

VIP CLUB UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

OUR LEGACY ERA IN 1946 <i>through</i> UNISYS TODAY	November 17	11 AM Unihogs/Uniturkeys	Casper's, Eagan
	December 6	10 AM Board Meeting	Roseville, see website.
	December 7	11 AM Annual UNIVAC Old Timers Reunion	Lost Spur, Eagan
	January 7	1 PM Holidays' Lunch/Dinner and Concert	Lost Spur, Eagan
	2018 Activities	Planning of events is open for suggestions and help!	

NOVEMBER EVENT

Unihogs/Uniturkeys Arise!

November 17, 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM: What are Unihogs? In the 60's a group of engineers who had left UNIVAC Roseville engineering started meeting for camaraderie in February just after Ground Hog Day, thus the term. Dave Lundstrom's book,



A Few Good Men from UNIVAC details the beginning. Why Uniturkeys? The event's history is detailed at <http://vipclubmn.org/Social.html#Hogs>. The VIP Club merged its Board elections with this event in 2011.

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 open at 11:00 AM for check-in and cash bar for those who want to mingle before the meal is served at noon. As is our wont, we have a short memorial for those who passed away during the last year. Then, Dr. Jeffrey Yost, Acting Director of the Charles Babbage Institute at the University of Minnesota, will speak about their current activities. CBI info is at <http://www.cbi.umn.edu/about/>. For reservations, see <http://vipclubmn.org/Temp/Announcement2017.pdf>.

No internet or if you missed the mail in date; call Lowell 651 483-3709 on 11/13 then pay at the door.

Your computer industry friends are welcome to lunch and listen with us – he/she doesn't have to be Club member to participate at UNIHOGS. By *LA Benson*

DECEMBER EVENT

Annual UNIVAC Old Timers' Reunion

December 7 @ 11 AM – 2:30 PM: We'll gather again at the Lost Spur lower level party room. We request a \$2.00 donation per attendee to cover the room rental and name-tag costs. Yes, this is up from previous years because the event lost money last year. Sadly, participation has dwindled below 150 – unlike the 240+ that gathered at the Ft. Snelling Officers' Club in bygone years. Those who began careers working at ERA and UNIVAC are gradually being replaced by those who were at UNISYS, Lockheed Martin, PDA, Leidos, etc. Come to reminisce! Registration and 'sack lunch' order before December 1st via <http://vipclubmn.org/Social.html#Registration>. *No internet nor email?* Mail your name, sandwich choice (none, beef, ham, turkey) and phone number to VIP Club, Old Timers - P.O. Box 131748 - Roseville, MN 55113-0020 before December 1st.

If you plan to attend, you may bring any artifacts or old documents for the Legacy committee to catalogue and ascertain whether to archive at the Charles Babbage Institute or at the Lawshe Memorial Museum.

Driving 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 then down the hill to Hwy 13. Turn right and proceed north ~ ½ mile to the Lost Spur (City View) entrance on the right. Coordinator is *LA Benson*

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME REMINDER

Use the page 7 form if 2017 is on your address label or in subject line of the electronic notice.



JANUARY EVENT Holiday Party & Choir Concert

January 7, 1 PM - at the Lost Spur in Eagan: This is new for 2018 as the board continues to reduce their volunteerism work load. This event replaces previous mid-December Christmas dinner/dance that had had various venues over the last two decades.

- 1 to 2 PM; Socializing & Cash bar -
- 2 to 3:15; Dinner - entree choices are steak, walleye, or chicken Cordon Bleu. Also, a salad and desert served at your table.
- 3:30 to 4:15; Holiday music concert performed by the Eagan Men's chorus, some may remember when they were the *Sperryaires*.

