



# RUPANEWS

Journal of the Retired United Pilots Association

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April 2000

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# RUPANEWS

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## Editor's Notes

Readers will note a change of cover art with this issue. At the last RUPA Picnic, Capt. Jim Taylor passed on to me a series of illustrations he had had in his possession for some time, hoping that they could someday be put to good use in *RUPANEWS* – this is the day. Thanks Jim. I hope that the artwork now in my possession will enable me to ring some changes on the aviation theme, the better to reflect the wide range of flying experience among our membership.

Over the past month I have been in correspondence with Capt. John Baer, who raised the concerns he had about his experiences with Caremark prescription service. This was seen by your officers and liaisons as an opportunity to exercise our increasing connections with ALPA and UAL by passing on to them any such concerns that our membership might have for their investigation and, one hopes, action. Any success that is achieved will be directly proportional to the input received from you the membership, otherwise, silence will be read as acceptance, and the few complaints seen as the work of “malcontents” a favorite word for those who try to change things or insist on their contractual rights.

Along the lines of greater cooperation with ALPA, our liaison, Capt. Felix Isherwood, has been able to obtain from the MEC a copy of the contract on a CD, the relevant portions of which will, in due course, be installed on our RUPAWEB for easy access of reference material.

Those of you who will be changing residence for the summer are reminded to phone Cleve Spring's 800 number and list your change of address to ensure an uninterrupted delivery of this magazine. *Jack*

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## Cardio Risk

*Stephen Barrett, M.D.*

Cardiovascular diseases are the leading cause of illness and death in the United States. The majority of cases stem from atherosclerosis, a condition in which cholesterol, fat, and fibrous tissue build up in the walls of large and medium-sized arteries. In coronary heart disease (CHD), the arteries to the heart muscle (myocardium) are narrowed. Reduced blood supply to the heart can result in chest pain (angina pectoris) or other symptoms, typically triggered by physical exertion. If a narrowed blood vessel is completely blocked by a blood clot, the area of the heart just beyond the blockage is denied oxygen and nourishment, resulting in a heart attack (myocardial infarction).

Like other degenerative disease processes, atherosclerosis can take years to develop. Diet is implicated because the deposits on arterial walls contain high levels of fat and cholesterol. Studies of both humans and animals have shown links between dietary habits and atherosclerosis.

At least ten risk factors can help predict the likelihood of CHD: heredity, being male, advancing age, cigarette smoking, high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity (especially excess abdominal fat), lack of physical activity, and abnormal blood cholesterol and “homocysteine” levels. The more risk factors a person has, the greater the likelihood of developing heart disease. Heredity, gender, and age cannot be modified, but the others can be influenced by the individual's behavior.

Several of these risk factors are interrelated. Obesity, lack of exercise, and cigarette smoking can raise blood pressure and adversely influence blood cholesterol levels. Several studies suggest that exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (“passive smoking”) also increases the risk of developing heart disease. Some authorities believe that emotional stress is a risk factor, but the evidence for this is not clear-cut.

Exercise offers many benefits. People who exercise tend to live longer and have less cardiovascular disease than those who do not. A well-designed exercise program can increase stamina and endurance, lower blood pressure, improve blood cholesterol levels, help with weight control, help lower abnormal blood sugar levels, reduce stress, improve sleep, and help prevent osteoporosis. Exercising vigorously is advantageous, but even moderate exercise has important protective effects.

Blood cholesterol levels should be determined by a screening test called lipid analysis (or lipid profile), which measures the levels of low-density lipoproteins (LDL), high-density lipoproteins (HDL), and triglycerides, as well as the total blood cholesterol levels. If LDL is too high or HDL is too low, a medically supervised corrective program should be started.

The National Cholesterol Education Program recommends measuring cholesterol levels at least once every five years. People with abnormal levels should have them measured more often than those who do not.

*Quackwatch.com*

Normal

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

**Snowbirds & Others:**

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

**Also**

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

**INFORMATION about Membership & Postage Fees:**

**One Time Membership Fee.....\$50  
Annual Postage Fee.....\$20**

**U. A. Retired Pilots Foundation, Inc.**

**Send all donations for the United Pilots Foundation to:**

**Capt. T. S. "Ted" Bochniarz, Treasurer  
11165 Regency Dr, Westchester, IL 60154-5638**

**U. A. Historical Foundation**

**Send donated artifacts to:**

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

Please join in the retirement celebration in honor of **Captain Joe Vitelli**, New York Chief Pilot  
Friday, May 19, 2000

La Guardia Marriott, 102 -05 Ditmars Bl. Elmhurst, New York 11369  
Rooms available at \$119 – Res. 800-228-9290, ask for "Vitelli rooms."

6:00 p.m. – Cocktails, 7:00 p.m. Dinner

RSVP by April 28, 200 to Denise O'Flynn UALFO 718- 995-1454  
Dinner is \$65 per person – cash bar. Includes contribution towards gift

Name \_\_\_\_\_ No. attending. \_\_\_\_\_ I cannot attend but would like to donate for gift \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to "Denise O'Flynn"  
UAL Flight Office,  
Bldg. 22A, JFK Intl. Airport,  
Jamaica, NY 11430

ALPA COUNCIL 34  
SFO  
**RETIREMENT PARTY**

2000  
Saturday, April 15, 2000  
San Francisco Airport Westin Hotel  
6:30 p.m.

Party reservations \$60.00 per person from:  
Mr. Alan Cirino, SFOFO 240 Turnberry Rd.  
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019  
Tel: (650) 726-0747

*Retiree Attendees (so far) as of 2/1/00.*

Anderson, Myrwin  
Baker, Bill  
Bates, Carl  
Brandt, JC  
Burrus, Gary  
Clark, John  
Cross, Robert  
Forbes, Dave  
Fossgren, Andy

Hagen, JB,  
Heinrich, RW  
Herman Paul  
Jaeger, Jim  
Laurance, Steve  
Lyall, Ron  
Mansfield, Jim  
Myers, Whitey  
O'Connell, Bill

Osborne, JC  
Pfeifer, Dick  
Randle, Rich  
Siechen, Ron  
Stolp, Dave  
Trierwieler, Jim  
U'Ren, Lyle  
Wilcox, Al

*Not heard from yet.*

Aronson, Howie  
Boname, Peter  
Carson, Kel  
Clifford, Pat  
Collard, Joe  
Gehman TE  
Gustafson, Gerry  
Henderson, Dave  
Jones, Dick

Kakeldy, Ron  
King, Mike  
Klett, Bill  
Lovingood, Max  
Malone, Dave  
McBride, Jim  
McDougle, Tom  
McGivern, Jim  
Micheliche, Mitch  
Young, Phil

Nicholas, Bobby  
Phillips, OB  
Prickett, Gail  
Runyan, Dave  
Stowe, Rick  
Tweden, Wally  
Vancini, Frank  
Weston, Tim  
Wilson, Lloyd

**Financial Planning Seminars**  
FREE

Thursday, Friday and Saturday  
April 13 – 15  
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
All pilots and spouses welcome

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## **RICHARD I. BONG MEMORIAL CENTER**

*Jim Berquist* writes the following : It is not birthday time for me, nor is there a check enclosed. I am writing to request your help, and that of RUPA members to push over the top a memorial dedicated to all WWII vets. This new memorial is called the *Richard Ira Bong Heritage Center*. It will be built just on the south side of Superior Wisconsin, off Highway 53, across from Barkers Island.

I was a young boy of 14 when Richard was killed at Burbank CA, testing a P80. Many today do not know what he did for our country in WW2. His tours of duty in the South West Pacific resulted in the destruction of 40 enemy aircraft, along with 25 more that may not have gotten back to their bases.

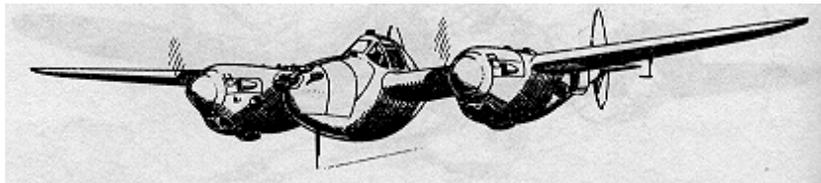
The city of Superior WI bought Richard a P-38. He flew that all over the country while on leave, raising money for the war effort.

After his death, the P-38 sat in the mud at the Superior Airport, later named Bong Airport. It was in bad shape when the people of Poplar WI (Dick's home town) brought the aircraft to Poplar and put it on display beside the local school. Time once more took its toll on the plane, and things looked bad.

Richard's wife, Marge, faded into the background after his death and got on with her life. She remarried, raised a family and seldom let it be known that she had been married to the leading ace of WW2. Her husband died, and only then did she abandon her anonymity and form the Bong P-38 Fund to restore the aircraft to display condition. This has been accomplished. The P-38 has been restored to museum (static) quality and is presently in covered storage at Anoka County Airport Minn. awaiting completion of the Memorial Center.

I have been in contact with the Bong family. The project is somewhat short of money and this is where our RUPA members can help out. About \$1.5 million would put the project over the top. If our members would send a one-time donation of whatever they feel comfortable with, it will be greatly appreciated by all those involved in memorializing all WW2 veterans through Richard Bong.

*Literature Jim enclosed makes clear that the Center will be a multi-media resource storing films, personal histories, and printed materials about WW2 and will also feature a place for donors to add the names of loved ones who served in that war. More information is available online at <http://www.cp.duluth.mn.us/~bong>  
The address of the P-38 fund is: Bong P-38 Fund, Inc., P.O. Box 326, Poplar WI 54864. E-mail : [bong@cp.duluth.mn.us](mailto:bong@cp.duluth.mn.us) The fund is a 501 ( c )(3) org. Ed.*



From AvWeb's NewsFlash

**FOR MATURE, SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA AUDIENCES ONLY:** If you're a male pilot age 35 to 49 or 61 to 67, or a female pilot age 35 to 67, then Stanford University wants to pay you to fly its Frasca 141 simulator.

And it's for a good cause, too: The performance study of 120 pilots over three years aims to find if there is clinical evidence to support the FAA's rule mandating retirement of airline pilots at age 60.

NOTE: Ready to sign up? Find out more and who to call, in AVweb's NewsWire <<http://www.avweb.com/toc/newswire.html>>. That will tell one to call a Kevin Morgan at 650-493-5000 xt 65633

### **RUPA Directory Erratta:**

Tom Bennett - 901-761-5972

Peer (Pete) Maseng. – [mscrist@evcom.met](mailto:mscris@evcom.met)

Gene Tritt – [Toymakergene@aol.com](mailto:Toymakergene@aol.com)

Dick Wiesner- [dmwies@cs.com](mailto:dmwies@cs.com).

Ed McKittrick– [1053002363@cs.com](mailto:1053002363@cs.com)

King Purton – [kingpurton@msn.com](mailto:kingpurton@msn.com)

Gus Tuit – [cagus@email.msn.com](mailto:cagus@email.msn.com)

Ralph Vrtacnic – [rvrtacnic@aol.com](mailto:rvrtacnic@aol.com)

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**MILLBURY TRAVEL**  
240 N. Main Street Rte I46 N • Millbury, MA 01527-.2029  
Tel: (508) 865-6118  
(800) 966-6007  
Fax (508) 865-9149

October 22,1999

To: Joe Ferrie. Convention Chairman RUPA  
From: Jerry Poulin, Millbury Travel

Subject: RUPA 2000 Cruise

In response to your request regarding the 2000 RUPA cruise, I have the following information:

Cruise Line: Holland America

Ship: *Statendam*

10 Day Cruise

Date: November 3, 2000

Itinerary : Mexican Riviera,

From: San Diego

The following prices, per person, include all port charges, taxes, a cocktail party and a 2 category upgrade For all outside cabins in Categories H to C. Wide and Balcony cabins are not included in the upgrades, and upgrades, of course, are subject to availability at time of booking.

**Inside Cabins:**

Category \$1298.

Category M \$1368.

Categories L, K J and I add \$30.00. per category.

**Outside Cabins:**

Category H \$1498.

Category G \$1549.

Category FF \$1559.

Category F \$1599.

Category E \$1619.

Category D \$1649

Category C .\$1689. Promenade deck

Category B \$1949.(w/veranda).

Category A \$1999. (w/veranda)

Suite \$2499.

Pthse. Ste. \$4599

**ITINERARY:** Day 0 San Diego; .Day 1, Cruising Mexican Riviera; Day 2, Cabo San Lucas; Day 3, Mazatlan; Day 4, at sea; Day 5, Acapulco; Day 6, Zihuatguejo; Day 7, Puerto Vallarta; Days 8-9, At sea; Day 10 San Diego.

**MILLBURY TRAVEL SERVICE  
240 MAIN STREET  
MILLBURY MA 01527  
1- 800-966—6007**

**BOOKING SHEET  
MS STATENDAM NOVEMBER 3, 2000  
MEXICAN RIVIERA**

**NAME (S)** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE (H)** \_\_\_\_\_ **(W)** \_\_\_\_\_

**CATEGORY BOOKED** \_\_\_\_\_ Upgraded to **CATEGORY** \_\_\_\_\_  
2 Category upgrade subject to availability on outside cabins only. Suites and verandas not included

**PRICE PER PERSON** \_\_\_\_\_ Includes all taxes port fees and port charges.

**DINING PREFERENCE** **MAIN** \_\_\_\_\_ **LATE** \_\_\_\_\_

A refundable deposit of \$600.00 per person will hold your reservation until final payment time. Final payment is due 75 days prior to cruise. After that time cancellation penalties will be in effect. Insurance is optional and varies by age and cost of trip. If Travel Safe is used, preexisting conditions are covered if Insurance is purchased within seven days of booking.

\_\_\_\_\_ A check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ To Millbury Travel is enclosed.

Please charge my credit card:

MC                      VISA                      AMEX                      DIS (circle one)

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Office use only

Booking date \_\_\_\_\_ Confirmation sent \_\_\_\_\_

**N.B. Millbury Travel advises that category “A” cabins are sold out, and verandah cabins are scarce. Over 80 cabins have been booked as of March 28th. I suggest booking ASAP, as the ship is selling out. You can waitlist for verandahs and suites.**

**Holland is providing transportation from various spots in Los Angeles County; bus pickup can be arranged through Millbury Travel. The pickup is on the day of the cruise only. Joe Ferrie**

### SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

For RAPA RAPPORT: THE RETIRED AIRLINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY

PLEASE INDICATE: ( ) RENEWAL ( ) NEW SUBSCRIBER ( ) ADDRESS CHANGE?

Retirees of Member Airlines \$20.00/Year

Retirees of Non-Member Airlines (Incl. Membership) \$25.00/Year

Foreign Subscribers (1st Class Mail) \$35.00/Year

Mail to Dual Addresses \$06.00/Year\*

\* Subscribers with multiple addresses, please note: If you do not choose to pay for mail to dual addresses, we ask that each subscriber tailor his/her mail forwarding with their respective post office. The post office will not forward bulk mail (the Rapport)

NEW SUBSCRIBERS: We'd like as much of the information requested below as you're willing to give.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouses Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Retirement Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Airline/ Aviation affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to: RAPA

Mail This Form And Check To:  
RAPA RAPPORT  
P.O. Box 293443  
Sacramento, CA 95829

### OJAI BBQ

*Charles D. Barnard, CG, LA, 1943-1981*

The Flight Crew members, Dispatch personnel, and friends barbeque at the Barnard Ranch, 505 West Fairview Road, Ojai, CA, at 2:30 PM on July 15, 2000, will feature barbecued New York steak or chicken at a cost of \$22 each.

Persons desiring to remain in the Ojai Valley may do so at the Best Western Motel, the *Casa Ojai*, at 1302 East Ojai Avenue, Ojai; phone 805-646-8175. If you are a member of AAA, they offer a discount. Call 800-255-8175 (their own 800 number).

Other motels: *Los Padres Inn*, 1208 East Ojai Ave, Ojai. 805-646-4365. *Capri motel*, 1180 East Ojai Ave, Ojai. 805-646-4305. *Casa Manana*, 11794 North Ventura Ave, 805-646-6697. *Ojai Rancho*, 615 West Ojai Ave, 805-646-3907.

*Charles has informed me that this may well be the last Barnard barbecue, so those who have made this one of their annual events might want to be sure to participate. Ed*

### THE RUPA WEBSITE – [www.rupa.org](http://www.rupa.org).

The RUPA website is, and has been, available to all of our 720+ members who are online. Thusfar it has received only token use. It was hoped that it would become a useful interactive communications adjunct – perhaps it still will: but only if it used. So what about it you computerites? Don't let Webmeister McLeod's work languish.

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## DEN GOOD OLE BOYS' LUNCH

Denver "Good Ole Boy's" met today at the *Country Harvest* restaurant. Didn't expect many because of the warnings of a major snowstorm from all the TV stations. It didn't develop, so when I arose there were only two inches or so on the ground and the major roads were just wet. I guess the forecasting is no more accurate than when we were flying.

Lots of good conversation, mostly about the medical problems, but there were some other subjects covered. Fifteen came and had a nice lunch, the roster:

Bob Clipson, James Cox, RO Stewart, John Thielan, Bill Fife, George Maize, Bob Blessin. Ray Bowman, Pat Murphy, Babe James, Duane Searle, Russ Ward, Curly Baker and Jim Harris. Every 3rd Tuesday, currently at the *Country Harvest* on West Alameda. Regards, *Curly*

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## March Folding and Stuffing Meeting

39 members attended this folding and stuffing session. Here are the names of those loyal members who help to get this great publication out.

Bob Ahrens	Charlene Alfson	Floyd Alfson
Bill Bartel	Marty Berg	Jo Bernard
Hugh Berry	Georgia Bouska	Rich Bouska
Tom Bredis	Bob Clinton	Roz Clinton
Chuck Cooke	Russ Cottle	Sam Cramb
Scotty Devine	Bob Ebenhahn	Chuck Hoffman
Milt Jines	Howie Jundt	Bob Kallestad
Bob Kibort	Cam McEachern	Bruce McLeod
George Mendonca	Don Merucci	Mitch Mitchell
George Morris	Bob O'Leary	Mel Peterson
Jay Plank	Walt Ramseur	Jock Savage
Bud Schwartz	Bob Soergel	Cleve Spring
Rose Spring	Ralph Stamps	John Stefanki

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## March Gooney Bird Meeting--Seattle

We had a good meeting today, with one visitor and a couple of infrequent attendees. We are always glad to see Dick Woodin, from Kenai, AK. John Bley and Al Meyering are the two newest retirees who were here today, although they had both previously joined our group. We oldsters are dropping out one by one, and it is important to have new ones replace us. Our guest today was John Lockhart, whose wife is a retired UAL employee.. John had many interesting stories to tell about his war experiences as a B-24 pilot in WWII, his capture and imprisonment, and his close associations with Jeff Roberts, Alan Grout, and Vince Wormser.

