

# NEWSBITS

# UNISYS



Published Quarterly by the Unisys Retirees Group – Blue Bell, PA  
Where old “bits” retire

## Calendar of Events



### President’s Message

At the June meeting of the Executive Committee, the discussion was centered on the dissolving of UBBRG.

The topics covered and decisions were:

1. The UBBRG website will remain open until April 2017.
2. Disbursement of funds will be donated to non-religious charities. This will take place in early 2017 after all debts are reconciled.
3. NEWSBITS will continue to be published through December 2016.
4. All UBBRG members are invited to a catered FREE lunch at Saint Helena Church’s Empress Room, located on Rt. 202, during the latter part of October. The date will be published in the September NEWSBITS, the [ubbrg.org](http://ubbrg.org) Website and local email.

Please inform Bill Ridge at [wbridge@verizon.net](mailto:wbridge@verizon.net) if you plan to attend the lunch. An approximate

number is needed for food preparation.

Several of our board members have joined the Minnesota VIP Retiree Group. The cost is \$7.00 per year. See page 5 of [webmaster@vipclubmn.org](mailto:webmaster@vipclubmn.org) for membership application. The VIP Group welcomes all to become members and provides a way to stay connected to the Unisys family. I wish all a safe and healthful summer.

### *P.S.*

In 1951, I was a freshman in High School when J. Presper Eckert and John W. Mauchly contracted with the U.S. Census Bureau to build the first commercial computer. We now celebrate sixty five years since this event which eventually led the Philadelphia based parent company of Eckert Mauchly, to become Unisys, a world leader in computer development.

As a young technician I volunteered on Saturdays to do maintenance on UNIVAC I located in the Philadelphia Navy Yard. My main job was to clean the high speed tape drive loop boxes with denatured alcohol. The loops were buffers to keep the metal tape from being torn apart from the stopping and starting of the tape drive. The loops were maintained with string and expansion springs. Needless to say, this was a pretty archaic system but at the time, it was the latest state of the art.

The sixty five year celebration leads me to think back how privileged I was to have had an opportunity to see UNIVAC I at work. To see the impressive control panel with flickering lights, push buttons and switches. Who can forget the loudspeaker growling out the data transfer on the high speed buss, or the spinning of the tape reels?

You can find pictures of UNIVAC I on the internet.

I thank those that have sent notes of understanding as we pass the halfway mark of 2016.

*Joe LaViola - President*

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## Letters to the Editor

*Submitted by Samuel A. Conti*

### **Jacob's Journey** - by Noah Ben Shee

To control ourselves, we, must 'realize we are NOT in CONTROL.

Our path in life is often not our decision but how we decide to live with decisions that have already been made.

A PERSON MUST BE AT HOME WITH HIMSELF.

Though our mind knows a Path, Our heart is :the Way.

If you miss me, then draw near to me by loving God and draw near to GOD, ...by loving those around you.

Wisdom surrounds us. It is seldom hidden but often overlooked.

When we shut our eyes, the truth does not go into hiding.

When we are young, death is a Rumor. When we are old, death is a Door. But not knowing what's on the other side of the door IS FRIGHTENING." Why?

Before you were born you were on the other side of the Door. And do you remember being frightened then?

When you are born. It is out of great darkness that we find our parents, When our parents are gone, they can no longer be lost to us than we can lose ourselves. Only when we place too much importance on who we are do we misplace our SELF?

Age is not the work of time but rather how we work our time. Living is the best preparation for dying. Life is not a failure because we die, but only if we fail to live.

*From Sandy Drummond*

### CONCERNING EYE CARE

Hi, I am saddened to hear about the termination of the retirees group, but can understand the situation the leadership faces and their decision.

However, I want to point out the disservice that one of the guest speakers, Dr Glover, made in his discussion about the eye diseases that he is supposed to provide useful and healing treatments for. As a back ground, I have had experience beginning in 2005 when I was diagnosed with dry macular degeneration and cataracts in both eyes.

