

## VIP CLUB UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

<b>OUR LEGACY</b> <b>ERA IN 1946</b> <i>through</i> <b>UNISYS TODAY</b>	April 5	Board Meeting @ 10 AM	UNISYS, Roseville
	April 19	Volunteer Recognition Luncheon @ 11:00 AM	Joseph's in St. Paul
	May 12	Roseville Good Old Days	Mermaid in Moundsview
	May 19	Syttende Mai	Casper's in Eagan
	June 14	Annual Picnic	Highland Park in St. Paul

### APRIL EVENT **Volunteer Recognition Lunch**

**We want your volunteering input!** Whatever volunteering you're doing makes our communities better and should be recognized. The greatest hours submitted over time is in the civic outreach area, then religion associated activities, followed by a large assortment of other activities.

**You Are Invited!** The board will host a luncheon at Joseph's in St. Paul on April 19<sup>th</sup> for members who return the survey. Although the luncheon recognizes member services, just as important is a chance for giving and receiving insight on what's available to do out there. Experts tell us that volunteering does improve wellbeing and a good fit makes it even better. President Behnke will emcee:



- 11:00 AM – 11:30 AM Check in, Nametags, Coffee, & Socializing,
- 11:30 AM – 12:15 PM Enjoy a buffet luncheon,
- 12:15 PM – 12:45PM Program recognizing our volunteers and feedback about who does what, and
- 12:45 PM – 1:30 PM Last cup of coffee and a bit more socializing.

Your participation reservation is easy. Just fill out and return the survey for you and your spouse's 2016 donated hours. See page 5 for instructions and the form. Even if you can't come to this free lunch, we'd appreciate your 2016 volunteerism hours' survey. We thank Bernie Jansen and Frank King for processing the survey forms and thanks to Bernie and Joe Schwarz for producing the program booklet.

Joseph's is at 140 Wabasha St S 55107 in St. Paul, directions at <http://vipclubmn.org/volunteer.html>.

At last year's Buffet line were Bob Pagac, Les Nelson, Greg Oxley, Betsy Rausch, Keith & Sue Behnke, and Steve Koltos. Greg, Betsy, and Steve spoke about volunteerism & status at DCHS, UNISYS, and LMCO.



### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

How did you like the stadium tour? For us that were there it was quite an experience and with the Super Bowl coming here next year, that should be an awesome event. In the meantime, I hope to see some more new faces at the upcoming Volunteer's Luncheon.



Please get your inputs in and join us at Joseph's restaurant in St. Paul for a delicious luncheon and meet some of the VIP Club's other volunteers. We will see the golf leagues starting soon with a tournament to kick off the season in mid-April (review the golf league website at <http://www.ulglmn.org/umgl/> to see what the whole season looks like) and consider joining us.

With Unisys vacating their facility in Roseville and moving much of what was there to the facility in Eagan, we are going to bi-monthly newsletter and Executive Board meetings, but the planned activities for our members will go on as in the past. After the Volunteer Luncheon comes the Syttende Mai and



Roseville's Good Old Days in May, the annual Reunion Picnic in June, a river boat outing (in the planning stages) in August, an open house at Unisys in Eagan (with refreshments) in September, a pie and ice cream social in October, the annual Unihogs/Uniturkeys in November, and the Old Timers gathering in December. There is a possibility that we may make some changes to the Christmas Party and will let you know when it is firmed up. So, get these things on your calendar (visit the VIP Club website at <http://vipclubmn.org/> to get date and location information from the "Planning Ahead" column on the Home Page. I'm looking forward to seeing you at many of these events. *Keith Behnke*, VIP Club President.

## MAY EVENTS



**Roseville Good Old Days:** Our 10<sup>th</sup> annual gathering will be at the Mermaid in Moundsview on May 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10:30 AM – setup volunteers at 10 AM. Tom Turba coordinates name-tag pre-printing to expedite attendee check-in, if you haven't already responded to his electronic notices, please send an email to [tturba@comcast.net](mailto:tturba@comcast.net). He'll get name tags printed and a few volunteers to work the check-in table. Last year over 350 people were there.

