

VIP Club Newsletter

VOLUME 27, NO. 09 www.geocities.com/vipclub2003 SEPTEMBER 2007

The Number to call for information on Unisys Retirement Status and Benefits: 1-877-864-7972.

The Number to call for information on Lockheed Martin Retirement Status and Benefits: 1--866-562-2363.

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Wednesday, September 05 | Board Meeting, Eagan | 10:00 a.m. |
| Wednesday, September 12 | Eagan, Program & social Time | 7:00 p.m. |

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Wednesday, October 03 | Board Meeting, Roseville | 10:00 a.m. |
| Wednesday, October 10 | Roseville, Pot Luck & Program | 6:00 p.m. |

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM: EAGAN

The U. S. Postal Service began operations 25 years before we became a nation! Our September Program will feature a presentation on the "History of the Postal Service" by Pete Nowacki who is the Customer Relations Coordinator for the Minneapolis Postmaster. His presentation will include a 15 minute video. Mr. Nowacki has worked for the Postal Service for 21 years and currently handles all media relations for the Twin Cities Post Offices.

OCTOBER PROGRAM: ROSEVILLE

The evening begins at 6:00 pm with a pot luck dinner followed by a musical program by the Barb Piper and Bill Hammond Duo. Barb Piper is a sensational vocalist and instrumentalist from Faribault, MN, whose rich and expressive voice will enchant you. Roseville-based Bill Hammond is an accomplished acoustic guitarist and compelling singer. **What to bring** for the pot luck meal is based on the first letter of your last name: A-E, Deserts; F-M, Hot dishes; N-Z, Salads.

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS

Please send permanent address changes to Lowell Benson addressed to the VIP Club at the address given on the label page of the Newsletter

A jumper cable walks into a bar. The bartender says, "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From: Brian Berggren

The August program had many of the thirty in attendance feeling as though we were back in school. Immigration law attorney and William Mitchell College of Law lecturer Jerome Ingber had us taking notes and even gave us a little quiz in the hour and a half of his very interesting and fact-filled talk. Did you know the largest wave of immigration to Minnesota peaked around 1900, when 40 percent were foreign-born? Did you know 103 languages and dialects are spoken in the homes of Minnesota's K-12 students?

Much of what makes the VIP Club and its meetings so interesting is what we each bring to the association. We enjoy the interaction and the opportunity to share interests and experiences, and we want to extend to you an invitation to help on committees and run for board positions. Some members of your current board have been doing the same tasks for years and would like to give others a chance to help. Many of you are so good at volunteering; please consider taking a bigger role in your club. Bernie is chairing this year's nominating committee of Lowell, Dale, and Tom, and would love to hear from some eager souls.

Respectfully, Brian Berggren, VIP Club President

From the Editors



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DINING CLUBS & GROUPS

Breakfast groups and get-togethers:

One breakfast group meets monthly at 9:00 a.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Tri-City American Legion, Old Hwy 8, New Brighton. Phone: **763-416-3903**.

Another breakfast group meets monthly at 8:00 a.m. on the 1st Thursday of each month at Joseph's Grill, 140 South Wabasha, (Wabasha and Plato) St. Paul. Phone: **651-222-2435**.

Luncheon Groups & Dinner Clubs:

One Unisys Luncheon group meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. at the Old Country Buffet, Holly Shopping Center, located at University Ave. and Mississippi St. just north of I-694. For information call **651-552-1465**.

Another Luncheon group (engineering/drafting) meets monthly on the 1st Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. at the Old Country Buffet at 2000 S. Robert, West St. Paul. For information call **651-456-0750**.

And another Luncheon group (Unisys and Burroughs) meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. at the Mall of America 3rd floor North Food Court. We sit at the tables between the elevator and Burger King. For information call **952-854-7855**.

Dinner Club. A Unisys Dinner Club meets monthly on the 4th Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. at Champs located at 35E and Larpenteur Avenue. For information call 763-786-1044.

