NOVEMBER PROGRAM
Technologists Reunion & Election

November 14, 11:05 AM - 1:30 PM: In the 1960’s a group of engineers who had left UNIVAC Roseville engineering started meeting for camaraderie, just after Ground Hog Day, thus the 'Unihogs' label. Dave Lundstrom’s book, *A Few Good Men from UNIVAC* detailed the beginning. In the 90s the day was changed to before Thanksgiving to accommodate snowbirds. In 2011 the VIP Club merged its annual Board elections with this event.

This year we’re changing the name to include those who are now preserving local computing history (CBI, DCHS, MHTA, and TPT) and those local employee technologists yet innovating (Leidos, LMCO, PDA, Sentera, & UNISYS). We’ve also changed day to the 2nd Wednesday of November for more time between this event and your Thanksgiving/Christmas activities.

Set your GPS to Eagan MN, 4625 Nicols Road - Casper's doors open at 11:00 AM for check-in and cash bar for those who want to mingle and reminisce before the meal is served. Instead of pre-ordering a $19.00 choice of three plated meals, for just $15 per person (still includes tax, tip, and name tags) we’ll simply individually pick our lunch food:

1) Table by table Entree order from the Express Lunch menu and

2) Pick two Express Lunch menu side dishes.

The agenda is: 1) VIP Club election for their 2019 board, 2) a brief memorial for those who passed away during the last year 3) Speaker Dr. Jeffrey Yost, Director of the Charles Babbage Institute (CBI) at the University of Minnesota, will talk about their current activities. Dr. Yost is the 3rd CBI director holding the ERA Land Grant Chair for the History of Technology. He follows in the foot-steps of Dr. Tom Misa and Dr. Arthur Norberg. [http://www.cbi.umn.edu/about/](http://www.cbi.umn.edu/about/).

DECEMBER PROGRAM
Annual UNIVAC Old Timers’ Reunion!

December 6th @ 10:30 AM. We'll gather in the lower level party room of the Lost Spur at 2750 Sibley Memorial Hwy, St Paul MN (Eagan).

Please register as pre-printed nametags make check-in go smoothly. Simply send “I’ll be there!” email before Dec. 1st to either Steve Koltes skoltes@comcast.net or Paul Hove paul@paulhove.com. And if you’d like to have an $8 sack lunch, include beef, ham, or turkey in your email message – pay when you pick up the sack. Shown here are Jerry, Steve, and Larry enjoying turkey, beef, and beef in 2017, cash bar too!

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.

FYI: Club memberships expire on December 31st. For US Mail news deliveries, your expiration year is after your name on the address label. For electronic deliveries, your expiration year appears in the email subject line.
VIP Club November/December 2018 Newsletter

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Jim Larson's family recently gave the club some ERA lapel pins, which we have passed on to DCHS and one of the historians working on the computer history project. The ERA logo on the pin (an electron spinning around a nucleus) made me think back to 68 years ago, when the ERA troops must have been working frantically to get their first stored program machine up and running. Historians have not really dug into the actual timing of events then, but we do know that the fall of 1950 ATLAS I was delivered to the Navy CSAW organization in Washington DC. It was installed, checked out, turned over to the Navy and the crew was home for Christmas. While there are many "first" computers, this was undoubtedly the first arm's length sale of a modern computer, pioneering the model adopted by the commercial computer industry. This machine (classified until the 1970's) and its successors were very reliable and were instrumental in helping to crack the military codes of our cold war adversaries. CSAW was ultimately detached from the Navy and became the National Security Agency. Also, in this time of the year in 1952, the presidential election was hotly contested, and on election night, a UNIVAC computer was the first to predict an upset victory for Dwight Eisenhower. Because of the surprising prediction, UNIVAC became synonymous with extraordinary intelligence, and computers were held in awe by the general public. Things have changed today - computers are everywhere and the one running my cell phone has several times the power of ATLAS I or that machine of 1952. Speaking of elections (will the TV ads ever be over?), our Constitution requires annual elections of officers and directors. This will take place on November 14 during our annual Unihogs/Uniturkeys get together at Casper's in Eagan. There will be NO campaigning, just a short meeting, a time to see old friends, and to hear from Dr. Jeff Yost, Director of the Charles Babbage Institute. Details are on page 1, so make your reservation now.

Harvey Taipale, VIP Club President.

Next Newsletter: Send articles, obits, and lighter side items by Dec. 4th to newsletter@vipclubmn.org or to the US mail address at the bottom of pages 2 - 7.

LMCO Insurance Selections: People who are renewing his/her medical insurance via the LMCO web site should make the time to use the phone # thereon because some of the web site info is inaccurate.

