

FYI: Club memberships expire on December 31st. For US Mail deliveries, your expiration year is printed after your name on the address label. For electronic deliveries, the expiration year appears in the email subject line.

AUGUST PROGRAM

An **August 8th** bus trip is planned to visit the Fagen Fighters WWII museum in Granite Falls. Boarding will start at 8:30AM in the parking lot on the north side of UNISYS, located at 3199 Pilot Knob Rd, Eagan, MN. Departure will be at 8:45. Back at Unisys at about 6:30 PM. Space is limited to 56 passengers. If you need a wheelchair bring it, there is room in the luggage bay.

The registration form is on page 6 or online at <http://vipclubmn.org/FagenRegistrations.html>. **The deadline for signing up is July 20.**

The cost not including the meal is: \$20 for VIP Members, \$15 for significant other, \$15 per child, \$15 per grandchild, and \$25 for non-members. Admission to the museum is free for this guided walking tour.

The bus will stop for lunch at Dallas II located at 142 US-212, Granite Falls, MN. Trip Advisor has rated this as a 4.5-star restaurant. They will provide a two meat (chicken & meat balls) buffet for \$11.95 per person plus tax. The meal includes a choice of two salads, potatoes, vegetable and beverage.

This is a fascinating museum with great airplane exhibits, holocaust section, and other WWII history.



A museum preview is available online at <http://www.fagenfighterswwiimuseum.org/>. One of the highlights of this museum is a full-size replica of a CG-4 glider that was reconstructed by Villaume, Inc of Eagan, MN around 2010. The original WWII gliders were manufactured by Northwest Aeronautical Corporation (NAC) at 1902 Minnehaha Ave. St. Paul,

MN where 1,510 CG gliders were built. This later became the site where ERA started.

REMEMBER your camera! Trip coordinators are Ghislain Devlaminck and Boni Westberg.

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

September 13th - 6:30 PM; wine, cheese & crackers, Legacy Exhibits, and a brief presentation at the Lawshe Memorial Museum in S. St. Paul.



At 7:00 PM; U of MN researcher Elizabeth Semler will make a 'status' presentation about the Twin Cities Public Television (TPT) legacy grant to develop a documentary about Minnesota's Computer History. This grant occurred from the leadership of Dale Weeks (former CDC employee & current DCHS trustee) and Rich Daly (former ERA employee).

TPT has interviewed 20+ individuals with local computer industry experiences, over half from the VIP Club. Liz will introduce the grant's emerging web site and show a few video clips from the interviews. Thanks to Keith Myhre who has helped them develop the story line from a UNIVAC/Sperry perspective.

We suggest car-pooling with friends as parking at 130 3rd Ave N, South St Paul is limited. Please, before September 7th, contact a coordinator with your participation plans – include names of those coming with you so that we can pre-print name tags and buy sufficient Velveeta and Ritz crackers ☺. Coordinators are Jim Andrews (James.R.Andrews@comcast.net 651-451-7502) and Gish Devlaminck (651-470-8905 membership@vipclubmn.org.)



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

A number of our retirees (and those from other companies) have now had the experience of going to the TPT studio, sitting in front of a producer, cameraman, sound technician, and being interviewed about their experiences in the computer industry.



The impetus behind this is a project to capture enough information to secure the funding to generate a full-fledged documentary about the computer industry in Minnesota.

My big take away from this process is that we are just too modest about tooting our historical horn. While something known as SEAC is recognized as the first operating US stored program computer, it was a Government laboratory program, first operated in April 1950. ERA delivered and installed a substantially faster, larger, more complex system by December of 1950. That machine was a Navy workhorse, helping to crack cold war codes for years. Many more impressive Minnesota originated computer technology milestones occurred in the ensuing years, but that history has been largely ignored.

Perhaps a TPT documentary will make a bit of a change, and there is something that we all can do to help that process. It's called a career summary. In January 2006, Dr. A. Norberg, then Director of the Charles Babbage Institute, indicated that if more than 200 people would provide a summary of their individual careers, historians would have as strong foundation upon which to build an accurate history of the innovative computer industry in Minnesota. The products to date are on our web site, and we don't have the 200 yet. What we do have has been applauded by the TPT researchers as a wonderful resource in their efforts. So far, we have 174 Career Summary/Life Story submittals, see who has contributed at <http://vipclubmn.org/People.html>.

