DECEMBER EVENTS
Both at the Lost Spur

Annual UNIVAC Old Timers’ Reunion: December 1st, 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 labenson@q.com or call 651-483-3709 before November 23rd that you plan to attend and whether you will be buying an $8 ham, turkey, or beef sandwich – cash bar available.

Annual Christmas Dinner, December 8th, 3:30 PM: We urge you to make reservations early to get priority seating with friends at the Lost Spur in Eagan. Reservation* requests with your check of $20.00 per person should be mailed to Bill Galle before December 1st, use the page 7 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, 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

As we reach the end of 2016 here are a few reminders. Check the date on either the subject line of the e-mail distribution of our newsletter or the mailing tag of your USPS mailed newsletter for your membership expiration year. We want you to remain part of the VIP Club so don’t forget to renew.

As you collect the information on your volunteer activities for this year we will simplify the input process for the VIP Club data collection. You will just need to report your total volunteer hours and list whatever organizations you supported. We use this information to communicate to the rest of the world the outstanding job our members do in supporting worthwhile activities. And finally, one of the most important things that we must address is maintaining an effective VIP Club management board. As you will see elsewhere in this issue Paul Hove has joined the board but we are still looking for additional candidates to fill open or soon to open positions. Please consider joining us. Keith Behnke, Club President.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 8 for 1 or 3 years.

By the way, if your age is 90 or more – just X on form’s ‘Life (>89) ___ ‘ and then 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.
Welcome to the Board as Treasurer! Paul Hove earned a BEE from the University of MN in 1965 and then joined UNIVAC as a Field Service Engineer. He retired from UNISYS in 1989 as Program Director for the SQQ-89 Navy programs. During his 25 years with the company, he received post graduate credits from the American University and the Naval Post Graduate school culminating with a 1983 MBA from the College of St. Thomas. After UNISYS, Mr. Hove started a couple of small companies and then as he phased into retirement he built his own experimental aircraft – yes he has a pilot’s license and the plane flies. From his First Friday conversations, we sense that he is still a farm boy at heart!

Several other volunteers, designated as Board Associates, will continue to lead and support specific Club sponsored activities; what/who is listed here.

**Board of Directors - 2017**

Keith Behnke, President 651-894-2182
Harvey Taipale, Vice President 651-748-5083
Paul Hove, Treasurer 651-738-4908
Open, Secretary
Joe Schwarz, Director 651-698-9698
Gish Devlaminck, Director 651-470-8905
Orrin McGill, Director 763-755-7765
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Lowell Benson, Past President 651-483-3709

**Newsletter Editorial Staff**

Joe Schwarz, lead ischwarzs@centurylink.net
Bernie Jansen bjsjk@msn.com
Dick Lundgren rflundgr@aol.com
Don Naaktgeboren donfishn@yahoo.com

**UNISYS Liaison**

Sue Carrigan; meeting rooms, etc. 651-635-7712
Judy Borneton; Roseville print shop 651-635-6792

**VIP Club Activity Coordination - 2017**

CBI Liaison; Dick Lundgren, rflundgr@aol.com
Christmas Dinner; Hank & Geri Dotzler,
dotzstudio@charter.net
Lawshe Museum Support;
• Exhibits; Keith Myhre kmyhre@lightblast.net
• Photo ID work; Tricia Myhre mailto:pbm5454@hotmail.com and Jon Simon jcsimon1st@frontiernet.net

Legacy Committee co-chairs; John Westergren, jwestergren@frontiernet.net and Lowell Benson labenson@q.com
Membership database; Gish Devlaminck gdevlaminck@comcast.net
Old Timers Annual Reunion; Lowell Benson
Picnic planning & volunteer staffing; John Westergren, jwestergren@frontiernet.net
Programs Planning; Your name here?
Recreation Leagues; Keith Behnke,
send a note to anyone of us if you are willing to pitch in and help at an event.

**Newsletter Inputs:** For the Jan/Feb 2017 newsletter issue; send articles, recent obits, or lighter side items to Joe Schwarz before December 29th. Use Joe’s email address above or the Club’s US mail address or the web Contact & Links page to email your inputs or call a Club Officer with a topic. As part of our 2017 transition, the UNISYS print shop will move to Eagan. To alleviate work load and costs there, the Board may only do six newsletters next year.

