VIP Club Newsletter

VOLUME 34, NO. 8 October 2014 http://vipclubmn.org

FUTURE EVENT CALENDAR

October 1	10:00 AM	Board Meeting UNISYS, Roseville	
October 8	6:30 PM	Social Time & Program UNISYS, Rosevil	
November 5	10:00 AM	Board Meeting	UNISYS, Eagan
November 12	7:00 PM	2015 Election & Wildlife Rehab	UNISYS, Eagan
December 3	10:00 AM	Board Meeting	UNISYS, Roseville
December 11	3:30 PM	Christmas Dinner & Dance	Ft. Snelling O' Club

FEED FORWARD REQUEST

~56 percent of YOU will be renewing your membership between now and January 1st. When you mail us your check and form, please write a line or two to the Board to let us know what we could do to make the VIP Club a better organization during 2015.

OCTOBER PROGRAM: Laugh For The Health Of It!

October 8th, 6:30 PM: The Club has ordered Ice Cream, Pumpkin Pie, and teacher Sarah Routman for a light hearted social evening in the UNISYS, Roseville plant.

Don't you feel better when you laugh? Generally we do, but it isn't a benefit that dies when you're done laughing. Laughter has long lasting benefits, and Sarah Routman, our speaker for October, is a specialist in "Laughing for the Health of it." Sarah has advance degrees from Ohio and Georgia Universities plus 10 years' experience teaching high school English and Drama. She has also spent 18 years in the Twin Cities as Executive Director of a couple of non-profit organizations. Sarah is a certified Laughter Yoga Leader and Teacher who has been engaging others in laughter since 2008. She is also a Leadership Instructor and Wellness Advocate at the University of Minnesota.

Sarah's program, Laugh for the Health of it, provides information about the history and health benefits associated with the practice of Laughter Yoga, interspersed with laughter exercises. Get ready for "Smile Push-ups" and a special laughter meditation. Don't bring a yoga mat, and for sure don't dig out

those leopard skin leotards that you think are so becoming. Even old Mr. Sourpuss (name withheld out of good old fashioned courtesy) might bust a gut or snort uncontrollably. Come, share the fun and calories.

Page 6 has GPS and driving directions.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM: Wildlife Rehabilitation & Election!

November 12th, 7 PM: Join us in the Unisys, Eagan north side visitors' conference room. After the 2015 Board election, we will have a most interesting presentation that Dale Phelps and Dick Lundgren have arranged. The program is titled Wildlife Rehabilitation - The Science and Compassion of Wildlife Medicine



The Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota (http://www.wrcmn.org) provides quality medical care and rehabilitation for all injured, sick and orphaned wild birds and animals, and shares its knowledge with the people who care about them. Our presenter is the WRC Executive Director Philip Jenni who will talk about the work of the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, one of the nation's leading veterinary clinics for injured and orphaned wildlife. He'll outline some of the larger cultural trends that provide historical context





for this rapidly growing field and talk about why this work is socially significant in today's world.

Phil Jenni has been the Executive Director of the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota (WRC), since March 2002. WRC is an emergency wildlife clinic and hospital which annually treats more than 9,000 wild animals from more than 200 different species. Prior to this position he was Finance Director of the Citizens League (1986 to February 2002) and was responsible for all of the day-to-day operational details, and was involved in several policy issues, including property tax and fiscal policy, transportation and education policy.

Phil, a Wisconsin native, grew up in a floral shop/garden center in west central Wisconsin, graduated from Ripon College with a B.A in history and moved to St. Paul in 1976 to attend graduate school at the University of Minnesota specializing in Elizabethan history. While attending graduate school he and several partners, including University All-American and Olympian Garry Bjorklund, developed a specialty retail store devoted to distance running. He helped start many area races including the Twin Cities Marathon. A former competitive athlete he competed in national and international road running events and has run both the Boston and London Marathons twice. He ran the 1983 London Marathon in 2 hours and 26 minutes.

