

VIP Club Newsletter

VOLUME 24, NO. 04

www.geocities.com/vipclub2003

APRIL 2004

The Number to call for information on Unisys Retirement Status and Benefits: 1-800-600-4015.

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

Wednesday, April 07
Wednesday, April 14

Board Meeting, Eagan
Eagan, Program & Social Time

10:00 a.m.
7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 05
Wednesday, May 12

Board Meeting, Roseville
Roseville, Program & Social Time

10:00 a.m.
7:00 p.m.

APRIL PROGRAM: EAGAN

Ms. Minnesota - Senior America Pageant will present "Show Case" of the various talents used in competition. Our own Marlene Merth will be participating. She was Ms. Minnesota 2003.

MAY PROGRAM: ROSEVILLE

For the May Program we are again happy to announce that Mr. Bob DeFlores returns with an excellent film program. Bob is a well-known collector of films that would be lost forever without his work of discovering and saving these often priceless films. One of the films, to be shown, is the only existing copy of a film that shows a Bing Crosby 1954 pilot TV film. In addition there will be other surprise film features.

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS

Please send permanent address changes to Dick Mullins addressed to the VIP Club at the address given on the label page of the newsletter. Also please remember that for temporary changes the U.S. Postal Service will forward your mail.

VIP CLUB Membership AS OF 3/15/2004

Total Membership	899
Memberships renewed for 2004	810
Members not renewed	089
Submitted by Jack Farber, Treasurer	



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From: Dale Phelps

The North Suburban Chorus performed a variety of Traditional, Irish and Patriotic music at our program meeting on March 11 in Roseville. Some of the songs sung were: Heart & Soul, Someone To Watch Over Me, Baby It's Cold Outside, April Showers, Irish Lullaby, Danny Boy, This Is My Country and Battle Hymn of The Republic. The audience joined in the singing of Let Me Call You Sweetheart and My Wild Irish Rose. The Chorus' closing song was May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You. Our own Jack Farber is a member of the chorus. Judy Cognetta and UNISYS provided us with delicious bars and coffee for the social time. Thank you, Judy!

I encourage everyone to come to the April program in Eagan. We will feature Ms. Minnesota Senior America Pageant, Cameo Club, in a "Showcase" performance. The various talents include singing, acting, dancing and speaking. The VIP Club's own Marlene Merth was a Ms. Minnesota. Our annual VIP Club Volunteer Breakfast will be held at

UNISYS in Roseville on April 21, 2004, at 8:30 am. Please send your "VIP Club Volunteer Hours Survey Form For Year 2003" to Bernie Jansen. Think Spring!! Think Spring!! Respectfully, Dale Phelps – VIP President

From the Editors



Brian Berggren (651-451-9009) &
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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 2004

Date	Time	Location	Activity
Jan. 14	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program - Social Time
Feb. 11	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time
Mar. 10	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program - Social Time
Apr 14	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time
May. 12	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program - Social Time
June 09	4:00 p.m.	Park	VIP Club Picnic
July 14	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program – Social Time
Aug 11	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program – Social Time
Sept. 08	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program – Social Time
Oct 13	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program – Social Time
Nov. 10	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program – Social Time
Dec. 09	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 of Hwy 62

WELCOME NEW CLUB MEMBERS

Bell, Dwain C U Mpls MN
Browne, James and Patricia LM Apple Valley, MN
Denzer, Darlene and Merl LM Cottage Grove, MN
Drabek, Jim and Jan LM Shakopee, MN
Feuer, Sharon U Fridley, MN
Fott, Richard A and Carolyn LM Webster, MN
Grittner, Donald A. U Woodbury, MN
Houle, Terry U Bloomington, MN
Joss, Donald O and Jacqueline U Prior Lake, MN
Meyer, Sharon L and Ronald U New Brighton, MN
Nelson, Kenneth J and Judy LM Bloomington, MN
Sandstrom, Duane LM Burnsville, MN
Storms, Roger A LM Lakeville, MN
Ulick, Kay U Rosemount, MN
West, David A. and Judy U Centerville, MN
 U = Unisys B = Burroughs LM = Lockheed Martin D = Unisys Defense Systems

IN REMEMBRANCE



Bort, Janard (Jan) D. – Age 63, of Burnsville, passed away on 3/5/04. Jan retired from Unisys Corp. and was a part-time driver for Adaptive Sports and Charters for First Student Bus Company. Survived by his wife, Carol.

Glaser, Steven R. - Age 60. Survived by his wife, Julie. Early in his career, Steve worked in various Field Engineering positions and locations. Later Steve had Quality Assurance positions in Roseville.

Headley, Russell Knight - Lifetime Resident Of St. Paul Born July 19, 1924 in St. Paul, died peacefully at home surrounded by his family on February 18, 2004. Survived by his wife, Faye.

Kirchoff, Roger G. – Age 77 of N St. Paul, died suddenly on 2/7/04. Preceded in death by brothers, Bob & Alvin. Survived by his wife of 40 years, Luella.

