April 11th, 11:00 AM: Our Club’s Volunteer Recognition Luncheon honors all VIP Club members who perform volunteer services wherever they reside. Please join us at Joseph’s Grill in St. Paul. Your entry ticket for the free lunch is the submittal of your 2017 VOLUNTEER SURVEY FORM.

Options for survey submittal are via US mail, or online. Please submit the survey even if you can’t join us for lunch. For US mail simply clip the survey form from page 8, fill it in, then mail it. Or, use http://vipclubmn.org/Volunteer.html.

Last April, fifty members and guests attended the luncheon as we honored Don Weidenbach with the third annual Bernie & Kathy Jansen Volunteer Extraordinaire award. A Volunteer Extraordinaire is someone who has gone beyond the “occasional activity hours” for an extended period. Please send your candidate nominations for this year’s award to Vice President Steve Koltes - skoltes@comcast.net.

Driving directions: Set your GPS address to St Paul, MN - 140 Wabasha St S 55107. From the North; take 35E South toward St Paul, get into the left lane then exit onto Hwy 52 going south. After crossing the Mississippi river, take the Lafayette Rd exit. Turn west onto Plato for 0.6 miles. After passing the railroad tracks, turn right at the Joseph’s sign - the first driveway. From the Eagan area take 35E north to I494 east to Hwy 52 going north. Take the Lafayette Road exit then turn left onto Plato Blvd for about 0.6 miles. After passing the railroad tracks, turn right on the first driveway, at the Joseph’s sign. Event coordinators are Associate Frank King and Past President Keith Behnke.
You are invited to reveal your DNA results if you have them. If not, there is yet time to send in your spit and get the results back before 5/18. DNA providers are listed at the bottom of [http://www.dna-testing-adviser.com/support-files/recommended-genetic-genealogy-tests.pdf](http://www.dna-testing-adviser.com/support-files/recommended-genetic-genealogy-tests.pdf). DNA surprises are usually more fun than the expected results! For example, the DNA results of this event’s two main planners/organizers are: one has North African heritage and the other Ashkenazi Jewish heritage. Submitted by R. Lindgren

Greetings to our members and readers!

If you weren’t there for our inaugural Holiday Party on January 7th, you missed a great time. Good fellowship, good food, and a fine concert from the Eagan Men’s Chorus (remember the Sperryaires?) Thanks to Keith Behnke and the Chorus for providing a delightful afternoon for attending club members.

As the researchers continue to dig into the history of the computing industry in Minnesota, I have been struck by a couple of things. First of all, the young generations today haven’t a clue about what the world was like before everyone had a supercomputer in their hip pocket. They have no concept of how hard (and expensive) it was to start the world on the path of technological progress that got us to today, where access to data and communications are everywhere and almost free. I am thankful that this effort is finally underway via a Minnesota Legacy Grant; participants are Twin Cities Public Television (TPT), Minnesota High Tech-Association, CBI, U of MN researchers, and DCHS with some volunteer inputs from Club members. I am looking forward to how the pros manage to tell the story in a way that recognizes the innovative contributions of so many people.

Second, I was looking back at our website, and find that 2018 marks two pretty big 60-year industry anniversaries. In 1958 Remington Rand UNIVAC delivered the first Naval Tactical Data Systems’ computer to the U.S. Navy and UNIVAC delivered an ERA 1103 Computer, S/N 3 to the University of Minnesota. The delivery to the Numerical Analysis Center under Dr. Marvin Stein marked the beginning of the University’s Computer Science Department. And, the NTDS delivery was the beginning of a long-lasting core business for the company.

I’m guessing that there are lots of other milestones that occurred over the years that aren’t on our web site but should be. As researching historians parse through lots of data to paint the picture of the early days; they do look at the career summaries and remembrances therein. If you haven’t done a career summary, I urge you to consider submitting one. People often say that they never did anything "big," but the reality is that everyone was a contributor and it takes adding up all the contributions to tell the whole story.

Don’t forget to join us on April 11 at Joseph’s Grill for our annual Volunteer Recognition Lunch. Register by submitting your volunteer survey (in the newsletter or on the web site). There is no requirement for minimum number of hours, anyone who volunteers is welcome, and best of all, the lunch is free. We know that club members are active in many ways in their community, and this is one opportunity to say "Thanks."

Harvey Taipale VIP Club President.

Membership Expiration: If 2017 appears in the subject line of the electronic distribution message or if 2017 is printed behind your address, this is the last newsletter that you will receive. Use the form on page 8 to mail us your renewal before March 15th. We plan to have a membership directory update in early April.