Among a wide range of community activities, Phil is a member of the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Commission. He is a member of the Dean's Advisory Board of the University of Minnesota's College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) and is the 2011 recipient of CVM's Outstanding Service Award.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2015 Elections! A couple of long time board members are ready for a 2nd/3rd retirement. Contact Bob 'RC' Hanson at 651-633-4259 to let him know what you are willing to do for the club next year! The candidate slate will be in the November newsletter, elections at the November 12th meeting.

Mark Your Calendar: November 21st, 11 AM at Casper's; Unihogs/Uniturkeys luncheon. Don Hall, author of "Generation of Wealth – The rise of Control Data and how it inspired an era of innovation and investment in the Upper Midwest" will be our featured speaker. For the Unihog history and a link to the invite flyer, just point your browser to http://vipclubmn.org/LunchGroups.html#Unihogs.

<u>December 4</u>th, 11:00 AM: at the Ft. Snelling O' Club, Annual Univac Old Timers Reunion. Let Lowell know by November 1st if you are willing to help with invite emails to get attendee and lunch counts.

<u>December 11</u>th, 3:30 PM at the Ft. Snelling O' Club, VIP Club Dinner/Dance. Lyndon Peterson will again provide some soft music background music as we celebrate the season.

Who Remembers? Steve Andersen has a pendant but doesn't recall whether it was a 5, 10, or 15 year anniversary award. It has three topaz like stones, my wife has a similar



pendant with three emerald like stones – I don't recall whether that was a 15 or 20 year anniversary award. Does anyone have any documentation which would show which anniversary merited a pendant? If yes, email labenson@q.com. Thx

Help Sought: The volunteers working at the Lawshe Museum are still in need of help with poster board definitions and some photo identification. Although the two small teams alternate between Tuesday mornings, Once a volunteer has had an introduction session; he/she could go there during any of the open hours. Contact Harvey Taipale or Pat Myhre or Jon Simon or Keith Myhre; our dedicated Lawshe volunteers.

Also, Bernie Jansen is seeking speakers for occasional Thursday evening 'computer history' talks at the Lawshe; i.e. NTDS, ATC, Missiles, Airborne, etc.. Contact him at bjsjk@msn.com for specifics.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Two topics this month, database and avocations. Keith

Behnke does monthly updates to our membership database, a fair-sized Excel workbook with multiple tabs and intertwined formulae. Since transitioning our membership database from Mapper to Excel in



2007, we've added several data columns. In 2008 we added email addresses and a code for electronic newsletter distribution. A few years ago when Quint Heckert was database manager; he added a column to identify which Twin Cities county a member lived in then set up formulae to count quantity of members living in which state, in which county, how many are paid thru the current year, how many are paid through which future year, etc. Keith just added another column to recognize and tabulate 'real' member counting. Heretofore we've counted line entries as our membership count (1032 as of 8/14). Our by-laws clearly state that a retiree and his/her spouse are both members, thus with Keith's new column - we actually have 1,827 members. Our database has sixteen nonmember entries, coded as Frnd. We include the board of the Blue Bell retirees organization in the electronic

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newsletter distribution as well as our liaisons at the local Unisys facilities and the LMCO facility.

Avocations! I received an e-mail from a former Univac employee, Roscoe Evavold, who sings in a traveling choir; immediately recalled that we used to have the Sperryaires – they still get together and sing as retirees. Then I thought about the former Pig's Eye jazz band that Bob Blixt and Roy Prohofsky played in. The August issue of the Minnesota Street Rod Association's (MSRA) Line Chaser has this 'Super 88' on the cover. How many of us pause every June when we see a few of the ~12,000 old cars registered for the Back-to-the-



50's car show at the State Fairgrounds? How many of us appreciate the work that goes into restoring an old automobile? ½ of 1% of our VIP Club members are listed in the MSRA annual directory. This 'Rocket 88' Oldsmobile belongs to Bill Corson who did some 'rocket' launch and guidance software many years ago. The Line Chaser article about the Olds also states that Bill used to do some weekend drag racing!