Member cost will be \$20 per member [yes, your spouse is a member.] \$25 p/p for non-member guests attending with a member. Use the registration form from page 7 then mail it with your check by **27 December** so that the facility will have entree type counts. See the bottom of Old Timers' article on page 1 for driving directions or website social page. Coordinators are Keith Behnke and Boni Westberg.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

As you can see from the January program above we have revamped what was our traditional Christmas Dinner Party to broaden its appeal. First, we moved it to the first week of January to avoid conflicts with the Christmas events many of us participate in. Then we scheduled it at mid-day on Sunday to make it easier to drive to and home again (you never know what winter in Minnesota might bring us) and which is to many the traditional Sunday dinner time. Also, in the spirit of the season we will be honored after dinner by a performance of the Eagan Men's Choir who will present a variety of holiday tunes. I invite you all to join us to cap off the holiday season.



My two-year term as President of the VIP Club has been very rewarding. I hope that others of you would take the opportunity to serve in some capacity on the Club's executive board. The upcoming Unihogs/Uniturkeys lunch gathering on November 17 (<http://www.vipclubmn.org/Temp/Announcement2017.pdf>) is when/where we have the election of 2018 officers. Please let us know if you are ready to join the executive board in planning the future for the club so we can enter your name in nomination.

I would also like to personally commend Lowell Benson for his work restructuring the VIP Club web site, which provides an improved format for navigating

the myriad of sections capturing the history of our legacy companies and co-workers. If you haven't looked at it lately please visit the site at <http://www.vipclubmn.org/>

Keith Behnke, VIP Club President.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Membership Renewal Time: If 2017 appears after your name on the Newsletter mailing address, your membership expires at the end of this year. If the subject line of your electronic delivery has member list 2017 in it, your membership renewal is due. Please use the renewal form on page 7 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 twenty-two *Life* members.

2018 Board Election Slate: Volunteering to serve our membership next year are: *Harvey Taipale*, President and Lawshe Memorial Museum Liaison; *Steve Koltes*, Vice President; *Keith Behnke*, Immediate Past President and events coordination; *Paul Hove*, Treasurer; *Boni Westberg*, Secretary; *Ghislain Devlaminck*, Director and Membership Database; *Joe Schwartz*, Director and Chief Newsletter Editor; and *Lowell Benson*, Director and Webmaster. As we go to press, one Director slot is yet available.

Newsletter Inputs: For the January/February 2018 newsletter issue; send articles, recent obits, or lighter side items to Joe Schwarz before December 11th. Use Joe's email address from back page box or the Club's US mail address at the bottom of pages 2 => 7.

2018 Social Activity Dates: April 11th, Volunteer Recognition Luncheon at Joseph's in St. Paul; May 4th, Roseville Good Old Days at the Mermaid in Moundsview; May 18th, Syttende Mai luncheon at Casper's in Eagan; June xx, Picnic at Highland Park.

CONTACT DATA

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 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, keithbhnk@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

Gupta, Ashok "Eddy" - Age 81, of Fridley, MN. Passed away September 29th, 2017. He is survived by his daughter, Lynell Gupta. Ashok was a graduate from the Carlson School of Management and spent over 40 years working for Unisys Corp.



Koester, Roland "Rollie" Age 90 of Saint Paul MN: Passed away September 15th, 2017. Rollie was in the Facilities Maintenance Dept. at Univac Plant 2. He was lead man and fork lift operator on the Plant 2 "Move Crew".

Langfield, Clarence H. - Age 84 of Eagan, MN. Passed away on September 11th, 2017. He is survived by his wife, Ardene. He retired from Unisys after 37 years.

Offerdahl, Arne Nels - Passed away at his home in The Villages on September 13th, 2017, after an extended illness. Born in 1950 to Arne and Margaret Offerdahl in Poynette, Wisconsin. Nels moved to the Twin Cities to work as a software engineer for Lockheed Martin until 1995. He is survived by his wife Linda, who is also a LM retiree.



Peterson, LaVerne (Pete) - Age 86 of Bloomington MN. Passed away June 3rd, 2017. He was preceded in death by his wife Vee and survived by two daughters living in Perth, Australia. An Air Force veteran, Pete was one of the original field engineers working down range on Kwajalein atoll on the NIKE ZEUS Anti-Missile System, Target Intercept Computer in the early 1960's. He spent the bulk of his career in the Pacific (Australia, Seychelles, Johnston Island) and Thule, Greenland, avoiding duty in Saint Paul.