**Board Transitions:** As we go to press, the Secretary and a Director at large positions are open.

Dale Phelps is retiring from the board after 11 years as Programs Director. Secretary Frank King is retiring from the board after 4 years. Associate Bill Galle is leaving after three years coordinating the Christmas dinner – Hank and Geri Dotzler have volunteered to coordinate the 2017 Christmas dinner. [Dale was Club President in 2002-03; Bill was Treasurer in 1996-97; Hank was VIP Club President in 2003-04.]

Harvey Taipale will be VP after 8 years as treasurer; giving us leadership direction into our future years. Orrin McGill will be a Director for website updating.

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VIP Club December 2016 Newsletter

CONTACT DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Retirement Status and Benefits:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Numbers to call if you or your heirs have death benefit or pension questions – you will need SSN and a PIN.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unisys</td>
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<td>Lockheed Martin</td>
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IN REMEMBRANCE

Burrell, Charlotte Marie Holmgren - Age 93, of St. Louis Park, MN. Passed away on September 30th, 2016. She was preceded in death by her husband Warren Philip Burrell. Warren was an ERA, Univac, Sperry retiree who passed away earlier this year. They were long time members of the VIP Club.

Eng, Ralf M. 'Jack' - Age 84 of Shakopee, MN, died peacefully at home on October 12th, after battling 5 yrs of Lung Cancer. Jack is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Lea Ann. Jack worked at Remington Rand/Unisys for 34 years in the Defense Systems' Photo lab, retired in 1989. They are long time VIP Club members.

Feldman, Harold D. Beloved husband of Mary Ann, passed away at age 90 at their home in Minneapolis on October 27th, 2016. Harold joined Sperry Rand in NY in the 50s then transferred to St. Paul in the early 60s. He was not a VIP Club member.

Johnston, Marianthy Phocas (Marian) - Age 82 of Woodbury, MN. Passed away peacefully on October 22nd, 2016. She is survived by her husband Gordon. Gordon is a Unisys retiree and longtime VIP Club member.

Lillestrand, Doratea M. "Dottie" - Age 99 of Bloomington, MN. Preceded in death by husband of 70 years, Earl. Earl was a long-time Univac/Sperry employee. They were member of the VIP Club.


Wallace, William B. "Bill" - Age 88 of Burnsville, MN. Passed away October 12th, 2016 at Gracewood Senior Living in St. Paul. Survived by wife of 53 years, Nancy. He had an over 30-year career as a computer programmer, beginning with Engineering Research Associates and ending with retirement from Sperry Unisys. He was also a long-time VIP Club member.

Condolences to: James and Donna Commander; their daughter, Michelle Commander-Eck, passed away October 25th at age 49 from cancer. She is survived by her parents and children. Jim and Donna have been VIP Club members since he retired a decade ago as head of the UNISYS Roseville Facility.

Unisys Blue Bell Retirees Group: As reported earlier this year, the UBBRG ends its existence at the end of 2016. They concluded their existence with an October 26th banquet. On behalf of the VIP Club Board, Lowell sent them well wishes for the future:

- “Lowell, Thanks for your parting words. It has been a good experience dealing with you and Tom Turba over the past 15 years. A portion of my 40 years were spent working with a Site Administration/Product Scheduling group headed by Glen Swenson. I enjoyed your newsletter and later your excellent web site, which provided some tidbits, as well as obits, on friends whom I had worked with.

It was a difficult but necessary decision to close the UBBRG. Membership was steadily declining. We did not have the support of the corporate organization, which you are fortunate to have. I am pleased to see that various documents and articles about the Philadelphia/Blue Bell Legacy will be available on your web site. Best wishes for the continued success of the VIP CLUB. Regards, Al Rollin”

- “Hi Lowell, Thanks for your kind words. They are appreciated. I have many good memories of the Minneapolis/St. Paul area from my days supporting our Manufacturing software Unis/80, Unis/90, Unis-1100 then BAMCS; always competing against MAPPER.

