

# VIP Club Newsletter

Electronic Copy

**VOLUME 30, NO. 07** <http://www.vipclubmn.org> **SEPTEMBER 2010**

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, September 01	Board Meeting, Eagan	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, September 08	Program and Social Time	7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 06	Board Meeting, Roseville	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, October 13	Roseville, Program & Ice Cream Social	6:30 p.m.

## SEPTEMBER PROGRAM:

Do you remember the phrase, "And now the weather, brought to you by **Bud Kraehling**?" Well, before Bud, there was no weather in Minnesota, and only a few thought it drifted in from the Dakotas or down from Canada. Bud brought us the weather and that's how it got here. Not only that, Bud had a special skill that today's "weather personae" cannot even begin to relate to. Bud could draw those cold fronts and warm fronts (and still can) and get those black (at least on most TV sets then, they were black) triangles pointing in the right directions. Of course, as the decades rolled by, the whole weather picture became automated, largely due to our legacy Nexrad project. Even the forecasting is automated although there still is a perceived need to have the talking heads present it and pretend to understand it.

Bud's career on WCCO TV is of course history, but Bud's talents have expanded and he still maintains a public presence as an entertainer. Bud Kraehling and his wife, **Shirley Lockwood** (aka "The Weatherman and the Singing Lady") perform a program of stories from the early days of WCCO Television, with delightful weather-related songs. Join us for a visit to that golden era which may include a surprise guest.

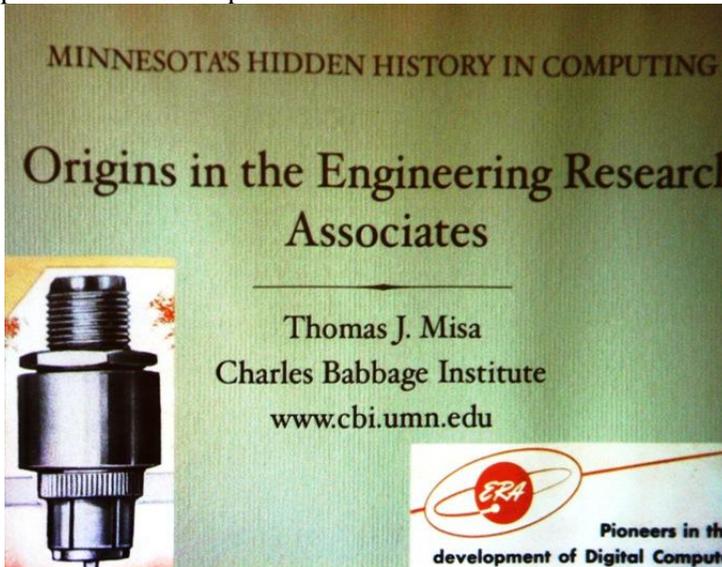
Expect a meteorological thread to run through the songs and stories. Examples are *St. Louis Blues*, *Over the Rainbow*, and *Oh, You Beautiful Doll*. Also expect *Sweethearts!* and hear, in words and music, how Bud and Shirley met, fell in love and married. *My Funny Valentine*, *Blue Skies*, and *Silver Threads Among The Gold* accompany the whole story. Come and relax and relive.

**Bud Kraehling and wife, Shirley Lockwood**



## **OCTOBER ICE CREAM SOCIAL AND PROGRAM: ROSEVILLE**

The October meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. with ice cream, pie and coffee. The October program will feature Dr. Tom Misa, Director of the Charles Babbage Institute at the University of Minnesota who will present “Origins in the Engineering Research Associates” at our Club’s October 13<sup>th</sup> 30-year celebration. This presentation was the keystone of a year-long University lecture series (2008/09) covering “Minnesota’s Hidden History in Computing”. Dr. Misa holds the Engineering Research Associates Land-Grant Chair in the History of Technology. He is also an advisor to our Legacy Committee. Come and hear about the very significant role of our founding company, ERA. The first snapshot below is the first slide! This is also a second chance for those who couldn’t get to Eagan to hear Tom’s excellent presentation last September.



A second photo below shows Tom Misa (left) and Tom Turba in front of one of our Sesquicentennial posters.