His picture and pictures of the Target Intercept Radar and Computer are in the Lawshe Memorial Museum in S St Paul. He worked for Jerry Sargeant and later for Paul Hove before retirement in 1990.

He played Golf, worked on many inventions, and played competitive Bridge. Byline *Paul Hove*

Sisson, Charles "Chuck" Age 77 of Bloomington, MN. Passed away suddenly of a traumatic brain injury from a fall on August 11. He was married to Nancy Reichert-Sisson, the other half of his soul, for 36 years. Chuck worked for Unisys Corporation for 32 years then for Research International and retired in 2002.



IN REMEMBRANCE

Dombeck, Raymond J. – Age 79. Passed away in Sun City West AZ after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He is survived by Barbara, wife, children & grandchildren. Ray started his career at UNIVAC as a design engineer then retired from LMCO as a program manager. Although Ray and Barb lived in Apple Valley, they enjoyed summers at their lake cabin near Park Rapids and wintered in AZ. In Ray's spare time, he polished and showed visitors his mint condition Thunderbird. October services were at the Church of St. Joseph in Rosemont with interment at Ft. Snelling. Ray, as your former co-worker in the plant 5 mezzanine, I miss your practical approach to solving problems. *LABenson*

Draves, Wendell N 'Dell' – Age 75 passed away on September 15th. Dell is survived by sister Kay of Nisswa, MN. After U of MN graduation in 1968, he served in the US Army. He attended the Control Data Institute then worked at the Sperry Univac Mpls. Marketing group. Later he started the Data-Max Computer Consulting Group and the Draves/Barke Software Company. He was not a Club member.

Ekey, Lawrence A., Jr. "Larry" - Age 72, of Minneapolis MN. Passed away on September 26th, 2017. Larry was a competitive tennis player and an expert gardener. Larry graduated with a Masters in Electrical Engineering from the University of Minnesota. He is survived by his loving wife Lois. Larry was a Univac DSD employee and former VIP Club member.



Griswold, Richard "Dick" - Age 87 of Brooklyn Center, MN. Passed away peacefully on August 26th, 2017. Survived by his wife of 66 years, Jean. Dick worked for Burroughs/Unisys for 35 years. Richard wasn't a Club Member.



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

Verner, Shirley Jean (Andrle) - Age 84 of Marine on St. Croix. Passed away peacefully at home on August 17th, 2017. Shirley was preceded in death by husband, Miroslav (Mir) Verner. Mir retired from Unisys after working in Roseville, Bldg. 3 as a mechanical design engineer.



NEW MEMBERS, August/Sept 2017

Curtin, John	Davidson, Tom H.
Fay, Robert.	Goolsby, Susan
Harrison, Craig	Huber, Nancy
Patterson, Robert E.	

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

SOCIAL ACTIVITY REPORTS

Open House & Legacy Exhibit: September 13th was a marvelous day at UNISYS, Eagan. Just over 70 guests and numerous active employees walked through the west wing halls to look at the newly mounted history shadowboxes and to review the storyboards on loan from the Lawshe Memorial Museum.

A special thanks to UNISYS retirees Leroy Larson and Tom Curie who volunteered time over the summer to refurbish the woodwork of all shadowboxes.

The seven-fiscal year (1987-93) technology shadowboxes are along one hallway.