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P.O. Box 131748 - Roseville, MN 55113-0020 page 3
I remember a small steak house [Lindy’s] with excellent food and very limited menu. I think Rare or Medium were about the only choices... And the beat goes on. Thanks, Wayne Schweigert

Note to readers: An EMCC to UNISYS history summary is on http://vipclubmn.org/UNISYS.html. The last few UBBRG quarterly NEWSBBITS are linked on our website newsletter page 7 and some of their History stories are http://vipclubmn.org/BlueBell.html.

Submitted by LABenson

NEW MEMBERS, NOVEMBER ’16

None to report,

SOCIAL ACTIVITY ITEMS

Golf League Banquet: The Unified Legacy Golf League has completed its 2016 season with a banquet at Mancini’s in St. Paul. Over 90 golfers attended and were treated to a delicious meal followed by the announcement of next year’s officers, with all returning including Tenner Thompson moving to President and the greeting our new Vice President Mike Olinger. A special thanks to Dan Warne for his year as President. Over $2,500 in door prizes were awarded so everyone took something home in addition to a full stomach.

Consider joining us for the 2017 season [check out the web site - http://www.ulgilmn.org/umgl/].

By Keith Behnke

Small Group Lunch: Left to right are Don Mager, Don Vizanko, Bill Geiger and Clint Haggerty.

These guys meet monthly to discuss both serious and mostly not serious world issues, reminisce about past experiences and enjoy lots of laughter. On this October meeting day, we celebrated Don Vizanko's up-coming 96th birthday. The group's total age is 351 years, staying strong [famous Don V quote] and adding only 4 years/year. Submitted by Don Mager.

Behind the Scenes: The Board appreciates the many volunteers who helped plan and implement the Club events in 2016: Volunteer Recognition Luncheon, Frank King, Bernie & Kathy Jansen, Millie Gignac, and Joe Schwarz; Roseville Good Old Days, Tom Turba, Marv Brown, Pat Corbett, …; Syttende Mai, Dale Torgerson, Dick Lundgren and Dale Phelps; Picnic, John Westergren, Jim Larson, Keith Behnke, cooks, kitchen cleaners, keg tappers, et al'; UNIHOGS/UNITURKEYS, Fred Vihovde, Jack Ross, Lowell Benson; Christmas Dinner, Bill Galle and Lynn Lindholm; bereavement cards, Lynn Lindholm; plus event collages by Nick Benson. AND many, many spouses that I’ve observed serving! By LABenson

Volunteer Extraordinaire – 2017: Do you, the reader, know someone who has gone the extra mile supporting any organization(s) over the last few years? In 2015 the Board created the Annual Jansen Volunteer Extraordinaire Certificate named in honor of Bernie and Kathy in recognition of their many, many years of Volunteer Recognition Event Planning for the VIP Club and for the Dakota County Historical society plus their avid participation in other VIP Club activities.

The Annual 'Jansen's'
Volunteer Extraordinaire

Certificate Is Named For

Bernie and Kathy

in recognition of their many, many years of Volunteer Recognition Event Planning for the VIP Club and for the Dakota County Historical Society plus their avid participation in other VIP Club activities.

The 2015 recipient was Keith Myhre, recognizing his leadership role in supporting two grants at the Lawshe Memorial Museum. The 2016 recipient was Dick Lundgren recognizing his writing of over 40 Legacy articles and 50 program articles for the newsletter.

Now, we are asking for nominations for the 2017 certificate award. Please send a nominee name and his/her volunteerism feats/description to Keith Behnke.

Hello Arizonians and Snowbirds: If you are interested in a gathering in the Mesa area mid-February of 2017, send a note to Lynn Lindholm at lynnlinholm@comcast.net. [A couple of you have already responded.] The Club will provide some financial incentives for this gathering. Think Valentines’ Day for a theme. Some ‘birds’ may recall previous ‘Minnesotans in AZ’ gatherings arranged by Wally Emerson, Jim Rapinac, et al'; see http://vipclubmn.org/LunchGroups.html#Snowbirds for some history of previous gatherings.
Hello Floridians and Other Snowbirds: If you are willing to coordinate a February or March gathering of at least a dozen, contact President Keith Behnke. The board will send you a FL member list and some financial support for such an activity.