MEETING & EVENT DATES 2007

| Date | Time | Location | Activity |
|----------|-----------|----------|-----------------------|
| Aug. 08 | 7:00 p.m. | Rsvl | Program - Social Time |
| Sept. 12 | 7:00 p.m. | Eagan | Program - Social Time |
| Oct. 10 | 6:00 p.m. | Rsvl | Pot Luck Program |
| Nov. 14 | 7:00 p.m. | Eagan | Program - Social time |

Dec. 13 5:45 p.m. USAF Christmas Party

Note: Rsvl = Roseville, Eagan = Eagan Community Center, Park = Highland Park Pavilion, USAF = NCO Club at U.S. Air Force Base off Hwy 62

WELCOME NEW CLUB MEMBERS

Arten, Richard & Bev U Burnsville, MN.
 Bengstrom, Janet & Allen B Spring Lake Pk, MN.
 Germscheid, Paul & sandy U North Oaks, MN.
 Minovi, Bahram & Mahvash B Plymouth, MN.
 Moen, Dean & Barb L Richfield, MN.
 Mullaney, Edward & Jackie U New Brighton, MN.
 Rahkola, Urho & Pamela U Birchwood, MN.
 Smedstad, Arnie & Beverly B Mahtomedi, MN.
 Tinucci, Virginia B Maplewood, MN.

U = Unisys B = Burroughs L = Lockheed Martin
 D = Unisys Defense Systems

IN REMEMBRANCE



Brown, William E., Jr. "Bill" - Age 81, of West St. Paul. Passed away peacefully on Friday, July 13, 2007. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Mary. Following

his service in the Navy Bill worked at Univac, Data 100, and CPT Corporation.

Cords, Herbert C. - Age 83, of Burnsville, MN. Passed away Thursday, June 28, 2007. Survived by his wife of 61 years, Phyllis. Herb was an instructor in the education department of Univac.

Duncan, Neil Don - Age 79, of Fridley, Mn Born August 31, 1927. Passed away June 24, 2007. He is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, JaNahn. Niel was a professional photographer for several studios and Remington Rand Univac.

Fragiacomo, Livio P. - Age 82, of Rosemount, MN. Survived by his wife, Kathleen. Livio was a 32 year Drafting Designer for Unisys.



Halverson, Richard "Dick" Peyton - Age 76, of Honolulu, Hawaii died peacefully at his home on Sunday July 1, 2007. Dick began his career as an electrical engineer at

Engineering Research Associates (predecessor to Sperry Univac then Unisys).

Hanson, Dr. David G. - Age 72, of Spring Lake Park, MN. David is survived by his wife, Nancy. David retired after 36 years from Lockheed Martin.



Higginbotham, Grover Stanley - Age 92, of Edina, Minnesota and Naples, Florida. Passed away July 8, 2007. He is deeply missed by his wife, Vivian. Upon retirement from the Navy as a Captain, he worked for 15 years in

management for Sperry Univac at their offices in Salt Lake City, UT, Los Angeles, CA, and St. Paul, MN.



McAmis, Keith - Age 63, of Fridley, MN. He is survived by his wife, Ingrid. Keith was a 40 year employee of Unisys.



Moran, Donald Martin - Age 62, of Burnsville, MN. Passed away June 25, 2007. Don worked 30 years for Sperry Univac (Lockheed Martin) and has patents to his credit.



Tolzin (nee Johnson), Kathryn Ann (Kay) - Age 69, of Bloomington, MN. Born in Mayville, ND on Feb. 12, 1938. Passed away May 2, 2007 at her home. Kay is survived by her loving husband of 45 years,

Stanley W. Tolzin. Stanley has been a VIP Club member for many years.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLOODMOBILE INFORMATION

SEPTEMBER RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE.

Friday, September 14th Unisys Roseville needs greeters and servers 9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 12 p.m.-3 p.m. Please call Marion Scott at 651-455-7952 to sign-up.

LEGACY NEWS UPDATE

Submitted by Dick Lundgren, rflundgr@aol.com.