So, this will be one last plea to everyone (myself included) - now is a great time to sit down and write that career summary you have been putting off. Then, when the TPT documentary is finally produced, you can feel proud that you contributed to overcoming just a bit of that ingrained Minnesota modesty.

Harvey Taipale VIP Club President.

NEW MEMBERS, Apr/May '18

Bates, Michael L.	Eagan, MN.
Greene, Bruce E	Valencia, CA.
Demeranville, Mark	Farmington, MN
Larson, Leroy A	Fridley, MN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations Sue: Sue Carrigan retired from UNISYS on June 29th. She has been the Club's liaison with UNISYS management and facilities for 2 decades. As a steadfast supporter of the Club and a really nice person, we hope to see her at many of the future Club events. Sue, thanks for your dedication! The *VIP Board*.

Next Newsletter Inputs: For the September/October newsletter, before August 4th send articles, obits, and your lighter side items to Joe Schwarz jschwarzsr@centurylink.net or to the Club's US mail address at the bottom of pages 2 thru 7.

Planning Calendar: October tbd - 11 AM, Lunch & fall color cruise on the St. Croix? November 14 - 11:00 AM, Annual Unihogs/Uniturkeys lunch and 2019 Club Board elections at Casper's in Eagan. December 6 - 11 AM, Annual Old Timers' Reunion at the Lost Spur in Eagan. January 6, 2019 Holiday Party and Concert by the Eagan Men's chorus at the Lost Spur. April 10 - 11 AM, Volunteer Recognition Luncheon at Joseph's in St. Paul. May 3 - 10 AM, Roseville Good Old Days at the Mermaid in Moundsview. May 17 - 11 AM, Syttende Mai at Casper's in Eagan.

VIP Club 2019 planning: If you have an extra 8-hours per month for volunteering and are interested in continuing the fun of our programs, contact Past President Keith Behnke to help plan an event or to join the Board and influence all the events. Keith is at (651-894-2182), keithbhk@comcast.net.

CONTACT DATA

2018 VIP Club Activity Coordination

CBI Liaison; Dick Lundgren, rflundgr@aol.com
Lawshe Museum Support;

- Exhibits; Keith Myhre kmyhre@lightblast.net
- Photo ID work; Tricia Myhre pbm5454@hotmail.com and Jon Simon jcsimon1st@frontiernet.net

Legacy Committee co-chairs; John Westergren, jwestergren@frontiernet.net and labenson@q.com

Membership database; Gish Devlaminck membership@vipclubmn.org

Old Timers' Annual Reunion; labenson@q.com

Picnic planning & volunteer staffing; John Westergren, jwestergren@frontiernet.net

Recreation Leagues; Keith Behnke, keithbhk@comcast.net

Roseville Good Old Days; Paul Dickson paul.dickson@comcast.net

Sunshine Cards; Lynn Lindholm

lynnlindholm@comcast.net

Unihogs/Uniturkeys; Lowell Benson and tbd.

Volunteer Luncheon; Frank King, kingx063@umn.edu

Webmaster; L. A. Benson, webmaster@vipclubmn.org

IN REMEMBRANCE

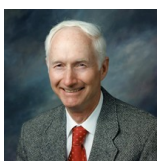


Evans, Robert Lee - Age 74 passed away January 11th, 2018 after a long battle with lung cancer. Survived by beloved wife Mary, together for 33 years. Retired from the Science Museum of MN where he had worked as the manager of the Omni theater for 23 years. Bob Evans also worked at Sperry Univac on the C3 computer memory. Burial was held at Fort Snelling in the spring.

Fisher, Faye - Passed away May 6th, 2018. Faye was a Unisys Retiree and a long-time member of the VIP Club.

Holt, John Wilson. - Age 71 of Inver Grove Heights, MN. Passed away on April 23rd, 2018. John was a former Unisys employee, a Navy veteran, avid Minnesota sports fan, and member of VFW Post 295 and AL Post 242.