There are many others of you who have or had a 'life' outside of the company hours. For future newsletters, we'd enjoy printing tidbits about what our members are doing in retirement, send a note to any Board member. Respectively, Lowell A. Benson

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Sports and Recreation

The ULGL (Unified Legacy Golf League) made up of the former Unisys and Lockheed leagues will have their annual banquet on October 21 at Mancini's in St. Paul. We currently have 264 members and would expect about half of them to attend. We have leagues at Bunker Hills in Coon Rapids, Phalen in St. Paul, Emerald Greens between Rosemount and Hastings, and Southern Hills between Rosemount and Farmington. Anyone wanting to join us next year contact Keith Behnke, keithbhnk@comcast.net.

PERIODIC GROUPS

NOTE CHANGE OF LOCATION

One breakfast group meets monthly at 8:00 a.m. on the 1st Thursday of each month at Capitol View Cafe, 637 Smith Ave. St. Paul. (Corner of Smith and Baker).

Another breakfast group meets monthly at 9:00 a.m. on the <u>2nd Wednesday</u> of each month in Gina's Café at the Eagles Club, Old Hwy 8, in New Brighton. Phone of coordinator is 763-416-3903.

One Luncheon group [engineering/drafting] meets monthly on the <u>1st Tuesday</u> at 11:00 a.m. at the Old Country Buffet (OCB) at 2000 S. Robert, in West St. Paul. The consensus opinion of the group is to continue meeting here in that OCB has agreed to reserve a special seating arrangement for us.

A Second Luncheon group [Unisys and Burroughs] meets monthly on the <u>2nd Tuesday</u> 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. Coordinator phone is *952-854-7855*.

A Third 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. Coordinator phone is 651-552-1465.

NEW MEMBERS

No new members.

IN REMEMBRANCE



Halvorson, Harland P. – Age 89 of Edina, MN. Passed peacefully August 8th, 2014 after an extended illness. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Marilyn. Harland was employed

by Unisys as an accountant for 35 years until his retirement.



Kuklock, Emmett Norbert - Of Apple Valley, MN. Passed away on September 1st, 2014. Beloved husband of Patricia. Emmett was a former employee of Lockheed Martin

Nordby, Ronald - Age 79, of Burnsville, MN. Passed away on August 25th, 2014. Ronald was preceded in death by his wife, Della "Dee" Nordby. Ronald was a Unisys retiree and longtime member of the VIP Club.



Rougier, Thomas - Age 73, of Lakeville, MN. Passed away on September 2nd, 2014. Tom is survived by his loving wife of 43 years, Sandy. Tom was a Lockheed retiree and longtime member of the VIP Club.

Scott, Charles Paul - Age 79, of Bloomington, MN. Passed away Monday, August 4th, 2014. Charlie is survived by his wife, Janet. Charlie was a former Remington Rand Univac employee.

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CONTACT DATA

Newsletter Editorial Staff: Mail 'Letters to the Editor' to: VIP Club. 1486 Fairmount Ave. St Paul. MN 55105 or e-mail to: Joe Schwarz - Chief Editor, jschwarzsr@centurylink.net

Bernie Jansen - Editor, bjskj@msn.com Richard Lundgren – Editor, rflundgr@aol.com Don Naaktgeboren – Editor, donfishn@yahoo.com

2014 VIP Club Board:

Lowell Benson	President	651-483-3709
Bob Pagac	Vice President	952-431-3981
Bob 'RC' Hanson	Past President	651-633-4259
Frank King	Secretary	651-774-0997
Harvey Taipale	Treasurer	651-748-5083
Keith Behnke	Director	651-894-2182
Dale Phelps	Director	952-831-7843
Joe Schwarz	Director	651-698-9698
John Westergren	Director	952-431-5868

2014 Activity Coordinators:

CBI Liaison; Dick Lundgren, rflundgr@aol.com Christmas Dinner; Marion Scott, 651-455-7952 and Bill Galle, wagalle@mac.com

IT Legacy Committee; John Westergren, jwestergren@frontiernet.net

Mature Voices Minnesota, Brian Berggren,

bbek@usfamily.net

Membership & Recreation Leagues: Keith Behnke, keithbhnk@comcast.net

Picnic Coordination; John Westergren, Frank King, Jim Larson, and Keith Behnke.

