

UPCOMING EVENT ITEMS

 Engineering Research Associates 1946 - 2016	Our IT Legacy	July	Nothing planned, visit one of the Periodic Groups, see page 4
		August 3	10 AM – Board Meeting UNISYS, Roseville
		August 17	11 AM – River Cruise Check in time at the Pier in Stillwater, MN
		September 7	10 AM – Board Meeting UNISYS, Eagan
		September 14	7 PM – Speaker & Social time UNISYS, Eagan

AUGUST PROGRAM

An Outing on the St. Croix

Save the date Wednesday, August 17th, 2016 for a luncheon and sightseeing cruise on the St. Croix River from Stillwater, MN. We will be boarding at 11:00 AM and set sail at 11:30 AM for a 2-hour cruise. We'll be off the river by 2 PM, plenty of time to beat the Highway 36 traffic back into the cities. To sign up, fill out the **page 5 form** and send it with payment **before August 1st**. The boat will depart from the dock for the St. Croix Boat and Packet Co. at 525 South Main St. There are several pay parking lots in the area.



The cost is \$15 per member and includes lunch on board. There is a cash bar available for liquid refreshments. We do have to pre-pay for our group two weeks in advance thus we've set our registration deadline as August 1st. Invite your friends to cruise with us. Remember to bring your camera, sun screen, and tourist anticipation of the beautiful Minnesota and Wisconsin trees, rocks, and shorelines. Arrangements by Tom Turba.

Page 6 has GPS and direction information

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

Electioneering, etc.

Join us in the UNISYS Eagan visitor's conference room adjacent to the north visitors' entrance at 7 PM on September 14th. Our featured speaker will be Dr. Kathryn Pearson. She is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Minnesota. She received her Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley in 2005. Ms. Pearson specializes in American politics; her research and teaching foci are on the United States Congress, elections, women and politics, and political parties. She has published several book chapters and her research has appeared in *The Journal of Politics*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Politics & Gender*, and *Political Research Quarterly*. Kathryn is a recipient of the Morse Alumni Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate. In 2002-2003, Dr. Pearson was a Research Fellow at The Brookings Institution and from 1993 to 1998 she worked on Capitol Hill as a Legislative Assistant for two congresswomen, one Democrat and one Republican therefore she is quite bi-partisan.

Some of you may remember the lively post-presentation discussions after she spoke to us in September 2012. *Bring your questions*; i.e. what are the key issues facing Hillary and Donald over the next four years? Or, as illustrated by this icon – what is different today compared to 60-years ago? Thanks to Dick Lundgren for the arrangements with Dr. Pearson. Thanks to my wife for this relic of our youth!

By *LA Benson*

Page 6 has GPS and direction information.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Using the information received from the member's survey and other points of discussion at our VIP Club executive board meetings we are looking at ways to better serve the club membership outside the Twin City area. It looks like the events/programs that are social in nature are the most popular. Some examples are the Annual Reunion Picnic, Roseville's Good Old Days, the Old Timers gathering, the River Cruise and the Christmas Dinner Party. Obviously the members that live near the metropolitan area are able to attend many of our planned events. Members who live further away, and we have significant numbers in the Arizona and Florida areas, find it harder to attend them. Along with those that have permanent residences in these areas additional members spend significant time there during the winter months. We are looking for a way to sponsor an annual event for these club members but need to find a focal point (both an individual/s to coordinate and a convenient location to gather) to make it work. I will be contacting some candidates in the near future but if you are interested please let me know. *Keith Behnke*, Club President.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Newsletter Inputs: For the September newsletter issue; please send articles, recent obits, or lighter side items to Joe Schwarz before **August 5th**, see Contact Data section for US mail address.

Fall Calendar Dates: Oct 12, Program in Roseville; Nov. 18, Unihogs/Uniturkeys luncheon at Casper's and our 2017 Board election; Dec. 1, Annual UNIVAC Old Timers' Reunion at the Lost Spur; and Dec. 8, Annual Christmas dinner at the Lost Spur.

Board positions are opening up! Past President Lowell Benson chairs our 2017 nomination committee. The Club Board seeks youthful people (under 70) to learn our processes and then provide leadership for future years! Please consider joining us as part of your retirement time allocations, 6-to-16 hours per month. Beginning January 2017, our next term needs are:

1. Secretary to take notes at board meetings and to distribute them to board members.
2. Chief newsletter editor (Director) to gather 'news' items from the board and club members, update boiler plate as needed, insert text and snapshot submittals, format for either 6 or 8 pages, coordinate text editing, and then send to print facility for US mail distribution. Also, send an electronic copy to the webmaster for electronic distribution messages and archiving.

