VIP Club Newsletter

VOLUME 37, NO. 04 July/August 2017 http://vipclubmn.org

VIP CLUB UPCOMING ACTIVITIES									
OUR LEGACY ERA IN 1946 through UNISYS TODAY	August 2	10 AM Board Meeting in St. Paul Fairmo		Fairmon	nt United Methodist				
	August 17	Noon Mississippi River Cruise		At the Bohemian Flats					
	September 13	1:30 PM, Open House			Unisys, Eagan				
	October 4	10 AM Board Meeting			Unisys, Eagan				
	October 11	7 PM Pie & Ice Cream social		Tbd					
AUGUST EVENT			Event	coordination	hv	Keith	Behnke		

Cruise the Mpls Mississippi!

August Cruise: Join us for a 1.5-hour scenic cruise on the upper Mississippi. We've reserved space on the Minneapolis Queen on August 17th, **it sails at noon**. Check-in starts at 11:30 so we won't miss the boat. The cost is \$10 per member [remember spouses are members too] \$18 for nonmembers, \$10 for children 2-12. There is a cash bar available for liquid refreshments and snacks between photo opportunities.



We do have to pre-pay for our group in advance thus our registration deadline as August 7th. A registration form is on page 6 or printable from our website, <u>http://vipclubmn.org/Cruising.html</u>. Remember your camera, sun screen, and tourist anticipation of the beautiful Minneapolis skyline and Mississippi islands.

Directions: Address is 2250 West River Parkway S. Minneapolis, MN 55454. Take I35W to Washington Ave. exit, go west to 11th Ave, go North to the parkway then go east ¹/₂ mile under I-35W to PAY \$1/hr. parking.



Event coordination by Keith Behnke (<u>keithbhnk@comcast.net</u>). Thanks to Tom Turba for the venue selection.

SEPTEMBER EVENT Open House – Legacy Exhibit

September 13, 1:30 -3:30 PM: Open house at UNISYS Eagan to feature the Shadow Box* exhibit and selected Legacy information posters from the Lawshe Memorial Museum; hors d' oeuvres and



refreshments too! We need a head count for ordering. Access pre-registration is required for each person attending. Before September 6th: 1) email your full name and organization to <u>webmaster@vipclubmn.org</u>. Or, 2) clip off, fill out, and then mail the small form from the top of page 6, Or, 3) use the on-line form at <u>http://vipclubmn.org/Social.html</u>.



Directions: The address of the 'MACS Building' is 3199 Pilot Knob Road, Eagan MN. We use the North side visitor entrance as shown above.

*Twenty-three wall mounted displays show the system/hardware technologies developed during half-acentury of the ERA to UNISYS era in the Twin Cities! Preview at <u>http://vipclubmn.org/Exhibits.html</u> or <u>http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/ATLASevolution.pdf</u>.

MAR



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

As we enjoy our scheduled events for the rest of the year things are beginning to shape up for 2018. We are working on formulating a new version of our VIP Club Christmas Dinner Party. It appeared that



attendance at the event may have suffered because of the large number of other family and group gatherings in December. Being considered is having something in mid/late January or early February to celebrate both Christmas and the New Year. In conjunction with this we are trying to provide a similar party for VIP Club members who winter in Florida and Arizona. While we have the addresses of those who permanently reside in those locations we don't know of those who are just there during the winter months. Please contact me or one of the coordinators listed below if you are in that category. The Florida event will be held in the vicinity of The Villages and the Arizona event will be held in the Phoenix area. Please communicate any thoughts you may have on this topic to help us put together enjoyable events for our club members.

- Florida Jeff Parker, jkparker1@yahoo.com, 651-344-7028
- Arizona Lynn Lindholm, 651-484-1030, <u>lynnlindholm@comcast.net</u>. Roy Erwin and Larry Hoepner are assisting with the Arizona event. *Keith Behnke*, VIP Club President.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Future Social Activity Dates: October 12th, Pie and Ice Cream at (TBD). November 17th, Unihogs/Uniturkeys at Casper's in Eagan. December 7th, Annual UNIVAC Old Timers' Reunion at the Lost Spur in Eagan. Contact <u>labenson@q.com</u> to help with implementation of these 3 events. <u>May 4th, 2018</u>, Roseville Good Old Days at the Mermaid. <u>May 18th,</u> 2018 will be the next Syttende Mai luncheon.

