

◆ *Love This Newsletter?*

Do you: ◆ *Have an opinion regarding our VIP Club Constitution Change?*

◆ *Want to Help Preserve our Twin Cities History?*

Check out the Club/Member Business section to see how, when, and why your input is needed!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Syttende Mai **May 24** doors open 10:45 a.m.



NOTE: We celebrate a week later than May 17 to avoid so many other Nordic events at that time. Check for an Evite; until then, here are details:

- **WHAT:** Annual Lockheed Martin/Unisys Syttende Mai Celebration.
- **IMPORTANT:** Register before May 15 with Dale Torgerson at dale.o.torgerson@gmail.com; we need the headcount for the food quantities
- **WHERE:** Casper's Cherokee of Eagan (back room), 4625 Nicols Road, Eagan, MN 55122
- **COST:** \$25; cash bar available for those who want to mingle before the lunch and program
- **FOOD:** Buffet includes Norwegian meatballs, salmon, BBQ ribs, chicken, and veggies
- **PROGRAM:** Speaker: Dr. Arne Selbyg, native of Norway and retired professor of sociology

Dale Torgerson and Dick Lundgren are coordinating.

Annual Reunion Picnic **June 19** at Eagan



Central Park Pavilion. Watch the website and your e-mail/Evites for details as they become available. Are you a picnic regular, or new and looking to get involved? Send an e-mail to board@vipclubmn.org to volunteer as an assistant to our long-time coordinator, *John Westergren*.

Roseville Good Old Days **September 12, 1:00-4:00 p.m.** at the Rosetown American Legion Post, 700 County Rd C West, Roseville, MN 55113. Watch for a hold-the-date e-mail and watch the website for details as they become available. *Dave Kleba and his team are coordinating.*

Old Timers' Reunion **November 7** at the Lost Spur Golf and Event Center. *Paul Hove and Boni Westberg are coordinating.*

Correction:

Lowell Benson says yet another VIP Club ERA employee has NOT yet been laid to rest: I received a call from a 92-year-old Life member to let me know that she had read the Page 1 correction in the March/April newsletter, and she, too, is still alive! She started at ERA in 1952! She also recalled to me that she had worked in Plant 2 and remembers helping to pack up an 1103 for truck shipment to the university.

Membership At the April board meeting, paid membership was at 582, down 72 members from last year. There were still 39 more with expired membership. Go to [Club Membership \(vipclubmn.org\)](http://vipclubmn.org) to join/rejoin.

VIP Club Scheduled Board Meetings: June 5, August 7, October 2, and December 4. We're scheduled to meet in person at the Eagan Wescott Library. Club members may sit in if curious about club business. Contact the president two days prior for access.

SOCIAL REPORT

Volunteer Recognition Luncheon Recap, with Unisys Update

The Volunteer Luncheon at Joseph's Grill to recognize 2023 volunteer activities was attended by 30+ club members. The club sponsors this event and provides a **FREE** lunch buffet of ham and turkey with all the fixings. Everyone got plenty to eat and a few went home with a "doggy bag" of leftovers for another meal.

The program after lunch, emceed by Past President Harvey Taipale, honored Keith Behnke with the [Member Emeritus](#) award for his many years of service to the club. This was followed by two "Volunteer Extraordinaire" award presentations to [Les Nelson](#) and [Bob Pagac](#), primarily recognizing each for their many hours over the last decade spent at the Lawshe Memorial Museum documenting the history of our company. Next, various club members shared their unique volunteer activities.





