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## RECOLLECTIONS OF A GREAT GUY

By Keeton Barnes

1967 was a good year for me. I landed a pilot's job with the largest airline in the free world. In September I showed up in Chicago to display all the flight engineer skills I had acquired in my training on the DC-6. I had some pilot's skills as well...about 200 hours pointing Cessna 150's and Piper 140's around the sky, not too far from the ground. I could fly without looking out the front too although I had only flown in one real cloud. That was when my instructor let me fly into some part of a lumpy one in NE Colorado. When it started pelting us with very hard sounding rain the instructor said I might as well take off the hood. I was really impressed with this instrument flying stuff until I noticed the instructor's face was the color of a KKK uniform.

It didn't take long flying out of Chicago to get a look at how the "real" pilots performed instrument flying. My first demo came from a crusty old, 'had to have been at least 45, "Six Captain" who shot a beautiful approach into CID in 200-1/2, snow and fog. I was proud not to have snuffed any of the engines while he did so. The captain was Doug Wilsman.

At some point during that trip Doug suggested that I attend a Council 12 meeting. I did. It was interesting. I went to a second one, following which, Doug asked me if I would become the C-12 Second Officer Representative. ALPA did not have S/O reps. Doug, when queried, simply replied, "They should. Will you be it?" I said yes and started yet another training program...at the first ever C-12 office. (Not far away, Bill Arsenault had opened an MEC office and moved into it the entire written history of the United ALPA pilots...from the trunk of the former chairman's car.)

Over the next three or four years I learned a lot from and about Doug Wilsman; some things profound; some just plain useful. After starting and writing the C-12 Banner for a while, he handed it over to me: I learned to do first drafts on yellow pads, TRIPLE SPACED like he did; easier to edit. 'Never forgot that. Doug and other ALPA reps (usually, Al Akins, the first officer rep) often disagreed with, complained of, cursed, or otherwise bemoaned some company action or other. At some point you could count on Doug's saying, "Well, if they're going to do that, so be it!" Doug had not given up. He was just getting started. You can't change the past and there's not much use in spending time talking about it. Doug wanted to get on with devising how WE were going to respond. 'Never forgot that.

In 1970 I got my first taste of "going to the mattresses". United had not negotiated pay rates for the B-747 by the time it came on the line. The MEC authorized a "Withdrawal of Enthusiasm," the "WOE" program. Lots of people put in long days, but I doubt any longer than Doug. He was tireless. That's not true of course. He was tired like other humans but he just kept on going.

The day to day job of a council chairman is no picnic. Doug, like most we've been fortunate to have, was always available to answer a call for help. Where he stood out was that he often helped before a pilot, or the whole council for that matter, knew they needed it. At least once he yanked a pilot out of dispatch in pre-dawn hours preventing him from signing in for a trip that he was not physically or mentally legal to fly and then transported him to a venue offering treatment that might enable the completion of a jeopardized career.

Doug had and still has one of the best analytical minds I've encountered. He used it well in defending pilots against company action he considered incorrect, uncalled for, or excessive. I was one told (by Bill Arsenault, I think) that the company wanted Doug for a Flight Manager because he was the only one they knew who would be able to fire a pilot and make it stick. Doug never took them up on that. He did go on to serve as an ALPA appointee on the System Board of Adjustment.

I moved to DCA in 1971 and encountered Doug many times over the years but never got the pleasure of working along side as in the early years. Doug retired in 1985 a matter of days after the conclusion of the strike. As usual, he had spent his time "in the barrel" I was not surprised to see him take on another sizable analytical chore when the PBGC raised its ugly head, but I sure was happy to see it.

Well for the moment I, like lots of us, have lost 70% of my pension. So be it! We're not through yet. Thank you, Doug.

## FRUIT STICKERS—LOOK FOR THE 8

You've probably noticed that tiny stickers now appear on almost all fruit. These contain bar codes for the check-out clerk, but they also contain a secret the store might not want you to know.

Nutritionist Karma Metzgar of the University of Missouri writes that these stickers also tell you if the fruit is organic or genetically-modified. On conventionally-grown, non-organic fruit, the sticker has only 4 numbers. Organically grown fruit has a five-numeral code, which begins with the number 9.

Since organic fruits and vegetables now have to be in separate areas in grocery stores, this confirms that your apple hasn't ended up in the wrong pile.

However, the store does not have to reveal which fruits and vegetables are genetically- modified... but you can find out by looking for the stickers that begin with the number 8.

According to Metzgar, this means a regular banana would have a sticker saying 4011, an organic banana would say 94011 and a genetically modified banana would say 84011.

Lots of people complain that the stickers are too hard to peel off, so it may be a relief to know that the adhesive is safe to eat.

*The Bob Livingston Letter*---September 2006

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PS Form 3526, September 2006 (Page 2 of 3)

# LETTERS

**JAIME P. ALEXANDER**—Council Bluffs, IA

Hello All,

I note that I probably failed to check in with a note last year. That was in conjunction with failing to pay my postage fee until November. This all is a symptom from my distraction while working my way through a three year leadership track with my church. Having now reached the "Past President" stage I find I more often know what month it is. Otherwise I can report life moving along in an OK manner. I sold the Luscombe allowing more time with gliders and my friend Dee's Skylane. We had to leave it at home for OSH this year though because a bladder tank failed the week before departure. It did give us something different to shop for. We even visited the Luscombe. And we verified my GMC pick up will carry somewhat more stuff than a Skylane. I remain a non fan of airline travel but did figure out the new ways enough to visit Houston where Dee's son was traveling in "Cats". Also since our relationship had survived my high school 50<sup>th</sup> four years ago, Dee was willing to risk the 50<sup>th</sup> college reunion at UVA. That took us into IAD where a side trip to the Udvar-Hazy Air and Space museum was enjoyable.

My daughter and two grandkids, along with again two dogs, all help me keep my home from becoming too quiet or too clean. Son Jeff is still flying 737's from DEN. He and Pam flew the 180 to OSH where we enjoyed some time together. Thanks to Ted and everyone working on *RUPANEWS* for providing this opportunity to check in. Best to all.

*Jaime Alexander*, ORD '94

**ALLAN ANDERSON**—Stanardsville, VA

Like most of you, I am seeing the time flying by. It has been 9 years since flying a "coach" rope start 747 from HNL to SFO with more people on board than any time in my career. There were 450 seats all full 16 FA's 2 jump-seaters and the 3 of us.

When we arrived in HNL dispatch for my final flight, the copilot, my brother in-law, Jim Abell, saw that there were to be 2 jump seat riders. The

Feds! Not on my final flight! But it turned out to be George Black a NTSB board member and Greg Feith his fellow a/c accident investigator. You will remember them both from the Florida Value Jet Accident. They had been in Guam working on the KAL accident and had to be back in Washington to present the final report on Value Jet. They had been up all night riding jump seat on CAL. Jim had two Video camera's to record the event. George became one of the camera men. We all had a ball.

Mr. Black invited me to visit the NTSB facility. I accepted his offer some months later. He truly rolled out the red carpet. He had arranged a special demo of their electron microscope. They used a strut from an engine from the Delta 727 Pensacola Escambia Bay water landing to demonstrate that they could count the engine starts just as we can count the age of a tree by rings. It was new to me.

