

NEWSBITS

UNISYS



Published Quarterly by the Unisys Retirees Group – Blue Bell, PA
Where old “bits” retire

Calendar of Events
Buffet (FREE) Lunch for All Unisys Blue Bell Retirees Group Members
 October 26th, 2016 at 12:00 noon
 Empress Room at St Helena's Church, 1489 Dekalb Pike, Blue Bell, Pa
 (see details on page 2)

President's Message

Recently a friend of mine complained



about the heat and humidity of the summer. My thoughts went out to those being threatened

by fire in California and Oregon, by flood in Baton Rouge, by mosquitoes in Florida, and earthquake in Italy. Natural disasters are bad enough but man-made ones are even worse. We are complacent and take for granted the good life that most of us are fortunate to enjoy. As seniors we sooner or later get caught up with the ravages of time. Thanks to the medical world, we are able to overcome many of these obstacles. Now and then give pause to count your blessings.

On October 26th 2016, the UBBRG is hosting a free lunch for all members and a guest. The lunch details are included in this issue of NEWSBITS. If you plan to attend please notify:

Bill Ridge:

WLRIDGE@verizon.NET

Phone 215-256-9629

My thanks to those for your thoughts of appreciation.

Joe LaViola President

A Message to All Members

As you probably all know, by the end of the year the Unisys Blue Bell Retirees Group will no longer exist as a viable group and as a result, December's NEWSBITS will be the last issue.

For this last issue, please share with us any information, about your work experiences, articles, pictures, and anything printable from the past or from life's experiences that would be worth printing.

Submit this information for NEWSBITS to:

Jack Staub
 5 Bowes Lane, Reading, Pa. 19606

How to Apply for Veterans Pension

To apply for Veterans Pension, download and complete

VA Form 21-527EZ,
 “Application for Pension”.

You can mail your application to your local regional benefit office. You can locate your local regional benefit office using the VA Facility Locator. You may also visit your local regional benefit office and turn in your application for processing.

IMPORTANT UNISYS RETIREES CONTACT NUMBERS

401K Investments:

FIDELITY Phone # 1-800-600-4015

Internet: 401k.fidelity.com

Pension and H.R Concerns:

HEWITT Phone # 1-877-864-7972

Internet: resources.hewitt.com/Unisys

September 2016, Volume 37,
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BUFFET (FREE) LUNCH

Buffet (FREE) Lunch for All Unisys Blue Bell Retirees Group Members

A free buffet lunch will be held on October 26th, 2016 at 12:00 noon. It will be at the Empress Room (located on the grounds of) St Helena's Church 1489 Dekalb Pike, Blue Bell, Pa.

Menu includes:

Cheese, crackers, and brusheta (first 1/2 hour)

Entrees-

- Hand Carved Roast Beef
- Grilled Salmon
- Chicken Cordon Bleu

The entrees are served with a Caesar Salad, rolls, butter, mixed vegetables, and potatoes.

Dessert will be Cheese Cake w/ Fruit Topping.

Coffee, tea, iced tea, canned soda, water, and ice are provided.

Those wishing to **bring alcohol** may do so.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you are going and if you are bringing a guest. Call, email, or send the information to:

BILL RIDGE

391 WINDSOR DRIVE

HARLEYSVILLE, PA 19438

215-256-9629

Wlridge@verizon.net

P.S.

We encourage all members to attend if possible. Hopefully it should be an enjoyable time reminiscing about past work experiences. Pictures will be taken for the final NEWSBITS. See you at the lunch.

Obituaries

VIVIAN L. DOWNING

Vivian L. Downing of Hatboro went home to be with her Lord on June 24th, 2016. She was 91. Throughout her final weeks, she was surrounded by the love, prayers and support of family and friends. She was born in Burholme, PA in 1924. Vivian was the daughter of the late Harry E. Harper and Marie C. Harper and was the treasured wife of the late Stratton B. Downing whom she married on February 14th, 1948 sharing 47 years of marriage.

They moved to Hatboro in 1954. After retiring from a successful career at **Unisys** in Bluebell, she took great delight in working part-time at the pre-school at the Hatboro Community Church. She was an active member of the church teaching Sunday School and served as secretary, vice president and president of the Extended Hand Mis-

sionary Fellowship and the Retired Fellowship group along with being involved in various other committees and church outreaches over many years.

