

VIP Club Newsletter

Electronic Version

VOLUME 31, NO. 09 <http://www.vipclubmn.org> **NOVEMBER 2011**

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 02	Board Meeting, Eagan	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, Nov 09	Program and Social Time	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 07	Board Meeting, Roseville	10:00 a.m.
Thursday, December 15	Christmas Party Officers' Club	4.00 p.m.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM: Eagan

Election of Officers and Directors for 2012, cookies & coffee. Slide show: In the 1960s Univac provided land and ship based computer-aided tracking systems to the space program. Two of these were on Ascension Island and in South Africa. Manny Block will show his slides and narrate aspects of these installations. The successful acceptance tests included tracking a missile that impacted near Ascension Island (slides of the reentry will be shown) and tracking astronaut Carpenter's capsule (now in Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago) from Africa. Section 3.7 of

<http://vipclubmn.org/people1.aspx>

also has bit of the history. Manny is an octogenarian with many interests and skills: ham radio operator, small aircraft pilot, Civil Air Patrol volunteer, active flight instructor, electronics teacher, pianist, post retirement doctorate, an 'Original Geek Squad' regular and a Unihog participant - also worked at CDC. He first worked at ERA in 1951 including projects with Seymour Cray. We are glad that he has



volunteered to share the tracking station installation part of his career with Club members.

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY:

Our annual VIP Club Christmas Party is on a Thursday this year; December 15th is the date and the Officers' Club is the place. Following a social hour and dinner, Mr. Linden Peterson will play music for listening and dancing. 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 Officers' Club and reservation form on page 5.)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE From: President Lowell Benson

Where are your priorities? A question occasionally heard during business meetings or spouse discussions. From '55 to '03 my first priority was earning a living. Then my older son suggested that number one retirement priority should be personal health! So *number one* is now dentist, clinics, meds, diet, and

exercise. What else should take up personal time and mental focus? My opinions are that *number two priority* should be urgencies and emergencies associated with immediate family as they deal with their number ones. *Number three priority* should be maintenance of assets, i.e. financial accounts, home, vehicle, honey do list, boats, cabin, etc. as this maintenance minimizes the stresses of priorities one and two. *Number four* then are others such as hobbies, travel, friends, and volunteerism – giving of one’s time and talents for the benefits of others. Yes, my VIP Club activities are a fourth level priority! What about golf and fishing? Golf is part of an exercise program while fishing is a hobby.

As you consider your *number four* priorities for 2012, please think about becoming a member of a VIP Club committee! We are in need of a backup webmaster, a backup for newsletter electronic distribution, program committee help, an occasional substitute secretary, and a backup for Old Timer’s coordination – each is from two to eight hours per month, training available. Respectfully, Lowell Benson, 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 Gina’s Café at the Eagles Club, 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 2011

Date	Time	Location	Activity
Jan. 12, 2011			No Meeting
Feb. 09	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program - Social Time
Mar. 09	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time
Apr. 20	8:30 a.m.	Gina’s Cafe	Volunteer Breakfast
May. 11	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time
June 08	4:00 p.m.	Park	VIP Club Picnic
July 13			No Meeting
Aug. 10	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program - Social Time
Sept. 14	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time
Oct. 12	6.30 p.m.	Rsvl	Social Program
Nov. 09	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program – Social time
Dec. 15	4:00 p.m.	USAF	Christmas Party

Note: Rsvl = Roseville; Eagan = Unisys MACS Bldg.; Park = Highland Park Pavilion; USAF = OFFICERS Club at Fort Snelling.

WELCOME NEW CLUB MEMBERS

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

IN REMEMBRANCE



Fodness, Donald A. - Age 78, of Apple Valley, MN. Passed away peacefully on October 1, 2011. He is preceded in death by his wife, Janet. Don was a veteran of the US Navy and worked for over 30 years at Unisys as an electrical engineer before retiring.