I had the chance to see what the US Air 737 Pittsburgh accident looked like from the pilots perspective. Flight data had converted to show the cockpit view. This accident and Captain Al Green's Accident in Colorado Springs were both found to have been caused by abnormal rudder inputs NOT pilot induced. George and I still stay in touch.

Just a little of my good memories. There are very many. I enjoy thinking of them much more than being angry.

*Allan*

allananderson@earthlink.net

**DICK ANDERSON**—Wailea, HI

Just past mid-September, so time for the annual letter! The apartment we moved into after we sold our condo was, in turn, sold and the new owners turned it into a condo! Fortunately, we had an 18-month lease so they had to buy us out. Not a really great thing....as we had already planned on moving into Horizon House in downtown Seattle....a very nice retirement home. We had already reserved a unit in the new tower, but it won't be completed until summer/fall of 2007. So, into a really, really small unit.....sort of like a commuter pad.....as we spend most of our time at our home on Maui.

Other than spending the winter on Maui, we did manage a couple of trips since the last report: A great time at the RUPA convention in Washington, DC last October where we were so pleased to see

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many old friends and meet new friends. Then, in the spring a cruise on Oceania Line "Regatta" from Barcelona to Stockholm; wonderful trip, perfect weather, great itinerary including almost 3 days in St. Petersburg, Russia. Oceania Cruise Lines was wonderful: great food, good tours, no required tuxedo (but the gals dressed up!).....even ran into people we knew from Seattle. We can heartily recommend this cruise line.

Have signed up for a cruise from Santiago, Chile to San Francisco next spring. It's on the Golden Princess - - not our favorite line but visits many ports we haven't been to before.

Health wise we feel quite fortunate not to have any new bad ailments. Laurie just had minor eyelid surgery which, while fixing the problem, has left her temporarily with a black eye. She doesn't like to be seen with it and I don't want to be blamed for it!!!

We thank those who keep the RUPA organization operating and the news published and distributed. And we extend an invitation to all RUPA members and guests to the September 2007 convention in Seattle.

*Dick Anderson* (55-87) rala5@cs.com

PS: Check to Jim at his new address

**ROBERT J. BARDEN**—Lemon Grove, CA

Hello,

I am the granddaughter of Robert J. Barden. He is currently laid-up with a broken leg. He receives the *RUPANEWS* and has read about many of his old friends and co-workers. We thought it a good idea to write up something about him so that he can let everyone know he's still around. He asked me to send it to Capt. and Mrs. Cleve Spring but I don't know how to get a hold of them.

Please publish this little note in your next newsletter. If this is not the correct place to write to, will you please let me know or forward it to the right person.

Here it is:

I just had my 85th birthday and I happen to be in an assisted living facility because of a broken leg.

I wanted to check in with my old friends and co-workers to let them know that I am hanging in there.

Hi to all you guys and gals and best wishes to everyone. *Robert*

Robert J. Barden; 6763 Hibiscus Drive; Lemon Grove, CA 91945

Thank you from me, Leah; 619-229-0219; llmange@cox.net

**KEETON BARNES**—Elberta, AL

I've not written in a couple of years and I have to get something off my chest. I've really been surprised how many former pilots, people above average in most every way and maybe even square jawed and steely eyed, start their missives whining about why they are late with their checks. Checks are due on one's birthday. That's not so hard to remember. Mine, for instance is August 29<sup>th</sup>...Oh...well... that's only nine days ago, no, make it ten; the post office is closed. Well, at least I have steely eyes.

To catch up a little:

**VISITS:** We have done Maine in the fall two times. London for a fun week with the Colonial Dames (Aileen's the member, not me). Several trips to South Carolina to visit son Doug and family and a couple to Virginia to visit son Ryan. Aileen made one short trip to Paris. The shortest significant trip was to Baton Rouge to watch daughter Elizabeth graduate from LSU this May.

**VISITORS:** All of the above visitees came to see us a few times; only fair, I guess. We've found that living on the Red Neck Riviera has increased the number significantly. Every other Thanksgiving, Aileen's family gathers in Gulf Shores, AL. 'Generally means about forty-five for dinner. This is the year. Turkey frying will start about dawn.

We had a few uninvited guests with names like Dennis, Ivan and Katrina. Dennis was a fizz but Ivan whacked pretty hard. Only took three months to get a new roof, but eleven months to get dock and walkway back....three weeks later Katrina came by and whacked the dock and walkway again. Thankfully, the real damage from Katrina began about 15 miles west of us. More than one RUPA member lost all from that one.

'Have no airplane, but am member in good standing of the Ancient Aviators of South Alabama. Lots of members did their flying in

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WWII and their stories are better than mine. Do have a boat, actually three boats and assorted things with engines. I wish being affluent enough to have those things meant being affluent enough to have someone take care of them. Recently I had seven engines that needed oil changes not counting autos. If any of you are within driving range of Foley, AL and would like to start a lunch group, call or email. Best to you all.

*Kecton*

**DON BARNHART**—La Center, WA 98629

Dear Ted and All:

Enclosed is my annual check for *RUPANEWS*. It is good to read that I am not the only octogenarian enjoying the monthly newsletter. I will celebrate my 87th birthday on September 1st. Like the others, I recognize fewer and fewer writers' names each year. However, it is good to see some still familiar names on the Board of Directors and I really do enjoy reading all the updates and information. Thanks for the good job you folks do in keeping us "in the loop."

Our little City of La Center continues to grow to more than 2,000 residents, resulting in fewer and fewer farms. It was less than 16 years ago that the population was around 400. Our twenty acres are of great interest to the developers since we are adjacent to the corporate limits and have our own woods, the East Fork of the Lewis River flowing by, a nice view of Mount Hood and are located just twenty-five minutes from PDX. Who knows, you may hear from us in Montana next year!

Sincerely, *Don*

**LOIS BENEDICT**—Glen Ellyn, IL

Hi Everyone-

It's Lois, wife of Captain Ross (Benny) Benedict (deceased). Ben would be 82 on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006...it's 5 years since he "passed on" in 2001. He was with United for 32 plus years, starting in 1952. It's been 22 years since his mandatory retirement in 1984. It's 61 years ago that we were married in 1945...where did the years go?

I just spent some time with our daughter, Cynthia in California. I keep busy and have a good life, but...like many of you other widows and widowers, I really miss my husband. He was so-o-o good to me, and I just took it for granted. He was up early, I slept in. I'd come to the kitchen table where he was having coffee and working the crossword puzzle. He'd pour me a cup while I read the Tribune. Then I'd go upstairs to dress for the day, and...the bed was made! For no reason at all, he'd bring me flowers or leave me a little note. Have you ever heard of "May Basket Day"? We both grew up in a small town, Kewanee, IL, and there was a custom there for grade school kids. Before May 1<sup>st</sup>, the girls would be busy making little "containers" out of wallpaper, little paper cups, crepe paper etc., into a cone shape, a basket, an envelope etc. to be filled with candy. Then on May 1<sup>st</sup>, we'd deliver them to our friends' homes, ring the bell and run like "H---" so we wouldn't be caught and kissed (and...sometimes we didn't run!) Anyway, Ben and I didn't know each other until we were sophomores in high school...I was "parochial" grade school and he was "public"...so there were no May Baskets involved. In later married years, on May 1<sup>st</sup> I would wake up to a little basket outside the bedroom door. (Ben had revived the old "May Basket Day" for me). He had to go to the attic and scrounge around to find a little basket. In it, there would be Fanny May Candy, or flowers or a magazine or my favorite sweet rolls from the bakery etc. etc. What a guy! Just little things to let me know he was thinking of me.