VIP Club Elections: The following retirees have volunteered to lead the Club during 2019: Thanks to each for serving us!

- Harvey Taipale President
- Steve Koltes Vice President
- Paul Hove Treasurer
- Boni Westberg Secretary
- Gish Devlaminck Director & Database
- Jim Andrews Director & Webmaster
- Lowell Benson Director & Newsletters
- Richard Lundgren Director at Large
- Keith Behnke Immediate Past President

Several associate board members, who will continue to aid the board with events on an as needed basis, are Frank King, Joe Schwarz, John Westergren, Lynn Lindholm, and Paul Dickson. We are also supported by members emeriti; Bernie Jansen, Dale Phelps, and Millie Gignac as well as spouses of all the above!

Roseville Gathering: December 12 at 9:00 AM; stalwart retirees from the Roseville engineering and management cadre will gather for our quarterly breakfast at the New Brighton Eagles club. Send Marv Brown a note before 12/8 so that he can give cooks a head count. Thanks, mdbrib@comcast.net.

January Program: January 6, 2019 Holiday Party and Concert by the Eagan Men's chorus at the Lost Spur. See page 7 for the registration form.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Boudreau, Thomas K. - Age 94 of New Brighton, MN. Passed away August 25th, 2018. He is survived by his wife, Ilene. Following his military service, he worked as an Engineer working with Honeywell and finally Univac. His work took him around the world, including installing computer systems on submarines.

Dean, Richard H. - Age 89, from Bloomington, MN, who was in hospice care at Martin Luther Campus in Bloomington, passed away Sunday morning July 29th. Richard was preceded in death by his wife, LaGretta Ellean Malm. He worked as a Chemical Engineer for Honeywell, Sperry Univac, Unisys, and ComSat. Richard lived in Buffalo MN and Bloomington MN.
Gilbert, Douglas J. - Age 85 of Ham Lake went to be with his Lord on August 8th, 2018. Survived by his wife of 65 years, Ginger. Gilbert was long-time employee of Unisys.

Hjermstad, DeWayne K. - Age 80, of Shoreview, formerly of Burnsville, MN. Passed away on September 13th, 2018. DeWayne will be remembered for his love of life and family, contagious smile and laugh, and love for golf and fishing. He was preceded in death by his parents, and ex-wife, Barbara.

Morris, Col. Quentin James ret. "QJ" passed away peacefully 8/17/18. He is survived by his wife of 49 years Patricia. QJ was born 11/30/31 in Breckinridge, MN then grew up in Wahpeton, ND. His talents as an engineer opened senior executive assignments on several major strategic programs including Minuteman and AWACS before retiring at the rank of Colonel in 1977. QJ and Pat then settled in Apple Valley, MN where he served in program management for Sperry Univac and UNISYS.

Quam, Ellsworth R. "Bud" - Age 96 of Lilydale. Passed away July 29th, 2018. Preceded in death by his wife, Rose. Bud joined the Navy at 18. He was assigned to the USS Yorktown and then served on the USS California, USS Pilotfish and USS Segundo. Bud had a long career as a chemical engineer at Sperry-Univac.

Sabherwal, Isok - Age 81, passed away in St. Paul on 10/2/2018. Mass of Christian Burial was on Oct. 10th at the Church of St. Agnes. Isok had retired from UNISYS, Roseville and was a VIP club member.

Sahlstrom, Joseph "JJ" James - Age 85 Passed away 9/10/2018. JJ struggled with COPD for the last couple of years and it finally took its toll. JJ worked in many groups at UNIVAC thru UNISYS. I came to know him in the last group he worked in – Database Products. JJ was also my father’s first supervisor at UNIVAC, lucky guy! JJ was THE expert on DMS8, DMS1100 and DMS2200. He was also the master of the corny joke and groan worthy pun and was not beneath playing crazy pranks on people. We’ve missed him since he retired and will miss him at our get togethers. JJ Retired from Unisys. Obituary submitted by Dawn Walker.


New Members
Scott W. Alle and spouse Fan Mo of Eagan.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES
At the Lawshe Museum. September 13th was a great evening for many of our members and invited guests. The photos taken by Keith Myhre.

Speaker Liz Semler holds an ERA pin given to her by Club President Harvey Taipale. James Larson had bequeathed a few ERA lapel pins to the Club.

Liz watched as Gish, Harvey, Jim, and Paul attached her MAC to the projector. The topic for the evening was the status of the Grant developing a documentary of Minnesota’s computer history. She showed several video clips from last spring’s TPT interviews. View at: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLu0i98InXl0__dSb17Toh2U6MDfNOAv4m. In the video, MHTA President Margaret Anderson Kelliher does a good job...
introducing the MN computer history topic. Two featured interviews are Bernie Jansen and Richard Erdrich (talks about evolution of memories.)