Virginia Marie Klinger (nee Delmont) passed away on October 11, 2011. She is survived by her beloved husband, Bill. Virginia and Bill are long time members of the VIP Club.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS

PROGRAM PLANNING FOR 2012 – member feedback requested! For many years, Jack Farber shared his tour slides at occasional Club general meetings. We continued world travel ‘slides’ this year as Lowell combined his 2005 Egypt tour with photos by Bernie Jansen and Paul Lindholm. Then Manny Block volunteered to show his slides from Ascension Island and Africa tracking station installations. *What would you like to see in 2012?* Candidate tour slide shows: **A)** the Royal Clipper from Rome around the Italian boot to Venice with port calls in Sicily, Corfu, Montenegro, and Croatia; **B)** The Danube River from Nuremberg Germany to the Black Sea via with an extension into Transylvania; **C)** Portugal, Morocco, Gibraltar and Spain; **D)** South American Odyssey with visits of Manaus, Rio, Iguacu Falls, Buenos Aires, Uruguay, Bariloche, Santiago, Valparaiso, Lima, Cusco, and Manchu Picchu; **E)** Fiji, New Zealand, and Australia touring; **F)** Greece and the Aegean Islands; and **G)** none of these. *Please*, call or e-mail Dale Phelps (952-831-7843) (dphelps@usfamily.net) with your slide show wishes. Also, note if you are willing to include your snapshots with Lowell’s.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ELECTED OFFICE

Last September I invited applications to serve as a director or officer of a well-funded, nationally-recognized non-profit organization affiliated with two respected technology corporations. This year, as chair of the nominating committee, I again invite applications to serve your fellow retirees as a VIP Club director or officer. Who we most hope to hear from are Roseville facility retirees to better balance your board. Also, several on the board have been very active for more than ten years and might like a service break. The newer board members might like fresh faces with more new ideas and energy, and welcome help with our activities as we transition with decreasing corporate support.

Please call or email Brian Berggren if you can consider volunteering, or suggesting someone who would be a good candidate, - then come to our VIP program on November 9th to vote for your 2011 officers and directors.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR –

November 18: the UNIHOG/UNITURKEYs luncheon gathering at the All New Lost Spur club house bar & grill begins with check in at 11 am. Then a cash bar and visiting with colleagues until noon when a sit

down lunch will be served. Let labenson@q.com or Jack Ross 651-436-8801 know if you plan to participate (burger or salad counts are needed five days before the event.) Flyers are being mailed or e-mailed to the previous participant list. Thanks, LABenson

December 1, the Old Timers will gather at the Ft. Snelling O’ Club beginning at 11 am. Cafeteria lunch will available ~ 11:30. If you are willing to help with reminder phone calls or e-mails, *please* send a ‘I will help’ message to webmaster@vipclubmn.org before November 1st. Thanks, LABenson.

December 15th, the annual VIP Club Christmas dinner w/background music will be at the Ft. Snelling Officers’ Club instead of the Service Club. 4 to 5 pm will be check in, hors d’ oeuvres, and conversation time - at 5 pm a sit down dinner will be served. Reservations and entrée choice counts are needed on or before December 11th. A special of \$20 per person, see Page 5 for reservation form - the first 90 will fill the ballroom, others will be put on a waiting list. Warren Becker and Marion Scott are the planning committee.

WEB SITE REVIEW by Lowell Benson.

This is the eighteenth in the Article-for-the-Month review series for Club members who don’t have immediate internet access. In September 2010 we posted “[CP-823/U communications reveals discovery of an intact 1963 computer.](#)” A CP-823 was contracted by the Naval Air Development Center (NADC) in 1964 for 30-bit Anti-Submarine Warfare software development. This Univac 1830, CP-823/U was donated to Drexel University in Pennsylvania around 1970. Drexel put it into storage about 1973. A graduate student there rescued the computer and development documentation from a dumpster as Drexel was cleaning house in the winter of 2010. Mr. Todd J. Thomas bought the ‘scrap’ system in the spring of 2010. He contacted us 7/2010 after finding a tidbit about the CP-823/U computer on the VIP Club web site. The article chronicles the emails as we dug deep

CP-823/U SERIAL A1 COMPUTING SYSTEM, A-NEW MOD 3 (UNIVAC 1830). FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: 4 AIRBORNE I/O UNITS (SERIAL A1-A4), GROUND I/O, MEMORY, PROCESSOR, AIRBORNE POWER SUPPLY, CONTROL CONSOLE.



into the memories of Curt Nelson, Jim Rapinac, George Kydd, and M. R. Clement – Larry Bolton

deftly provided archived data about the part numbers provided. Two follow on ASW system articles will be reviewed in the next newsletter issue.