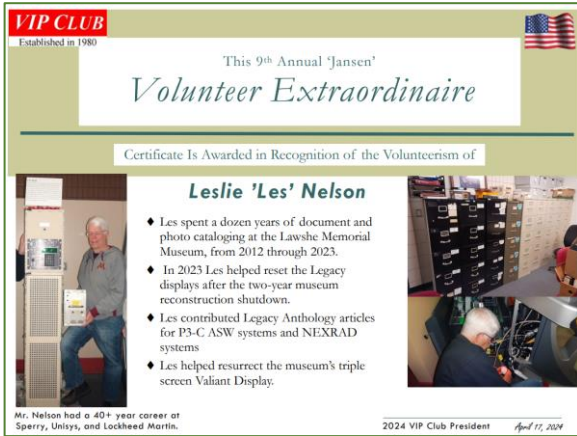
Keith Behnke & Jim Andrews, Club President



Keith Behnke's Certificate

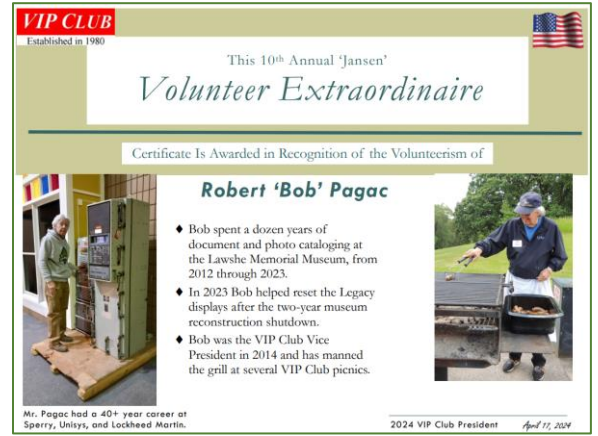


Bob Pagac & Les Nelson



**Volunteer
Extraordinaire
Certificates**

for:
← **Les Nelson**
and
Bob Pagac →



Our guest speakers from Unisys got called into an important business meeting and could not attend, but sent a message which Lowell Benson read to the attendees:

“Unisys is planning to move from its current location on Pilot Knob Road in Eagan. We have recently signed a contract with a data center hosting provider, in Woodbury, where we will be moving the computing systems currently located in the Unisys Eagan facility. This facility will host 16 workspaces for people who look after the day-to-day servicing of those systems. We have also begun a search for an appropriate office facility to host the remaining Unisys Twin Cities associates. Our goal is to find a suitable office within 15 minutes of the data center location, to make it easy to move back and forth when needed. We expect to complete both the office move and data center move by mid-2025.

For those of you who have visited our facility in Roseville or Eagan, you are aware we have some very extensive technology display cases on our walls. We are actively working with the Ramsey County Historical Society to donate them to that organization so that they may preserve them in their facility.”

Along with this move, Unisys will no longer provide us with free printing and mailing of the hardcopy newsletter. The board is addressing how to proceed; see the *Love This Newsletter?* article later in

the Club/Member Business section.

Learn our recognition luncheon history at <https://vipclubmn.org/activities.html#volunteering>. Previous Volunteer Extraordinaire awards are included in the Club Milestones at <https://vipclubmn.org/history.html#Milestones>.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This letter is going to be short! My wife and I are selling our house and moving into a townhome in Mendota Heights and I'm up to my ears in boxes! After 27 years in our current home, packing and discarding is a very big job.



Yesterday, the club sponsored a free lunch at Joseph's Grill for all members who have done volunteer work this past year. Over 30 club members attended and were treated to a wonderful lunch of ham and turkey with all the fixings. A highlight was awarding Keith Behnke the “Member Emeritus” award in recognition of his many years of service to the club. Another highlight was awarding Les Nelson and Bob Pagac the “Volunteer Extraordinaire” award for their years of work cataloging documents and photos to record our company history at the Lawshe Museum. We have quite a large exhibit at Lawshe and I encourage you to visit it someday.

We have been notified that Unisys is planning to

move their operations from Eagan to Woodbury soon and have decided not to renew their lease on the printer that has produced our printed newsletter for many years. Currently we deliver most of our newsletters electronically, but still over 100 copies are printed and sent through the U.S. Post office compliments of Unisys. The board will be looking at alternative methods to get future newsletters out to those who don't have e-mail, so expect that there will be some changes coming.

Watch for Evite invitations for our May 24 Syttende Mai celebration at Casper's Cherokee Sirloin Room and the June 19 VIP Club Picnic at the Eagan Central Park pavilion. I hope to see you there!