CBI Director, Dr. Jeffrey Yost chats with Board Associate, Dick Lundgren. Dr. Yost will be the speaker at the Club’s November program.

President of the Ramsey County Historical Society Chad Roberts chatted with Rebecca Snyder and Jessica Davis. Kudos to Rebecca and Jessica, DCHS museum employees. They ordered the ‘snacks’ and refreshments and did an excellent set-up job. In 2011, Chad was the Executive Director of the Dakota County Historical Society who got the Legacy exhibits started. We owe him a special thanks for having the vision and initiative to give our artifacts a home and to begin a permanent ERA-UNISYS-LMCO Legacy exhibit.

In addition to many hardware artifacts, the museum has 16 topical story boards on four tabletop displays. These are available for exhibit at special events, contact Rebecca Snyder for loan arrangements.

Everyone enjoyed the hors d’oeuvres table.

On the St. Croix. October 10th almost 50 members ignored the ever-changing Minnesota weather for a two-hour paddle-wheeler cruise from Stillwater. Although Mother Nature didn’t provide splendid fall colors, many people commented that they’d like to have a river cruise again next year.

Thanks to club President Harvey Taipale for making the arrangements. Pages 5 and 6 have some snapshots.

2018 Golf League Summary: The Unified Legacy Golf League (the combined Unisys and Lockheed Martin leagues) completed its 2018 season with a banquet at Mancini’s in St. Paul in October. Ninety members of the league attended. The league has 261 members who played in four different leagues and nine scheduled tournaments; one less than last year due to an April snowstorm - we averaged over 100 golfers per tournament this year. ULGL Vice President, Greg Johnson coordinated the banquet and will take over duties next year from this year’s President, Mike Olinger. We have invited employees of (Product Development Associates (PDA) & DRS Technologies to join our golf league. Both have many former Lockheed Martin and UNISYS employees. Also invited are employees of the remaining Lockheed operation in the Twin Cities, Lockheed Martin Advanced Development. New individual members or teams are invited to join for 2019 which will start with a tournament in late April and league play the first week of May. Please contact Keith Behnke – keithbhnk@comcast.net for more information.
The Minnesota Computing History web site is now on-line, http://mncomputinghistory.com. Thanks to Elizabeth Semler - researcher and doctoral student at the U of MN. This web site was developed as part of the phase 1 documentary development by MHTA, TPT, DCHS, and CBI. This site includes the entire Minnesota computer history that started with ERA. Many of the photos therein were curated by Keith Myhre, an LMCO retiree, a Club member, and a 5-yr. volunteer at the Lawshe Memorial Museum.

Take a look, then plan time to watch the many UNIVAC and Sperry equipment history videos linked in cooperation with the Mark Greenia for the Computer History Archives Project. His latest video is BINAC - A Brief Look Back https://youtu.be/udJUWenPK4w.

LEGACY ACTIVITIES

CONTACT DATA

2018 VIP Club Activity Coordination

CBI Liaison; Dick Lundgren, rflundgr@aol.com
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Lawshe Museum Support;
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• 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@g.com

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Sunshine Cards; Lynn Lindholm lynnlinholm@comcast.net
Unihogs/Uniturkeys; Lowell Benson and tbd.
Volunteer Luncheon; Frank King, kingx063@umn.edu
Webmaster; L. A. Benson, webmaster@vipclubmn.org

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

LIGHTER SIDE

The only trouble with retirement...
you never get a damn day off!


Millie Gignac, our VIP Club Founder, was on the St. Croix cruise at age 98!

Buffet included cookies, cold cut sandwiches, fresh fruit, slaw, and hot dishes.

Snapshots by LABenson, send note to newsletter@vioclubmn.org for .jpg files.
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 6th, 2019 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. $25* per person for non-member guests. 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 - Party

Mail check before December 27th to Keith Behnke 4652 Westwood Lane Eagan, MN 55122
Or to VIP CLUB - Party P.O. Box 131748 Roseville, MN 55113-0020

*Non-members can get the $20 price by including a VIP Club membership registration form with a $27 check; good for the dinner and membership through 2019. You do not have to be retired to join the VIP Club.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 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*
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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.
- 2nd Saturday of odd numbered months at 11:00 AM, Baker's Square, 1881 West Highway 36, Roseville. Coordinator Urho Rahkola, 651-429-3319.

Quarterly Breakfast Gathering

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http://www.vipclubmn.org/Newsletters.html

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