Larson, James - Age 86, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on April 22nd, 2018. Preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Marjorie. Jim was a Unisys retiree and one of the few employees who worked at both the Eagan and Roseville locations. He also served on the VIP Club Board of Directors for about 20 years. Of all the board members, Jim was the most intrepid. He would annually arise well before dawn and in subzero weather to be at the St. Paul City Park Permit office when it opened on the first working day in January. Jim never failed to get the permit we would need for our desired date in June for our annual retiree picnic. This secured the covered park pavilion for our use which included food preparation facilities, plenty of picnic tables, plenty of shade, easily accessible restrooms, nearby parking, and shelter if the rains came. We salute you, Jim.



Marks, George E. - Age 84 of St. Anthony Village. Died peacefully at home May 7th, 2018. Beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, and uncle. Survived by loving wife of 57 years, Florence. George was a manager and

consultant in the computer science industry and worked at Sperry Corporation, Metro State University and Born Inc.

Humenansky, Joseph J. Jr. - Age 87 of Burnsville, MN. Passed away peacefully on April 21st, 2018. Preceded in death by wife, Lillian. Joseph was a longtime employee of Unisys Defense Systems.



Sater, John C. "Jack" - Age 87 of Eagan, MN. Passed away peacefully on May 31st, 2018. Preceded in death by his loving wife of 54 years, Louise. He began his career in 1959 at Remington Rand Univac, and later directed the deployment of automated air traffic control systems. He retired from Unisys as director of air traffic control systems engineering. Jack was a VIP Club member and an avid supporter of the Legacy initiative.

Warkentien, Lucille "Lucy" Mae of Eagan, MN. Passed away April 15th, 2018. Preceded in death by her beloved husband Donald Warkentien, together they enjoyed 56 years of marriage. Lucy was dearly loved by all and will be greatly missed. Lucy worked for 17 years as an executive assistant in the finance functions at Univac.



SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Roseville Good Old Days: May 4th was a great day for about 340 former UNISYS, Roseville employees. Thanks to Paul Dickson who took over coordination of this event from Tom Turba. Also, thanks to a dozen volunteers who took turns staffing the check-in table.



Paul D., Diane S., Vic K., and Marv B. had the 1st 1/2-hour shift at the check-in table.

We are appreciative of the UNISYS print shop that provided 300⁺ name tags for us. Dave Wilhelm posted his excellent snapshot album, [2018 edition of Roseville Good Old Days](#). Some of Dave's prior year albums are linked at <http://vipclubmn.org/Social.html#RGOD>.

Many people enjoyed the Legacy storyboards on loan for the day from the Lawshe Memorial Museum. The most popular activity (photo next page) at this event was just standing and chatting with former co-workers.



The second most popular activity was a cool one!



Our room rental contract with the Mermaid guarantees a minimum bar ‘sales’ of \$250. They took in over \$600. And, the donation jar at the check-in table covered the room rental by +17%! We are contracted for May 3, 2019 – hope to see you there. Paul Dickson distributed the attendees list to attendees.

A nice gathering surprise was that retired UNISYS fellow Ron Q. Smith (right) flew in from Maryland, shown here with Pat Corbett.



Display setup, article, and snapshots by *LABenson*

RECAP - Syttende Mai Luncheon on May 18th.

Man, what an event, fun and interesting and fueled by a sumptuous buffet (including Norwegian meatballs) at Casper’s Cherokee of Eagan! We had the REAL presence of three Norwegian or Norwegian American notables and the VIRTUAL presence of the Lockheed Martin CEO. **Eivind Heiberg**, the Norwegian Honorary Consul General for Minnesota, brought the greetings and congratulations of the day from the Royal Palace in Oslo to the Norwegian Honorary Consulate in Minneapolis, and he also read the reply from the Consulate back to the Royal Palace. Mr. Heiberg is also the CEO of Sons of Norway and Sons of Norway Foundation. **Jon Pederson**, Chair of the

Board of Directors and eternal promoter of Norway House, then led the singing of the Norwegian table grace to officially start the lunch and he would also lead the singing of *Ja Vi Elsker* at the close of the program. The LM CEO, by email, wished us a wonderful event and an “engaging discussion” with our guest speaker Representative **Hårek Elvenes** of the Norwegian Parliament. The engaging discussion followed MP Elvenes’ address with a great exchange between Keith Myhre and the MP regarding the history of our P3-C business projects in Norway.