Annual Picnic Reunion: June 13th at 3:30 PM, rain or shine at the Highland Park Pavilion. Brats, Burgers, Buns, Beer, and BS’ing with old friends for only $5 per member. Friends are welcome @ $10 per head.

Please pre-register before June 5 so that our planners can order enough food, etc. – use the [form](http://www.dna-testing-adviser.com/support-files/recommended-genetic-genealogy-tests.pdf) on page 8. If you are willing to help with the planning, ordering, set-up, cooking, or clean-up – email or call John jwestergren@frontiernet.net 952-358-1174.

While at the picnic, you may bring mementos to trade, i.e. project cups and/or other company labeled trinkets. And, the Legacy Committee will accept old company documents and other hardware artifacts.

When there, take a moment to thank John Westergren and the volunteer team who make this event happen. Also, thank Frank King who annually goes to the St. Paul Parks office before 5 AM the first working day of January to reserve our June date.

Where to in August? Your opinions tallied!

We have received a favorable response to our survey of Museums day trips to take. The most interest sent back is for the Granite Falls, Fagen Fighters Museum [http://www.fagenfighterswwiimuseum.org/](http://www.fagenfighterswwiimuseum.org/). We are planning the trip for first or second week of August. The bus will leave at 8:30 AM from the parking lot located on the back side of the Unisys building located at 3199 Pilot Knob Rd, Eagan, MN and return no later than 6:45 PM. The specific date of the outing and more details will be provided in the May-June VIP newsletter. Byline Ghis Devlaminck.

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P.O. Box 131748 - Roseville, MN 55113-0020
**Newsletter Inputs:** For the May/June newsletter send articles, recent obits, or lighter side items to Joe Schwarz before April 6th. Use Joe’s email address from back page box or the Club’s US mail address at the bottom of pages 2 thru 9.

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**IN REMEMBRANCE**

**Blackley, Earle R.** - Age 81, of Afton, MN, passed away on Wednesday, December 20th, 2017 at his “up north home” with family in Breezy Point, MN ending his recent brave battle with Lymphoma. Earle was a programmer at UNISYS, Roseville for 39 years. He is survived by wife, Jean, children and grandchildren. Earle was not a VIP Club member.

**Brown, Tracy** (nee Anderson) - Age 73 of Burnsville, MN. Passed away on November 13th, 2017. Survived by mother, Merry Anderson. Tracy worked for support services at Unisys and Lockheed Martin. Tracy was not a VIP Club member.

**Emerson, Wally** passed away in January. A Ft. Snelling memorial service is being planned for May 10th. We’ll have a more complete obit in the next issue.

**Griffin, Marsha Kay** - Age 63 of Mason City, Iowa. Passed away unexpectedly Sunday, December 24th, 2017, at her home in Mason City. Marsha worked for Unisys for 10 years in Clear Lake until she retired in December 2015.

**Hamre, Lawrence "Larry"** - Age 92 of Rochester, MN formerly of Lakeville. Larry is survived by wife Eileen. Larry worked as an engineer for Unisys Corporation. Larry has been a long time VIP Club member.

**Hansen, Tom** – Age 78 of the Villages, FL passed away on January 22nd with wife Mari of 52 years at his side. In addition to Mari, Tom is survived by three children and 10 grandchildren. Tom retired from LMCO in 2003 after 38 years that began as a CP-901 programmer in Johnsville, PA. Mari is also one of our retirees, having worked many years in the MACs building. They have been club members for over a decade.

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

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**Jordahl, Patricia A. (Falk)** - Age 78, of Roseville MN. Formerly of Eau Claire, WI. Patricia passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by family on December 18th, 2017 following a battle with COPD. Patricia is survived by husband, Brent. Brent worked in contracts for UNISYS/LMCO. Brent and Pat have been long time VIP Club members.

**Nelson, Edwin J.** - Age 94, of Inver Grove Heights, MN. Passed away on January 28th, 2018 with his wife and daughters by his side. Engineer, computer "geek," recycler, fixer-upper, "The Green Guy". He spent his entire working career with ERA/UNIVAC and Atron and was also a member of SOLE. Edwin is survived by his loving wife Betsy. Edwin was a life member of the VIP Club and an avid Legacy participant - see [http://vipclubmn.org/People5.html#EdNelson](http://vipclubmn.org/People5.html#EdNelson) and [http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/Fred_Hargesheimer.pdf](http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/Fred_Hargesheimer.pdf).

**Schauer, Charles E. (Chuck)** - Age 82 of Rosemount, MN. Died peacefully on December 22nd, 2017. Survived by wife of 61 years, Muriel. Chuck retired after 41 years with Lockheed Martin and predecessor companies. Chuck and Muriel are long time members of the VIP Club.