I was still living in Cherry Hill, NJ at that time. Progression of both of these issues were thankfully slow. In July of 2006, I moved to Chandler, AZ, and found an alternative ophthalmologist, Dr Edward Kondrot, who was recommended by my new primary care physician. Dr Kondrot described and convinced me to accept his recommended therapies which included frequency specific micro current (home) treatments, good nutrition and appropriate supplementation. It is now almost 10 years later and I am able to drive without corrective lenses (which I had worn since a

child) and with excellent nighttime vision. Now to discuss some of the comments made by the guest speaker:

1. Cataracts: "Surgery can often restore our vision." My wife will tell you this is true for her. She had surgery for both eyes. I say that I didn't want surgery if there is a less invasive solution. Dr Kondrot's solutions for me are nutritional eye drops (OcluMed), micro current and homeopathy (sub-lingual drops). I no longer have evidence of the clouded lenses called cataracts.
2. Macular degeneration: "There is no way to restore vision lost from dry macular degeneration." Dr Kondrot's solutions for me are micro current and appropriate supplementation. My eye sight allows me to drive without restriction and with excellent day and night vision. In other words: my eye sight has been **reversed, restored and cured.**

Dr Kondrot treats patients with all of the issues described in Dr Grover's presentation and others as well. His website provides insight into his vast repertoire of healing therapies: <http://www.healingtheeye.com> As Dr Kondrot is nearing retirement age, he has trained other like-minded physician healers in the protocol she uses to restore vision Their names and locations are available on his website.

Wishing all of our retirees good health and continued happiness, *Sandy*

## Obituaries

### JAMES I. WIGLE

James I. Wigle, 87, husband of Mary Louise (Giangiacomo) Wigle of King of Prussia, PA passed away on Monday, May 16, 2016 at Einstein Medical Center Montgomery, East Norriton, PA. Born in Niagara Falls, NY, he was the son of the late Ivan M. and Mary (Spurrell) Wigle. Mr. Wigle served in the U.S. Navy as an Electrical Technician for four years in Key West, Florida. He attended Penn State University and Villanova University, where he studied Electrical Engineering. Mr. Wigle was a Computer System Administrator for ***Unisys Corporation, formerly Burroughs Corp.*** where he was employed for 36 years. Jim was a former member of St. Augustine R.C.C. Bridgeport, PA. He was also a member of the Unisys Retiree's and the computer club of Upper Merion Senior Center. Surviving with his wife is a son James M. Wigle, husband of Jacqueline of La Jolla, CA and two daughters, Louise Ann Wigle of King of Prussia and Patricia R., wife of Richard S. Batchelor of Lancaster, PA. He is also survived by three grandchildren, James E. Wigle, Ian Batchelor and Emma Kate Batchelor also survived by a sister Mary Ann Vitable of Gilbertsville, PA and several nieces and nephews. He is also predeceased by two brothers, Charles and Thomas Wigle. *Jim was a member of the Unisys Retiree's Group.* (continued on page 3)

## **Obituaries** (continued from page 2)

### **BERNARD P. "BERNIE" HASSON**

Bernard P. "Bernie" Hasson, age 78, of Lansdowne, PA, went to be with the Lord on March 14, 2016. Born in Philadelphia, PA, he was the son of the late Bernard P. and Catherine Hasson (nee O'Donnell).

He was employed as a Controller for *Unisys Corp.* for 42 years. Bernie was a family man, liked following the stock market, and being "Pop Pop" to Isaiah. He was generous and kind, and always willing and wanting to be of service to anyone in need. He played a mean hand in Polish Poker and other favorite card games.

Bernie is survived by his beloved wife of 46 years, Carol A. Hasson (nee Engroff), his children Bernard Hasson, Patricia Hasson and Vicky Martin (David), his grandson Isaiah David Martin and one grandchild on the way, and his brothers Paul Hasson and John Hasson (Chris). He was predeceased by his siblings Rose Hudrick, Virginia Hudrick and Catherine Hayes.

*Bernie was not a member of the Unisys Retiree's Group.*

### **WILLIAM D. WINTER**

William D. Winter passed away on April 16, 2016. Born in Plymouth, MA in 1925, he was the son of the late Peter William and Charlotte Warren (nee Bumpus) Winter. Bill and his family descended from the Mayflower passenger Richard Warren.

He graduated from Plymouth High School in 1943 and served honorably in the US Army from 1943-1954. Bill worked at *UNIVAC/UNISYS in Blue Bell, PA* and Tactical Technologies, Inc. in Holmes, PA.

Some of Bill's professional accomplishments include: Bill was one of the 6-man development team for the RS232 serial computer interface.

He worked on many of the world's first general purpose computers while at Univac, and traveled extensively helping to develop the early US military computer systems around the world.