So, here I am at age 81...I still volunteer, mow my own lawn, do all the gardening, attend plays (just attended one with our daughter, Cecilia) attend dinner-theatre with a group of friends, belong to clubs, go for luncheons etc. etc., but...it's still a lonely life! Where have my "May Baskets" been these past 5 years? (Our daughter, Christina, whom lives an hour away, did drive here early one morning, the May 1<sup>st</sup> after Ben passed on, to make sure I had my May Basket). I miss all of the wonderful things in my life, connected to my husband, but ...most of all... "I MISS MY BEN"!

Thanks to all the RUPA volunteers. To quote Jackie Gleason..."You're the greatest!"

*Lois Benedict*

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## SENIOR GOLF RULES

### **Rule #1**

A ball sliced or hooked into the rough shall be lifted and placed on the fairway at a point equal to the distance it carried or rolled into the rough with no penalty. Senior players should never be penalized for uncontrollable mechanical problems.

### **Rule #2**

A ball hitting a tree shall be deemed not to have hit the tree. This is simply bad luck and luck has no place in a scientific game. The player must estimate the distance that the ball would have traveled had it not hit the tree and can play the ball from there.

### **Rule #3**

There shall be no such thing as a lost ball. The missing ball is on or near the course and will eventually be found and pocketed by someone else, making it a stolen ball. The player is not to compound the felony by charging himself or herself with a penalty stroke.

### **Rule #4**

If a putt passes over a hole without dropping in, it's deemed to have dropped. The law of gravity supersedes the law of golf.

### **Rule #5**

Putts that stop close enough to the cup that they can be blown in, may be blown in. This does not apply to balls more than three inches from the hole. No one wants to make a travesty of the game.

### **Rule #6**

There is no penalty for so-called "out of bounds". If penny-pinching golf course owners had bought sufficient land, this would not occur. The golfer deserves an apology, not a penalty.

### **Rule #7**

There is no penalty for a ball in a water hazard, since golf balls should float. That they do not is a technical problem that manufacturers have yet to overcome. Golfers should not be punished for manufacturers' shortcomings.

### **Rule #8**

Advertisements proclaim that golf scores can be improved by purchasing new clubs, balls, shoes, etc. Since this is financially impossible for the average senior golfer, one stroke per round per ten-year club age may be subtracted for using old equipment.

### **Rule #9**

Senior Golfers may take one extra "Mulligan" per 9 holes, just in case they forgot to take one during a previous round.

### **Rule #10**

Senior Golfers may apply "Winter Rules" (Improving their "lie", moving a ball from a "casual" water hazard etc.) at any time since it's too cold for seniors to actually play in winter in most locations. Why should they miss out for health reasons?

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**DENNY BERG**—San Diego, CA

The year went too fast, hence the late check. Thanks to all the new volunteers, for all of your work, keeping us all informed. We finished our house in Mexico, and find the tranquil lifestyle to be healthful and relaxing. With lots of time in the water, and other fun recreational activities, we will be there about 8 months a year. There are several families, (all close friends from our past), who also have homes down there. San Diego still has the best weather in the country, so we will be here when not traveling, spending the hot months of Baja summer, living in warm Southern California. Starting a dialogue about ALPA or UAL can stir up some bitter feelings, and that's unproductive, so enough said. Our son will be a senior at Harvard, and is a pre-med student. With medical school on the horizon, we will have to dig deep to keep that going. The intentionally-delayed parenthood was great for many reasons, but we never imagined having a kid in school for the first ten years of retirement. With a few exceptions, including ALPA and United, retirement has been fantastic. I hope for most of you who might read this, that your experience has been as rewarding. Our address in Todos Santos is 77 Camino Internacional. There will always be a cold one available for anyone who stops by!!! Pacifico, Dos XX, Modelo?

*Nancy & Denny*

**TOM BETTIS**—Mesa, AZ

Hello---At 88 going forward, half throttle.

Regards, *Tom*

MDW / ORD / '45---'75

**JOHN BIEGER**—Boca Raton, FL

This is the year that I turned 85. I feel apprehension here, as lots of others who did so are gone. However I am feeling well. Late with this report due to hurricane, shutters, damnable computers and groundskeeping. I have a question if anyone knows the answer? Is the residual \$10,000, reduced from \$50,000 insurance, that was to be payable upon my death still due and from whom? The best to all!

*John* Check by snail mail

**JIM CHILTON**—Seattle, WA

Eighteen years and counting. Tess and I are still enjoying the great N.W. and our beautiful home and view of Puget Sound. Due to health concerns we are not traveling and we sold our boat but life is still good. It's exciting and rewarding to see our eight grandchildren grow up and head off to college.

Thanks to all who make the *RUPANEWS* possible. Check to Jim Olson----*Jim*

Tessa Chilton; omatess@att.net

--SEAFO-SFOFO-SEAFO-1955/1988

**GARY DAVIS**—Sonoma, CA

Dear Ted,

Gary claims that he is too shy, modest and humble to write about himself, so he has asked me, Suzie, his lovely, patient, understanding, supportive, saintly, did I say patient(?) wife of over 30 years, to update *RUPANEWS*.

First of all, he did ask me to thank all the folders and stuffers for their constant, tireless, menial work, day after day, the same thing, that goes unappreciated, unrewarded, not even so much as a lousy "thank you." Trust me, I can certainly understand first hand what that is like.

A little over a year ago, we moved from Novato to Sonoma to downsize. We bought a small house close to the town square. I am not able to get as far away from Gary's snoring as I used to, but being close to the square is nice because in his later years, I will be able to wheel him down to the park and let him look for free papers and feed the pigeons while I read and enjoy the peace and quiet.

A little over 2 years ago, Gary started working for NetJets flying the Citation X. He just got an upgrade to Captain in another Cessna. I am not sure he even knows which one, yet, because whenever I ask him to hang a picture, he says he has to go study. When I check on him after a few minutes and he is usually sound asleep. With NetJets, he is gone for 7 glorious days when I can get lots of stuff done at home, then he is home for 7 days. Incidentally, the other nice thing about NetJets is that they don't require their pilots to wear hats, so I no longer have to put up with that obnoxious symbol of his authority on the

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headboard every night, which I am sure he left there intentionally just to remind me that he was "the Captain."

We haven't taken a vacation since Gary retired from United, but he promised to take me to Mt. Rushmore this fall. Whoopee! In fact, I overheard him on the phone making reservations for the rental car. A sub-compact with the AARP discount. I am a little concerned because he said he would pick the car up at the airport, but I thought I overheard him say "San Francisco," instead of "Rapid City." He said he wanted to see the new statue of "W" carved in the mountains, but I don't have the heart to tell him that the new statue he is referring to is actually "Crazy Horse." We will be sure to write about our wonderful experiences from this trip in next year's update.

