

VIP Club Newsletter

VOLUME 29, NO. 11

<http://vipclubmn.org>

NOVEMBER 2009

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, Nov 04	Board Meeting, Eagan	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, Nov 11	Eagan, Program & Social Time	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 02	Board Meeting, Roseville	10:00 a.m.
Thursday, December 10	Christmas Party NCO Club	5.45 p.m.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM: EAGAN

Christmas! Yikes! Who wants to think about that already? Well, we don't. We know its ship is lurking out there on the horizon with the upper tip of its main mast starting to be visible, but we're looking backward. We're seeing Christmases in the rear view mirror, Christmas last and Christmas past. It's time for a trip back to the holidays of our youth and the memorable experiences that are still with us. We will relive them on a cruise of nostalgia, captained and mastered by Jim Neagbour. Jim is a historian of America's most beloved holiday and he'll give us a presentation entitled "*100 years of Christmas at Dayton's Department Store: A Minneapolis Tradition.*" We'll take a look at how Dayton's store functioned during the Christmas season by reviewing the various window displays, unique gifts, store promotions, Santa Land, the unforgettable auditorium displays, and a general history of the Minneapolis retail store. We'll also take a look at the "behind the scenes" action by examining detailed planning, store management, and the store employees who made the Dayton name synonymous with Christmas shopping. Jim's lectures, a fun mix of history and nostalgia, have been presented to audiences at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, the Walker Museum, the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and many other venues within MN and without. He has also been featured in local and national newspapers and magazines as well as on KARE TV. In addition he has created exhibits and taught adult education classes on the traditions and history of Christmas. Come enjoy his talk and realize the reawakening of your own personal experiences.

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our annual VIP Club Christmas Party is on a Thursday this year; December 10 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 7).

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

**IF YOUR ADDRESS LABEL HAS 2009
AFTER YOUR NAME, YOU ARE NOT PAID FOR
2010. PLEASE USE THE MEMBERSHIP
COUPON ON PAGE 6**

**SIGN UP NOW
CHRISTMAS PARTY
SEE PAGE 7 FOR
INFORMATION, DIRECTIONS
AND
SIGN-UP FORM**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From: Tom Turba

We had a very good turnout, over 40 people, for the October program meeting. Ice cream and pumpkin pie were served during the social time before the program. The program was a well documented presentation on life in Cuba as seen on my trip there a few years ago. Everyone enjoyed getting a glimpse of what life is like in a country only 90 miles away from the U.S. but with a life style that is a half century or more away from what we are used to, and in a place most of us cannot legally visit.

Our next program meeting will be in November in Eagan. This is the meeting where the election of officers for next year's VIP Club officers will be held. If you know of anyone that wants to fill an officer's position, we would be glad to add their name to the list of candidates.

With the arrival of the first snow, we know that the seasons are changing and that the Christmas party will soon be here. If you have not already done so, mark your calendars for Thursday, December 10th, send in your reservation form, (see page 7), and tell your friends that you are looking forward to seeing them at the annual, fun filled, VIP Club Christmas party. Respectfully, Tom Turba, VIP Club President.

From the Editors



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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, from September through April, on the 4th Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. at Champs located at 35E and Larpenteur Avenue.

MEETING & EVENT DATES 2009

Date	Time	Location	Activity
Aug. 12	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program - Social Time
Sept. 09	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time
Oct. 14	6.30 p.m.	Rsvl	Social Program
Nov. 11	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social time
Dec. 10	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

Bower, Edwin & Nancy U Mesa, AZ.
Meyer, David & Deborah L St. Paul, MN.
U = Unisys B = Burroughs L = Lockheed Martin D = Unisys Defense Systems

IN REMEMBRANCE



Anderson, Jerome Roy - Age 84 of Apple Valley, MN. Passed away August 30, 2009. Jerome was preceded in death by his wife, Thelma. Jerome was a Unisys retiree with 36 years of service.

Anderson, Roland "Andy" – Age 84 of Merrifield, MN. Passed away August 14, 2009. Andy is survived by his wife, Leola. Andy was a longtime commercial Univac employee, he retired from Univac Roseville operations in 1984 with over thirty years of service. Andy was also a long time VIP Club member.