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**CONTACT DATA**

**2018 VIP Club Activity Coordination**

CBI Liaison; Dick Lundgren, rflundgr@aol.com

Lawsme 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, jwestergr@frontiernet.net and labenson@q.com

Membership database; Gish Devlaminck membership@vipclubmn.org

Old Timers’ Annual Reunion; labenson@q.com

Picnic planning & volunteer staffing; John Westergren, jwestergr@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

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Unified Legacy Golf League: New individual members or teams are invited to join us for 2018 which starts with a tournament on April tbd. [depending upon snow melt] and league play the first week of May. See their website for this year’s six leagues, http://www.ulglmn.org/umgl/. Contact Keith Behnke keithbhnk@comcast.net for more information.

The Old Timers met on December 7th at the Lost Spur. Although 114 pre-registered, 13 didn’t make it. The good news is that 54 came without pre-registering for a total of 155 participants – several thinking that registration was only needed if ordering a sandwich. The group consumed 58 sandwiches, at $8 each this was a bargain. Our Lawshe Memorial Museum volunteer cadre brought a plethora of people snapshots, for identifications by attendees. Thanks for helping! A photo collage created by Nick Benson is on page 9.

From Article I of our bylaws: “Sec. 6 A Member Emeritus is defined as a Member of the Club who has served the Club in an exemplary fashion, including serving on the Board of Directors and active participation in voluntary and club activities. Nomination and approval for Emeritus status shall be by the Board of Directors. Emeritus status shall entitle the Member to all privileges of a board member and shall provide a lifetime, dues paid, membership in the Club.” Dale was a board officer for 5 years and a Director of Program Planning for a decade; retiring from the board at the end of 2016. BTW, he is still active with Syttende Mai planning. Our other Member Emeriti are Millie Gignac, Bernie Jansen, and Tom Turba. Millie and Tom were at the award ceremony. A collage of the event is on page 7.

Legacy Activities:

Career Summaries: If you have a career summary in any of the Legacy, People chapters; please check it to ascertain whether we have your correct employment from/to dates in the text. If you haven’t written your mini-micro biography yet, send a draft to webmaster@vipclubmn.org – we’ll coordinate editing with you before posting. Our Legacy Anthology ‘Table of Contents’ is now available on-line, browse to http://vipclubmn.org/SiteMap.html#Level3. Additions to any chapter are welcome. Byline LABenson.

Legacy Initiative at Lawshe Memorial Museum:

On November 20, 2012 Lockheed Martin officially transferred our Legacy artifacts to Chad Roberts, then Executive Director of the Dakota County Historical Society (DCHS). These artifacts included computers, workstations, PCs/displays, miscellaneous equipment such as drum memories & disk platters, as well as over 100 archive boxes containing memorabilia, documents,

Club President, Harvey Taipale, presented the Member Emeritus certificate and status to Dale Phelps – [left in this picture.]
brochures, manuals, photographs, transparencies, and 35 mm slides. John Westergren coordinated the move.

These artifacts arrived at Lawshe Memorial Museum the next month on approximately 20 pallets, whereupon DCHS employee Andrew Fox began “Accessioning in View” of the artifacts, funded by a state legacy grant that DCHS had received through the Minnesota Historical Society. Accessioning is the process of adding items to a museum’s existing collection of artifacts. Each item was assigned a number and stored in the museum’s collections.

VIP Club volunteers suspended their Plant 8 cataloging of documents, negatives and photos until the items arrived at DCHS and Andrew finished accessioning the archive boxes. Harvey Taipale set up five workstations of LMCO donated equipment in the museum’s upstairs multi-purpose open area. In March 2013 cataloging restarted at Lawshe, while Andrew continued accessioning artifacts until he completed that fall. Cataloging entails identifying each item with a number and then entering whatever information is discernible: system/equipment, project name, date, comments/description, names of people in photos/slides, physical location of item, etc.

Up until that time, the VIP Club volunteer cataloging had been done using an Excel spreadsheet, which is not the optimal data storage structure. Keith Myhre proceeded to design a Microsoft Access database and then converted the Excel worksheet data into corresponding Access tables. Cutover to the “DCHS UNIVAC Legacy Artifact Catalog” database was accomplished in November 2013. All data entry since that time has been into this database, integrated with the converted Excel data.

Cataloging continues at Lawshe on Tuesdays, when the Museum is closed to the public. The VIP Club volunteer crews are currently comprised of Keith & Tricia Myhre, Bob Pagac, Les Nelson, Jon Simon, Dale Suckstorff, Jim Hilliard, and honorary VIP Club member Greg Oxley [also Vice President of the Dakota County Historical Society Board of Trustees].