Good Progress on Patents

Last month's newsletter sent out a call for help with the effort to create one-line descriptors for many patents of our legacy companies. On July 27th well over half of the 40 packing boxes were processed by a great group of volunteers who responded. The group consisted of **Lowell Benson, Larry Bolton, Bernie Jansen, Dick Lundgren, Ed Nelson, Dick (Ole) Olson, Phil Phipps, and Ralph Werner**, with administrative support from **Robin Dexter**. Some patent titles were truly vague (e.g. "Data Processing System") and the thick files had to be perused more

deeply to provide a more specific descriptor. Other data recorded were the names of the patent originator (inventor), patent numbers, dates of original submission, dates the patents were granted, and exact location of the patent file for any future reference. Most of the patents were from the 1960s with serial numbers in the 3 million range. Current patents are well up into the 7 million range. As you might guess, it was fun to come across names of previous coworkers which of course stimulated some good social discourse. The job is not yet finished, so if you would like to be involved at the next meeting, contact Dick (Ole) Olson at r.d.olson@lmco.com. Ultimately the data will be sent to the Charles Babbage Institute at the University of Minnesota.

Recent Contributors to Legacy Website

(<http://www.usfamily.net/web/labenson/Legacy.htm>)

Recent contributions posted to the Legacy website have come from **William (Bill) Geiger, Eldon Weinhold, and David Peterson**. Bill Geiger's article, called "Career Insights," traces his 30+ year career from joining Remington Rand Univac in 1959 to his final position of VP&GM of the Eagan Division. Like any new employee, he was flooded with unknown acronyms and unfamiliar customer names and organizations. His well crafted story tracks such memorable highlights as octal notation, ubiquitous pocket protectors, and desktop calculators (from Frieden). He recounts stories of major customer players in our legacy with names such as Capt. Eric Swenson, CDR. Ming Chang, Adm. Wayne Meyers (Bill learned what a "vessel" was and what it was not), Capt. Joe Hager and others. And of course he had quite a flow through various technical areas as well as functional areas. Bill's legacy is our legacy. Eldon Weinhold started off in 1967 to be a field engineer for Joe Graham at METC (7 years in that memorable facility). His first trip was to Bath, ME to work the SATIR program of the West German Navy, an experience which then led into DLG class NTDS modernization. Other involvement over the years included the SSQ-59 switching system, support of the AEGIS system at RCA Moorestown (now LM-MS2), NAVMACS, and presently Maritime Surveillance. Eldon is particularly good at citing the names of many of his coworkers over his long career. David P. Andersen's article on "The Invention of Voice Mail" is a gem. He carefully recounts the 14-year history of the Speech Research Group, part of Sperry Univac's Defense Systems in Eagan. Many coworkers and their "interesting traits" are woven into his history of this effort which began in the early 1970s. One succinct and valuable quote: "Our unique ability to create high-quality computer-generated speech led to a contract with the FAA."

The VRU (Voice Response Unit) was a major product of the group and the Eagan division. Many captivating stories relate to the VRU (not only with English but with other languages as well). This a great story about a not too well known business area.

Legacy of International Programs – Focus on Germany (and France) – The Prologue

This article is the first (the prologue) of a series of articles highlighting the legacy of LM-Eagan in doing business with Germany. “Germany” was officially the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) or just West Germany for the majority of years in which we had significant business there. The reunification of the FRG and the DDR (German Democratic Republic) occurred on October 3, 1990, from which point on “Buy European” became the modus operandi.

It started with Adam (didn't it all?). In the early days (1960s), in the case of the FRG Navy, it started with the order of three Adams (Charles Adams) Class destroyers (F-DDGs) in 1964. These ships (the Lütjens, Mölders, and Rommel), all named after prominent German figures, were not originally intended to be NTDS ships, but progress with NTDS in U.S. and French ships convinced the FRGN to develop those ships with NTDS capability. The French Navy, a NATO member at that time, had the SENIT (Systeme d'Exploitation Navale des Informations Tactiques, read early French NTDS) system built on the USN/Univac USQ-20 computer and peripherals. To prepare for the receipt and subsequent support of the three Adams Class destroyers, the FRGN sent personnel to the French programming center CPM (Centre de Programmation de la Marine) in Paris near the Eiffel-Tower for initial hardware training (1966/67). At the same time other FRGN personnel were sent to San Diego for software training. These FRGN personnel then returned to Wilhelmshaven, Germany with knowledge and experience in the early Univac 30-bit systems (hardware installation/maintenance and software generation). This was to be the launching pad for a long legacy of business with Germany.