Butcher, Wilbert (Bill) – Age 78 of Puerto Morelos, Mexico. Passed away 14 August 2009 after a long illness. He is survived by his wife, Coni. Bill worked for Lockheed Martin, Univac, and Unisys from 1961 through December 1986. Bill retired from Univac in December 1986.

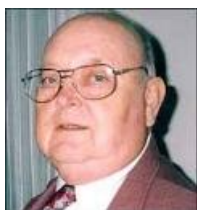
Danielson, Anita C. - Age 75 of Shoreview, MN. Passed away July 11, 2009. Anita was a long time employee and retired from Sperry Univac, plant 1 in St. Paul, MN.

Davidson, Larry – Age 64 of Inver Grove Heights. Passed away on August 24, 2009. Survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Edie. Larry was employed by Sperry/Unisys for 34 years.



Desrocher, Kathleen Fay - Age 64 of Inver Grove Heights. Passed away August 12, 2009. Survived by her husband of 42 years, Robert. Kathleen was a faithful employee of Univac, now Lockheed Martin for 40 years.

David J. Dzubay, - Age 68 of Alexandria, formerly of Lakeville, MN. Passed away October 12, 2009. Survived by his wife, Janet. David was a Lockheed Martin retiree and a member of the VIP Club.



Finch, Robert P. - Age 75 of Apple Valley, MN. Survived by brother, Thomas M. and sister-in-law, Joan M. Finch. Robert was a Unisys retiree having worked for over 35 years at Sperry Univac/Unisys. Robert was a VIP Club Member.



Fuss, Rudolph J. (Rudy) - Age 79 of Minnetonka, MN. Passed away peacefully on September 30, 2009. Rudy is survived by his wife of 58 years, Trudy. Rudy was a Unisys retiree.

Garrett, Dorothy A. - Of Nisswa, MN. Passed away on June 1, 2009. She is survived by her husband, Seth. Dorothy worked for many years at Sperry Rand and Univac in Plant 4 in Roseville.

Streich, Marlys E. - Age 77, of Circle Pines, MN. Passed away on August 20, 2009. She is survived by

her husband of 57 years, Alvin. Marlys was a 30-plus year employee of Unisys Corporation.

Strelnieks, Richard – Age 71 of Minneapolis, MN. Passed away on Sept. 12, 2009. Preceded in death by beloved wife, Aija. Richard was a Lockheed Martin retiree.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOVEMBER ELECTIONS

No, this is not a reminder to get familiar with your school board candidates. But it is almost as important. Our club election of officers and directors happens at the November meeting. We would like to see a few new faces at the board meetings and a few new names on the ballot.

Every time a fresh member takes a seat at the board table, a new energy seems to affect the group and a new look is given to events and programs. Be our next agent of change and help your club to continue growing and evolving. Call Brian, Bernie, Dale, or Dick – your 2009 Nominating Committee.

E-NEWS TIDBITS

Our October newsletter was electronically delivered to 373 members, the internet system only bounced one of these. Several more of our readers have signed up for e-news as part of the annual membership renewal process – we are close to our 2009 goal of having 40% electronic delivery. We also continue to update our database with new member e-mail addresses as dial-up service opt out e-news notifications. You may test the speed of your system by experimentally downloading any of our archived newsletters from <http://vipclubmn.org/archive.aspx> before deciding to sign-up for electronic versus continuing with Uncle Sam's slower postal delivery. Submitted by L. A. Benson.

MEMBERSHIP DUES HAVE INCREASED

At the May board meeting, the Board voted to raise membership dues effective July 1, 2009. For new joiners or membership renewals, the fees will be \$7 per year or \$18 for three years. Members who have already paid the current rate for one or more years won't pay the new fee until their present membership expires. One member has already renewed at the new rate! Submitted by L. A. Benson.

UPCOMING FALL EVENTS:

November 20th, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

UniHogs/UniTurkeys at the City View.