To help out, he suggested I get a job. So, I am working at Crate and Barrel, well, actually on the sidewalk just outside of Crate and Barrel, selling beaded bracelets and trivets I make from Gary's wine corks. However, lately his wine has come with screw caps, so I am going to have to figure how to modify my products accordingly.

Take care, all. Until next year.

*Gary and Suzie Davis*

**NORMAN DE BACK**—Novato, CA

Hi Ted,

Another year quickly passed. As an old Air Force buddy told me, "ageing isn't for sissies."

Thanks to all for getting out the *RUPANEWS*. I see fewer names I recognize, but maybe older people write less. I do get to see many North Bay retirees at our monthly luncheon in Petaluma hosted by Bob Donegan. This past year has been a healthful one for Pat and me. Next year we will celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. Our son Michael's daughter, Mekenna made first team all-American girls soccer for 14 and under. In July, we accompanied her to Gutenberg, Sweden for the world cup. The event lasted 7 days and was a lot of fun. Her team finished in second place to a team from Los Angeles. 24,000 players participated in the event. I keep busy with 5 grand children, all fortunately living within 100 miles of our home. Golf is still mystery but I keep trying anyway. The check is in the mail. *Norm.*

**DONALD DIEDRICK**—Carol Stream, IL

Greetings Ted.

Another year in retirement (yesterday was 4 & counting), provides further opportunity to express appreciation for the fine efforts of yourself & staff in sharing our mutual experiences. So much has changed in a few years, but we thankfully turn the page and move on, trying to avoid the rat race and hang onto a healthy lifestyle. Next year Medicare, and would like to see articles on supplemental plans available in a future issue of *RUPANEWS*. The diverse articles included monthly are always interesting, and the comedy section welcomed. Jen & I hope to visit Hawaii this October again, and enjoyed a couple of UAX flights to Cincinnati & Nashville recently. Our last child just started College, after which we propose to move to the more balanced weather of the Big Island-though building costs continue climbing. Best wishes to all for a healthy and stable 2007.

Cheers---*Don*

**JAMES A. DOWNING**—Crystal Lake, IL

Hello to all-

It's hard to believe that I've been retired just over one year, and so I'm late with my first renewal. Ooops...

The *RUPANEWS* is a nice link to my former life and it's encouraging to hear that so many of the group are enjoying themselves. I haven't done any flying but the relief of being away from United is enough compensation. It's hard to believe that a company could have, for so long, such a truly fine group of pilots and such a truly moronic management.

My retirement hopes involved moving to a smaller house somewhere without winter, like Arizona or Florida. But both of our daughters are living in the Chicago area and Joani wants to stay around for the distant day when we will be grandparents. The closest we've come is for one daughter to get a dog which we call our "granddogger".

So we are in our 26th year at the same address. Back in 1977 I started working part time for a small police department near here, and they needed a new

---

Chief just before I retired. So here I am- still working and they insist that I keep with it. Maybe next summer I'll retire For Real.

During my 36 years with United I always enjoyed the beauty of our country as seen from an airplane, but we took most of our vacations in other countries. Gotta show the kids around the world, you know. Now we travel on our own and got a Corvette for road trips. It's almost as much fun as an airplane and a whole lot cheaper and more practical.

For all of you whom I flew with, thanks for the good times. And feel free to drop us a line some time. *Jim*

3211 Stonegate Drive, Crystal lake, IL 60012

**BILL ENGEL**—Easton, PA

Birthday month is about to pass and I do want to say a few things. First, UAL getting out of bankruptcy is great and hopefully the increase of fuel prices will come down sometime soon. They are talking about a profit soon and that sounds good too. Nancy had a light stroke a few days ago. Her right arm and leg will need therapy which starts today. I hope this will correct the problems. My condition is about the same as last year, eyes and ears are the problem.

My best to all, *Bill*

**ANDY FOSSGREEN**—Placerville, CA

Hi Ted,

I haven't written a note in a few years but we have moved and downsized with UAL's prompting and are still getting settled. We moved into Rod Farley's former home and are enjoying it very much. Our family of five kids and ten grandkids keep us busy.

Our new address is:  
2931 Texas Hill Road  
Placerville, CA 95667

I appreciate the hard work of so many who make RUPA work,

*Andy* captandy60@hotmail.com

**DOROTHY GATES**—Pleasantville, NY

Just checking in! Another year has gone by and all is well with me. Keeping busy with hospital volunteering, jewelry class and Woman's Club, and of course grand children.

Check to Jim at his new address, stay well all.

*Dorothy*

**HERB GIEFER**—Evergreen, CO

Greetings,

It's a good thing we have such idiots in Washington and Chicago, or we wouldn't have anything to complain about. No pilot is truly happy, we all know, unless he has something to complain and whine about.

Entering my fourth year of retirement, I ain't complaining. Pat and I are healthy, as are the kids and grandkids who all live within an hour of here. 50 days of skiing, 65 days of golf---no complaints except my putting sucks.

Rode my Honda Shadow 750 to Sturgis last month. If you haven't been to bike week in Sturgis, you ain't seen nothing. Great people watching. Later this month we're off to China for 3 weeks.

Cheers to all the *RUPANEWS* staff.

*Herb*

**BOB GOETZ**—Phoenix, AZ

Greetings from the Valley of the Sun.

Last October my wife Nancy and I moved from Northern Virginia where we had lived the past 7 years to Phoenix. The occasion of the move was that our daughter and husband had asked us so that we might be near to our two grandsons, 4 and 2. The parents are both deaf and our grandsons are hearing. It was a little bit of a struggle as we moved from a two story home with a basement to a one story home, no basement. Guess it was time to down size and now we are 6 doors down from our daughter and family and enjoying it very much. The only thing we haven't enjoyed was our first summer in Phoenix.

---

Heart problems which forced an early retirement in May of 1998 have not reappeared and my colorectal cancer has passed the 5 year point with no re-occurrence. We are very grateful to God for the health we enjoy. I enjoy the *RUPANEWS* although I have to admit I don't recognize a lot of the names. And as I'm sure many reading this are saying: "who in the heck is this guy". The Czech's in the male. *Bob*

**DAVID AND PAULETTE HEILBRUN—**  
Huntingdon Valley, PA

This late check definitely proves that I need to clean off my desk more often! No excuses but I do apologize.

As everyone seems to say—the past year has just raced by.

The major renovation at the Mana Kai, Maui (built by some UAL pilots in 1972) finally has a light at the end of the tunnel. Being 6000 miles away has made it difficult to run a renovation, but I'm thrilled to say that the results are looking spectacular. You wouldn't recognize the old Mana Kai.

We seem to have the same difficulty and puzzlement that we noticed in the last newsletter re: ALPA and our pensions. Let's hope that what goes around will someday come around.

In the meantime, we've made some difficult decisions and have our place up for sale. We are planning to move out to Oregon where Paulette was raised. For me, a Philadelphia guy, it's a huge move but we're both excited. Now, let's hope the housing market comes out of it's standstill.

We wish all of you well and look forward to each issue of *RUPANEWS*.