## **PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE** **From: President Tom Turba**

The August meeting, which was held at the Air National Guard Museum at the airport, was a great success with 74 people attending. Although the weather was warm, we had a good breeze flowing through the open hanger we were in along with plenty of ice cold drinks. It was fun climbing up in the old planes and also seeing some coworkers that I had not seen in 20 years or more.



**Al Bloomquist checking out one of the C97’s which he worked on from 1963 to 1969.**

The smell of the barbeque induced us into eating more than enough delicious burgers and hot dogs as well as cookies and condiments. Photos taken at the Air National Guard Museum are shown on pages 6 and 7.

There were many comments that this is the way meetings should be. It was generally felt that we should have more events where we get out and do something interesting. If you have an idea on what might be a good thing to do for a future meeting, let me know.

The September program, although it will be inside, should be another interesting and well-attended meeting. We will be having Bud Kraehling and his wife telling us about trips they have taken and things they have done. Be sure to mark Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> on your calendar so you don’t forget.

In October, we will be having another ice-cream social in Roseville when we will be celebrating the past 30 years of the VIP Club. We plan to have Tom Misa from the Charles Babbage Institute there to talk about the history of computing in Minnesota.

I look forward to seeing you at one of the upcoming program meetings or at the Christmas Party in December. Until then, enjoy the rest of the summer and keep thinking about the good things that are yet to come. Additional photos taken at the ANG Museum are shown on pages 6 and 7. 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 2010**

Date	Time	Location	Activity
Apr. 21	8:30 a.m.	Legion	Volunteer Breakfast
May. 12	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time
<b>June 09</b>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Park</b>	<b>VIP Club Picnic</b>
July 14			<b>No Meeting</b>
Aug. 11	5:00 p.m.	MSP	MN ANG
Sept. 08	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time
<b>Oct. 13</b>	<b>6.30 p.m.</b>	<b>Rsvl</b>	<b>Social Program</b>
Nov. 10	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social time
<b>Dec. 09</b>	<b>5:45 p.m.</b>	<b>USAF</b>	<b>Christmas Party</b>

**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**

Hartshorn, Patricia & Robert L St. Paul, MN.  
 Lynch, Michael & JoAnn L Apple Valley, MN.  
**U** = Unisys **B** = Burroughs **L** = Lockheed Martin **D** = Unisys Defense Systems

### **IN REMEMBRANCE**



**Bolich, John** - Age 70, of Fridley, MN. Passed away suddenly on Saturday, July 31, 2010. Preceded in death by his beloved wife, Elaine. John was retired after a 37 year career at Sperry Univac/Unisys. Throughout his lifetime he was an avid outdoorsman and member of the Amateur Trapshooting Association.



**Hendrickson, Arden A.** - Age 79, of Sun Lakes, Arizona. Passed away on June 12th, 2010. Arden is survived by his wife, Colleen, Arden worked for thirty two years at Sperry Univac as an engineer and department manager.



**Moe, Kenneth William** - Age 74, of Edina, MN. Passed away peacefully at his cabin. Ken is survived by his wife of 53 years, Pat. Ken was a Lockheed Martin retiree and also a member of the VIP Club.



Overas, Robert E. - Age 86, of Roseville, MN. Died peacefully on July 31, 2010. Bob is survived by loving wife, Evelyn. Bob was a Unisys retiree.

Riebe, Albert E. – Age 75, of Roseville, MN. Passed away on August 10, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Bernadine. Al worked in engineering and design at Unisys until he retired. Al was also a VIP Club member.

Thompson, John K. - March 25, 1921 - July 11, 2010 of Saint Paul, MN. Passed away from complications from Alzheimer's disease. He was preceded in death by wife, Genevieve. John began a 31-year career with Univac in 1952.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **HONEY-DO LIST TOO LONG? ALL CAUGHT UP AND WILLING TO HELP OTHERS?**

The St. Paul Senior Chore Service provides chore services to seniors (age 60+) in our community (St. Paul.) They can provide Outdoor Chores such as Leaf raking, Shrub trimming, Grass mowing, Snow shoveling, Gardening, Window washing, or Garage/basement cleaning. Indoor chores such as Vacuuming, Floor cleaning, Kitchen and bathroom cleaning, Furniture dusting, or Special cleaning. They also provide minor home repairs. If you are a senior resident, call 651-649-5984 or e-mail [Noreen@sapcc.org](mailto:Noreen@sapcc.org).