In his talk, Mr. Elvenes mentioned how deeply important Syttende Mai was for his family in Norway, especially the story of how unimaginably happy his grandmother was on that special day in the early years following the end of WWII. Then he discussed the importance of the F-35 aircraft of which Norway has ordered 52 from Lockheed Martin. He mentioned that he was on hand for the Nov.10, 2017 arrival of the first three F-35s, and of course so were many other high-ranking government people, guests, and the like. Most importantly, King Harald V personally greeted the Norwegian pilots of the first three F-35s as they climbed out of their aircraft. Norwegian Ambassador to the U.S., Kåre R. Aas, contributed an article to the Huffington Post about the arrival of the first “F-35A Stealth Fighters” in Norway. The article is available online at https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/the-first-f-35a-stealth-fighters-arrived-in-norway-us_5a0b6c6be4b006523921849e.

Near the end of his address, Mr. Elvenes offered his family’s personal story of immigration to America. His grandfather and grandfather’s brother came to the U.S. in 1906 and worked in Minneapolis until their return to Norway in 1911 where they applied their U.S.-learned skills in mechanical engineering. Mr. Elvenes also left a request for expanding the story of his ancestors’ U.S. stay which will be tackled by some expert researchers here. Mr. Elvenes is a member of the Conservative Party (*Høyre Partiet*) and also a member of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs & Defense.

Not to be overlooked was the honoring of Richard (Ole) Olson as the primary founder and continuing influence for this Syttende Mai lunch tradition. Ole passed away October 30th of 2017. Ole’s son, David Olson, was our guest and thanked us for honoring his dad. Also present from Ole’s family was Ole’s sister Julie Skogen.

Two LM engineers in the audience, Steve Lien and Steve Murphy, received an impromptu invitation to come upfront to meet Mr. Elvenes and talk of their efforts relative to the F-35 contract with Norway. Both engineers belong to the last remaining group of LM in

Minnesota. The F-35's integrated processors were developed in the LMCO Eagan facilities.



Pictured Left to Right: **Dick Lundgren** (LM Retiree & event planner), **Steve Murphy** (LM Engineer), **Hårek Elvenes** (MP), **Steve Lien** (LM Engineer) and **Dale Torgerson** (LM Retiree & event coordinator).

Our headcount this year was 51, and we hope to exceed it next year when our event will be exactly on Friday, May 17th and again at Casper's of Eagan. Submitted by R. Lundgren.

VIP Club Picnic Summary: June 13th was a success at the Highland Park Pavilion. Over 100 people attended the VIP Picnic at the Highland Park Pavilion. You couldn't ask for nicer June day in Minnesota. The weather was perfect and everyone who attended had great food, fellowship, and fun. It was great to see all the VIP member and their guests get together for this annual event sharing good times. A special thanks to John Westergren and Frank King for coordinating the event, Keith Behnke at the welcoming table and the many folks that helped with setting up and cleaning of the pavilion, helping in the kitchen, mastering the grill, and assuring the food was hot and the drinks were cold. Your help is what makes this event possible. Thanks to Nick Benson who provided a collage of this year's picnic (see page 7). Submitted by Steve Koltas.

Retirement Status and Benefits:

Numbers to call if you or your heirs have death benefit or pension questions – you will need SSN and a PIN.

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

LEGACY ACTIVITIES

Our Stories, 2018: The July article is a scanned copy of a [1974 Sperry open house flyer](#). Thanks to Mike Lins for sending the flyer to us. Mike is the son of Ray Lins, who was working in Plant 1 manufacturing management at the time of the 1974 open house.

