

VIP Club Newsletter

E-news Version

VOLUME 31, NO. 08 <http://www.vipclubmn.org> **OCTOBER 2011**

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, October 05	Board Meeting, Roseville	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, October 12	Social Time and Program	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov 02	Board Meeting, Eagan	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, Nov 09	Program and Social Time	7:00 p.m.

OCTOBER PROGRAM: Roseville

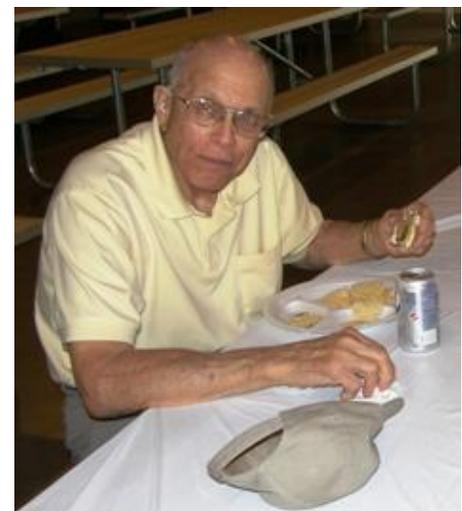
Our October program will be a real treat, from the standpoint of both “nutrition” and entertainment. Ice cream and pie are the calling cards for feeding and pleasing the inner bear. And for entertainment we will witness a real “out of body” experience by someone who can project himself into “other beings.” Our man on stage will be Kevin Doely, a man of the cloth who followed a long desired urge to go where few men have gone before. Kevin is an associate pastor (call him Rev Kev) at Faith Lutheran in Coon Rapids, MN, and the avocation he pursued is that of a musical ventriloquist. (Nobody believed he was serious about that pursuit.) His background as a Norwegian American



probably wired up his eccentricity gene and gave him the flare to reach people through his innate sense of humor. If you recall seeing Edgar Bergen (also with Norwegian DNA) along with his faithful friends Mortimer Snerd, Charlie McCarthy, and others, then you have a good mental image of Rev Kev and his multiple personalities. “Dummies” is too strong a word for his companions; they seem to have real personalities, great insights, and endless punch lines. Rev Kev adjusts his presentations to fit all ages. Be ready to laugh. You can check out his website at <http://revkev.net> for reviews, prior performances, and a sample video. Now be honest, didn't we all try ventriloquism after seeing a few Edgar Bergen clips?

NOVEMBER PROGRAM: Eagan

In the 1960s Univac provided land and ship based computer-aided tracking systems to the space program. Two of these were



on Ascension Island and in South Africa. Manny Block will show his slides and narrate aspects of these installations. The successful acceptance tests included tracking a missile that impacted near Ascension Island (slides of the reentry will be shown) and tracking astronaut Carpenter's capsule (now in Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago) from Africa. See section 3.7 of <http://vipclubmn.org/people1.aspx> for a bit of the presentation history.

Manny is an octogenarian with many interests and skills: ham radio operator, small aircraft pilot, pianist, post retirement doctorate, worked with Seymour Cray, First Friday regular and UNIHOG participant, also worked at CDC, Civil Air Patrol volunteer, etc. He first worked at ERA in 1951. We are glad that he has volunteered to share this part of his employment history with Club members."



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
From: President Lowell Benson

Six years have passed since Richard 'Ole' Olson approached the Club Board (Oct. 2006) with the idea of a Legacy Committee. I volunteered to be a Club Director candidate, pledging to co-chair the committee with LMCO representative Ole. Dick Lundgren spoke up, volunteering to join this committee. Ole and I first met in the fall of 1963 when I was a computer operator in the Plt. 1 Military Computer Center and he was a programmer. Dick Lundgren and I first met in 1970 in Hengelo, Holland when he came to teach an 1830B maintenance course and I was the on-site installation engineer. The first committee activity was when Dick L. arranged a meeting with Dr. Arthur Norberg at the Charles Babbage Institute (CBI) - John Skonnord joined us representing LMCO. Then Ole's persuasion skills started a stream of career summaries and product/project descriptions/stories. I started a web

page, later merged with the Club site as a repository for these stories. Almost 200 of you have contributed an item; prolific writers submitting items for multiple sections have been Dick Erdrich, Lyle Franklin, Dick Lundgren, Don Mager, Jim Rapinac, and Harry Wise. Dr. Tom Misa replaced the retiring Dr. Norberg as Director of CBI, as such he holds the U of MN Engineering Research Associates Land Grant Chair for History of Technology. Tom became an advisor to our Legacy Committee.