Programs; Dale Phelps;

rsanf416@gmail.com

Roseville Good Old Days; Tom Turba,

tnturba@comcast.net

Sunshine Cards; Lynn Lindholm,

Lynnlindholm@comcast.net

Volunteer Breakfast; Bernie Jansen, bisik@msn.com and Frank King, kingx063@umn.edu

Webmaster: Lowell Benson, labenson@g.com

Retirement Status and Benefits: These are numbers to call if you or your heirs have death benefit or pension questions - you'll need SSN and a PIN.

Unisys 1-877-864-7972 Lockheed Martin 1-866-562-2363

VIP CLUB Corporate Liaisons:

LMCO, Eagan - Scott Schmidt	651-846-2426
Unisys print shop – Judy Bornetun,	651-635-6792
Unisys, Roseville – Sue Carrigan,	651-635-7712
Unisys, Eagan – Kim Loskota,	651-687-2232

REPORTS, LEGACY ACTIVITIES

Web Site 'Article for the Month': For September we've posted a 'bottoms up' chronology of semiconductors used by the defense groups of ERA/UNIVAC/Sperry/UNISYS/LMCO, much of it experienced by Larry Bolton. This tubes-to-customchips progress report provides a nice complement to Semi-conductor exhaustive Facility Procurement history written by Mike Svendson. Larry's 41 years with the company were mostly in the Component Engineering departments. His paper has some excellent artifact photos too.

For October we've posted a report from 2006, Charles Babbage Institute, Our First Visit written by Richard Lundgren. Bernie Jansen, John Skonnord, and Lowell Benson were with Dick at the early Legacy Committee meeting with CBI Director Dr. Arthur Norberg and Archivist Carrie Seib. The attendees became enthralled by the very idea of putting our papers at a world class facility for use by future computer history researchers. For November we need the something for the 99th article since we started in 2007, can you help? By LABenson

Sept 10th Program Recap: Forty-eight people came to the Air Traffic Control (ATC) presentation by Steve Koltes at the LMCO facility in Eagan. Thanks to Steve for the presentation and to his director, Scott Schmidt for the facility access. A highlight of the evening was a look at the live radar feeds on displays in their laboratory, needed by Eagan as they continue software support for the FAA.



Steve also gave the club a token shown here. The side of the token shown here recognizes the first Automated Radar Terminal System (ARTS) that went into operation in Atlanta GA in 1964 The token's obverse side shows 'Common ARTS',

celebrating 50 years of advancing terminal automation in 2014. We'll give it to the Lawshe Museum to become a part of the ATC exhibit by an IOP computer. LMCO had presented a plaque to the FAA signifying 50 years of ARTS. By LABenson

If your address label reads 2014, your subscription will expire in December. I Please renew using form on page 5.

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LIGHTER SIDE

A Northport Engineering 'Better Motto' card: If God had wanted us to use metric, we would have been born with meters instead of feet.



When did our old University

Avenue 'haunt' become a snowbird?

PUNOGRAPHY:

Why did the bicycle fall over? It was two-tired! If you hear a good fish story, let minnow. If a chemist dies, do they barium?

Will I Live to see 80? Here's something to think about. I recently picked a new primary care doctor. After two visits and exhaustive Lab tests, he said I was doing 'fairly well' for my age. (I just turned sixty-five). A little concerned about that comment, I couldn't resist asking him, 'Do you think I'll live to be 80? 'He asked, 'Do you smoke tobacco, or drink beer, wine or hard liquor? 'Oh no,' I replied. 'I'm not doing drugs, either!' Then he asked, 'Do you eat rib-eye steaks and barbecued Ribs? 'I said, 'Not much... my former doctor said that all red meat is very unhealthy!' 'Do you spend a lot of time in the sun, like playing golf, boating,

sailing, hiking, or bicycling?' 'No, I don't,' I said. He asked, 'Do you gamble, drive fast cars, or have a lots of sex?' 'No,' I said. He looked at me and said. 'Then, why do you even give a darn?

