

VIP Club Newsletter

VOLUME 26, NO. 01 www.geocities.com/vipclub2003 JANUARY 2006

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, January 04	Board Meeting, Roseville	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, January 11	Roseville, Program & Social Time	7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 01	Board Meeting, Eagan	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, February 08	Eagan, Program & social Time	7:00 p.m.

JANUARY PROGRAM: ROSEVILLE

Our world traveler Jack Farber will again share his slides and experiences. On this trip we will visit the Northern half of France. You will see the beaches of Normandy the week before the 60th anniversary of D-Day. Other highlights are some of the Chateaus of French nobility, the Gardens of Claude Monet, and more.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM: EAGAN

The February program will be announced in the next newsletter.

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.

LAST NOTICE

YOUR NEWSLETTER WILL STOP
IF YOUR ADDRESS LABEL HAS 2005
AFTER YOUR NAME, YOU ARE NOT
PAID FOR 2006. THE YEARLY RATE
HAS INCREASED TO \$5. **SAVE MONEY**
AND RENEW FOR 3 YEARS FOR \$12.
PLEASE USE THE DUES COUPON ON
PAGE 5 AND RENEW FOR 3 YEARS OR
MORE AT A \$4 PER YEAR RATE.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From: Bernie Jansen

I wish all of the members of the VIP Club and their families New Year's greetings and good health for the coming year. I look forward to a busy and productive year as the newly elected President of the VIP Club. I want to thank all of the VIP Club 2005 officers, Board members, and Committee Chairs for the truly, outstanding job they did in growing our club, providing excellent meeting programs, and ensuring our financial well being. Dale Phelps as President the past two years has successfully directed these efforts and will continue to serve on the Board. I want to especially commend Joe Schwarz for his complete and continuing dedication in putting out a newsworthy and timely "Newsletter". Hank Dotzler who held the past President slot on the Board will relinquish that position to Dale Phelps. For the year 2006 I extend a special welcome to our new Secretary, Lynn Lindholm and new board member, Lowell Benson. I also welcome Brian Berggren as Vice President for 2006 - Brian was a Board Director the last several years and will continue to review and report on

Health Issues for the “Newsletter”. For the 2006 year, Jack Farber will continue to serve as treasurer of the club; however Jack has resigned from the program committee. Since 1992 Jack has arranged most of the monthly programs and since 1995 has contracted the band and the entertainment for the annual Christmas Party, Dinner-Dance. On behalf of the Club, I thank Jack for his many years of dedicated service in providing great programs regularly for our monthly meetings and Christmas Party. We are looking for someone to join the Program committee and assist Dale Phelps in planning/acquiring programs for 2006 – please see page 3 (Program Committee) for further details.

Additionally, I welcome back the other returning members of the Board: Dick Mullins, Marion Scott, and Joe Schwarz. Dick Mullins will continue to maintain the membership lists and Marion Scott will continue as the coordinator of VIP Club volunteers for the Red Cross Blood Drives at the Unisys and Lockheed Martin facilities. And I am pleased to say that Joe Schwarz will continue as editor of the “Newsletter”.

Photos of the VIP Club Officers and Board Members for the years 2005 and 2006 were taken at the Christmas Party – please see page 5.

On a lighter note, approximately 100 VIP Club members and friends attended the Christmas Party, Dinner-Dance on December 8th at the NCO Club at the Air Force Base. The program featuring “The Twin Cities Women’s Choir” and “The Connie Villars Quartette” and the sit down dinner were enjoyed by all. Unisys and Lockheed Martin provided table party favors. Ron Smith of Unisys and Richard Olson of Lockheed Martin provided updates on the current status of their companies. A photo collage of the attendees and program participants is provided as an insert of this “Newsletter”.

Respectfully, Bernie Jansen, VIP Club President

As you’re past president, I want to offer my last comments to the VIP Club. It was a pleasure and honor to serve you the past 2 years. I want to thank all the board members for their support and encouragement. Also, many club members assisted me and were wonderful to work with. One of the highlights of my presidency was the 25th anniversary celebration picnic at Highland Park. More members attended than any other event of the VIP Club. I want to wish all members a healthy and prosperous 2006 New Year. It is my hope that you will continue to support the VIP Club and its activities.

Respectfully, Dale Phelps, VIP Club Past President

From the Editors



Brian Berggren (651-451-9009) &

Joe Schwarz (651-698-9698)

Address: VIP Club, 1486 Fairmount Ave, St Paul MN 55105 e-mail: vipclub2003@yahoo.com

The Newsletter Editorial Staff:

Bernie Jansen, e-mail bjskj@hotmail.com

Richard Lundgren, e-mail rflundgr@aol.com

Don Naaktgeboren, e-mail donfishn@juno.com

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 2006

Date	Time	Location	Activity
Jan. 11	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program - Social Time
Feb. 08	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time