Attending today were:

Tom Graham,	Bob Berg,	John Bley,	Tom Smith,
Bob Berkey,	Don Anderson,	John Cordell,	Ray Randall,
Chuck Podhasky,	Bill Brett,	Fred Sindlinger,	Dick Woodin,
Jerry Pryde,	Ed Duclos,	Vince Wormser,	Jack Brown,
Denny Narog,	Bob Howard,	Ray Alverson,	Chuck Westpfahl,
Howard Holder,	John Lockhart,	Jeff Roberts,	Al Meyering,
Alan Grout,	Ray Dapp,	Dick Wiesner.	

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## SE FL GOLDCOASTERS

The Goldcoasters met again on Thursday, the 9th of March. I wasn't there for reasons that I will explain later.

The recent retirement party was discussed. Everyone that attended the Council 150 sponsored event, on February 16th, was totally impressed with the organization and the way that it was carried off. We are indebted to the people in the council that made it all possible. It obviously involved a great deal of time and energy.

Not having attended on the 9th, I don't have much of anything else to say, and everyone is fed up with me invent-

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ing something, so I'll close the subject.

Present for the March luncheon were:

Stan Blaschke,	Will Lambert,	Ham Wilson,	Ed Wheeler,
Guy O'Rear,	Charlie Steward,	J.T. Palmer,	Paul Livingway,
Wes Paget,	Terry Lewis,	Hank Fischer,	Peter Gallant,
Joe Mahne,	Jimmy Carter,	Ned Rankin,	Paul Dunne,
Jack Wink,	Jim Ralph,	Bill Dutour.	

Our next meeting will be the last until Fall. This will be the final time we will see our friends for a while, so lets make this a good one. Same place, *The Flaming Pit Restaurant* in Pompano Beach, same time, 11:30AM. For Questions or requests to be picked up at local airports, call Jimmy Carter at 561 272-1860 or Stan Blaschke at 954 581-0145. If you would like to be on our post card, reminder list, call me at 561 994-6103.

Now I want to run by my excuse for not attending the luncheon. Just before flying my final trip in November of 1997, I got my last UAL company physical. After that, I continued getting an annual physical from a local doctor where I live, in my birth month of December. It is probably a little better then the one UAL afforded me, but the bottom line, they probably both would have uncovered most problems. When I left the doctor's office in December, with a clean bill of health, they gave me a card to return to them with six stool samples taken over the next three days. I received a call from the office a week or so later that "ONE" of the six, had blood in it. I was inclined to call it a mistake and go on my way, but my doctor told me I was due a Sigmoidoscopy in August anyway, so why not get a Colonoscopy now, and then I could skip the office procedure in August. I scheduled the Colonoscopy for a couple days after a cruise we had booked and didn't think a great deal more about it. On Wednesday, the 16th of February, I went to the hospital and did their thing. It is painless, and strictly a non-event. Fact is, I went to the retirement party that night. Friday, the doctor's office called to inform my that I had full-blown colon cancer. That was the same day that my first social security payment arrived. By the next Friday, I was on the operating table at Boca Raton Hospital, having a foot and a half of colon removed. The pathology came back the following Tuesday. The tumor had not gone through the wall of the colon and there were no cancer cells in any of the surrounding tissue. The doctor called it a total surgical cure, and the chance of a recurrence was nil. I've been home now for four days and I feel better every day. All of my bodily functions are operating normally. In another month, I'll be back on the golf course doing just as bad as I always do. But now my life expectancy is back to 25 to 30 years, instead of maybe 1 or 2.

By now, for those of you that are still following me, I'm sure you think that I just want to tell someone about my operation. Actually, I am trying to fire a few shots across the bow of some people that have not paid a great deal of attention to this disease. I know a great number of you folks out there, and I met a great deal more of you in Las Vegas last November. I don't see a lot of difference between most of you and me, except you're probably a bit smarter, but I will put my body and my genes up against the best of you. My parents are still alive and well. I have a tough time finding them most of the time because they are out running around town. My point being, if this disaster could befall me, it could befall anyone of you. Schedule a Colonoscopy soon. Not only do they take a look see, but if they find any small polyps, where all colon cancers begin, they do away with them at that time. These are the greatest days of our lives. Make them last.

I want to make two or three thank you's. First off to my creator for letting me live out a few more years. Next to my many friends who showed such great concern for my welfare. I had no idea there were so many, or that you cared about me. Thank you all very much. And to my wife, Patricia. She went through all of the hell that I did without the physical pain. She is really stressed out, and I am trying to bring her back down. Lastly, thank you UAL Medical, and more specifically Doctor Ralph Fennell. He harassed me unmercifully for years to take more measure of this very vulnerable part of my anatomy. I finally started Sigmoidoscopies, for the most part, to just get him off my back, as I couldn't stand to lie to him. Because of this, I knew that the tumor had been there for less then two years. I owe you Ralph, for the rest of my life. Godspeed, to you and Star, and your family.

Those of you that read my monthly diatribes, know that I rarely get serious. You'll have to forgive me for this one. Next month it will be back to the mindless drivel that you have learned to expect.

*Very glad to hear of your successful outcome, Stan. Truly, you speak of a most important procedure that should be part of everyone's physical, beginning at age 50 and every five years thereafter – sooner if you had to have polyps removed. Ed*

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## LAS VEGAS HIGH ROLLERS LUNCH

Clyde House [702] 896-8821 clydie@concentric.net

Our March luncheon was held at the Showboat Hotel and will be the last one to be held at that location. The April luncheon will be held at the Winery in Pahrump, Nevada at 1:00 PM on the 11th. May we will meet at a location in Summerlin on the 9th, and June we will meet at the country club in Anthem on the 13th. July is tentatively planned at Mount Charleston Lodge. For those needing more information please call me at the listed number.

Those attending our March luncheon were:

Andy and Dawn Anderson

Bill Balboni

Larry and Mary Doyle

Henry and Virginia Gilbertson

Kathy Mattern

Bill and Viola Mossop

Jimmy Price

Richard and Fran Schultz

Lloyd and Donna Lee Whitlow

Harry and Georgia Arcamuzi

Barry Dixon

John and Neola Drommond

Gene and Mary Lamski

Harold and Shirly Morris

Oakley and Fern Porter

Bob Roland

David Smith

And yours truly Clyde House

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## LAX Luncheon at Billingsleys - March 16, 2000

Some of our regular attendees were not present this month, however with 20 in attendance we all had a nice visit.

Those that joined us for lunch were:

Herb Goodrich

Gerry Beyer

Bob Clough

Jim Day

Lee Cameron

Jack Hanson

Ed Delaney

Dave Tank

Dick Unander

Jack Moore

Walt Albright

Edna Cameron

Shirley Hanson

Clay Lacy

Ken Williams

Tom McQueen

Bob Kohler

Doug Rankin

Ben Harper

Dave Kirkendall

While we were waiting for lunch to be served Dave Tank started off by saying " I am beginning to feel like Digger Odell" Again at this luncheon as he usually does, telling us of those that have flown west. Then Herb Goodrich talked about this summer's picnic at Charles Barnard's ranch at Ojai, California and also the passing of Frank Fox. Shirley & Jack Hanson who had gone to the EAA Chapter One fly-in at Flabob Airport near Riverside, CA on Feb 26th told of the activities. Doug Rankin who was also at Flabob told of he replica of the racer Roscoe Turner won the 1939 Thompson trophy race with. Repeat Aircraft is building the replica at their hanger at Flabob. The engine and propeller are on the aircraft but no cowling as yet. Instead of a 1050 horsepower Twin Wasp this aircraft has a 1200 horsepower P&W 1830. The mechanic working on the project said the planned cruising speed for the aircraft will be 275 mph. Clay Lacy then talked a little bit about the Gee Bee airplane that is performing at air shows around the country. After lunch and since the next day was St.Patrick's Day, Jack Moore had a Irish joke that brought a laugh from every one. Before we left, Dave Tank told us about Ed Slack a flight engineer who retired with the DC-6's, who just passed away at age 96. That's all from *Billingsley's* till May 18th.

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## OUTLAWS MARCH LUNCHEON REPORT

Strange thing happened at the last get-together on March 13th. The money in the postage-fund kitty came out to MORE than the number of people in attendance! There were 37 folks, and there were 41 one-dollar bills in the kitty. Usually, it's the other way around. Anyhow, as soon as we get enough money in the postage kitty, Chuck and I are gonna take off for a fishing venture down to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. We can get free passes on Mexicana, so we'll use the postage money for booze and bait. (We're both too old to spend any postage money on the third "B" associated with fishing trips- "broads.") I don't drink anymore, so our booze bill will be small. But, we're sure gonna need lotsa bait because Chuck keeps letting the big ones get away. So, be sure to keep those dollar bills flowing into the wicker basket at the sign-in desk, okay?

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Here are the notable persons who were in attendance at our last luncheon:

Jo Peek	Sally & Will Collins	Sally Riggs	Harry & Marvis Long
George Paull	Ellis VanAlstine	Jim David	Jack Sodergren
Lyman Walter	Jim & Susan Goodson	Faith Osborne	Mamie Thompson
Bill Bates	Gary & Janice Crittenden	Lew Brubaker	Norb & Carole Cudnowski
George Butz	Dean & Helen Pressgrove	Gene Chapman	Ray & Twila White
Jim Sutton	Don Sullivan	Jack Taffe	Duncan Flemming (NEW)
Dave Wedge	Jim Boyer	Al May	Chuck Monahan

Warren Schroder won the lunch and Don Sullivan won the small, handheld calculator that was given away this time instead of a bottle of wine.

There's NO truth to the rumor that I "sampled" the proposed gift bottle to excess, and the calculator was substituted as a door prize at the last minute! (Hic!)

It's felt that *RUPANEWS* is becoming too much like an ALPA Council Newsletter. From what I've heard from local RUPA folks, the consensus (so far) is that there's not much interest among retirees with regard to ALPA Council happenings, and even less interest in interviews with the MEC Chairman regarding current-day matters on the airline. Hey, we've all spent our entire careers paying attention to that sort of stuff.

Many of us did our bit as ALPA representatives, churning over such issues on a daily basis. Now that we're retired, we no longer have an interest in such stuff. At least, that's the rumblings I've heard up to now. Perhaps RUPA could allocate some of the newsletter space to publish a tear-off, mail-in survey form with regard to what the RUPA folks do and do not want to see in *RUPANEWS*. [*Or perhaps not. I'm not yet ready to edit by committee other than the BOD. Ed*] So far, in SW Florida, it's "thumbs down" on ALPA Council news and MEC interviews. But, perhaps a majority of RUPA members elsewhere would like to see more of that sort of stuff. A tear-off, mail-in survey would go a long way toward finding out.

The weather remains ideal down in Sunny Southwest Florida. So, we'll have a go at one more RUPA Luncheon, then, we'll probably close shop for the summer. If you're anywhere South of the Georgia-Florida border, come on down for what might well be our last seasonal luncheon at the Olive Garden Restaurant on US-41 in Fort Myers. Call our boss, Chuck Monahan, at 941-793-5251, and he'll give you vectors to the front door.

*Carl B. Jordan* - Official Scribe of the SW Florida Outlaws

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### ROADRUNNERS' LUNCHEON

On Friday March 10th the PHX. Roadrunners met in Tucson. at the Skyline C.C.. Our Host & Hostess were Miles & Jean Wagner, assisting them were Tom and Bev. Workinger. Our Dining Room was on the third floor, with a beautiful view of Tucson.

Our speaker was Bill Royle from RUAEA. He gave us a very touching talk on UAL Fantasy Flight programs that take place at the TUS Airport. Thank you very much Bill.

#### ATTENDING:

John & Peggy Anderson	Frenchy & Millie Bourgeois
Jim & Mary Cook	Jim & Ginny Dopp
Don & Jan Eiken	Bill & Mitzi Fife & Daughter
Bob & Bev. Gerdes	Jim & Jan Guest
Don Karaiskos	Ed & Phyllis Nelson
Bill Royle	Karl & Mona Runkle
Mike Schurig	Jerry Smith
Jim & Nancy Staib with 2 guests	Don & Joan Toeppen
& Jean Wagner	Tom & Bev. Workinger

Miles

Our next Luncheon will be at the *WIGWAM C.C.* in Litchfield Park on the usual dated as listed in the calendar. Following lunch we will drive to Goodyear Airport for a Tour of the DC-10F conversion program. Please call 480-948-1612 for Res. & Directions.

Looking forward to another HAPPY GET TOGETHER. *Frenchy & Millie*

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## SUNDOWNERS' LUNCH

Jim Feneley, 3246 Hyde Park Drive, Clearwater, Florida 33761-1813, Tel. 727-785 5971.

A very congenial group of Sundowners and their guests attended the February Luncheon. They were:

Ray & Twila White, and their guest;

Bob & Lam Van Housen,

Wayne Moore & Betty Ryan

Jim Irwin

Matt Middlebrooks

Ray & Rhodell Schlage

Ruth Kurtz

Jerry & Mary Ann Goebel

John & Edna Papadakis

Ken Vanderhyde

Lil Borneman

Jim Feneley

Ray Schlage is working on a new mailing list, utilizing the new RUPA Directory, and adding the newcomers to the Tampa Bay Region. The January suggestion for using EMail was attempted but operator error sent the messages into cyberspace. More attempts will be made until successful.

As usual, notification if contemplating attending our monthly gathering is requested and appreciated. I can then provide Lil Borneman with a reasonable estimate of those planning to attend our luncheon. Lil, in her wisdom adds a few numbers, so if you can make it, come. JF/RS/JI.

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## Windows 2000

*By Kenny Danielson*

Some of you have asked for a Windows 2000 report whenever I got it running.

Having had almost every version of windows except W98, and using NT4 from when it was new until W2000 came along, you should consider me an experienced user and able to cure some rather esoteric problems that can cost you a trip to the mount for a consultation, a repair, and a bill from the digital guru.

Some of my programs will not run under the NT4 operating system (OS). I, therefore, had a dual boot system with W95 also installed. It is essential that the two OS be installed on different disks or, at least on different partitions. NT4 is much faster and stable than W95 so it was used for everything that was compatible. W98 is slower than W95 and a bigger memory hog, so it was never considered.

W2000 is just a newer NT4. It is a lot more friendly but not nearly as easily installed and fool-proof as W95.

Quite a few applications that run on W95 and even NT4 are not supported by W2000 particularly peripherals like scanners, printers, modems, and CD

writers. Some of these peripheral manufacturers are promising drivers to be available in the future and some are saying it is time to upgrade the hardware.

My NT4 OS was brought down by some insufficiently tested software from the biggest modem maker and even after completely reinstalling the OS, it was still flaky. The upgrade edition of W2000 (\$165) gives the option of upgrade or clean, new install. I chose the upgrade. It crashed. There was enough wrong with my old NT4 that it couldn't handle it. The OS booted, acted weird, and then crashed. I had the Blue Screen Of Death (BSOD). I was locked out of W2000 and NT4.

This was a less serious problem, since I had the W95 OS for boot and I was able to get in from there. Startup floppies were made from the W2000 disk (a process that is not as obvious nor as clearly outlined in the docs as it could be) and a clean install was done.

Now, the job of reinstalling all the programs and peripheral drivers which is being accomplished two weeks later, on an "as needed" schedule. Some drivers are resulting in the BSOD as reported on the MS W2000 newsgroup.

Yes, I like W2000. If my old NT4 was working correctly I would have to say W2000 is wasted money. It is a great improvement over W9x but you may not want to put up with the potential problems and the need to upgrade old hardware. I would suggest waiting at least 6 months before upgrading to give the driver writers to get the programs written and debugged. Even more time would be much better. And, I wouldn't consider installing without a dual boot system (explained rather thoroughly in the docs).

Good luck if you choose to get the OS - and don't call me.

*Speaking of problems, our Webmeister, Bruce McLeod, has had some computer problems, hence the lack of an update on the web. He hopes to be back online shortly, and will, I hope, place this article, along with a couple of others, on the site when he updates it. Ed.*

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### **Birthday Checks Received Feb. 18 thru Mar. 22, 2000**