In 2007, she moved to Wesley Enhanced Living in Hatboro. She shared her love of God and her faith through devotions with many in personal care there. Her family is very grateful for the outpouring of love and support of family members and friends throughout this time.

She is survived by her daughter, Carol L. Downing (Gutekunst) and was the devoted grandmother ("Nan," "Grams") of Jason M. Gutekunst and Derek S. Gutekunst and his wife, Sarah E. Ozwirk. She was preceded in death by her beloved sister, Marie Rosewarne.

Vivian was a member of the Unisys Retiree's Group.

STEPHEN A. IDZIK JR.

Stephen A. Idzik Jr., age 79, of Plymouth Meeting died Tuesday, August 16, 2016 at The Abington Hospice of Warminster. Stephen was born October 12, 1936 in Phila., PA. He is the son of the late Stephen and the late Wanda (Henzel) Idzik Sr.. He was the beloved husband of J. Patricia (Repsik) Idzik.



He was a retired Engineer for **Unisys corp.**, working in Blue Bell and Tredyffrin, PA. Mr. Idzik was raised in the Roxborough-Manayunk area and was a graduate of Saint John the Baptist High School and Saint Joseph's College, (now University). He was also a former member of the Saint Mary of the Assumption Church and was very active in running their CYO program and was also a basketball coach. He was also active in the Ivy Ridge Panthers A.C. in Roxborough. Upon moving to Plymouth Meeting he became a member of Epiphany of our Lord Church and was very active and faithful to their Right To Life Program along with being a Eucharistic Minister. Steve always had a project in the works. He also loved helping others and generously gave of his time and talents. He will be sorely missed by his devoted family and his community and many friends. He is survived by his wife: J. Patricia (Repsik) Idzik, one son: Stephen A. Idzik III; three daughters: Donna Eissler Matheney (Dale), Susan Buchheim, Debbie Ignas (Mark) and his Brother Edward Idzik (Barbara); and his 7 grandchildren- Jaimie , Kelsey , Alaina , Austin , Corin , Jessica and Dylan.

Steve was a member of the Unisys Retiree's Group

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Obituaries (continued from page 2)

JERROLD P. BARROSSE

Jerrold P. Barrosse, age 85, passed away on August 13, 2016. He was the beloved husband of Dolores (nee Giacomelli), loving father of Cynthia (Gregory) Rowe and Laura (Donald) Sirianni. Jerry was the devoted grandfather of Lisa (Jamie) Johnstonbaugh, Sandra (Luke) Lomberk, Andrew (Michelle) Sirianni and Christina Sirianni (Jim Sharkey), and loving great-grandfather of Connor, Garrett, Macen, Luke and Killian. He is survived by many sisters, brothers, nieces and nephews.

He was born in New Orleans, LA, to Thomas and Rosalie (Points) Barrosse. Jerry joined the [U.S. Navy](#) and was stationed at Johnsville NAS, where he met his wife of 63 years. After his discharge, he stayed in Philadelphia and started work as a TV repairman. He attended LaSalle College earning a BS in Physics, with a major in Electronics. In 1955 he started at Remington Rand, now **Unisys Corporation**, working his way up the ranks of the Engineering Department.

He retired after 33 years. Post retirement, he taught circuit design at Penn State Abington, developed a training course in Project Management for employees at General Instrument Corporation, the forerunner of Comcast, and was a 22 yr. AARP volunteer doing taxes for senior citizens. Jerry will be missed by many.

Jerry was a member of the Unisys Retiree's Group.

DONALD C. SCHEETZ

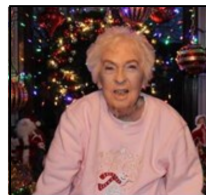
Donald C. Scheetz, 94, formerly of Lincoln Park, passed July 23, 2016 in Lehigh Valley Hospital. He was the husband of Bernice E. (Taylor) Scheetz. Born in Reading, Pa., he was the son of Charles and Edith (White) Scheetz. He was a graduate of Shillington High School and served during World War II in the Army. Donald was a member of First United Church of Christ, Reading, and a member of St. John's Lodge #435 F&AM and Scottish Rite, Valley of Reading. He worked as an Auditor at **Unisys Corp.**, retiring in 1986.

