

VIP Club Newsletter

VOLUME 28, NO. 11 <http://www.vipclubmn.org> **NOVEMBER 2008**

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, November 05	Board Meeting, Eagan	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, November 12	Eagan, Program and Social Time	7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 03	Board Meeting, Roseville	10:00 a.m.
Thursday, December 11	Christmas Party NCO Club	5.45 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

IF YOUR ADDRESS LABEL HAS 2008 AFTER YOUR NAME, YOU ARE NOT PAID FOR 2009. PLEASE USE THE DUES COUPON ON PAGE 4.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM: EAGAN

Our speaker this month is Dan Karvonen - and his topic is: "Genetic Genealogy - How and Why to Get Your DNA Tested".

In this talk Dan will share his experience in having his DNA tested and participating in the National Geographic's Genographic Project as well as the Family Tree DNA country and surname projects. He'll tell you what you can expect from DNA test results, how to interpret them, and what the results can tell you about your "deep" ancestry.

Dan is a professor of Finnish at the University of Minnesota and he also teaches phonology in the Linguistics Program there. Although his educational background is not in genetics, he applies his enthusiasm, his personal experience, his interest in heritage, and his teaching skills to this topic that's got him hooked - and he may well hook you too.

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our annual VIP Club Christmas Party is on a Thursday this year; December 11 is the date and the NCO Club is the place. Following a social hour and dinner the Connie Villars Quartette will play music for listening and dancing. **REMEMBER TO CARRY PICTURE I.D.** For those who would like to attend but are unable to drive at night,

please give one of your officers a call; we may be able to arrange a ride. (See directions to the NCO Club and reservation form on page 5).

**CHRISTMAS PARTY
SEE PAGE 5 FOR
INFORMATION, DIRECTIONS
AND
SIGN-UP FORM**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From: Brian Berggren

If you like "The Old Lamp Lighter", "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" and other music sung by Tony Bennett, Frankie Lane, Pat Boone, Frank Sinatra, and even the more "modern" ones sung by Elvis Presley, you would have really enjoyed the program Jim Berner provided for the potluck luncheon meeting in October. It was really enjoyed by all who attended. There were very good eats ranging from hamburger, sauerkraut casserole to Halloween decorated chocolate brownie pie, with a good variety of salads and other things thrown in.

We have three other topics that only members can do. First, if your newsletter address has 2008, you are in a group of several hundred that have not yet renewed. Second, we need you at the November meeting to vote for your officers and board of directors; we should all be practiced by the time of the program meeting. Last, our annual Dinner/Dance at the NCO Club is getting closer and Dorothy and Warren would appreciate early signups (it seems we get almost half our signups after Thanksgiving).

Respectfully, Brian Berggren, VIP Club President.

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS

Please send permanent address changes to Quintin Heckert 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.

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
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 Bernie Jansen, e-mail bjskj@hotmail.com
 Richard Lundgren, e-mail rflundgr@aol.com
 Don Naaktgeboren, e-mail donfishn@yahoo.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, from September through April, on the 4th Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. at Champs located at 35E and Larpenteur Avenue.

MEETING & EVENT DATES 2008

Date	Time	Location	Activity
Aug. 13	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program - Social Time
Sept. 10	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time
Oct. 08	11.30 a.m.	Rsvl	Pot Luck Program
Nov. 12	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social time
Dec. 11	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

Bartz, Rose & Armin	L	Maplewood, MN.
Danko, Joseph & Diane	U	N. St. Paul, MN.
Peterson, Dan	L	Bloomington, MN.

U = Unisys B = Burroughs L = Lockheed Martin D = Unisys Defense Systems

IN REMEMBRANCE

Fuller, Edward L. - Age 76, of Bloomington, MN. Passed away on Sept. 30, 2008. Preceded in death by wife, Myrna. Edward was a Univac Defense System employee.



Hoffman, Matthew Ralph - Age 55, of Coon Rapids, MN. Passed away at his home on October 8, 2008. Matthew is survived by his wife, Coleen. After serving nine years in the navy, Matthew worked as a Technical Writer at Unisys

Krieger, Grey D. - Age 82, of Cottage Grove, MN. Passed away September 12, 2008. Grey joined Univac in 1969 and worked in hardware and software configuration until he retired in 1986.