Many thanks,

*David and Paulette Heilbrun*

3370 Brae Bourn Road  
Huntingdon Valley, PA. 19006  
215 948-0884  
pdheilbrun@msn.com

**HOWARD & SANDRA HOLDER—**Tacoma, WA

Hello all of RUPA,

Having procrastinated all spring and summer, it is time to write. Sandra and I, in celebration of our 50th wedding anniversary in July, went with both daughters and two grandchildren (adults now), on an Alaskan cruise in August. The day we got back, I left for a week-long kayak trip on the Willamette River, 120 miles, with about 125 Oregon Riverkeepers. Both great trips.

Now the medical report. Overworked on the beach one day, I felt a tightness, no pain, in my chest. I told Sandra who called local fire response team and then things hit the fan. A little oxygen fixed the tightness, and then off to the hospital. Very impressed with the EMTs and paramedic. Next tests, then a stent put in. I do not want to belittle the medical profession, but no sweat to the patient: just show up.

I enjoy the guest lectures at the Museum of Flight, and I have applied to help with plane restoration--currently a Comet and FM in progress. I don't recognize the names very much, but enjoy reading about what other retirees are up to. Thanks to the team who make it possible. So long till next year,

*Howard & Sandra* SEA SFO 1960 till 1989

**RICHARD "POSS" HORTON—**Virginia Beach, VA

Dear Jim,

I am going to be on time with my check this year. It's the least I can do considering all you folks do to make the organization work and to keep us up to date. It is so important to have an organization to hold us together, especially during times like these. We all need help and encouragement at one time or another and looking out for each other keeps us from being blindsided for the most part.

I am doing fine. PSA 0.3, seed implants 9 years ago this July. Thanks to the many guys who gave me information during the decision period.

Our move to Virginia Beach two years ago has taken the boy out of the country for sure. My wife Sandra is doing fine and still putting up with me. My daughter lives here with her five children and Navy husband. Not a bad guy for a "swabbie" and of course my son was in the Navy too, out now, but doing contract work for the DOD.

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As they say you really don't miss the job, but you do miss the people.

The *RUPANEWS* is a great source of information and staying in touch with the friends of a lifetime. Thanks for your hard work and dedication.

Sincerely, *Poss*

**DAVE HOYT**—Westport, CT

Hi to all...

Another year running boats, my own and a 58 ft Vicem. Captain of both and the Vicem has provided a little income and gotten me out of the delivery business except for an occasional one when "open time" allows.

Second son just made Lieutenant Colonel flying tankers having had a back operation done at Walter Reed which took him out of ejection seat aircraft (ex F-15). Very proud of his aviation following of Dad and I am particularly glad to see him NOT go into the industry. I certainly agree that we have been absolutely screwed by both ALPA and UAL.

Ellie and I are fine and blessed with 45 years of marriage and eight grandchildren that we enjoy very much. *Dave*

**JIM KEHOE**—Glen Ellyn, IL

Almost two years now since I pulled the plug on good old UAL (who am I kidding?) after 38 years of flying for them. Currently battling with the Friendly Aviation Administration to regain my medical so I can pursue either gainful employment or recreational flying. Seems like they see something at fault with my heart that no other doctors can find. Funny that I still play competitive racquetball and play on three fast pitch men's hardball teams. Oh well, that is the same government that brings us the Airline Transportation Stabilization Board and the PBGC. What can you expect? Off to Mayo Clinic for a definitive evaluation this coming Monday and hope to be back in the air within six weeks.

In the mean time Marianne and I have put the house here in Glen Ellyn on the market and as soon as this sells will purchase a home we discovered in Merida Mexico, the capital of the Yucatan. It will be a big change and require learning ANOTHER foreign language but it has to be easier than

Mandarin Chinese! We have been studying that for awhile as our new grand daughter is half Chinese and the other grandparents do not speak any English.

Once we get settled in down there we would welcome a visit from any of our old United friends. It is a great party house in a great city that retains that quaint custom called

"Happy Hours". *Jim*

**DON AND MARY MERUCCI**—Pleasanton, CA

It has been a mostly positive year for Mary & me. Our son & daughter-in-law presented us with our first granddaughter on Dec. 26th. Mary Katharin Merucci is proudly named after two wonderful grandmothers. In the not so distant past, a girl with a name like that might be expected to be destined for the convent.

Mary passed one more year cancer free. To help her fellow survivors, she started a breast cancer support group through our church.

We learned that our new and reduced pension did not wreak financial havoc upon our household. Our conservative lifestyle served us well (I'm trying to keep a positive tone to my musings.)

I am still a docent on the USS Hornet Museum. I do feel that I am getting really old when I have to explain to our younger visitors how a dial telephone works.

I have adopted the philosophy with my body that "If it's hurtin', at least it's workin'!"

I enjoy the monthly F & S meeting with the guys (when I can make it.) I really have the "thrifty pilot" syndrome when I am willing to spend 2 hours driving and pay a \$3.00 bridge toll, so I can get a "free cup of coffee and a donut."

Ciao, *Don and Mary Merucci*

**NORM MILLER**—Parker, CO

Ted,

With the reduced cost of printing and mailing the *RUPANEWS*, isn't it time we reduce the subscription cost, particularly for those of us on a retirement fixed over 30 years ago?

MOST can get it off the web!

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I find the RUAEA newsletter much more interesting and provides UAL benefit news that retirees can use for the money. Check it out!

Sure RUPA is a social organization but the only thing I get of interest is the obituary notices.

Just some passing thoughts.

Thanks and enjoy! *Norm*

*You're welcome. -Ed.*

**M. RAY RANDALL**—Federal Way, WA

First of all I want to thank the gang that puts out the *RUPANEWS*. I am a little late but that is not too bad for an 84 year old. I saw a lot of airplanes in my 42 years in airplanes but the one I still dream about is the old F4U Corsair. Never quite got over flying it. Faye and I are in pretty good health considering our age. Have given up skiing, chasing after steelhead, running the rivers in a river boat and back packing but still able to travel. Don't see very many names in the *RUPANEWS* that I recognize, that should tell me something.

Until next year:

*Ray & Faye* mrrcorsair@attglobal.net

**MAURY ROSENBERG**—Doylestown, PA

I am completing my 3<sup>rd</sup> year of retirement and decided to add my "2 cents" to the LETTERS from our fellow Rupans.

Like the majority of us I've gone through the frustration and angst of the bankruptcy. And like the majority I've gotten on with my life. We are all survivors and need to remember that.

In my 40 years of aviation, (2 years as an A & P, 38 years in the cockpit), I've had the honor and privilege to be associated with a plethora of unique individuals. I can recall a fellow aviator confessing to me, after a few beers, how flying scared the dickens out of him. I asked; "So you continue to fly in order to overcome your fear?" He said; "No. I continue to fly so I can be associated with a remarkable, diverse group of professionals. And besides, they're really neat people to hang out with!" Well I had no idea how true his words rang until I started reading the *RUPANEWS LETTERS*. Like my friend, I am honored to be one of you.

Len Martin's letter with quote, August 2006, did

offend me. If he would like to know why, and so as not turn *RUPANEWS* venue into a debate vehicle, Len email me for the reason(s) why.