Jim Andrews, VIP Club President

We request responses via any one of the three methods before June 1; the board will count the votes at the June 5 board meeting. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Lowell Benson – 2024 Vice President

Love This Newsletter?

For almost 45 years, the VIP Club newsletter has been an important benefit to our retirees. Starting from a printed mailing in the early days, to today's combined electronic/mail distribution, the newsletter continues to connect us. Unisys, the UNIVAC torchbearer and one of our stalwart legacy sponsors, has printed and mailed our newsletter all these years at no cost to the club. So, the first thing we should do is express a huge "Thank You" to Unisys for all their past support.

Sadly, times change. As many of you have read, Unisys is in the process of moving facilities and consolidating locally. One consequence of this is that the equipment that did the printing and mailing of our newsletter will no longer be available after June. As a result, the club will need to make some newsletter changes. We are working on just what these will be, but there are some things our membership can do to help.

Most of you receive the newsletter electronically (via e-mail), which is essentially free to distribute, so nothing will change for you. However, over 100 members still want a mailed paper copy. Commercial printing and mailing of our newsletter will cost somewhere in the \$2-\$3 range per recipient per issue, or \$12-\$18 per year for each member who chooses a mailed paper copy. Measured against our current annual dues, this will be a problem.

Note that the pdf copy of the newsletter sent by e-mail can easily be printed by members at home or wherever printing is convenient, if a paper copy is desired.

So, this is what we are suggesting as a first step: If you have an e-mail address, please change your newsletter preference to electronic delivery. E-mail membership@vipclubmn.org to register your change.

A very small number of our members do not have an e-mail address. If you don't have an e-mail address, please consider getting one and changing to electronic delivery. The board recognizes that for some people neither of these is an option, and after we can reduce the issue to the minimum number of affected members, we will work to find a way to provide the newsletter for those who really require a printed version via mail.

Harvey Taipale

Help Preserve our Twin Cities History

VIP Club volunteers have scanned over 50,000 photos, 35 mm slides, and documents related to our companies' products. All of those files have been

CLUB/MEMBER BUSINESS

VIP Club Constitution Change Recommended

The VIP Club board is asking members to **vote Yes or No** to change our *Constitution of the VIP Club*, Section IV MEMBERS as follows:

From: "MEMBERS are former employees and their spouses of Twin-Cities-based Univac / Unisys organizations and predecessor or successor business enterprises who are retired or eligible to retire, and are at least 55 years of age"

To: "MEMBERS are former employees and their spouses of Twin-Cities-based Univac / Unisys organizations and predecessor or successor business enterprises who are retired or eligible to retire."

Constitution Section VI AMENDMENTS states: "This constitution may be amended by the favorable vote of at least 2/3rd of the membership voting."

The entire constitution may be downloaded from <https://vipclubmn.org/aboutus.html#Board>. The board's intention in recommending this change is to allow younger people to become VIP Club members.

To vote, choose one of the following:

- 1) Send an e-mail to board@vipclubmn.org with either **Yes** or **No** to amendment of Constitution Section IV MEMBERS in your message
- 2) Respond with a **Yes** or **No** vote to a May Evite requesting amendment of Constitution Section IV MEMBERS
- 3) Clip the voting box below, fill it in, then mail it to the address therein before June 1, 2024.

I, _____, herewith vote
 ___ **Yes** or ___ **No** to the proposed amendment of
 Constitution Section IV MEMBERS.

Mail to:
 VIP Club – Vote
 P. O. Box 21903
 Eagan, MN 55121

cataloged (who/what/when/where) in a Microsoft Access database. The scanned images are now at the point where they could be put online on the Lawshe Memorial Museum website which is hosted by the Dakota County Historical Society ([Lawshe Memorial Museum \(dakotahistory.org\)](http://Lawshe Memorial Museum (dakotahistory.org))).

Uploading the items is straightforward; the challenge is the scripting/programming necessary to perform searches using the data in the Access database and then displaying the image.

