# VIP Club Newsletter

VOLUME 36, NO. 9 November 2016 http://vipclubmn.org

## **UPCOMING EVENT ITEMS**

Our IT Legacy	November 2	ovember 2 10 AM; Board meeting, Visitors' conference room @ UNISYS, Eagan			
Engineering Research Associates 1946 - 2016	November 18	11 AM – Unihogs luncheon & election	Casper's in Eagan		
	December 1	11 AM, Annual Old Timers' Reunion	Lost Spur, Eagan		
	December 7	10 AM; Board meeting, tbd conference room	n @ UNISYS, Roseville		
	December 8	3:30 PM; Annual Christmas Dinner	Lost Spur, Eagan		

## NOVEMBER PROGRAM Unihogs/Uniturkeys & Elections

**11 AM, November 18**: Again this year we will have our Club's board elections at the annual Unihogs/Uniturkeys luncheon. This annual social gathering pre-dates the VIP Club! Unihogs began with

February dinner gatherings in the 70s when some 1108 and 490 design engineers left UNIVAC to form other



companies such as COMTEN, Intec, Weismantel, etc.

Uniturkeys was added in the 90s when the planners changed to November to accommodate snowbirds; then to luncheons for those participants who didn't like to drive in the evenings.

Featured this year will be "Planning a Minnesota Computer and Technology Industry History Center"; a presentation by Dale F. Weeks, executive director for the State of Minnesota Computer and Technology Industry Initiative. Dale seeks to generate funds for a new museum to exhibit Minnesota's technical innovations and to infuse STEM curricula with legacy history. This initiative includes about a dozen other companies in addition to our 1946 ERA => LMCO Legacy at the Lawshe Memorial Museum, i.e. CDC, Honeywell, & IBM in MN. Reservations and a \$19 check are needed by Nov. 14\*; see http://vipclubmn.org/Temp/Announcement2016.pdf.

Directions: Casper's is located at 4625 Nicols Road,

Eagan, MN 55122 – Take the Cliff Road exit from I35E and go west to Nicols, turn left or take the Cliff Road exit from Cedar Ave and go east to Nicols, turn right.



## **DECEMBER EVENTS Both at the Lost Spur**

**Annual UNIVAC Old Timers' Reunion:** December 1<sup>st</sup>, 11 AM to 3 PM. Yes, we are gathering the first Thursday of December as initiated three decades ago.

- 1. The Lost Spur kitchen has limited noon service in the winter, however will make pre-ordered sandwiches for those who want a lunch while talking and sipping.
- 2. A reminder was emailed in late October; if you did not get one; send\* a note to <u>labenson@q.com</u> before November 23<sup>rd</sup> that you plan to attend and whether you will be buying an \$8 ham, turkey, or beef sandwich cash bar available.

December 8<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 PM: Our annual Christmas dinner will be at the Lost Spur in Eagan. We urge you to make reservations early to get priority seating with friends. Reservation\* requests with your check of \$20.00 per person should be mailed to Bill Galle before December 1<sup>st</sup>, use the page 5 form or on-line at http://vipclubmn.org/ChristmasForm.htm.

- 3:30 PM 4:30 PM Initial social time with nametag check in, hors d'oeuvres & cash bar,
- 4:30 PM 5:30 PM Enjoy an elegant sit down dinner with salad, vegetable, your choice of entrée, and a desert tray served to your table!
- 5:30 PM 5:45 PM Introduction of guests and the 2016 VIP Club Board, and then
- Mingle with friends 'til closing time.

**Directions**: Set your GPS to St Paul, 2750 Sibley Memorial Hwy, 55121 or take exit #98 off I-35E onto Lone Oak Road. Go west across Pilot Knob Road and down the hill to Hwy 13. Turn right and proceed north ~ ½ mile to the Lost Spur (City View) entrance.

\*Kitchens need food orders early; we pre-print nametags!