Bill developed numerous unique covert surveillance devices for law enforcement and the US military during his career. He was also the holder of several electronic patents. As an avid Amateur Radio (Ham Radio) enthusiast for most of his adult life, together with his good friend Fred Doughty (W3PHL) and others he helped with the early development of PARA & was a member of the esteemed Radio Club of America. Bill regularly attended and participated in the International Hamvention (Amateur Radio Convention) in Dayton, Ohio. Now a Silent Key, Bill's call sign was K3JPB.

Bill was the Deputy Arch Bastard of the "Cold Solder Joint" Chapter 442, of the International Order of Old Bastards.

He was the beloved husband of the late Ellen Elizabeth "Betty" Winter (nee Earley); the loving father of Ellen Patricia Winter Snyder (Richard) of Folsom and Carol Ann Winter of Newtown Square; the grandfather of Kyle Dunham Snyder, Kayla Brynn Snyder Pedmo (Cory), Kelly Sue Snyder, Abu Bakarr Winter, and Abu Bakarr Fullah; the brother of Gretchen Winter Lee Kourta; the uncle of Karen Lee Logins, JoAnn Lee, and Robert "Bobby" Lee as well as many more nieces and nephews; he is also survived by his best companions Larry Will, and Andrew Seybold.

*Bill was a member of the Unisys Retiree's Group.*

### **PHILIP N. SCIORTINO**

Mr. Philip N. Sciortino, age 95, passed away on Saturday, June 11, 2016. Born in Utica on May 18, 1921, Philip was the son of the late Nicholas and Josephine (Morrealle) Sciortino. He was a graduate of Utica Free Academy/Class of 1940. A proud veteran of World War II, Phil honorably served in the U.S. Army Air Corps as an Air Traffic Controller from 1942-1946 stationed in the South Pacific. On April 7, 1947 he married the former Gloria Cardarelli at Historic Old St. John's Church in Utica, a loving union of 69 years.

After his military service, Phil graduated from the Utica School of Commerce and subsequently taught business courses in the evening for several years. For 32 years he was employed by *Sperry-Univac (Unisys) in its Utica, Ilion, and Blue Bell, Pa.* locations where he retired in 1981 as Manager of U.S. Travel Accounting. For several years after he retired, Phil worked as a consultant to the Gaetano Companies. Phil was an accomplished musician and played several instruments, including the Alto saxophone, clarinet, flute, and piano. He was an avid reader, and he loved art and history. He enjoyed working with his hands and spent countless hours building model Clipper Ships. Phil is survived by his wife, Gloria; his daughters, Linda M. Sciortino, and Camille A. Sciortino. He also leaves his brother and sister-in-law, Frank N. and Carmella Sciortino of Utica; brother-in-law, Carl Cardarelli, sister-in-law Helen Cardarelli of Clinton; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by his in-laws, Jay and Agnes (Carcone) Cardarelli, Joseph Cardarelli, and Rosemarie Cardarelli; and his nephew and godchild, Nicholas J. Sciortino.

The family wishes to thank the Masonic Care Community of NY, especially the staff of the Troy Rehabilitation Unit and the Windham Household for their compassionate care during his illness; and the staff of the Dialysis Unit at the Faxon-St. Luke's Campus who were so supportive and kind. Special thanks to Gaetano family for their efforts to make Phil's last days more comfortable.

*Phil was a member of the Unisys Retiree's Group.*

## Obituaries (continued from page 3)

### ABE ROVIN

Abraham "Abe" Rovin, died April 3, 2016, age 82. He was the beloved husband of Patricia (nee Cronin); devoted father of David (Susan) Rovin, Debbie Murphy, and Diana (David) Bruck; dear brother of Lillian (late Kenny) Plotnick, Sam (late Shirley) Rovin, and the late William (late Sophie) Rovin; cherished "Zayda" of Madison, Jack, and Michael Rovin, Griffin and Chase Murphy, Kyle and Bryan Bruck; also survived by many loving nieces and nephews, brothers-in law and sisters-in-law.

Abe was an early pioneer in the computer industry with *Univac/Unisys Corp.*, passionate about sports (especially base-ball), fascinated with all things related to space exploration and a kid at heart with his love for Superhero comics. We will forever miss our "Superhero".

