



**VOLUME 30, NO. 09 <http://www.vipclubmn.org> NOVEMBER 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, November 03	Board Meeting, Eagan	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, November 10	Program and Social Time	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 01	Board Meeting, Roseville	10:00 a.m.
Thursday, December 09	Christmas Party NCO Club	5.45 p.m.

**NOVEMBER PROGRAM: EAGAN**

We've all heard of fixer-uppers, but what if the "it" to be fixed up is the MSP International Airport? What if about \$3B has already been spent and it still takes \$2B+ to finish the job? Well, that's the task of Dennis Probst, the Deputy Executive Director of Planning and Environment for the MACS (Metropolitan Airports Commission). Denny will be our speaker for the November 10<sup>th</sup> program. He will outline what's already been accomplished for \$3B at **your** airport and also review the plan for developments in the 2010-2030 timeframe. Denny's background is in Architecture, Energy Systems Engineering, and Civil Engineering, and besides airport development, he has managed the planning for Light Rail Transit projects in the Twin Cities and three other major metropolitan areas in the U.S. His responsibilities for MACS include supervision of all engineering, architectural and construction activities, oversight of all environmental issues, and liaison with local, state and federal agencies.

**DECEMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Our annual VIP Club Christmas Party is on a Thursday this year; December 9<sup>TH</sup> 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. **NEW THIS YEAR – EACH PERSON'S FULL NAME, DRIVER LIC. OR ID NUMBER AND DOB MUST BE LISTED ON THE DINNER RESERVATION FORM. THIS IS REQUIRED FOR ACCESS TO THE AIR FORCE BASE.** 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.)

**SIGN UP NOW  
CHRISTMAS PARTY  
DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>  
SEE PAGE 7 FOR  
INFORMATION,  
DIRECTIONS  
AND  
RESERVATION FORM**

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME**  
**IF YOUR ADDRESS LABEL HAS  
2010  
AFTER YOUR NAME, YOU ARE  
NOT PAID FOR 2011.  
PLEASE USE THE MEMBERSHIP  
COUPON ON PAGE 6**



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
**From: President Tom Turba**

The October meeting was a big success. The pumpkin pie and ice cream were just a topping to a wonderful evening.



The meeting celebrated the past 30 years of the VIP retirement Club. The Club's founder, Millie Gignac, was present and was presented a rose in memory of her efforts in establishing the Club and turning it into a vibrant organization.



Everyone present enjoyed looking at the history book that was put together by Quintin Heckert. If you weren't there, a limited number of copies are still available and will be at the next Club meeting.

Marion Scott was presented the Member Emeritus award for her work coordinating the Red Cross blood drives for the past 30 years. During this period over 1,300 gallons of life saving blood have been collected.

The main program for the evening was given by Tom Misa, (shown below) Director of the Charles Babbage Institute at the University of Minnesota., who talked about the early days of computing in the Twin Cities and how it originated with Engineering Research Associates. Many of his pictures and stories brought back memories and further enhancements from Club members in the audience who had been participants in the making of the history.



Our next program meeting will be in November in Eagan. This is the meeting when the election of officers of the club will be made for next year. 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.

Before you know it, Christmas will be here. The VIP Club Christmas Party is always a fun event, with music, eats and camaraderie. Talk to some of your friends and plan to come as a group. The party will again be at the Service Club (i.e., NCO Club) at the airport. More information is needed for the guards this year, so be sure to fill out the form and send it in early. We will again have great hors d'oeuvres, music and a good meal to enjoy with friends.

I look forward to seeing you at the November meeting or Christmas Party. Until then, keep safe and remember all the good times you've had. Respectfully, Tom Turba, VIP Club President

Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says, "I've lost my electron." The other says, "Are you sure?" The first replies "Yes, I'm positive."