IMPORTANT NOTICE! - UNISYS RETIREE BREAKFAST GROUP: In January 2011, the New Brighton Legion Post was forced to relocate because the building that they were leasing was sold to an Asian group. That February, we were informed that the new Asian management did not have the correct licenses to serve food so we had to relocate our Retiree Breakfast group.

Ross Metzger, a member of our Retiree Group and a member of the New Brighton Legion Post also had good relations with the Eagles Club, located across the street from the Legion Post. He was instrumental in arranging a meeting with the management of Gina's Café, located in the Eagle Club. This allowed us to move our Group across the street to Gina's Café and continue our second Wednesday meetings.

On January 9, 2013 at our regularly scheduled breakfast meeting, Gina, Manager of Gina's Café, notified us that she had to close her business because of insufficient income and that she was seeking other employment. She got a job with Cargill.

Again, Ross rose to the occasion and arranged for a meeting with the management of the Eagles Club and was successful in arranging for the Eagles Club cooking staff to take over where Gina left off.

We are currently meeting at the Eagles Club on the 2nd Wednesday of every month and have had 15 to 25 people attending - the food is good, served buffet style and priced at \$10.00. I would have liked to have had more of the retirees attend to expand the friendly relationship - the group is great!!!!

Now.... once again, the situation has risen where due to lack of profit, the Eagles Club management has let it be known that our group has become so small that the effort needed to organize, staff and prepare food has again become non-profitable for them to continue.

<u>I have been notified that there will not be a meeting</u> <u>for July or August</u> – historically, the July & August attendance for has always been very low.

At our 304th monthly meeting on June 15th attendees discussed disbanding or changing to quarterly beginning in September – they decided quarterly. I will continue to distribute reminders the week before to get meal count responses for the Eagles Club kitchen. Send a note to me if you are not on the notice list and want to join us. By *Maro Brown*

Newsletter Inputs: For the September/October 2017 newsletter issue; send articles, recent obits, or lighter side items to Joe Schwarz before **August 13th**. Use Joe's email address from back page box or the Club's US mail address at the bottom of pages 2 => 8.

Welcome Boni Westberg to the Board: Boni joined Univac May 1965 and retired from Lockheed Martin January 2003. Most of her 37 years were spent working in the Engineering organization as first a secretary, then an administrator and a manager of administration. Her career was finished in the Finance organization. As a retiree, she is an active volunteer for her church, the Salvation Army, 3M golf tournament and as Grandma transportation for grandchildren. Boni and husband Jim enjoy golf, bowling and traveling. When asked what she does with her time as a retiree she generally replies, "Anything I want". *Boni* Web Site Rebuild: The first pass was completed in May, we now seek reader 'Quality Control' feedback about the links and content of all pages and chapters. Please, send your corrections and/or additions to webmaster@vipclubmn.org. Thanks, Lowell Benson

NEW MEMBERS, May/June 2017

Kevin Schwarzbauer	Eagan	
Kristine M. Olson	Minneapolis	
Mary Mortenson	Blaine	

IN REMEMBRANCE



Beelow, Edna M.- Age 87. of Bloomington, MN. Born in Bloomington, MN. Passed away on Easter Sunday. She retired from UNIVAC after 27 years. Preceded in death by her parents, Mary and Joseph Adelmann, husband Ralph and 16 siblings.

Edna was a former VIP Club member.

Dearing, Joseph V. - Age 68 of Waite Park passed away on May 13th. Joe was a Navy veteran and technician for defense systems. He was not a VIP Club member.

Dokos, Dimitrios - Age 80, of St. Pau, MN. Passed away May 22nd, 2017 in St. Paul, Minnesota. He is survived by his loving wife, Vivian "Becka". Dokos worked in the semiconductor division. He was not a VIP Club member.



Galatovich, Anthony J. - Age 86 of Inver Grove Heights, MN. Passed away May 27th, 2017. Preceded by wives Delores & Jeanne; Survived by wife Mary. Tony was a Unisys retiree and longtime member of the VIP Club.