**Syttende Mai:** Samuel Heins, U.S. Ambassador (Ret.) to Norway, is slated to be our speaker at Casper's in Eagan, Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, start time 11:00 AM. More info to follow in the next newsletter and on the club's web site. *Dick Lundgren*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**March Activities:** None planned by the Board, we suggest that our readers participate in one of the periodic gatherings listed on the back page of this newsletter.

**Web Site Updates:** The re-construction underway is intended to make our site easier to read with smart phones, etc. The Club pages' redesign is complete, the Legacy pages may take until June. Please send comments to [webmaster@vipclubmn.org](mailto:webmaster@vipclubmn.org). And, if your career summary and/or project experiences aren't in one of the Legacy chapters; it isn't too late to relate and add your pieces of our history. *Lowell Benson*

**Future Social Activity Dates:** June 14 @ 3:30 PM, Picnic at Highland Park; September 13 @ 2 PM, Open house at UNISYS Eagan with Wine, Cheese, and the new Shadow Box displays; November 17, Unihogs/Uniturkeys at Casper's in Eagan; December 7, and Annual UNIVAC Old Timers' Reunion at the Lost Spur in Eagan.

**Newsletter Inputs:** For the May/June 2017 newsletter issue, send articles, recent obits, or lighter side items to Joe Schwarz before **April 7<sup>th</sup>**. Use Joe's email address from back page box or the Club's US mail address at the bottom of pages 2 thru 6.

**CLARIFICATION:** We noticed that several people sent in their Stadium Reservation forms with spouses listed as 'Guest'. *Spouses are Club members*, therefore, should have paid a \$10-member fee versus the \$14-guest fee.

When members send forms for future activities such as the June picnic, August river cruise, etc. he & she should just pay the member fees for the activity. If you are bringing an offspring or sibling or friend – he or she is a guest. Submitted by *LABenson*.

## IN REMEMBRANCE

**Bock, Leo Louis** - Age 89 of Bloomington and Burnsville, MN. Passed away December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Survived by wife, Verona (Hafner) Bock. Leo was a Sperry Univac retiree and a former VIP Club member.

**Cheney, Arthur William** - Age 80, passed away peacefully on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Preceded in death by his beloved wife Joan Doherty Cheney. Art was a Unisys retiree from the contracts department and a longtime VIP Club member.



**Crain, Mildred A.** - Age 87, of Paynesville, MN formerly of Burtrum and Coon Rapids. Passed away on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at Koronis Manor in Paynesville. Mildred worked as an inspector for Univac in Roseville for 30 years, retiring in 1992.



**Dockter, Gene Max** - UBBRG member passed away October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Gene was preceded in death by his wife, Waneta C. Dockter and their son Gary Dockter.



**Johnson, William (Bill) Charles** - Of Bloomington, MN. Passed away on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Bill is survived by his loving wife Debra. He worked as a computer programmer for more than thirty years at Unisys, retiring from LMCO.

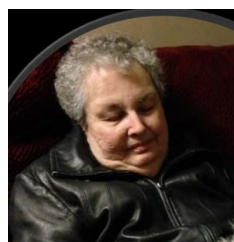
**Ketelsen, Clyde William** - Age 98 of Col. Hts. MN. Passed away on Christmas Day. Preceded in death by his wife, Genevieve (nee Pelarski). Clyde retired after 20 years of service with UNISYS as a senior plant engineer.

**Loy, Edward C.** - Age 80 of Burnsville, MN. Passed away on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017. Ed is survived by his wife Kay. Ed was a Lockheed Martin retiree and longtime member of the VIP Club.

**Olson, Wayne Robert** - Age 85, of Prior Lake, MN. Passed away on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Wayne is preceded in death by his wife, Virginia Olson. Wayne was a retired employee of Univac and Unisys and was a long-time VIP Club member.



**Rew, Clarice** - Age 94 of Prior Lake and Burnsville passed away on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Clarice was the wife of former UNIVAC/Sperry Engineering Technician Robert 'Bob' Rew.