Nelson, Gerald D. (Jerry) - Age 75, of Burnsville, MN. Passed away September 22, 2008. Jerry is survived by wife of 50 years, Audrae (Clarke). Jerry worked for Honeywell, Sperry-Univac and Unisys.

Rawlings, Lindon L. - Age 60, of Woodbury, MN. Passed away on October 2, 2008. He is survived by loving wife of 33 years, Doreen. Lindon was a 35-year employee of Unisys Corporation.

Wesslund, Robert E. - Age 81, of Arlington Heights, IL. Passed away from colon cancer on Wednesday, September 17, 2008. Robert is survived by his wife of 56 years, Mary Margaret (nee Ries). Robert worked for Engineering Research Associates (ERA), which later became part of the Univac Division of the Sperry Rand Corporation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIP CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

The VIP Club's annual Christmas dinner/dance will be on Thursday, December 11th at the Ft. Snelling NCO Club. A reservation form, cost, etc. is shown on page 5.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY[©]

We've developed a new directory using our August membership database. You may request an electronic copy by sending an e-mail to labenson@usfamily.net. For those of you without e-mail, the board will have printed copies available for member pick up at our CLUB fall events beginning with the September 10th program at the Eagan Community Center. We won't be posting the Directory on the web to protect our listing from web phishing software. If you have requested a directory and have not received it, please send a new request because some early requests were lost due to an email problem. Submitted by Lowell Benson.

UNIHOGS/UNITURKEYS

Join friends at the City View (former Lost Spur) on Friday, November 21st. Social hour starts at 11 a.m. with cash bar. Sit down lunch at 12 noon. At 12:30 p.m. The program featuring Ron Q. Smith presenting an overview of a 'new' book "Unisys Computers: An Introductory History" followed by lunch participant reminiscing. Cost of the lunch is \$18 including tax, tip, room use, and free parking. We need a head count, so please mail your \$18 check payable to CITY VIEW, with your choice of Spurburger or Chicken Caesar indicated on the memo line. Mail to to Lowell Benson 1040 Ingerson Rd. Shoreview, MN. 55126-8146 **by the 14th of November**. Procrastinators may e-mail your intent to attend and meal selection to labenson@usfamily.net on 16 Nov., then pay at the door. Submitted by Lowell Benson.

OLD TIMERS GET TOGETHER

Old Timers at the O'Club - Our traditional 'Old F...' gathering begins at 11 a.m. on Thursday, December 4th. As in the past the cafeteria will be open for lunch starting about 12:15. A donation will be coerced at the door to cover extra bar tender costs, name tags, etc. [\$2 suggested]. Thanks to all who donated last year we were able to cover the facility costs without tapping standby financial backers. I still **need 5 or 6 volunteers** to remind people via e-mail or phone. Send a note to

labenson@usfamily.net if you are willing to help. You'll get a portion of our contact list before Nov. 20th for pre-Thanksgiving notification. We do need an approximate head count for the Cafeteria before Dec. 1st. Submitted by Lowell Benson.

LEGACY NEWS UPDATE

CBI SHINED ITS SPOTLIGHT ON ENGINEERING RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

The Charles Babbage Institute at the University of Minnesota is continuing its series of talks on "Minnesota's Hidden History in Computing." On October 8th, Dr. Tom Misa, director of CBI, featured the singular role of ERA as the seedbed of Minnesota's computer industry. The line of true succession, of course, leads down today to Lockheed Martin in Eagan to Unisys in Roseville. Other seeds from the bed also sprouted to form over 100 companies, the most notable of which was probably Control Data Corporation.

In the coming months, the Babbage Institute's topics will be as follows:

- 11/19 Control Data Corporation
- 12/17 Univac → Unisys
- 01/21 Honeywell
- Spring, dates TBD – IBM Rochester, early "Gopher" Internet, IBM's Blue Gene, and Biomedical technology

The location for the talks is Andersen Library 120 on the University of Minnesota, West Bank. For more info, go to www.cbi.umn.edu and click on "Minnesota's Hidden History in Computing" under SPOTLIGHT.