The material breaks down like this:

- Photographs (35,000+)
- 35 mm slides (11,000+)
- Documents 4,000+

And is estimated to be in these category breakdowns:

- 1946-1961: ERA/UNIVAC/Sperry Rand UNIVAC (1101-1107) – 25% of the material
- 1961-Current: Sperry UNIVAC/Unisys (1108, 1110, 418, 494, 9000 series, 1100 series) – 25% of the material
- 1961-Current: UNIVAC Defense Systems/Paramax/Loral/Lockheed Martin – 50% of the material

A volunteer is needed to take on this task and work with Dakota County IT to implement it. If you are interested in leading or helping with this important project, please contact Keith Myhre or Paul Dickson at kmyhre@lightblast.net or Paul.dickson@comcast.net.

LEGACY STORY

Our Stories Posted

March Our Stories: *UNIVAC Memories* by John Walker, formatted by Lowell Benson. Walker was a Unisys 1100 series user and the creator of Autodesk, software and company. He created a website with that history (<https://www.fourmilab.ch/>), including many UNIVAC history bits. Our posting provides a summary of his site with links to items of interest. Either download our paper, <https://vipclubmn.org/Articles/UNIVACmemories.pdf>, or go directly to his UNIVAC memories, <https://www.fourmilab.ch/documents/univac/>. The Fourmilab link was provided in an e-mail from Chuck Caldarale to Paul Dickson; more on John Walker later.

April Our Stories: The [ERA/RRU Early Machines](#) paper extracts information from previously classified NSA documents, found by Keith Myhre searching for ATLAS I information, for the ERA comparators, analyzers, and computers. The paper reduces over 500 pages to 20 containing information about the use of cryptanalysis equipment.

Posted in the <https://vipclubmn.org/OurStories.html#slides> section: [From Code Breakers to Standard Military](#)

[Computers](#) by David Bondurant, retired PE and former principal computer development engineer. David's presentation is to an IEEE chapter via a Zoom meeting; link provided by Les Flugum. Although this 'video' is an hour-long plus questions, David's presentation of the companies' early history and defense computers is much better than a few presentations I have made. Stay tuned; he has a second presentation which we will review this summer and then make available to our readers.

Lowell Benson

Logo Updated

The January Our Story, *The First Computer Company* (<https://vipclubmn.org/Articles/TheFirstComputerCompany.pdf>), is based on an unpublished Chapter 3 of a 1979 Blue Bell book. We have updated our Legacy Logo to indicate that Engineering Research Associates (ERA) was first!



ERA was incorporated in 1946 and the Eckert-Mauchly Computer Corporation (EMCC) in 1947. Office equipment companies bought their way into the computer industry (i.e., International Business Machines (IBM), Remington Rand, Burroughs, et al). Other changes to the logo identify Leidos, with the Air Traffic Control (ATC) systems that go back to ERA's file computer, and Product Development Associates Inc (PDA), as legacy companies. Also noted the merger with Burroughs in 1986, as well as other company dates.

Lowell Benson

Innovative Contracting

In the 70s, USN Captain Svendsen promised German Navy Captain 'Willie' Kraus that he could get a newer technology small-scale computer for their Wilhelmshaven systems development center. In addition to the two CP-642Bs and one 1830B computer, the

Germans had an IBM computer in their development center. St. Paul Engineering defined an intercomputer control unit to be rack-mounted. A proposal for a system integration demonstration between Sperry equipment and IBM equipment was written and accepted. The first step was to mount a repackaged 3760 processor from Salt Lake City with its byte-serial IBM daisy chain input/output capability and a DS-4772 intercomputer channel. The second machine was a S/N 32 AN/UYK-20 plucked off of the Clearwater assembly with input/output cards to be installed in St. Paul. We installed two intercomputer channel groups, Mil-Std-1397 type A for the 642B connecting and type B for the 1830Bs. *Note:* UNIVAC Design Specification was the basis for the government's Mil-Std-1397 interface control specification.