Donald G Aitken, Clifford J Alderson, Arda J Aldred, R A Amato, Norman F Ames, Joseph C Andrews, Fred R Armstrong, Eugene H Armstrong Jr, Harold E Arnold, Felipe Aue-sanchez, Howard W Bailey, Ovid M Baker, James D Barnard, Donald K Beckenhauer, Robert W Bell Jr, Richard J Bellack, Thomas A Bennett, Martin C Berg, Alfred H Bernard, Halbert A Bickham, John C Black, Howard R Blomstrom, Ronald H Bouchard, Allen P Bowman, Joseph Bozliniski, James R Brace, Charles L Brennan, George W Brinkman, Richard C Bromwich, Clayton Brown, Lewis H Brubaker, James M Bruce, James F Buehner Jr, Fred C Burgess, Ronald J Bush, Horrace D Cain, Charles L Casey, R Jack Cavitt, D C Charlie Choate, V Edward Chrisman, Leo W Clark, Charles J Cleaver, Robert J Clupper, Michael C Conde, Ben H Conklin, William M Cooke, James E Coombes, D Sam Cramb, Robert S Crump, Robert G Cumming, Donald F Cunningham, Louis E Da Harb, Paul V Davis Ii, Thomas C De Lashmutt, Michael E Denham, Helene Denton, William H Depner, John R Donahue, Glenn H Dorward, John T Downey, Roger T Dreher, Donald E Dugas, Thomas L Duggin, William E Durell, Elizabeth Eagleson, Stewart V Eames, Robert K Early, Clem A Ellington, Marvin G Engel, William H Englund, Ralph E Ericson, John S Etherington, Kenneth C Ewing, William R Ferguson, Robert W Fiedler, Patrick Flanagan, Harold S Flinchum, Harvey S Fox, Walter J Frank, Frederick A French, Raymond French, Richard H Frye, G Nelson Funkhouser, C Howard Gallion, James S Gardner, Bob D Gerdes, Claude F Giddings, Henry F Gilbertson, Edward J Gilroy, John P Gleason, James W Glendenning, John M Gordon, Bradford Green Jr, Robert L Grieser, Willard D Griffith, Frank A Grona, Morel D Guyot, William L Haggard, Carl A Hakenen Jr, Harvey D Hallberg, James G Hannah, Thomas H Harris, Allen J Hayes, Leonard L Haynes, Woodson G Hays, Chester B Hector, Robert F Helmchen, David M Hendry, H Mike Hepperlen Iii, Arlyne Hettermann, A R Satch Hoghland, Douglas M Horne, Frederick M Horsmon, Van Q Hough, Charles N Houk, William C Hunt, Bobby P Huskey, Richard A Ionata, James R Irwin, Felix W Isherwood, Albert L Jarrett, Marvin E Jeffers, Gary H Johnson, Gene M Johnson, Philip Johnson, John H Johnson Jr, Norman S Justesen, Jerome F Keefe, Dannie T Keith, Mary Ann Kellogg, Gordon K Kelly, Raymond E Kern, Karl A Kerscher, W Don Kile, Kenneth L Killmon, Ernest W Knutzen, Robert H Kohler, Betty Kopp, Matti S Kosonen, Jordan Kraly, Edward P Krieger, Marvin L Kruskopf, John R Ladd, Jean Larkin, Donald C Lee, Jules Lepkowsky, Sue Letson, Edward A Louis, E W Bill Madsen, John E Malone Sr, Frederick J Martin, Henry E Mc Bride, William J Mc Bride, Edward J Mc Cormick, Charles W Mc Coy, Dwain C Mc Donald, Edward P Mc Donald, Robert E Mc Gowan, Wayne W Mc Intyre, B Frank Mc Kenzie, Edwin N Mc Kittrick, Thomas A Mc Michen, Norman M Mc Neil, Donald R Mc Queen, Tom L Mc Queen, Betty Mee, Nile S Meling, Robert E Meloche, William A Meston, Charles W Mettler, F P Fritz Meyer, Kenneth W Miles, Graham Millar, August H Miller, Willie D Moll, R Hoot Moninger, John G More, Marty Morehead, Giles E Mottl, Arthur N Mumm, Robert C Niccolls, Robert J Nichols, J E Skip O Halloran, Richard J O Toole, Joe M Onodera, Paul R Osborne, Theodore T Osinski, Alden W Osterbusch, James W Oxley, Donald W Paffrath, Jack W Parshall, Merrill D Passwaters, Dale R Paterson, George A Paull, Richard C Paysse, Dennis M Peck, Albert A Pennington, David M Petteys, Thomas O Pierce, Joe Pijas, W Jay Plank, Oakley W Porter, Allan D Pratt, Jack H Pulcheon, Ronald L Pulliam, Robert A Quinn, Donald M Ramsey, Robert C Ray, Frank S Reed, Barry E Remely, Dorothy Reynolds, Sidney S Rhodes, Leonard E Roquemore, George W Roth, John J Ruddy Jr, Richard D Russell, William L Rutherford, R Frank Schlarman, Robert J Schmiedeler, Daniel E Seiple, Thomas A Sheeran, Stuart O Sherman, Fred G Sindlinger, F Weldon Smith, Freddie J Smith, Ray E Smith, Richard E Smith, Charles H Smith Jr, A Richard Spackman, John W Spiegelberg, Anthony C Stein, Orv S Steinmetz, Bernard D Sterner, Ralph O Stewart, Britton A Storey, Vernon L Storla, Richard R Stouffer, Norwin N Synnestvedt, Jack W Taffe, Edward M Tebo, William A Thorsen, William F Treichel, James M Trosky, Dean L Turner, Robert R Turner, William C Tyndall, Thomas A Utsey, Robert D Van Nostern, Hugh E Van Voorst, Albert M Vandetta, Winfred C Vinton, Melvin L Vos, Ralph J Vrtacnik, Richard W Wagner, Wayne L Walker, James B Wallace, Lyman L Walter, Rufus K Ward, Larry W Watts, James D Way, Leroy F Wernli, Kenneth D White, Bobby G Williams, Mike O Williams, C M Pete Williams Jr, Carl E Williamson, Tom E Willman, Charles V Wilson, Nathan P Winter, R John Wisda, Wayne E Wolard, Vernon Lee Wood, Cecil L Wyman, Hobart D Young,

Normal



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**RAYMOND A. AMATO** – 1851 Old Freehold Rd.  
#1 toad64@compuserve.com

Dear Cleve: I'm 17 days into the new schedule, retired 2/1/00, and have transitioned very nicely. No mall or supermarket supervisory trips as yet. Sharon won't stand for it!

Enclosed is dues and postage. Thanks, **Ray**

**EUGENE H. ARMSTRONG** – PO Box 128,  
Vaughn, WA 98394 modlaluvr@aol.com

How about it, actually getting this off before my birthday. Approaching the end of the fourth year of retirement and it gets better every day. Good health still graces us and for that we are thankful. Enjoy the new format of the newsletter. Thanks to all who put it together and get it sent out. Plan on being here next year, until then, so long.

Gene & Kathie

**H. E. ARNOLD** – 2814 N. Baycliff Dr, McHenry, IL 60050

Dear Cleve, From the cover of *RUPANEWS* I see 20/20. \$20.00 for postage costs and \$20.00 for the folders and stuffers menu. Check enclosed for \$40.00. The best bargain of the year.

My thanks to *all* you guys for hard work and wonderful results. "HAP" Arnold

### **Aetna HMO**

One retiree's experience with Aetna! Popular HMO delivers the goods but slow!

On July '99, while shopping near our summer place at Coeur D'Alene Idaho, I had a near fainting spell and was taken to emergency. I was released with instructions to get a follow-up appointment with a doctor up there, as I wouldn't be coming back to the Bay Area until September.

I contacted Aetna per their policy book instructions and was told that the follow-up medical process was authorized and I was covered.

Within a week's time I had the follow-up appointment, which resulted in my getting an MRI which turned out negative, and that was all there was to it.

I figured the various medical entities that were involved i.e. doctor's office, hospital, MRI, radiology and so forth would all submit their bills to Aetna and I would not be involved. Isn't that the way its supposed to work??

Well it didn't work that way. Aetna, in my opinion, was slow in responding to the claims.

The medical procedures were done in July '99 and the final bills weren't fully paid until the end of February '2000. During that time I received 19 different billings

or notices of non-payment from the caregivers and made an estimated dozen calls to Aetna to prod them into fulfilling their responsibilities to me.

A series of payments were made by Aetna to the various caregivers in mid-October and I thought that they would thereby settle the claims. So I was surprised later on when I received shortfall billings from the caregivers for the unpaid portions of the bills which, if I remember correctly, still amounted to about 1/2 of the billed amounts.

Back on the phone to Aetna. Aetna advised me that the payments that they made were "reasonable for the services rendered" and that the shortfall (approx. 50%) was a result of the caregivers overcharging. Then with a verbal wink told me to forward any ensuing bills on to them and they would eventually make good on all of them.

The bills did ensue, and I did forward them on to Aetna as instructed. But again they were slow to pay those off, and subsequent billings from the caregivers started coming and the phone calls to Aetna resumed. Bottom line is that after waiting, writing and calling for close to seven months, Aetna finally fulfilled their obligations as written in their policy.

I write this note simply to advise all who read it of my experiences with this particular HMO and hope that it is of some value to you when you make your electives later this year.

*Jeff Bailey*

I hate to tell you this Jeff, but I think that general ob-

**DANIEL BARGAR** – 1731 Escalero Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Dear Cleve, Only missed my Feb. birthday issue by a couple of months. Chris and I will have been married two years in April and 1999 was quite a year for both. Finally made Grandpa in August, when my daughter had her first baby, a girl. Chris' grandson is almost 4 and thinks he nears genius.

We manage to use up a lot of passes and have been fairly lucky on trips. Jan. a Caribbean cruise, Feb. a trip to London and a 7-day Nile River cruise with Dick Belleck and a bunch of United retirees, Apr. to Fla. and Sun n Fun. The summer passed all too quickly with time at our Tahoe place. Sept. the Lufthansa hiking group cranked up with 6 United couples being led by Werner our Lufthansa purser in a trek of the Dolomites. Nov. was a cruise through the canal and the year was gone. We really do enjoy each RUPA issue and learn what everyone is doing. Thanks again for all your efforts. See you on the RUPA cruise.

**Dan**

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**HARLIN E. BELL** – 1288 Kasey Lakeview Dr, Moneta, VA. 24121 EWR,LGA.IDL/JFK,CLE  
My request for Chelation information was fantastic. I intended to write or call and thank whomever answered my request, but, the response was overwhelming. I've heard from WA. CA NV TX VA FL PA GR GA. – and several others.

Please let me use this medium to express my thanks for the courtesy that each of you has extended me. I have not made a decision yet. If I go for treatment I'll keep this as an open letter.

WHAT A GREAT BUNCH OF GUYS AND GALS,  
THANKS AGAIN!

**RICHARD J. BELLACK** – 353 San Antonio Ave, Unit 1, San Diego, CA 92106

Dear Cleve: This is my first time to send you my check, so have programmed it into the computer so you should get it every year on time. My letter, however, may not be as prompt as I am not as dedicated as the computer.

Had a great first year starting by my wife setting up a trip down the Nile with 28 friends to celebrate my retirement and birthday. Have tried to act retired by doing a lot of traveling and catching up on the things I kept putting off. We have been to England (3 times, as my wife family is still there), Germany, Russia, Scandinavia, Mexico (a couple of times) and New Zealand to watch the Americas Cup. Sold 2 boats in the last 3 months (one that I had to repossess) and so it is about time I did something foolish again.

Thanks to all who take the time to put out such a great newsletter.

*Dick*

Normal

**THOMAS A. BENNETT** – 680 Sweetbriar, Memphis, TN 38120

One month before retirement and you hear the pitter-patter of little feet! She does help us keep our hats in Memphis. The choc lab went to the spa (to learn hunting) for 3 months so we could get away.

Five trips to CA, see kids and a wedding, up to Napa CA for the Ca Ag refresher clinic. Two trips to HI for a golf tournament at Schofield Barracks and Kona, and to the Maui Invitational to cheer the U of Memphis at Thanksgiving for basketball, and some golf with a week's plus stay, numerous trips (1:15 hour drive) to the Clarksdale MS farm and also (2:05 hour flights in the B-35 to the Deatin FL condo, twice to Italy, bus tour for two weeks and a wedding in Rome, plus eighteen weddings in Memphis, ATL, MSY, JAN and BHM. Trip to SYD, Cairns, MEL and back (first class), then delivered a Suburban to CA, but also came back F. C! you would think this was a testimonial for

Preparation-H"!

We were covered with dove, ducks and deer at the farm and "Princess" did a number on the birds. We plan to travel in the off season to HI, CA, Oslo and Bermuda so far this year.

Please correct the phone number in the RUPA Directory to 901-761-5972

Health to all, Tom & Carolyn

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**MARTY BERG** 13985 Pike Rd. Saratoga, CA 95070-5361

Dear Jock: In 1999 we visited Paris, Venice, Rio, and New York – all within the city limits of Las Vegas.

**Marty Berg**

P.S. I have enclosed a picture of my then girlfriend and myself as I was on my way to aviation cadet training.

*I'd recognize that face anywhere, Marty, but you must have thrived on the SOS in training and grown a wee bit. Ed.*



**HAL BICKHAM** – 11640 Court of Palms #501, Fort Myers, FL 33908

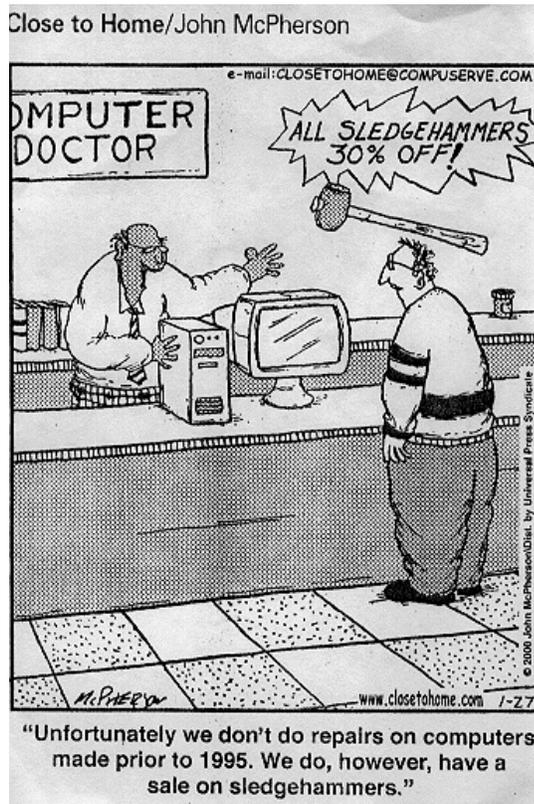
Dear Cleve, On August 1, 1999 I finally entered the ranks of the full retarded, oops, retired. I am only a couple of weeks behind with my check. I have made the transition well, and like many others, wonder how I ever found time to work!

Suzy and I took a Millennium Cruise on Celebrity. Fourteen days from San Juan through the Panama Canal to San Diego. We were the first cruise ship to go all the way through the canal on Jan 1, after Panama gained control. Everything was fine.

We have a Greek Isles cruise in May, and possibly a long one in November (50 days) from Athens to Bangkok. Best regards, **Hal**

**AL & KAREN BOWMAN** - 18083 Peregrine Lane, Mount Vernon, WA 98274-7727 alkarbow@aol.com  
 A little early this year due to the fact we will be spending all of March on the Island of Maui. The trust that we put our Maui house in has sold it, so we thought we would have our final vacation there, sell our furniture, get rid of all our stuff before it closes. We're still busy putting the final touches on our new home, Men's Ministry at our church and spending time with the rest of our family distributed throughout the US of A. Thanks to UAL and ALPA and The LORD in reverse order for making our retirement so great. We enjoy reading *RUPA NEWS* and thanks to all of you who make it possible.  
 Check in the mail to Cleve. **Al**

**GEORGE BRINKMAN** – 6751 E. 1000 North, New Carlisle, IN 46552  
 Hi All, #6 this year and all is well. Shannon and I are enjoying life and all it offers with a 17 -year- old athletic son, tennis, golf, track and basketball. Our basketball coach thinks basketball is a year around sport, and if you don't agree, you don't play, so this limits our trips a lot. However, the sacrifice is worth it at game time.  
 Our three daughters, their husbands and nine grandchildren are well and a blessing to us.  
 Thanks for the newsletter.  
 Sincerely, *George & S hannon*



**JAMES F. BUEHNER**, 407 W. Oden Bay Rd. Sandpoint, Id. 83864 buehner@dmi.net  
 Dear Jock : Thanks for your dedicated work with the *RUPANEWS*. Since I live in north Idaho, it keeps me in the loop.  
 Last fall, my wife and I traveled to Germany along with my youngest daughter. I would like to take a moment to thank Bill Stookey for his help with the travel plans for without it we could not have made the trip. Thanks again Bill.  
 From time-to-time I miss the flying, but the serenity up here has its compensations.  
 Until next year, God willing.

**Jim**  
**SA Passes Threatened?**

*Special United Airlines Discount E-Fares*  
 ALISO VIEJO, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Feb. 22, 2000--buy.com (Nasdaq:BUYX - news), a multi-category Internet superstore, and United Airlines, the world's largest airline and an e-commerce leader in the airline industry, announced that they have officially launched their new full-service Buytravel.com Web site.  
 Buytravel.com is the first venture into service-related categories for buy.com. The new travel site will feature discounted fares and rates from United Airlines. The presence of United Airlines E-Fares will represent the first time these discount flights are available directly on a Web site other than www.ual.com. Buytravel.com can be accessed from the www.buy.com home page, or directly at www.buytravel.com.  
 "Online travel has grown to be one of the most popular retail segments on the Internet, and is a natural fit for our consumer target market," said Greg Hawkins, chief executive officer of buy.com. "We believe the Buytravel.com site will benefit savvy consumers looking for discount travel on the Web."  
 "Buytravel.com offers customers a travel superstore on the Internet featuring a wide range of products at very low prices," commented Michael Cavanaugh, director of strategic planning, marketing and sales at United Airlines' e-commerce division. "Buytravel.com will provide travel consumers with the level of choice, convenience and control that comes with shopping over the Internet."  
 Consumers visiting the Buytravel.com site can now make complete bookings with approximately 500 major airlines, 30,000 hotels worldwide and 45 car rental agencies.  
 In addition to its extensive reservation booking capabilities, Buytravel.com further enhances the travel experience by offering travel books and guides, cameras, portable music devices and travel-friendly computer

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products to fit travel needs. buytravel.com will give away 4 free round-trip (2 per person), economy class tickets per week for 7 weeks, good for travel to any city where United flies in the 48 contiguous states. No purchase necessary. buytravel.com will also feature exciting travel packages and quality merchandise. Valuable travel information and tips from assorted travel experts will also be made available.

Specials and promotions will be delivered to registered users' via e-mail, or can be seen at www.buytravel.com. buytravel.com's travel reservation system provides search options to offer users low fare options from many airlines, hotels and car rental agencies, in addition to the discounted United E-Fares. It also makes available updated flight status to help users keep track of departure and arrival changes.

### **Pension Fund Withdrawals**

Dear Jock; I just finished reading the latest *RUPA NEWS* and found the "Protecting an IRA From Estate Taxes" pertinent. I have just spent several weeks trying to get informed on my upcoming withdrawal requirements and decisions that have to be made by the time I turn 70 1/2. Every one of us either already has or will have to go through this process.

I discovered the job has been made much simpler by a paperback book written in layman's language and walking you through every conceivable option and decision concerning the same. It's remarkably thorough and simple for a very complex subject. The book is "*IRA's, 401(k)'s & Other Retirement Plans, Taking Your Money Out*" by Twila Slesnick & John C. Suttle printed by Nolo Press. It's available in the library. It's also available from the website www.nolo.com. I strongly encourage every one to get a copy and use it to plan their withdrawal options and beneficiaries. *Hal Campbell*, prchfc@cs.com *Thanks for the helpful input, Hal. I'm sure many members will find it useful. Ed.*

**DUANE YLVISAKER** jetlag1@wans.net  
FYI. My wife and I are planning a trip to Europe and need to get from CDG to LIS and back. Bought the 75% reduced fare from AF, through UAL ticket counter, and then checked the regular rates at Expedia.com. For \$5 more we got positive space. I think.

**Duane**

**CHARLES J. CLEAVER**, 541 Gabilan St. ,Los Altos, CA 94022

Eighteen years since my one-way trip to Honolulu that the company allowed me to take in the DC-10, displacing the Denver Captain.

Turned 78 last month, starting to be an old man and my hair is still not growing back. Only on my chest. Down here in Los Altos Jean and I are enjoying the comforts of retirement. Sold all of the apartments in Menlo Park and will soon enjoy the privilege of paying it mostly to the IRS. We are both crying. Did enjoy Boys' Night Out last month and did some reminiscing with my copilot about when we tipped over a hobby cat off Waikiki and never were able to right it. One of the sponsors had sprung a leak and was full of water. We did get a free rental the next trip over. Old memories bring a laugh.

Both Jean and I are in good health. I had a double hernia operation last year with good recovery, Jean has had two cataracts removed and that also turned out excellent.

Like everyone else, we are just getting older and shorter, but our seven children are keeping us busy. Alicia, my daughter, now has 15 years as stewardess with UAL, and my niece is pushing 30 years.