There are about 250 people listed therein who were part of the planning or hosting groups. I recognize the following names as being current VIP Club members: Bob Alexander, Bob Luken, Bruce Klugherz, Clint Haggerty, Dale Maus, Clyde Allen, Diane Plait, Don Mager, Don Vizanko, Frank King, Hank Dotzler, John Vold, Lyle Franklin, Manny Block, and Marlene Summers (now married to John Johnson) Mike Svendsen, Millie Gignac, and Tom Morris. Also, there were a 96 people listed who were recognized at a breakfast for 25 years of service to the company – including the Club's venerable Don Weidenbach.

This is a great read through memory lane for those of us who had worked in and the walked the aisles of the Eagan and Shepherd Road facilities.

The June article is a listing of [recent papers and documents](#) donated to the Charles Babbage Institute, collected from several retirees & estates.

The May article is [Project 6977 Arbitration](#) which resulted in a \$16M judgement against Sperry. An Introduction plus the judgement page.

The April article is [Burroughs](#); The Computer History Archives Project presents films and pictures about computer systems of the 60s - thanks to Mark Greenia.

The March article is **FASTRAND**: The Computer History Archives Project pays tribute to this [mass storage drum](#) - thanks to Mark Greenia.

The February article is [Apollo 11 Success](#); a 1969 letter from Forest Crowe, VP & GM of Univac Federal Systems Division - thanks to Andy Simon.

The January article is: [NEXRAD successes](#) had radar processors from St. Paul facilities. Thanks to Les Nelson. Editing and posting by *LABenson*

LIGHTER SIDE

Pondering Morphisms after an Afternoon Nap.

- A fool and his money can throw one heck of a party.
- ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IS NO MATCH FOR NATURAL STUPIDITY.
- I think Politicians should wear uniforms, you know, like NASCAR drivers, so we could identify their corporate sponsors.
- If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not recommended.
- It's not whether you win or lose, but how you place the blame.
- Money isn't everything, but it sure keeps the kids in touch.
- Ninety-nine percent of all Norwegians give the rest a bad name.

- Red meat is not bad for you... It's the fuzzy green meat that you need to look out for.
- The latest survey shows that three out of four people make up 75% of the population.
- The reason politicians try so hard to get re-elected is that they would hate to have to make a living under the laws they've passed.

VIP CLUB Membership Report - 2018

As of the June 1st mail, we have 768-active member units as illustrated by the chart below. A member unit is either a single individual or a couple; we count spouses as members thus we have 1,318 members. Yes, some have paid their membership out to 2022, 23, 24, and 25.

We have 36 memberships designated as Life; these people are members that are 90 or older plus a few who were named as Member Emeritus for their many years

of Board service, i.e. Bernie Jansen, Millie Gignac, and Dale Phelps. Our friend 'Frnd' category has two groups: 1) electronic delivery to several people in PA who were the final board members of the Unisys Blue Bell Retirees Group and 2) regular newsletters to local organization heads of CBI, RCHS, Lawshe Museum, and our UNSYS liaison.

82.4% of our membership is in Minnesota, 2.7% in WI, 2.7% in FL, 2.5% in PA, 2.1% in AZ, and the rest in 22 states and Canada.

Our database has 'last address' information about ~400 inactive memberships of people who have dropped out of the club or are deceased since 2010. So, if you are curious about where a person is contact a board member.