### **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

It has been over 60 years since the corporate name "Remington Rand Univac" was used to identify the part of Sperry Rand where many of us worked. Recently while channel surfing to avoid the tiresome political ads bombarding us on television, I ran across a channel called BUZZR, which is 220 on Comcast



(http://buzzrplay.com/). BUZZR TV is new and replays old game shows from the producers Goodson/Todman circa 1950's -1980's. On a replay of "What's My Line" the commercial was the commercial shown when it was originally aired. I've seen a few other Univac commercials with some other shows, so apparently Remington Rand Univac was one of their regular sponsors. See these at the following web sites:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Ge0N080qw8 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVWQPbaT4Wo

At the time Remington Rand's claim to fame was electric shavers and typewriters. With the advent of the "computer age" we became the heart of an industry that has gone way beyond what anyone envisioned back in those days. The merger of Engineering Research Associates and Eckert—Mauchly Computer Corporation created the first commercial electronic computers, which eventually led to the computer world that we know today. *Keith Behnke*, Club President.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Newsletter Inputs:** For the December newsletter issue; please send articles, recent obits, or lighter side items to Joe Schwarz before **November 4<sup>th</sup>**, see Contact Data section for US mail address or the web Contact & Links page to email your inputs.

Board nominations! Unlike the state and national elections, our 2017 board nominations are open until 18 November when the Club president announces those who have volunteered to serve next year. As this issue goes to press; the Secretary and Vice President positions are still open. Readers, please contact Club President Keith Behnke or Past President Lowell Benson to discuss these positions and volunteer opportunities. Ask not what the Club can do for you: rather ask what you can do for your fellow retirees!

**Membership Renewal Time:** If 2016 appears after your name on the Newsletter address, your membership expires at the end of this year. Or, if the subject line of your electronic delivery has member list 2016 in it, your membership renewal is due. Please use the renewal form on page 6 for 1 or 3 years.

By the way, if your age is 90 or greater – just write NONOGENARIAN on the form and send it without a check! Club membership is free to those ERA=>UNISYS/LMCO retirees over the age of 90. We presently have fourteen *Life* members.

Hello Snowbirds and Arizonians: What are you doing to celebrate Valentine's Day? If you are interested in a gathering in the Mesa area mid-February of 2017, send a note to Lynn Lindholm at <a href="mailto:lynnlindholm@comcast.net">lynnlindholm@comcast.net</a>. [A couple of you have already responded.] The Club will provide some financial support for a gathering venue. Some may recall previous 'Minnesotans in AZ' gatherings arranged by Wally Emerson, Beckers, Rapinac, et al' <a href="http://vipclubmn.org/LunchGroups.html#Snowbirds">http://vipclubmn.org/LunchGroups.html#Snowbirds</a>

**2017 Reserved Dates:** <u>12 May</u>, Roseville Good Old Days at the Mermaid in Moundsview; <u>December 7</u>, Annual UNIVAC Old Timers' at the Lost Spur in Eagan; and <u>December 14</u>, Annual VIP Club Christmas dinner at the Lost Spur.

Please send a note to Director Dale Phelps with your ideas for program speakers or outings in the other 2017 months - <a href="declaration-drop-le-sty

Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics: Club volunteers have been participating in the Independent School District 196 STEM program for several years. This year they are looking for community members to volunteer for tutoring. What you will do:

- You will work one-on-one or with a small group of students in the tutoring center located at Apple Valley High School.
- We are looking for volunteers who are comfortable with high school curriculum. However, if you don't feel like you remember high school material, that's okay. We'd like you to guide students through the learning process. For example, if students need help with math, have them look at their notes, see how the example problems are done and help them to figure out how to do the problems themselves. Students thrive under one-on-one attention and encouragement.
- The tutoring center is run by one teacher who will work along with you and be available all day to help students and answer any questions a volunteer might have.

If you are interested, contact: Cheryl Donely, AVHS Math Teacher/E<sup>3</sup> STEM Counselor 651-683-6969 x93357 (voicemail) Cheryl.Donely@district196.org.

## **NEW MEMBER, OCTOBER '16**

Dale Goergen

## **IN REMEMBRANCE**

**Gerard, John H.** - Age 69 of Coon Rapid, MN. John is survived by wife of 45 years, Karolyn. John worked at Unisys in Roseville for many years.



