

**KANSAS CITY, MO –LAURA MERTEN**

Laura sent in this photo of the “Lunch Bunch” out in Kansas City – **Juanita Thomas, Filomena Trzok, Brenda Watson, Laura Merten, Ann Roberts and Evelyn Cain.** Laura writes that she had right knee arthroscopic surgery on April 23 and this has really slowed her down. She missed being able to drive for a while the most and says she was getting around in a van sitting on the floor facing backward! With this mode of transport and a walker she was able to get around. Since she is now feeling better she is sharing these touches of humor with us:



L to R: Juanita Thomas, Filomena Trzok, Brenda Watson, Laura Merten, Ann Roberts, Evelyn Cain

It is well documented that for every minute that you exercise, you add one minute to your life. This enables you at 85 years old to spend an additional 5 months in a nursing home at \$5,000. per month! (Laura says it is OK to have flabby thighs as long as your stomach covers them.) The advantage of exercising is that you die healthy!

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA/NEVADA – JANE FUKUHARA**

**Jane** writes that they had 35 retirees and guests attend the 2008 reunion at Tony Roma’s at Jack London Square in Oakland. It was a very relaxing reunion just meeting with former co-workers and their guests. **Derald and Betty Grow** traveled all the way from Meridian, Idaho and **Bob Stanley** came from Jacksonville, Florida. **Otis Lloyd** entertained the group with one of his songs. Attendees were: **Art Albert, Tim Alderman & guest Helen Reddick, Paul Barrett, Jerlene Bolds, Elizabeth Cael, Paul Crosbie, Eusebio de la O, Blanda Duncan, Roger Duncan, Ralph Griffin, Lucy Grmoja, Derald & Betty Grow, Carolyn Harrison, Reola Johnson, Clyde & Delores Kelly, Phyllis Larsen, Otis Lloyd, John Morgan, Jay Morgan, Sue Morgan, Carol Schmidt-Mulcahy, Jerry Mulcahy, Billy Phillips, Ed Rominger, Richard & Jeanne Rout, Tony & Rose Silva, Bob Stanley, Marguerite Zulaica and Jane & John Fukuhara.**

A long-time correspondent for the *Newsletter*, **John C. P. Morgan** wrote me that he went to the annual lunch held this year at Tony Roma’s in Jack London Square in Oakland, CA. **Jane Fukuhara** (See photo at right) was presented with a bouquet of flowers in recognition of her hard working putting the lunches together each year. The food was excellent and all seemed to enjoy themselves. Jane announced that this was her last year organizing the reunion. She will advise her replacement for the 2009 reunion.



Jane Fukuhara with flowers

**John C. P. Morgan** lives in Pomona, California, about 400 miles from Oakland, and his chosen mode of transportation was train and bus. As John tells it: “It began with a bus trip from Pomona to L.A., followed by an AMTRAK bus run to Bakersfield. And (drum role, please) a really stimulating train ride north through the San Joaquin Valley through the afternoon and part of the evening. It was hot in the last car, where I was, but still an interesting way to spend six or seven hours. AMTRAK has four trains in each direction daily, which is one reason I prefer the Central Valley route to the Coast run, although the latter is prettier. Arrived in Oakland around eight PM, and walked over to the Jack London Inn. (The get-together this year was in Tony Roma’s, which like the station and the hotel is in Jack London Square.)”

John says he felt a lot better after checking into the hotel and getting a shower and change of clothing. He also said that he thoroughly enjoyed the continental breakfast served at the hotel. “I took my cereal and juice out on the veranda and luxuriated in the fresh air and sunshine. This is not something you may do readily in the Los Angeles area, where we have smog.” (See the photo at left of Jack London Square waterfront.)



Jack London Waterfront

On his trip home, John says he took the trip up in reverse but wound up staying up all night on the bus trip from Bakersfield to L.A. and then waiting at the station in L.A. for the bus service to Pomona to start on a Sunday morning. He has a personal note to himself to spend the night in Bakersfield next time.

**Tim Alderman**, one of the attendees and shown in one of John Morgan’s photos, writes that his memory had been playing tricks on him as he thought the launch of the Westar I Satellite happened in 1972 until he read **Stephen Koronka’s** article and realized it was 1974. He then says that it was only 18 years that transpired between when he was in the wire room at FQ (San Francisco) and when he brought the first legal reception of CNN and MTV into what was then the Soviet Union, not 20 as he somehow “mis-remembered”.