Active Membership Units

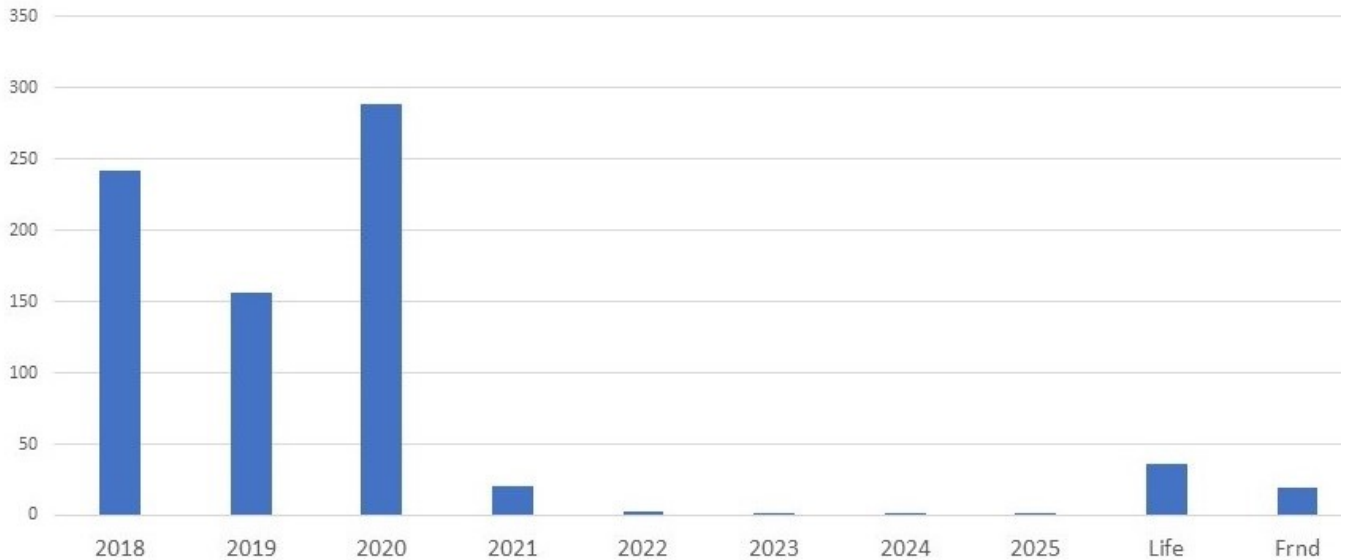


Chart numbers from our database kept by Director *Gish Devlaminck*, article by Director *Lowell Benson*.

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REGISTRATION FORM - EXCURSION TO GRANITE FALLS – August 8th

VIP Club members

I plan to attend (name): _____ \$20.00 per member
 Spouse/Significant other will attend: _____ \$15.00
 Grandchild(ren) will attend with member: _____ \$15.00 each.
 My email address is: _____ @ _____ . _____ Phone No. _____

Non-member friend of member

I plan to attend (name): _____ \$25.00 per non-member
 Please mail w/check before **July 20th** to: **VIP CLUB** Excursion P.O. Box 131748 - Roseville, MN 55113-0020

VIP CLUB Newsletter

Official publication of the *VIP CLUB*
P.O. Box 131748, Roseville, MN 55113-0020

Board of Directors - 2018

Harvey Taipale, President	651-280-7332
Steve Koltes, Vice President	651-303-9112
Paul Hove, Treasurer	651-738-4908
Boni Westberg, Secretary	651-429-2534
Joe Schwarz, Director	651-698-9698
Gish Devlaminck, Director	651-470-8905
Lowell Benson, Director	651-483-3709
Jim Andrews, Director	651-451-7502
Keith Behnke, Past President	651-894-2182

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Dick Lundgren rflundgr@aol.com
Don Naaktgeboren donfishn@yahoo.com

UNISYS Liaison

Sue Carrigan; meeting rooms, etc., 651-635-7712
Judy Borneton; Eagan print shop 651-635-6792
<http://www.vipclubmn.org>

PERIODIC SOCIAL GROUPS**Monthly Breakfast Gatherings**

- 1st Thursday at 8 AM at the Capitol View Cafe, 637 Smith Ave. St. Paul.

Monthly Lunch Gatherings

- 1st Tuesday in Eagan at 11:00 AM - Rickey's Café at Stark's, 3125 Dodd Road, Eagan, MN
- 2nd Tuesday at 11:30 AM - Mall of America 3rd floor North Food Court, we meet by the tables 'tween the elevator & Burger King. Coordinator is Paul Wennerstrom, 952-854-7855.
- 2nd Wednesday at 11 AM at Baker's Square, Northtown, 221 Co. Rd. 10 NE, Blaine MN.
- 2nd Saturday of odd numbered months at 11:30 AM at the Baker's Square on 3088 White Bear Avenue in Maplewood. Coordinator is Urho Rahkola, 651-429-3319.

Quarterly Breakfast Gathering

- 2nd Wednesday at 9 AM in the Eagles Club, Old Hwy 8, in New Brighton. Sept., Dec., Mar., & June. Coordinator Marv Brown, 763-416-3903