Gutzmann, Gerard C. - Age 83 of West St. Paul,



MN. Beloved Husband, Father & Grandpa passed away on April 18th, 2017. Gerry was a Korean War era veteran, and a 37-year employee at Sperry/Univac. Gerry is survived by loving wife, Mary Ellen (nee Rolfer).

Ness, Arnold. - (belated obit) Arne passed away unexpectedly on Monday afternoon, May 25th, 2015 at his home in Northfield, MN. He is survived by his wife Edna. After Arnold returned from WWII service he moved to Minneapolis. In 1959, he entered the



world of digital technology and went to work as a Senior Engineer for UNIVAC, retiring in 1981. He is a former Club member – and was an annual participant at the Syttende Mai luncheons.

Nicholson, Richard W. (Wonderful) "Nick" - Age



85 of Burnsville, MN. Passed away on May 5th, 2017. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Corrinne (Corky) Keller. Richard was employed for 38 years in the Facilities Organization at Engineering Research Association

which would go on to become Univac, Sperry, and Unisys during his tenure. Richard and Corky are long time members of the VIP Club.

Rust, Gary Roger - (belated obit) Age 85, of Burnsville, MN, passed away on Wednesday, October 12, 2016. Gary was a Sperry retiree and a VIP Club member until 2006. In his retirement years, he enjoyed singing with the with the Norwegian Glee Club and the Augsburg Centennial Choir.



Simonson, Luverne "Bud", - Age 87, of Pine City, Minn. Passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 21st, at Northern Pines memory care unit in Pine City. Luverne was a long time Unisys employee and retiree.

SOCIAL ACTIVITY REPORTS



Roseville Good Old Days - On May 12th, about 300 people joined host Tom Turba in the Atlantis Room at the Mermaid in Moundsview. This was the 10th reunion of former and current Unisys Roseville employees. Thanks

to Paul Dickson, Marv Brown, Sue Carrigan, and Orrin McGill for staffing the check-in table. The donation box \$\$s covered the room rental.

Paul Dickson has ageed to take over coordination of this event for next year and the forseeable future, we've reserved the Atlantis Ballroomn at the Mermaid for May 4th, 2018.

Thanks to Tom for creating this decade long opportunity for reunions of Roseville employees.

Best Wishes to Dr. Tom Misa: "Hi Lowell, I'm completing two terms of service as CBI director at the end of June — it's been 11 years! I'll be returning to "regular" faculty status, so doing normal teaching and research. Working with the VIP Club has been one of the highlights of these years - know this will continue."

The Legacy Committee expresses our thanks and gratitude for the support and counsel that Tom has given to us over the last decade+; especially the great ERA/UNIVAC/Sperry content of the *Digital State*, his feedback on the history posters developed at the Lawshe Memorial Museum, and the inclusion of our Air Traffic Control Systems web chapter in the University's history of technology classes. By *LABenson*

Syttende Mai Review – May 19th, about 60 gathered to hear U.S. Ambassador (Ret.) to Norway, Samuel Heins, tell of his experiences in the land "*Vi Elsker*." His presentation and demeanor were totally professional with a lot of humor mixed in. For example, Norway's Minister of Defence, Ine Marie Eriksen Søreide, invited him to jump out of a Norwegian RAF aircraft with her. As America's consummate diplomat in Norway, he had no choice but to agree and set a date. Fortuitously, circumstances intervened and he was off the hook to take the jump.

A collage on page 6 shows some of the attendees – Across the top are Keith Behnke; Dale Torgerson, Norwegian Consolate Vice-Consul Britt Ardakani; Mr. Heins, and Jon Pederson who led us in singing the Norwegian National Anthem and grace. The 3rd row, right has our Syttende Mai celebration originator, Richard 'Ole' Olson chatting with Keith and Tricia Myhre. [thanks to John Enstad who arranged Ole's transportation.] The 4th row, right has Johanne and Frank King – Johanne was born and raised in Norway.