Regards, *Maury*

HABU273@msn.com

**BOB SCHNEIDER**—Miami, OH

Ted,

Check in mail, on time for a change, to Jim Olson. Quite a bit of labor relations activity here in Delta's second-largest domicile (CVG). Delta is following UAL's lead in turning their pilots' (and only their unionized pilots') pension obligations over to the tender mercies of the PBGC. The Delta pilots who retired in their early 50's and got 1/2 their "A" plan in a lump sum will see very little of the other 1/2. One of them, a friend of mine, has gone to work for the CSX railroad as a trainee train engineer. He works under a union contract for about 40% more money than he could have gotten in the depressed pilot market.

Remember the old Latin saying, when translated reads:

"Don't let the B\*\*TARDS GRIND YOU DOWN".

*Bob* ORDFO 1968-1993

Bob Schneider  
P.O. Box 128  
Miami, OH 45147-0128  
(513)831-5050

**HOWARD SHAW**—Coram, NY

Hi Ted,

Usual start. The check is in the mail. This tough old snow bird made it down and back one more time, Thanks to Clay Grant I made the local RUPA luncheon one time. Missed the others due to one hospital stay (blocked intestine) and skin cancer radiation. After an enjoyable winter we headed north with a cloud over my head. Just before leaving I was diagnosed with a le cancer in my throat. Upon arriving in New York a biopsy confirmed cancer in the tonsil area. I am now looking forward to seven weeks (5 days a week) of radiation. Beats surgery. I have received great moral support from friends and neighbors.

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On my arrival home I was very sad when I made my call to Frank Cambria to let him know that I was back and his wife informed me that Frank had just passed away. He was a good man and I will miss him.

*Howie Shaw*

**AUTUMN SIMKO**—Seattle, WA

I see it's time to check in with a check! So far this has been a rewarding year. Attended the graduation of grandson, Patrick, from U of Southern California, then granddaughter, Laura, from U of British Columbia and then grandson, Matt, from Prince George High school in B.C..

It's a great feeling to be a part of such momentous occasions and I am so proud of all of them.

Still doing a lot of travel – seeing the world while I can, off to China in October.

My thanks also to all of you who make it possible for so many to stay in touch.

Sincerely,

*Autumn*

**E. M. "CURLY" SLOBODIAN**—Ellensburg, WA

Hello Jim;

Hope you are enjoying the hot, sticky w/x in MO!!!

All well here in the Great Northwest, having gone thru a fantastic Summer. Now we are putting up with all the fires--might put an end to our hunting season unless we get a lot of rain soon!!

Both of us are in good health and trying to keep up with a busy schedule. Part of that is keeping track of a lot of our friends and relatives in the obit column--very sad, but we all end up there eventually. All this sounds rather morbid but we are enjoying our retirement, having recently passed 9 years.

Many thanks to all of you who participate in the RUPA work, great job!!

Take care till next year," the check`s in the mail".

Regards,

*Curly*

**DON SOBEY**—Tucson, AZ

Lap 74 around old Sol completed and really nothing much that is new to report. However, I have discovered that there is a Scottish Gnome out there who is quietly stretching out the golf courses during the night so as to make it almost impossible to reach the par 4's in regulation anymore. Other than that, the good news is that my wife of 49 years has made it thru a tough year of medical problems. A 41 day hospital stay, three major operations, 7 days in ICU, a year of chemo and she is still ticking. BTW, on the United Traditional medical plan and with Medicare the \$500,000.00 in medical bills were almost ALL covered. So those of you out there who seem to dislike our retired medical coverage should really think it over. It could be much worse and a financial disaster to anyone without some decent insurance. Check is in the mail. Fore!

*Don*

**JOHN X STEFANKI**—Los Altos Hills, CA

Dear Ted:

Tempus Fugit!

It was with much sadness that I read that Ed Strehlow had "Flown West" in April. Ed was one number senior to me in the initial United co-pilot class on August 22, 1946. He was a great guy and will be missed by all who had the pleasure of meeting and knowing him. He and I had many good times together. There are not too many persons on the "right side of the grass" from that class left.

Dorothy and I keep ourselves busy driving across the Santa Cruz mountains, to our place in Capitola located a few blocks from the beach. We have a good time together.

Wishing all good luck and good health. Happy landings.

*Johnny*

650-941-1299

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## "BAD CHOLESTEROL": A MYTH AND A FRAUD

By F. Batmanghelidj, M.D.

We in the medical profession, totally oblivious of the vital roles of cholesterol in the body, have been duped into thinking that it is this substance that causes arterial disease of the heart and the brain. The pharmaceutical industry has capitalized on the slogan of "bad cholesterol" and has produced toxic-to-the-body chemicals that minimally lower the level of cholesterol in the body and in the process cause liver damage to thousands of people, some who die as a result of using the medication.

It is surprising that none of the frequently quoted and media-popularized doctors has reflected on the fact that cholesterol levels are measured from blood taken from the veins, yet nowhere in medical literature is there a single case of cholesterol having caused obstruction of the veins. Venous blood moves far slower than arterial blood and thus would be more inclined to have cholesterol deposits if the assumption of "bad cholesterol" were accurate. This mistake by us in the medical community, and its capitalization by the pharmaceutical industry, has caused an ongoing fraud against society.

In truth, the so-called "bad" cholesterol is actually far more beneficial than is appreciated. The reason for its rise in the body is because of complications caused by chronic unintentional dehydration and insufficient urine production. Dehydration produces concentrated, acidic blood that becomes even more dehydrated during its passage through the lungs before reaching the heart - because of evaporation of water in the lungs during breathing. The membranes of the blood vessels of the heart and main arteries going up to the brain become vulnerable to the shearing pressure produced by the thicker, acidic blood. This shearing force of toxic blood causes abrasions and minute tears in the lining of the arteries that can peel off and cause embolisms of the brain, kidneys and other organs. To prevent the damaged blood vessel walls from peeling, low-density (so-called "bad") cholesterol coats and covers up the abrasions and protects the underlying tissue like a waterproof bandage until the tissue heals.

Thus, the vital, life-saving role of low-density cholesterol proves this substance is of utmost importance in saving the lives of those who do not adequately hydrate their bodies so that their blood can flow easily through the blood vessels without causing damage.

Cholesterol is an element from which many of our hormones are made. Vitamin D is made by the body from cholesterol in our skin that is exposed to sunlight. Cholesterol is used in the insulating membranes that cover our nerve systems. There is no such a thing as bad cholesterol. If all the primary ingredients are available for its normal functions, the human body does not engage in making things that are bad for its survival. Until now we did not know water was a vital nutrient that the body needed at all times - and in sufficient quantity.

Water itself - not caffeinated beverages that further dehydrate - is a better cholesterol-lowering medication than any chemical on the market. It is absolutely safe and is not harmful to the body like the dangerous medications now used. Please share this information with those you care for.

For more information about my medical breakthrough on the topic of chronic unintentional dehydration and the diseases it causes, other than what is posted on this site, refer to my books and tapes - products of over 20 years of fulltime research.