He is also survived by a daughter, Carol A., wife of Robert Bonsall, of Lincoln Park; son, Craig T., husband of Lynn Scheetz; 6 grandchildren: Katie Scheetz-Jones, wife of Tyler; Christina Bozicevich, wife of Jason; Nathan Scheetz, husband of Megan; Matthew Bonsall and girlfriend, Alicia Laganella; Peter Bonsall; and Zachary Scheetz; 8 great-grandchildren: Logan, Benjamin, Nolan, Miranda, Ethan, Mason, Lacey and Eva. *Donald was not a member of the*

Unisys Retiree's Group.

DOLORES H. BLOMBAUM

Dolores H. (nee Boyle) Blombaum, age 93, passed away on Aug. 20, 2016. Dear wife of the late William. Beloved mother of Barbara Smith (Edward) and the late Dolly Anne Tierney and the late William R Blombaum. Grandmother of Trisha Keilman (Steve), Kelly Keenan (Pete) and Lisa Kiser. Great grandmother of Courtney, Kelsey, Joanna and Jack Keilman & Morgan, Molly and Maggie Keenan, many nieces and nephews and very special friend Anne Schai-ble. Dolly was preceded in death by all 13 Boyle brothers and sisters.



Dolly was a member of the Unisys Retiree's Group.

Letters to the Editor

From Frank Taylor -553 W. Kings Hwy, Audubon, NJ 08106

My name is Frank Taylor – from New Jersey. I worked for Unisys for 15 years in the Billing Dept. I retired in 1989. My home was in Burlington, NJ – when I worked at Unisys. I was in a car pool with three other guys that also worked at Unisys. I sold my home and live with my daughter Marie – in Audubon, NJ. My wife Mary Lou passed away in March 2009. I was 91 years old on July 3rd. I had many good friends at work – and would like to hear from anyone that remembers me. I had many laughs and good times at work. The only person I see from Unisys is Jim Vine that worked in Credit and Collections – we go out a couple of times a month for lunch or to the doctors. Also, I want to thank you and all officers for all the work you did in past years. Sorry I was too far away to help. Thanks for your work - *Frank Taylor.*

P.S. In case anyone wants to call me, my telephone number is 856-546-6002

In Remembrance

JERROLD P. BARROSSE - August 13, 2016
DOLORES H. BLOMBAUM - August 20, 2016
ALBERT A. DI RENZO - December 26, 2010
VIVIAN L. DOWNING June 24, 2016
MILTON T. HENRY - August 8, 2016
STEPHEN A. IDZIK - August 16, 2016
DAVID J. MIKOWYCHOK - August 13, 2016
MICHAEL SABATINO - October 18, 2009
DONALD C. SCHEETZ - July 23, 2016
PHILIP SCIORTINO - June 11, 2016

SIX TINY STORIES WITH GREAT MESSAGES

{1} Once all the villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella.**

That's FAITH**

{2} When you throw a baby in the air, she laughs because she knows you will catch her.**

That's TRUST**

{3} Every night we go to bed, without any assurance of being alive the next morning but still we set the alarms to wake us up.**

That's HOPE**

{4} We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future.**

That's CONFIDENCE**

{5} We see the world suffering, but still we get married and have children.**

That's LOVE**

{6} On an old man's shirt was written a sentence 'I am not 90 years old.... I am sweet 16 with 74 years experience'**

That's ATTITUDE**

QUOTATIONS

From an unknown African Tribe -

"IF YOU EAT ALONE, YOU DIE ALONE".

From Jack Staub -

"IF YOU CAN'T RESOLVE A PROBLEM, DON'T KEEP IT IN YOUR HEAD."

OLD EXPRESSIONS

(Unknown author)

About a month ago, I illuminated some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology.

These phrases included:

"Don't touch that dial," "Carbon copy," "You sound like a broken record" and "Hung out to dry."

Someone has asked me to shine light on more faded words and expressions, and I am happy to oblige:

Back in the olden days we had a lot of moxie. We'd put on our best bib and tucker and straighten up and fly right. Hubba-hubba! We'd cut a rug in some juke joint and then go necking and petting and smooching and spooning and billing and cooing and pitching woo in hot rods and jalopies in some passion pit or lovers' lane. Heavens to Betsy! Gee whillikers! Jumpin Jehoshaphat! Holy moley! We were in like Flynn and living the life of Riley, and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill. Not for all the tea in China!

