

VIP Club Newsletter

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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, May 05	Board Meeting, Eagan	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, May 12	Program and Social Time	7.00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 02	Board Meeting, Roseville	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, June 09	Picnic at Highland Park	4:00 p.m.

MAY PROGRAM: EAGAN

FAIRNESS IN THE NEWS MEDIA: HOW TO JUDGE, WHO'S TO JUDGE.

Our program for May addresses this controversial issue. Many of us have preconceived notions, and many of us deal with this issue by simply abandoning certain media in favor of others. After all, it's a matter of trust, and it's also a practical matter. You can't read or watch all the news angles on all subjects from all sources everyday. Our speaker, **Gary Gilson**, will speak about "the state of the news media: what they are supposed to do, what they have been doing, and their future and ours." He has been media-immersed for most of his life.

Gary now lives in Minneapolis, but he has a storied career in the media business and in Academe. He started as a reporter at The Minneapolis Star, and then spent 13 years in NYC in commercial and public television news, magazine and documentary work. He moved to Los Angeles for four years as news director of the public TV station there. He won five Emmy Awards in NYC and LA. He returned to the Twin Cities as host of Channel 2's NightTimes Magazine, and produced documentaries on Vietnam veterans, both men and women, and on the values in big-time college football (when Lou Holtz was coach). He was the executive director for 14 years of the independent, nonprofit agency the Minnesota News Council, which helps the public hold news outlets accountable for accuracy, fairness and ethical standards. In the academic world, he was a graduate of Dartmouth College and the Columbia School of Journalism. He has taught journalism at Columbia, Yale, Minnesota, Macalester, St. Thomas and Colorado College, and will teach next fall at Cornell College of Iowa. Gary's status

is married, no kids, lives in Minneapolis. He served two years as an infantry platoon commander in the Marine Corps. He has served as a Big Brother and as former secretary of the Downtown Minneapolis Rotary Club.

JUNE PICNIC: HIGHLAND PARK

COME OUT AND CELEBRATE! The VIP Club Annual Picnic will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday June 9th. This event enjoys the largest attendance of any Club event each year. It will be held at the Pavilion at Highland Park in St. Paul. The Club will supply hamburgers, buns, condiments, coffee, and soft drinks. All attendees are requested to bring food items for the potluck portion of the picnic - suggestions of what to bring are based on the first letter of your last name: A – E Appetizers, F – K Salads, L – O Desserts, and P – Z Hot Dishes. Please include serving utensils for your dishes and mark them with your name.

****ADVANCE NOTICE** - AUGUST PROGRAM: VIP CLUB "FIELD TRIP" TO THE MINNESOTA AIR NATIONAL GUARD MUSEUM**

Mark the date on your important events calendar **Wednesday, August 11, 2010 at 6:00 PM.** The VIP Club program meeting for Wednesday August 11th will be a visit to Minnesota Air National Guard Museum (as it is currently called), <http://www.mnangmuseum.org>. This museum is very important to us because it will provide a public venue for us to showcase our company legacy products and systems over the years that relate to "air" activities (air defense, air traffic control, airline reservations, air sovereignty, etc.) and space activities

(missile guidance, missile tracking, NASA deep space network, etc.). The museum will soon be undergoing major enhancements including changing its name to the Minnesota Air and Space Museum and relocating outside the base for easier public access. However in August, visitors will need to provide in advance full name, date of birth, and driver's license number (not license plate number) to get registered on the security access list. More info will be provided in future newsletters regarding directions, parking, access requirements, etc. The point of contact is Dick Lundgren (rflundgr@aolcom). See also Legacy News Update in this newsletter for more info about the museum.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
From: Tom Turba

As you all have heard, I had a stroke, not something uncommon as we all get older, but also not something I expected as an active retiree who wore hiking boots more often than dress shoes. I still plan on wearing them again, but not while I'm still using a cane. In some ways I guess I'm lucky as I don't appear to have lost memory or thinking ability, and I was in the emergency room before the classic symptom of losing total function on one side appeared. They say I have a good chance of regaining total functionality, it's just a long road to travel and it certainly isn't traveled at Internet speed. I'm back attending meetings and doing the things I enjoy, not quite at the same speed, but that will come. I'd like to thank Lowell Benson for filling in for me while I was out and thanks to everyone who sent me cards, messages and visited me while I was in the hospital.

If you used to work in Roseville, or have friends who did, come to the Good Old Days reunion at the Mermaid in Mounds View on Friday, April 30th. We are expecting over 400 people. It will be a great event with old friends you haven't seen in a long time. Even though I'm not driving yet, I'll be there.

With the warm weather here, the grass turning green, and barbecues being fired up, it's time to mark your calendars for Wednesday, June 9th. We will have the annual picnic again at Highland Park starting at 4:00 p.m. Come rain or shine, this is always a good event to meet with people you know and used to work with. Get

together with a few old friends and come together. That makes it more fun for everyone.