Mar. 08 7:00 p.m. Rsvl Program - Social Time
 Apr 12 7:00 p.m. Eagan. Program - Social Time
 May. 10 7:00 p.m. Rsvl Program - Social Time
June 14 4:00 p.m. Park VIP Club Picnic
 July 12 7:00 p.m. Eagan Program - Social Time
 Aug 9 7:00 p.m. Rsvl Program - Social Time
 Sept 13 7:00 p.m. Eagan Program - Social Time
 Oct 11 6:00 p.m. Rsvl Pot Luck Program
 Nov. 08 7:00 p.m. Eagan Program - Social time
Dec. 14 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

Allen, Clyde & Lois LM Bloomington, MN
Anderson, Carol U Eagan, MN
Eykyn, Thomas & Marilyn LM Eagan, MN
Fedor, George & Marie U Oakdale, MN
Maas, Duane and Peg LM Bloomington, MN
Olijinek, Jim & Gail U Grand Rapids, MN
Paulinski, Dennis & Judy LM Eagan, MN
Popohn, Mary & Phil LM Eagan, MN
Sabean, Kaye & Darlene U St Paul, MN

U = Unisys **B** = Burroughs **LM** = Lockheed
 Martin **D** = Unisys Defense Systems

IN REMEMBRANCE

Haack, Dennis L. Passed away unexpectedly at his home on 11/12/05. Dennis was employed at Lockheed Martin. He is survived by his loving wife, Kathy (nee Onken).

Jore, Jean E. - Age 56, of New Hope, MN. Preceded in death by husband, Steven. Jean was a long time secretary in Development Engineering at Unisys Roseville.

Nuernberg, Delbert W. - Age 74 of Eagan, MN. Passed away on 11/14/05. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Donna. Delbert was a 38-year employee of Unisys Corp.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Program Committee

Jack Farber has resigned from the Program Committee after many years of acquiring monthly programs as well as contracting the Band and Entertainment for the annual Christmas Party, Dinner Dance. He and Dale Phelps have shared the committee's duties the past several years and Dale will continue to serve on this committee for the 2006 year. We urgently need a volunteer from the Club to assist Dale in this very important job. If you are

interested in assisting with these committee activities for the 2006 year, please call the Club President, Bernie Jansen or Dale Phelps as soon as possible.

BLOODMOBILE INFORMATION

JANUARY RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES.

Wednesday, January 4th, Unisys MACS Eagan needs greeters and servers 9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 12 p.m.-3 p.m.

Wednesday, January 25th, Lockheed Martin, Eagan 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.

HEALTH ISSUES

Unintended Consequences

For every senior that has lost ground on prescription drug costs and Medicare Part B supplement or Medicare choice costs, there is there is another who has gained. Some of you lost through lapses or coverage changes by employer-sponsored programs, some lost through elimination of drug manufacturer discount cards, some lost because part of their drug costs went through Canadian importation programs.

Those who are discovering savings are finding Part D drug and Part B medical and Medicare Advantage programs that either offers cheaper coverage or better benefits. Some of you never had attractive options before, some of you had pre-existing conditions that forced you to stay in one system, and some of you had neither the courage nor need to investigate seriously other care coverage.

Remember, for Part B the government pays three-quarters of the basic costs. Similarly, for Part D the government (our children) will be paying about three-quarters of the drug costs once the recipient gets past the deductibles, monthly payment, gap and co-pays. For those whose drug costs are over \$5100 find a plan with a formulary that includes your most expensive drugs, consider the monthly premium of something under \$100 a bargain, and hope the plan doesn't mess too much with the formulary. Submitted by Brian Berggren.

Spin, Stall, or Stop

The pros and pundits have been very productive lately. Friday, December 9, Kerri Miller had AARP CEO Bill Novelli on her KSJN radio program. As one of United Healthcare's best product promoters, Novelli continued to say Part D is good for poor and high use seniors, that negotiating drug costs like the VA would not save money, and that the \$400-plus

billion costs may not be as bad as people think. (The cost will be closer to \$400B only if a majority of seniors don't enroll.) Sunday the 11th HHS Secretary Leavitt was on George's This Week program to tell people they really should sign up to avoid the penalty even if they currently have low drug costs – after all, it is insurance. Also, like the President has in the past, Leavitt asked children of seniors to help because using the Internet to find program information can be intimidating – and, yes, all the data may not yet be available but it is getting better every day.

The print media has been less kind. The Star-Tribune editorial on November 26 mentioned the rocky start and Rep. Waxman's investigators finding that drug prices for 10 top-selling drugs were 3 percent higher in Medicare plans than at Costco. (Medicare says to expect a 15 percent saving versus MN Senior Federation 53 percent through Canada.) The editorial also hits many of the other problems but wimps out by saying it is too late to change the MMA law and too soon to rewrite it. I say start the rewrite or our children will never see any Medicare benefit. Robert J. Samuelson in the 28 November Newsweek tries to explain how Congress got to this point, how confusing and costly it is, and how he and others have suggested repealing or suspending the benefit. John C. Goodman in the 6 December Wall Street Journal goes after the drug benefit on economic grounds as "an enormously expensive entitlement program and no one has any idea how we are going to pay for it." Goodman says, "Every dollar of spending (net of premiums) is unfunded. He refers to economist Andrew Rettenmaier as saying "only \$1 in every \$16 of the new drug benefit will actually buy a drug that would otherwise not have been purchased."