F. Batmanghelidj, M.D. Website: [www.watercure.com](http://www.watercure.com)

*The approaches described in this newsletter are not offered as cures, prescriptions, diagnoses, or a means of diagnoses to different conditions. The author and publisher assume no responsibility in the correct or incorrect use of this information, and no attempt should be made to use any of this information as a form of treatment without the approval and guidance of your doctor.*

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**F. B. "STEVE" STEPHENSON**

Ted...

I know, I know... Three months late. But I'm nearing the big 80, and am slowing down.

Never was that fast to begin with. Other than the fact that it takes a three wood to do what a wedge did before, all is well. Thanks to all concerned at the RUPA news desk.

And yes, the check is in the ...aaah, you know...

*Steve* OLDNAVCAD@aol.com

**MUDDY WATERS**—Wilmington, NC

Gentlemen:

Eight years retired, check's in the mail. My 50th HS reunion is coming up, so I guess my age really is 68. Remember when we thought that 40 was old?

Best news this year is that Robin is doing very well now, two years after she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. She's on her third regimen of chemotherapy, but this one is a daily pill, so far with no side effects. She has gotten emails from several women as a result of my comments in *RUPANEWS*, and appreciates all the suggestions and moral support. So far, so good.

We're back to a normal social life, traveling included. We are both very happy and thankful.

We traded in our 2002 Toyota Prius for a 2006 model, which is a larger car, mid-sized rather than compact, with a wheelbase almost as long as the Toyota Avalon, their largest sedan under the Toyota marque.

Although we really liked the older car, this one is a definite improvement. It came with every option but leather seats, priced out at \$28,765. Only thing we added is a built-in XM receiver for the JBL sound system.

Best of all, we get a \$3,150 tax credit for buying it in 2006.

The tax credit is in a law passed in summer 2005. Google [www.hybridcars.com](http://www.hybridcars.com) and then select "incentives and laws", then "federal incentives United States."

The new heavier model is much more comfortable on long trips, and gets **better** gas mileage. Try one, you'll like it.

Cheers, --*Muddy* jwaters4@ec.rr.com

**JIM WAUGH**—Bolingbrook, IL

Hello to all,

Thanks to all for all of your hard work on the *RUPANEWS*. It is a first class publication and it is always good to hear how the group is doing.

I have been doing a little light airplane flying. Just keeping my hand in and it still feels great.

Fortunately, nothing exciting this last year. There were lots of nice things happening in our family over the last year. We took our daughter and her three little ones and went to Rome and to Bosnia on a pilgrimage. We highly recommend it.

We had combined homes with our daughter and three grandchildren a few years back and she is now headed out on her own to Baton Rouge, LA. We could not spoil those grandchildren and give them back. They were living with us but now it looks like we might get the chance to get even, if you know what I mean.

We have some of the active United pilots in our flying club and the United scene sounds grim. I'm glad to be separated from that but we sure have many good stories and memories to share. Stories about Zeek and Hambone and Lighting and Big Jim and on and on. It was a good ride!

Until next year, keep the blue side and your chin up. The lawyers and the courts will still be processing our cases. We may win some and we will lose some but they will know that we never give up.

*Jim Waugh*

**DON WEBER**—Federal Way, WA

Hi Ted;

I find it hard to believe that 10 years has passed since the parking brake was last set. Vicki & I are doing just fine. I am still working for Boeing as a 747-4 / 777 instructor. We have managed to hire about 6 ex-UAL pilots to help out our instructor force. Remote training is picking up as foreign students are having a hard time getting TSA approval for training in Seattle. Recently returned from a week doing 747-400 training in Denver. Stayed at the Doubletree just like old times. The training center has changed. The new simulator building wasn't even built when I last saw Denver. Going to London twice in the next two months but it's only for a week at a time.

So far this year we went cruising once & had a great road trip through Idaho & Montana in August. Looking forward to October as we are having a Navy Air Group reunion in San Diego.

Vicki is also loving her retirement. She volunteers her time at various functions and loves to spend time in her garden.

Thanks to everyone for all their hard work in putting out our great RUPA newsletter. Check is in the mail to Jim.

If anyone is interested in working for Boeing as an instructor, please call me at work (206) 662-7465. You need a 747-4 or 777 rating and live in the Seattle area. Currently there is a job requisition open on the Boeing web site. I'd be glad to give you the link or help in anyway I can.

Thanks, *Don*

## ***IN MEMORIAM***

### **DELMER G. DICKIN**

Del was born September 8, 1936 in Regina, Saskatchewan Canada and died September 11, 2006 at his home in Bellevue.

Raised on a farm in Milestone, Saskatchewan he developed a love for the land, farming and family.

Del began a career in aviation when he joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1955. He flew many of the planes in the Canadian arsenal but his passion was the F-86 Sabre. The last few years of his military career saw him instructing NATO pilots in Penhold, Alberta.

In 1964, Del joined United Airlines and retired in 1992 as a DC-10 Captain after 28 years of service.

Beside his love of aviation, Del's passions were his wife and family, friends, cars, music, farming and photography. Del was a fair, honest and moral man whose love of life was shared by all that knew him. He believed in living for the moment, embracing family and friends and keeping the blue side up!

He is survived by his loving wife Katharine; his son Richard of Kennewick, WA, wife Roberta, and their children Parker and Anna; his daughter Beth of Livermore, CA, husband Chuck, and their children Karl and Courtney; and his daughter Katie of Seattle, WA, husband Jay and their daughter

Ashley. He is also survived by three loving sisters, Karen, Joan and Carol as well as numerous nieces and nephews. All will truly miss him.

A celebration of Del's life will be held at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Medina on Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. and at Milestone United Church in Milestone on Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.

### **GEORGE EDWARD "ED" PEO**

Gentlemen and Ladies, It is with sadness and regret that I inform you of the passing of my friend, mentor, Father in law, gentleman and a pilots pilot, George Edward "Ed" Peo. Ed had a massive heart attack on July 3rd, survived to see his 86th birthday, but passed away peacefully at home in the company of his wife Sheila and daughter Cindy on the 24th of August. In looking over Ed's logbook, he began flying in the CPT program Sept. 25th, 1942 and went on to become a Naval Aviator in Dec. 1942. Flying patrol in Feb. 1945 off the Philippines in a PV1, after sustaining severe damage from flak, he flew another 400 nm to a successful ditching off the island of Tahdelandang with all crew safe and was rescued 3 hours later by submarine. Continuing to fly PV-1's and PV-2's he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with 5 stars for his wartime service, separating from the Navy in Nov. 1945. A commercial artist, he designed the stylized "B" for the Bullock's chain of stores as well as many other commercial assignments until commencing flight training for United in May of 1951. Recalled in 1952, he instructed at Pensacola until returning to United. He retired from United in 1978, but not before it was my privilege and good fortune to fly my first month as copilot with him in 727's. I will always remember his sitting back, smoking his pipe and calmly commenting "sink rate" during only my 2nd approach and landing which cleared the men and equipment resurfacing the approach end of the runway at Raleigh Durham by less than a hundred feet or so! He was a gentleman in the best sense of the word, and it was my privilege to know him, fly with him, and be included as part of his family thru marrying his daughter Laurie.

Have a safe flight west Ed,

*Bruce and Laurie Gibbs*

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## PAUL E. FELTON JR.