Have had a few trips to Seattle, but took Alaska, as trying to get to Seattle on a pass is just not worth it, plus paying \$15 per day for long-term parking is just more trouble than it is worth. Does anyone have more information on Johnny Appleby's crash north of Denver in a DC 6???

Good health to all, *Charlie*

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**MICHAEL CONDE** – 3873 N. Cresta Ct, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Dear Cleve, March 4, was the big 60 for me. I flew my last leg 816 SYD to LAX on February 16th. That gave me a little over 5 years on the 400, all of it fun. I am looking forward to retirement after 36+ years with United and 41 years as a pilot.

Retirement plans include a 40 foot diesel motorhome and boat and Jeep to go see the USA, as I have been flying west for 27 years and miss the east. My wife Rosa is a great traveler and loves the outdoors, so it should work out.

I have enclosed the membership dues and hope that you will see fit to include us in your group as we would be proud to be members.

Sincerely, Michael Conde

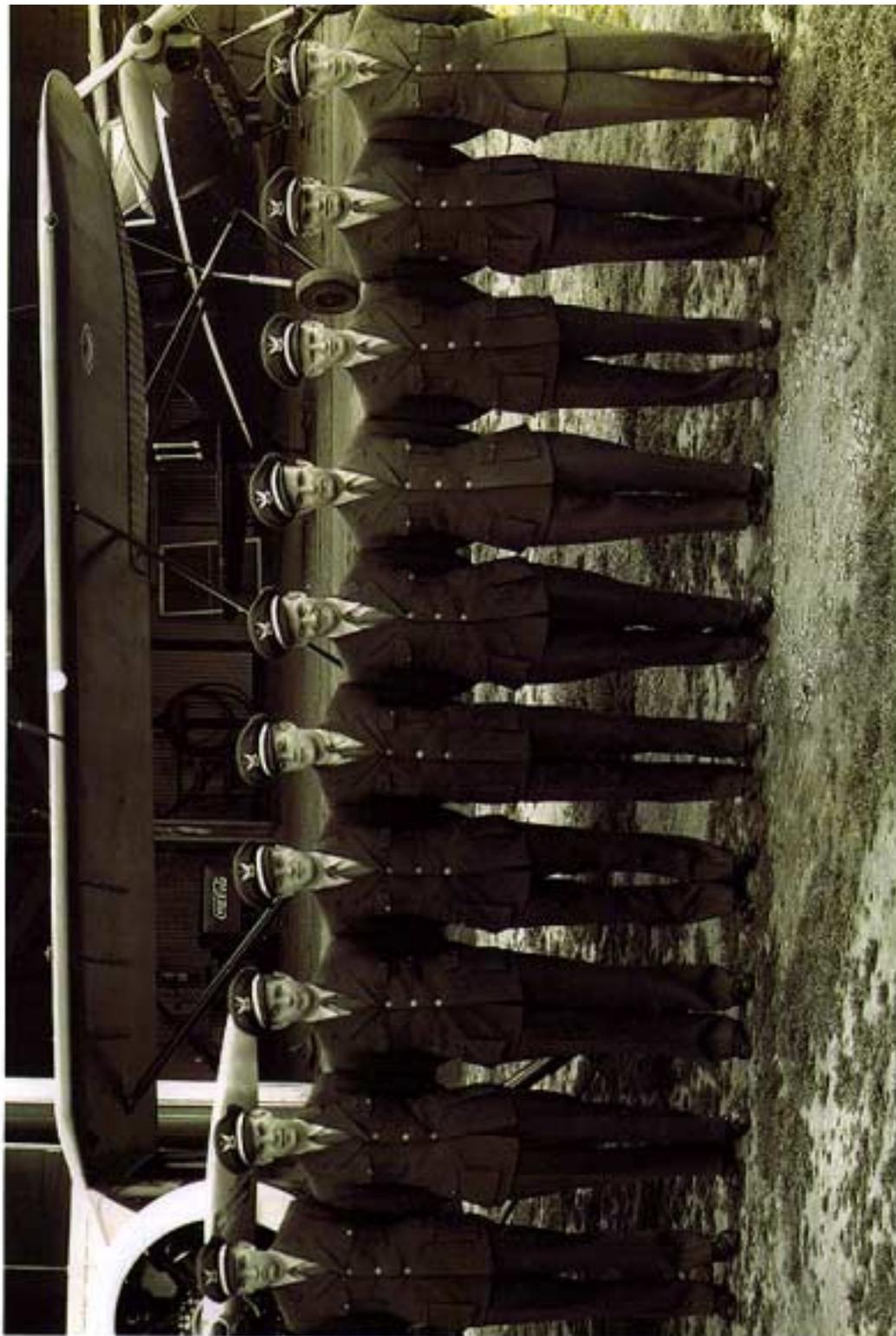
*Welcome aboard, Michael. Be sure to concentrate – this retirement is a serious and exacting business, you know. Ed*

Third Class - Tracy Aces, 1941



J.R.Cottle D.V.Mayne W.W.Warner T.Shadinger V.L.Storla C.A.Peternell R.H.Morning G.M.Peterson C.A.McKinnon R.F.Gustavson

Third Class - Tracy Aces, 1941



G.C.Kehmeier E.F.Heft M.E.Berlin M.W.Campbell N.L.Williamson E.H.Edwards R.H.Robbins C.D.Coffey S.D.Locke J.W.Nelson

## HISTORIC PHOTO

The predecessor of UAL's Flight Training Center (DENTK) was the Boeing School of Aeronautics, established in 1929 at the Oakland, CA, airport. It was owned by Boeing Air Transport, known as BAT, which was one of the original companies merged to form United Air Lines. On May 1, 1934, the school's ownership was transferred to United, but retained its original name.

During WWII, Boeing School of Aeronautics trained over 7,000 men for the military. The subjects taught covered all aspects of the aviation business, from ground to flight operations.

The Oakland airport became busy in 1939 due to the growth of commercial flight operations. In November 1940, United moved the flight school to Tracy, CA, where it operated for fifteen months.

Because of wartime restrictions on flying on the West Coast, early in WWII (January 1942) the school moved again from Tracy to Cheyenne WY, and in November 1942, moved to Hangar 5 at Stapleton Field Denver. It moved to its present quarters in 1968.

[From the late Capt. Bill Arnott's history of UAL.]

The two photos (split for enlargement to make the subjects more easily identifiable) on the previous pages are of the third class at Tracy and were sent to RUPANEWS by "Hoot" Moninger, who did the restorative work on his copy.

Hoot had previously sent copies of class photos of the first three classes at Tracy which he had also improved. I think that they will also be of interest, even if the faces are a bit smaller, and so will print them in reverse order – class #2 next followed by #1.

"Hoot" noted that the current RUPA directory contained only 15 out of the 60 members of the first three classes.

I'm sure that we will receive comments and information about the subject. I, for one, would like to know the aircraft types pictured. Ed

**ROBERT MONINGER** rmoninger@earthlink.net

Dear Jock: Another birthday coming up, # 82, and signs of senility showing up. For example: The other day at breakfast; wife says "What's that in your ear?" I say: "Huh?"

She says (louder): "Your ear, your ear, What is that?"

I say: "I dunno" -- but I take it out and look. ---

It turns out to be a suppository !

She says "Where the hell's your hearing aid?"

It was not a good day.

**Hoot**

Well Hoot, thanks for your amusing inputs over the

years – and as luck would have it, this issue is the one in which we planned to publish the photo you sent of Class number three of the "Tracy Aces", who are getting thin upon the ground. Happy birthday. Ed.

**LOUIS E. DA HARB** – 2733 Lake Park Way Longmont, CO 80503

Dear Cleve, Once again thanks to you, the editor, the stuffers and all those associated with the publication of the RUPANEWS. Although Peggy and I have not taken advantage of the various functions of RUPA we have been very busy taking advantage of our wonderful travel privileges. We have traveled extensively in the US and abroad to Germany, Austria and Thailand. We continue to enjoy the beautiful weather in Colorado and it's many outdoor activities. We are blessed with good health and wonderful family. Our best to you all and the RUP's.

Sincerely, Lou & Peggy

**PAUL V. DAVIS** – 75 Knoxlyn Orrtanna Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Dear Jock, 65 and counting my blessings vs the years. Couldn't stand the quiet of this old house, so got married and got a child again, love them both. Julie is too young to note [?] & stepdaughter, Liz, is 13, does excellent in school and loves to ski - this leads to: I still work at the local snow zit as an instructor when we have snow. Summers we go to Maine and take mom, age 93, where we fish, swim, water ski and do the tourist stuff, plus spend time between fun fixing stuff here or there that has fallen into disrepair.

Hope this finds you and your Family well. Best to all and thanks for your time, Paul, Julie & Liz

P.S. The dog doesn't even bite me as often, must be mellowing out. [who, you or the dog?]

Paul: Sheila says Hi! Congratulations on your retreat status. Ed

**THOMAS C. DeLASHMUTT** – 63567 230th St, Glenwood, IA 51534

Cleve: Thanks for reminding me "No more PC's."

Every time I think about that, I have to pinch myself to make sure I'm not dreaming. Thirty-three years plus with UAL, it was past time to hang it up!! Enjoyed most of it!! **Tom**



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## CAREMARK CONCERNS

*I have recently been in correspondence with member John Baer about his and others' concerns about the service provided retirees by Caremark prescription service. I brought those concerns to the attention of our officers for their opinion and guidance. Their considered judgment was that the membership be informed and asked for any input, following which our ALPA and WHQ liaisons would take them to ALPA/UAL for their information/action.*

*Capt. Baer has agreed to be a letterbox to receive and forward such comments as he receives to our RUPA liaisons for their further action – so if you have input, please send it to him at the address below. Ed.*

**JOHN D. BAER** 1568 VISTA GRANDE LANE  
ARROYO GRANDE, CA 93420 805-489-9418  
EMail: W6SL@juno.com

Hello Jock,

I am enclosing an article from the Feb. 21 issue of Fortune magazine which shows an abysmal rating of Caremark Rx, the company which United has contracted to be our pharmaceutical supplier. *[The article is a report on 504 US companies. Fortune listed the top and bottom three in eight attributes of reputation. For innovativeness, quality of management, employee talent, financial soundness, use of assets, long-term value, social responsibility, and quality of products and services. Only one company, Caremark, made the bottom three in all categories.]* I mentioned this to you in a recent email.

Since that email, there has been considerable effort made to accumulate information which would be necessary to show to UAL that Caremark is not the proper company to be serving our health needs. The present LEC Council 57 Captain rep, Cory Ferguson, has already presented some information, including some details from the Fortune magazine article, to the R&I committee at the MEC, asking them to study the matter. It would certainly be a help if you could print a plea to the RUPA clan for information on whether they use Caremark's mail in pharmaceutical service and if not, why. Also any incidents documenting a unilateral change on Caremark's part to change a prescription are invaluable. (I have had five separate incidents myself.) I am also attaching an interesting email that I received from Dick Frye, LAXFO, retired, about his experience with Caremark. Dick has given me his permission to send this to you.

*John Baer Attachments*

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Default Paragraph Font

Dick Frye, LAXFO, PGAFryes@aol.com, to John Baer, retired, LAXFO

“Hi John: Thanks for the heads up info on Caremark. We have not had occasion to use them for several years but had the same medication switch scheme tried on me in 1993, when they sent me Provachol in place of the prescribed Mevacor. Both were "Statin" drugs, but very different formulations. The doc involved, Fred Goldstein (every pilot's friend and FAA examiner) was furious about it and said they had done the same to numerous of his patients. He called them and was told that they "thought his office staff had okayed the switch." No retraction of their letter to me or provision of proper medication ensued.

I then called them and related the fact that my cousin had recently died following the change from one Statin drug to another (which was true although it probably had nothing to do with his death) and I threatened action against Caremark through some agency (FDA?). I got the proper medication by FedEx next morning delivery. They never substituted on me again, but they did call the next few times the prescription was filled to attempt to switch, and when the doc increased my dosage they called to tell me the dangers of such a dosage.

My experience is minor compared to yours, and I submit it only to enforce what you have said. Perhaps our experiences need to be submitted to ALPA, along with the Fortune article and a strong suggestion that Caremark be removed from the UAL medical team. Dick”

### *More on Caremark ?*

Boy, I sent this out to a lot of UALers and am getting results, so if you don't mind, I'll pass them on to you . This one is from Mrs. Pat Beery, both she and her husband retired from SFOEX and SFOMM (I think)?

"For almost eleven years, we've been using Caremark and have found that they have been 100% perfect. We have taken our prescriptions to any number of local pharmacies, they fill the prescriptions exactly as indicated by the physician, they give us the Caremark discounted price, I then submit the pharmacy receipts to Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois, and they reimburse us. Since we are both UAL retirees, we end up with 100% prescription coverage. I'm sorry for the problems you're having, but our experiences are totally the opposite of yours.

If you are using the mail prescription service, suggest you try getting your prescriptions from a local pharmacy and submit the pharmacy receipts to BC/BS - if you're coverage is anything like ours, you'll get 80% of the bills reimbursed.

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.Might be worth a try and save a whole lot of heart-burn! Pat Beery “

Jock-- The Caremark service I have been using and to which I refer is the mail-in prescription service, *not* the reimbursement service using a local pharmacy. The reason that respondent, Pat Beery, has not had problems is that they are using a local pharmacist, *not* Caremark's pharmacist.

The big difference, of course, is price. When you use a local pharmacist you are essentially using the Blue Shield policy; i.e. you pay a co-payment of 20% of the amount paid to the pharmacy *after* your initial \$250 deductible is met. So, if you have a \$100 pharmacy bill, you're paying \$20, *if* (and that's a big *if*) you already have met the annual deductible. The price for the Caremark mail-in pharmacy service is \$10 per co-payment, whether or not you have met the annual deductible.

The local pharmacist knows that if he/she arbitrarily changed a prescription that he/she would probably lose his/her job, including a big fine. And that local pharmacy would probably never get another prescription to fill from that particular doctor.

When I made two complaints to the California Board of Pharmacy, they sat on the complaints for about a year and then sent me a postcard saying that they were dismissed. End of complaint.

So is the \$10 copayment a big saving over the 80% reimbursement through Blue Shield? In my case my Caremark \$10 copayments are \$200 annually. If I used the reimbursement service and had no other medical bills for the year, i.e. did not meet the deductible with other medical expenses, the out-of-pocket cost would be \$530. Is the \$330 worth the hassle? I'm beginning to think not. But I'm sure Caremark would love for me to go elsewhere. That way they keep the big premium paid by UAL for this "benefit" without incurring any costs.

I notice on a new Caremark prescription application form that they say complaints should go to the Texas Board of Pharmacy. Frankly, I would think if they are doing business in California and mailing drugs to California addresses that they should be under the jurisdiction of California, not Texas.

When this happened again last autumn I called the doctor's office and asked why my prescription had been changed. The nurse looked in my file and said that no change had been made. So, to confirm that phone call, I went into the office, asked to see a nurse and asked her to check my file while I was standing there. She did so and confirmed that there was nothing in my file that noted any prescription change authorization had been made. When I challenged Caremark

on this matter over the phone they gave me the date, time and the first name of the person they had contacted.

When I then questioned that nurse in the office, she did not remember anything about either giving a change order or talking to the doctor about a change. Certainly nothing had been entered into my file about any such change. So I think what is happening is that Caremark is calling the prescribing doctor's office, casually asking the name of one of the nurses who might have the authority to make a change, and then recording that name and the time they called. This has now happened too many times to be just a moment of forgetfulness on the part of one nurse. It's happened in three different doctor's offices, and all of them have nothing in my file about any call from Caremark. Coincidence?

My wife also used the Caremark mail-in service. When her prescription arrived, the bottle did not indicate the same medication that had been prescribed but a similar generic. Because she had experienced problems with a generic for that particular medication (because a year previously Caremark had unilaterally switched her to a generic), she called the Caremark pharmacist. She was told that, indeed she had been sent the prescribed medication, not the generic, but that Caremark had put the correct medication in a bottle marked as the generic. Wow! A licensed pharmacy that sends out regulated prescription drugs across state lines in bottles indicating a different medication than that which is in the bottle? Think about that! The pharmacist asked my wife to get the bottle and to check the coded inscription on the tablet. When my wife described the tablet on the phone she was then told that was the prescribed medication, even though the bottle said differently. Unbelievable!

Mrs. Pat Berry essentially is not working with Caremark at all. She has been using her local pharmacist and Blue Cross/Blue Shield to receive a reimbursement. She says as much in her letter. The only way Caremark gets involved is through a very slight discount given by the local pharmacist. Of course, we, too, could use that local pharmacist service and go through BC/BS. And judging from retirees that I talk to, I think a lot of UAL employees have given up on Caremark's mail-in service. One local neighbor pilot-retiree answered my question of whether they were using the mail-in service, "Are you kidding? *No way!*" However, I am of the impression that the Caremark service is a *negotiated* agreement with United Airlines. If the IAM or ALPA or any other union that negotiated a contract with UAL does not enforce the contract that was negotiated, then they have essentially given up that negotiated benefit. Then you have to say, "What did labor give up in a contract negotiation to get that

Caremark mail-in prescription low-copayment benefit? " Don't think for a moment that those items are just thrown in free out of the goodness of management's heart. *Everything* is negotiated.

My file on Caremark is filled with blue letters indicating that they have made a change in medication "after consulting my doctor or his authorized agent." This last blue letter I received was not on a new prescription but a refill, #3 out of four refills. So now, instead of taking two pills a day, Caremark has arbitrarily changed my prescription and says I should take 1 1/2 pills a day. When I asked my doctor about this and how I was to cut one of these capsules in half, his answer was, "Ridiculous!" This comment was from the very same doctor who a few weeks previously Caremark claimed had made the authorization for that very same change. If Caremark had their way they'd fill only Aspirin prescriptions for \$10 copayments. I'd like to sell \$2 bottles of aspirin for \$10 too, plus receive a big premium from United Airlines for doing so.

**John Baer**



**ROBERT CLUPPER** – Chicago MDW, SFO, LAX, Chicago ORD

I've been enjoying traveling the country in my motorhome this last year. I've visited 17 aircraft museums so far with more to go. Rode as a passenger in a 1929 new standard biplane at Rhinebeck, New York. Those people really know how to enjoy airplanes! Rode in a sailplane on Harris Hill at Elmira, New York. Made my own Longaberger Basket at the factory east of Newark, Ohio, that was fun. Visited DENTK, it gets bigger all the time. What a change since 1952 when I first went through DC-3 co-pilot school. Rode in two

hot air balloons at the Albuquerque festival, 873 balloons registered, that's a bunch, I saw all of them in the air 5 times! Two times from the air, what an awesome sight! I'm in Arizona for the winter, I stop at all parachute drop zones and sailplane airports as I go by! So many neat things to see and do in this great country! Oregon and Washington states this summer.