The Alliance for Retired Americans delegation to the White House Conference on Aging has a 12-point "Fix Medicare Rx" petition that was submitted to Congress. This petition essentially identifies most of the consumer drug issues: 1) Negotiate drug prices, 2) Eliminate the "donut-hole" gap, 3) Eliminate the asset test for low income enrollees, 4) Eliminate or delay the late enrollment penalty, 5) Allow Canadian drugs to qualify, 6) Give the Medicaid dual-eligibles another year to enroll, 7) Allow every enrollee to make one plan change during the year (the drug plans can change formularies and costs weekly), 8) Allow retirees with employer-provided benefits to correct enrollment mistakes, 9) Provide the drug benefit through Medicare like Part B instead of through a confusing mix of private insurance programs, 10) Eliminate prohibition against purchase of drug

Medigap insurance, 11) Develop minimum requirements that would make most drugs available in all plans, and 12) Develop incentives to get most local pharmacies in the program. Submitted by Brian Berggren.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

It was October and the Indians on a remote reservation asked their new Chief if the coming winter was going to be cold or mild. Since he was a Chief in a modern society, he had never been taught the old secrets. When he looked at the sky, he couldn't tell what the winter was going to be like. Nevertheless, to be on the safe side, he told his tribe that the winter was indeed going to be cold and that the members of the village should collect firewood to be prepared. But being a practical leader, after several days he got an idea. He went to the phone booth, called the National Weather Service and asked, "Is the coming winter going to be cold?" "It looks like this winter is going to be quite cold", the meteorologist at the weather service responded. So the Chief went back to his people and told them to collect even more firewood in order to be prepared. A week later he called the National Weather Service again. "Does it still look like it is going to be a very cold winter?" "Yes", the man at the National Weather Service again replied, "it's going to be a very cold winter." The Chief again went back to his people and ordered them to collect every scrap of firewood they could find. Two weeks later the Chief called the National Weather Service again. "Are you absolutely sure that the winter is going to be very cold?" Absolutely," the man replied. "It's looking more and more like it is going to be one of the coldest winters ever." How can you be so sure?" the Chief asked. The weatherman replied. "The Indians are collecting firewood like crazy."

MARRIAGE SEMINAR While attending a Marriage Seminar dealing with communication, Tom and his wife Grace listened to the instructor, "It is essential that husbands and wives know each other's likes and dislikes." He addressed the man, "Can you name your wife's favorite flower?" Tom leaned over, touched his wife's arm gently and whispered, "It's Pillsbury, isn't it?"

WOMEN'S REVENGE "Cash, check or charge?" I asked, after folding items the woman wished to purchase. As she fumbled for her wallet I noticed a remote control for a television set in her purse. "So, do you always carry your TV remote?" I asked. "No," she replied, " but my husband refused to come shopping with me, and I figured this was the most evil thing I could do to him legally."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2005/2006



Front row left to right: Lynn Lindholm, Secretary 2006; Dale Phelps, Past President 2005; Bernie Jansen, President 2006; Marion Scott, Director; Hank Dotzler, Past President 2005; and Jack Farber, Treasurer. Back row left to right: Jim Larson, Secretary 2005; Warren Becker, Christmas Committee; Richard Mullens, Director; Joseph Schwarz, Director and newsletter editor; and Brian Berggren Vice President. Not shown is Lowell Benson, Director.

VIP CLUB APPLICATION AND RENEWAL FORM

Retiree Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____, _____, _____, _____
STREET ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP

Phone: () _____

Check here if your address or phone number has changed

New Member(s) _____
 Renewing Member(s) _____

Company: Lockheed Martin & Predecessors: _____; Unisys: Univac & Predecessors: _____; Unisys: Burroughs: _____

Please make check payable to the VIP CLUB and mail to address shown at right:

**VIP CLUB
 Jack Farber
 5700 Villa Dr.
 Shoreview MN 55126**

**Dues: \$12 for 3 years
 Single year rate \$5. Note to new members: Your newsletters start after dues are received.**

Check here if you do not wish to have your name listed in the VIP Members directory. (Directory distributed to members only)

SAVE MONEY ON DUES – PAY \$12 FOR 3 YEARS OR \$5 FOR ONE YEAR

**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.....Bernie Jansen *681-9988
Vice Pres.....Brian Berggren *451-9009
Secretary.....Lynn Lindholm *484-1030
Treasurer.....Jack Farber *785-9557
Past Pres.....Dale Phelps #831-7843

DIRECTORS

Director.....Lowell Benson *486-3709
Director.....Dick Mullins *552-8837
Director.....Joseph Schwarz *698-9698
Director.....Marion Scott *455-7952

VOLUNTEER CHAIRPERSONS

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
Metro Sr. Fed..... Brian Berggren *451-9009
John Dufour *639-8289
Jim Larson *698-3963
Sunshine..... Jim Larson *698-3963
Lynn Farris Lindholm *484-1030
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.