If you have extra time on your hands and are willing to help in a small team with any of the above, call or e-mail them. They need capable people to help others with minor household repairs or cleaning. More information is available on-line at <http://www.sapc.org/seniorchore>.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

November 19<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. – Unihogs at the City View, more info in October newsletter.

December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30 – Old Timer's at Ft. Snelling, more info in October newsletter.

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR ELECTED OFFICE**

You have a chance to serve as a director or officer of a fiscally-responsible, nationally-recognized, non-profit organization affiliated with two respected technology corporations. If you are willing to serve your fellow retirees, please call or email Brian Berggren. We need some new ideas and energy, and welcome help with

our activities. Please consider volunteering, or suggesting someone who would be a good candidate, - then come to our VIP program on November 10<sup>th</sup> to vote for your 2011 officers and directors.

### **JAZZ EVENT**

Bill Evans New Orleans Jazz Band will be playing at the Eagan Community Center on Sunday, Sept 26: 1-4 pm. Ticket price includes admission, entertainment & light snacks. Beverages available at added cost. Ticket price is \$20 before 9/13 and \$25 after 9/13 or at door. Call Millie Gignac (651-454-0971) for registration form or more information.

## **LEGACY NEWS UPDATE**

### **LEGACY PROJECT REPORT**

After over 50 monthly Legacy reports, Dick Lundgren is on an introspective leave of absence, thus a September guest author. Dick has nicely arranged the August tailgate party in conjunction with a tour of the Minnesota Air National Guard Museum – as he has written, we are looking forward to their new museum being a potential exhibit location of our artifacts.

In October we'll recognize 30 years of CLUB operations. We will also note 5 years of Legacy Committee activities! Although a core half-dozen volunteers have done most of the work, over 150 of you have made written contributions to our web site with articles and career summaries. Highlights of these five years are: 1) the sesquicentennial exhibits on the Capitol Mall, at the State Fair, and documents into the bi-centennial time capsule, 2) delivery of two pallets, 40 boxes each, of history documents to the Charles Babbage Institute, 3) consolidation and cataloging of hundreds of documents and artifacts in two offices and a storage room at LMCO, 4) a one-year legacy display contract with the University of Minnesota, two of three semesters already completed, 5) the keystone parts of Dr. Misa's U of MN year long lecture series about Minnesota's Hidden History of Computing, and 6) a super Pioneer Press article.

As we begin the 6<sup>th</sup> committee year we are looking forward to: a) at least one more load of documents sent to the Babbage Institute, b) identification of people in the dozens of photos provided by Jeff Leas, son of former Vice President Vern Leas, c) identification of people and hardware items in four file cabinets of old photos, d) participation in the Lockheed Legacy display opportunity in Washington DC, e) surprising inputs from historians [the CP-823/U just emerged after 40 years in storage] as well other web site browsers and f) Dick Erdrich finishing his 47 year career summary!

What can you, the reader do? 1) write your career summary to supplement those we already have, or 2) write a brief story about a facility or product which is not adequately covered on our web site, or 3) come to the 1:00 o'clock Legacy meeting at LMCO on September 1<sup>st</sup> to meet the core group and volunteer for whatever. Submitted by LABenson, Legacy Committee co-chair.

