# VIP Club Newsletter

VOLUME 36, NO. 5
June 2016
http://vipclubmn.org

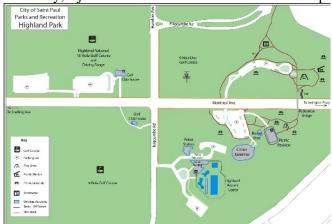
#### **UPCOMING EVENT ITEMS**

Our IT Legacy	June 01	10 AM – Board Meeting	UNISYS, Roseville
ERA	June 15	3:00 PM – Annual Reunion Picnic	Highland Park, St. Paul
Engine ering Research Associates	July	No Program	
1946 - 2016	August 3	10 AM – Board Meeting	UNISYS, Roseville
2010	August 17	11 AM - River Cruise	Stillwater

## JUNE PROGRAM Annual Reunion Picnic

Join us at the VIP Club Get-Together and Picnic at the Highland Park Pavilion on Wednesday, June 15. We will start this year again at 3:00 PM for food then be done around 7:00 PM.

Once again, since we are planning for a big group, we will have additional parking at the Highland Park High School parking lot with bus service to the Pavilion if necessary, just to the left of this area map.



We are making the cost the same this year, \$5.00 per member (spouse or significant other is counted as a member). Please RSVP with the form on page 7 by June 2<sup>nd</sup> so we can print a nametag, have enough food, and schedule the shuttle bus service. Unregistered drop-ins will be charged \$10 at the nametag table. Last year we had about 250. We look forward to seeing everybody there. If anyone wants to have some additional fun by volunteering to help with preparation, serving, or clean-up, please contact John Westergren at <a href="mailto:jwestergren@frontiernet.net">jwestergren@frontiernet.net</a> or 952-358-1174. Submitted by John Westergren

Page 8 has GPS and direction information.

## AUGUST PROGRAM An Outing on the Water

Save the date Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> 2016 for a luncheon cruise on the St. Croix River from Stillwater, MN. We will be boarding at 11:00 a.m. and set sail at 11:30 a.m. for a 2-hour cruise. The cost is \$15 per person and includes lunch. Registration with payment must be received before August 1<sup>st</sup>. Stay tuned for further details.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Newsletter Inputs: For the July/August Newsletter issue; please send articles, recent obits, or lighter side items to Joe Schwarz before **June 16<sup>th</sup>**, see Contact Data section for mail address.

MSRA (Minnesota Street Rod Association): Their 50th Annual 'Back to the Fifties' will be at the Minnesota State Fair Grounds in St. Paul on June 17-19. About half-a-dozen of our VIP Club membership

are among the 13,000+ MSRA members. There are just about 12,000 vehicles pre-registered for this year; all Twin Cities residents get to see these restored beauties from 1910 through 1964 eras



around the St. Paul and Minneapolis city streets that week.

Fall Calendar Dates: Sept 14<sup>th</sup>, Program in Eagan; Oct 12<sup>th</sup>, Program in Roseville; Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>, Unihog/Uniturkey luncheon at Casper's; Dec. 1, Annual Old Timers' Reunion at the Lost Spur; and Dec. 8, Annual Christmas dinner at the Lost Spur.

Director Position: The board needs a youthful person (under 70) to learn our processes and then provide leadership for future years. 1) Contact any board member, 2) sit in on one of our board meetings, and





then 3) consider joining us as part of your retirement time allocations, 8-16 hours per month

#### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

As we move into summer, with hopefully good weather, I spend much of my spare time golfing. With the Unified Legacy Golf League sponsoring both league play and tournaments many Lockheed and Unisys employees/retirees get to enjoy continued work related



friendships. We play at many courses around the Twin City area and are always looking for new golfers. The VIP Club also plans outdoor events, such as the Annual Reunion Picnic at St. Paul's Highland Park in June and the River Boat Trip which will be on the St. Croix at Stillwater in August this year. These are great opportunities to get together with former co-workers so I hope many of you will take advantage of them and submit your registration forms. Watch the newsletter for the events we have planned for September, October, November and December. We would like to see more of you at our get-togethers. *Keith Behnke*, 2016 Club President.

