

VIP Club Newsletter

VOLUME 29, NO. 12
<http://www.vipclubmn.org>
DECEMBER 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, December 02	Board Meeting, Roseville	10:00 a.m.
Thursday, December 10	Christmas Party NCO Club	5.45 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan 06	Board Meeting, Eagan	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, Jan 13	No General Meeting	

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY

TIME IS RUNNING OUT—LAST NOTICE

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).

JANUARY PROGRAM: EAGAN

No general meeting scheduled for January.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM: ROSEVILLE

NATIONAL RENOWN has become the new standard for selection for our VIP Club programs, and the February 2010 show-stopper program will be a prime example. Our guest will be **Charlie Maguire**, singer/songwriter/storyteller/recording artist and nationally acclaimed for his music in the American folk tradition. Charlie brings his voice, guitar, harmonica, spoons, and jaw harp for a one-of-a-kind-program of songs and stories about Minnesota. At last year's Sesquicentennial Celebration at the Minnesota State Fair, Charlie entertained as "**The Minnesota Sesquicentennial Troubadour**" on the big Sesquicentennial stage, and even though our company history exhibit nearby was a big

draw, he clearly left us in the dust with his immense popularity. and his crowd-pleasing performances.



Charlie hails from upstate New York, and with an early affection for the guitar and 60's era influence from Pete Seeger ("Your songs are damn good and so are you." said Pete), Arlo Guthrie, and others, Charlie headed west seeking fertile ground to plant the seeds of his enormously engaging talent. He took his liberal arts degree in 1970 from Northland College in Ashland, WI, did public service in VISTA, and then landed here in MN where he accidentally met Garrison Keillor. This relationship

UNISYS

LOCKHEED MARTIN



culminated in 1974 with the start of a 10-year stint with *Prairie Home Companion*. In 1991, with the 100th anniversary of Lake Itasca State Park, Charlie was designated the State Parks' "Centennial Troubadour". In 1995 he became the first and only "Singing Ranger" for the National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior. Charlie has penned more than 800 tunes, many of them honoring Minnesota's natural history, and he teaches a course in songwriting as an adjunct professor at Hamline. Come and feel at home with this great program.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
From: Tom Turba

The election of officers for the VIP Club for next year was held at the November meeting and congratulations are given to the current set of officers who will remain in place for another year.

We had an interesting program on the history of Dayton's store that focused on what they had done for Christmas over the 100 years they were with us and the people that made it happen; from animated window displays, the train kids could ride in the store, the giant storefront decorations and the memorable Christmas packages they always had for boxing gifts. For those that missed it, a somewhat similar historical presentation on Christmas in the Twin Cities will be given at the James Hill House in St. Paul on Dec. 8th.

Our next program meeting will be the Christmas party on Thursday, December 10th. If you have not already sent in your reservation, clip out the form in the Newsletter right now and send it in with your check. We will again have good hors d'oeuvres, an open bar, good food, good fellowship and music and dancing. Have someone you used to work with come with you and share a table. This is always a fun event. I look forward to seeing you there.

Respectfully, Tom Turba, VIP Club President.

**LAST CHANCE TO
SIGN UP FOR THE
CHRISTMAS PARTY
SEE PAGE 7 FOR
INFORMATION, DIRECTIONS
AND SIGN-UP FORM**

**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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Activity</u>
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

Deodhar, Anil & Usha L Eagan, MN.

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

IN REMEMBRANCE

Balzer, Richard J. - Age 76, of Plymouth, MN. Lost his battle with cancer October 11, 2009. Survived by wife of 48 years, Mary. Richard was a Lockheed Martin retiree and a member of the Lockheed Martin trap and skeet club.

Benrud, Vernal M. - Age 87 of Northfield formerly of Eagan, MN. Vernal was a electrical engineer for Sperry Univac. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marion.



