

VIP CLUB UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

OUR LEGACY ERA IN 1946 <i>through</i> UNISYS TODAY	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	Roseville Masonic Lodge
	November 17	11 AM Unihogs/Uniturkeys	Casper's Eagan
	December 7	11 AM Annual UNIVAC Old Timers Reunion	Lost Spur, Eagan

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) use the on-line form at <http://vipclubmn.org/Social.html>. Or 2) clip off, fill out, and then mail the small form from the bottom of page 5. Or, 3) Email your full name, organization, and position to webmaster@vipclubmn.org.



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-a-century of the ERA to UNISYS era in the Twin Cities! Preview at <http://vipclubmn.org/Exhibits.html> or <http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/ATLASEvolution.pdf>.

OCTOBER EVENT Pie and ice cream! Drones Revisited

Join us for pie, ice cream, camaraderie and the latest info on drones on October 11, 7:00 PM at the Roseville Masonic Center, 1321 County Rd B2 W.

In addition to pie and ice cream, our October meeting will give you an opportunity to get an update on the status of Sentera (our local drone company), see a drone up close, and hear how this new technology is continuing to thrive.

Drones are newsworthy, conducting attacks in the Mideast, spying on neighbors, and on sale at Target. These stories grab media attention, but drones are also quietly at work every day, helping farmers make good decisions on managing their crops, maintaining cell phone and broadcast towers, and assisting many public safety agencies. The Federal Government has established new regulations for drones in the United States, recognizing that drones are here to stay. Drones are projected to be a multi-billion-dollar market in the next ten years.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I would like to talk about two volunteer opportunities. The first one is called "Road to Recovery" with the American Cancer Society. Cancer patients nearby are missing treatment related appointments simply because they couldn't get there. Some don't have a car, and others may be too ill to drive. But they all need the same thing: A ride. Unfortunately, demand for rides significantly exceeds the current volunteer capacity. To learn more please visit: www.cancer.org/drive.



Second is very significant to the future of the VIP Club and that is the need for new executive board members. We have a loyal group of board members that have served for multiple years, some as many as 15-20. Unfortunately, health issues and aging in general has taken a toll over the past few years. We have been lucky with our most recent additions to the board, Gish Devlaminck, Paul Hove and Boni Westberg. But we still have one open director position and other board members wanting to reduce their role and become associates, who provide support to the board. The Club has streamlined the board's primary functions by reducing meeting and newsletter frequency to bi-monthly, making these activities less burdensome. I would like to call on our membership to seriously consider stepping up to help the VIP Club continue to offer interesting and worthwhile information and events to our retired co-workers. Please contact me by phone (651-894-2182) or by e-mail (keithbhknk@comcast.net) for more information. Either communication method has plenty of capacity so I can take many, many calls without it being a problem. Please make that contact soon as we will be announcing the 2018 Executive Board assignments at the November 17th, Unihogs/Uniturkeys luncheon. *Keith Behnke*, VIP Club President.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Future Social Activity Dates: November 17th, Unihogs/Uniturkeys at Casper's in Eagan. December 7th, Annual UNIVAC Old Timers' Reunion at the Lost Spur in Eagan. Contact labenson@q.com to help with implementation of these two events. May 4th 2018, Roseville Good Old Days at the Mermaid. May 18th 2018 will be the next Syttende Mai luncheon.

UNIHOGS/UNITURKEYS annual luncheon will be on November 17th at Casper's in Eagan. The menu is updated this year, still at \$19.00 per attendee (includes sit down meal, tax and tip):



- 1) 8 oz. Sirloin Steak, Baked Potato, house salad, bread/rolls, beverage, dessert.
- 2) Walleye, baked potato, house salad, bread/rolls, beverage, dessert.
- 3) Minnesota Chicken. Breast, pecan crusted, onion & green pepper in hollandaise sauce, rice, bread/rolls, beverage, dessert.



The doors will open at 11:00 AM for check-in and cash bar for those who want to mingle before the meal is served at noon. Dr. Jeffrey Yost,

Acting Director of the Charles Babbage Institute at the University of Minnesota, will speak about their current

activities. Reservations and checks will be mailed to Fred Vihovde, the head hog. For details see <http://vipclubmn.org/Temp/Announcement2017.pdf>. CBI info is at <http://www.cbi.umn.edu/about/>. Hope that you can join us in this fun event. By *LABenson*

2020 Celebration: 2020 will be the 40th Anniversary of the VIP Club. New board members are needed to lead us over the next three years; contact [Keith Behnke](#), [Harvey Taipale](#), or [Lowell Benson](#) to discuss your opportunity to serve fellow retirees. Election of the 2018 slate of volunteers will be at the UNIHOGS/UNITURKEYS luncheon in November.