#### **IN REMEMBRANCE**

Culberth, W. Wayne – Age 78 of Eagan, MN.



Survived by wife of 60 years, Joan. Wayne joined Sperry Univac in 1978 and left Unisys 10 years later. Wayne worked on UYK-20 & UYK-502 computer developments.

**Dech, James J. (Jim)** - Age 89, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Jim is survived by wife Thora of 51 years. Jim enjoyed a 37-year career as a technical writer at Univac/Unisys. Jim was a long time member of the VIP Club.



**Dustin, Clarice Joyce** - Age 90, of Brooklyn Park, MN. Passed away at home on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016. She will be deeply missed by her loving husband of 69 years, Glenn "Dusty". Clarice

was a Unisys retiree and a long time member of the VIP Club.



**Kemp, Grant Edward** - Age 77 of Rochester, Minn., formerly of Duluth. Passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Grant spent 20 years working for Sperry, Loral, and Paramax, which ultimately became Lockheed-Martin, he retired in 2004.

Grant was a long time VIP Club member.

**Kulp, Robert Elliott** - Age 82 of Blaine, MN. Passed quietly in his sleep on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Before retirement Bob had worked for Unisys for 25 years. He is survived by his loving wife, Yasuko Kulp.



**Nathan, Dale C.** - Age 81, of Eagan, MN. Passed away on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. In 1965 Dale moved to Minnesota to accept a position as General Counsel for the Sperry Univac Division of the Sperry Rand Corporation, where he served for 13 years.

**Rosenwald, Frederic J.**- Age 80 of Plymouth, MN. Passed away Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016. After service in the U.S. Navy he worked in HR for Sperry Univac (Roseville MN). Preceded in death by his wife Genevieve.



**Sampson, Lewis Henry** - Age 88, of Richfield, MN. Passed away on 4/20/2016. Lewis is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Marilyn. Lewis worked for Sperry Univac for 32 years

and was a long time member of the VIP Club.

#### **NEW MEMBERS, May 2016**

Donald & Jackie

Limberg

#### **SOCIAL ACTIVITY ITEMS**

**Volunteer Recognition Luncheon:** Over 40 people were at Joseph's Café in St. Paul on April 20 as we recognized the 2015 volunteer efforts of the 98 VIP Club members who responded to the annual survey.



Event coordinator & Member Emeritus Bernie Jansen greeted attendees while Kathy and Millie staffed the

check-in table. Bernie and Joe Schwarz created the luncheon booklet which listed the responding persons and survey results – 24,275 volunteer hours in total. Bernie and Club secretary, Frank King, received and processed the paper and electronic survey submittals.



Frank also recommended that the board approve a hot ham and turkey lunch buffet instead of the cold sandwiches we'd had last year. In the lunch line above are Bob Pagac, Les Nelson, Greg Oxley, Betsey Roush, Keith Behnke & wife Sue, and Steve Koltes. A collage of most attendees is on page 6/7.



Club President Keith Behnke (left) emceed the Recognition Luncheon program which began with the presentation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual 'Jansen Volunteer Extraordinaire' certificate to Richard 'Dick' Lundgren by Past President Lowell Benson.

"Shortly after the Information Technology (IT) Legacy Committee was formed; Mr. Lundgren began to write Legacy articles for the VIP Club newsletter, see http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/LegacyCompendium.pdf. He was the first volunteer to join the Legacy Committee when Ole and Lowell agreed to co-chair that committee at the October 2005 Club board meeting. Then Dick arranged our first contact with the Charles Babbage Institute and also was our first with the Minnesota Sesquicentennial commission. He subsequently participated in the sealing of the bi-centennial time capsule that contains some of our artifacts and a record of our sesquicentennial initiatives and IT Legacy. Page 4 of the April newsletter has an article 'When Did Air Traffic Control Really Begin Anyway?" That makes well over 40 Legacy items for the newsletter.

During this same decade, he has supported our Club's Program Director Dale Phelps with write-ups about speakers for the monthly newsletter program announcements, and in several cases did the speaker arranging when Dale was recovering from surgeries. Outside of the club volunteerism, Dick has contacted and arranged speakers for the Syttende Mai luncheon for about 15 years, first for coordinator Ole then coordinator Dale Torgerson. If one reads the April 2016 newsletter, the May program arrangements and write-up therein were from Dick.