Catalogued items donated to the Charles Babbage Institute and DCHS as of January 9, 2018, items total:
- Documents/brochures/manuals/etc. – 4,073,
- Publications (newsletters, etc.) – 2,231,
- Photographs/Negatives -- 18,850,
- Public Relations photographs -- 1,756,
- 35 mm slides -- 2,750, and
- Computer & misc. Repertoire cards – about 400.

Current efforts are focused on cataloging 1,000+ failure analysis photos, recently donated photos & documents, and scanning several thousand more 35 mm slides. The slides are scanned before cataloging since it’s easier to identify items/people on a computer screen than squinting at a slide on a light box. Yet to tackle are hundreds of photo transparencies.


2. Greg Oxley scanning slides on the desk of former Governor H. Stassen.

A longer-term goal is to scan all of the photographs so that they can be viewed online, as well as the 35 mm slides being scanned now. Beyond that, scanning of documents, brochures, manuals and the like would allow online access to them as well.

If you would like to visit Lawshe Memorial Museum, check their website for open days/hours: www.dakotahistory.org/lawshe-memorial-museum.

If you would like to visit on a Tuesday morning between 9 AM and noon [when the museum is closed to the public] to see how and what the volunteers are cataloging, contact anyone of them prior to your visit to make sure one of them will be at the museum to show you around. Join us in ensuing weeks or lunch after your visit.

Byline Keith Myhre.
Minnesota Computer History Project: Elizabeth Semler, a researcher at the U of MN, is working with Twin Cities Public Television (TPT) on a State grant ‘telling the story’ of Minnesota’s Technology History that began with ERA. Graduate student Jonathan Clemens is assisting ‘Liz’. Keith Myhre helped them select topical milestones and to identify a dozen people to interview for the filming this spring. Those interviews are underway as this issue goes to press. We anticipate project completion, video editing, and showing on Public television sometime during phase II of this project. When we know the date and time; a note will be posted on the web site.

Hidden History: The [then classified] reason to develop Naval Tactical Data Systems was because during the Korean War the shipboard grease pencil and status boards couldn't keep track of the many jet aircraft and fast ships in a combat area. Although the 30-bit computers were used for command and control, a key element was the use of 18-bit computers to do the transponder interfacing for Identification Friend or Foe (IFF). During the funding authorization debates in Congress, some senators wanted to have a secondary use of the technology. Thus, the beginning of Automated Radar Terminal Systems in which 18-bit computer systems could process transponder information from commercial aircraft for air traffic control around airports. Then there was 40 years of service to the FAA and traveling public by the 30-bit IOPs, http://vipclubmn.org/aircontrol.html#Genealogy.

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

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.”

Norwegian in Copenhagen A policeman encounters a Norwegian walking through central Copenhagen with a penguin on a leash. “You should take that to the Tivoli Zoo straightaway,” insists the policeman. “Righty-ho” says the Norwegian. They meet again the next day, the Norwegian is still accompanied by the penguin. “I thought I told you to take him to the zoo,” says the policeman.

“Yes, I did!” says the Norwegian. “He seemed to like it. I thought we would go to the cinema today.”

Movie Ticket: A Norwegian man buys a ticket for himself and his penguin from the girl in the kiosk at the cinema. A few minutes later he returns to buy another ticket. Then back for another, and another.

Eventually the ticket girl asks him, “Why do you keep coming back and buying new tickets?” The Norwegian man, exasperated, says, “Every time we try to go in, that man over there by the door tears them in half!” Submitted by Ghis Deolaminck.

3. Original source unknown!
Christmas & New Year’s Party
January 7, 2018 – Concert by the Eagan Men’s Chorus

The camera missed: Harvey & Gayle, Lowell & Gloria, Paul & Sheryl, and Dale & Ruth
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL or APPLICATION or CHANGE FORM

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 +.

REUNION PICNIC REGISTRATION FORM –

VIP Club members

I plan to attend (name): ____________________________ $5.00 per member

Spouse/Significant other will attend: ____________________________ $5.00

Non-member

I plan to attend (name): ____________________________ $10.00 per non-member

Spouse/Significant other of friend will attend: ____________________________ $10.00

My email address is: ____________________________ @ ____________________________.

Non-members may include a VIP Club membership registration form and dues to get the member price, i.e. $12 for a one-year membership (2019) and the picnic.

Please mail w/check before June 6th to: VIP CLUB PICNIC   P.O. Box 131748 - Roseville, MN  55113-0020
Old Timers’ Photos and Collage Created by Nick Benson.
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 at 11:00 AM at Rickey's Cafe at Stark's, 3125 Dodd Road, Eagan, MN
- 2nd Tuesday at 11:30 AM at 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