# 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
Oct. 13	6.30 p.m.	Rsvl	Social Program
Nov. 10	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program – Social time
Dec. 09	5:45 p.m.	USAF	Christmas Party

**Note:** Rsvl = Roseville, Eagan = Eagan Community Center, Park = Highland Park Pavilion, USAF = Service Club at U.S. Air Force Base off Hwy 62

## WELCOME NEW CLUB MEMBERS

Crosby, Clinton & Carolyn L Apple Valley, MN.  
 Lund, Roger U Woodbury, MN.  
 Quade, Randall S. L Eagan, MN.  
 Schleski, Raymond U Blaine, MN.  
 Spring, Eric & Deborah L Eagan, MN.

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

## IN REMEMBRANCE



Beckman, Paul – Age 74, of St. Paul, MN. Passed away peacefully surrounded by family Sept. 21, 2010. Survived by wife, Rogene. Paul was a former Unisys employee.



Bloomfield, Joel I. - Aged 88, of Falcon Heights, MN. Preceded in death by wife, Arlene (Olsen) Bloomfield. Joel was employed by Honeywell, Univac and Control Data.



Dahlberg, Vincent L. – Age 58 of Eagan, MN. Avid outdoorsman and Harley enthusiast. Died September 13th of cancer. Vince was a US Navy Veteran before starting his long career with Unisys as a Tech Writer.

Larson, Donald L. - Age 82, of Fridley, MN. Don spent 35 years as a Unisys employee. Don was also a longtime Fridley attorney of the law firm of Larson and Melcher. Don is survived by loving wife of 60 years, Betty. Don was a VIP member.



Floyd D. Pratt, - Age 77, of Hastings, MN. Passed away Feb. 7, 2010. Floyd is survived by his wife, Annemarie Pratt. Floyd was a former Sperry employee.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Member Emeritus Awarded to Marion Scott

President Tom Turba presented Marion Scott with a Member Emeritus certificate at the October 13th Program. The wording thereon is: "MEMBER EMERITUS is hereby granted to Marion K. Scott in

recognition of 30 years of CLUB service as our Red Cross Coordinator. Through your directorship efforts, Club members have donated over 1,300 gallons of blood, thereby saving many lives and easing much pain and suffering. "Thank You Marion!" This 'Member Emeritus' award includes a free life-time CLUB membership and an Ex-Officio Director position on the Club board for as many years as you are willing and able to participate". The award was recommended by Bernie Jansen. Previous Member Emeritus awards went to: Bernie Jansen, John Dufour & Millie Gignac (2008); Warren and Dorothy Becker and Chuck and Midge Homan (2009). Submitted by Lowell Benson.



### CONGRATULATIONS

On October 17<sup>th</sup>, family and friends gathered at the Eagan Community Center to celebrate 90 good years in the life of Millie Gignac, our VIP Club founder. Attendees enjoyed music by Debbie Schreyer (banjo) and Tom Owens (bass and vocal). "

### ALSO

On October 16<sup>th</sup>, Kris Olson and her siblings hosted a 50<sup>th</sup> Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration at Caspers to honor their parents, Lela and Richard 'Ole' Olson. Dick and Lela were wed on November 19, 1960 in the Highland Prairie Lutheran Church. Congratulations to Ole and Lela.

### UNIHOGS/UNITURKEYS –



Mark your calendar for Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. Write your \$17 reservation check payable to City View, then mail it to Lowell A. Benson, 1040 Ingerson Road, Shoreview, MN 55126 before November 12<sup>th</sup>. Please specify your lunch choice of Spur-burger or Chicken Caesar Salad. Hosts again will be Fred Vihovde and Jack Ross, complete announcement is on-line, see section 2 of <http://vipclubmn.org> or [<http://vipclubmn.org/Documents/Announcement10.pdf>].

### OLD TIMERS

Mark your calendar for Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you are willing to help with the phone/e-mail notification process, please send a note to [webmaster@vipclubmn.org](mailto:webmaster@vipclubmn.org) on or before November first. If you didn't volunteer and haven't been notified of the event by November 27<sup>th</sup>, send a note to [newsletter@vipclubmn.net](mailto:newsletter@vipclubmn.net) to get onto the pre-printed nametag list.