Another event to put on your calendar is the August meeting, which will be an outing to the Air National Guard Museum at the airport. You will get to see and climb aboard aircraft like you have never done before. This will be a social event with cake and other treats. Car pooling arrangements from Eagan and Roseville is expected.

This year marks the 30th Anniversary for the formation of the retirement club. It has helped retirees in the Twin Cities area stay in touch with programs, meetings and outings throughout the years. If you have pictures or stories of past events that you would like to share contact Quint Heckert who is putting together a collection of VIP Club memories. We will have a celebration of the event during our October meeting, which will again be a social event with treats for everyone. Respectively, Tom Turba - VIP Club President.

**From the
Editors**



Joe Schwarz (651-698-9698) &
Brian Berggren (651-451-9009)

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@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**.

WEB SITE REVIEW

This is the fourth in a series of articles for the 40% of our members who don't have home internet. If you have internet access in the local library, all prior articles are linked from <http://vipclubmn.org/documents.aspx>. Two more "Article for the Month" are summarized here:

In January 2008 we posted *A World Wide Career, Behind my Sperry Badge* by Glen Hambleton. With a U of MN BS in Education, Glen started at 'the company' in June of 1959 working for Ken Fechter. He took advantage of an early out offer in December of 1986. Teaching computer classes and subsequent management positions took him and his family to Texas, South Africa, England, Russia, Germany, and Korea with stays in Minnesota between the tours. In this 16 page 'biography', Glen mentions many, many co-workers and project team members: Norm Alrich, Jack Anderson, Jim Arbona, Willy Bannow, Leo Bock, Ken Boehm, Bob Bro, Ron Brumm, Les Bruncker, John Butler, Paul Burly, Herb Carrol, Pat Casey, Adam Charsean, Bruce Clark, Roger Dalziel, Larry Debelak, Walt Deitz, Thain Dikkers, Bill Doe, Doug Dorner, Tom Dunn, Gerald Engelke, Ron Favorite, Steve Fink, John Flood, Pete Freeman, John Fritz, Dick Gehring, Bill Geiger, Al Gresbrink, Janet Hagberg, Clint Haggerty, Ernie Hams, Richard J. Hansen, John Hartmann, Quint Heckert, Elli Hiller, Wally Heuer, Roy Hegler, Gary Holthusen, Ernie Horning, Bernie Jansen, LeRoy Jernigan, Emmett Johnson, Dale Klette, Dave Klinzman, Bob Kochendorfer, Dave Kolling, Bud Krammer, Dick Kuhns, Gordy Lamb, Don Lampland, Dick Lundgren, Don Moran, Tom Morris, Fred Murray, Paul Murray, Dan Newton, Marv Nickle, John Nygaard, Leo O'Brian, Ed Olszewski, Bob Paterson, Dick Paulson, Dexter Pehle, Diane Plait, Knight Prior, Gerald Probst, Don Ream, Larry Reid, Dick Roessler, Dave Ruckman, Bob Ruud, Fred Schmutge, Dick Seaberg, Cliff Sheets, Romuald Slimack, George Soldata, Jerry Squires, Jim Stahley, Roger Stern, Bob Stevens, Eldon Stevens, Joe Stoutenburg, Les Swanson, Alex Trembly, Ted Torkelson, Ron Trowbridge, Dottie Tucker, Elmer Turcotte, Dick Wagner, Lon Weidenhaft, Bob Wells, Paul Welshinger, and Sharon Woods.

I, Lowell Benson, recall interfacing with about half of these people during my own 33.5 year career – what is your count?

In February 2008 we posted *Carbon Heat Trapping: Merely a Bit Player in Global Warming,*

by Richard J. Petschauer, Senior Member IEEE. Dick worked almost 30 years at UNIVAC and UNISYS with a 6 year break at another company in the 60s. In this paper he presents mathematical calculations, facts and figures which refute much of the 'global warming' rhetoric bandied about without substance. This level of engineering analysis is typical of what led to so many highly reliable products at UNIVAC!

LEGACY ARCHIVING SUPPORT DAYS (second session)

Our core team of Harvey, Larry, and Quint are in need of help! The Legacy Committee requests up to 20 people to go through boxes of documents in order to catalog or to develop an abstract, or to write a synopsis. The items for review are:

- Invention Disclosures from the 1960's and 70's.
- Patent Applications from the 1950's, 60's and 70's.
- Miscellaneous boxes of documents or photos.

The MPR room (LMCO East Lobby; inside the door, immediately on the right) is reserved for Friday afternoon review sessions at 1 p. m. on April 23rd and May 21st. **Refreshments will be served!** Please volunteer for either or both sessions by sending a note to [john.h.westergren@lmco.com] or [labenson@usfamily.net]. *No e-mail?* Leave a message at 651-456-3380 or 651-483-3709 with your name, phone number, and date of your help. Thanks, John and Lowell – Legacy Committee Co-chairs.