<u>Law of Mechanical Repair</u> - After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch.

<u>Law of Gravity</u> - Any tool, nut, bolt, screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner.

<u>Law of Probability</u>- The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

<u>Law of Random Numbers</u> - If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal and someone always answers.

<u>Supermarket Law</u> - As soon as you get in the smallest line, the cashier will have to call for help.

<u>Variation Law</u> -If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now.

<u>Law of the Bath</u> - When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.

<u>Law of Close Encounters</u> - The probability of meeting someone you know increases dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

	re: \$7.00, 1 year or <u>></u> 55), or Associate (<			, Renewal
Name	First	<i>M.I.</i>	Spouse's Name	_
Street Address or P.O. Box	City		State State	Zip Code
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Primary Telephone Number	E-mail address			
Newsletter delivery preference is	s: Electronic (DSL or fas	ster recommended	d) or U.S. Mai	!
Employer is/was: UNISYS, I	Lockheed Martin, an	nd/or predecessor	company	
Include my data in the Club's Di	irectory? Yes No I	DIRECTORY is o	nly available to Mei	mbers and Asso

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MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK TO: VIP Club P.O. Box 131748 Roseville, MN 55113-0020



P.O. BOX 131748 ROSEVILLE MN 55113-0020

DIRECTIONS TO ACTIVITY SITES

Car-pool if possible to all events or contact a board member for possible 'ride-with' suggestions.

Directions to the Lawshe Museum in South St. Paul: Set your GPS unit to South Saint Paul, 130 Third Avenue. From the Roseville area, take Hwy 36 to I-35E south toward downtown St. Paul. Get into the left lane then take the I-94/Hwy 52 left exit to merge onto Hwy 52 going south. 3.4 miles later, take the Butler Ave exit and turn left. Go 0.7 mi and turn right onto MN156 S. After 1.8 mi, turn right onto Grand Ave. W – Drive up the hill a block and turn left; the parking lot is then 400 ft. on the left. From the Eagan area, take I494 toward the Mississippi river then take exit #65 onto 7th Ave. Turn left and drive a mile to South view Blvd, turn right at the light. After 0.3 mi, turn left onto 3rd Ave – the museum parking lot is then 0.2 mi on the right.

Directions to Unisys MACS building in Eagan: Set your GPS unit to Eagan MN, 3199 Pilot Knob Road. From Hwy 35E take the Pilot Knob Road exit ramp. Then go north on Pilot Knob Road about ½ mile to Tower View Road. We use the Unisys north parking lot and the visitor entrance thereby.

Directions to UNISYS in Roseville: Set your GPS unit to Roseville MN, 2470 Highcrest Road. From Hwy 35W north; exit onto W County Rd C to go west a mile, then turn left onto Walnut St. Then turn right onto Terminal Road for half a block, turn right at Highcrest Rd. to building entrance. From 35W south, exit on Industrial Way / St. Anthony Blvd off ramp, turn left, drive under the freeway, then turn right onto Walnut St. Follow it 0.8 mi north then turn left on Terminal Road. Go ½ block and enter the UNISYS parking lot on the right. From Hwy 36 east, drive west until 36 joins Hwy 35W just past Hwy 280, then exit at the Industrial Way / St. Anthony Blvd. off ramp of 35W. Go north on St. Anthony Blvd. to Walnut St. [the first street on the right]. Turn right onto Walnut Street. From Hwy 280 northbound, use left lane exit just past County Rd B for Terminal road access [St Croix St.] Turn left at Terminal Rd, then 1.5 mi to Highcrest Rd.

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