Back in the olden days, life used to be swell, but when is the last time anything was swell? Swell has gone the way

of beehives, pageboys and the D.A.; of spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle shoes and pedal pushers.

Oh, my aching back. Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore. Like Washington Irving's Rip Van Winkle and Kurt Vonnegut's Billy Pilgrim, we have become unstuck in time. We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say, I'll be a monkey's uncle! Or This is a fine kettle of fish! we discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed omnipresent as oxygen, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards.

Poof, poof, poof go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink, and they're gone, evanescent from the landscape and wordscape of our perception, like Mickey Mouse wristwatches, hula hoops, skate keys, candy cigarettes, little wax bottles of colored sugar water and an organ grinder's monkey.

Where have all those phrases gone? Long time passing. Where have all those phrases gone? Long time ago: Pshaw. The milkman did it. Think about the starving Armenians. Bigger than a bread box. Banned in Boston. The very idea! It's your nickel. Don't forget to pull the chain. Knee high to a grasshopper. Turn-of-the-century. Iron curtain. Domino theory. Fail safe. Civil defense. Fiddlesticks! You look like the wreck of the Hesperus. Cooties. Going like sixty. I'll see you in the funny papers. Don't take any wooden nickels. Heavens to Murgatroyd! And awa-a-ay we go!

Oh, my stars and garters! It turns out there are more of these lost words and expressions than Carter had liver pills. This can be disturbing stuff, this winking out of the words of our youth, these words that lodge in our heart's deep core. But just as one never steps into the same river twice, one cannot step into the same language twice. Even as one enters, words are swept downstream into the past, forever making a different river. We of a certain age have been blessed to live in changeable times. For a child each new word is like a shiny toy, a toy that has no age. We at the other end of the chronological arc have the advantage of remembering there are words that once did not exist and there were words that once strutted their hour upon the earthly stage and now are heard no more, except in our collective memory. It's one of the greatest advantages of aging. We can have archaic and eat it, too.

See ya later, alligator! After while crocodile!

On the Lighter Side

From a Woman's Viewpoint

1. My goal for 2016 was to lose just 10 pounds ... only 15 to go ...
2. Ate salad for dinner ... Mostly croutons & tomatoes ... Really just one big, round crouton covered with tomato sauce ... And cheese... FINE, it was a pizza... I ate a pizza ...
3. How to prepare Tofu:
 1. Throw it in the trash.
 2. Grill some Meat.
4. I just did a week's worth of cardio after walking into a spider web ...
5. I don't mean to brag but... I finished my 14-day diet food in 3 hours and 20 minutes ...
6. A recent study has found women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it ...
7. Kids today don't know how easy they have it... when I was young, I had to walk 9 feet through shag carpet to change the TV channel...
8. Senility has been a smooth transition for me...
9. Remember back when we were kids and every time it was below zero out they closed school? Me neither.
10. I may not be that funny or athletic or good looking or smart or talented ... I forgot where I was going with this ...
11. I love being over 60 ... I learn something new every day ... and forget 5 others ...
12. A thief broke into my house last night ... He started searching for money ... so I woke up and searched with him...
13. My dentist told me I need a Crown ... I said, "You bet, pour mine over rocks" ...
14. I think I'll just put an "Out of Order" sticker on my forehead and call it a day ...

Summary of Life

GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats.
- 2) When your mom is mad at your dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
- 7) Never hold a dust-buster and a cat at the same time.

- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandpa's lap.

GREAT TRUTHS THAT ADULTS HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) Raising teenagers is like nailing jelly to a tree.
- 2) Wrinkles don't hurt.
- 3) Families are like fudge...mostly sweet, with a few nuts
- 4) Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.
- 5) Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.

GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT GROWING OLD

- 1) Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional.
- 2) Forget the health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.
- 3) When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
- 4) You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.
- 5) It's frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.
- 6) Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.
- 7) Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.

THE FOUR STAGES OF LIFE:

- 1) You believe in Santa Claus.
- 2) You don't believe in Santa Claus.
- 3) You are Santa Claus.
- 4) You look like Santa Claus.