Report, Legacy display – The Lockheed Martin Contracts Department requested that we set up a Legacy display on Sept 14 & 15. The occasion was the 50th Annual Seminar of the Twin Cities Chapter of the National Contract Management Association at the Earle Brown Continuing Education Center, University of Minnesota. Jack Bergquist, LMCO retiree & VIP Club member, facilitated our participation. There were about 120 attendees from several local companies, featured speakers were from DoD procurement agencies. 3M, BAE, and ATK had product displays. Lowell set up our display, Harvey staffed the booth on the second day. In addition to the book *When Computers went to Sea*, we displayed several books



with highlight sheets: *A few good men from UNIVAC* by David Lundstrom, *the January 3rd 2010 Pioneer Press*, *Computers and Commerce* by Dr. Arthur Norberg, *High Speed Computing Devices* by ERA staff, *UNIVAC Product Book 1947-1959*, and *A History of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering – 1888-2008* by the University of Minnesota.

Report – Ron Q. Smith

On October 6th a dozen retirees and about a hundred current UNISYS employees gathered in the Roseville auditorium to wish Ron Q. Smith well on his transfer to Virginia. He and his wife decided to move in support of their daughter who has a new teaching position there. His parting words to me were that he

has the form filled out to become an Associate Member. LABenson.

Report – Pie & Ice Cream Program at UNISYS, Roseville on 12 October. Reverend Kevin Doely was engaging and entertaining as he brought us back in time to the Edgar Bergen, Charlie McCarthy, and Mortimer Snerd days of ventriloquism. Although it was raining lightly, twenty six members were there. Quint and Harvey served delicious pumpkin pie slices with scoops of vanilla ice cream. Half a dozen members took Rev. Kev flyers to show to their other seniors groups. Sorry you missed an evening filled with laughs. LABenson

Elections! As of press time, our slate for November has a Vice President vacancy. Tom Turba has agreed to a Presidential term, Lynn Farris Lindholm is willing to be secretary for another year and Harvey Taipale will continue as Treasurer. Director candidates [elect 4] are: Keith Behnke, Brian Berggren, Barney Buss, Quint Heckert, Dick Lundgren, and Joe Schwarz. Nominations from the floor are in order on Nov. 9th. Lowell Benson will become past president. Members emeritus Warren Becker, Millie Gignac, Chuck Homan, Bernie Jansen, and Marion Scott continue their ex-officio board support.

MEDICARE ENROLLMENT

Our Medicare enrollment period starts October 15 and ends December 7. You should have received the 2012 Medicare & You handbook from the government. The handbook summarizes 35 health plans, 14 special needs plans, and 33 prescription drug plans. (The 80 plus plans are almost half of the 140 plus plans available last year.)

The Minnesota Board on Aging has the Health Care Choices 2012 booklet available online at www.mnaging.org; a printed copy can be request through the Senior LinkAge Line (1-800-333-2433). The Senior LinkAge Line is also the resource for help comparing Medicare Part D and Medicare Advantage plans and determining if you qualify for extra help with costs through the special needs plans for low income enrollees. As usual, for those with numerous and costly medicines, the more complicated part is determining which plan has the better formulary and smaller deductibles and copays.

Both HealthPartners and UCare have plan packages with good information and a range of prices. Additional help is in the November 2011 Consumer Reports, with plan rankings for both Medicare and non-Medicare health plans, a timeline for Affordable Care Act plan changes, and how-to-choose suggestions.