Johnson, Bert W. - Age 80 of Burnsville,



MN. Passed away peacefully September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Survived by wife of 51 years, Anita. Bert is a Unisys retiree and member of the VIP Club.

Klingseisen, Robert F. - Age 78 of Shoreview, MN. formerly of Sleepy Eye, MN. Passed away suddenly on Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Preceded in death by his loving wife of 64 years Diane. Bob was a Unisys Roseville



retiree and longtime member of the VIP Club.



McCarthy, Eugene F. - Passed away in peace on Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the age of 82. Gene is survived by his wife of 58 years, Bernie. Gene built a successful career at Sperry Univac and Lockheed Martin, earning 5 top sales and 2 presidential

awards. Eugene was a long time member of the VIP Club and a contributor to our web site anthology.

**Meissner, George Willie Evan** - Age 84 of Fridley, MN. Passed away peacefully September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016 in Fridley, MN. Survived by loving wife of 62 years, Dee. George was a Unisys retiree.

**Metzger, Leta** - Age 82, passed away September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Leta is survived by her husband Ross. Ross is a former Unisys employee and has been a long time member of the VIP Club.

**Schwarzbauer, Elizabeth A. "Liz"** - Age 66 of Eagan, MN. Passed away peacefully at her home on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 after a Courageous battle with cancer. She is survived by her loving husband of almost 41 years, Kevin. Liz was a 42 year Lockheed Martin employee.

## **SOCIAL ACTIVITY ITEMS**

Report on October 12<sup>th</sup> Program: The VIP Club program at the Roseville Masonic Lodge drew a large number of attendees (38.) The advertised attraction of ice cream and pumpkin pie became apple pie ala mode, but all enjoyed anyway. The presentation was a fascinating overview of the history and capabilities of the relatively new Minnesota company

Sentera (sentera.com). Sentera CEO Eric Taipale recounted how the company evolved out of UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle, i.e., drones) work done at Lockheed Martin in Eagan going back a decade. Eight LM engineers, who were part of the of LM Desert Hawk UAV team, found a new home at Sentera with major repurposing of objectives. The new uses of drones (hand-launched) are in the fields of agriculture, cellular communication infrastructure, construction monitoring and public safety. In agriculture the drones can monitor crop status with incredible detail provided by high resolution digital cameras and other sensors. Reports provide specific locations of crop stress due to diseases, pests, insufficient soil nutrients, etc. In cellular communications, the Sentera drones can "climb" the cell phone towers and do fly-arounds to image all tower components in great detail and certainly more safely than a human tower inspector can do; also at viewing angles that human just can't achieve. At construction sites the drones can image and record/report progress or lack thereof in a developing project. Public safety applications can include support for police/fire emergencies, border patrols, and military surveillance. Sentera's workforce currently consists of 23 employees with headquarters in Minneapolis. Thanks to Lynn Lindholm for the pies, to Tom Turba for the ice cream, to Harvey Taipale for the speaker, and to Frank King for the venue arrangements, coffee making, and kitchen clean-up. Lynn and Ruth Sanford did the pie serving. Submitted by R. Lundgren

**How was your Halloween?** This archive snapshot was taken at the Winnipeg facility in the 70s.



A part of our Twin Cities Legacy is that engineers had assignments at facilities throughout the world plus, a few Canadians had learning/working experiences in St. Paul facilities. BTW, I recognize John Westergren and Dan Holste in this photo! By LABenson

## CONTACT DATA

2016 VIP Club Board:					
Keith Behnke	President	651-894-2182			
Orrin McGill	Vice President	763-755-7765			
Frank King	Secretary	651-774-0997			
Harvey Taipale	Treasurer	651-748-5083			
Dale Phelps	Director	952-831-7843			
Joe Schwarz	Director	651-698-9698			
Gish Devlaminck	Director	651-470-8905			
Thd	Director				