**Margaret Elizabeth Skelton** - Age 74 of Eagan, MN formerly of Mora, Minnesota. Passed away peacefully at Fairview Southdale Hospital on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Margaret worked as a production assembler at Honeywell Corporation in her earlier years. She retired from Unisys Corporation after twenty plus years of service. Margaret was a long-time VIP Club member.

**NEW MEMBERS, Jan/Feb 2017**

Harms, Garyld	Bloomington
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**SOCIAL ACTIVITY ITEMS**

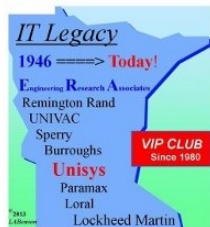
**Volunteer Extraordinaire - 2017:** Do you, the reader, know someone who has gone the extra mile supporting any organization(s) over the last few years? In 2015 the Board created the Annual Jansen Volunteer Extraordinaire Certificate named in honor of Bernie and Kathy in recognition of their many, many 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.



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.



April 16, 2015



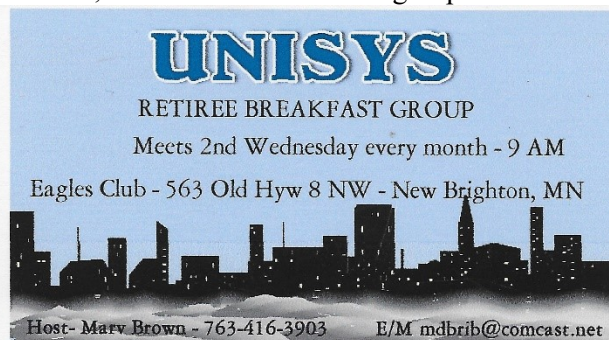
2015 VIP Club President

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 our newsletter.

Now, *we are asking for nominations* for the 2017 certificate award. Please send your nominee's name and his/her volunteerism feats/description to Keith Behnke before April 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Congratulations to Shirley Quinahan:** Shirley celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday at home in Deerwood in December, she is our 23<sup>rd</sup> Life Member.

**Congratulations to Marv Brown!** On February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Marv emceed the 300<sup>th</sup> Roseville retirees monthly gathering. For the first 18 years, they had met at the New Brighton American Legion. New participants are welcome, use his email on the group's card below.



**Stadium Tour Report:**

On February 22, about 80 club members and guests found out first-hand what sort of a facility is needed to play professional football in Minnesota. There were lots of words used to describe US Bank stadium, but the most common was BIG! From the 3400 ton main truss that supports the roof to the biggest swinging doors in the world, almost everything about the stadium is super-sized. The suites are opulent (and expensive), as are the six club facilities. The Vikings locker room was very classy (unlike the visiting team's room, which we were assured is quite austere), and there is Viking art and memorabilia virtually everywhere. Minnesota industries were well represented; the huge stadium displays came from Daktronics (over 200 million leds), and Cambria certainly had to work overtime to make all those purple-shaded (and other colors too) countertops. The Medtronic club was decorated in Minnesota stone and timbers from the old stadium.

The stadium seats 64,000 people, with 6000 of those seats being retractable. These were retracted at the time of the tour, and the field crew was busy reconfiguring the stadium from a monster truck show to a baseball field for college spring games. The stadium is open at times for rollerblading and running



on the two concourses, and hosts all sorts of business meetings and private events.

One thing about the stadium is destined to shrink, at least temporarily - elbow room for the 2018 Super Bowl. They plan to squeeze the seats together, adding a couple in each row, to boost the total to 70,000 fans.

In sum, this stadium is an impressive place. It appears to be well-planned to handle football crowds and offer them a variety of facilities and experiences, depending on their tastes (and pocketbooks). The stadium is light, and offers many views of the downtown Minneapolis area. Built at a cost of over a billion dollars, it is attracting another billion dollars of investment in the immediate area.

So now we have a first-class football facility in Minnesota. Let's hope the next Super Bowl is a home game. Thanks to Harvey Taipale for the arrangements.