December 3rd, 11 a.m. to 2 Old Timers at the Ft. Snelling Officer's Club.

December 10th, 5:45 p.m. to 10 - VIP Club Christmas dinner & dance at the Ft. Snelling Service Club.

UNIHOGS/UNITURKEYS

The Unihogs/Uniturkeys will gather at the City View on November 20th. Happy hour at 11 a.m. with your lunch choice served at noon, either the Spur Burger or Chicken Caesar Salad. Reservations to a planning committee member are due by 14 November, see <http://vipclubmn.org/Documents/Announcement09.pdf> for details.

OLD TIMERS

The 'Old Timers' meeting at the Ft. Snelling Officer's Club begins at 11 a.m. on Thursday December 3rd. We need an attendee estimate, send a note to labenson@usfamily.net by November 1st if you are willing to e-mail or call a list of past participants.

OPEN HOUSE & TECHNOLOGY FORUM

The U of MN's Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) hosted their annual forum on October 9th. Club President, Tom Turba, and VP, Lowell Benson, set up a 'computer history' display using artifacts from the Legacy Committee, signboards from last year's Sesquicentennial Team, and a booth



back-wall support courtesy of Dave's Custom Fabrication [www.dcfmfg.com]. About 65% of the 50 displays at the forum were poster papers by students about their student research projects.

Industry booths including 3M, Microsoft, Cisco Systems, IBM, etc. focused on new products including the emerging Windows 7 PC operating system. A few students asked where our main office was and whether we were hiring. CSE Dean, Dr. Vipin Kumar, was quite interested in our 60 year corporate history chart and thanked us for participating in the forum. Also, a few former employees stopped by just to chat. Submitted by LABenson.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE

H2O: Uncertain Resource was the theme of last month's Nobel Conference 45 at Gustavus Adolphus College. The presenters' addresses ranged from global to local, from shortages to adequate but poorly managed, from clean to wastewater.

Nobel Laureate Rajendra K. Pachauri, chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and director of The Energy and Resources Institute in India, spoke to climate change and global peace. With our global mean temperature having risen 0.075 degree C. over the past 120 years and 0.128, a number almost twice as great, in only the last 50 years, and with 11 of

the last 12 years the warmest on record, Dr. Pachauri stressed the higher extreme event frequency of heavy precipitation, heat waves, and tropical cyclones.

Water availability puts 700 million people in 43 countries below the water-stress threshold – this includes one-fourth of sub-Saharan Africa. Changes in precipitation patterns are likely to reduce runoff in the Mediterranean watershed by 40% and increase runoff in Siberia by a like amount. Glacier melting is decreasing river flows that supply water to one-sixth of the world population. Dr. Pachauri closed by saying climate change mitigation costs would cost only 3% of world GDP to 2030.

Prof. Nancy Rabelais spoke of Nutrients, Nutrients Everywhere and Not a Drop to Drink in the Gulf of Mexico hypoxic zone, where she monitors what comes into the Gulf. The Mississippi Watershed drains 41% of the U.S. in an area that contains 58% of our agriculture and the high nitrogen and phosphorus levels in runoff lead to the algae growth and stratification that define the hypoxic zone. As director of Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium, Dr. Rabelais and her team report on the nutrient mix and zone size, which can reach the size of New Jersey with a depth of 15 to 100 feet? The Upper Mississippi basin is the principal source of nutrients from agricultural runoff. Regardless of the data, states and farm programs will determine when runoff is reduced.

Dr. David Sedlak is a water chemist at the Univ. of California-Berkeley who developed methods for measuring endocrine disruptors (steroids) in wastewater. With steroid levels of 1 nanogram/liter feminizing fish and 4 ng/l available in treated sewage, better treatment is needed if our communities cannot get adequate clean water. The wastewater from a river city may be the next downstream city's "clean" water, and with sweeteners, antimicrobials, and other hormones at levels of 6 ng/l, plus industrial chemicals and even nitrosdimethylamine contamination from the chlorine purification process, trace concentrations accumulate and make treatment ever more difficult. Dr. Sedlak said multiple barrier treatment using reverse osmosis and ultraviolet/hydrogen peroxide worked well, but the better results use wetlands where biodegradation (plant bacteria) and photo degradation remove chemical contaminants.