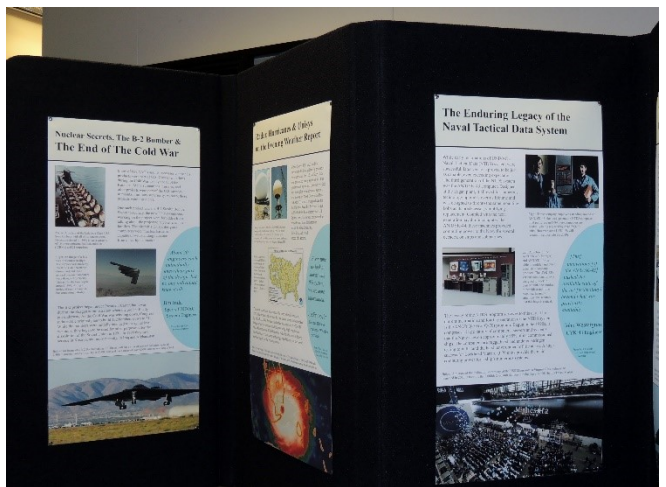


Thanks to Sue Carrigan and the UNISYS guard staff for the gracious hospitality and name tags. The handout flyer, *'Through the Ages'* is online - snapshots herein by Keith Myhre and Lowell Benson.

The 16 shadowboxes exhibiting the 1100 & 2200 computer series hardware technologies are on another wall, shown from both ends in these pictures.



Volunteers Keith and Tricia Myhre transported four large table top displays from/to the museum. Les Nelson and Bob Pagac assisted with the setup and pack up. Each display had four history storyboards.



Links to Printable Document File (pdf) copies of each of the 16 story boards are available on-line at <http://vipclubmn.org/Exhibits.html#Lawshe>.

The event was graced by our VIP Club founder and nonagenarian Millie Gignac who was accompanied by Joanna Foote from the City of Eagan staff.



Tricia, Bob, and Les enjoyed the crackers & cheese.



There were continual friendship discussions on-going in the UNISYS presentation center.



Wine was served by Katie, caterer from Green Mill.



Pie and Ice Cream on October 11th: Eric Taipale, CEO of Sentera, provided an entertaining overview of Sentera's current business. Started several years ago as

a drone manufacturer; Twin Cities-based Sentera developed sensors and analysis software that focuses on modernizing agriculture as the main part of their business. Data accuracy



down to individual plants is gathered from drone-based sensors. Data is fed to analytic software; which in turn provides today's farmers real-time information they need to manage crops thereby maximizing production and profitability. Sentera products are in use worldwide by a rapidly growing customer base, as agriculture is faced with the challenge of producing twice as much food by 2050 under severe environmental and economic constraints. Agriculture today is the least "digitized" industry, providing a great growth opportunity for businesses such as Sentera. About a third of Sentera's current employees were formerly at Lockheed Martin in Eagan.

Thanks to Frank King for arranging use of the Masonic Lodge facility, making coffee, and buying the ice cream. Lynn Lindholm bought the pumpkin pies. We appreciate the program support from these two former board Secretaries. Lynn, Frank, and current secretary Boni Westberg served the pie and ice cream to the 20 event attendees. Byline *Harvey Taipale*

Unified Legacy Golf League: The Director's Challenge Cup Golf Trophy is now displayed at the UNISYS, Egan facility.



The poster reads: Starting in 1995, the Loral/Lockheed Martin/Unisys league had a yearly golf tournament that pitted 4-person teams against each other. The last Director's Challenge tournament was held in 2016 under the auspices of the combined Unisys-Lockheed league, now known as the ULGL (Unified Legacy Golf League.) 96 of the 270-member league competed in the tournament. The decision to discontinue this tournament was a difficult one after 22 years but we are continuing to refine the golf activities to match the interests of our current membership. By *Keith Behnke*

LEGACY ACTIVITIES

Where are the Women of our Legacy? This question was posed by a Dakota County Historical Society Trustee at the Unisys open house. She noted that none of the 16 Legacy Story Boards in the 9/13 exhibits mentioned a female worker. Only six of the 173 career summaries posted on our web site Legacy Anthology were submitted by ladies.

Dr. Tom Misa conducted many oral interviews when writing his book *“Gender Codes: Why Women Are Leaving Computing* [Wiley/IEEE Computer Society Press, 2010.] Ten of his 48 interviewees were ladies who had worked in various positions at our legacy companies [not just programmers and engineering personnel.]