Dick Lundgren identified the Minnesota Sesquicentennial as an opportunity to take our 'story' public. A great team came together: Larry Bolton, Quint Heckert, Bernie Jansen, Dick Lundgren, John Skonnord, Ron Q. Smith, Harvey Taipale, Tom Turba, and John Westergren (Ole retired and John seamlessly became co-chair of the committee.) After we presented the 'heretofore untold' story on the Capitol Mall during the Bicentennial Celebration, we were invited to tell the story at the Minnesota State Fair – over 70 volunteers staffed our booth there and half-a-dozen made presentations during our 2-hour technology seminar. Then the ERA to UNISYS & LMCO basic story went into the Minnesota time capsule to be opened during the 2058 Bi-centennial.

Since January 2009 a stalwart group (Harvey, Larry, & Quint) has met twice a month at LMCO to catalogue 400+ hardware artifacts/trinkets, 1200+ documents, and are now working on processing 6000+ images/photos. In January 2013 we will no longer have storage space nor working space in the closing LMCO plant – thus we now have a little over a year to finish the cataloging chores, get documents transferred to CBI, and find repositories for our hardware artifacts. If you think that you'd have some spare time to help, please stop and talk to me or another Legacy Committee member after the October Program meeting.

In order to focus my 2012/13 volunteer time on converting the web site to a Legacy anthology book draft, I've decided to not be a candidate for a second term as Club President.

Minnesota Demographer, Tom Gillaspay, began his September program talk with an adage: "Every 12 months each of us ages one year." Then he proceeded to show the population shifts of Minnesota from the prairie lands to urban and suburban areas. Also, he pointed out that our 65+ age population mix will jump up from 12.7% to over 20% as many of the post WW II babies pass social security age. Although attendance was dismal (1.6% of our membership); 16 members, four spouses, and one guest – many stayed around

after his talk to ask questions. Again, the UNISYS Eagan facility visitor's entrance conference room worked quite well. Thanks to Lynn, Marion, and Quint for providing coffee and cookies.

Respectfully, Lowell Benson, VIP Club President

From the Editors



Joe Schwarz (651-698-9698) &
Brian Berggren (651-451-9009)
Address: VIP Club, 1486 Fairmount Ave, St Paul MN
 55105 e-mail: vipclub2003@yahoo.com

The Newsletter Editorial Staff:

Bernie Jansen, e-mail bjskj@hotmail.com
 Richard Lundgren, e-mail rflundgr@aol.com
 Don Naaktgeboren, e-mail donfishn@yahoo.com

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 Gina's Café at the Eagles Club, 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, from September through April, on the 4th Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. at Champs located at 35E and Larpenteur Avenue.

MEETING & EVENT DATES 2011

Date	Time	Location	Activity
Jan. 12, 2011			No Meeting
Feb. 09	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program - Social Time
Mar. 09	7:00 p.m.	Eagan.	Program - Social Time
Apr. 20	8:30 a.m.	Gina's Cafe	Volunteer Breakfast
May. 11	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time
June 08	4:00 p.m.	Park	VIP Club Picnic
July 13			No Meeting
Aug. 10	7:00 p.m.	Rsvl	Program - Social Time
Sept. 14	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social Time
Oct. 12	6.30 p.m.	Rsvl	Social Program
Nov. 09	7:00 p.m.	Eagan	Program - Social time
Dec. 15	4:00 p.m.	USAF	Christmas Party

Note: Rsvl = Roseville, Roseville; Eagan = Unisys MACS Bldg.; Park = Highland Park Pavilion, USAF = OFFICERS Club at Fort Snelling.