Meuleners, Albert (Bert) - Died on 17 Jan. 2004. Bert was VP in charge of the Univac Germany Commercial Operation. He completed his career as part of the semiconductor control facilities in Roseville. Survived by his wife, Francis.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HEALTH ISSUES 13 March 04

In today's Minneapolis Tribune, Mayo's CEO is another of the mid-west voices telling us that Medicare doesn't cover the full cost of patient treatment. Dr. Denis Cortese says, "We need to redo the way we practice... We will have patients who are living longer, have more chronic diseases and more complicated diseases."

We also have a Medicare system that is making things worse for Minnesotans. One doc said anyone who has health problems and didn't spend half the year in Florida was missing out on serious savings. In a "market basket" approach for a Hennepin County HMO enrollee, the cost difference is \$5,843. A Minnesota resident would pay \$1,153 in premiums, \$600 in copays for 20 clinic visits and transport, the full \$3,500 for prescription drugs, the full \$200 for eyeglasses, and \$450 as a 50% copay for a \$900 hearing aid – a total of \$5,903. In Dade County, Florida, only \$60 in copays for \$500 in branded drugs was needed, Medicare covered all other costs. (Look for your next month's Senior Federation Newsletter for more information.)

Canada is still suspect as a source of unsafe drug, yet the articles seem never to mention that the drugs ordered from Canadian pharmacies are almost all "maintenance" drugs that are used daily for chronic conditions and are in their original manufacturer's packaging. Packaging with an easy to read label and an easy to open screw top. We should thank the Canadians for their conservative use of drugs. An ABC report tells us the 31 million Canadians use 2% of the world output; the less than 300 million Americans use 44%.

For U of M alumni, the spring 2004 newsletter has a lead article on why drug prices are so high, and why that is such a growing problem. Dr. Steve Schondelmeyer, the U's pharmaceutical industry guru, says the drug companies began pricing drugs based on a country's median income. Prices are 50-60% of the U.S. in Canada and 40-50% in Europe. With the huge income disparities in the U.S., those

of us with HMO or other coverage are insulated from those high prices, but those paying the full cash price are the poor and the elderly.

Here's something else to think about. The new Medicare benefit for 2006, the one that the Congressional Budget Office says won't save the government any money, is called Medicare Part D. The reason it can't save the government any money is because the government has made the private insurers responsible for doing the negotiating and saving us money. Right!

At the state level, the Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians March Newsletter tells us the Governor is proposing transfer of \$70 million from the Health Care Access Fund to help take care of the State's \$160 million budget shortfall. This is the fund that takes 2% from the medical community for the Minnesota Care program to help low income patients. Pawlenty's budget wants to use it for roads, schools, and other general fund programs. Last year the Legislature transferred \$190 million out of the Health Care Access Fund to help balance his budget.

Submitted by Brian Berggren (MN Senior Federation Medicare Justice Coalition co-chair)

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Preacher and cabbie

After a preacher died and went to heaven, he noticed that a New York cab driver had been awarded a higher place than he. "I don't understand," he complained to Saint Peter. "I devoted my entire life to my congregation." "Our policy here in Heaven is to reward results," Saint Peter explained. "Now, was your congregation well attuned to you whenever you gave a sermon?" "Well," the minister had to admit, "some in the congregation fell asleep from time to time." "Exactly," said Saint Peter. "And when people rode in this man's taxi, they not only stayed awake, they prayed nonstop."

I married Miss Right. I just didn't know her first name was Always.

Brother and Sister

Jack's mother ran into the bedroom when she heard him scream and found his two-year old sister pulling his hair. She gently released the little girl's grip and said comfortingly to Jack, "There, there. She didn't mean it. She doesn't know that hurts."

She was barely out of the room when the little girl screamed. Rushing back in, she asked, "What happened?"

"She knows now," Jack replied.

HAPPENINGS

Help From The Sun By Brian Berggren

At a get-together back in February, the hot topic was heating bills. Oh, ain't it terrible everyone said. I said our electric bill was \$87.31 for December, and that included heat, lights, hot water, and everything else (the heat part was \$47.70). For not suffering with a high enough bill, I was ignored.

The house is the story. The sun heats it through the south-facing glass. On a bright January day the temperature inside will reach the mid-70's, even when it is 15-20 below zero outside. By the 10 o'clock news the temp will have fallen to the mid-60's.

The thermostats turn on the heaters at about 61 degrees, so mornings are a bit cool. When the sun doesn't shine, we light a fire in a small Danish wood stove. Our electric heat energy costs for last year total \$234.83 (Nov-\$28.30, Dec-\$47.70, Jan-\$43.26, Feb-\$62.28, Mar-\$41.33, Apr-\$12); this is for 4217 KWH of electricity. For the stove we burn a little

better than a cord a year, all wood from the yard. We also burned 150 pounds of shelled corn (three bags at \$4.19 each).