3. Webmaster (Director) to convert .docx format newsletters to .pdf format, upload to the web, and then transmit electronic notifications to members with email addresses. Also, do fortnightly web page updates based on inputs from Legacy Committee members, Board members, and occasional notes from browsing public.

4. Volunteer Luncheon Coordinator to accept mailed and on-line surveys, tabulate those submittals, coordinate with the recognition luncheon facility [Joseph's], and develop a program booklet.

5. Coordinator for the December Annual UNIVAC Old Timers' Reunion at the Lost Spur. This involves facility reservations, reminders to previous participants, name tag generation, lunch orders, etc.

6. Legacy Committee co-chair to coordinate gathering of new artifacts and to schedule occasional volunteer meetings in support of the Lawshe Memorial Museum, the Charles Babbage Institute, and the *tbd* destination of the UNISYS, Roseville Shadowboxes.

Phasing out board members Bernie Jansen (20+yrs), Frank King (5-yrs), Joe Schwarz (17-yrs), and Lowell Benson (11-yrs) are willing to affect an orderly transition of these six activities to new volunteers during the November '16 to January '17 time period. Readers, please contact me labenson@q.com or club president Keith Behnke. Thanks, submitted by *LABenson*.

IN REMEMBRANCE



Breu, Dennis L. - Age 90, of Stillwater, MN. Passed away peacefully on June 25th, 2016. He will be sadly missed by wife of 67 years, LaVaun. Dennis served in the USMC during WWII. He then moved to Stillwater and retired from Unisys in 1986

Coughlon, Robert Charles - Age 81, of Shorewood, MN, Passed away peacefully at his home on June 18th, 2016. His wife, Kay Coughlon, preceded Bob's death in 2006. Bob was a retired program manager at UNISYS in St, Paul, MN. Bob was a long time VIP Club member.



Johnson, Thomas - Age 69 Passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by his family on July 6th, 2016. Tom is survived by his loving wife, Barbara. Tom worked at Unisys as a software developer for 38 years.

Kappel, Donald F. - Age 85 of Inver Grove Heights, MN. Passed away on June 9th, 2016. Survived by loving wife of 62 years, Shirley. Don Kappel was a 40-year employee of Unisys

Keeler, Blake W. - Age 61, of Eagan, MN. Passed away on May 19th, 2016 surrounded by his loving family after complications from cardiac arrest. Survived by loving wife of 40 years, Shelly. Mark was a lead guard at Univac.



Kerler, Vera - Age 81, of Lac Du Flambeau, WI. Passed away peacefully on July 2nd, 2016. Vera was the wife of 38-year employee Ralph Kerler (Defense Systems & Semiconductor Operations). Vera and Ralph were married for almost 60 years and retired to their lake cabin in Lac du Flambeau, WI. The Kerlers have been long time members of the VIP Club.



Mullins, Richard J. - Age 89 formerly of Mendota Heights, MN. Passed away June 26th, 2016. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Theresa, who was also at ERA in the early days and rejoined Sperry Defense in her later years. Dick was a computer pioneer as an early employee at Engineering Research Associates (ERA), which merged with Remington Rand, became Sperry Univac and later Unisys, where Dick enjoyed a long career as a technical writer, quality analyst and program manager. Dick was a long time member of the VIP Club and former board member. Dick maintained the VIP Club membership database as a Director from the Club's inception until 2006 when he passed it on to Lowell (20+ years on the board). Not only did his son Richard work for UNISYS/LMCO; his daughter Mary Beth (nee Mullins) Ruhland worked in the pubs department and edited several articles for the Legacy Committee.



Nieters, Albert Bernard - Age 93 of Maplewood, MN. Passed away July 1st, 2016. Albert is survived by his wife, Louise (Carlson) Nieters. Al was also a long time Unisys employee and a long time VIP Club member.

Palmer, Steven D. - Age 69 of Lake Elmo, MN. Passed away peacefully with loved ones at his side. Survived by his loving wife of 49 years, Kathy. Steve began working at Univac when a single computer took up a whole room, retiring from Lockheed Martin as a project



manager of navigation equipment for Navy vessels in 2006.

Phipps, Ruth L. - Age 87, of West St. Paul, MN. Passed away peacefully at home on May 4th, 2016. She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Phil. Philip was a long time Unisys employee and VIP Club member.



Snyder, Gary Grant - Born on November 19th, 1929 in Conrad, Montana. Gary is survived by his loving wife, Betty Woon-Snyder. Gary worked at Sperry-Univac in St. Paul, Minnesota, which later became Unisys. He served as a master engineer until his retirement in 1996.