Domeier, Duane Philip - Age 69 of Red Wing, MN. Duane passed away Wednesday, Nov. 4, at Regions Hospital in St. Paul, MN. He is survived by his wife, Marian. Duane worked at Lockheed Martin in Eagan, MN. as a computer hardware instructor until his retirement in

the fall of 1998.



Dumas, Richard 1940-2009. Dick died of mesothelioma or lung cancer. He is survived by his wife, Kathy. He was employed for 35 years as a software engineer at UNISYS.



LeRoy Hautala - Age 72 of Bear River, MN. Formerly of Minneapolis, MN. LeRoy worked for Lockheed-Martin in St. Paul for 38 years.

Watson, Thomas David - Born 9/8/39 and passed away at home in Minneapolis, MN. on 11/3/09. Tom is preceded in death by his wife, Dinah. Tom worked in both Program Management and Marketing at Sperry/UNISYS for almost 20 years. Tom retired from Lockheed Martin in 1996.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLOODMOBILE INFORMATION

Bloodmobile Information from Marion Scott:

Thank you to all the volunteers who worked at the Unisys Roseville, Unisys MACS and Lockheed Martin blood drives in 2009. Volunteering were:

Gene Achterberg, Hank Dotzler, Geri Dotzler, Jim Drabek, LeRoy Dubois, Loretta Dubois, Millie Gignac, Roger Gillette, Nancy Goutanis, Gary Herman, Bernie Jansen, Kathy Jansen, Bob Langer, William Madden, Roy Nelson, Dick Ney,

Dale Phelps, Ruth Sanford, Marion Scott, Tom Turba, and Eugene Webster. My sincere thanks to each of you for your volunteer work. Marion Scott.

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 5.

E-NEWS TIDBITS, by Lowell Benson

Our November newsletter was electronically delivered to 388 members, 37.6%, of our total membership. Viva the SPAM blockers, however our newsletter isn't intended to be SPAM! It seems that our website e-mail uses hotmail servers, thus rejected some addresses which worked before. Please make sure that your personal account doesn't blocks messages sent with BCC so our newsletter@vipclubmn.org newsletter transmittal source won't be blocked.

To date 11.3%, 117, have opted to continue with U.S. Mail delivery. To complete the statistics, we don't have an e-mail address for 42% of our membership and 9% of you for whom we have an e-mail address haven't given us a *yea* or *neigh* to 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.

CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENTS: OLD TIMERS'

The 'Old Timers' celebration at the Ft. Snelling Officer's Club begins at 11 a.m. on Thursday December 3rd with registration and the cash bar. A \$1 donation is requested to cover our pre-printed name tag costs. Cafeteria lunch is available about noon. If you thought you were on the 'CALL' list but haven't been called nor received a reminder – send a '*plan to attend*' e-mail to labenson@usfamily.net by November 29 – let him know if you *plan to eat* so that we can give the O'Club staff an attendee estimate.

UNIHOOG/UNITURKEYS 2009 REPORT

At VIP Newsletter press deadline time, 35 persons have signed up for the City View on 20 November to reminisce with former co-workers. Our Legacy Committee provided a slide show of artifacts and former facility pictures to stimulate our memories. Jack Ross was our master of ceremonies. Following our luncheon protocol, planning committee chairman Fred Vihovde read the list of deceased individuals from the previous year.

October Program Re-cap

In this newsletter we are including a sheet of snapshots taken at the October meeting (page 6). Forty-four persons were there – we'll never know whether it was the lure of pumpkin pie with ice cream or the excellent slide show about Cuba. If you were there and aren't in the collage, Lowell apologizes for not including a couple pictures of those who had eyes closed or a fork in their mouth when the flash went off. Quint served the pie and Lowell the ice cream – thanks to President Tom Turba for the slides and talk.

In general, the board thinks that this was a more successful fall program than the pot-luck luncheons or dinners of previous years. We would be appreciative of member feedback – if you'd like a repeat ice cream and pie social next October, call one of the board members to express your opinion. We are also open to slide show suggestions from others who have had unique travels.