We heat 3400 square feet with 800-watt electric radiant panels, plus keep a triple garage above freezing with a 1300-watt milk-house heater. But the sun provides most of the energy and our plants seem to like the temperature swings between cold mornings and warm afternoons. And we accept the bleaching job the sun does on fabrics.

A secondary benefit is summer air-conditioning. Using a 5000 btu window unit to cool and dehumidify, our cost was \$36.

Help your children avoid inefficient homes. Help them find homes with windows rather than garages on the south side. Use shades and drapes to keep the heat in, not the sun out. Then they can mention how little energy they use and be shunned.

After his first day of school, a little boy told his mother he wasn't going back. The boy explained, "I can't read or write, and they won't let me talk."

On 2-21-2004, UNIVAC retirees gathered at Wally & Jean Emerson's home in Mesa, Arizona for an afternoon of visiting and feasting. There were approximately 20 retirees in attendance. There were an additional 10 retirees that were unable to attend, but hopefully will be able to next year. There was also a supporting cast of ladies present.



Standing, L to R: John Bauer, Jim Rogneby, Warren Becker, Glen Rogneby, Gene Timgren, Curt Christensen, Vern Larson, Bob Sund, Keith Crook, Wally Emerson, Vern Thompson
Seated, L to R: Jerry Nelson, Doug Tanner, Ron Gavelek, Rollie Anderson, Elaine Sund, Paul Mattson, Jack Bartosh, Gordy LaValley

VIP Volunteer Services Areas with Samples of Organizations in each Category

Code	Service Area	Code	Service Area
1	Community and Related Services AARP Volunteers Civic/Government/County Support Services Senior Centers Community Services DARTS Scouting Minnesota Senior Federation/VISTA United Way	4	Music and Theatrical Services Guthrie Theater Northern Lights Variety Band North Suburban Chorus
2	Health and Disaster Services American Cancer Society Arthritis Foundation Red Cross & Bloodmobile Services Courage Center Signet Health & Rehab. Center	5	Schools and Educational Services Volunteer Services in Schools Historical Societies Wright Brothers National Memorial
3	Meals, Food and Housing Services Meals on Wheels Loaves and Fishes Sharing and Caring Hands Dorothy Day Center Food Services / Senior Dining Habitat for Humanity	6	Religious and Related Services Church Missions and Camps Related Charities Lutheran Missions Presbyterian Homes Basilica of St. Mary
		7	Other Services Animal Humane Society Law Enforcement Services Juvenile Court Guardian Small Business Consulting Veterans & Armed Forces Support VIP Club Mutual Interest Associations

On your Volunteer Hours Survey Form select one of the above codes that best represents each Organization Served.

VIP Club Volunteer Hours Survey Form For Year 2003		
Member/Spouse Names _____ Your City _____ State _____		
Service Area Code (1-7) See Listing Page 6	Organization for which volunteer Services was performed	Member and Spouse Total Hours per line

Cut out and
Mail this form to: **Bernie Jansen**
848 Ivy Lane
Eagan, MN 55123-2425

Total Hours _____

Survey results will be published in the VIP Club Newsletter.
Only organizations with 100 or more hours will be listed individually.

The VIP Recognition Breakfast will be at 8:30a.m. on April 21st at Unisys, Roseville.
Your Volunteer Survey Form must be received by April 8th for you to be listed in the Breakfast Program.
Please indicate how many will attend the volunteer breakfast. Enter 0, 1 or 2: ____.

**VIP CLUB – MS 4003
P.O. BOX 64942
ST PAUL MN 55164**

VIP CLUB OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS FOR THE YEAR 2004

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
OFFICERS**

President.....Dale Phelps #831-7843
Vice Pres.....Bernie Jansen *681-9988
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Treasurer.....Jack Farber *785-9557
Past Pres.....Hank Dotzler #892-0175

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Director.....Brian Berggren *451-9009
Director.....Dick Mullins *552-8837
Director.....Joseph Schwarz *698-9698
Director.....Marion Scott *455-7952

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Courage Center Programs
Bernie & Kathryn Jansen *681-9988
Red Cross Blood Drive
Marion Scott.....*455-7952

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

Membership Dick Mullins *552-8837
Programs Eagan Dale Phelps #831-7843
Programs Roseville ... Jack Farber *785-9557
Newsletter Editors Brian Berggren *451-9009
& Joe Schwarz *698-9698

WEBMASTER

Joe Schwarz *698-9698
email address: vipclub2003@yahoo.com

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

Christmas..... Dorothy Becker #881-3516
Picnic.....Chuck Homan *699-5180
Historian Millie Gignac *454-0971
Metro Sr. Fed.....Brian Berggren *451-9009
John Dufour *639-8289
Jim Larson *698-3963
Sunshine.....Jim Larson *698-3963

Travel Opportunities

Roger Gillette +926-7214
& Yvonne Cecchini at *423-9196

UNISYS Liaison, Roseville Judy Cognetta *635-6563
Printing & Mailing UNISYS Print Shop, Roseville

Lockheed Martin, Eagan Liaison Sheri Grone *456-2210

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 which 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.