Thanks to all the helpers who put this newsletter together. **Bob**

**BEN CONKLIN** 3206 Divot Rd. Sebring, Fl. 33872

Dear Jock: Retirement year number 18. Can't believe the time goes by so fast. Rose and I still alive and kicking. Son Ben, 727 Captain out of Newark, has only five years to go to his retirement. Hope to be around to see that - Daughter Sue doing just fine, as well as are the grandkids. Three of our nieces and their husbands have had twins the past few years. All about a year apart and each with a boy and girl. Needless to say it's fun time when we all get together. Have bought a condo up North to use in the summer time. Will send the address along with a check to Cleve. Golf scores continue to climb but still enjoy the game. Regards to all. **Ben**

**LEW BRUBAKER** MDW – ORD 1945-1981

Hi Jock: My natal month, so will get a check to Cleve. So sorry to see so many of the old-timers who have flown west.

Nineteen years since I hung it up – where does the time go?

Thanks to all for your good work. Take care – we care!

Best regards, *Lew and Carol*

**WILLIAM M. COOKE** – 11132 Pinehurst Dr, Austin, TX 78747

Cleve, Well , another year has come and gone so here's my postage check! "Time just flies when you're having fun."

Nothing is new, just playing golf and doing "Honey Do's." Will travel more this year by going to "The Masters" in April, U.S. Open in June and to Ireland in July to play with some friends.

Good luck to all.

Sincerely, Mike

**NORB CUDNOWSKI** – 4120 Lorene Dr. Apt 201 Estero, FL 33928 56/90 ORD, LAX, ORD

Greetings to all. It was ten years ago today, ( 3/8/90), I flew my last trip. UAL #1 ORD--HNL. Seems like yesterday in a way. We have been fortunate. We have our health. Our children and grandchildren are also doing well. Fortunately, our passes allow us to visit

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them over holidays and special occasions. We spend our summers in the U.P. of Michigan and winters in SW Florida. Attend RUPA lunches in FL. Attendance is good. It's nice to see old friends and bring back memories. We did enjoy the RUPA cruise up the St. Lawrence river in 1998. It seems like our Air Force reunions generally take place about the same time of year, and we are faced with making a decision between the two.

We took up tennis after retirement. I love the game, but it has been hard on my knees. I had arthroscopic surgery for a torn meniscus (cartilage) on my right knee in 98, and the same procedure for the left knee in 99. Fortunately, the kidney and the "wee knee" are still working OK. I am back playing, enjoying the game, and hoping that injuries are a thing of the past. I still receive and read Chicago's Council 12 "Banner". It contains a series reprinting from "Wooden Wings" by Patrick Palazzolo. "Wooden Wings" chronicles the events leading up to the strike in 1985, and the difficult years that followed. It's like re-living a bad dream with a happy ending for me. I am glad ALPA survived. I am also glad UAL survived. We would be living a different lifestyle today, if they had not. It looks like the pilots are frustrated and disappointed with the company's negotiation strategy. I wonder if a new ESOP will be negotiated after current term expires? One more point before ending. I am neither pro or anti Dubinsky. I must say I admired his courage in challenging Ferris and getting the current ESOP in motion. Dubinsky is now MEC chairman, and as I understand it, has a seat on the UAL board of directors. He also has a long standing lawsuit against ALPA seeking a monetary settlement. This sounds like a conflict of interest to me. If anyone can explain this to me, please do so. I must admit I haven't received the last three issues of our RUPA publication do to a postal problem. If this has been covered, I apologize for taking up space.

My annual check will be in mail this week. Best regards to all. **Norb**

**MRS. WILLIAM (HELENE) DENTON** – 2605 Via Olivera, Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274

Dear Cleve, It is with sadness that I inform you that James A. Brennan died January 12. We were caught up in life, as Bill, my husband, flew with Jim out of Norfolk back in the fifties. His wife Ginny and I were left many times to celebrate Thanksgiving or New Years without one or the other or both. His son Jack had left the Navy as a pilot to take care of his Dad. I am now furnishing him a home until he straightens out the finances and gets himself a flying job. Jim was

buried at Fort Snelling by the MSP airport, and I accompanied them to the frozen north.

Fortunately, he has two Uncles and two Aunts that were most helpful. Even helped getting Honorable Discharge from Veteran's Bureau.

Outside of a broken left wrist Nov. 12, I am managing as well as one can with only one good hand. But I have two wonderful sons who took me on a trip to Montana where my old home town is located. We took in Glacier National Park, Lewis and Clark trail all the way to Idaho and back. We also learned how the Battle of the Little Big Horn was really fought.

My pilot son flew to be with his mother for Christmas as I didn't dare to fly with this tender wrist. He also gives me buddy passes for my sisters to come and visit me, which I appreciate very much. I can ride on their Express trips with no charge and get Interline passes. It seems it is more worthy to be a mother than a wife. Don't ask me why. Bill put in 35 years, and it does seem that the wife should be treated as well as a mother.

Best Wishes, *Helene*

**ROGER T. DREHER** – 432 Rockland Rd, Crystal Lake, IL 60014

It has been three years and counting. Still working on all the projects. Most are completed now. Last month I started thinking that I should finish all the yard projects and all but one of the inside projects this year. What will I do next year? I think the wife will help me out with her honeydo list. I am sending in two years' postage this time. I hope it will be alright. I also added a little for any little extras needed in the postage department or what ever.

This year I start to build RUPA seniority. I slide past the big 60 this month. Up to now I have been the junior man of the group. I joined voluntarily three years ago. I just had enough of the PC's, management, and the FAA. Don't regret a minute of it. Never been doing so many things. One thing I have done exceptionally well is driving my wife nuts. She wasn't ready to have me around so much. We vowed for better or worse, but not for lunch.

Thanks and take care all. **Roger**

Lower case **Larry Dube'** ORD/DCA/ORD/CLE/ORD 64-86 - DC-6, DC-8, B747, B727.

Winthrop Harbor, Illinois Hisdulos@aol.com  
Hi RUPA folks,

It's the big 65 this year. Still pumping air and in reasonable health.

The diabetes has ended my levitation, but otherwise I am taking care of it with a few 'sticks' a day ... Ouch!

My bride Janet has decided to be a working lady after staying homewith the kids (and me) for almost 30 years. She immediately lost about 40 pounds and I'll bet she could fit into her Jean Louis sky goddess duds if they were still around. She is working at our church as the secretary, and discovering that she really can figure out a computer if she puts her mind to it. What a gal!!

Our babies are doing great, with the youngest still in High School for another year. She started driving a short time ago, and Oh how USAA loves us. Our oldest girl is a 5th semester senior at Liberty University, majoring in communications, but she is planning to ease her load and graduate as planned in 2001. Son Tim is taking a year off from his studies as he graduated from HS when barely 17. He doesn't really know what he wants to do, so he will 'find himself' for a while I guess. He is a great kid who makes his Mom and dad very proud. My suggestions of aviation fall on deaf ears ... go figure!

Being a working family, we haven't done any traveling, except for Christin traveling back and forth from LYH to IAD to ORD. She's done lots of that, and the passes are truly a blessing. Thank you good old ALPA and UAL.

My regards to all out there who remember me. I'm still doing my duty at the 727 display in Chicago, and I must say I haven't made a bad landing yet ... squeek! (once every 90 minutes). God is good.

**Larry**

PS Happy Birthday to "F. Gurnwald Smyth" (Gurney Smith). We share the day!

**DONALD E. DUGAS** – 2616 Deborah Dr, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Greetings to all and thanks to the folks at RUPA for making this such a nice publication. We are starting our second year of retirement and I haven't yet missed the commute up to Chicago. I miss the layovers in Narita though, because I am starting to run low on the little green hotel ballpoint pens.

Our lives are occupied with raising our 4 year old daughter. I was a late bloomer.

Best regards to all, Don

**AL & KAY FRENCH** - 1739 SE 39th Terr., Cape Coral, FL 33904      alkayfrench@aol.com

Dear Jack: It's that month again. I'm out of the tutoring business and back into the music business - trombone with a local symphony, dance band and college jazz ensemble. Old dog relearning old tricks.

Regards to all. **AI**

**HOWARD GALLION** chgallion@qosi.net

Nothing new to report here. On a daily basis just putting one foot in front of the other. Will reach the big 80 in a couple of weeks.

Frightening.

**Howard**

**JAMES S. GARDNER** – 12 Craig Ct, Colts Neck, NJ 07722    bolt4@directweb.com

When I was a boy I thought about the year 2000 and doing the numbers realized that I'd be 66. I didn't think people lived that long. WOW!

During the past year, several notable events have validated our retirement. My terrific first (and only) wife, Hallie, and I celebrated our 40th anniversary and became grandparents for the first, second and third time. Flash! A fourth grandchild just popped up on the radar. The real clincher is finding that I can actually pay retail prices and not care – a definite sign of disengagement from our beloved profession. It only took seven years to get it.

During the early years, when I had too many speeding tickets, Hallie advised me to get with it because she said she wouldn't drive me to the airport. Now she says that if they called me for a trip she *would* drive me to the airport. Huh?

Jim



*"The days of the bartender-psychologist are over,  
But I can help if you have any software problems?"*

---

*You've flown a lot thru snow and ice  
and often when it's raining  
but the time has come again, my friend  
to bust your butt while "training "*

*First, there comes the oral  
and, like I told my pard,  
the questions are all easy  
it's the answers that are hard.*

*They've simplified the mental quiz  
and they've plugged a lot of leaks  
so if you hit the books real hard  
you can get it - in two weeks.*

*Now, if you pass the oral  
you've gained a little ground  
but you get another chance to flunk  
when you do the walk-around.*

*What is that? What's in there?  
How much air is in those tires?  
Makes a person long again  
to hear the wind sing thru the wires.*

*What's behind? What's up front?  
You nearly, almost guessed  
this is the one that's standardized  
different from the rest.*

*Now, if you pass the walk-around  
try and conceal your fright  
you now have won the golden chance  
to go up for your flight.*

*The time has come to do your best  
and, to keep from getting fired,  
you have to demonstrate your skill  
to someone that you hired.*

*The flight is always lots of fun  
there really is no heat  
the reason that you sweat so much  
is cause you like to eat.*

*You have to do the stalls while clean  
and then again, while dirty  
which is just about like it was  
back in nineteen thirty.*

*Watch your heading! Hold it straight!  
Don't you know your proper powers?  
How in heck did you slip by  
for twenty thousand hours?*

*Your past is all forgotten  
and your future ain't too bright  
if you should flub the contest  
on the ground or up in flight.*

*But, if you're full of answers  
then you allay their fears  
and you're allowed to carry on  
what you've done for thirty years.*

**Capt. C. H. Ferguson (AWI, Retired)**

**CLAUDE & LAURA GIDDINGS** – 972 Gloucester Ln, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

Dear RUPA, Here we are again. One more year down the drain. A busy one nonetheless.

We moved in August to our new home. The contractor kept us at bay with a two week promise, to complete the house, for five months. Now that we are in, the landscape, Patio, sidewalk, and garden retainer wall contractors have kept us at bay for seven months. That two week promise to complete the work.!!??

I promised my wife that this was the last move. Ha!?! Otherwise things are normal one day at a time.

Till next year, and many more.

**Claude**

**JIM & YVONNE GLENDENNING** - 12786 Prowell St. Leavenworth, WA. 98826

LAX, DEN, SFO 68-93

Hello to all. Still doing a lot of traveling. Spent the month of April at our timeshare in Kauai. A week in May in Yosemite Valley, enjoying the falls, wildflowers, hikes, and a bit of rock climbing. Late June found us driving from Leavenworth to [Pces?] In November we spent a week at a timeshare in Palm Desert soaking up more sun and doing some hiking in the desert. We had a warmer and wetter winter than usual this year. Both my snowblower and I were thankful for that.

We're still healthy and [fit?]

All our best, Jim & Yvonne

**JIM GUEST**

*The Big Picture!*

Jock, it took 35 years in aviation for me to find the Big Picture! I just read the following FAA NPRM and now I finally understand.

Fraternally, **Jim Guest**

FAA NPRM NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING (NPRM) Part 0, Section 000 (a)

1(c)

Section I - No pilot or pilots, or person or persons acting on the direction or suggestion or supervision of a pilot or pilots may try, or attempt to try or make, or make attempt to try to comprehend or understand any or all, in whole or in part of the herein mentioned Aviation Regulations, except as authorized by the Administrator or an agent appointed by, or inspected by, the Administrator.

Section II - If a pilot, or group of associate pilots becomes aware of, or realizes, or detects, or discovers, or finds that he or she, or they, are or have been beginning to understand the Aviation Regulations, they must immediately, within three (3) days notify, in writing, the Administrator.

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Section III - Upon receipt of the above-mentioned notice of impending comprehension, the Administrator shall immediately rewrite the Aviation Regulations in such a manner as to eliminate any further comprehension hazards.

Section IV - The Administrator may, at his or her discretion, require the offending pilot or pilots to attend remedial instruction in Aviation Regulations until such time that the pilot is too confused to be capable of understanding anything.

*I hope this clears things up for you also!!!*

**CARL HAKENEN** – 1429 Rockville Rd., Suisun, CA. 94585; chakenen@aol.com

Cleve - First year of retirement has been great. If I knew it would be so much fun, I would have done it sooner. Definitely recommend it. Sarajane & I have been doing a lot of traveling this last year. Just like working, but the layovers are longer and better. Four interlinear tennis tournaments, which are always fun, hiking in the Italian Alps, and three ORBIS trips, one which included the Paris Air Show. Just got back from a trip on the Eastern & Oriental Express from SIN to BKK. Highly recommend it. Contact Interline TravelReps at 1-800-828-0046 for information and discounts. Can we do anything without a discount? See you at the Council 34 party. Checks in the mail for 3 years. I am optimistic. **Carl**

**JAMES HANNAH**

jhannah@valley2.valleyint.com

Hi Jock:

Not much new to report. Just whistled by number 12 since I had to hang it up, and so far so good. I've been blessed with good health so far, and have no major crises to report.

Thanks to you and Cleve et al, for your hard work.

Check to Cleve.

Regards, Jim Hannah

**TOM HARRIS** - 5109 Country Club, Granbury, TX 76049-7216 55-85 SFOMB, ORD, LAX, SFO, BOS, SEA, SFO

Sent a note last year with my reinstatement postage but this is my first official letter to *RUPANEWS*. I will try & do better than one every fifteen years.

Carol & I have enjoyed good health except for my ongoing skin cancer removals & have recently started using something that is almost a magic bullet. All of you fellow sufferers out there need to ask your dermatologist about ALDARA. This is a topical creme that stimulates the immune system to attack abnormal cells & it works!

Our kids are scattered so we make good use of our passes. Oldest son Christian is a pastor & has just started a new church (Napa Valley Bible Church) in Napa, CA, other son Geoff is an A&P at INDY Maintenance Base, & daughter Jennifer is nearby in Grand Prairie, TX. So far we have 9 grandchildren. Also, have cousins in England that we visit almost every year.

I have a Decathlon that I keep at a grass strip nearby so if any of y'all are in the area & feel lucky get in touch & we'll go for a ride.

We now have e-mail, [tharris@granbury.com](mailto:tharris@granbury.com)

God bless - **Tom**

**CHET HECTOR** – 4839 Cabrillo Pt. Byron, CA 94514 Ccbhector@aol.com

Fourteen years in my new profession (retirement) and Barbara and I are still going strong. My implant of a couple of years ago is doing fine: PSA 0.2. Be sure everyone gets that checked! We spent our four weeks in Kona and traveled a lot in the motor home. Too much time away from home so the boat stays at the dock! One extra this year: a cruise to the Panama Canal in November while it was still ours. Great Cruise! The rest is pretty much the same. Check is enclosed. Till next year ..... Chet & Barbara

**ROBERT F. HELMCHEN** – PO Box 69, DeKalb, IL 60115

Hi Cleve, ten years this month since the last flight.

The other day I was at the airport (ORD) watching the cockpit crews board their planes and the thought occurred to me that these people were not even born when we were still trying to finesse the operation of the "mouse trap" on the DC-6. Time does pass!

Enclosed is some postage money. Keep up the wonderful work you guys are doing. **Bob**

**MIKE HEPPERLEN** [Hepcrystal@cs.com](mailto:Hepcrystal@cs.com),

Hi Jock,

Since I just used my Medicare card, I figured it was about time to inform you of our past year's activities. In May we took a motor trip to Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and Nebraska. The idea was to visit our granddaughter and family in Denver, then tour Rocky Mountain National Park and the Custer Battlefield. We enjoyed the trip very much, and as an added bonus we toured Northwestern Nebraska. Even though I hail from Nebraska, I had never visited this part of the state and it is very beautiful!

In November we were blessed with another granddaughter. As I recall, by the time I was my son's age

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our youngest child was ten years old. I guess it must take longer to get these things underway now days. Well, I have to sign off and go chase my bird dog. Maybe he will find dinner for Peggy and me.  
Mike Hepperlen

**ARLYNE HETTERMANN** 124 Sawgrass Cir., Daytona Beach, FL 32114-1137

Dear Jock : Another year has passed, and it is time for my annual letter, and a check for Cleve for mailing charges. Tomorrow would have been Lee's 79th birthday. Where does the time go?

All is well here in Daytona Beach. The Biker's finally left last Sunday, It was a hectic 10 days. I still keep busy with my bridge, golf and volunteer work at the Nursing Home. I didn't make Las Vegas, but I hope to make the Mexican Cruise. I attend the Luncheons, arranged by our local RUPA group here in Daytona Beach, and it is great to see so many RUPA members attend.

I have been doing a little travelling between Virginia and Boston. Have been very lucky getting First Class. My son Mark is still Chief Pilot for American, out of Washington, DC and Kurt is still flying to Japan, out of Detroit, commutes from Bangor, Maine.

Hope to see y'all on the Cruise

Best regards

**Arlyne**

**DOUGLAS M. HORNE** – 133 Miller Ave, Portsmouth, NH 03801

Greetings from the Great Frozen Northeast, where home heating oil is over \$2.00 a gallon and lobsters under \$3.25 a pound. This year the New Hampshire Chamber of Commerce has decided to celebrate summer on the 15th of August as the Farmer's Almanac has predicted sleet on the 14th, the usual day we have warm weather.

For all of you interested in the fall spectacular foliage, this year it's at 10:45 am, Sept 4th. Look fast as the leaves will fall at 2:20 p.m. the next day.

Anyway, here's my annual dues and a big, sincere thank you to all of you who do the work for the rest of us to enjoy.

In the last year I've kept in touch with a few of our locals. We had a delightful evening recently with Ken and Kari Perkins, another couple from Northwest, and a real couple from the outside world! I've kept in touch with the elusive Mike Dater, who is well, and doing his artistic thing, Dave Redfield who recently returned from a trip to Midway Island presumably to convince his old C.O. to come down out of the hills as WWII is really over. (some old Marines never give up); also George Simmons, who still keeps the best

B&B on the East Coast, in Exeter. He runs the Inn like he ran the 727; a lot of fun and a great happy hour. Since all good things come to an end, it must follow that all bad things also come to an end. So it was with our First In The Nation Primary. Now, instead of political commercials from guys you'd be afraid to play liars dice with, we are back to marginally better commercials for hemorrhoid medicine and mouth wash. Think what the rest of you have to look forward to in the coming months.