Quietly working in the background, he always gets things done. Dick Lundgren is quite deserving of the 2nd Jansen Volunteer Extraordinaire award."



Our UNISYS guest, Betsey Roush spoke to the audience about the current UNISYS activities in the Twin Cities and worldwide. They've developed software to run some OS2200 mainframe apps on PCs.

Our Lockheed Martin guest, Steve Koltes, told

us about the spin-off of the Air Traffic Management operations to the Leidos group to be completed later this year.





Our Dakota Co. Historical Society guest, Greg Oxley (left), and Club volunteer, Keith Myhre spoke about the ongoing cataloguing efforts at the

Lawshe Memorial Museum. After three years the volunteers there have completed



1,200 35mm slides, 4,000+ documents and about 20,000 photographs. A real challenge continues to be identifying people in

pictures. At the present level of volunteerism, there may be another 5 years of cataloguing to do.

After the guest talks, Club Program Director, Dale Phelps, called upon a few volunteers to describe their volunteerism:

**Don Weidenbach** has had 25 years doing Loaves & Fishes plus 15 years of Airport Travelers Assistance. He is also involved with his co-op's basement workshop where they do various repair jobs for 400 units. **Nancy Gountanis** is in her 17<sup>th</sup> year coaching students in a Science, Technology, and Engineering Magnetics school. **Gene Kurata** donates two days a week at the PET project which builds 3-wheel carts for 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries' disabled and does church maintenance. Other Club Members Jim Conn and Tom Montgomery also volunteer there. Gene's wife, Marcia Lewis volunteers at the National Wild Life refuge. Article & photos by **LABenson**.

**Membership Survey, third article**: This update of the December survey results focuses on the Club's website, <a href="http://vipclubmn.org">http://vipclubmn.org</a>. There were 250 people in our survey that responded to the questions about the website and indicated that almost half visited the website at least once a month.



Answered: 250 Skipped: 5

Every Week

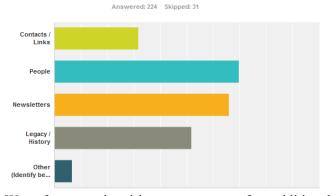
Once a Month

A Few Times a
Year

Once a Year

You also might be interested to know the VIP Club's website has become one of interest for computer and electronic history buffs around the world. Every month we get questions from young and old alike about the many of the articles and documents that are shown on the site. Most recently it provided the background for a young high school student in the Seattle area for her term paper. We're waiting to hear about her grade.

### What VIP Club website pages do you view and why?



We often get inquiries or requests for additional information from relatives and children or grandchildren of former employees who are curious about the jobs and careers of their family members. We always try to help and provide any background information were we can.

Many of our members utilize the website for accessing the current monthly newsletter or past issues. They also use it to remember many of the programs, projects and people they've been associated with over their careers. We've been asked about providing the complete list of VIP Club members through the website and have determined that privacy concerns are more important than widely distributed information. Putting a list of over a thousand people out in the public domain through our website could and probably would open the door to a significant increase in junk email coming into your computers. That is why we haven't and won't post that information. If you as a member want to check on any former employee that is a Club member, just send an email to the webmaster and he'll get you the information: privately.

Thanks to everyone who took the time to respond to the survey. Next month we'll provide a description of changes driven by the survey results for the future of the VIP Club.

Next month we will address the final questions and comments concerning the board, so stay tuned and thanks again for your interest in the VIP Retiree Club. Submitted by John Westergren.

Roseville Good Old Days Recap: Another successful Roseville Good Old Days event coordinated by Tom Turba occurred on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Some of the people helping were Marv Brown, Pat Corbet, Paul Dickson, Orrin McGill, Tom Weidenkopf and Lowell Benson. The attendee count is between 360 and 380. A few of the people attending are still working at UNISYS Roseville and took time off to visit with former coworkers. We have reserved the Mermaid's Atlantis Ballroom for Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 based on attendee positive feedback. Thanks to all who helped organize and support the event. Submitted by LABenson & TNTurba.