*Abe was not a member of the Unisys Retiree's Group*

### GREAT TRUTHS

1. In my many years I have come to a conclusion that one useless man is a shame, two is a law firm, and three or more is a congress. -- **John Adams**

2. If you don't read the newspaper you are uninformed, if you do read the newspaper you are misinformed.

-- **Mark Twain**

3. Suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of Congress. But then I repeat myself.

-- **Mark Twain**

4. I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle. -- **Winston Churchill**

5. A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul. -- **George Bernard Shaw**

6. A liberal is someone who feels a great debt to his fellow man, which debt he proposes to pay off with your money.

-- **G. Gordon Liddy**

7. Democracy must be something more than two wolves and a sheep voting on what to have for dinner.

--**James Bovard**, Civil Libertarian (1994)

8. Foreign aid might be defined as a transfer of money from poor people in rich countries to rich people in poor countries. -- **Douglas Case**, Classmate of Bill Clinton at Georgetown University .

9. Giving money and power to government is like giving whiskey and car keys to teenage boys.

-- **P.J. O'Rourke**, Civil Libertarian

10. Government is the great fiction, through which everybody endeavors to live at the expense of everybody else.--

**Frederic Bastiat**, French economist(1801-1850)

11. Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it.--

**Ronald Reagan** (1986)

12. I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts. -- **Will Rogers**

13. If you think health care is expensive now, wait until you see what it costs when it's free! -- **P. J. O'Rourke**

14. In general, the art of government consists of taking as much money as possible from one party of the citizens to give to the other.--**Voltaire** (1764)

15. Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you!

-- **Pericles** (430 B.C.)

16. No man's life, liberty, or property is safe while the legislature is in session. -- **Mark Twain** (1866)

17. Talk is cheap, except when Congress does it. --

**Anonymous**

18. The government is like a baby's alimentary canal, with a happy appetite at one end and no responsibility at the other. -- **Ronald Reagan**

19. The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of the blessings. The inherent blessing of socialism is the equal sharing of misery.-- **Winston Churchill**

20. The only difference between a tax man and a taxidermist is that the taxidermist leaves the skin.

-- **Mark Twain**

21. The ultimate result of shielding men from the effects of folly is to fill the world with fools.

-- **Herbert Spencer**, English Philosopher (1820-1903)

22. There is no distinctly Native American criminal class, save Congress. -- **Mark Twain**

23. What this country needs are more unemployed politicians. --**Edward Langley**, Artist (1928-1995)

### In Remembrance

**BERNARD HASSON** - March 14, 2016

**MAUREEN MONTEITH-LYNCH** - March 20, 2016

**DENNIS MACE** - March 6, 2016

**JOHN F. PAGE** - April 7, 2016

**ABE ROVIN** - April 3, 2016

**PHILIP SCIORTINO** - June 11, 2016

**JAMES WIGLE** - May 16, 2016

**ROBERT WILLIAMS** - March 9, 2016

**WILLIAM D. WINTER** - April 16, 2016

## On the Lighter Side

### *Grandparents*

1. She was in the bathroom, putting on her makeup, under the watchful eyes of her young granddaughter, as she'd done many times before. After she applied her lipstick and started to leave, the little one said, "But Grandma, you forgot to kiss the toilet paper good-bye!" I will probably never put lipstick on again without thinking about kissing the toilet paper good-bye...
2. My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, 62. My grandson was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"
3. After putting her grandchildren to bed, a grandmother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. Finally, she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard the three-year-old say with a trembling voice, "Who was THAT?"
4. A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like. "We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony.. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this all in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"
5. My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo and I said, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.
6. A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story. "What's it about?" he asked. "I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."
7. I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colors yet, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what color it was. She would tell me and was always correct... It was fun for me, so I continued. At last, she headed for the door, saying, "Grandma, I think you should try to figure out some of these colors yourself!"
8. When my grandson Billy and I entered our vacation cabin, we kept the lights off until we were inside to keep from attracting pesky insects. Still, a few fireflies followed us in. Noticing them before I did, Billy whispered, "It's no use Grandpa. Now the mosquitoes are coming after us with flashlights."
9. When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure." "Look in your underwear, Grandpa," he advised "Mine says I'm 4 to 6."
10. A second grader came home from school and said to her grandmother, "Grandma, guess what? We learned how to make babies today." The grandmother, more than a little surprised, tried to keep her cool. "That's interesting," she said. "How do you make babies?" "It's simple," replied the girl. "You just change 'y' to 'i' and add 'es'."
11. Children's Logic: "Give me a sentence about a public servant," said a teacher. The small boy wrote: "The fireman came down the ladder pregnant." The teacher took the lad aside to correct him. "Don't you know what pregnant means?" she asked. "Sure," said the young boy confidently. "It means carrying a child."
12. A grandfather was delivering his grandchildren to their home one day when a fire truck zoomed past. Sitting in the front seat of the fire truck was a Dalmatian dog. The children started discussing the dog's duties. "They use him to keep crowds back," said one child. "No," said another. "He's just for good luck." A third child brought the argument to a close. "They use the dogs," she said firmly, "to find the fire hydrants."
13. A 6-year-old was asked where his grandma lived. "Oh," he said, "she lives at the airport, and when we want her, we just go get her. Then, when we're done having her visit, we take her back to the airport."
14. Grandpa is the smartest man on earth! He teaches me good things, but I don't get to see him enough to get as smart as him!
15. My Grandparents are funny, when they bend over, you hear gas leaks and they blame their dog.