Paul E. Felton Jr., age 69, died on September 14th, 2006 after a four year battle with cancer. Paul Felton was born in Pittsburgh, Pa on September 28th, 1936. He graduated from Taylor Allderdice High School in Pittsburgh in 1954. He attended Penn State University on an NROTC scholarship and graduated in 1958 with a degree in Forestry. Following graduation he was commissioned as an ensign in the U.S. Navy. He attended flight school and received his Navy wings in May of 1960. He flew the F-8 Crusader in VFP-63 from 1960-1964. He made two deployments in the Western Pacific and Vietnam. One deployment was on the Bon Homme Richard and one on the John Hancock. Paul Felton resigned from the US Navy in 1964 and became a pilot with United Air Lines in 1965. He retired as a Captain on the Boeing 767 on October 28th 1996. His final scheduled flight as a United Captain was from Dulles to Zurich to Dulles. His final flight as a Captain was on October 27, 1996 when he chartered a United 757 where he took family, airline friends, and neighbors on a tour of the Washington D.C., Baltimore, and Eastern Shore area. His Co pilot was J.O. Meadows, his photographer was Flight Officer Joe Beth Lynch, and the trip narrator was his son, Flight Officer Scott Felton. Paul Felton continued to fly as a second officer until June of 2001. After retirement Paul Felton moved to Exmore, Virginia. Paul Felton is survived by his brother Robert Felton, his son Scott Felton and Scott's wife Karen, his daughter Charlene Felton, and four grandchildren. In lieu of flowers please send donations to Hospice of the Chesapeake, 445 Defense Highway, Annapolis, MD 21401 or the American Cancer Society.

## F.J. BUDDY JOFFRION

Dear Ted.

I lost a friend this last week. The pilots of UAL lost a friend this last week. Beverly Hughes, Wayne Hughes wife, called me and told me F.J. Buddy Joffrion passed on.

For those of us who knew buddy, he was one of the finest gentlemen that ever lived.

Knowledgeable, articulate, fine pilot, and a person who was always ready to help, aid, and comfort.

And take a real personal interest in you. I met Buddy in Chicago, in 1944, he flew the Alaskan ATC, and I the Pacific. We moved into a small development, that rented to pilots of UAL, that were part of the war effort. A little village called Westchester. A close knit group, and many wonderful things happened. We became captains for UAL in 1945, and flew Chicago east and west. Buddy and I became close, because of our interest in weight lifting. Some of the other pilots based in Chicago also became interested in the sport, and purchased a set of weights and put them in the basement of the Frontier Hotel in CYS Wyoming. We would attend weight lifting meets in CG. And the nicknames of grimek for buddy and stanko for me. They were famous weightlifting champions of the era. And we had fun with the nicknames.

Buddy was also a Texan of the first order. When Phyllis, his wife, became close to her delivery time for the children, two boys and a girl. They went to Texas to deliver the children. Right on!

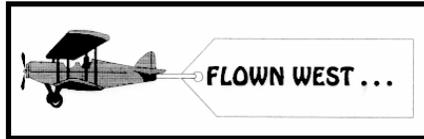
DC3, DC4, DC6, DC7, DC8, and the 747. Were his airplanes of choice as they came on the property. And was flight manager at LAX.

Buddy, set the compass heading at 270, positive rate, gear up. We will miss you. But know that the flight is smooth now, because it has been so rough.

*Cliff and Phyllis Chaney*



The gentlemen in the picture are Buddy, Bob Mulhollam, Cliff Chaney, and Frank Swaim



<b>JAMES F. THOMAS</b>	<b>6/15/2006</b>
<b>DONALD E. ANDERSON</b>	<b>6/17/2006</b>
<b>DONALD E. SCHWESINGER</b>	<b>6/23/2006</b>
<b>CHARLES D. PORTER</b>	<b>6/25/2006</b>
<b>GEORGE EDWARD PEO</b>	<b>8/24/2006</b>
<b>FRANK AULT</b>	<b>8/25/2006</b>
<b>CHARLES ROBERT MC GEEHAN</b>	<b>8/29/2006</b>
<b>DELMER G. DICKEN</b>	<b>9/11/2006</b>
<b>F. J. BUDDY JOFFRION</b>	<b>9/12/2006</b>
<b>PAUL E. FELTON, JR.</b>	<b>9/14/2006</b>
<b>KENNETH E. ELLIS</b>	<b>9/21/2006</b>



### HIGH FLIGHT

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth  
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;  
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling 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 wind-swept 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.

*John Gillespie Magee, Jr., September 3, 1941*

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## RUPA'S SOCIAL CALENDAR

### Monthly Scheduled Lunches

1st Wed. SFO North Bay—*Petaluma Sheraton*  
2nd Mon. SW FL—*Olive Garden, Ft. Myers* - 239-417-8462  
2nd Tue. San Diego Co—*San Marcos CC* - 760-723-9008  
2nd Tue. Nov-Apr Treasure Coast Sunbirds—*Mariner Sands CC* - 772-286-6667  
2nd Thu. Oct-Apr. SE FL Gold Coast— *Flaming Pit* - 561-272-1860  
2nd Fri. PHX Roadrunners—*Best Western En Suites Scottsdale Airport, AZ* - 480-948-1612  
3rd Tue. DEN Good Ole Boys— *11:30am American Legion Post 1* - 303-364-1565  
3rd Tue. LAS High Rollers—*Memphis Barbecue* - 702-558-9422 or 702-565-7175  
3rd Tue. NE FL—*Spruce Creek CC* - 386-760-9736  
3rd Tue. Dana Point CA— *Wind & Sea Restaurant* - 949-496-2691  
3rd Thu. LAX—(Even Mo.) *Hacienda* - 310-821-6207;  
3rd Thu. LAXV—(Odd Mo.) *Mimi's, Chatsworth* - 818-992-8908  
3rd Thu. Ohio Northcoasters—*TJ's Wooster* (Always coed.) - 440-235-7595  
3rd Thu. SEA Gooneybirds—*Airport Marriott* - 425-702-0989  
3rd Thu. So. Oregon (MFR)—*Pony Express, Jacksonville* - 541-245-6896  
3rd Thu. TPA Sundowners—*Daddy's Grill* - 727-787-5550  
Last Thu. Hawaii Ono Nenes—*Mid Pacific Country Club*

### Bi-Monthly Scheduled Lunches

1st Wed Mar, Jul, Nov. Chicago Area—*Itasca CC* - 630-832-3002  
2nd Tue Jan, May, Sep. McHenry (ORD)—*Warsaw Inn* - 815-459-5314

### Quarterly Scheduled Lunches

3rd Wed. Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct. Washington Area—*Westwood CC* - 540-338-4574

### Semi-Annually Scheduled Lunches

2nd Tue. 11:30am May, Nov. Inland Empire RUPA---*Davenport hotel, Spokane*---509-455-8888  
1st Tue. Dec 5<sup>th</sup> Tucson RUPA Group---*Tucson Country Club*---520-797-3912

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**Deadline: October 18, 2006**

**Mailing: November 1, 2006**

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RUPANEWS  
1104 BURKE LANE  
FOSTER CITY CA 94404

**PERIODICALS**

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