LEGACY NEWS UPDATE

LEGACY – WRAPPING UP 2009; BOLDLY GOING FORWARD

To date, the LM legacy project has been unfunded and undirected. We consider this a double bonus. Had we had funding, it would have been accompanied by schedules, milestones, and probably even judgmental evaluations. Had we had direction, we would probably have been three years further behind from where we are now. So we are content with our approach. We have (we are) our own inertial navigation system, relying on mutual goals and our experience-based instincts.

The year 2009 started with the conclusion of the 2008 Minnesota Sesquicentennial celebration. We have played an important economic role in Minnesota's first 150 years, and we were invited to contribute to the Sesquicentennial time capsule which will be opened in 2057. A retrospective report will be provided at that time, perhaps by this writer's grandson. The year continued with our investigative team mining the past - unearthing the artifacts of our legacy in photographic form and in documentation. The detective work is paying off as we continue to reconstruct the string of events in our early history. We have also been collaborating with the Charles Babbage Institute at the University of Minnesota to evaluate our work and share our pride. A recent presentation by CBI director Dr. Tom Misa has strengthened and expanded our claims of primacy. Of course, primacy in the world of computer development is not so different from primacy in the automotive world. Who made the first car? Who made the first thing that looked like a car? Who made the first thing that looked like a car and actually ran for a few minutes? Who made the first "car" that actually ran, carried passengers to a destination, and returned for more without failure? Who made the first mass-produced, affordable, reliable, admirable, braggable, commercial

product called a car? Et cetera. Well, we know where we stand, not with cars, but with computers, and we're solid.

Is our legacy effort coming to a close? Is the auto industry a museum relic? Unequivocally, no. The perimeter of our future is expanding faster than we approach it. We have prospects for local museum involvement which we would cheer. We have prospects for a video documentary of our early fight-for-survival years which we would laud. And we have prospects for anticipating/witnessing the critical achievements of our younger employees as they trod the unbeaten paths. Today's business activities are tomorrow's legacy, and we'll track it. Submitted by Richard Lundgren.

LIGHTER SIDE

WHAT'S A CENTURY BEEN WORTH? MULL OVER THE FOLLOWING AND BE AMUSED.

It's been a century since 1909, and most who have lived through all or a great part of it have seen global changes of a magnitude rivaling the impact of the great flood, tsunamis, nuclear devastation, and genetic engineering. So what was life like in the U.S. in 1909 and what kept the gossipers gossiping and the news reporters challenging each other for attention grabbing headlines?

The car was almost new in 1909 and believe it or not, there were 200 automobile companies at that time. As we well know, the herd has been significantly culled as a result of cutthroat competition and all sorts of tactics legal and otherwise, but today we love and absolutely depend on our vehicles of mobility. Also in 1909 the U.S. was extracting itself from a questionable military involvement. It was called Cuba. The U.S. also established a major naval installation on land that wasn't even a state. It was called Pearl Harbor and would sit comfortably for another 30 years before its name gained instant recognition and eternal significance. The NAACP was founded, sparked in part by a race riot in Springfield, IL in 1908. And then there were two guys named Braun (Karl Ferdinand) and Marconi (Guglielmo), a German and an Italian, who shared the 1909 Nobel in Physics "in recognition of their contributions to the development of wireless telegraphy." Their work launched a whole new industry that today we love and absolutely depend upon daily.

And to whom did 1909 give birth? Do you like music and entertainment? How about Victor Borge, Johnny Mercer, Gene Krupa, Burl Ives and Benny Goodman? Are you into sports? How about Connie Desmond, Red Pollard, Pinky Higgins, Bucky Walters and Henry Longhurst? Do you crave the political scene? 1909 gave birth to Barry Goldwater, U Thant, Dean Rusk, Earl Butz, Joseph R. McCarthy and Kwame Nkrumah. Are you a fan of the funnies and cartoon characters? 1909 gave us Al Capp and Herblock. And what did '09 (they called it "ought nine") deliver in swaddling clothes to the entertainment world?