### Special Article!

**Premature Death Notice:** In the 2010 movie "Get Low" Felix Bush, played by Robert Duvall plans and attends his own funeral so that he can hear what people say about him. "Get Low" is mixture of comedy and pathos, but in real life when Rita Johnson from Waconia, MN found out she was dead it was a very alarming experience\*.

Through the U.S. mail she learned of her own death, when she received a letter of condolence from her Discover credit card provider. So why did Discover think Ms. Johnson was deceased? The Social Security Administration (SSA) had killed her off on paper. This bureaucratic murder instantly erased her Social Security number, credit rating, canceled her health insurance and she was removed as the guardian for her disabled sister with Down syndrome. The reason SSA knocked her off was because a funeral director in Texas reported a death with a SS number almost identical hers. The SS number was handwritten, hard to read and entered incorrectly to match Ms. Johnson's number. It took her five weeks and many, many hours at SSA offices to crawl back from the dead.

Of the approximately 21,000 deaths reported to the SSA every month, they administratively murder 500 to 1,000 people who are active and healthy. A 2011 SSA audit found that over a three-year period about 36,000 people were erroneously listed as deceased by the SSA. Electronic Death Registrations (ERS) are supposed to reduce these errors. Texas, like Minnesota has been doing ERS since 2010, but this happened to Rita Johnson in 2016. You may be living an active healthy life, but if this happens to you, your financial health may end up in critical condition and identity thieves will start lurking around in the shadows.

So, what can you do to protect yourself? First and foremost, if you get a letter of condolence from your credit card provider, *jump on it like stink on a skunk*. Go immediately to the local SSA office with your identity records (driver's license, passport, etc.) to find out if you are still alive. If you are no longer living per SSA records, ask them to correct the error and assist you with the fixing the mistake at other government agencies and commercial financial institutions. Always monitor your financial and credit records, for any inaccuracies or irregularities to catch the problem as soon as possible. Submitted by *Gish Devlaminck*  
\*Reference, an article in the Star Tribune, 1/29/2017.

### CONTACT DATA

#### 2007 VIP Club Activity Coordination

CBI Liaison; Dick Lundgren, [rflundgr@aol.com](mailto:rflundgr@aol.com)

Christmas Dinner; Hank & Geri Dotzler,

[dotzstudio@charter.net](mailto:dotzstudio@charter.net)

Lawshe Museum Support;

- Exhibits; Keith Myhre [kmyhre@lightblast.net](mailto:kmyhre@lightblast.net)

- Photo ID work; Tricia Myhre

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Legacy Committee co-chairs; John Westergren,

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Membership database; Gish Devlaminck

[membership@vipclubmn.org](mailto:membership@vipclubmn.org)

Old Timers Annual Reunion; Lowell Benson

Picnic planning & volunteer staffing; John Westergren,

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[mailto:tnturba@comcast.net](mailto:mailto:tnturba@comcast.net)

Sunshine Cards; Lynn Lindholm

[lynnlindholm@comcast.net](mailto:lynnlindholm@comcast.net)

Unihogs/Uniturkeys; Fred Vihovde

[fvihovde@juno.com](mailto:fvihovde@juno.com)

Volunteer Luncheon; Bernie Jansen, [bjsjk@msn.com](mailto:bjsjk@msn.com)

or Frank King, [kingx063@umn.edu](mailto:kingx063@umn.edu)

Webmaster; Lowell A. Benson,

[webmaster@vipclubmn.org](mailto:webmaster@vipclubmn.org)

Send a note to anyone of us if you are willing to pitch in and help at an event.

#### Retirement Status and Benefits:

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

**LEGACY ACTIVITIES**

**Recent Legacy Stories:** As part of the web site redesign, we've dropped the 'Articles for the Month' title/tab in favor of 'The Stories.' These are still listed and linked in the sequence that the editing was completed, see <http://vipclubmn.org/OurStories.html>.

November '16 Story: We had printed a picture displayed at Curt Christensen's memorial service in the newsletter. David Durand told Dick Lundgren, "That's my Corvette!"