It should be noted that this series of talks is already drawing attendees from the employee/retiree ranks of CDC, Honeywell, various U of M departments, and many others. It makes for interesting interchanges.

SESQUICENTENNIAL FOLLOW-UP

In May of 2009 the Minnesota History Center will open its Minnesota's Greatest Generation (MGG) exhibit. Early G2 on MGG indicates that this is a well-planned, intriguing, exhibit both in layout and in technical content. Our wellspring company, ERA, will have its 1947 magnetic drum (property of the Minnesota Historical Society) featured as part of the MGG exhibit. Needless to say, ERA's early technological innovation helped spawn an industry that has ushered in the information age, which of course our children and grandchildren take for granted, as if it had been born with humanity in the post-Ice Age caves. Discussions are also currently underway with the Minnesota Historical Society regarding the transfer of certain artifacts (recognized as highly desirable) from our Sesquicentennial exhibit to MHS custody.

Submitted by Dick Lundgren, rflundgr@aol.com.

TRAFFIC SAFETY, 9 OF 9

Should I quit driving: There are multiple physiological reasons that some older drivers experience in driving safely, including slowed reaction time, cognitive processing, and reduced peripheral vision.



Although the vast majority of senior drivers are safe drivers who self-regulate their time behind the wheel – not driving at night for example – it would behoove each of us retirees to have one of our children or a ‘much younger’ friend take a Sunday afternoon ride – then have that trusted individual give his/her honest assessment about your/our possible driving problems such as driving at inappropriate speeds, riding the brake, difficulty maintaining lane position, or being easily distracted. **THEN LISTEN TO WHAT THEY SAY!**

When you have your annual physical, ask the doctor’s opinion about your fitness to keep driving. If you have arthritis in your right hip, knee, or ankle – see if a mechanic could modify your car for left footed accelerator and brake operation.

To find organizations that provide rides to seniors before you give up your keys, call the Senior LinkAge Line at 800-333-2433. Also, there is DARTS in Dakota County, Metro Mobility in the Twin Cities, the Anoka county Traveler, Scott Country Transit, and many other social service agencies that can help.

During the last year, I’ve smiled and thanked a couple of retirees who’ve told me that they no longer drive but have their children or former co-workers provide transportation needs. If any VIP Club member needs transportation to our events, contact a club officer via <http://vipclubmn.org/contactus.aspx>.

Thanks again to the Minnesota Safety Council for the most of the data presented in this Traffic Safety series. And, thanks to my friends at DPS and CTS for reviewing and editing this Traffic Safety article series. **BUCKLE UP for safety!** Submitted by Lowell Benson.

TRAVEL

The New 2009 Travel Catalogs Are Out!

- Escorted Train Adventures, including: breathtaking Lake Louise/Banff or Glacier Park in Montana.
- Cruise/Tours to Alaska starting in late May, through September.
- Unbelievable bargains for a completely relaxing, all-inclusive stay on the Riviera Maya in Mexico.
- Globus fully-escorted bus tours of Europe and the Greek Isles.
- See the USA! New York, Boston, San Diego, Philly, Washington, D.C. at Holiday Time.
- 4 or 5 day Trips to Branson by bus for their Holiday Shows, starting in November.
- Stay close to home and enjoy a one-day motorcoach tour that's sure to put you in the Christmas Spirit, like "Holiday Tea At Chateau LaMothe" (\$43) on 12/6, or "Lights Before Christmas" (\$53) on 12/16 or "Bachman's and Macy's Christmas Display" (\$43) on 11/18.

Call or email me for details. Join the fun! Yvonne Cecchini, 651-437-9278 or ycecchini@earthlink.net.