WELCOME NEW CLUB MEMBERS

Blevins, Jr., Clifford & Audrey U Bayou Vista, TX
Phelps, Douglas L Eagan, MN
Thorsbakken, Lloyd U Blaine, MN
Werth, George U Bethesda, MD
White, Cynthia U Roseville, MN

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

IN REMEMBRANCE

Huberty, Richard L. - Age 78 of St. Paul. Passed away on August 27, 2011 after a sudden event. Survived by wife Phyllis and seven children.

Charles G. Kettleon

Age 79 - Passed away on August 27



Kittleon, Patricia Ann (nee LaClair) - Age 82 of Little Canada, MN. Passed away on August 11, 2011. Patricia was a secretary at Univac Roseville for a many years.

Louis, Victor - Age 92 of North Branch. Passed away on August 25. Retired from Unisys in 1982; survived by wife Lorraine and daughter.

Mattson, Lucille – Age 62 of Brooklyn Park on August 26. Survived by husband Dick and son.



McCann, Larry P. - Age 72 of Eagan, MN. Passed away on August 17, 2011. Larry was preceded in death by his wife, Elizabeth. Larry was retired after a long-career as an employee of Unisys.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ELECTED OFFICE

Please consider volunteering for your board. As chair of the nominating committee, I again invite applications to serve your fellow retirees as a VIP Club director or officer. Who we most hope to hear from are Roseville facility retirees to better balance your board. Also, several on the board have been very active for more than ten years and might like a service break. The newer board members might like fresh faces with more new ideas and energy, and welcome help with our activities as we transition with decreasing corporate support.

Please call or email Brian Berggren if you can consider volunteering, or suggesting someone who would be a good candidate, - then come to our VIP program on November 9th to vote for your 2011 officers and directors.

RE-LOCATING?

Please send permanent address update information to our database Membership Director at, VIP Club - P.O. Box 131748 - Roseville, MN 55113. Also, please remember that for temporary address changes, (vacations/snow birds, etc.) the U.S. Postal mail forwarding service should be used. Submitted by Quint Heckert.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

The Bowling League has started its 2011-2012 season at Cedarvale Lanes in Eagan. They have three person mixed teams that bowl at 4:45 on Thursdays. If you are interested in joining contact Kevin or Liz Schwarzbauer at kschwar@hotmail.com.

The Lockheed Martin and Unisys Golf Leagues will be discussing the plan to merge and associate with the VIP Club this fall. So plan on a continuation of the availability of league golfing in 2012. The two leagues were originally together before Unisys sold the defense side of the business to Loral/Lockheed Martin. This recombination should provide a strong participation base that will assure continuation in spite of corporate decisions to leave the area. If you are interested in being an officer in the league, contact Keith Behnke at keithbhnk@comcast.net.

Mark Your Calendar – details coming in the November newsletter

November 18, the UNIHOG/UNITURKEYs will have a luncheon gathering at the Lost Spur.

December 1, the Old Timers will gather at the Ft. Snelling O'Club – cafeteria lunch or just drinks.

MEDICARE FORUMS

Vital Aging Network and Mature Voices Minnesota are co-hosting “Your Medicare: Making the Best Decisions” forums. Principal speaker is Derek Robinson, M.D., Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Region V (Chicago) Chief Medical Officer. Additional presenters are Senator Franken (via DVD), Representative Betty McCollum, and an aide from Senator Klobuchar. Also planned is a Minnesota Medicare Overview and Senior Linkage Line help with Medicare options and savings plans.

Forums are scheduled for Tuesday, October 11, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Roseville Lutheran Church, 1215 Roselawn Avenue West, Roseville, MN. and Wednesday, October 12, 8:30-12:30, at the Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington.

Please visit vital-aging-network.org to register and identify preferred breakout session to assist in space planning. Submitted by Brian Berggren

WEB SITE REVIEW by Lowell Benson.

This is the seventeenth in the series of “Article for the Month” reviews for Club members who don't have immediate internet access.

In July 2010 we posted [Legacy Display](#) at the University of Minnesota - 2010 summer session by Lowell A. Benson. This summer session display focused on the ERA spinoff history and the rich legacy of our involvement with computers and systems of the space age. One of the poster illustrations showed the T-III computer. Another showed the 200 nanosecond memory plaque of which I wrote last month.