LIGHTER SIDE

Two Men; one cross-eyed and the other cock-eyed. They were walking toward each other and bumped into each other. One said “Why don’t you look where you are going”. The other said “Why don’t you go where you’re looking”. Submitted by Ardel Johnson

If the number after your mailing address name is **2011**, then it is time for you to renew your membership for 2012 or beyond. If you receive the newsletter electronically and the number 2011 is in the subject line, then it is time to renew.



RENEWAL /

APPLICATION FORM: Dues are: \$7.00, 1 year ___ or \$ 18.00, 3 years ___.

Member (≥ 55) __, or Associate (< 55) __: Address Change __, New __, Renewal __

Name First M.I. Spouse's Name

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

(____) _____ - _____ @ _____ . _____

Primary Telephone Number E-mail address

Newsletter delivery preference is: Electronic (DSL or faster recommended) ___ or U.S. Mail ___.

Employer is/was: UNISYS __, Lockheed Martin __, and/or predecessor company _____.

Include my data in the Club's Directory? Yes ___ No ___. *DIRECTORY is only available to Members and Associates!*

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

ABOUT THE CHRISTMAS PARTY – 2011

- 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm** Initial social time with hors d'oeuvres & cash bar
- 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm** Enjoy an elegant sit down dinner with salad, vegetable, your choice of entrée, & dessert.
- 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm** Music for your listening & dancing enjoyment by one man band – Mr. Linden Peterson

Please reserve, at \$20.00 each ___ place(s) for the Annual VIP club Christmas Party & Dinner being held on Thursday, **December 15, 2011 at the Fort Snelling Officers' Club**. Send in your reservations now, since seating is limited. Your form and check must be received by Dec. 9th. If your reservation is for more than 2 persons, please attach a list of the added names and you'll be seated together at a reserved table.

Full Name: _____

Address _____

Full Name: _____

Address _____

Check here () if you have attached ___ additional names.

Entrée selections(s) & Qty: Top Sirloin ____, Burgundy Chicken ____, Walleye ____.

Make your checks payable to: **VIP CLUB**

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

CHRISTMAS PARTY: NEW TIME AND PLACE SIGN UP NOW

Directions to the Officer's Club: The Club is located at 395 Minnesota Highway 5, at the East side of the MSP airport. Take the Hwy 5 Post Road Exit, go east, then follow the signs to the Officers' Club. There is limited parking on the upper level with additional parking on the lower level.

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

VIP CLUB OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS FOR THE YEAR 2011

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
OFFICERS

President Lowell Benson *483-3709
Vice Pres Thomas Turba *489-0779
Secretary..... Lynn Lindholm *484-1030
Treasurer Harvey Taipale *748-5083
Past Pres Brian Berggren *451-9009

DIRECTORS

Director Dale Phelps #831-7843
Director Quintin Heckert *484-8729
Director Joseph Schwarz *698-9698
Director Marion Scott *455-7952

ACTIVITY COORDINATORS

Volunteer Recognition Breakfast
Bernie Jansen..... *681-9988
Red Cross Blood Drive
.....
Recreation Leagues
Keith Behnke *894-2182
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

ACTIVITY COORDINATORS

Picnic Jim Larson *698-3963
Mature Voices MN. Brian Berggren
*451-9009
Sunshine Jim Larson *698-3963
Lynn Farris Lindholm *484-1030
Christmas Warren Becker #881-3516
& Marion Scott *455-7952

UNISYS Liaison, Roseville Sue Carrigan *635-7712
Printing & Mailing UNISYS Print Shop, Roseville.....

Lockheed Martin, Eagan Liaison..... John Westergren *456-3380

Directions to Unisys MACS Bldg. in Eagan. Take Hwy 35E south or north to Pilot Knob Road. Turn left (north) on Pilot Knob Road. Turn left on Tower View Road. The Unisys MACS Bldg. is at 3199 Pilot Knob Road.

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 Walnut Street. It is the first place where you can turn left. Then turn left onto Terminal Road. Then turn right at Highcrest Rd. to building entrance. From Hwy 280 northbound, use left lane exit just past Cty Rd B for Terminal road access (St Croix St.). Turn left at Terminal Rd, then turn right at Highcrest Rd to building entrance.”