**Membership Tidbits**: The Club's membership database includes formulae to count how many members have opted to receive our newsletters electronically. The no response have email addresses in the database but have not designated paper nor electronic delivery notices. These will default to electronic at the member's next renewal.

News Letter Delivery Method			
Send Electronically (E)	499	58.1%	
Do <b>NOT</b> Send Electronically (P)	197	22.9%	
No response (NR)	30	3.5%	
No e-mail (NE)	133	15.5%	
Invalid Email (IE)	0	0.0%	
Invalid Address (IA)	0	0.0%	
Active Member Deliveries	859		

Our members' have noted their affiliation, i.e. where he/she last worked.

Company Affiliation			
Burroughs (B)	2	0.2%	
Lockheed Martin (L)	337	39.6%	
Unisys (U)	510	59.9%	
Unknown (M)	0	0.0%	
Complementary Copies (C)	3	0.4%	
Total Active Members	852		

The following members plus some Wisconsinites are within easy driving distance of the VIP Club coordinated events

Distribution by Twin City Counties		
Anoka	37	5.8%
Dakota	298	46.5%
Hennepin	112	17.5%
Ramsey	142	22.2%
Washington	52	8.1%
Total in TC Counties	641	

Submitted by LABenson

#### **CONTACT DATA**

#### 2016 VIP Club Board:

Keith Behnke	President	651-894-2182
Orrin McGill	Vice President	763-755-7765
Frank King	Secretary	651-774-0997
Harvey Taipale	Treasurer	651-748-5083
Dale Phelps	Director	952-831-7843
Joe Schwarz	Director	651-698-9698
Gish Devlaminck	Director	651-470-8905
Tbd	Director	
Lowell Benson	Past President	651-483-3709

#### Newsletter Editorial Staff:

Letters to the Editor to: VIP Club, 1486 Fairmount
Ave, St Paul, MN 55105 or e-mail to Chief Editor
Joseph Schwarz: <a href="mailto:jschwarzsr@centurylink.net">jschwarzsr@centurylink.net</a> or
Editor Bernie Jansen <a href="mailto:jsjk@msn.com">bjsjk@msn.com</a>, or Editor
Richard Lundgren <a href="mailto:rflundgr@aol.com">rflundgr@aol.com</a> or Editor Don
Naaktgeboren <a href="mailto:dongsangle-mailto:d

#### Club Activity Coordinators:

CBI Liaison; Dick Lundgren, <a href="mailto:rflundgr@aol.com">rflundgr@aol.com</a>
Christmas Dinner; Bill Galle, <a href="wagalle@mac.com">wagalle@mac.com</a>
and Lynn Lindholm, <a href="mailto:lynnlindholm@comcast.net">lynnlindholm@comcast.net</a>.
IT Legacy Committee co-chairs; John Westergren, <a href="mailto:jwestergren@frontiernet.net">jwestergren@frontiernet.net</a> and Lowell Benson labenson@q.com

Lawshe Museum Support/Coordination;

- Exhibits; Keith Myhre kmyhre@lightblast.net
- Photo ID work; Tricia Myhre
   pbm5454@hotmail.com
   jcsimon1st@frontiernet.net

Membership; Gish Devlaminck gdevlaminck@comcast.net

Picnic Coordination; John Westergren, Frank King <a href="mailto:kingx063@umn.edu">kingx063@umn.edu</a>, and Jim Larson, <a href="mailto:i.jameslarson@comcast.net">i.jameslarson@comcast.net</a>

Programs; Dale Phelps; drphelps416@gmail.com Recreation Leagues; Keith Behnke,

keithbhnk@comcast.net

Roseville Good Old Days; Tom Turba

tnturba@comcast.net

Sunshine Cards; Lynn Lindholm lynnlindholm@comcast.net

Volunteer Luncheon; Bernie Jansen, bjsjk@msn.com and Frank King, kingx063@umn.edu

Webmaster; L. A. Benson, webmaster@vipclubmn.org

#### VIP CLUB Corporate Liaisons:

LMCO, Eagan – Steve Koltes 651-303-9112 Unisys, Roseville/Eagan – Sue Carrigan, 651-635-7712 Unisys print shop – Judy Bornetun, 651-635-6792