In St. Paul, we painted it a blue German Navy color, changed the nameplate to S/N 1 Intercomputer Control Unit, then shipped the demo system to Wilhelmshaven, Germany. Lowell Benson was the project engineer with technical help from Dick Erdrich, Bob Jablonski, and Howard Morrel. Bob and Howard had been the 3760 IBM interface development engineers and Dick was the 16-bit computer interface engineering guru. Bob Oulicky was the department manager of this Plant 5 mezzanine group and interfaced with management at both Salt Lake City and Clearwater to make it happen. Howard and Lowell were the installation team. The USN AN/UYK-20 S/N 32 was subsequently delivered the following year between their S/N 130 and 131.

The AN/UYK-20 production line techniques are documented in a YouTube video thanks to Mark Greenia; watch it at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i2Et8oIo-f8&list=PLsMFdOlQPga49bN2aZlOu6SbZj57uZpZl&index=32>.

Per Lowell: "I think that this 'goodwill' gesture of giving the customer what they wanted (they paid many Deutsch Marks) was instrumental in their contracting for AN/UYK-7-based systems for their Frigate ships."

Lowell Benson

More on John Walker

The e-mail mentioned in the March Our Stories from Chuck Caldarale to Paul Dickson also noted the passing of John Walker. Regrettably, Mr. Walker passed away on February 2 from complications of head injuries he suffered in a fall at home in Neuchâtel, Switzerland. Caldarale noted, "although John never worked for Sperry/UNIVAC/Unisys, he played an important part in 1107/1108/1110 goings on in the 1970s before founding Marinchip Systems and Autodesk, Inc."

Several sites announced John Walker's passing and provided insight into the technology entrepreneur who brought AutoCAD software to the design and architecture masses:

- *owenwengerd* stated on the Scanalyst website (<https://scanalyst.fourmilab.ch/>) that "this announcement has been posted on behalf of John's family. The Scanalyst website, created by John, seems the most fitting place to celebrate John's life and legacy" (<https://scanalyst.fourmilab.ch/t/john-walker-1949-2024/4305>).
- *The Register* posted *RIP John Walker, software and hardware hacker extraordinaire* by author *Liam-Proven* (https://www.theregister.com/2024/02/13/john_walker_obit/).
- There is a New York Times article by *Alex Williams* speaking of the man who "was well known in tech circles, not just for his triumphs in business but also for his outsize skills as a programmer" (<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/03/06/technology/john-walker-dead.html>).

Mary Beth Ruhland

IN REMEMBRANCE OF:

The obits hereunder are redacted from funeral home postings or Pioneer Press, Star Tribune, or applicable local listings.

The VIP Club board extends its sympathies to the families and friends of those who have lost loved ones.

**"Those we love don't go away. They walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard, but always near.
Still loved, still missed, and very dear."
~Alex MacLean, Grave Situation**

Robert J. 'Bob' Bergman — Age 90, passed away in New Richmond, WI December 20, 2023. Bob is remembered by Plant 1 coworkers as well as at UNIVAC, Roseville, as one of the smartest and most creative guys they knew.



He is remembered as working in the magnetic thin film memory department, and later in Roseville on developing a logic integrated circuit gate array that was also used by Eagan Defense. His list of contributions is too long for one person to know or remember. Bob was a deep thinker; he quietly reduced all things to their simplest form for all to understand.

Marvin Dale Brown – Age 91 of Maple Grove, MN passed away March 12, 2024. Born in Remer, MN, Marvin worked in the mines for a time before enlisting in the Air Force for whom he served 3½ of his 4 years in Fontainebleau, France. Marvin went on to work for Remington Rand UNIVAC where he met his bride, Ruth Bandzak, and spent 36 years working for Unisys before retiring in 1991. He is remembered for hosting the Unisys retiree's breakfast at the New Brighton American Legion, and later at the Eagles. Marvin was a simple man with a helping heart who loved hunting, fishing, and gardening. Family was the most important thing in his life (next to going out for breakfast) and he cherished each moment spent with them. Marvin is survived by his wife of 67 years, Ruth Brown, two children, three grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, several nieces and nephews, and other loving relatives and friends.