## WEB SITE REVIEW

This is the seventh in a series of articles for the 40% of our members who don't have immediate internet access. Excerpts from another three "Articles for the Month" are hereunder:

In September 2008 we posted the SNERT development paper by Ken Graber, Larry Bolton, and Jeff Parker. This was not about Hagar's dog, rather a Serial NATO Encoder Receiver Transmitter (SNERT) integrated circuit (IC) development for the Low Level Serial interface, MIL-STD-1397 - Type E. The 'Output function' of the SNERT was to Receive TTL NRZ data at the 10 Mega-Hz rate, and then to encode and transmit LLSI/O control frames, and data. The "Input function" was to receive LLSI/O Manchester Code from the cable, decode, then determine whether the code was either a Control Frame or Data signal. The design challenge that was unique for the SNERT chip was that it was a custom IC with both analog and digital functions on a single wafer. I don't believe that Sperry had attempted that combination before. As previously mentioned, because of the required high speed and low voltage level, the analog portion of the circuit needed tight tolerances. Combining the digital front end on the same wafer was required for both proximity requirements of the analog and digital circuitry and the overall real estate available on a SEM Format B printed circuit card module. This combination of challenges drove the design requirements for the chip. The leadless chip carrier (LCC) package was required by the SEM module ceramic substrate. These devices were used in the AN/UYK-44 and AN/UYK-43 computers as well as several peripheral equipments. These three authors amassed 116 years of career experiences at UNIVAC!

In October 2008 we posted the magnetic tape development paper by Douglas C. Wendall Jr. "I was hired in November of 1947 at The Electronic Control Company {predecessor of EMCC} located in several floors at 1215 Walnut Street above a Lane Bryant store. I was interviewed by John Mauchly, J. Presper Eckert, Isaac Auerbach, Frazer Welsh, Ted Bonn, and John Sims. They decided to take a chance on me, liking my combination of a degree in chemistry from Haverford College along with my electronics training and service as an electronic technician in the Navy during WWII." "The work in the basement of Ridge

Avenue was the culmination of the first project I was assigned to. Ted (Theodore H.) Bonn was doing research aimed at developing a process for making magnetic recording tape by coating a non-magnetic metal supporting tape with a thin magnetic metal coating—the idea being that a thin coating would be capable of recording a higher data density than possible on the thicker iron oxide coating then used on {metal} recording tape. Another important consideration was that a metal-based tape would be mechanically stable, unlike the paper based recording tape then in use." "We had run over 500 tests before we found the properties we were looking for. We used the last few tests to optimize the plating process. Our development work was now finished and we were ready to try the plating process on a large scale. Our patent attorney, George Eltgroth, filed the patent application while we were still at Walnut Street - it was issued in three or four years (about average). The Bonn-Wendell patent became widely investigated and was used by various companies in the computer industry in the production of tape, disks, and drums for many years.

In November 2008 we posted The 7901000 Integrated Circuits paper by Larry Bolton plus Ralph Kerler's 1965 IC Development paper. "The potential improvements in size, power, performance, reliability, and cost available with semiconductor integrated circuits have received a great deal attention throughout the electronic industry. From the start, digital switching applications have received the major benefit from this new technology, due to process requirements well within the state-of-the-art and also due to the large number of repetitive functions inherent in most digital machines. Continuing its leadership in the application of new techniques, the UNIVAC Defense Operations in St. Paul was one of the first systems manufacturers in the United States to actively investigate and use integrated circuits. The purpose of this paper is to summarize the growth of this field within Defense and to discuss in detail progress during the last 12 months toward a "Standard" integrated circuit family fulfilling the earlier mentioned promises. The first significant step taken by Defense was a development contract with Sperry Semiconductor as part of the ADD program." The 1824 computer used on such programs as MMRBM, BGRV, MBRV, and SABRE required the design of the first integrated circuit family used in UNIVAC. The circuits were packaged in a 10 pin -k x -t inch flat package which was the industry standard at that time.

During late 1962 a contract was negotiated with the Department of Navy for the large scale high speed CP-667 system. Due to speed and availability considerations, the decision was made to develop a hybrid chip circuit rather than a monolithic fully integrated device. These new devices were intended to be used in the CP-667 machine to replace the hybrid devices, and a redesign was actually released using these devices. However, only three CP-667 machines were built (before this integrated circuit development). The Navy cancelled the CP-667 program after two units had been delivered. UNIVAC thus put the third unit into their Military Computer Software Development Center, no CP-667 units were built using the 7901000 series devices. However, there were applications for these devices. Beginning in 1966, the CP-901, AN/UYK-7, AN/UYK-8, and CP-890 computer designs largely used only the 7901000, 7901001, 2801573, and 2801574 devices. Several peripheral device controllers also used these devices or PC cards from computers. Submitted by LABenson

## TRUTH OR DARE

Whenever peer-reviewed science comes up for public discussion, disagreement is sure to follow. Is it fact or belief? Do we want a show of hands or decision by court of law? The 25 June 2010 issue of *Science* (p1622) reports that “analysis of 1372 climate scientists who have participated in major climate science reviews...confirms those who believe in anthropogenic climate change “rank much higher in the pecking order than do those who take issue with the idea.” Of the top-ranked 50 researchers, only one was in the “un-convinced” group.

