

VIP Club Newsletter

VOLUME 26, NO. 06 www.geocities.com/vipclub2003 JUNE 2006

The Number to call for information on Unisys Retirement Status and Benefits: 1-877-864-7972.

The Number to call for information on Lockheed Martin Retirement Status and Benefits: 1--866-562-2363.

Wednesday, June 07	Board Meeting, Eagan	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, June 14	Annual Picnic Highland Park Pavilion	4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, July 12	Board Meeting, Eagan	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, July 12	Eagan, Program & Social Time	7:00 p.m.

JUNE PICNIC: HIGHLAND PARK

COME OUT AND CELEBRATE! The VIP Club Annual Picnic will be held at 4:00 p.m. on June 14th. This event enjoys the largest attendance of any Club event each year. It will be held at the Pavilion at Highland Park in St. Paul. The Club will supply hamburgers, buns, condiments, coffee, and soft drinks. All attendees are requested to bring food items for the potluck portion of the picnic - suggestions of what to bring are based on the first letter of your last name: A – F Casseroles, G – K Appetizers, L – Q Salads, and R - Z Dessert. Please include serving utensils for your dishes and mark them with your name.

JULY PROGRAM: EAGAN

DO NOT MISS this program. This program was presented 2 years ago in Roseville and will now be presented in Eagan for those who could not attend last time.

Henry A. Oertelt, our speaker, survived five years of Nazi oppression, including two years in German death camps, Auschwitz and Flossenbürg. Almost all of us are old enough to have memories of World War II and its pain and suffering, but few were exposed to or witnessed the Holocaust

Mr. Oertelt will give us a significant oral history lesson. You may also want to read his book, "An Unbroken Chain – My Journey through the Nazi Holocaust." There were 16 links in the chain of events that allowed him to survive; had anyone of these been broken he would not have been able to tell his story. His book is highly regarded and was chosen by The

American Booksellers Association This Week as a "Kids' Pick of the Lists Fall 2000". Mr. Oertelt has made many presentations to Middle School and High School Groups and stresses that "you have to do everything in your power to see that hatred will not exist anymore."

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS

Please send permanent address changes to Jack Farber addressed to the VIP Club at the address given on the label page of the Newsletter. Also, please remember that for temporary changes the U.S. Postal Service will forward your mail.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From: Bernie Jansen

Our program on May 10th at Unisys, Roseville featured a presentation on the mission, facilities, and programs of "Feed My Starving Children" (FMSC), a Minnesota charitable nonprofit Christian organization. "FMSC is dedicated to provide nourishing food to starving children throughout the world, and to providing volunteer opportunities for youth and adults." Mr. Brian Molohon, Development Director gave a very moving and

informative program about FMSC that was very well received by the Club members. FMSC has created a special nutritious meal that is heat-sealed in plastic bags and then boxed by volunteers for shipping to children all over the world. Each bag holds six life-giving meals which are prepared at a cost of 15 cents per meal. In addition to utilizing volunteer help to prepare these meals, FMSC actively solicits donations from individuals, churches and groups. FMSC reports that 94% of all donations it receives go directly to feeding children. FMSC plans to utilize 100,000 volunteers this year and produce 25 million meals for the world's poorest children. After the Program, several Club members indicated that they would support a Club effort to package food at one of the 3 Minnesota facilities. There were approximately 20 VIP Club members in attendance.

As noted in last month's Newsletter, Unisys hosted the Annual "Volunteer Recognition Breakfast" for members of the VIP Club on Wednesday, April 19th at Unisys, Roseville. A more detailed report on the Breakfast appears on page 5 of this Newsletter.

There have been several changes in our corporate liaison personnel. As noted in last month's Newsletter, our new VIP Club Unisys Liaison is Sue Carrigan. Also within Unisys, Marjorie Johnson, who handled the Club interface to new Unisys retirees, has retired and Linda Lockrem has taken over these duties. Within Lockheed Martin our new Club liaison is Tierney Helmers.

In support of the Lockheed Martin Legacy History project a coordination meeting with LM representatives is scheduled for May 31st. See the "LEGACY NEWS UPDATE" on page 4 of the Newsletter for more information on the Legacy History project.

Respectfully, Bernie Jansen, VIP Club President

From the Editors



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DINING CLUBS & GROUPS

Breakfast groups and get-togethers:

One breakfast group meets monthly at 9:00 a.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Tri-City American Legion, Old Hwy 8, New Brighton. Phone: **763-416-3903**.