Dr. Peter Gleick, Pacific Institute president suggests Water for the 21st Century may best satisfy our needs through a "soft path." Recognizing that the U.S. uses less water now than in 1980, he recommends community and watershed level management, wastewater reuse, rainwater capture, and realistically pricing water to avoid future supply problems. By rethinking demand for agriculture, golf courses, lawns, and pools, and by matching quality of water with

quality needed, Dr. Gleick is confident we can have adequate water and avoid more massive water transport projects.

An absolutely best for last talk was given by Dr. Agit Biswas, head of the Third World Center for Water Management, an 18 country coalition based in Mexico City. The title of his talk was Water Crisis: Myth or Reality, and he gave the conclusion in the first sentence – there is no crisis in physical scarcity. However, we do have a crisis in water management.

Dr. Biswas says we will not have water wars, that the population and land should not be a constraint, that growth of megacities has slowed (medium and smaller cities have three times the growth), and that ruralization and communities of 2500 or less is the new growth model.

What we do have is agriculture using 70% of available water. Using USDA numbers, Dr. Biswas tells us 27% of food in the U.S. is lost or wasted. In the developed world, 31% is tossed. In the developing world, using India's figures, over 50% of food doesn't get to the consumer, and cereal losses are 33%. (Part of the reason for the higher losses is that only 2% of India's food is processed.) Better practices reduce water need.

Next, Dr. Biswas shares that rice research has developed new varieties that can tolerate 4 weeks of flooding; less than a week of flooding will destroy current varieties. We also should expect to see the biotech companies come out with pest and salt tolerant varieties. This is so significant because much of the developing world receives the whole year's rainfall in 80 to 100 hours!

The industrial share of water is seeing a huge reduction in need. Nestle used to use 5 liters of water for each dollar of sales; the current number is 1.81 l/\$. Even larger reductions have occurred in steel making and other water intensive industries.

Lastly, Dr. Biswas addressed domestic water losses in our municipal systems. "Unaccounted for water" losses of 40-60% are common and the U.S. is included in this problem area. He said Singapore, when threatened with a supply loss by Malaysia, re-priced and rebuilt its water system and now has losses of 5%. Similarly, Phnom Pen had an essentially free system with 73% loss that was reduced to 6.2%. Like Dr. Gleick, Dr. Biswas is optimistic and confident that the resource we most need will not become scarce for most of the world's population. Submitted by Brian Berggren.

LEGACY NEWS UPDATE

A MUSEUM IN THE WIND?

Secret high level meetings have recently (Sept. 30) taken place between members of the VIP Club and

representatives of the Minnesota Air National Guard (MN ANG) with independent neutral observers also present. (Translation: Some of us VIP guys met with some of those MN ANG guys, along with some hangers-on to discuss an interesting future option.) One VIP Club operative was on special assignment in Morocco and could not attend. As in any such "negotiation" they have what we want (or can get) and we have what they want (or can get), and the third party independents want the best of both worlds (a win-win situation).

To be a bit more specific, the MN ANG currently has an aviation museum adjacent to the MSP (Minneapolis St. Paul) airport, but it has reached its limits of displaying/maintaining aircraft (indoors and outdoors) and of the many services it can provide to the general public. The MN ANG has well thought out plans for a future multi-faceted aviation museum, and we are in a position to be part of the effort. It will be a chance for us to tell our legacy story and to gain some museum space to display relevant artifacts.

Ground breaking is not close enough to start chilling the bubbly just yet. In fact, land acquisition is not even locked in yet, and that whole process involves about as many players as the U.N. often has to deal with. However, land is "available" from the old Ft. Snelling area and the location would be ideal. What the ANG hopes to get is about 20 acres to establish the largest flight museum in the upper Midwest. Clearly many more aircraft could be on display, and a much larger building (read museum/education complex) could be built and dedicated to all aspects of aviation/flight. This is where our opportunity lies.