Locally, our newspapers covered the dust-up between English journalist and global-warming skeptic Lord Monckton and St. Thomas Univ. thermal science professor John Abraham. Monckton spoke at Bethel Univ. last October; Abraham then worked up a 126 page PowerPoint show that looked at Monckton’s sources and quotes. By either interviewing sources or using cited papers, Abraham shows most of Monckton’s presentation to be unsupported. Monckton’s response was to attack St. Thomas, Pres. Deese, and the Archbishop.

Our media seems unable to print or say “global warming.” The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reported research from 48 countries that provide evidence the last decade has been “the warmest on record and it’s been getting hotter over the past 50 years.” And the oceans have been absorbing

over 90 percent of the warming during this period (29 July 2010, Star Tribune). This article was followed by news that a 100 square mile ice island had broken free from a Greenland glacier (7Aug 2010, PP).

The book section of the 4 Jun 2010 *Science* journal (p1620) includes an essay/review of the climate change debates and eight books. The more disturbing book is *Merchants of Doubt* by Naomi Oreskes and Eric Conway. The book’s subtitle is: “How a Handful of Scientists Obscured the Truth on Issues from Tobacco Smoke to Global Warming.” They document how a small group of scientists, working largely outside their fields of expertise, were used in “the service of political goals and commercial interest.” Even with our free press we need a little more “trust but verify.” Submitted by Brian Bergren.

**Below are photos taken at the ANG Museum.**



When do we take off?



Flight now boarding

**Ever wonder why they call it a Form 1040?**  
For every \$50 you earn, you get \$10, they get \$40.



History lesson



Can I take this for a test drive?



Meeting old friends and socializing

## LIGHTER SIDE

### WHERE IS MY SUNDAY PAPER?

An irate customer calling the newspaper office, loudly demanding to know where her Sunday edition was. "Madam", said the newspaper employee, "today is Saturday. The Sunday paper is not delivered until **tomorrow**, on **SUNDAY**". There was quite a long pause on the other end of the phone, followed by a ray of recognition as she was heard to mutter, "Well, shoot, so that's why no one was at church today."

### HOW TO SELL

The kids filed back into class Monday morning. They were very excited. Their weekend assignment was to sell something, then give a talk on productive salesmanship.

Little Sally led off: "I sold girl scout cookies and I made \$30," she said proudly, "My sales approach was to appeal to the customer's civil spirit and I credit that approach for my obvious success." "Very good," said the teacher.

Little Jenny was next: "I sold magazines," she said, "I made \$45 and I explained to everyone that magazines would keep them up on current events." "Very good, Jenny," said the teacher.

Eventually, it was Little Johnny's turn. The teacher held her breath ...Little Johnny walked to the front of the classroom and dumped a box full of cash on the teacher's desk. "\$2,467," he said. "\$2,467!" cried the teacher, "What in the world were you selling" "Toothbrushes," said Little Johnny. "Toothbrushes," echoed the teacher, "How could you possibly sell enough tooth brushes to make that much money?" "I found the busiest corner in town," said Little Johnny, "I set up a Dip & Chip stand, I gave everybody who walked by a free sample." They all said the same thing, "Hey, this tastes like dirt!" Then I would say, "It is dirt. Wanna buy a toothbrush?"

"I used the governmental approach of giving you something terrible that they say is good, and then making you pay to get the bad taste out of your mouth." The teacher was speechless.

"Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day; teach a person to use Face book and they won't bother you for weeks."

'All I ask is the chance to prove to everyone that money can not make me happy.'