### *Smart Golfer*

At a municipal golf course, a foursome approached the tee of the 430-yard, par-4 sixth hole.

The long, straight fairway ran along a road that was fenced on the right. The green was slightly to the left of the straightaway with another road paralleling the green from which golfers often received heckler calls.

The first golfer teed off with a long ball slice in the direction of the road. The ball went over the fence, bounced 150 yards down the road, where it hit the tire of a moving city bus and was knocked back on to the golf course stopping just 10 yards short of the green.

As they all stood in amazement, a fellow golfer asked, "How on earth did you do that?" The response came without hesitation, "You have to know the bus schedule."

(continued on page 6)

## On the Lighter Side (continued from page 5)

### When Engineers go to Hell !

An engineer dies, and reports to the Pearly Gates.

Saint Peter checks his dossier and, not seeing his name there, accidentally sends him to Hell.

It doesn't take long before the engineer becomes rather dissatisfied with the level of comfort in Hell.

He soon begins to design and build improvements.

Shortly thereafter, Hell has air conditioning, flush toilets, and escalators.

Needless to say, the engineer is a pretty popular guy.

One day, God calls Satan and says, "So, how are things in Hell?"

Satan replies, "Hey, things are going great. We've got air conditioning, flush toilets, and escalators. And there's no telling what this engineer is going to come up with next."

"What!" God exclaims, "You've got an engineer? That's a mistake - he should never have been sent to Hell. Send him to me."

"Not a chance," Satan replies, "I like having an engineer on the staff, and I'm keeping him!"

God insists, "Send him back or I'll sue."

Satan laughs uproariously and answers, "Yeah, right. And where are you going to get a lawyer?"

### The Older Crowd

A distraught senior citizen phoned her doctor's office.

"Is it true," she wanted to know, "that the medication you prescribed has to be taken for the rest of my life?"

"Yes, I'm afraid so," the doctor told her. There was a moment of silence before the senior lady replied, "I'm wondering, then, just how serious is my condition because this prescription is marked 'NO REFILLS'."

An older gentleman was on the operating table awaiting surgery and he insisted that his son, a renowned surgeon, perform the operation. As he was about to get the anesthesia, he asked to speak to his son. "Yes, Dad, what is it?" "Don't be nervous, son; do your best and just remember, if it doesn't go well, if something happens to me, your mother is going to come and live with you and your wife..."

Aging: Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me! I want

people to know "why" I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved. (And some had potholes!)

When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of Algebra...

You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

Ah, being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

First you forget names, then you forget faces. Then you forget to pull up your zipper. It's worse when you forget to pull it down.

Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft... Today, it's called golf.

Two old guys are pushing their carts around Wal-Mart when they collide. The first old guy says to the second guy, "Sorry about that. I'm looking for my wife, and I guess I wasn't paying attention to where I was going." The second old guy says, "That's OK, it's a coincidence. I'm looking for my wife, too. I can't find her and I'm getting a little desperate." The first old guy says, "Well, maybe I can help you find her. What does she look like?" The second old guy says, "Well, she is 27 yrs old, tall, with red hair, blue eyes, long legs, and is wearing short shorts. What does your wife look like?" To which the first old guy says, "Doesn't matter, --- let's look for yours."

Lord,

Keep your arm around my shoulder and your hand over my mouth.

### **IRISH PROVERB**

**If you buy what don't need, you might have to sell what you do!**

**Attitude is everything.**

**GOD helps those who help themselves - over and over again.**

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All members are invited to contribute to NEWSBITS.

We reserve the right to edit for clarity & brevity.

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**FIRST CLASS**



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