Another breakfast group meets monthly at 8:00 a.m. on the 1st Thursday of each month at Joseph's Grill, 140 South Wabasha, (Wabasha and Plato) St. Paul. Phone: **651-222-2435**.

Luncheon Groups & Dinner Clubs:

One Unisys Luncheon group meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. at the Old Country Buffet, Holly Shopping Center, located at University Ave. and Mississippi St. just north of I-694. For information call **651-552-1465**.

Another Luncheon group (engineering/drafting) meets monthly on the 1st Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. at the Old Country Buffet at 2000 S. Robert, West St. Paul. For information call **651-456-0750**.

And another Luncheon group (Unisys and Burroughs) meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. at the Mall of America 3rd floor North Food Court. We sit at the tables between the elevator and Burger King. For information call **952-854-7855**.

Dinner Club. A **Unisys Dinner Club** meets monthly on the 4th Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. at Champs located at 35E and Larpenteur Avenue. For information call **763-786-1044**.

MEETING & EVENT DATES 2006

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Activity</u>
Jan. 11	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program - Social Time
Feb. 08	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time
Mar. 08	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program - Social Time
Apr 12	7:00 p.m.	Eagan.	Program - Social Time
May. 10	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program - Social Time
June 14	4:00 p.m.	Park	VIP Club Picnic
July 12	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time
Aug 9	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program - Social Time
Sept 13	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time
Oct 11	6:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Pot Luck Program
Nov. 08	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social time
Dec. 14	5:45 p.m.	USAF	Christmas Party

Note: Rsvl = Roseville, Eagan = Eagan
 Community Center, Park = Highland Park
 Pavilion, USAF = NCO Club at U.S. Air Force
 Base off Hwy 62

WELCOME NEW CLUB MEMBERS

Balbach, Don & Judy	U	Fridley, MN.
Cognetta, Judy	U	North Oaks, MN.
Criswell, Peter & Carolyn	U	Bethel, MN.
Haney, Jim & Suzette	U	Shoreview, MN.
Johnson, Marge & Marty	U	Minneapolis, MN.
Menth, Richard & Priscilla	B	Brooklyn, Park, MN.
Miller, Keith & Sherilyn.	U	Ham Lake, MN.
Sharer, Joyce R.	U	Little Canada, MN.

Shimada, Conrad S. U Oakdale, MN.

U = Unisys B = Burroughs LM = Lockheed
Martin D = Unisys Defense Systems

IN REMEMBRANCE



Nelson, Jonathan Ralph – Age 55, passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. Survived by loving & devoted wife of 32 yrs., Mary. Jonathan spent 36 yrs. with air traffic control at Lockheed Martin.

Nielsen, Norris P. - Age 66, of Burnsville, MN. Passed away suddenly on May 4, 2006 from a blood clot. Norris worked for Univac and Unisys for many years.

Padelford (Wallner), Loraine G. - Passed away on May 5, 2006. She is survived by sons, Richard and Gregory. Loraine was a longtime retired employee of Univac.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLOODMOBILE INFORMATION

AUGUST RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES.

Wednesday, August 23rd, Lockheed Martin, Eagan needs greeters and servers 9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 12 p.m.-3 p.m.

Thursday, August 24th, Unisys MACS Eagan needs greeters and servers 9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 12 p.m.-3 p.m.

Please call Marion Scott at 651-455-7952 to sign-up.

EAGAN REMEMBERS: WWII ERA ON FLAG DAY

Wednesday, June 14th is Flag Day. The Eagan Community Center and Central Park will be bursting with patriotic spirit and World War II memories from the fighting front and the home front.

The Eagan Seniors and the Eagan Historical Society are partnering with Eagan Parks and Recreation "Live Jive" concert series, for a very special event called "Eagan Remembers: WWII Era." The event will begin at noon with a concert in Central Park featuring a USO-style show with music by "The Resisters" at the Rotary Band Shell. Following the concert, displays, interpretive sessions and interactive "Fireside Chats" will be held in the Lone Oak Room at the Eagan Community Center.

View memorabilia from the WWII era, such as military uniforms, gas and sugar rationing coupons. Learn about "Victory Mail," the Rosemount Munitions Plant and talk to people who served in WWII and those that remember what it was like here at home during the war years, and much more.

This is a free, family, interactive event designed for people of all ages (donations will be accepted.) Refreshments will be provided. If you have items or

stories to share from this era or if you would like more information, please contact the Eagan Historical Society at (651) 675-5038. Submitted by Millie Gignac.

HEALTH ISSUES

Like the Hubble Space Telescope and NASA, Medicare and CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) do not allow any talk of fixing the problems. The attitude in Washington, D.C., is that we will get used to whatever is broken. And Medicare is broken, just not yet broke.