In August 2010 we posted History of [NSA](#)

[General](#)

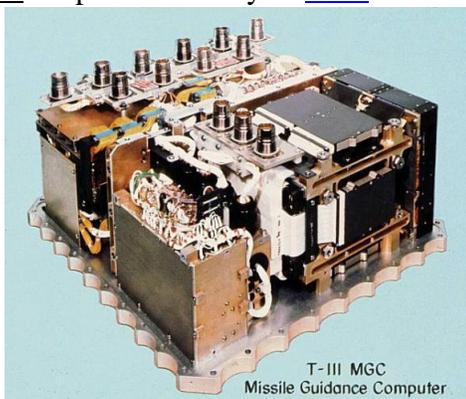
[Purpose](#)

[Electronic](#)

[Digital](#)

[Computers](#)

by Samuel S. Snyder, 1964. This document chronicles all of the



National Security Agency's computers through 1963 including the ERA ATLAS I, ATLAS II, BOGART, the UNIVAC 1224A (CRSPI), and UNIVAC 490. This governmentattic.org paper was declassified in 2004 by NSA, forty years after internal 'military' need to know availability. On page 39 is written "Two UNIVAC 1224~ computers have been put into use, the first in June "1963 "and the second in July 1963. Performance has been excellent. Four more are under construction for delivery early in 1964. Procurement of 10 more for other purposes is being initiated." The document Chapter 3 also lists some Commercial computers including several early IBM and CDC units. One of the more interesting chapters talks about remote operations in 1958 using the BOGART S/N 5 as its central computer. This system was upgraded to a UNIVAC 490 based operation in 1963. Page 93 of this document lists the ATLAS I (1) as being installed in December 1950 and retired in 1959.

Letter to VIP Club membership

"My banking horror story! I am a UNISYS (UNIVAC) retiree and a Club member. My retirement pension is direct-deposited into my checking account each month. With Auto-pay of periodic bills, my financial life has been easy thus I don't monitor balances regularly. Here's what happened to my TCF account. On August 11th, UNISYS via Hewitt and Mellon Bank of New York did twenty debits (withdrawals) in excess of \$18,000. This resulted in a negative account balance of approximately \$9k. On August 12th they did seven credits (deposits) raising the account balance to approximately -\$2,500.00 (negative balance.) TCF sent me a letter advising me of the problem. After a number of calls to UNISYS Benefits (in India) and several calls to Mellon Bank, on August 18th the rest of the money was credited back into my checking account. UNISYS benefits admitted a mistake was made, but would not or could not supply any details. Each debit/credit was

in the amount of past/present monthly pension payments. BEWARE!!" Submitters name not printed at his request, *LABenson*.

Reader feedback, re' September newsletter photo collage

Roger Gillette: I worked in Paul Welshinger's lab for several years. Please send me a higher resolution version of the environmental laboratory picture collage (September newsletter.) ... I'm pretty sure that the burn in guy is Dick Roller, still a VIP member. Rog

Ralph Kerler: Hi. I'd like a better JPG file on Paul Welshinger's photos. I assume I can identify the missing names but need to see bigger, better quality photos. Enjoy the VIP Newsletter. Only complaint is I'd like added info when available with the "In Remembrance" data and pictures. Especially in which Department each employee primarily worked. Thanks

Larry Bolton: The first name that comes up relative to transistor burn-in with a first name Dick is Dick Roller. He was manger of Component Evaluation in 1967. This photo is probably earlier than that and I have no idea if that could be him. Dick was at the VIP picnic in June.

LIGHTER SIDE

A hooded robber burst into a Minnesota bank and forced the tellers to load a sack full of cash. On his way out the door, a brave Minnesota customer grabbed the hood and pulled it off, revealing the robbers face. The robber shot the customer without a moment's hesitation. He then looked around the bank and noticed one of the tellers looking straight at him. The robber instantly shot him also. Everyone in the bank, by now very scared, looked intently down at the floor in silence. The robber yelled, "Well, did anyone else see my face?" There are a few moments of utter silence in which everyone was plainly to afraid to speak. Then, an old Norwegian named Ole tentatively raised his hand and said, "My wife got a pretty good look at you."