**Retirement Status and Benefits**: These are numbers to call if you or your heirs have death benefit or pension questions – you will need SSN and a PIN. Unisys

1-877-864-7972

Lockheed Martin

1-866-562-2363

#### **REPORTS, LEGACY ACTIVITIES**

Save Our Shadowboxes: UNISYS has asked for help from the legacy committee during their 2017 transitioning from the last 'plant 4' facility. Wherever the UNISYS Roseville operations downsizes to, it is unlikely that they'll have space for a history display, see <a href="http://vipclubmn.org/Exhibits.html#Unisys">http://vipclubmn.org/Exhibits.html#Unisys</a>. An SOS Task-team of volunteers is being gathered; if you are willing to participate, send a note to <a href="mailto:labenson@q.com">labenson@q.com</a>, thanks.

Letter to the UBBRG Board of Directors: In our May newsletter, we reprinted President Joe La Viola's message announcing the dissolution of the Unisys Blue Bell Retirees Group at the end of 2016. The reprint was because some of our members have Blue Bell ties, just as some UBBRG members have ties back to Minnesota. We can empathize with your decision reasons as we too have seen a decline in membership as well as some difficulty in enthusing retirees to volunteer to serve on our board, albeit not to the degree that your board has experienced. We chose to reprint your 'closing' announcement for our current membership as we too may have to make a similar decision within the next decade or so.

Your corporate beginning with Eckert Mauchly Computer Corporation (EMCC) and our beginning with Engineering Research Associates (ERA) are linked for eternity! Most computer historians know that Bill Norris was one of the founders of Control Data Corporation. There is an interesting paragraph Mr. Norris' writings: "ERA was one of two companies that

launched the computer industry. The other was Eckert-Mauchly in Philadelphia which was established during June 1946, six months after ERA. Interestingly, Engstrom and I met with J.P. Eckert during our search for funding. He and John Mauchly were also having difficulty arranging for financing. We offered to join forces, but Eckert declined. Ironically, we came together later when Remington Rand acquired EMCC in 1950, and in 1952 acquired ERA. These two companies constituted the Univac Division of Remington Rand. In 1955 Remington Rand was acquired by the Sperry Corporation to form Sperry Rand. I was given the job as general manager of the Univac Division of Sperry Rand." Of course, after Burroughs bought Sperry to form UNISYS, a St. Paul person said that the UNISYS acronym meant Univac Is Still Your Supplier.

Yes, both of our retirees' organizations have many, many members with careers that have spanned parts of the evolution of computers from the vacuum-tube behemoths to today's smart phones. Your retirees' organization had medical benefits as a driving purpose in its early days. Our organization focused on social activities and volunteerism until 2005 when we began to focus on 'telling the untold story' of our heritage companies. A primary method of 'telling', was/is to get people to tell his/her part of the story and to put those parts into a website anthology. Some of those story parts came from your organization, take a look at "http://vipclubmn.org/BlueBell.html" "http://vipclubmn.org/UNISYS.html". Our products have come and gone - however people and memories of them are forever. An example of person who worked at both of our locations; a few of the UBBRG members may remember Albert 'Bert' Meuleners who passed away in 2004. He retired from Blue Bell after a career that started in St. Paul in the Antennae Coupler manufacturing organization, went to Rödelheim Germany for several years, then onto Blue Bell. Even while living and working in Germany and in Blue Bell he kept his ties to Minnesota by participating via phone and mail in the Growth Stock Investors club with other Univac-ers and was a member of the VIP Club. His widow, Francis, maintains their VIP Club membership to this day. There were many others who had worked in both locations, you know who you are.

We want to thank Al Rollins for facilitating the UBBRG contributions to our web site. And thanks to the UBBRG board for exchanging newsletters with us for a couple of decades. We archive our newsletters two months after distributing them to our active members — take a look at <a href="http://vipclubmn.org/Newsletters.html">http://vipclubmn.org/Newsletters.html</a>. And, if you would like to keep in touch by sending articles to our newsletter editor or by joining us to get notification of the latest newsletters, our website has contact and membership information.