Take care, *Doug*

**BOB HUSKEY** 100 Arbor Lane, Hendersonville, NC 28791 bhusk@ioa.com

*"People will accept your ideas much more readily if you tell them Ben Franklin said it first"*

Dear Jock, one more great year of retirement. They just seem to get better.

Family is all doing well with only minor complaints. I'm thankful for that.

Check sent to Cleve. Thanks to all your helpers.

I look forward to the news each month even though not many names are familiar. Appreciate all the info on medical, travel etc.. It helps keep us up to date on happenings at UAL.

**Bob**

**DICK IONATA** 13310 N.E.287th Cir. Battle Ground Wa. 98604 DICKIONATA@compuserve.com

Hi Jock:

Almost three years since a little nasty piece of lung came out, and I don't miss it at all. Had a busy year on the Contest and Records Board of the National Aeronautic Assn. Certified 58 new World Records last year and got to fly on every one of them. 50 for Lockheed-Martin on the new C-130j, (Ted Kelly flew in to Dobbins to help on the STOL portion). During a maintenance break, got to fly the F-22 Raptor simulator.

What an amazing machine! Flew some threat scenarios and bagged 12 SU-27's without them getting a single shot off at me. ( A testament to the aircraft !).

Then off to Wichita and a brand new Lear 45. 6 new records in the U.S. and S. America the next couple of days.

Then to Oshkosh and a new record with Steve Fossett in his Citation X during the Airshow. ( Not your basic Citation, normal cruise is .91 on this baby.) Later we did another record at Las Vegas and I got a chance to wring-out his new Extra-300. (the airplane actually did the wringing out but it was a blast. This is the new hot airplane on the acrobatic show circuit I'm told.)

Gert and I spent 27 days cruising, painted the summer place, took several "Grand-Parent" fixes, I got several fishing trips in, also was busy as Pres. of our Home-

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owners Assn. and Chairman of a multi-million dollar Church Building Committee project (no wise remarks please). All in all, another hum-drum, boring year. Thanks to all you overpaid, underworked great folks who put this publication together. Check to Cleve.

**Dick**

P.S. All NAA work is voluntary so UAL pass privileges are appreciated, but it's a nightmare to get to and from assignments sometimes. Since it's great publicity for United, wouldn't it be great if jump-seat authority could be forthcoming? I've asked and been flatly turned down. Rick Dubinsky, are you listening?

*Here's where you and I part company, Dick. I think that retirees have more important issues to spend such influence as we have on. Frankly, we have really no pressing need for jump-seat authority. I think it would be counter-productive to take that much-needed space away from the many active pilots who need the seats to commute to domiciles where they can't afford to live, such as SFO. If we were to be placed behind the active employees of most airlines ( who give reciprocal privileges to UAL commuters), I don't think the privilege would be worth much. Ed.*

**A.L. "BERT" JARRETT** – 5292 Richcove Ln. E, Port Orchard, WA 98366

Dear Cleve: Enclosed is my RUPA membership dues check, plus #20 for news. Yes, it is a coincidence that you once lived in Port Orchard. It's still a small town, friendly people; and handy to plenty of recreation spots.

Since "hanging it up" in 1995, I've been busy building houses, playing golf, boating, fishing and traveling. We have grandchildren in Fallbrook, CA, a son in San Jose and another in Spokane (recent graduate from Gonzaga.) Visits to Canada include a naval reunion in Nova Scotia and reunion mess dinners in Comox B.C. each November.

Last September I had the honor of pinning wings on my nephew, Kelly Jarrett, at the wings parade ceremony at C.F.B. Portage La Prairie, Manitoba; the same base where I received my wings in 1955.

Thanks for the info on the A.F. Association of Canada. I flew with a number of those guys.

Have been attending the Seattle "Gooney Birds" luncheons most third Thursdays, always a good turnout.

Off to Kona next week to dry out and show our Canadian visitors around; maybe do a little diving.

Thanks again for your great work with RUPA. I'll look forward to my next newsletter.

Bert

Normal

**JIM GATES** P.O. Box 350, Ignacio CO 81137

Dear Jock: Jim Fenely our esteemed member in Clearwater, FL, gave out this poem at one of his meetings. I expected him to send you a copy, but haven't yet seen it in RUPANEWS, so I'm passing it on to you. I, who have always fretted over PC's and ratings, got a good chuckle out of it. So I want others to share the same chuckle – I'm sure there will be many. *[It's on page 28. Ed.]*

I've scheduled myself a busy year, travelling to reunions, etc. One important trip will be a journey to France, taking an old friend along on a companion pass. This guy was in the first wave on Omaha Beach, June 6th '44, and has never been back. He survived the beachhead without a scratch, but was hit about six weeks later by an 88 tree-burst that finished his military career. He's ok now, except like most of our generation, fighting old age.

I have a very good friend who lives near Paris, who will going with us as our escort.

Sooo – that's all for now.

Love and "Tally Ho!"

**Jim Gates**

**DAVE JONES** davebetty@earthlink.net

Late with my check in but the trip will leave on time. All is well here in the Florida Paradise. We are now spending summers in the relative cool of the North Carolina mountains in Waynesville which is about 30 miles WSW of Asheville. We really enjoyed the RUPA Convention in Las Vegas. Its always a pleasure to see old friends and meet new ones. Many thanks to those who did the planning and work to make it a pleasurable experience.

Was sorry to see the BOD decline to give RAPA a few bucks in support. Hopefully individuals will pick up the slack.

Please note the change in my email address. The RUPANEWS is still on my bestseller list, and thanks to all who put forth the effort.

*Dave Jones*

**NORMAN S. JUSTESEN** – 13235 Hillside Dr, Truckee, CA 96161 E

mail: justesen@sierra.net (530) 587 3157

Hi Cleve, I am just about to join the loafing class. I retire on 1 April, which is one month early to take advantage of the early payout. Money in my account is better than UAL's IOU. Enclosed is \$70 for membership and one year's postage. Thanks for the complimentary copies of the RUPANEWS; it's a first class publication. My regards to the Prez. What a guy! Hope to see you all soon. Best regards, **Norm**

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**MARY ANN KELLOGG** 6420 Wright St. Arvada,  
CO 80004-2205

Hi! Just celebrated my 75th birthday and I am amazed - thought I was only 50 - no wonder I get tired doing all the activities I'm engaged in.

Oh well! I'm enjoying every bit of it. Still active in DAR, Museum, Prison Ministry and making tapes for the Lord Jesus Ministries - some 1000 each week.

My vacation of the year was a week trip to the Tetons and Yellowstone, extended a week because of an accident in Yellowstone. I enjoyed my vacation very much. Beautiful weather in September, and a good Medical Technology Seminar, too.

Enjoyed seeing all my friends of the area. My greetings to each of you who passed through the Medical Department in DEN all those 31 years - you are a super group - Love ya!!

Now, maybe since 2000 is here, I may consider the purchase of a computer!! Till next time

**"Kelly"**

**GORDY KELLY** – PO Box 776163, Steamboat Springs, Co 80477 970 870-9878

Cleve, Sue and I have had an unforgettable first year in retirement from the line. We built our new home in Colorado high on a mountain with plenty of elbow room and spectacular views of the ski area, Yampa Valley, and the Flat Tops to the south. We see the incredible weather changes from every room in the house. The sunsets are gorgeous and rival those we enjoyed at the ocean side home we rented out in Makaha while based in HNL for my final three years of UAL flying. Building a house has its challenges but the end result is well worth the aggravation.

Sue had an ACL repair on her right knee in July...a result of a spill from her mountain bike. She sacrificed herself to avoid a small child on his bike who lost his balance and wobbled in her path. I'm proud of her because she not only spared the child possible serious injury but really maxed the rehab for her knee. She did every session faithfully, kept her chin up and was ready to go on opening day of ski season.

Our youngest son Brian and his wife Kathy presented us with our first grandchild in Sept. Her name is Hanna Grace and she is a truly a gift from God. Brian has his own photography studio in Grand Rapids, Mi. called BK Gallery. He is an accomplished abstract photographer with a growing client list. His website is [www.briankellyphoto.com](http://www.briankellyphoto.com) with some interesting links to other artists.

Our oldest son Brad is in Boston, not married yet and likes to invest in securities. He is good at it and is a true student of his craft. I marvel at his knowledge of the markets which reveals the hard work he does to

make wise decisions.

Both boys visited for the Thanksgiving holiday, right after we moved into the house. Couldn't have been a better house christening. Lots of love and laughs.

I have thoroughly enjoyed motorcycling Colorado (including a trip to Oshkosh, Michigan and to my Mom's place in Ill.), hiking, flying (rentals for now... personal aircraft in due time), and becoming a part of our new community. We have found a fine church with lots of opportunities to serve Him to whom we owe everything. Our daughter-in-law Kathy's employer is the organizer for the Old Kent Riverbank Run in Grand Rapids in May. The race is 25k so I'm training to participate. I'm not a racer but will be content to enjoy the run. I have never run 15 miles before so the challenge is there.

Each issue of *RUPANEWS* is thoroughly enjoyed. Our heartfelt gratitude to those of you who make it a reality. Learning what our fellow retired pilots are doing, both those I know and those I've never met, is most delightful. Sincerely, Gordy DTW, ORD, CLE, ORD, HNL '66-99 [gskelly@springsips.com](mailto:gskelly@springsips.com)

**DON KILE** 18091 Allegheny Dr Santa Ana CA 92705

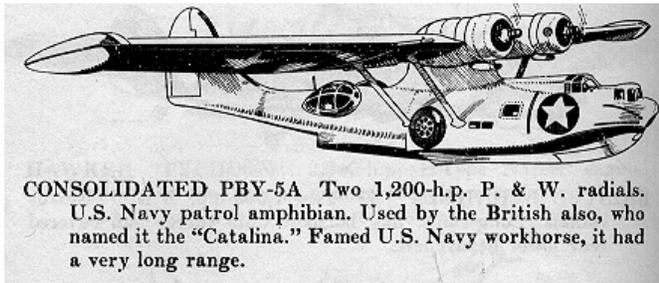
Hi Phil (Bierschenk) I had almost forgotten that we were nearly neighbors; back on Westervelt Ave. As an eighteen year old .you left there at the right time. When the charming Nielsen girls left and turned #174 over to us there were no young people. remaining on the block. Only married folks and little kids. We had followed Helen and Hugh Wilson to Baldwin and enjoyed 18 very satisfactory years there. We were very happy when they came to California

I can see why you would want to fly a Catalina, but you wouldn't care to do it for a living. I used to watch the PBY's (I don't think they were called Catalinas in 1939) making their stately circuits around North Island over San Diego Bay. I thought there could be nothing finer than flying one of them. I was wrong. I flew in them for a year in Hawaii on uneventful patrols far from the actual war. They were steady and comfortable, but no fun to fly. We had good hot meals from the galley and the bunks were very comfortable. (Some of my airline colleagues will understand my appreciation of the bunks.) To me, the beautiful thing about it was landing at night in Kaneohe Bay. As I recall, the procedure was to steady on 68 kts with a 300 fpm rate of descent and just hold it there until we heard the gentle lapping of the waves on that big hull.

It was not an agile plane by any means, but one of my college classmates did manage to loop one. He said he was in a steep climb when he realized he had gone too

far so he just kept going. It worked out fine perfect G forces. In fact it worked out so well he decided to try it again. He should have quit when he was ahead. This time at the top of the loop everything that wasn't tied down bowed to the law of gravity and dropped to the top of the plane. Believe me, we carried a lot of unattached equipment in a PBY. There was all the navigators equipment, the radioman's typewriter, a galley full of pots and pans. manuals and even a potty with a paper bag insert full of you know what. Not to mention a few years accumulation of dirt and detritus in the bilge. Tom never tried it again.

The PBY was much loved by the Black Cat Squadrons who sank many a ship on night bombing runs, and as Dumbos they saved many a downed flyer, but when attacked by Zeros they fared rather poorly: Two fifties and two thirties was not very impressive armament. Believe me we were happy to accept the PB-4Y as a replacement.



I'm sure my old friends will be happy to hear that my flight bag, missing for 23 years, finally has turned up in some long-deserted flight operations, maybe North Platte. Unfortunately it contained only some old used socks and underwear, so I am still forced to fly without manuals, charts or flashlight. Luckily my dreams don't come with a sense of smell.

I met Ed Hale the other night in the corridor of the old hangar at LaGuardia and told him I was ready to retire. He told me I couldn't go because the company really needed me. OK Ed, if you are still working at your age I guess I will too.

Thanks, Jock, to you and all the guys who keep the news coming: The check is in the mail. **Don**  
Normal

**MATTI S. KOSONEN** – 2389 Post Rd, Darien, CT 06820

Dear Cleve, the annual postage fee enclosed. Just repairing to leave for the old country, where I now run Hotel/Restaurant "Laatokan Portti" in the summertime only a few hundred yards from the Russian Border. So, if your travels take you to Finland, you can find a place to stay with airline rates. Look us up [www.wwnet.fi/laatokanportti](http://www.wwnet.fi/laatokanportti) and/or send messages to

<ladoga.gateway@mail.Wwnet.fi> Many thanks and the best for everybody. **Matti** [mskosonen@aol.com](mailto:mskosonen@aol.com)

**EDWARD P. KRIEGER** – 3210 Lake Knoll Dr, Fullerton, CA 92835 714-526-4802

Dear Cleve: It's that time of year again. I have remarried and have moved, so might as well try to do it all at once. Please remove Dorothy from the spousal portion of address list and insert Lee.

Thanks for your dedicated efforts and keep up the good work. **Ed**

**JOE MAHONEY** – 508 Sapphire Way, Jensen Beach, FL. 34957

Dear Cleve, All is well on the Treasure Coast.

Weather is great and our taxes are going up. After two bouts with my Pancreas, they removed my Gall Bladder and am back in good health. Plan on building a cabin in the hills of North Carolina soon and going back to being a country boy. Check is on it's way by Pony Express. Thanks for all you do for us.

God Bless. *Joe*

**LEN MARTIN** [lennieboy@juno.com](mailto:lennieboy@juno.com)

Time for the annual update. Married in March, honeymooned in Argentina. F/C both ways from MIA. Landed back in Denver just about the time the shooting started at Columbine. Hit the golf trail this year again marshaling in the Hawaiian Open, Sprint International and Bell South Sr. in Nashville.

Was assigned to "baby sit" Greg Norman during a rain/lighting delay. We chatted about airplanes mostly, comparing Mach speeds between 400's and G-5's. He never took delivery of the much publicized 737. It would not operate into about 50 % of the places he wanted to go. Mostly load-bearing, not runway length. So he has a G-5 that cruises at .87 and FL 510. Went to NZ in Sep. and toured North Island. Stayed in B & B's mostly, lovely and cheap. It is still my favorite golf place. Played in Taupo with steam vents all over the course. F/C over and back (off season, midweek). Returned to take a 25-day 5400 mile motor home trip.

Gettysburg audio tour is a must. We made the pilgrimage to the "shrine" at Kitty Hawk. I played as many military golf courses as I could toward a goal of playing all of them some day. I have even played Mountain Home, ID and Letterkenny Army Depot, PA. For you Mil. Retirees, Tyndall AFB has a great course and Jax Navy has a new guest house (VOQ) just across the street from the course.

Took a 757 flight recently and it felt like they made room for the new coach "front seats" by giving less

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space to the back section rows. Anyone have a good read on this?

My Dad passed away in Feb. just a few months short of 86. He was a "dogface" in the 3rd Div and wounded in Germany in WWII. He came back with frozen feet and without one lung. "Saving Private Ryan" gave me an new appreciation for his sacrifice. Thanks to all who keep us in touch and informed.

**Len**

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

Cleve: I really intended to send this last month to keep my expired date correct, but I didn't make it. With age everything is changing except my good intentions and if I extended my payment to two years it would probably get worse. Sorry about that! Sincerely, H.E. McBride

**CHUCK MC COY** – 641 Pueblo Ln, Prescott, AZ 86303

Dear Cleve, Enclosed is the usual fee and postage and you can expect the postage to be on time in 2001. I've been so busy that I have wondered how I found time to go to work. I tried not to work too much so the company wouldn't miss me too much and to ease the transition to pensioner.

I finished restoration of my T-28B in January and expect a big airshow season. With that finished, I am gathering parts for a Spitfire MK14. I guess all those flying lessons have paid off. **Chuck**

**BOB McGOWAN**- 18382 Lincoln Circle Villa Park CA 92861 - LAXFO - BobMcGowan@aol.com

Dear Jock, Cleve and all the great RUPA volunteers: Four years since my mandatory retirement and enjoying a very full, healthy and new life. After losing my wife of 34 years to cancer, I was fortunate to meet Taywan, a UAL secretary from our BKK office. We have been married for 7 years and have adopted a darling Thai girl three years ago. They made my retirement an uplifting experience.

My two older kids now have a little sister and it started the grand children flowing. In the last three years they produced three beautiful grand daughters for us. None before that! Now our little Marisa is an aunt three times.

Having almost lost my daughter Karen to encephalitis during the last birth, we went through a very trying time watching her slow but sure recovery. Soon she will be back working as a Pediatrician in San Diego. My son Michael married a fellow financial analyst. He was just made a vice president of RREEF Funds in

San Francisco.

Living in the same house for 30 years, I have developed a strong sense of community. Once again I'm serving on our city council and this year am the mayor for the second time. We have a busy life but still travel a lot and enjoy many friendships.

I must thank all of the pilots who worked so hard through the years with ALPA to obtain the benefits we have today. Because of them I have enjoyed a rewarding UAL career and it continues with a very good retirement.

Thanks to the entire RUPA staff [*No staff, Bob, just volunteers*] for keeping our great organization going. This is a very important link to the people we all enjoyed working with in the friendly skies.

Best Regards, Bob

**EDWIN N. MCKITTRICK** e-mail address:

105300.2363@compuserve.com

Usually, I don't recognize many of the names that I see in the *RUPANEWS*, but I just finished reading the February issue where I found a number of letters from retirees that I flew with or knew. It is a shock to see the names of pilots that have "flown west" who are much younger than me. I thank God that Opal and I are still in good health. I have been retired nineteen years, but I still have dreams of getting a call from the crew desk to fly a trip.

No exciting news to pass on to my friends. We made several trips to various parts of the country to visit friends, and relatives in 1999. We also attended the last reunion of the Navy pilots who served in Patrol Wing 4 in the Aleutian Islands during WWII.