Annual Picnic Report: On June 14th, about 100 people enjoyed the Brats, Burgers, and Beer at the Highland Park venue. A beautiful day with old friends enjoying food, beverages, conversation and music; nothing better! Thanks to everyone who came to the 2017 Reunion Picnic at Highland Park Pavilion. It looked like everyone got enough food and drink.



A special thanks to the volunteers who provided the early help in the kitchen, staffing the grill, lots of hands for the set-up, and loads of ice for the beverages makes for a relaxing afternoon. Without your help, an event like this doesn't happen. A special thanks to Jim Boyd for bringing a new dimension to the picnic this year of live music "in the park", it was fun hearing the tunes from our younger years.



Also thanks to everyone who took the time to help with identifying the people, equipment and locations for some of our "mystery pictures". We are still cataloging the thousands of photographs that we saved when the Eagan facility closed and your help in the effort is greatly appreciated. Byline, *John Westergren*

Although we provided overflow parking and a shuttle bus from/to the Highland HS, it wasn't really needed with so few people. Next year we'll quite likely eliminate the shuttle bus and parking lot charge.

Thanks to John Westergren for coordinating the volunteers who bought food, cooked it, set up the buffet line, obtained refreshments, and then cleaned up afterwards. Thanks to Keith Behnke and Lynn Lindholm for staffing the check-in table. A collage of this year's picnic photos is on page 7. By *LABenson*

Roseville [Plant 4] Closed: On June 15th Sue Carrigan and Chuck Lefebvre hosted an open house to celebrate the life of UNIVAC-UNISYS Plant 4. Dave Wilhelm took snapshots; browse to: https://get.google.com/albumarchive/10006090051037 7257166/album/AF1QipNNIW2qr62321rMGQCjzkye 61a7TJIQWkhQzdjR?source=pwa.



In 1961 near the intersection of Highways 36 and 280, the company became the first 'Space Center' tenet as they leased 130.000 square feet of space [Building 1] from the owners, St. Paul Terminal Warehouse Co. The Univac Data Processing Division continued to grow, adding 23,700 sq. ft. in 1962 in Building 2, 25,000 in 1963, 24.300 sq. ft. in 1964, then an additional 182,640 square feet in 1965 as they opened building 3, the current Plant 4. The last UNISYS person departed the building on June 23rd, 2017, Unisys operations continue at the Eagan facility.

CONTACT DATA

Retirement Status and Benefits:

Numbers to call if you or your heirs have deathbenefit or pension questions – you will need SSNand a PIN.Unisys1-877-864-7972Lockheed Martin1-866-562-2363

2017 VIP Club Activity Coordination

CBI Liaison; Dick Lundgren, <u>rflundgr@aol.com</u> *Lawshe Museum Support*;

- Exhibits; Keith Myhre <u>kmyhre@lightblast.net</u>
- Photo ID work; Tricia Myhre <u>pbm5454@hotmail.com</u> and Jon Simon jcsimonlst@frontiernet.net
- Legacy Committee co-chairs; John Westergren, jwestergren@frontiernet.net and Lowell Benson labenson@q.com
- Membership database; Gish Devlaminck membership@vipclubmn.org
- Old Timers Annual Reunion; Lowell Benson

Picnic planning & volunteer staffing; John Westergren, jwestergren@frontiernet.net

- Recreation Leagues; Keith Behnke, <u>keithbhnk@comcast.net</u>
- *Roseville Good Old Days*; Paul Dickson <u>paul.dickson@comcast.net</u>
- Sunshine Cards; Lynn Lindholm
- lynnlindholm@comcast.net Unihogs/Uniturkevs; Lowell and Fred Vihovde
- fvihovde@juno.com

Volunteer Luncheon; Frank King, <u>kingx063@umn.edu</u> Webmaster; Lowell A. Benson, webmaster@vipclubmn.org

LEGACY ACTIVITIES

Recent Legacy Story: For May 2017, we posted <u>http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/PhotoClubEtc.pdf</u>. This is a multipurpose paper: 1) it lists documents recently donated to the Charles Babbage Institute. 2) it lists documents and framed pictures donated to the Lawshe Memorial Museum, and 3) a history of the UNIVAC/Sperry/UNISYS Photo Club from 1968 to 1993. These items came from Art Charlton, Rosalie Christensen, Paul Welshinger, and Jack Ross.