Most of the following discussion is about Medicare Part A, the hospital coverage that is funded by part of the Social Security tax. Part A is the least screwed-up part of Medicare – so far. Part B, the part that covers physicians and outpatient services and that you pay for at \$88 per month (was \$50 per month back in '01 and will be \$99 in '07) and your children pay the other 3/4ths, is still not ruined but is responsible for most of the inequities between the highly reimbursed coasts and the poorly reimbursed mid-country. The new Part C is for the Medicare Advantage programs that can include drug coverage and give the national organizations a higher payment foundation than our local non-profit organizations (Medica, Ucare, HealthPartners). And Part D is for the Drug Benefit, insurance that so many have been working hard to sell you.

The Mayo Clinic, as reported by David Phelps in the May 1st StarTrib, had a 9 percent drop in 2005 operating revenue versus 2004 and "is now considered too expensive by insurers that would rather have patients go to hospitals open to negotiating big discounts." "Trying to make tweaks to the current system is really doomed for failure," said Dr. Denis Cortese, Mayo's CEO.

A big part of the problem is that 45 percent of Mayo's Rochester patients are under Medicare and reimbursements do not always cover the cost of care. Mayo is still above goal for margin on income, but Cortese notes that, "Insurance products make money by restricting where patients can go." Cortese advocates for quality care that prevents future hospitalization or relapses.

Minnesota's big insurers (Blue Cross, HealthPartners, and Medica) negotiate volume discounts between 35 and 40 percent, according to local benefits consultant David Delahanty. He says the Mayo "discount is more likely to be 5 percent." With this pricing problem, the insurers put Mayo in the second tier based on quality and cost. If individuals consider Mayo quality something to pay extra for, they can do so out of their own pockets. (The article also notes that all outstate hospitals are ranked as second-tier because of limited rural competition.) (Last year I referenced a U of M Duluth Medical School study that had rural medical

spending at 47 percent that of urban and suburban spending.) We seem to have tiering by insurers and another kind of tiering (rationing) for the rural community.

I have to wonder how the Mayo, with salaried doctors, advanced computerized patient record system, and some of the top medical quality researchers in the country, can be considered anything less than the best for quality and value. Phelps cites the U.S. News & World Report as ranking the Mayo as No. 2 behind only Johns Hopkins as the best hospital system. I hesitate to say our Minnesota insurers have skewed cost/value equations because our non-profits are very, very good. Still, it looks to me like someone is putting parking convenience and waiting room magazine selection into the equation.

The Mayo's sad tale was followed on May 2nd by a Washington Post article on the latest Medicare forecast of worsening fiscal health. The Hospital Insurance Trust Fund that pays for hospital care started paying out more than it took in back in 2004; the trustee's latest report tells us that the fund will be exhausted in 2018, two years earlier than reported just last year.

Former trustee Marilyn Moon observed that while the report gives "the president a good rationale for having a major Medicare reform proposal in next year's budget", Bush and the Congress have greatly increased Medicare benefits and spending.

As I said at the beginning, no one is allowed to fix it. At the MN Senior Federation's Metro Expo, Prof. Susan Foote introduced some of the Medicare problems and started the conversation with the three congress people that showed (McCollum, Ramstead, and Gutknecht-the only ones we have who can spell health). They all had little stories and they all were working on bipartisan bills that would address some aspect of some part of a problem. Gutknecht favors comparisons of U.S. and European drug prices; Ramstead likes to tell us how average folk are saving money and that the system will get more user-friendly; McCollum actually seems to understand most of the issues but she is not allowed near any Congressional committees that speak to health. They are as functionally bipartisan as our Minnesota legislature and as likely to produce something that helps actual people.

Regarding Part D we have been told by the President, by Secretary Leavitt, by Commissioner McClellan, by ex-Senator Durenberger, by TPT2 and both our city newspapers that it is our duty to sign up for Part D and to help those less capable sign up. We have been told that the average senior will save \$1300 or some such. We have been told that the penalty per month for failing to sign up by May 15th is \$2.50 (it is actually 1% of \$32 this year – 32cents). We are being told that nothing is going to

be looked at this year, other than delaying the penalty for the poor. We are being told that drug importation is still a distant hope; then we are told that the FDA may work to totally block drug importation by consumers.