Tesch, Donald F. "Ferd" - Age 92 of Anoka MN. Passed away on May 20th, 2016. Survived by wife of 70 years, Arlene. Ferd worked in the Minneapolis Sperry Univac Customer Engineering Branch and also in Roseville part of the time as a Customer Engineer.



NEW MEMBERS, June '16

Chuck	Hobus
Ron	Ward
Robert	Nasby

SOCIAL ACTIVITY ITEMS

Annual Reunion Picnic Report: Sainted – John Westergren and several volunteers who made the picnic a success by reserving the pavilion, planning and obtaining food, preparing the facility, cooking food, tapping a keg or two, and cleaning up as the last few left for the day. Tainted – the weather gods who gave us some rain to scare away a few people who paid and didn't make it. Sainted – several spouses who ran the kitchen area and a few who staffed the name-tag table. Tainted – all the road work in the area. See page 5 for a snapshot collage, if you want a digital file of any picture, send me a note. Submitted by *LABenson*

CONTACT DATA

2016 VIP Club Board:

Keith Behnke	<i>President</i>	651-894-2182
Orrin McGill	<i>Vice President</i>	763-755-7765
Frank King	<i>Secretary</i>	651-774-0997
Harvey Taipale	<i>Treasurer</i>	651-748-5083
Dale Phelps	<i>Director</i>	952-831-7843
Joe Schwarz	<i>Director</i>	651-698-9698
Gish Devlaminck	<i>Director</i>	651-470-8905
Tbd	<i>Director</i>	
Lowell Benson	<i>Past President</i>	651-483-3709

Newsletter Editorial Staff:

Letters to the Editor to: VIP Club, 1486 Fairmount Ave, St Paul, MN 55105 or e-mail to Chief Editor Joseph Schwarz: jschwarzsr@centurylink.net or Editor Bernie Jansen bjsjk@msn.com, or Editor Richard Lundgren rflundgr@aol.com or Editor Don Naaktgeboren donfishn@yahoo.com

Club Activity Coordinators:

CBI Liaison; Dick Lundgren, rflundgr@aol.com
Christmas Dinner; Bill Galle, wagalle@mac.com and Lynn Lindholm, lynnlindholm@comcast.net
IT Legacy Committee co-chairs; John Westergren, jwestergren@frontiernet.net and Lowell Benson labenson@q.com

Lawshe Museum Support/Coordination;

- Exhibits; Keith Myhre kmyhre@lightblast.net
- Photo ID work; Tricia Myhre pbm5454@hotmail.com and Jon Simon jcsimon1st@frontiernet.net

Membership; Gish Devlaminck gdevlaminck@comcast.net

Picnic Coordination; John Westergren, Frank King kingx063@umn.edu, and Jim Larson, j.jameslarson@comcast.net

Programs; Dale Phelps; drphelps416@gmail.com

Recreation Leagues; Keith Behnke, keithbhk@comcast.net

Roseville Good Old Days; Tom Turba tnturba@comcast.net

Sunshine Cards; Lynn Lindholm lynnlindholm@comcast.net

Volunteer Luncheon; Bernie Jansen, bjsjk@msn.com and Frank King, kingx063@umn.edu

Webmaster; L. A. Benson, webmaster@vipclubmn.org

VIP CLUB Corporate Liaisons:

LMCO, Eagan – Steve Koltas 651-303-9112
Unisys, Roseville/Eagan – Sue Carrigan, 651-635-7712
Unisys print shop – Judy Bornetun, 651-635-6792

Retirement Status and Benefits: These are numbers to call if you or your heirs have death benefit or pension questions – you will need SSN and a PIN.

Unisys 1-877-864-7972
Lockheed Martin 1-866-562-2363

PERIODIC GROUPS

A Luncheon Group [engineering/ drafting] meets monthly on the 1st Tuesday in Eagan at 11:00 AM - Rickey's Café at Stark's, 3125 Dodd Road, Eagan, MN.

One Breakfast Group meets monthly at 8:00 AM on the 1st Thursday of each month at the Capitol View Cafe, 637 Smith Ave. St. Paul.

A Second Luncheon Group [Unisys and Burroughs] meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at 11:30 AM at the

Mall of America 3rd floor North Food Court. We sit at the tables between the elevator and Burger King. Contact phone is #952-854-7855.

A 3rd Luncheon Group: The UNISYS, Roseville ladies meet monthly on the 2nd Wednesday at 11 AM at the Green Valley Cafe, University & Mississippi. Coordinator is Gladys, #651-552-1465.