We have been very fortunate in using our passes. We don't always get on the first flight we list on, but it is extremely rare that we don't get to our destination and return home on the days we choose to travel. Of course, my March 15, 1946 date of hire is very helpful. I cannot remember any time that we have not been at the top of the DM List since the boarding priority was changed from years of service to date of hire. [*What was the old military saying, "Rank has its privilege" or perhaps, now, age Ed.*]

Jock, I really like the new format of the newsletter, and some of the articles in addition to the letters are very useful. All of us owe much thanks to you for all the time and effort you and the staffers spend publishing the newsletter.

A check for postage will be forwarded to Cleve. Please include my address in the e-mail directory.

**Ed**

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**AUGIE MILLER**--48-82--Scotch Plains, NJ.--  
skylane182@juno.com

Hi Jock, I'm running a little late this year, 78 slipped by 12 days ago. I got busy buying another car & forgot all about my birthday letter.

I took a very expensive 12-day rest last April at Overlook Hospital in Summit, NJ. I can no longer brag about never having been admitted to a hospital. I had a lot of tests, MRI's, Xrays, Cardio-grams etc. you name it I had it. My blood pressure was high, I was very lucky, I did not have a stroke. The final outcome was I have a completely blocked carotid artery, which had automatically been bypassed & therefore surgery is not recommended. I have to take pills for high blood pressure, which is down to nice safe readings now.

**JOHN G. MORE** – 1425 S. Gables Blvd., Wheaton  
IL 60187 02/16/00

Dear Cleve: February arrived as expected, right on time, and since this is my birthday month I am enclosing the \$20 annual stipend for printing and mailing. It's well worth it. This February marks number 85 (groan) but I thank some family genes that I am not yet senile, blind, deaf or incontinent and still able to walk. All the rest of old age aches and pains are all too prevalent, but I just ignore them and stagger along from day to day.

The saddest part of being 85 is the loss of so many friends and acquaintances. Every day someone slips away and all that is left is fond memories of friendship, admiration, trust and pleasure of companionship.

Jan and I have lived in Wheaton for 35 years now and have no plans of moving. We live on a lovely 5 acre homestead which every developer in this county wants to buy. It is about half wooded and except for lions and tigers, all the rest of the wildlife gang lives with us. Last year a mother fox bought 2 kits to play in our back yard. There is no way a forest of houses is going to move in here until I am long gone.

Am looking forward to 2000 and a continued association with RUPA

Regards to all, **John**



**GIL MOTTL** – PO Box 72, Cuba, KS 66940

Hi Cleve: You can see how long I have been "sitting on this check" by the date on it. Trying to get a "letter to the Editor", but not successful. Hopefully will get caught up and get it done.

I miss the monthly "rag chews" (fold/stuff) and I apologize to the gang for bowing out without a proper adieu last July, but we were over whelmed by sale of home, getting rid of excess junk and getting the show on the road. Kindly tell the gang I miss their camaraderie.

Hopefully my letter to RUPA editor will tell more about our experiences.

Best regards, **Gil**

**ARTHUR N. MUMM** – N5668 County Rd. H, Elkhorn, WI 53121  
themumms@elknet.net

Two years into retirement and enjoying every minute. We keep busy with kids and grandkids plus dividing our time between Wisconsin and Texas. Thanks to all who make RUPANEWS possible.

*Art*

**WILLIAM J. O'CONNELL** 819 Mohican Way,  
Redwood City, CA 94062 wjoc3rwc@aol.com

Dear Jock, I just flew my last trip, UA 58/06 March, from HNL to SFO. Wife Pat, son Bill, daughter Erin and friend, sister Mary Sue, along with Dick Pfeifer (ret) and Pat and Dave Forbes (ret). We had an 84-hour layover in HNL. A great time was had by all.

Best Wishes, **Bill**

*Bill: Sorry I missed your last flight's arrival, but I'm glad it went so well. Thanks for asking us to your retirement brunch – a blast! Welcome to retirement – it's great, as I'm sure you and Pat will soon recognize.*  
*Ed.*

**J.E. "Skip" O'HALLORAN** – 16916 N. Dartford Dr,  
Spokane, WA 99208

Dear Cleve, I really appreciate the news and all the tips you publish each month. The only thing I miss is news of friends who are still flying. I don't receive the Bayliner or any operations news anymore.

Thanks for your RUPANEWS! Skip

**JAMES W. OXLEY** – PO Box 1146, Sonora, CA  
95370

Hi there Cleve, I'm a few weeks late with the stamp money, but when you reach my age you can't remember everything.

Ramona and I are still able to travel a bit, and still enjoying retirement and our three poodles. Enclosed a check so you can continue your work. You all do a great job. Sincerely, **Jim & Ramona**

**GEORGE A. PAULL** 40/84 DCA-IAD-ORD-EXO  
Jock, I had good intentions, but here I am late again.  
The check will be mailed to Cleve today for sure.  
Currently I am at my winter hideaway at Bonita  
Springs, FL where the traffic seems to have doubled in  
the past year and the gasoline price has almost done  
the same. 1999 was routine and 2000 is moving along  
quietly so far.

Best Regards, **George**

**DENNIS M. PECK** – P.O. Box 1268, Salome, AZ  
85348

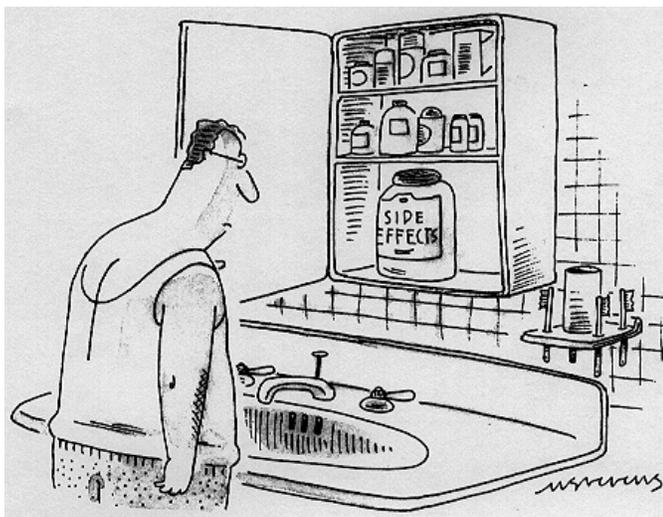
Sure enjoy the RUPANEWS – thanks for all the effort.  
Teddy and I are enjoying retirement in Sunny Arizona.  
Still flying the Cub at Indian Hills Airpark. Oldest  
son, Brian, UAL 747 F/O SFO, tries to keep me up to  
date with UAL.

Thanks again, Dennis

**ALBERT A. PENNINGTON** 6323 Laurel Valley  
Ave. Banning, CA 92220 alpenn@jps.net

1999 was not to good of a year for me. In January I  
had a triple by-pass. In late February a blood clot in  
leg, probably from the surgery. OK till December  
when two of the by-passes closed up at the grafts and  
had angioplasty and they put in six stents. Then, come  
January 2000, one of the stents closed up. Had another  
angioplasty. My cholesterol level throughout all this  
was about 100. Maybe I should take Chelation Ther-  
apy. Does any one recommend it? Not much else to  
report on. I hope this year will be better. **Al**

*Al, since you're on the internet, I suggest that you read  
an exhaustive article on the subject at [http://www.  
quackwatch.com/OIQuackeryRelatedTopics/chelation](http://www.quackwatch.com/OIQuackeryRelatedTopics/chelation).*



**DAVID M. PETTEYS** – 27478 Richmond Hill Rd,  
conifer, CO 80433

Dear Cleve: It's hard to believe it's been almost a year  
since I walked off the 777 for the last time. Enclosed  
are my "Birthday Dues".

The last issue which contained the interview with the  
MEC Chairman was fascinating. I am comforted to see  
much economic common sense reflected in Capt  
Dubinsky's views. Without a doubt the United Pilots  
have the power to put United Air Lines out of busi-  
ness, ending not only their own careers but our A Plan  
payments. I am a bit uncomfortable at his snarling at  
"the capitalists" however. With all our B Plan money  
sitting in the market, that's us!

A Marine Corps buddy of mine wound up high in  
management with one of our competitors, (which shall  
remain unnamed). In fact, he was a member of the  
Board of Directors. He told me one night over a steak  
dinner that they had contemplated purchase of the old  
Eastern maintenance facilities after their bankruptcy.  
Yet the reason they passed on the deal was *they did not  
want that man Charlie Bryant on the property.* Thou-  
sands of machinists lost employment opportunity be-  
cause of that one man! I'll never forget the newspaper  
pictures of Charlie Bryant and his machinists cheering  
at Eastern going bankrupt! Excuse me..but what do  
they have to cheer about?

Here is a concrete example of tough talking militancy  
backfiring. There is a Machiavellian balance that must  
be achieved. **Dave**

**OAKLEY PORTER** Winter 2171 So. Blagg Pahrump  
Po. Bx. 3225 NV 89041

Summer, #18 Nineiron LN Po. Bx 3225 Sunriver OR,  
97707 oakporter@wizard.com don't know summer  
email yet 1944/1985

Hi Jock; Sending check to Cleve via Snail mail.

Fern and I have been in good health most of the time,  
Fern has had both knees replaced and her back is both-  
ering her some so she is only able to play 9 holes of  
golf most of the time, I still try to play 18 my score has  
gone up past my age some what.

We had a great trip to England , Scotland last march,  
went over on the Concord and back on UAL 777 first  
class what a trip both ways. We had a motorhome trip  
to Brooks Canada in July for a golf tournament with  
our winter friends from Canada. Planing going back  
this summer and do some  
fishing also.

We are planning on selling our two story house in Sun-  
river and have bought a lot by the new Crosswater golf  
course and planning on a one story house on it, hope to  
get started on it as soon as we get back up there.  
I am still going on a couple of horse rides each year.

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I think the Convention in Las Vegas was a great success and am looking forward to next year. We have signed up for the cruise to Mexico and hope to see a lot of you aboard the ship.

It was sad to hear of George Howson Flying West, I flew with George a lot in the piston days, If it weren't for George we probably would not this *RUPANEWS* today.

I would like to commend Scotty Devine on all the work that he did back in the 50s to establish the B plan and the incentive pay scale I know it took a lot of time and hard work, So thanks Scotty.

I think the new format in the newsletter is just great, and *thank all the folders and stuffers.*

**OAK**

**ALLAN PRATT** [adp@ispchannel.com](mailto:adp@ispchannel.com)

Hi to all.! Another year, another back operation. I now have 5 levels fused and a new level planned every 6 months for the foreseeable future. Besides the fact that I'm 2.25 inches shorter than I used to be, I'm doing OK. Since I hate airports, the multiple titanium fittings in my back should be no cause for alarm.

A word of caution to those of you who might have tingling or numbness in your arms, hands, feet or legs. It will not go away on its own. There is a condition called myomalacia (I had never heard of it either). Extruded disc material presses upon the spinal cord and in a matter of weeks can damage the area of impingement such that the changes are irreversible. See your Dr. if you have these symptoms. A MRI is the only test that will be effective in diagnosing myomalacia. My Dr. heard my complaint, (hands and arms numb), saw my x-ray, ordered a MRI and had me in the hospital in two weeks. I now have about 95% of the feeling back in my right hand and about 60% in the left.

I still don't have a medical, but good friends give me a leg in their aircraft from time-to-time. I even get a landing once in a while!

I'm also still on the Board of Directors of the Sedona Airport and dealings with the City, County, State and the FAA keep me fully involved. For you computer folks, look us up at: "<http://airport.sedona.net>" <http://airport.sedona.net> I'm the one who does the Web pages so comments would be appreciated. Check my home page at: "<http://msnhomepages.talkcity.com/HobbyCt/adp01/index.html>"

Karen is still teaching Jazzercise, my boys are fine and I hope you all are too.

Come visit if you can, we're in the book. Check to Cleve in mail. Thanks to all.

Until next year, *Allan*

Normal

**KING PURTON** 1956-1990 DTW-LAX-JFK-EWR-CLE-MIA-ORD [Kingpurton@msn.com](mailto:Kingpurton@msn.com)

Ten years into retirement and time has flown even though I have not. Sailboats have replaced airplanes as wind is free and avgas is \$2 a gallon or more. Two ski trips to Alta with son Dan and one more planned next month. Not as much tennis as the Marco Island group is irreplaceable. The move to Tampa to be near the kids has worked out well.

A required part of your yearly letter is medical status report. Madelon is doing just wonderfully and I had two cataract operations. My sailing competitors never realized the danger they were in.

Thank You, ALPA for a wonderful lifestyle.

**DOROTHY REYNOLDS** – 714 S. 288th Ln, Federal Way, WA 98003

A young man went to visit his aging grandparents. There was a bowl of peanuts on a coffee table and he began to nibble on them. When it was time to leave he was embarrassed to notice that he had eaten them all. With a red face he apologized profusely to his grandparents. His grandmother said, "oh, that's all right buddy. Ever since your grandfather and I lost our teeth, all we can do is suck the chocolate off them." *The Widow Reynolds*

**CLEVE RICE** [Crice727@cs.com](mailto:Crice727@cs.com)

Jock: A couple of my kids talked me into getting a computer so I will try and get the news to you by fast mail this year. After my dear wife passed away from cancer, I had time to take care of myself.

I had back surgery in April to get rid of some bone spurs and other things that were pinching my sciatic nerve to my right leg. I found I could walk again without pain. What a relief.

I have been very active in the American Legion and in July was elected one of 3 Vice Commanders in Idaho and was appointed membership chairman for the state. I have been to Indianapolis twice and have traveled the state of Idaho from one end to the other and will start again in March for spring meetings. I have been busy but really enjoy it. Our National Commander this year is a good friend from Idaho, our Attorney General, Alan Lance.

Anyone around this area look me up. I am close to highway 20 and would love to chat. E-mail is [Crice727@cs.com](mailto:Crice727@cs.com). Love the news. Keep up the good work. Check was sent to Cleve.



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**WILLIAM. L. RUTHERFORD** – 5823 n. Forest Park Dr, Peoria, IL 61614

Dear Cleve: My apologies for the oversight. Enclosed is \$50.00 for the postage renewal due last December. The last few months have been extremely busy and complicated, but the Governor announced at the Joint Session of the Illinois Legislature that the State will be accepting the gift and the perpetuation of Wildlife Prairie Park. It is great to realize that the 30 years of hard work and major expenses will be carried on for future generations. At 85, I can't count on another 30 years at that pace!

Best wishes, **Bill**

**STUART O. SHERMAN** – 4210 E. 80th Ave, Spokane, WA 6193 ORD – SFO

Had a couple of operations in 1999. The most serious for prostate cancer. I guess they got it all, as I'm back to normal. Have had good luck traveling the friendly skies. Only major trip was Ireland for two weeks.

Thanks for all your efforts. *S tu*

**CHARLES H. SMITH** Fairfax Station, VA

Hi Jock: I have finally reached the "Trombone" year and still enjoy being unemployed. My only complaint is that time moves along very swiftly, and along the way some fly west.

Went to another cadet class reunion (44 – I) in San Diego, same time as the Vegas convention. Flew both ways (IAD-SAN) non-stop with a companion, with no problem either way. Flew the Airbus 318 both times. With only eight seats in first class, it's hard to sit up front. Oh well, the price was right, and the companion ticket was quite nice.

The new format is great, and many thanks to those who put out the greatest newsletter.

**Chuck**

P.S. Check to Cleve and Ted Bochniarz for the Foundation. Thanks for typing this note.

### **A STOOKEY LETTER**

Thank you for your well wishes for a speedy recovery of my hip replacement. I'm doing well, for after three weeks am walking with a cane only.

Sorry I missed BNO and a chance to see my friends again. Give my best to my fellow RUPA's

Fraternally,

**Bill Stookey**

*Glad to hear you are making such a good recovery Bill. Ed.*



**BRITTON A. STOREY** – 5337 Bristol St, Arvada, CO 80002

Dear Cleve, 20 good years of retirement. Enjoyed it so far, hope for many more.

Bert and my best to all the gang. **B rit**

**NORWIN SYNNESTVEDT**, norwin@voicenet.com

Hi Jock: Birthday time again and I can find no record of writing or sending postage last year. I apologize. I guess that I missed it while in the thick of getting my Coast Guard Master's. It was an educational exercise that left me with an understanding of where the FAA learned paperwork. Adding an endorsement as Ocean Radar Observer this spring has kept me out of trouble this Spring as well.

Bunny and I are well, as is the rest of the family.

Www.rupa.org, is on my browser list of favorites.

Regards to all, *N orwin & B unny S ynnestvedt*

PS. Check to Cleve for stamp fund.

**JACK W. TAFFE** – 719 Austin Ct, Marco Island, FL. 34145

Another great year here on the island. I never thought retirement was going to be this good, but it is.

Only big change this year is the addition of one new grandson. A word of advice, never give away your old cribs, playpens and highchairs you just may find you will need them again.

Thanks for all the hard work you all do on this newsletter I sure appreciate it , **Jack**

**GENE & GLENNA TRITT** 13186 Stewart Ct., Saratoga, Ca., 95070 toymakergene@aol.com

Hi Jock, I hope this comes through okay - I'm a little "new" to this e-mail - but figured would give it a try.

Our sons set it all up for us after Gene's operation (the repair of an abdominal aortic aneurysm) - they thought it would help him pass the time away during his recovery. They even brought us 2 books - PCs for Dummies and PCs cheat sheet. Gene does spend a good deal of time reading them , and then plays Solitaire.

We do want to thank everyone for their calls, cards, and their prayers. He is recuperating well but still has 6 weeks before a full recovery. Wanted to give you and all our friends our e-mail address. Hope the format is proper. Thanks much. **Glenna & Gene Tritt**

*Hmmm, six weeks, you say. Very well, he is excused F&S duty until May, when we expect to see him on parade with the Saratoga division. Seriously, haste ye back Gene. Ed.*

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**JAMES M. TROSKY** – 34708 N. Nokomis Trail,  
McHenry, IL 60050

Cleve, Been retired now just about a year. Outside of painting myself into too many corners, life is good. It was a great career for 35 years, a great company to work for and a great union to work with. I have no regrets. Miss the flying – NO. Miss the people – YES. I do keep busy with a Cub, Cessna 182, a fine, fine wife, 5 children, 10 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. (They marry early in Oklahoma). Thank you and all who work so hard to make this organization a joy to be involved in. Your dedication and service are appreciated.

Cordially, **Jim**

**GUS TUIT** - EWR-ORD-SEA

Hi all: Beat the end of the birthday month by a week - memory is getting better. Wish I could say the same for golf.

Not much traveling this year except for visiting kids & grandkids in the Midwest plus Maui & Fla.