Thanks to Lowell Benson, Larry Bolton, Hank Dotzler, Quint Heckert, Ed Nelson, Dan Rogers, and Don Weidenbach who came on March 26th and reduced 14 boxes to 1.5 boxes of 'keep' materials.

SERVING YOU SURVEY (second call)!

Your Board of Directors is looking for membership feedback in order to re-vitalize our programs and activities. Please take a few minutes to review the following seven questions, jot down your personal answers, then transmit to the board. Your spouse may also reply – agreement isn't necessary.

1. In addition to the summer picnic and winter Christmas dinner/dance, we schedule four programs in Eagan and Roseville each year. Would you a) keep the programs on Wednesdays, b) move the programs to Tuesdays, c) move programs to Thursdays, or d) cancel all evening activities.
2. Would you like to see the board arrange group outings to a) Pro-sports game, Gopher game, c) Other college game, d) casino, e) all of the

above, f) none of the above or g) my idea is _____.

3. Should a volunteer coordinate afternoon monthly a) bridge games, b) cribbage games, c) 500 games, d) all of these, e) none of these, or f) my idea is _____.
4. Should a volunteer coordinate group outings to a) museums, b) theatres, c) musicals, d) all of these, e) forget it, or f) my idea is _____.
5. The Club lists several breakfast, lunch, and dinner groups in our monthly newsletter and on our web site ad hoc page. Should the Club Board a) do more to promote these social events, b) keep the simple notices as is, c) drop them from the newsletter, d) hold one program meeting per year with each group and location, e) schedule one board meeting per year at each of these activities.
6. Optional Question - How would you 'celebrate' the Club's 30th anniversary this year? (less than 100 words please.)
7. What would you like to see the board do? (less than 100 words please.)

By May 1st, call one of the Board members with your answers or send an e-mail to newsletter@vipclubmn.org or mail a postcard or letter to VIP Survey - P.O. Box - 131748 Roseville, MN 55113-0020 or send an e-mail to a board member whom you know. We'll post the survey results at the June picnic. Thanks.

LEGACY NEWS UPDATE

PROGRESS ON PERMANENT HOME FOR COMPANY ARTIFACTS AND STORIES

Slowly, surely and carefully, progress has been made towards a strong Unisys/Lockheed Martin involvement with the Minnesota Air National Guard Museum (<http://www.mnangmuseum.org>). Two points are very important here. The first is that the whole character and scope of the museum will be changing, and the second is that all the major players are finally onboard.

Regarding the change in the museum character/scope, it will no longer be just airplanes on a stick (read pedestal) with a small indoor exhibit area, but a facility with a major focus on education in math, science, technology and Minnesota's rich aviation history. It will move to "outside the fence," i.e., not be on the base of the 133rd Air Wing, with all its attendant security requirements, but in a publicly accessible area. The overall broadening of scope will be reflected in its new name, the Minnesota Air and Space Museum. And perhaps best of all, not only will the museum itself

expand (it's already the largest collection of aircraft in the Midwest), but the whole facility will turn into an ambitious multi-building "campus" which will revitalize the Ft. Snelling Upper Bluff area. Beyond the museum itself the major additions envisioned are a Challenger Center for Space Science Education (<http://www.challenger.org>), an Aviation Learning Center (similar to Seattle's Museum of Flight), and a NASA Aerospace Education Laboratory (AEL)

What's important to us is the chance to showcase our Minnesota legacy products and systems over the years that relate to "air" activities (air defense, air traffic control/management, airline reservations, air cargo management, air sovereignty, etc.) and space activities (missile guidance, missile tracking, NASA deep space network, etc.). We envision putting on display artifacts, photos, and graphics illustrations to tell our (little known) story. The MN ANG museum people themselves are already so confident that they are putting out advance requests for artifacts to fill their expanded space. So come join us for a visit August 11th (see program announcement for August) and bring yourselves plus slide rules, pocket protectors, programming templates and white socks.

As you might guess, there is a multitude of players who perceive the need to make their voices heard regarding this project. The list is long, and each wants to have his oar in the water, spinning his own little parochial eddy. Well, that has now happened, and the independent actions have now turned into cohesive motion – forward. Here are the players/organizations:

- MAC (Metropolitan Airports Commission)
- Cities of Richfield and Bloomington
- Hennepin County
- Metropolitan Council
- National Park Service (Mississippi National River and Recreation Area)
- Minnesota DNR (Dept of Natural Resources, owner of the land)
- Minneapolis Park and Recreation Dept
- Minnesota Historical Society Preservation Office
- Friends of Fort Snelling
- Northwest Airlines History Center
- District 63 (airport and immediate surroundings) State Senator Ken Kelash

Patience and persistence are paying off for a noble goal. The VIP Club will maintain a presence in the ongoing planning with strong efforts to support and influence the museum content.