Well, some romances flourish and some fizzle. The relationship with the German Navy and other German customers certainly blossomed and continues today. It will be further discussed in the next newsletter. It was not to be the case with France, although in 1977 a fleeting flicker of French romance was rekindled with Thompson-CSF and realized by **W. S. Howe** on a 3-month assignment in Paris (direct quote: “That may have been one of the best jobs I ever had!”). The product sold to Thompson, which included installation and training

support, was a software generation system based on the AN/UYK-20 computer and commercial peripherals. The Mini Systems group, under **Bob Potter** at that time, was the responsible organization. The greater potential of this relatively minor business with France was never realized and the ember died out and remains cold until today.

Legacy with Norway Continues

In June the governments of Norway and the United States signed a Letter of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) for the sale of four Lockheed Martin C-130J Super Hercules aircraft to Norway. The aircraft will be built by LM Aeronautics Co. in Marietta, GA.

Special Note

If you have any additions or corrections to any of the preceding stories, please contact the author (rflundgr@aol.com).

VOLUNTEER OPORTUNITY

Many of our VIP Club members spent many years in the Engineering and Hardware Maintenance of computers and support equipment. This type of experience is urgently needed by the Minnesota State Services for the Blind. They are searching for Volunteers to troubleshoot and repair Cassette Talking Book Machines. These are special format, slow speed cassette machines that permit blind or reading-impaired individuals to have access to books, magazines, textbooks, etc. When the machines are returned to their Service Center, they need to be cleaned, tested and repaired before they are sent out to other clients. The Service Center provides repair benches plus cleaning materials, test equipment and replacement parts. Volunteers are asked to work a minimum of 4 hours per week. There is also need for people without technical experience to clean the machines enabling the technical repair people to focus their time on repair. The Minnesota State Services for the Blind is located at 2200 University Avenue in St. Paul. If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity please contact Hal Schardin at (651) 642-0848.

Submitted by Bernie Jansen

CURRENT ISSUES

Submitted by Brian Berggren.

SICKO, the Movie

Rather than write another review of the movie, which conservative and Libertarian commentators have labeled as one-sided, superficial, maddeningly mendacious, clumsy...agitprop – and generally right, I'll simply share the cultural chasm that lets us tolerate our system while other nations love theirs. Moore's interview has a British WWII vet commenting that if we can afford to kill people, we

can afford health care. This is in the same vein of what Princeton medical economist Uwe Reinhardt said at the annual National Institute of Health Policy last February: "In Germany, the rich take care of the poor, the healthy take care of the sick, the employed take care of the unemployed, and the young take care of the old." In the U.S., we are supposed to be self-reliant, responsible for our own health, capable of paying for the care we think we will need.

My involvement with the Medicare Justice Coalition exposed me to much of the unfairness, waste, unnecessary practices, excessive costs and more in our system. Two books tell the sad tale of our system far more completely than Moore's little movie. The Twin Cities own Kip Sullivan wrote "The Health Care Mess." The subtitle of Kip's book is: How We Got Into It and How We'll Get Out of It. He is a researcher and has given us a history of the U.S. health insurance system, the why of high costs and waste, why managed care plans don't work, and how a Medicare for all gives us the best chance for a functional system. Kip's book is loaded with tables and references and is actually a pretty good read.

"Health Care Meltdown" by Robert H. LeBow is more in a voice that Michael Moore would appreciate. LeBow is a Harvard College and Johns Hopkins Medical School graduate board certified in Family Practice and Preventive Medicine. LeBow's book came out just before the Medicare Modernization Act was passed back in 2003, but his subtitle, "Confronting the Myths and Fixing our Failing System," lets him analyze the poor performance, perverse incentives, high costs and rationed care in our system. LeBow was the medical director for an Idaho community care center for twenty-five years and has included many of his experiences caring for patients that had care problems that the lack of insurance, lack of money, fear of bad news, and inability to regularly take medicine only made worse. Moore's tales are mere Sunday School versions of the patients that LeBow tried to help. His patients have drug-resistant TB but the expensive drugs are out of reach, diabetes but no way to get regular care until blindness and kidney failure put the patient in the hospital, high blood pressure but not enough cash for medicine that might have prevented a stroke. Save a little, spend a lot. Moore could make multiple sequels from this stuff. If you don't have the time to read one of these books, at least see the movie.