Among others, Errol Flynn, James Mason, Douglas Fairbanks Jr., Ruby Keeler, Jessica Tandy, Col. Tom Parker and Elia Kazan. And in the business world came Ernest Gallo, Edwin Land, J. R. Simplot, Harry Helmsley, Jean Bugatti and Ferry Porsche.

Just for fun, try to match up the names above with: the Polaroid camera, Secretary-General of the United Nations, King of Swing, first president of Ghana, secretary of state,

secretary of agriculture, one time owner of the Empire State building, Brooklyn Dodgers, a feared politician, singers/songwriters/musicians, Idaho potatoes, sports/golf broadcasting, right wing conservative, Seabiscuit, Holly Jolly, Denmark export, drinkable/affordable wine, Elvis's manager, and German car designers. Submitted by Dick Lundgren.

WHO ARE YOU?

Our web site now has a new page with some 'Old Photos' and some new photos – we need help to identify the persons therein. Take a look at <http://vipclubmn.org/WhoIsIt.aspx>, then e-mail us with your identifications of the un-named persons. We expect to have more photos of this ilk as our Legacy Committee catalogers go through four file cabinets of photos accumulated at LMCO. One of the more intriguing pictures is from the ERA 40 year celebration shown below. We've identified the first and third persons as 'Rollie' Anderson and Lou Cramer. The fourth person may be Laverle. Any readers help in identifying the others is welcome.



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

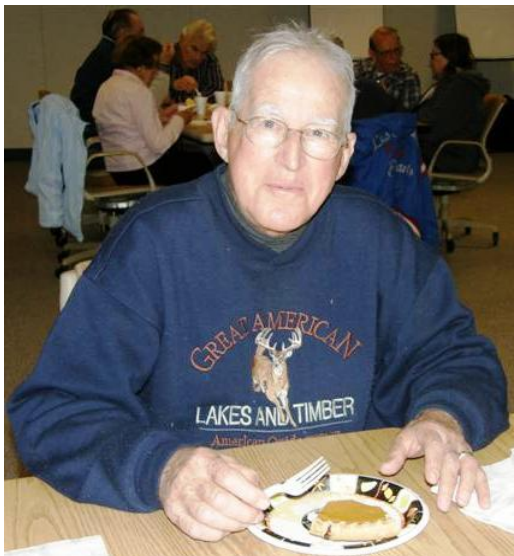
() @

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



Pies were **GREAT!**



October 14,
2008



*.jpg images available, e-mail webmaster@vipclubmn.org



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.

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

VIP CLUB OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS FOR THE YEAR 2009

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
OFFICERS
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DirectorDale Phelps #831-7843
Director Quintin Heckert *484-8729
DirectorJoseph Schwarz *698-9698
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Bernie Jansen *651-681-9988
Red Cross Blood Drive
Marion Scott..... *455-7952

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Membership Quintin Heckert *484-8729
Programs - Eagan and Roseville.....
Dale Phelps #831-7843
Newsletter Editors.... Joe Schwarz *698-9698
& Brian Berggren *451-9009
email address: vipclub2003@yahoo.com

WEBMASTER Lowell Benson *483 3709

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Mature Voices MN. Brian Berggren
451-9009
Sunshine Jim Larson *698-3963
Lynn Farris Lindholm *484-1030
Travel Opportunities
Yvonne Cecchini at *437-9278

UNISYS Liaison, Roseville Sue Carrigan *635-7955 Lockheed Martin, Eagan Liaison... Tierney Helmers *456-4963
Mailing UNISYS Print Shop, Roseville

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 County Rd B for Terminal road access (St Croix St.). Turn left at Terminal Rd, then turn right at Highcrest Rd to building entrance.