Got messed up trying to go from Tampa to Myrtle Beach the Fri. before Super Bowl. Never got there because of ice & snow. Bought a ticket on Delta from Tampa - Atlanta - Myrtle Beach - Atlanta - Tampa. Flew American SEA - TPA & thought we would go back to SEA out of Atlanta & save a few hours. Would you believe the fare from TPA - ATL - MYR - ATL - TPA was \$128 each. To go from TPA - ATL - MYR - ATL would have been \$847 each. We have some real "brains" working in this industry - fly 3/4's the distance for about 6 times the cost.

That's about the news from the northwest. Haven't been to a SEA RUPA luncheon in months. There's been construction on the ferry dock from Whidbey Is. to the mainland & the schedule has gone to pot. Thanks to all the newsletter workers. It's the first thing that get's read when the mail arrives. New e-mail address - capgus@email.msn.com .  
Check to Cleve.

**DEAN L. TURNER** – 44-77, SFO-SLC-SEA-CHI-LAX

Ah, retirement, a license to practice procrastination! My correspondence once ran a month or so late, but now I'm over six months late. My daily agenda includes yard work, speculating in the market, thank God for the Bull, and thoroughly looking forward to 18 holes three times a week. At 82, that's max for this old body. It was enjoyable to welcome an old buddy, Web Tallman, to the sun here in Arizona last week for a few days of "pasture pool." We spent time reminiscing about our golf tours many years ago, especially about an eleven-day tour in Scotland 35 years ago he,

along with Larry Muzinich, my new Bride, Kathy and I played golf ten days and spent one day touring Edinburgh. It was exciting to visit the galleries and museums and especially the old Castle on the hill, overlooking the city, with it's huge cannon that was fired at noon each day. One of our stops was at the Old Course Hotel at St. Andrews. We couldn't get "T" time until late afternoon, so we drove across the Firth of Forth to Carnoustie and after 18 holes returned to the Old Course and got in another 18. Thirty-six holes at that age was a snap! Now, with Web, nine is our max! Growing old has its drawbacks, but for now, at least, I prefer the alternative. My generation is inexorably lining up for that last flight west, so I do enjoy the occasional letter from some other "Old Fart", who reminds me of a glorious lifetime experience. From the DC-3 to the Jets, I was privileged to associate with a truly great group of airline people.

My heartfelt thanks, Dean

Normal

Normal

**ROBERT R. TURNER** – 916 145th Place NE, Bellevue, WA 98007

Hello Cleve, Reading the recent *RUPANEWS* last night I was struck by the number of writers who claimed to be getting their checks in on time. Perhaps the beginning of a new trend? I'm not on time, but things can improve. Last year we did a most enjoyable cruise on a Clyde Puffer in western Scotland. Small ship that handles twelve passengers plus crew of four (two of them cooks) and leaves a smudge of coal soot above her wake. Enclosed is a check for postage and annual dues. Thanks, **Bob**

*The puffer wasn't the "Vital Spark" and the skipper wasn't "Para Handy" was he, Bob? the subjects of Neil Gunn's short stories in the Glasgow Evening News. Sounds like it was fun, could you send me the address of the organizer? Ed.*

**RALPH J. VRTACNIK** 43/83 Seattle, Wa.

1999 was not a good year for Evelyn and me..

In May, a most interesting venture was provided by our German friend who now lives in Westport, WA. We spent 9 days in Hamburg area and 10 days in Bavaria, headquartering in Hinterstein. The best part was seeing areas not on tour guide agendas, as well as tourist highlights. We enjoyed it immensely, thanks to Hans.

The end of May, 50 Seattle Rep. subscribers went to NY city on a theater tour. We saw fourplays. The Lion King was a masterpiece. Took several tours: the Actors and the Tavern on the Green in Central park. I hadn't been in NY since I retired.

Now for the bad news: June 3rd I was washing my motorhome in front of the house when a driverless auto rolled into me, knocking me six feet onto the front lawn and broke my right leg - a tibial plateau fracture. ( The car belonged to a newspaper delivery man who failed to set his brakes while delivering the paper). The prognosis for recovery was Sept. Luckily I beat that by a couple weeks. I have had therapy for the leg for months, now it's therapy for the "frozen" shoulder as a result of being catapulted onto the lawn. That shot the whole summer for camping, travelling, and fishing.

There is more to come: On January 24 Evelyn had to go to the emergency room at the Virginia Mason Hospital. They thought she had a slight heart attack but after 5 days they ruled that out but suggested an angiogram. January 31 she had a quadruple bypass. She was out of the hospital in 4 days and recovering very nicely. I have been the chief cook and bottle washer, which I am not too good at. That's why 1999 wasn't a great year.

Thank all of you who take part in getting this paper out, we both enjoy it very much.

The Las Vegas convention was great - one of the best. Take care, **Ralph**

P.S. Check is on the way Correct my email address: RVrtacnik@aol.com

**WAYNE L. WALKER** – 1515 Shasta Dr. #1516, Davis, CA 95616 530-747-6016

Jean and I will be moved to the address above as of April 1. We have sold our Saratoga home of 33 years and will be part of a planned continuing care retirement community.

Thanks for the change. Enclosed is annual postage fee. Wayne

**LYMAN L. WALTER** – 1470 W. Turkey Trail, Inverness, IL 60067

Dear Cleve: For some time I wondered why we didn't have chevrons or service stripes on our uniforms. Then it dawned on me, there were other ways to tell how old we were. First, was reading glasses and so on. Well I just passed another milestone, I had a heart bypass in November. Jan and I went to Heart Check America, 1-800-NEW-TEST. The results were, Jan is fine and I had excess blockage. Thus the bypass, because angioplasty would not clear the blockage.

Because of all the medical bills, I also had trouble with our Medicare supplemental through UAL and administered by Blue Cross, Blue Shield of Illinois. Medicare automatically forwards the claim to Blue Cross if you bought the policy from Blue Cross. They don't forward it if it's a policy administered by Blue Cross.

They leave it up to the individual doctor to resubmit to the supplemental. Both Medicare and Blue Cross people say the it is contractual with UAL, I don't know.

At any rate, many doctors don't resubmit and the balance is not picked up by the UAL supplemental. This also affects our deductible with the supplemental if these early bills are not resubmitted. Hopefully we can get this corrected with the company.

I am doing fine now, playing golf again. Jan's fine also. **Lyman**  
Normal

**PETE WILLIAMS** 2250 Cove Dr. Oak Harbor WA 98277 1950 – 1984

Hi Jock: All is well with us. Still spending winters in southern California for sun and golf. Rest of the year in Washington state for more golf, fishing and, in Montana, hunting elk and duck in the Fall. We keep the freezer full of salmon, crab, elk and deer.

Always enjoy reading *RUPANEWS*. Thanks for the excellent job you do – and to Cleve and the other officers as well.

Hello to my friends in RUPA, and a fond remembrance of those who have flown west.

My very best wishes to all.  
Pete

**R. JOHN WISDA** – 401 19th Street, Santa Monica, CA

The number 80 means many things. Like when one reaches that age the word "Martini" fades away like many other words that once denoted pleasure. The thought of cranberry juice with a cherry in it looks like a Manhattan so, what the heck, drink hearty me lad! Just think; About sixty years ago I was a "Tracy Ace". Some people, reading this, don't know or else, long ago, forgot what was once a term of reverence and respect on good ole UAL. Or else they recall it in a derogatory manner, using dastardly terms. Any way, some of us are still around using, to our dismay, artificial devices which supplant some of our original equipment. We would like you to know that we had a great life wearing out the old parts and are doing our best to demolish the new ones in like manner. We are proud of what we were able to do and still prouder of progress made since we have slipped away, one by one. **Johnny**



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**VINCE YOUNG:** Honolulu, HI  
patiwgn@juno.com

Enjoying an extended stay in Hawaii. Life is good, weather is better than back home. Lots of amusements, one of which is watching the clowns

on C-SPAN. Al Gore is the funniest, if you have a strong stomach! Watched his entire address to the AFL-CIO in Philadelphia; check it out.

Thanks to ALPA I enjoy a life style which I never dreamed was possible when I was a new hire.

Somehow, I don't think Al had much to do with it and I don't believe he invented the Internet.

Thanks to all of you who work so hard to bring us the *RUPANEWS*.

### **Vince Young**

*Well, Vince, you're getting dangerously close to being political in this, hopefully, apolitical, publication. However, since you mentioned it, I believe that a variation of the Common Prayer Book of 1669 saying is appropriate "O put not your trust in princes (politicians), nor in any child of man: for there is no help in them 146:2" Ed.*

## OBITUARIES

### **ENA BROWN**

I regret to inform you of the death on March 4 of Ena Brown, widow of the late Captain Jay Glenn Brown, one time director of UA Pilot Training and RUPA member upon retirement.

Ena was 87 years young, an ardent fan of *RUPA NEWS* who succumbed to congestive heart failure. She was soloed in 1937 by then flight instructor Jay (she called him Glenn) in her home town of Coalinga, Calif. They remained friends and, after the death of Jay's first wife, were married in 1982.

Ena was an ardent aviation enthusiast, a member of the '99's, Silver Wings and competed in the Powder Puff Derby.

My wife, Cecile and I became good friends of Ena's during Jay's last days. We were close proximity neighbors and I often drove her to the airport for her trips to 99's conventions and visits to California. She was engaged, energetic, and enthusiastic right to the end. We miss her very much. Ena had no children. She is survived by 3 nieces in California as well as 2 great nieces and 3 great nephews.

*Al Ogden, Littleton, CO*

### **ELAINE PEDERSEN KOVERMAN**

#### *Blazed Trail for Female Runners*

Elaine Pedersen, a Mill Valley resident who helped break the men only barrier in long-distance road racing, died March 6th in a Houston hospital after a short battle with cancer. She was 63.

Ms. Pedersen came relatively late to running, having discovered she liked covering long distances on foot when she was in her late 20s. But although she did not possess world-class speed, she had an immediate effect on the Bay Area racing scene, "liberating" the previously all-male Dipsea Race in 1966 and the Bay to Breakers in '67.

Then came her defining moment. In 1972, after several years of trying to get into the Boston Marathon field - and being repulsed because of her sex - she was one of a handful of women to be accepted as the first official female entrants in what is perhaps the world's most famous footrace. She was the second woman to cross the finish line in that 26-mile, 385-yard race, covering the course in 3 hours, 20 minutes, 38 seconds. She ran 20 more marathons, but never one as fast.

Ms. Pedersen, who continued to compete in Bay Area running events, especially the Dipsea, which, she considered her favorite race, long after her groundbreaking Boston, discovered that she had bone marrow cancer in October. She went to Houston's Anderson Hospital for a bone marrow transplant, which proved unsuccessful. A second operation was being arranged when acute leukemia was diagnosed. She then contracted pneumonia and died.

She is survived by her husband, Gary Koverman, who stated that it was Ms. Pedersen's wish to be cremated and her ashes strewn over the Dipsea Trail.

### **BEN F McKenzie, :thel.mck@juno.com**

Hi Folks I have filed my federal taxes so its time to send in a letter. I have a sad report. I lost the center of my world, my wife Bootsie, to lung cancer in Sept. 1999. We had 51 years together ,but the last two were tough years for her, of chemo & radiation . My daughter Wanda an R N, & myself, were the primary caregivers for Bootsie. She was able to stay at home for her last days. We used Home Health Care; they furnished hospital bed, oxygen, medication, etc. and hospice at the last.

On a happier note on Feb. 16 2000 our first great - grandchild was born , a boy, both doing fine.

Appreciate all your efforts in getting out the newsletter  
**Frank McKenzie**

Check in mail to Cleve

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**ALYCE SMYTHE GORDON REYNOLDS**

This is to inform you that Alyce Reynolds passed away March 2, 2000. Alyce was one of the airline's pioneers, having moved from Pittsburgh to DCA when Penna. Central moved. Alyce was exec. Sec. To Pres. C. Bedell Monroe and later Pres. Jim Carmichael. Alyce and I were good friends since 1943. Alyce is survived by her only son David Smythe, 7526 West 90th St., LA, CA 90045, Phone, (310) 216 5965. *Mimi Stewart, Sierra Regency #207, 1015 Madden Lane, Roseville, CA 95661*

**GEORGE MARTIN SAYRE, Jr.**, 68, of Minersville, died Monday, Feb 7, 2000, at his residence. Born June 23, 1931, in Rochester, PA, he was the son of George Martin Sayre, Sr., and Hilda Galligan Sayre. George came to Meigs County in the third grade and graduated from Racine High School in 1949. A year later he entered the USAF. While in the Air Force, he was selected for pilot training and flew numerous aircraft, mostly jet fighters. He was a graduate of the Air Force's Fighter Weaponry School at Nellis AFB in Las Vegas and was assigned on exchange tour with the Navy for 18 months in Kingsville NAS, TX. While on the exchange tour and flying Navy aircraft, he became daylight carrier-qualified aboard the USS Lexington. During his USAF career, he was stationed at Itazuke AFB in Fukuoka, Japan, for three years. Other assignment bases in the US included Kessler AFB, Randolph AFB, Lake Charles AFB, Greenville AFB, Goodfellow AFB, Williams AFB, George AFB, Nellis AFB, Homestead AFB, and Myrtle Beach AFB. After 16 years in the USAF, he resigned and became a flight instructor for United Airlines in Denver in 1966. He joined the Colorado Air National Guard and in 1968 the unit was called to active duty as the 120th Tactical Fighter Squadron and became a part of the 35th Tactical Fighter Wing at Phan Rang AB in South Vietnam where George flew over 250 missions in an F-100C. He completed four more active-duty years in the AF rising to rank of Major before returning to his line pilot and flight instructor job at United Airlines in 1972. In 1991 he retired as Captain for United Airlines and the Sayres moved back to Meigs County to enjoy the river and the Southern Tornado Sports Teams.

**THEODORE O. SNYDER**

Theodore O. Snyder, 70, of Woodridge died Saturday, Jan 22, in Tabor Hills Healthcare Facilities in Naperville. Born in Pennsylvania, Mr. Snyder, was a Marine pilot

before becoming a commercial pilot for United Airlines.

Survivors include his wife Betty; a daughter, Patricia Raymo; a son, Timothy; his mother, Helen Nolen; two sisters, Carol Bruno and Dawn Harkins; a brother, Lowell; and three grandchildren.

**WILLIAM F. SPEAR**

William F. Spear, of Teal Point Drive, died Feb. 13, 2000, after a long illness.

He was born in Portland, a son of Willard Walker and Isabelle Werner Spear, and graduated from South Portland schools and the University of Maine at Orono. During World War II, Mr. Spear attended Bates College in the Navy College Training Program. He served in the V5 Naval Aviation Flight Training Program at the Williams College Flight Preparatory School, the University of North Carolina Pre Flight School, the Naval Air Station Glenview, 171, Primary Flight Training School, and the Naval Air Station (Pensacola, Fla.) Advanced Flight Training Facility.

He was recalled to active duty in the Naval Reserve Training Unit for service with the North Atlantic Fleet during the Korean War.

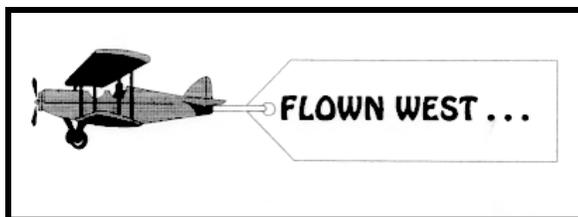
Capt. Spear worked for Hartford Fire Insurance Co. in Hartford, Conn., and then for United Airlines of Chicago, retiring after 30 years, with more than 20,000 flight hours.

He was a member of the first Adult Education Committee in Hartford, co-director of the Southwestern New Hampshire Mosquito Control Committee, a committee member of an Employee Assistance Program backed by the Air Line Pilots Association, and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and was an aeromedical coordinator for local councils and the master executive committee of ALPA at United Airlines.

Capt. Spear was a member of Hiram Lodge of South Portland, a 32nd Degree member of the Maine Consistory, a member and supporter of the International Order of the Shrine, a life member of Sigma Chi Fraternity and ALPA, and a past member of the Maine Pilots Association. He was a previous officeholder in the Greater Maine Ocean Racing Society and a member of the Retired United Pilots Association.

Surviving are his wife of 48 years, Patricia Love Spear of Scarborough; a son, Timothy of Scarborough; two daughters, Suzanne Grogan of Franklin, Mass and Janet Spear of Nahant, Mass.; three brothers, Donald H. of Cape Elizabeth, Robert W. of Ocean Springs, Miss., and Willard W. Jr. of Dayton, Nev.; a sister, Mrs. Donald (Virginia) Williams of Traverse City, Mich.; and three grandchildren.

Normal



THEODORE O. SNYDER		22 JAN 2000
J.C. "CHUCK" WEBER		8 FEB 2000
WILLIAM F. SPEAR		13 FEB 2000
ELMER L. MULKINS*	DEN	24 FEB 2000
J.R. "RAY" WELLS	IADFO	4 MAR 2000
RICHARD E. HOLT	SEA	6 MAR 2000
LOUIS "DUKE" LOMBARDI	SEA	MAR 2000

\* nonmember



**HIGH FLIGHT**  
By John Gillespie Magee, Jr.

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

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## RUPA'S SOCIAL CALENDAR

### Regularly Scheduled Lunches

- 2nd Mon. SW FL Outlaws – *Olive Garden* – 941-793-5251  
2nd Tue. FL Treasure Coast Sunbirds – *Miles Grant CC* – 561-747-2796  
2nd Tue. LAS High Rollers – *The Winery, Pahrump* – 702-658-6168  
2nd Thu. SE FL Gold Coast – *Flaming Pit.* – 561-272-1860  
2nd Fri. PHX Roadrunners – *Wigwam C.C, Litchfield Park* – 480-948-1612  
3rd Tue. DEN Good Ole Boys – *Country Buffet* - 303-279-4348  
3rd Thu. LAX – *Hacienda, (Even Mth.) Billingsley's (Odd)* - 310-373-2283  
3rd Thu. Ohio Northcoasters – *TJ's Wooster (Always coed.)*. 330-262-5811  
3rd Thu. SEA Gooneybirds – *Airport Marriott.* – 206-242-1242  
3rd Thu. TPA Sundowners – *Countryside CC. (odd mths. Stag)* 727-785-5971

### Other Events

- 11 APR. ORD McHenry lunch – *Warsaw Inn* – 847-872-4081  
19 APR DCA O'Donnell Lunch – *Belle Haven CC* – 540-338-4574  
2 MAY CHI Area Lunch – *Itasca C.C.* – 630-832-3002  
15 JUL Barnard BBQ – *Ohai* – 310-645-2260  
17 MAY NY Skyscrapers – *Pals Cabin* – 908-782-3612  
3 NOV RUPA Cruise – *Mexican Riviera* – 800-966-6007

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

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

**May Deadline** – 19 April

**Folder's & Stuffer's** – 3 May



**PERIODICALS**

### **RUPANEWS**

1104 BURKE LANE

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