Our Environment

Fred Pearce's new book, "With Speed and Violence," surveys major researchers in climatology, glaciology, oceanography, and all the disciplines that

seek to understand our world. In 36 chapters he addresses ice melt, ocean levels, permafrost, monsoons, the Amazon, El Nino and La Nina, ozone, and cyclones. Our North Atlantic hurricanes are only ten percent of the globe's total; most are in the western Pacific affecting the Philippines, Vietnam, and China. Kerry Emanuel of MIT finds storms last 60 percent longer and have wind speeds 15 percent higher than in the 1950s. We learn that damage is proportional to the wind speed cubed – and that "hurricane destructive power has increased by an alarming 70 percent."

In the first half of the nineteenth century French mathematician Jean Baptist Fourier and Irish physicist John Tyndal recognized that carbon dioxide and other gases had a heat-trapping effect, that the gases passed the sun's ultraviolet radiation and trapped the infrared radiation reflected from the earth's surface. Then, in 1894, Swedish chemist Svante Arrhenius started computations considering global surfaces and using Fourier's and Tyndal's formulas suggested carbon dioxide level reductions of a third to one half would result in the planet cooling about 8 degrees F. – what may have happened for the ice ages. His calculations also showed a doubling of carbon dioxide would cause about a 10 degrees F. warming. Nineteenth century science had described "greenhouse gasses" and "global warming." Ice core research and computer climate modeling now corroborate these findings.

In 1938 British military engineer Guy Callendar said at a Royal Meteorological Society lecture that atmospheric carbon dioxide levels had risen about six percent since 1900, with fossil fuel burning the likely cause and the implication that warming was "actually occurring at the present time."

Starting in 1958 Charles Keeling of the Scripps Institution measured carbon dioxide every four hours 14,000 feet up Mauna Loa in Hawaii. Keeling found a background level CO2 level of 315 parts per million with seasonal cycling due to photosynthesis. His team's research showed a gradual CO2 rise to 380 ppm today that became known as the "Keeling Curve" – "the single most important data set taken in the 20th century." Pearce's lesson is that "the history of our planet's climate shows that it does not do gradual change...it lurches – virtually overnight."

SCHOOL

A little girl had just finished her first week of school. "I'm just wasting my time," she said to her mother. "I can't read, I can't write and they won't let me talk!"

**VIP CLUB
P.O. BOX 131748
ROSEVILLE MN 55113-0020**

VIP CLUB OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS FOR THE YEAR 2007

* = A/C 651, + = A/C 612, @ = A/C 763, # = A/C 952

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 Yvonne Cecchini at *437-9278

UNISYS Liaison, Roseville Sue Carrigan *635-7955
 Mailing UNISYS Print Shop, Roseville

Lockheed Martin, Eagan Liaison ... Tierney Helmers *456-4963 Printing &

Directions to Eagan Community Center. Take Hwy 35E south or north to Pilot Knob Road. Turn left (north) on Pilot Knob Road. Turn left on Central Parkway (which is also the North entrance to Lockheed). The Eagan Community Center is at 1501 Central Parkway.

Directions to Unisys in Roseville. Take Hwy 35W south, or north, to the Industrial Way / St. Anthony Blvd off ramp. If coming north or south on Hwy 35E go west on Hwy 36 which will take you to the Industrial Way / St. Anthony Blvd. off ramp of 35W (Hwy 36 becomes Hwy 35W where it joins Hwy 35W). Go north on St. Anthony Blvd. to Walnut St. (the first street on the right). Turn right and go to Highcrest Road. It is the first place where you can turn left. Past the stop sign, Bldg 3 is on the right. Gate 5 is in the center of the building. From Hwy 280 northbound, use left lane exit just past Cty Rd B for Terminal road access (St Croix St.). Turn left at Terminal Rd, then turn right at Highcrest Rd to building entrance.