Our drugs have become more expensive when compared to the rest of the world; in 2000 drugs used to be about 60 percent more costly than overseas and in 2003 were 81 percent higher (based on 1,000 formulary drugs in 7 western nations). Even generic drug prices within the U.S. have become worse; generic drugs that were priced at 50 to 60 percent of branded drugs in 2000 are now 80 percent or more of the branded drugs. A Bloomberg News article from April 5 leads with an FDA study statement that says, "When two competing generic drugs come on the market, the average generic price can drop to half the cost of the comparable brand-name product." (No examples from the study were mentioned in the article.) The study also states that when only one generic is in the market, the generic is typically only 6 percent less than its branded competition, but when nine generic competitors were competing the average price went to 80 percent. We seem to have some pricing progress, but I'm not sure it's in the right direction. Submitted by Brian Berggren.

LEGACY NEWS UPDATE

Legacy Website Taking Shape

The project initiated by Lockheed Martin to chronicle our company legacy history is taking shape in our website. Check out <http://www.usfamily.net/web/labenson/Legacy.htm> for a preview of our current status and the direction we are heading. We are looking for contributors. This is a "collective authoring" project. We need people to fill in the blanks. If you see areas where something is missing, and you know a lot about it, we need your input. Please provide a description of the piece of company history that is your strong suit in an email to VIP Legacy Committee chairman, Lowell Benson at labenson@usfamily.net. Each contributor is also asked to provide a short biography of his activities at the company to be included with the write-up.

Legacy Project Represented at VIP Picnic

The June 14th VIP retiree picnic will have a focal point for our legacy history discussions. Some artifacts that have been collected will be on display. Examples include an 1824 computer, a CPF (Canadian Patrol Frigate) Model, and a P3-C Orion Model. Attendees who have artifacts to contribute are invited to bring them to the picnic. Also some debates are raging over the naming/numbering of various plants/buildings. If you have any old documentation, such as old company phone books with plant locations, please bring them to the picnic. Also another debate is raging over where was the

first Univac Park. Was it the Shepard Road facility or was it the Eagan location? No doubt firmly entrenched memories will resolve these debates.

Were You a Movie Star?

A discovery was recently made at a Lockheed Martin warehouse in Eagan, Minnesota. A pallet, stacked 3' high, with boxed-up 16 mm films was found. This was old Univac/Sperry/Unisys material going back to at least 1967. These films, which have not been viewed, were inventoried by title. Perhaps a VIP member out there played a lead role in one of these "movies." Space does not allow publishing all the titles here, but the list will be available at the History table at the VIP picnic. A few sample titles are: *Wave*

Soldering Machine June 1967, Mr. Edler's Class, You Pack your own Chute, Electronic Servants, The Priceless Component, Design and Accuracy – The Essentials of Reliability, Introduction to the AN/USQ-17 Computer Set, No Time for Cookie Jar, Automation in Air Traffic Control, The Critical Ingredient, and Man and Computer, A Perspective. If you recognize any of these titles, or better yet, if you starred in one, please let us know. Submitted by Dick Lundgren, Dick may be reached at rflundgr@aol.com.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION BREAKFAST AND YEAR 2005
VOLUNTEER SURVEY RESULTS

On April 19, 2006 Unisys hosted a Volunteer Recognition Breakfast for the VIP Club members who performed Volunteer Services in 2005. A total of 115 Unisys and Lockheed Martin retiree members who responded to the *Newsletter* survey donated 18,624 hours to various charities in Minnesota, Arizona, Illinois, Mississippi, North Carolina, Texas and Wisconsin. Fifty-seven members attended the Breakfast. The event was chaired by Bernie Jansen, VIP Club President assisted by Joe Schwarz and Dale Phelps. Unisys Corporate sponsors included Ann Thureen, Vice President, ClearPath OS2200 Systems and Sue Carrigan, VIP Club Liaison; Lockheed Martin Corporate sponsors included Lee Meyer, Director Ruggedized Computing Infrastructures Programs and Tierney Helmers, Director of Communications. Sue Carrigan and Lee Meyers addressed the group. Entertainment was provided by singer/guitarist Mary Hall.