Election of 2018 Board: As this issue goes to press, Harvey will become our next president and Keith will transition to the Immediate Past President board position. Paul Hove has indicated a willingness to continue to serve as our Treasurer and Director Ghis Devlaminck will maintain our membership database. These are four of the nine board positions identified by our constitution – the other five position candidates need to be identified by early-October when we draft the next newsletter. If you have 4 to 8 hours per month available, please join us. By-Laws have position descriptions,

http://vipclubmn.org/Documents/VIP_Club_Bylaws3Aug2011.pdf Submitted by *LABenson*

FLASH ALERT! VIP CLUB SHORTAGE

Yes, we do have a critical shortage - we need a few people to step up and take an active part in the VIP Club. Over the years, we have some great volunteers who have kept the club active and interesting, but it seems like the generations that kept us going are fading, and are not being fully replaced by the next generation of volunteers. This has led to a shortage of active participants - we need folks to fill the roles of officers, directors, and people willing to help with events. These are not activities that consume a great deal of time, but they do require steady participation.

So this is a plea to all of you - if you are willing to serve in any role, please contact one of the current officers and get more info on what the work is like. Elections are coming up in November, and we would like a full slate of volunteers, and not draftees.

Sadly, the Blue Bell Unisys retiree club disbanded in the last year. They, like us, were financially sound, but were unable to attract enough volunteers to remain viable. That day may come for us too, but we currently have 1500 members who are interested enough to send in their dues. This suggests that we have the basis for a strong organization for some time, and we should have a good basis for strong leadership. Please, consider joining the Board or taking an active role in planning an event and call one of us today.

Newsletter Inputs: For the November /December 2017 newsletter issue; send articles, recent obits, or lighter side items to Joe Schwarz before October 9th Use Joe's email address from back page box or the Club's US mail address at the bottom of pages 2 => 6.

NEW MEMBERS, July/August 2017

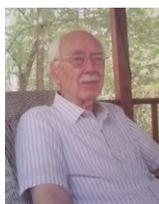
Pogorzelec, Ed	
See, James K.	PA

IN REMEMBRANCE

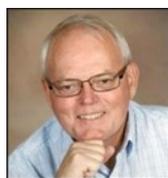


Abicht, Ronald W. - Age 84 of Burnsville, MN. Passed away on Friday, July 14th, 2017. Ron is survived by Nancy, his wife of 59 years. Ron was employed by Unisys for 35 years as a system design engineer. Upon retirement, he traveled the country with Nancy in their motor home. Ron and his wife have been long time members of the VIP Club.

Badman L. George: - Age 98 of Hudson, WI. Passed away June 19th, 2017. Preceded in death by his wife of 65 years, Marie. George spent the bulk of his career working as an electrical engineer. He retired from working as a civilian employee of the US Navy at Univac, St. Paul, MN, in 1981.



Brown, George H. - Age 83 of Carmel, Ind. Passed away Monday, July 17th, 2017. He is preceded in death by his wife, Carol. George was a long-time employee of Unisys and a former member of the VIP Club until he moved to Indiana to live by his daughter



Cooper, Thomas - Age 71 of New Brighton, MN. Tom passed away July 11th, 2017, surrounded by a loving family. Tom is survived by his wife of almost 50 years, Peggy.

Tom worked in the Executive Operating Software development group and was a UNISYS Roseville Retiree. Tom was not a VIP Club member.

Grimes, Timothy Lee - Born on October 2nd, 1942. Tim Grimes of Fridley died peacefully on Tuesday, July 18th, 2017. Tim is survived by wife Nancy (Risvold). Tim retired from Unisys in 2001, then ushered for the MN Twins.



Jacobson, Clarence "Jake" - Age 84, of Pillager, MN. Passed away Saturday, March 4th, 2017 at Cuyuna Regional Medical Center. Jake worked for UNISYS, Roseville for 35 years. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Joanne. They were not VIP club

members.

Ploeger, Merritt F. - Age 86, of Alexandria, MN. Passed away Thursday, June 15th, 2017, at Edgewood Vista in Alexandria. Merritt is survived by his wife of 51 years, Jean. Merritt worked for Unisys Corporation in St. Paul until 1991, when he retired and moved to Alexandria. Merritt is a long-time member of the VIP Club.



Schwirtz, Elizabeth "Betty" - Age 86 of St. Paul, MN. Passed away peacefully June 22nd, 2017. Preceded in death by husband Wyman. Betty will always be remembered for her generosity, quick wit, and love of her family. Betty was a retiree of Unisys and former VIP Member

Sieben, Rose Marie - Age 88, of Hastings, MN. Passed Away August 14th, 2017. Rose is preceded in death by her husband, Clarence. Clarence was a long time mechanical engineer at Univac.