### RE-LOCATING?

Please send permanent address update information to our database Membership Director at, VIP Club - P.O. Box 131748 - Roseville, MN 55113. Also, please remember that for temporary address changes, (vacations/snow birds, etc.) the U.S. Postal mail forwarding service should be used. Submitted by Quint Heckert

### WEB SITE REVIEW by Lowell Benson.

This is the ninth in a series of articles for the 40% of our members who don't have immediate internet access. Three more "Articles for the Month" are summarized hereunder: If you as a reader would like to see your project or product description appear as an 'Article for the Month', write a draft then send it to Lowell Benson c/o VIP Club P.O. Box 131748 Roseville, MN 55113 or via e-mail to [webmaster@vipclubmn.org](mailto:webmaster@vipclubmn.org).

In March 2009 we posted 'The 40 Years of Excellence' booklet' from the U of MN's Computer Science and Engineering Department. This book relates a beginning with the ERA Atlas/1103 computer. It was posted with permission from the CSE department head, Dr. Vadim Kumar.

In April 2009 we posted 'About our 1950 period drums' by Larry Bolton

"The VIP Club has access to three drum memory units made by ERA/Univac, probably in the mid to late 1950s. This article makes comments based on observations and measurements made on those three drums. It compares that data with published specifications for the maximum capabilities of the families for these drums." Two of these drums were donated to the Club by Don E. Anderson, the other by the estate of Harry Wise. Shown here is model



1119A1, S/N106 which is the oldest of the three. Larry discusses drum operation in the paper.

Not in the paper is the fact that the Sesquicentennial team included this drum among the artifacts displayed on the Capitol Mall and at the State Fair.

In May 2009 we posted a letter image donated by Vern Sandusky.” In this June 4th, 1986 letter, Mr. Blumenthal assures the then Secretary of Defense, Casper Weinberger, that “Burroughs will maintain and improve upon the quality and support which Sperry has provide its defense customers for over seventy years.” Submitted by Lowell

## NOVEMBER ELECTION

Officer, Director, Volunteer - Make up your own title. Your club wants you to suggest activities, coordinate events, find speakers for programs, write articles for the newsletter, and run for office. Many of the current board are deeply involved with Legacy tasks, and Bernie, Dale, and I need some new help to both run the club and organize activities. We just had a successful outing at the Air National Guard Museum and members would like similar adventures organized. Some suggestions include the Chanhassen Weather Center, the Bakken Museum, and a Paddleford cruise. We also may have associates who volunteer at the Science Museum and Minneapolis Institute of Art. Whatever you interests, you can help. Please call or email Brian, Bernie, or Dale and help improve your club.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

November, December, and January are the months that the Club’s Membership Committee processes renewals for those of you whose membership expires on December 31<sup>st</sup> of this year. If you receive the newsletter electronically, your expiration year appears in the e-mail message subject line. If you receive the newsletter via U.S. Post, your expiration year appears in the mailing address after your name. The form to fill out and mail in with your renewal check is on page 6.

## MEDICARE AFTER REFORM: MAKING BEST DECISIONS

Learn how the federal healthcare reform legislation affects your Medicare benefits and get your questions answered. The forum will give us an overall update on Medicare and the Medicare plans available to Minnesota seniors in 2011. Plan providers and government service organizations will conduct breakout sessions detailing Medicare options. (For most Minnesota Lockheed Martin retirees, the Health Partners Freedom Group Plan Senior HMO will likely be the default option and will not be modified for 2011.)

The next forum will be held November 9, 2010, 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM at the Roseville Lutheran Church, 1215 Roselawn Ave. W., Roseville, MN. Presenters will be Kelli Jo Greiner of the Minnesota Board on Aging, Beth Woods of the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging, and Lee Graczyk of Mature Voices Minnesota. Senator Klobuchar has also been invited. Submitted by Brian Berggren.