Apology; how was your Halloween?
This Winnipeg snapshot from Oct. 1982 was printed in last month’s newsletter. LABenson erroneously named Dan Holste as one of the people. John Westergren and Ed ‘Pogo’ Pogorzellec named the people, in front are: Albert Cerqueira, Derek Campbell, K. Tsang, Joan Coughlin, and Peter Soszek. In back are Bill de Boer [not Dan Holste], Len Ganetsky, John Westergren, Mike Kushliak, and Eugene Matlashewski. By LABenson

March Program Preview: The Board is investigating a private tour of the US Bank Stadium. As soon as we have details, we’ll post them on the web and print it in the Jan/Feb newsletter. Harvey Taipale

Future Social Activity Dates: April 19, Volunteer recognition luncheon at Joseph’s in St. Paul; May 12, Roseville Good Old Days at the Mermaid in Moundsview; May 19, Syttende Mai at Casper’s in Eagan, June 14 [tentative], Picnic at Highland Park; December 7, Annual UNIVAC Old Timers’ at the Lost Spur in Eagan; and December 14, Annual VIP Club Christmas dinner at the Lost Spur.

LETTER TO THE BOARD

“Lowell: I got a copy of your newsletter from Pat Leitchman and was very impressed. I do not know if you remember me or not, I never worked in your departments but did work for Sperry for 20 years from 1968 – 1987; Ernie Hams and then Jerry Meyers, in Program management; Clyde Allen in engineering; and then in DC area for Pat Casey. I was Coni Schullo at that time and then married Bill Butcher - we moved to Mexico in 1987 after we both had retired.

We were also involved in the lawsuit regarding medical coverage and came out well on that. Bill passed away in 2009 and I am still here in Mexico.

Recently, I was reviewing my assets and called Unisys because when I was checking beneficiaries for the life insurance death benefit - there was no one listed. I was told that in November 2014 they sent out a letter saying they were taking back the $5000 death benefit promised at retirement! Seeing as how I never got that letter I was livid. I assume there is nothing I can do about it now, but just wondering if anyone there got the same letter. I sure would like to review a copy of it. [Lowell found, scanned & emailed a copy to Coni.]

Also, recently I changed my mailing address from here to my daughters address in MN because mail is not that great here. So, this week she got these papers from Express Scripts who is the carrier for my RX program under the medical insurance from Unisys. Something about adding Medicare Part D to the program. My daughter scanned me the 50 pages or so but as I read it, it seems like no extra $$ from me and if I decline I lose all my coverage. Not sure how it will affect my present coverage as I only have Medicare Part A, the free part as Medicare pays $0.00 for treatment out of the USA.

Do any of your members know anything about this and could he/she confirm my understand of this. [If you, the reader can confirm, please email her - coni@dosflojos.com.] I do not want to lose the little medical coverage I have. I am 85 and basically in good health except for a fall and hip fracture this May from which I am still recovering. And especially just having learned that the company I retired from can just pull the plug on benefits promised. Most of the friends that I keep in touch with retired long after me and know nothing of the benefits from Unisys. And those that did, I noticed today in reading your newsletter have passed away.

Thanks again for any help you can give me or someone you can refer me to. I see Bob Pagac works with you in this group. Give him my greetings as we were good friends but I have not seen or heard from him for years.

Thanks for your help. Coni Butcher

LEGACY ACTIVITIES

Vintage Computer Federation – We were the Mid-Atlantic Retro Computer Hobbyists (MARCH) from 2004-2015. That group was just a computer club. In 2015, we disbanded and reformed as a national non-profit, the Vintage Computer Federation (VCF), which obtained 501(c)3 status. VCF then formed a Mid-Atlantic chapter to replace the old hobbyists group. The VCF local chapter [east coast] operates as before, however the national organization is doing far more activities. For example, we acquired the Vintage Computer Festival West (to supplement our existing Vintage Computer Festival East), and we also acquired Vintage Computer Forum which is our hobby's largest discussion site. We have many other goals for 2017 and beyond -- incubate new chapters, restore more systems, and so on. [See www.vcfed.org for details about this federation.]