SOCIAL ACTIVITY REPORTS

2017 VIP Club Boat Trip on the Minneapolis Queen



On Thursday August 17th, even though the weather was a bit cool and threatening rain, about 50 VIP Club members enjoyed an afternoon trip on Mississippi

Queen along the river in Minneapolis. The trip included passage thru the Lower St. Anthony Falls lock to the pool below the falls. Then we went back down river under many of the varies bridges spanning the Mississippi, including one of the oldest metal railroad bridges in the country, a metallurgical mystery, because for the last 100 years, it has stopped rusting. This area of the river has many buildings relating to the history of Minnesota, as well as sites such as the U of M and the new Guthrie Theatre. Part of the Upper Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, the historic features along the river are in a setting of natural beauty, making this a highly enjoyable, interesting, and educational experience. The boat captain provided a very interesting narration about the history of the area. If there is enough interest next year we will schedule a boat outing at another location. Let us know if you think it's a good idea. Thanks to Tom Turba, Keith Behnke, and Paul Hove for arranging this opportunity for club members to get together and enjoy a pleasant, sociable afternoon.



River cruise photo's



CONTACT DATA

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

2017 VIP Club Activity Coordination

CBI Liaison; Dick Lundgren, rflundgr@aol.com

Lawshe Museum Support;

- Exhibits; Keith Myhre kmyhre@lightblast.net
- Photo ID work; Tricia Myhre 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 Devlamincik membership@vipclubmn.org

Old Timers Annual Reunion; Lowell Benson

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

Recreation Leagues; Keith Behnke, keithbhk@comcast.net

Roseville Good Old Days; Paul Dickson paul.dickson@comcast.net

Sunshine Cards; Lynn Lindholm lynnlindholm@comcast.net

Unihogs/Uniturkeys; Lowell and Fred Vihovde fvihovde@juno.com

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

blends the MN history of CDC, IBM, Honeywell, UNISYS, UNIVAC, etc. with a focus on developing data for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics curricula as well as laying the groundwork for a future Technology Industry museum. We, as a Club, are not actively involved with the grant but are monitoring and will provide ERA/UNIVAC/UNISYS history as requested. By *LABenson*

LIGHTER SIDE

Clever Norwegians: The Norwegian Navy has painted barcodes on the prow of their vessels. Now, when the fleet returns to port, the Harbormaster has an app to *Scan de Navy in!*

Desert Island

A Swede, Dane and Norwegian are shipwrecked on a desert island. The Swede finds a magic shell, which when rubbed, grants each of them a wish. "I want to go home to my large comfortable bungalow with the Volvo, video and IKEA furniture," he says and promptly vanishes. "I want to go back to my cozy flat in Copenhagen to sit on my soft sofa with my feet on the table, next to my sexy girlfriend with a six-pack of lager," says the Dane and off he flies. The Norwegian, after giving the problem a bit of thought, rubs the shell, "It's really lonely here," he says. "I wish my two friends could come back."

LEGACY ACTIVITIES

Recent Legacy Stories: For June 2017, we posted [Quicksilver](#) - A Shadowbox Story. LeRoy Larson wrote this story with editing by Lowell Benson. This article relates a portion of Leroy's career that dealt with the 2200/500 development. Leroy retired from UNISYS, Roseville a few years ago. He volunteered along with Tom Curie to refurbish the shadow boxes' woodwork as they were moved from Roseville to Eagan this summer. Thanks guys!

For July 2017, we posted [ERA 1103 Announced](#) - a scan of selected pages from the ERA Orbiter newsletter of February 1953 with links to supporting information. Thanks to Curt Nelson for the newsletter, the original will go to the Charles Babbage Institute yet this year.

For August 2017, we posted [Through the Ages](#) - A handout developed for visitors to the upcoming 13 September Open House and Legacy Exhibit in Eagan. Links to 130+ legacy articles going back to April 2007 are at <http://vipclubmn.org/OurStories.html>. Our web site has space for more stories, send them to webmaster@vipclubmn.org.

Kick-off Meeting: On July 25th, a group led by Dale Weeks and Matt Hill of MHTA kicked off a MN Computer History Initiative, funded by a MN Legacy grant. This 11-month initiative goes beyond the ERA threads that we have been espousing for a decade. It



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

OPEN HOUSE REGISTRATION FORM – Your name _____
Your Organization _____ Title _____ Spouse's name if coming: _____
Mail to: VIP Club – Open House P.O. Box 131748 Roseville, MN 55113-0020 before Sept. 6th please.

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

Keith Behnke, President	651-894-2182
Harvey Taipale, Vice President	651-748-5083
Paul Hove, Treasurer	651-738-4908
Open Position, Secretary	651-xxx-yyyy
Joe Schwarz, Director	651-698-9698
Gish Devlaminck, Director	651-470-8905
Orrin McGill, Director	763-755-7765
Boni Westberg, Director	651-429-2534
Lowell Benson, Past President	651-483-3709

Newsletter Editorial Staff

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

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