Tbd Director

Lowell Benson Past President 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: <a href="mailto:jschwarzsr@centurylink.net">jschwarzsr@centurylink.net</a> or Editor Bernie Jansen <a href="mailto:bjsjk@msn.com">bjsjk@msn.com</a>, or Editor Richard Lundgren <a href="mailto:rflundgr@aol.com">rflundgr@aol.com</a> or Editor Don Naaktgeboren <a href="mailto:donfishn@yahoo.com">donfishn@yahoo.com</a>

## Club Activity Coordinators:

CBI Liaison; Dick Lundgren, <a href="mailto:rflundgr@aol.com">rflundgr@aol.com</a>
Christmas Dinner; Bill Galle, <a href="mailto:wagalle@mac.com">wagalle@mac.com</a> and Lynn Lindholm, <a href="mailto:lynnlindholm@comcast.net">lynnlindholm@comcast.net</a>
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 <u>pbm5454@hotmail.com</u> and Jon Simon jcsimon1st@frontiernet.net

Membership; Gish Devlaminck gdevlaminck@comcast.net

Picnic Coordination; John Westergren, Frank King <a href="mailto:kingx063@umn.edu">kingx063@umn.edu</a> and Jim Larson,

j.jameslarson@comcast.net

Programs; Dale Phelps; drphelps416@gmail.com Recreation Leagues; Keith Behnke,

keithbhnk@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:

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

## **REPORTS, LEGACY ACTIVITIES**

Celebrations of Life and Careers: Rosalie Christensen will be providing our Legacy committee with boxes of artifacts, pictures, and books for the Lawshe Memorial Museum and the Charles Babbage Institute. This poster from Curt's memorial service is a microcosm of his 30-yr career with us.



A framed picture shows an Air Force mobile system from the 60s that Curt worked on from plants 1 & 2.



I thought that it was rather ironic that Curt's family chose to display framed pictures of two of the 23 shadow boxes that will be moving from Roseville to Eagan next year.



## **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  $2^{nd}$  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 on the 2nd Wednesday at 11 AM at the Olive Garden, Northtown Village, 150 Coon Rapids Blvd NW, Coon Rapids. Coordinator is Gladys, 651-552-1465.

Another Breakfast Group meets monthly at 9:00 AM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at 11:30 AM at the Baker's Square on 3088 White Bear Avenue in Maplewood. Coordinator phone is 651-429-3319.

## LIGHTER SIDE



Submitted by Mary Brown.

### CHRISTMAS PARTY: SIGN UP NOW

Please reserve, at \$20 each \_\_\_ place(s) for the Annual VIP Club Christmas Party & Dinner being held on Thursday, December 8th, 2016 at the Lost Spur Country Club. Send in your reservations now, since seating is

limited. Your form and check must be received by <u>December 2<sup>nd</sup></u> . If your reservation is for more than tw persons, please attach a list of the added names and you will be seated together at a reserved table.
Full Name:
Address
Full Name:
Address
Check here () if you have attached additional names.
Entrée selection(s) & Quantity: 8 oz. Roasted Steak; or Glazed Chicken; or Pan-fried Walleye
Make your check payable to: VIP CLUB

Mail to: William 'Bill' Galle

Kenwood Isles, #118 1425 West 28th Street Minneapolis, MN 55408



**++*C*II+T++H+F+R+F *********************************
--

VIP CLUB Enev	e address block of your New ws notification shows me cription expires on Decemb	mber list <b>2016</b> ; y	our VIP Club membe	rship and newslette
Renewal New l	Member (≥55) or Associa	ate (<55) or Life	(>89) or Information	on Change only
Name	First	M.I.	Spouse's Name	
Street Address or P.O. Bo	x City		State	Zip Code
(		<u></u>	·•_	
Primary Telephone Numb	er E-mail addre	ess		
Newsletter delivery defau	lt is electronic or U	S. Mail if you have	no email	
Employer is/was UNISYS	, Lockheed Martin	, and/or predecessor	company	·
Include my data in the Clu	ıb's Directory? Yes No _	DIRECTORY is a	only available to Membe	ers and Associates!
	VITH YOUR CHECK* TO		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	MN 55113-0020