The following fifteen VIP Club members who together donated 7,652 hours were recognized for their outstanding service: Helen and Robert Cartford, Gordon and Teta Cleaveland, Dave and Kay Duncan, Jack Farber, Dale and Jan Harbour, Mike Huck, Robert and June Myller, Jerry and Nina Raveling, and Donna Sylvester. The following one hundred members also responded to our survey: Ron & Nancy Abicht, Richard & Janet Acquard, Eugene Achterberg, Warren & Dorothy Becker, Lowell Benson, Nick Benson, Brian & Barbara Berggren, Jeanette Bias, Jim & Kay Bratsch, James & Shirley Brown, Barney & Ardella Buss, Dana & Sheila Doherty, Hank & Geri Dotzler, Leroy & Loretta DuBois, John Dufour, Faye Fisher, Millie Gignac, Roger Gilette, Nancy Gountanis, Glen & Donna Hambleton, Lawrence & Eileen Hamre, Robert & Shirley Hedlund, Chuck & Midge Homan, Bernie & Kathy Jansen, William & Harriet Kiffe, Jim & Marge Larson, Vern & Mary Latwesen, James & Lucille Lewis, Lynn & Paul Lindholm, Howard & Arlene Meier, Jim & Alice Montain, Dick Mullins, Don & Marlys Naaktgeboren, Larry & Alice Nelson, Wilbur Nelson, Dick & Corky Nicholson, Dick Petschauer, Dale Phelps, Dick Roessler, Richard & Irene Roller, Jack & Marjorie Ross, James & Janice Roth, Jerry & Seona Sands, Duane Sandstrom, Ruth Sanford, Jack Sater, Owen & Suzanne Scharf, Robert Scholz, Joe & Nancy Schwarz, Marion Scott, Arlin & Maureen Shepard, Vic & Norma Snider, Robert & Elaine Sund, James & Janice Sullivan, Norris & Dorothy Swanburg, Wesley Swanson, Paul & Carol Thompson, Paul & Daphne Toomey, Earl & Darlene Westlund, and Marvin Williams.

The Year 2005 Volunteer Activities performed by members and the hours donated to the various organizations summarized by Categories are shown in the following Table:

1.	<u>Community and Related Services</u>	3,648 hours
2.	<u>Health and Disaster Services</u>	2,236 hours
3.	<u>Meals, Food and Housing Services</u>	2,818 hours
4.	<u>Music and Theatrical Services</u>	542 hours
5.	<u>Schools, Museums, and Educational Services</u>	1,960 hours
6.	<u>Religious Support and Related Services`</u>	4,099 hours
7.	<u>Other Services</u>	3,321 hours

TOTAL DONATED VOLUNTEER HOURS FOR YEAR 2005: 18,624

**VIP CLUB – MS 4003
P.O. BOX 64942
ST PAUL MN 55164**

VIP CLUB OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS FOR THE YEAR 2006

* = A/C 651, + = A/C 612, @ = A/C 763, # = A/C 952

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
OFFICERS**

President.....Bernie Jansen *681-9988
Vice Pres.....Brian Berggren *451-9009
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Treasurer.....Jack Farber *785-9557
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VOLUNTEER CHAIRPERSONS

Red Cross Blood Drive
Marion Scott.....*455-7952

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

Membership.....Dick Mullins *552-8837
Programs - Eagan and Roseville.....
Dale Phelps #831-7843
Newsletter Editors Brian Berggren *451-9009
& Joe Schwarz *698-9698

WEBMASTER Joe Schwarz *698-9698
email address: vipclub2003@yahoo.com

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

Christmas.....Dorothy Becker #881-3516
Picnic.....Chuck Homan *699-5180

Metro Sr. Fed.....Brian Berggren *451-9009
John Dufour *639-8289
Jim Larson *698-3963

Sunshine.....Lynn Farris Lindholm *484-1030

Travel Opportunities
Roger Gillette +926-7214
& Yvonne Cecchini at *423-9196

UNISYS Liaison, RosevilleSue Carrigan *635-7955
Printing & Mailing UNISYS Print Shop, Roseville.....

Lockheed Martin, Eagan LiaisonTierney Helmers *456-4963

Directions to Eagan Community Center. Take Hwy 35E south or north to Pilot Knob Road. Turn left (north) on Pilot Knob Road. Turn left on Central Parkway (which is also the North entrance to Lockheed). The Eagan Community Center is at 1501 Central Parkway.

Directions to Unisys in Roseville. Take Hwy 35W south, or north, to the Industrial Way / St. Anthony Blvd off ramp. If coming north or south on Hwy 35E go west on Hwy 36 which will take you to the Industrial Way / St. Anthony Blvd. off ramp of 35W (Hwy 36 becomes Hwy 35W where it joins Hwy 35W). Go north on St. Anthony Blvd. to Walnut St. (the first street on the right). Turn right and go to Highcrest Road. It is the first place where you can turn left. Past the stop sign, Bldg 3 is on the right. Gate 5 is in the center of the building. From Hwy 280 northbound, use left lane exit just past Cty Rd B for Terminal road access (St Croix St.). Turn left at Terminal Rd, then turn right at Highcrest Rd to building entrance.