Good luck to each and every one of you as you enjoy your retirement years. *LABenson* for the VIP Club Board

#### **LIGHTER SIDE**

Syttende Mai Door Prize: The recipient of this travel door prize asked to remain anonymous.



Luncheon Collage: There were many lively conversations among the Apr 20 lunch attendees! People in the collage on the next page are: Row 1 - Marion Scott, Bob Langer, Don Naaktgeboren, Betty Herman, Marcia Lewis, Gene Kurata, and Alan Douglas. Row 2 - Iva Nell Monson, Gayle & Harvey Taipale, Jim Larson, Bill Galle, and Don Weidenbach. Row 3 - Tom Burns, Johanne & Frank King, Gary Herman, Tom Weidenkopf, Tom Turba's backside, Steve Koltes, and Sue Behnke. Row 4 - Hank & Geri Dotzler, Ruth Sanford, and Dale Phelps. Betsey Rausch, Virginia & Tom Turba. Row 5 -, Dick Lundgren, Barbara Horn, Nancy Gountanis (Menning), Steve Koltes, Greg Oxley, Keith Myhre, Jim Overocker, Tricia Myhre, and Bob Pagac.



"Our website also has the picnic registration form, <a href="http://vipclubmn.org/PicnicForm.htm">http://vipclubmn.org/PicnicForm.htm</a>
-- Cut Here -- Cut Here

#### REUNION PICNIC REGISTRATION FORM --

VIP Club members	ATTOMO REGIOTRATION FORM
I plan to attend (name):	\$5.00 per member
Spouse/friend will attend:	\$5.00
Non-member	
I plan to attend (name):	\$10.00 per non-member
Spouse/friend will attend:	\$10.00
My email address is:	
•	VIP Club membership registration form and dues to get the 2 for a one-year membership (2017) and the picnic.

Please mail w/check before June 6th to: VIP CLUB PICNIC P.O. Box 131748 - Roseville, MN 55113-0020.



P.O. BOX 131748 ROSEVILLE MN 55113-0020

#### **DIRECTIONS TO ACTIVITY VENUES**

Car-pool if possible to all events or contact a board member for possible 'ride-with' suggestions.

**Directions to UNISYS in Roseville:** Set your GPS unit to Roseville MN, 2470 Highcrest Road. <u>From Hwy 35W north;</u> exit onto W County Rd C to go west a mile, then turn left onto Walnut St. Then turn right onto Terminal Road for half a block, turn right at Highcrest Rd. to building entrance. <u>From 35W south</u>, exit on Industrial Way / St. Anthony Blvd off ramp, turn left, drive under the freeway, then turn right onto Walnut St. Follow it 0.8 mi north then turn left on Terminal Road. Go ½ blocks and enter the UNISYS parking lot on the right. <u>From Hwy 36 east</u>, drive west until 36 joins Hwy 35W just past Hwy 280, then exit at the Industrial



Way / St. Anthony Blvd. off ramp of 35W. Go north on St. Anthony Blvd. to Walnut St. [the first street on the right]. Turn right onto Walnut Street.

**Directions to Unisys MACS in Eagan**: Set your GPS unit to Eagan MN, 3199 Pilot Knob Road. <u>From Hwy 35E</u> take the Pilot Knob Road exit ramp. Then go north on Pilot Knob Road about ½ mile to Tower View Road. We use the Unisys north parking lot and the visitor entrance thereby.

**Directions to Highland Park in St. Paul:** Set your GPS unit to St Paul, 1200 Montreal Ave. From the Roseville area; take 36 to 35E going south through the city, exit at W 7<sup>th</sup> (Hwy 5) and turn right. After three blocks angle right onto Montreal Ave and drive uphill ½ mile. The Pavilion is on the left. From the Eagan area take 35E north toward St. Paul, exit at W 7<sup>th</sup> (Hwy) 5 and turn left. Proceed to Montreal Ave angling right and drive ½ mile. From St. Paul, find Snelling Avenue, drive south to Montreal Ave then turn left. Drive ¼ mile to Pavilion on right. Shuttle bus parking is at the High School, Snelling and Montreal.

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