The current aviation museum as well as the future one would have dual themes: Aviation and Minnesota. We (the MN units of our companies - Unisys and Lockheed Martin and predecessors) have played huge roles in the aviation/aerospace arenas, and we should be proud of it and we should tout it in a world class museum facility. We can bring to the table our legacy of many "air-related" systems – air tracking, air traffic control, airline reservations, air cargo handling, missile guidance (ground based and missile borne), air surveillance, air sovereignty, airborne computers in many different military aircraft, NASA astronaut training, and much more. The ANG new museum can provide us the venue, and we can enrich their collections, their education, their historical perspective, and our collective local pride.

Future articles in this section will keep you posted of developments, but in the meantime think "air." We will need to know computer/system nomenclature and functions as related to the airborne/space borne world, and future "perfect fits" for this new dream. If you worked any aspect of any "air-related" product or

system from concept to design to manufacturing to follow-on support, we'll be asking for your inputs. So refresh and fine tune your "air" memories, and they'll become part of our MN legacy. Submitted by Richard Lundgren.

TRAVEL

TRAVEL TEMPTATIONS

There are still a few seats left for Branson Christmas Bus Tours Nov. 3 thru Dec. 7. 6 nights, 5 shows, hotels, 6 meals, shopping time, area tour. \$659 pp dbl.-\$100 deposit.

Ring in the New Year with friends at the beautiful new Northern Lights Casino & Hotel in Walker MN-Dec. 30-31. Just \$69pp dbl. covers motorcoach w/escort, hotel, \$50 in \$10 increments, \$3 food coupon, hats & noisemakers for New Year's celebration. Join the fun!

Other December Events include:

12/1 – TOURCO's "A Musical Christmas" annual party at the St. Croix Casino Event Center with Southside Singers, Jim Berger, Baked Chicken lunch. Book early! \$34.95pp

12/3-"Christmas in the Mansions"- tour Musser & Weyerhaeuser mansions, Little Falls, decked in Holiday glory. Lunch included. \$51 pp.

12/8 – Christmas Time at the Swedish Institute – First a tour, then a sit-down traditional smorgasboard. Next, the program "Christmas Time in Sweden" followed by shopping at the Ingebretson Market, a Scandinavian store. \$54.

Yvonne Cecchini, your personal, full-service Travel Agent, 651-437-9278, email: ycecchini@earthlink.net

LIGHTER SIDE

Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, 'My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him \$50.' The second boy says, 'That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on piece of paper, he calls it a song, they give him \$100.' The third boy says, 'I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!'

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, 'Why is the bride dressed in white?' The mother replied, 'Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life.' The child thought about this for a moment then said, 'So why is the groom wearing black?'

An elderly woman died last month. Having never married, she requested no male pallbearers. In her handwritten instructions for her memorial service, she wrote, 'They wouldn't take me out while I was alive, I don't want them to take me out when I'm dead.'

A police recruit was asked during the exam, 'What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?' He answered, 'Call for backup.'

VIP CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM: New Renewal Address Change .
Dues are: \$7.00 for 1 year or \$ 18.00 for 3 years .
 I worked years at UNISYS or Lockheed Martin or Predecessor Company .

MAIL FORM WITH CHECK TO: VIP Club P.O. Box 131748 Roseville, MN 55113-0020

 Name, First M.I. Spouse

 Street Address or P.O. Box City, State Zip Code

() @
 Telephone number E-mail address (if available)

Newsletter delivery mode? Electronic* or U.S. Mail . *DSL or faster recommended

Include my information in the Club's Directory? Yes No
 ©8/25/2009 *The DIRECTORY is only available to members!*

VIP CLUB DUES \$7 PER YEAR OR \$18 FOR THREE YEARS

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 Grilled Salmon**
8:00 pm - 10:00 pm **Dancing to the music you like by The Connie Villars Quartette.**

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 10, 2009 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 and at 8:00 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. 1st.** 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 ____; Grilled Salmon ____

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

Mail to: Dorothy Becker #401
 9401 Lyndale Ave South
 Bloomington, MN 55420

Phone: 952-881-3516

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.