Another Breakfast Group meets monthly at 9:00 AM on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in the Eagles Club, Old Hwy 8, in New Brighton. Coordinator Marv Brown's phone is 763-416-3903.

A Fourth Luncheon Group (SCF) meets in the odd numbered months on the 2nd Saturday at 11:30 AM at the Baker's Square on 3088 White Bear Avenue in Maplewood. Coordinator phone is 651-429-3319.

REPORTS, LEGACY ACTIVITIES

We have a web site? This is one of the comments received in response to the December Survey. YES; the VIP Club has and has had a web site. In 2002, Joe Schwarz created a Yahoo hosted Club web site. In February 2006, Lowell Benson started a Legacy web page on his personal site and then transitioned that page to a Microsoft hosted (free) Legacy site. In the fall of 2007 the two sites were merged as the <http://vipclubmn.org> URL. In 2011, Microsoft ended free websites so we transitioned to our current host, <http://www.webhostinghub.com>.

This year we have added two features to benefit our readers: 1) The home page, section 3 has a google mapping function to provide directions to the next event from the reader's entered address. 2) The home page and the Contact-Links page have a Google search function so that readers can quickly find who/what is mentioned where or who wrote what on which page.

Our site design structure and rules are described on page zero, <http://vipclubmn.org/SiteMap.html>. The primary page {Home/Club} has introductory information and sub-tabs associated with the Club business and activities. What would you like to read?

Between the Club page tab and Contacts/links tab are our Legacy topic selection tabs with the theme: Our IT LEGACY consists of PEOPLE who ENGINEERED COMPUTERS and SYSTEMS at FACILITIES in Minnesota and throughout the world. Over two hundred people have contributed items to this computer history anthology. There are a couple of pages with Blue Bell stories too. We still have room for your stories, either mini-career summaries or project stories. Submitted by *LABenson*



Picnic Collage:

-- Cut Here – Cut Here --

"Our website also has the cruise registration form, <http://vipclubmn.org/PicnicForm.htm>

CRUISE REGISTRATION FORM

VIP Club member(s)

I plan to attend (name): _____ \$15.00 per member

Spouse/friend will attend (name): _____ \$15.00 per spouse/friend

Non-member*

I plan to attend (name): _____ \$21.00 per non-member

Spouse/friend will attend (name): _____ \$21.00 per spouse/friend

My email address is: _____ @ _____ . _____

***Non-members can get the \$15 cruise price by including a VIP Club membership registration form with a \$7 or \$18 dues check, i.e. a \$22 check is good for membership through 2017 and the cruise. You do not have to be retired to join the VIP Club as an associate member.**

Please mail w/check before **Aug. 1st** to: VIP CLUB CRUISE P.O. Box 131748 Roseville, MN 55113-0020

DIRECTIONS TO ACTIVITY VENUES

Car-pool if possible to all events or contact a board member for possible 'ride-with' suggestions.

Directions to UNISYS in Roseville: Set your GPS unit to Roseville MN, 2470 Highcrest Road. From Hwy 35W north; exit onto W County Rd C to go west a mile, then turn left onto Walnut St. Then turn right onto Terminal Road for half a block, turn right at Highcrest Rd. to building entrance. From 35W south, exit on Industrial Way / St. Anthony Blvd off ramp, turn left, drive under the freeway, then turn right onto Walnut St. Follow it 0.8 mi north then turn left on Terminal Road. Go ½ blocks and enter the UNISYS parking lot on the right. From Hwy 36 east, drive west until 36 joins Hwy 35W just past Hwy 280, then exit at the Industrial Way / St. Anthony Blvd. off ramp of 35W. Go north on St. Anthony Blvd. to Walnut St. [the first street on the right]. Turn right onto Walnut Street.



Directions to Unisys MACS in Eagan: Set your GPS unit to Eagan MN, 3199 Pilot Knob Road. From Hwy 35E take the Pilot Knob Road exit ramp. Then go north on Pilot Knob Road about ½ mile to Tower View Road. We use the Unisys north parking lot and the visitor entrance thereby.

Directions to the river boat cruise: Set your GPS unit to Stillwater, 525 South Main St. From the Roseville area, take Hwy 36 Eastward, 8.7 miles east of I-694 Hwy 36 curves left to become St. Croix Trail (Hwy 95). 1.7 miles north on this road will get you to Main Street, turn right to see the landing then find a local parking lot. From the Eagan area, take 494 East and North to the 694 beginning at I-94. Continue on 694 to Hwy 36; exit right-east and then follow the Roseville directions above.