*****RENEWAL FORM—CUT HERE AND RETURN LOWER FORM*****

VIP CLUB APPLICATION AND RENEWAL FORM

Retiree Name: _____ Spouse: _____

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

Phone: () _____
New Member(s) _____
Renewing Member(s) _____

Company: Lockheed Martin & Predecessors: _____; Unisys: Burroughs: _____
 Check here if your address or phone number has changed

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

**VIP CLUB
P.O. Box 131748
Roseville MN 55113-0020**

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

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ABOUT THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

5:45 pm – 7:15 pm **Initial social time with hors d'oeuvres**
7:15 pm - 8:00 pm+ **Enjoy an elegant sit down dinner with your choice of Top Sirloin, Champagne Chicken or Walleye**
8:00 pm - 11:00 pm **Dancing to the music you like by The Connie Villars Quartette.**

_____ PARTY FORM _____ CUT HERE AND RETURN LOWER PORTION _____

VIP CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY, Dinner-Dance Reservation Form

Please reserve, at \$25.00 each, _____ place(s) for the Annual VIP Club Christmas Party, Dinner & Dance being held Thursday, December 11, 2008 at the NCO Club at the Air Force Base off Hwy 62. The social time begins at 5:45 pm with hors d'oeuvres. Dinner will be served at 7:15. At 8 pm the Connie Villars Quartette will play music for your listening and dancing enjoyment. Please send in your reservations now, since seating is limited. **Your reservation must be received by Dec. 3rd.** If your reservation is for more than 2 persons, please attach a list of added names and you will be all seated together at a reserved table.

Picture ID required for entry to Air Force Base.

Check here () if you have attached _____ additional names.

Names: _____

Address _____, _____

Entree selection(s) & qty.: Top Sirloin _____; Champagne Chicken _____; Walleye _____

Please make your check or checks payable to: **VIP CLUB**

Mail to: Dorothy Becker
 8630 Queen Avenue South Phone: 952-881-3516
 Bloomington, MN 55431

DIRECTIONS TO NCO CLUB

- 1) When approaching from the East, going West on Hwy 62, take the 34th Avenue exit and make a right turn heading East on the North Frontage Road to 34th Avenue. Then make a right turn onto 34th Avenue (heading South) and cross over the Hwy 62 overpass and proceed until it ends (about one block), then make a sharp left turn and stop at the base Security gate for check in.
- 2). When approaching from the West, going East on Hwy 62, take the 34th Avenue exit and make a right turn onto the South Frontage Road and continue to the 34th Avenue stop sign. Then make a left turn onto 34th Avenue and proceed until it ends (about one block), then make a sharp left turn and stop at the base Security gate for check in.

**VIP CLUB
P.O. BOX 131748
ROSEVILLE MN 55113-0020**

VIP CLUB OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS FOR THE YEAR 2008

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

<p>BOARD OF DIRECTORS:</p> <p>OFFICERS President Brian Berggren *451-9009 Vice Pres Thomas Turba *489-0779 Secretary.....Lynn Lindholm *484-1030 TreasurerLowell Benson *483-3709 Past PresBernie Jansen *681-9988</p> <p>DIRECTORS DirectorDale Phelps #831-7843 Director Quintin Heckert *484-8729 DirectorJoseph Schwarz *698-9698 DirectorMarion Scott *455-7952</p>	<p>VOLUNTEER CHAIRPERSONS</p> <p>Red Cross Blood Drive Marion Scott..... *455-7952</p> <p>ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS Membership Quintin Heckert *484-8729 Programs - Eagan and Roseville..... Dale Phelps #831-7843 Newsletter Editors Brian Berggren *451-9009 & Joe Schwarz *698-9698 email address: vipclub2003@yahoo.com WEBMASTER Lowell Benson *483 3709</p>	<p>ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS</p> <p>ChristmasDorothy Becker #881-3516 Picnic..... Chuck Homan *699-5180</p> <p>Metro Sr. Fed..... Brian Berggren *451-9009 Jim Larson *698-3963</p> <p>Sunshine Jim Larson *698-3963 Lynn Farris Lindholm *484-1030</p> <p>Travel Opportunities Yvonne Cecchini at *437-9278</p>
<p>UNISYS Liaison, Roseville Sue Carrigan *635-7955 Mailing UNISYS Print Shop, Roseville</p>	<p>Lockheed Martin, Eagan Liaison... Tierney Helmers *456-4963 Printing &</p>	

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 Road. It 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.