SUCCESS:

- At age 4 success is . . . not peeing in your pants.
- At age 12 success is . . . having friends.
- At age 17 success is . . . having a driver's license.
- At age 35 success is . . . having money.
- At age 50 success is . . . having money.
- At age 70 success is . . . having a drivers license.
- At age 75 success is . . . having friends.
- At age 80 success is . . . not peeing in your pants.

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On the Lighter Side (continued from page 5)

Smart Seniors

- I don't trip over things, I do random gravity checks.
- I don't need anger management. I need people to stop ticking me off.
- Old age is coming at a really bad time.
- When I was a child I thought Nap Time was a punishment ... now, as a grown up, it just feels like a small vacation.
- The biggest lie I tell myself is ... "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."
- Lord grant me the strength to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change things I can and the friends to post my bail when I finally snap.
I don't have gray hair. I have "wisdom highlights".
- My people skills are just fine. It's my tolerance to idiots that needs work.
- Teach your daughter how to shoot, because a restraining order is just a piece of paper.
- If God wanted me to touch my toes, he would've put them on my knees.
- The kids text me "plz" which is shorter than please. I text back "no" which is shorter than "yes".
- I'm going to retire and live off of my savings. Not sure what I'll do that second week.
- Why do I have to press one for English when you're just gonna transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?
- Oops! Did I roll my eyes out loud?

Senior Wedding

Jacob, age 92, and Rebecca, age 89, living in Miami, are all excited about their decision to get married. They go for a stroll to discuss the wedding, and on the way they pass a drugstore.

Jacob suggests they go in.

Jacob addresses the man behind the counter: "Are you the owner?" The pharmacist answers, "Yes."

Jacob: "We're about to get married. Do you sell heart medication?"

Pharmacist: "Of course, we do."

Jacob: "How about medicine for circulation?"

Pharmacist: "All kinds."

Jacob: "Medicine for rheumatism?"

Pharmacist: "Definitely."

Jacob: "How about suppositories?" Pharmacist: "You bet!"

Jacob: "Medicine for memory problems, arthritis and Alzheimer's?"

Pharmacist: "Yes, a large variety. The Works."

Jacob: "What about vitamins, sleeping pills, Geritol, antidotes for Parkinson's disease?"

Pharmacist: "Absolutely."

Jacob: "Everything for heartburn and indigestion?"

Pharmacist: "We sure do."

Jacob: "You sell wheelchairs and walkers and canes?"

Pharmacist: "All speeds and sizes."

Jacob: "Adult diapers?"

Pharmacist: "Sure. Any other questions?"

Jacob: "No, we want to use this store as our Bridal Registry."

God's Plan for Aging

Most seniors never get enough exercise. In His wisdom God decreed that seniors become forgetful so they would have to search for their glasses, keys and other things thus doing more walking. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God saw there was another need. In His wisdom He made seniors lose coordination so they would drop things requiring them to bend, reach & stretch. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God considered the function of bladders and decided seniors would have additional calls of nature requiring more trips to the bathroom, thus providing more exercise. God looked down and saw that it was good.

If you find as you age, you are getting up and down more, remember it's God's will. It is all in your best interest even though you mutter under your breath.

Nine Important Facts To Remember As We Grow Older

#9 Death is the number 1 killer in the world.

#8 Life is sexually transmitted.

#7 Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.

#6 Men have 2 motivations: hunger and hanky panky, and they can't tell them apart. If you see a gleam in his eyes, make him a sandwich.

#5 Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years.

#4 Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in the hospital, dying of nothing.

#3 All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.

#2 In the 60's, people took LSD to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take Prozac to make it normal.

#1 Life is like a jar of jalapeno peppers. What you do today may be a burning issue tomorrow.

NEWSBITS is published quarterly
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 by the **UNISYS BLUE BELL RETIREES GROUP**

EDITOR / PUBLISHER Jack Staub

Contributions to NEWSBITS should be sent to:

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The newsletter is distributed free of charge to members.
 All members are invited to contribute to NEWSBITS.
 We reserve the right to edit for clarity & brevity.

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UNISYS BLUE BELL RETIREES GROUP

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HARLEYSVILLE, PA 19438**

FIRST CLASS



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