Louis Bernard Bushard – Age 81 passed away March 12, 2024 after living with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis for 8 years with grace, dignity, and tenacity. Lou was honest to a fault, a font of knowledge, and an independent thinker who loved his family, was a true believer of The Constitution, a staunch conservative, and Gopher fanatic. Louis attended the U of MN where in Mathematics he received his Bachelor's Degree, Master of Science, and PhD. He met and married his wife, Maureen, and after graduation moved to Fargo, ND, where Louis taught Math at NDSU for 2½ years. Lou received a National Research Council Postdoctoral Grant at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, authored 12 publications, and was an inventor on 17 patents. Lou's career included working in Aerospace Research Laboratories, for Cray Research where he worked with Seymour Cray, and for Sperry UNIVAC as a computer engineer. Lou and Maureen enjoyed traveling, often for Gopher football and basketball. Lou leaves his loving wife, Maureen (née Morrissey) of nearly 58 years, two children, two grandsons, and other family and friends.

William "Bill" Carroll Corson – Age 85, of Eagan, MN passed away March 15, 2024 following a long battle with Vascular Dementia. Bill graduated from the U of MN Duluth with a BS in Mathematics and Physics and received a master's degree in Mathematics from the U of MN Minneapolis. Bill had a 44-year career in Defense Systems and Air Traffic Control with Sperry UNIVAC/Lockheed Martin. He had a passion for cars, owned many collector cars, and was a member of the Minnesota Street Rod Association for 48 years. Patient, kind, and gentle, he was a longtime church volunteer who deeply loved God and his family and treasured his friendships. Bill is preceded in death by a son, and is survived by his wife of almost 54 years, Carolyn, two children, five grandchildren, nieces and nephew, and great-nieces and nephews.

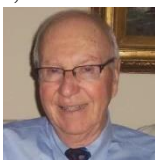
David Grant Fackler — Age 89, of Plymouth, MN died February 25, 2024. Dave graduated from the U of MN where he was in NROTC and met the love of his life, Carol. They married and Dave promptly shipped out as an ensign in the U.S. Navy to fight in the Korean War. After discharge, Dave evolved as a pioneer in the field of mainframe computers with UNIVAC (later Sperry and Unisys). Dave embraced every challenge throughout his life; he played hockey and football, and was a champion gymnast and marksman. The lure of the wilderness drew him to the Gunflint Trail where he was a canoe guide. Dave juggled his own interests in antique cars and shot-gunning along with adventure-seeking and hunting with his sons. He

and Carol enjoyed European travels together, and Dave was a longtime member of Marsh Lake Hunting Club where he joyfully pursued gamebirds with his wife, sons, friends, and his beloved flat-coated retrievers. His intellectual pursuits included voracious reading, and technical and creative writing. He wrote handloading manuals and spy novels, and secured multiple U.S. patents for his development of high-performance shotshell components. Dave's methods were unconventional, but his devotion to empirical research and self-wrought scientific innovation invariably brought him success. Dave's inventiveness and devotion to ballistic science spawned Ballistic Products Inc., known worldwide for its expansive line of shotshell components, related tools, and technology. His pioneering work in shotshells earned him a spot in the Minnesota Waterfowl Hall of Fame. Dave is survived by his wife of 67 years, Carol, two sons, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Melvorn Joseph Janisch – Age 93, of Ellsworth, WI died March 2, 2024. Drafted into the U.S. Military during the Korean War, he served the Army in the 101st Airborne, training in Fort Breckenridge, KY, after which he and his twin brother, Marvin, served abroad in Germany in a former SS camp called Concern. He developed a love for travel and he and Marvin experienced Europe on their available leaves. After his Army discharge, Melvorn became an electronic technician for ERA, later Sperry Rand, working there for 35 years. Early retirement at 55 allowed him and Marvin to pursue their love of travel, visiting 64 countries, along with hunting and fishing, including 28 trips to Alaska. With his two brothers Melvorn owned and operated a maple syrup business for over 30 years and many enjoyed Janisch Maple Syrup. He was also active in the American Legion where he and Marvin organized the annual fish fries. Melvorn was preceded in death by a sister and two brothers, and is survived by a sister and many nieces and nephews.