Call for Career Summaries and Project Stories: Telling the story of our legacy isn't complete yet. Please look at any career summary or project/program story submitted by your co-workers then write your story for our web site anthology. Stories/experiences from two paragraphs to 20 pages are acceptable. We'd like to hear from ladies who worked in Admin, financial, planning, marketing, etc. We do edit for spelling, punctuation, and blasphemy before posting on the web. Email to webmaster@vipclubmn.org or via US mail to the address in the footer of this page.

Recent Legacy Stories: For September 2017, we posted: [BOMARC](#) - The UNIVAC 1104 computer was the initial computer used in the BOMARC missile launch and guidance systems developed in the 50s - Thanks to Curt Nelson for finding his 1104 installations trip report for the first two units. We would welcome any feedback about the 1104 and their relationship to the G-40 processors shown on a 1958 genealogy chart. Was the G-40 a variation of the AN/USQ-17 manufactured as the UNIVAC type M-460? If you know or know who may have worked on these systems, send me a note – thanks! By *LABenson*

Mark Greenia, Author of *"History of Computing"*, has established a Computer History Archives Project video library YouTube channel containing over 40 videos on vintage computers, including ENIAC, UNIVAC System/80, UNIVAC 1050-II, UNIVAC 1103A and many others. Point your browser to https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOyJD0RHtF_77_oAf5tInQ then click on videos to see the items.

Micro 1100: A new wall display will soon be mounted at UNISYS, Egan. These are the first micro-1100 production wafer manufactured in Egan, MN on August 1, 1985. Donated by *Carl Johnson*.



Blue Cube: Were you one of the engineers or programmers or managers who worked at the Sunnyvale Blue Cube? Take a look at <http://www.mercurynews.com/2017/08/15/blue-cube-exhibit-planned-at-sunnyvale-museum/>, they are looking for stories, etc. about their space tracking history [some classified in the 70s & 80s.] Submitted by Joe Paige II, ret. AF officer.

LIGHTER SIDE

Points to Ponder:

- If 2/2/22 falls on a Tuesday, we'll just call it "2's Day". **(It does fall on a Tuesday)**
- If you replace "W" with "T" in "What, Where and When", you get the answer to each of them.

- Intentionally losing a game of rock, paper, scissors is just as hard as trying to win.
- Many animals probably need glasses, but nobody knows it.
- The doctors who told Stephen Hawking he had two years to live in 1953 are probably dead.
- The word "swims" upside-down is still "swims".

- Which letter is silent in the word "Scent," the S or the C?
- Why is the letter W, in English, called double U? Shouldn't it be called double V?

Credit Card: When Lena's credit card was stolen; Ole didn't complain nor report it to the police. The thief was spending much less than Lena usually did.

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HOLIDAY PARTY: SIGN UP NOW

Please reserve, at \$20 each ___ place(s) for the VIP Club Holiday Party & Concert Dinner being held on Sunday, **January 7th, 2018 at the Lost Spur Country Club**. Send in your reservations now, since seating is limited. Your form and check must be mailed by **December 27th**. 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: Steak ___; or Chicken Cordon Bleu ___; or Walleye _____.

Make your check payable to: **VIP CLUB**

Mail to: Keith Behnke
4652 Westwood Lane
Eagan, MN 55122

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL or APPLICATION or CHANGE FORM

Established in 1980

Please mark an **X** in the appropriate info/option boxes. *Submittal Date:* _____

Dues: \$7.00 1-year, or \$ 18.00 3-years, or free if age 90 or older.

Renewal, New Member (≥55), Associate member (<55), Life (>89), or Information Change.

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 select U.S. Mail if you have no email address.

Employer is/was UNISYS, Lockheed Martin, and/or predecessor company _____.

Include me in the Club's Directory? Yes or No. *DIRECTORY is only available to Members and Associates!*

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

*not required if only changing information in our database or if renewing at age 90+.

VIP CLUB

P.O. BOX 131748
ROSEVILLE MN 55113-0020

Established in 1980

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
Boni Westberg, Secretary	651-429-2534
Joe Schwarz, Director	651-698-9698
Gish Devlaminck, Director	651-470-8905
Orrin McGill, Director	763-755-7765
Open Position, Director	651-xxx-yyyy
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