Our museum group in NJ has a Univac 1219B that was originally at Johns Hopkins.
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 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 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.

**LIGHTER SIDE**

Michigan? If a guy from Michigan is called a Michigander, is a gal called a Michigoose? **LABenson**

Music soothes wild beasts!

Koningsdam art display, snapshot by LABenson

**Hooked!** It was raining hard and a big puddle had formed in front of the little Irish Pub. An old man stood beside the puddle holding a stick with a string on the end and jiggled it up and down in the water.

A curious gentleman asked what he was doing.

'Fishing', replied the old man.

'Poor old bugger' thought the gentleman, so he invited the old man to have a drink in the pub. Feeling he should start some conversation while they were sipping their whiskey, the gentleman asked, 'And how many have you caught today?'

'You're the eighth!' Submitted by **Diane Plait**

We welcome reader inputs: jokes, snapshots, whatever you want to share with former co-workers.

**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.

We recently started doing some real work on it. Specifically, we made progress on a paper tape I/O console. Next, we're having power circuits installed to let us run the CPU and tape drive via its motor generator.

We also want to build custom forklift pallets, do some cosmetic restoration, and build a modern educational exhibit for the systems. To accomplish this (and other projects related to our organization overall), we're hoping to raise $5,000 -- one dollar for each calculation per second performed by the original ENIAC. We thought the members of the VIP club could help us since this 1219B computer was developed in the Twin Cities. We have a fundraising contribute tab on our site and, of course, it's tax-deductible. Thank you, Evan Koblenz; Director, Vintage Computer Federation, a 501(c)3 educational non-profit.

**Legacy Committee Rejuvenation:** The committee hasn't had a formal meeting for two years! A small cadre of volunteers has been working Tuesday mornings at the Lawshe Memorial Museum doing photo identification at the five workstations there. Even if you haven't been a committee member or a volunteer at the museum, you are hereby invited to jump on board for 2017.

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- Status of efforts at the Lawshe Museum.
- Opinions of the presentation by Dale Weeks at the Unihogs/Uniturkeys luncheon.
- Transferring of the shadowbox exhibit from UNISYS Roseville to UNISYS Eagan.
- What is good/bad or right/wrong with our web site anthology.
- What could we learn from the Vintage Computer Federation organization? How have they been able to make their many on-line history videos?
- Make ‘funding’ recommendations to the VIP Club board for 2017 initiatives.
- Round-robin inputs & Legacy discussions. If your holiday schedule precludes participation in this rejuvenation meeting, please send your thoughts to either John Westergren or Lowell Benson. Thanks!
Smile at it tidbits:

- My goal for 2016 was to lose just 10 pounds. Only 15 to go. Ate salad for dinner! Mostly croutons & tomatoes. Really, just one big, round, crouton covered with tomato sauce. And cheese. FINE, I ate a pizza.
- I just did a week's worth of cardio after walking into a spider web.
- I don't mean to brag but......I finished my 14-day diet in 3 hours and 20 minutes.
- A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.

**********C**U**T**E**R**E******************************************************

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 December 2nd. If your reservation is for more than two 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

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**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL or APPLICATION or CHANGE FORM**

If the address block of your Newsletter shows 2016 after your name or if the subject line of your Enews notification shows member list 2016; your VIP Club membership and newsletter subscription expires on December 31, 2016. Dues: $7.00, 1 year ___ or $18.00, 3 years ___.

Renewal ___ New ___ Member (≥55) ___ or Associate (<55) ___ or Life (≥89) ___ or Information Change only ___.

Name (Last, First, M.I. – or attach an address label) ___________________________ Spouse’s Name ___________________________

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

(____) _______ - ____________ ___________________________@ ___________________________.

Primary Telephone Number ___________________________ E-mail address ___________________________.

Newsletter delivery default 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 Club’s Directory? Yes ___ No ___. *DIRECTORY is only available to Members and Associates!*

MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK* TO: VIP Club  P.O. Box 131748  Roseville, MN 55113-0020

*not required if only changing information in our database nor if renewing at age 90.