Guy Leighton Johnson, Sr. – Age 86, of Wyoming, MN passed peacefully at home March 23, 2024. A Unisys coworker shared that Guy, a very nice man who loved to fish and cook, worked in Manufacturing Purchasing for many years. Guy was preceded in death by his wife, Yvonne, and a grandson, and is survived by three children, five grandchildren, and a great-grandson, as well as nieces, nephews, and other family and friends.

James "JJ" Johnson – Age 71, passed away March 1, 2024 in Minneapolis, MN after a long battle with cancer. JJ taught elementary school in Waubun, MN, Annandale, MN, and Stavanger, Norway.



After receiving his master's degree at St. Thomas University, he worked as a software developer at ETA Systems, Unisys, and Cray Research. He then worked at the U of MN for 25 years, most recently at their Supercomputing Institute contributing to cancer research. JJ is survived by his wife, Cheri Toftey, two children, two granddaughters, and other family.

Wayne Leverkuhn – Age 88, passed away February 10, 2024. Wayne attended Texas A&M University where he studied electrical engineering and went on a blind date with the woman who became the love of his life, Helen. Wayne moved his family from TX to MN to pursue a career in the new computer industry. He spent 25 years at Sperry UNIVAC in engineering and management roles until his retirement in 1999. Wayne's varied roles took him all over, including Australia, Europe, and Tel Aviv, Israel where he and Helen spent 18 months. Shortly after retirement, Wayne and Helen owned and operated two tax preparation businesses near Seattle, WA for nearly 10 years before they retired back to MN and then TX. Wayne was an artist, creating metal sculptures and water color paintings. He served in municipal government, was involved in political efforts, recorded books for the blind for over 20 years, participated actively in the Red Cross, and served as a church officer, elder, and bible school teacher. Wayne's love for music had him participate in church and community choirs; his culminating music endeavor was performing at Carnegie Hall with the Lutheran Chorale. His greatest life contribution was setting a beautiful example as a follower of Christ, fully devoted to his wife and family, and a friend to many. Wayne is survived by his wife of 67 years, Helen, 4 children, 8 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

Dale R. Phelps – Age 87, of Bloomington, MN died April 1, 2024, after enduring numerous health challenges. Dale enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving as a communications administrator in Alameda, CA, Hawaii, and Japan, and was a petty officer third class. He subsequently graduated from trade school at St. Paul Vocational where he trained as and embarked on a career as an accountant. For 38 years, Dale dedicated his professional life to and retired from Lockheed Martin. As a member of the VIP Club, Dale was unpretentious, always leading or helping with the programs. He provided five terms of club service as vice president, president, and past president; a decade as a VIP Club director coordinating program planning; and numerous years supporting the Syttende Mai luncheon and annual picnic. Dale and his wife, Ruth Sanford, shared a love for square dancing, international travel, and winter escapes as snowbirds. Dale's eloquence and oratory

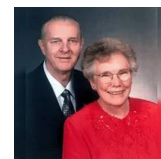


skills were honed in the Toastmasters Club, where he garnered numerous awards for his speeches. His spiritual convictions were an integral part of his life, and he delighted in sharing his beliefs with others. He also delighted in and had a deep affection for John Deere tractors after working alongside his father on the family farm, and was an avid Vikings fan. Dale was preceded in death by a son and other family. He leaves behind his devoted wife, Ruth (Pike) Sanford, his daughter, and his sister, and is also survived by grandchildren from both his and Ruth's families, several nieces and nephews, and Ruth's three children.