Subsequent emails from Dick, Dave, Paul Wood, Bill Roos, and Larry Lutton described development of an [Air Force System](#) during the 60s at RADC.

December '16 Story: Duane Craps sent us a question about a 15-pin logic card used in the 1219B computer. He is an ex-technician from the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. His query stimulated an engaging series of engineering recollections, click on [Circuit Card History](#).

Thanks to Duane, Jack Metzger, John Grape, and Larry Bolton for their history bits from the 60s & 70s.

**You guys would be happy to know that the last Navy 1219Bs were just turned off last year [2015]. They were at a shore site AN/SPN-42 Automatic Carrier Landing System. *Duane***

BTW, Mr. Craps and others are in the process of restoring a 1219B computer from Johns Hopkins as one of the Vintage Computer Federation activities.

Submitted by *Lowell Benson*.

**Volunteerism Survey for your 2016 time:**

If you and your spouse both worked at 'the company' and have separate emails, you may submit two survey forms. Last year only 94 of our 900+ households responded with 24,275 hours of members and spouses. We'd like to hear from more than 9% of our membership this year! Your three survey response methods are:

1. E-mail your volunteer information directly to Frank King at [kingx063@umn.edu](mailto:kingx063@umn.edu). Provide the same information as requested in the "Volunteer

Hours Survey Form" below including how many will be at the luncheon. **OR**

2. Go on-line to <http://vipclubmn.org/volunteer.html>. Scroll down to the on-line survey submittal boxes section. Enter your name, e-mail address, your total hours, volunteer information per the example, and how many will be attending the luncheon. Then click on the 'Submit Query' button. **OR**
3. Cut out, fill out, and then mail the form below to Bernie Jansen 848 Ivy Lane Eagan, MN 55123-2425

\*\*\*\*\*C\*U\*T\*\*H\*E\*R\*E\*\*\*\*\*

**VIP CLUB Volunteer Hours Survey Form for Year 2016**

Member/Spouse Names \_\_\_\_\_ Your City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_

1. Member plus spouse total hours volunteering during 2016 were: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Recipient of most of my/our hours was: \_\_\_\_\_ . (fill in one organization name.)
3. \_\_\_\_ will be at the luncheon. (enter 0, 1, or 2).
4. Comments, (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

**VIP CLUB Newsletter**

Official publication of the *VIP CLUB*  
P.O. Box 131748, Roseville, MN 55113-0020  
<http://www.vipclubmn.org>

**Board of Directors - 2017**

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Harvey Taipale, Vice President	651-748-5083
Paul Hove, Treasurer	651-738-4908
Ben Manning, Secretary	651-301-0873
Joe Schwarz, Director	651-698-9698
Gish Devlaminck, Director	651-470-8905
Orrin McGill, Director	763-755-7765
Open, Director	
Lowell Benson, Past President	651-483-3709

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Dick Lundgren	<a href="mailto:rflundgr@aol.com">rflundgr@aol.com</a>
Don Naaktgeboren	<a href="mailto:donfishn@yahoo.com">donfishn@yahoo.com</a>

**UNISYS Liaison**

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

**PERIODIC SOCIAL GROUPS****Monthly Breakfast Gatherings**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at 8 AM at the Capitol View Cafe, 637 Smith Ave. St. Paul.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 9 AM in the Eagles Club, Old Hwy 8, in New Brighton. Coordinator is Marv Brown, 763-416-3903.

**Monthly Lunch Gatherings**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in Eagan at 11:00 AM - Rickey's Café at Stark's, 3125 Dodd Road, Eagan, MN
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 11:30 AM - Mall of America 3<sup>rd</sup> floor North Food Court, we meet by the tables 'tween the elevator & Burger King. Coordinator is Paul Wennerstrom, 952-854-7855.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 11 AM at the Olive Garden, North town Village, 150 Coon Rapids Blvd NW, Coon Rapids. Coordinator is Gladys Langer, 651-552-1465.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of odd numbered months at 11:30 AM at the Baker's Square on 3088 White Bear Avenue in Maplewood. Coordinator is Urho Rahkola, 651-429-3319.