It is rather ironic, after transferring these $\sim 200^+$ items to CBI and the museum, I happened to go through an envelope from Curt Nelson that contained ERA's *the Orbit* from February 20, 1953 – An article therein is:

"Como Park Field Trip, Print Contest Scheduled by ERA Camera Clubbers. St. Paul's Como Park, its conservatory, animals and other photogenic attractions will come under camera lenses of ERA photography fans Sunday February 22, when the Camera Club has its first field trip. Non-members are invited to join the group which will meet in the central room of the glass conservatory at 2 p.m. The trip will be automatically cancelled, Bob Turner, club president announced, if the temperature at 12 noon is less than 20 degrees above zero. The temperature report given by WCCO at, or around noon, will be the standard.

New Contest Announced

The next meeting which will be held Thursday, February 26, will feature the results of a small print and salon print contest, entries for which must be submitted to the Salon Committee by Monday, February 23. Each member has been requested to bring his camera to the meeting so that the various types can be examined. 'Exposure of Photographic Film' was the major subject discussed at the last meeting, held February 12. Russ Headley, Publications, was the speaker. At the same meeting, Gordy Johnson developed a roll of film before the group, and Don Iacoboni discussed camera types".

Another article in this *the Orbit* is: "Plans for construction of two new ultra-high speed general purpose electronic digital computing systems have just been announced by ERA and Remington Rand Inc."



Although this newsletter from 64 years ago belongs at CBI, the immediate plan is to display it by the 1103 shadowbox on September 13th. By *LABenson*.

LIGHTER SIDE

Frugality, NOT! Lena loves to shop. Last week she bought an escalator 'cuz it was marked down.

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

OPEN HOUSE REGISTRATION FORM – Your name

Your OrganizationTitleSpouse's name if coming:Mail to: VIP Club – Open HouseP.O. Box 131748Roseville, MN55113-0020 before Sept. 6th please.

Syttende Mai snapshots, .jpg files available upon request - send a note to newsletter@vipclubmn.org.



CRUISE REGISTRATION FORM - August 17 @ noon

<u>VIP Club member(s)</u>	
I plan to attend (name):	\$10.00 per member
Spouse/significant other will attend w/me (name):	\$10.00
Non-member*	
I plan to attend (name):	\$18.00 per non-member
Spouse/friend will attend w/me (name):	\$18.00
My email address is:@	·
*Non-members can get the \$10 cruise price by including a VIP Club	
\$7 or \$18 dues check, i.e. a \$17 check is good for membership through	gh 2018 and the cruise. You do not have

to be retired to join the VIP Club as an associate member.

Please mail w/check before August 7th to: VIP CLUB CRUISE P.O. Box 131748 Roseville, MN 55113-0020

VIP Club July/August 2017 Newsletter





ROSEVILLE MN 55113-0020

VIP CLUB Newsletter

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Board of Directors - 2017

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Paul Hove, Treasurer	651-738-4908
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Orrin McGill, Director	763-755-7765
Boni Westberg, Director	651-429-2534
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UNISYS Liaison

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

PERIODIC SOCIAL GROUPS

Monthly Breakfast Gatherings

1st Thursday at 8 AM at the Capitol View Cafe, 637 Smith Ave. St. Paul.

Monthly Lunch Gatherings

- 1st Tuesday in Eagan at 11:00 AM Rickey's Café at Stark's, 3125 Dodd Road, Eagan, MN
- 2nd Tuesday at 11:30 AM Mall of America 3rd floor North Food Court, we meet by the tables 'tween the elevator & Burger King. Coordinator is Paul Wennerstrom, 952-854-7855.
- 2nd Wednesday at 11 AM at Baker's Square, Northtown, 221 Co. Rd. 10 NE, Blaine MN. Coordinator is Gladys Langer, 651-552-1465.
- 2nd 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.

Quarterly Breakfast Gathering

2nd Wednesday at 9 AM in the Eagles Club, Old Hwy 8, in New Brighton. Sept., Dec., Mar., & June. Coordinator Marv Brown, 763-416-3903