Richard C. Reichow – Age 91, of Roseville, MN passed away March 15, 2024. Richard attended Northwest Electronics Institute, served two years in the U.S. Army, and attended the U of MN. Richard and his bride, Annis Sharon Hansen, made a nice life together raising two children. He retired from Unisys after 28 years as an electrical engineer. He enjoyed many hobbies including ham radio, playing guitar and harmonica with other musicians, and as Mr. Fix-It, fixing everything under the sun. He was a lifetime learner and took classes in things that interested him during his retirement years. Richard is survived by his wife, Annis, two children, a granddaughter, and many extended family and friends.



Albert Carl Trapp & Lorna Jeannette (Cooper) Trapp – Both age 90, longtime residents of Columbia Heights, MN passed away February 18 and April 5, 2024, respectively, from complications associated with dementia. Albert was a long-time employee of Unisys, Roseville. During 68 years of marriage, Al and Lorna raised three children and were blessed with grandchildren. They are preceded in death by a son and other family, and are survived by two children, four granddaughters, and many others.



Late Remembrance

Floyd A. Grau – Age 79, of Gilbert, AZ, passed away March 1, 2023. He graduated with an Iowa State University degree in electrical engineering and later received his Kennedy-Western University Computer Science Doctorate. Floyd married his high school sweetheart, Connie; as a team they raised their children though the marriage did not last. He worked at Plant 8 in Eagan, MN for about 15 years at which time he met his second wife, JoAnn Mason, and became stepfather to her children. They moved to Jamestown, RI, where Floyd worked in submarine engineering, owned a 28' powerboat, and loved ocean fishing. He enjoyed RV traveling cross-country, camping, watching sports, and rooting for his grandchildren and bonus grandchildren at sporting events. Floyd is survived by his wife, JoAnn Grau, 3 children, 4 stepchildren, 14 grandchildren, and 5 bonus grandchildren.





P. O. Box 21903
Eagan, MN 55121

VIP CLUB Newsletter

VIP Club MN P.O. 21903 Eagan, MN 55121
<http://vipclubmn.org/newsletters.html>

Board of Directors – 2024

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Treasurer	Paul Hove	651-738-4908
Secretary	Boni Westberg	651-429-2534
Director	Dick Lundgren	952-288-5141
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Director	Les Flugum	952-431-6352
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Past President	Harvey Taipale	651-280-7332

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Unisys Liaison

Judy Bometun; Eagan print shop, 651-635-6792

PERIODIC SOCIAL GROUPS

Monthly Breakfast Gathering

- **1st Thursday**, 8 a.m. – **Capitol View Cafe**, 637 Smith Ave., **St. Paul**

Monthly Lunch Gatherings

- **1st Tuesday**, 11:00 a.m. – **Casper's Cherokee of Eagan**, 4625 Nicols Rd. **Keith Behnke**: 651-587-2591.
- **2nd Tuesday**, 11:30 a.m. – **Mall of America** 3rd floor North Food Court between the elevator & Burger King. **Paul Wennerstrom**: 952-854-7855.

Quarterly Breakfast Gathering

- **2nd Wednesday**, 9 a.m. in Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. – Eagles Club, 563 Old Hwy 8 in **New Brighton**. **Paul Dickson**: 651-482-9934.
Temporarily Suspended

CLUB CONTACT DATA

VIP Club 2023 Activity Coordination:

CBI Liaison; Dick Lundgren, rlundgr@aol.com
Golf Leagues; Keith Behnke, keithbhknk@comcast.net
Lawshe Museum Support:

- Exhibits: Keith Myhre, kmyhre@lightblast.net
- Photo ID work: Les Nelson, lnelson46@gmail.com;
Bob Pagac, rpagac@hotmail.com;
and Jon Simon, jcsimon1st@aol.com

Legacy Committee chairman; John Westergren,
jwestergren48@gmail.com

Membership database; Gish Devlaminck,
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Newsletter Chief Editor; clubnewsltr@vipclubmn.org

Old Timers' Annual Reunion:

- Paul Hove, paul@paulhove.com or
- Boni Westberg, volunteerboni@gmail.com

Picnic planning & volunteer staffing; John Westergren,
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Roseville Good Old Days; Dave Kleba,
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Syttende Mai; Dale Torgerson, dale.o.torgerson@gmail.com

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