## THE END. OR IS IT?

The September 2010 Scientific American is a special issue dealing with “the eternal fascination-and surprising upsides-of endings.” Life, death, time, and the future are of course included. Easy teasers are from the “How Much Is Left?” section. Peak oil, using multiple waves of new technology, is only four years away-90 percent will be gone by 2050. Indium, in tin oxide form as a thin-film semiconductor for flat-panel TVs, has a known 18-year reserve. Coal, thought to be nearly inexhaustible, will be 90 percent gone by 2072-good for the climate. Good news is the lithium supply; we should have a 500-year supply for our batteries. Submitted by Brain Berggren.

## LEGACY PROJECT TIDBIT

*Were you there in 1958?* The UNIVAC softball league had a banquet at the season’s end where the officers for the following year were announced. Shown in the photo on page 6 is Leo Oxman (left) congratulating incoming 1959 president Frank Schottman (center). Between them is the incoming vice-president, Greg Ehalt. Watching at the right were Vic Snyder, Sec/treas for 1959 and Dean Joachim (Sec/treas ’58 and president ’57.) A high-res scan of the banquet participants is posted on the web site, section 2.4 of <http://vipclubmn.org/WhoIsIt.aspx>. According to Dean, Vern Leas was an adept shortstop on one of the teams. Submitted by VIP Club member Ordean Joachim.



**TRAVEL**

**MAUI JANUARY GETAWAY-  
A SUPER DEAL!**

Leave MSP Jan. 18 / return Jan. 23-24 \$1024.00 per person (dbl.) Price includes Round Trip Air, personal flower lei greeting at airport, economy car for 5 days, 5 night stay at Kaanapali Beach Hotel, breakfast and island orientation on Wednesday the 19th.

**PLUS**

They're back! BUS TOURS OF LOCAL CHRISTMAS LIGHTS! ~December 10th & 16th ~ Holiday Light Displays only \$25 pp; ~December 9 & 18<sup>th</sup> - Holiday Lights and dinner at Gulden's, \$41 pp. Pickup points include: Birch Run (McDonalds Maplewood), Apache, Bloomington (Rainbow)), and

S. Robert Street, W. St.Paul, (Cub). These buses will fill up fast. Call Yvonne Cecchini at 651-437-9278 to make your reservations. A fun, relaxing get together with friends and family at Christmastime!

Call or email Yvonne Cecchini at 651-437-9278 or [ycecchini@earthlink.net](mailto:ycecchini@earthlink.net)

**LIGHTER SIDE**

A blonde teenager, wanting to earn some extra money for the summer, decided to hire herself out as a "handy-woman" and started canvassing a nearby well-to-do neighborhood. She went to the front door of the first house, and asked the owner if he had any odd jobs for her to do. "Well, I guess I could use somebody to paint my porch," he said, "How much will you charge me?" Delighted, the girl quickly responded, "How about 50?" The man agreed and told her that the paint brushes and everything she would need was in the garage. The man's wife, hearing the conversation said to her husband, "Does she realize that our porch goes ALL the way around the house?" He responded, "That's a bit cynical, isn't it?" The wife replied, "You're right. I guess I'm starting to believe all those dumb blonde jokes we've been getting by email lately." Later that day, the blonde teenager came to the door to collect her money. "You're finished already?" the startled husband asked. "Yes, she replied, and I even had paint left over, so I gave it two coats." Impressed, the man reached into his pocket for the \$50 and handed it to her along with a \$10 tip. "And by the way," the blonde teenager added, "it's not a Porch, it's a Lexus."

\*\*\*\*\*CUT HERE\*\*\*\*\*

**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!*

## 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 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 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. 1<sup>st</sup>.** 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. **BE SURE TO INCLUDE FULL NAME, LICENSE NO. AND DATE OF BIRTH (DOB) FOR ALL PERSONS, THIS DATA IS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY TO AIR FORCE BASE.**

**Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DOB** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**DRIVERS LIC. OR ID CARD NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DOB** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**DRIVERS LIC. OR ID CARD NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_.

Check here (  ) if you have attached \_\_\_\_\_ additional names.

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.

