

UA Service is “Apeeling”

UA Helps Keep ‘Barefoot’n Banana George’ on the Move

When, and if, you catch up with United American policyholder “Barefoot’n Banana George,” you’ll know it. He’s the gray-haired guy, dressed in yellow, gliding on his bare feet over various bodies of water around the world.

The attire is yellow because “of course, it’s my favorite color,” Mr. Blair said. The feet are bare because he’s a professional barefoot water skier. And the hair is gray because “Banana” hit the ripe age of 85 in April.

So suffice it to say that “Banana George” stands out, regardless of the setting.

“When I walk the streets of Paris, I wear a yellow cowboy hat,” Mr. Blair said from his Paris apartment. “I’d say that I stand out a little bit.”

Chances are, you have seen “Banana George” either on a television talk show or one of the many commercials in which he has appeared.

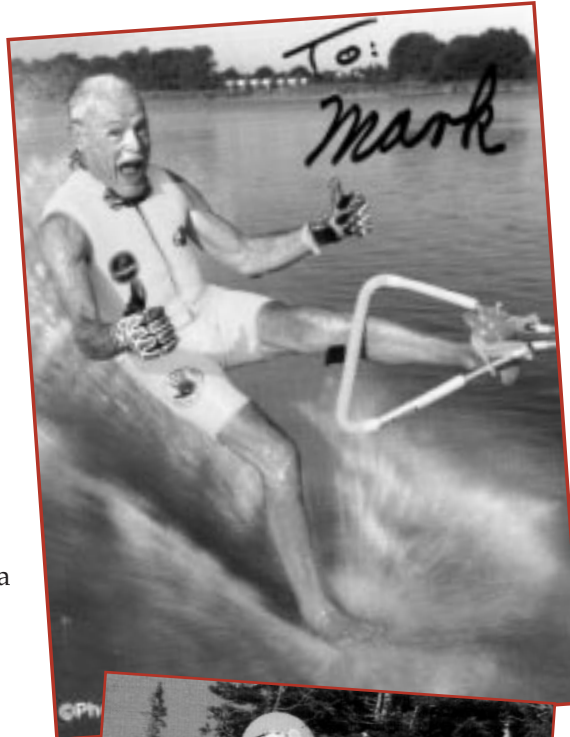
Maybe it was on “The Late Show with David Letterman,” “Regis and Kathie Lee” or “Oprah.” Or maybe you recognize him from the Nike commercial “Penny Hardaway’s Super Bowl Party” that ran during the Super Bowl in the early 1990s or a Chevrolet commercial.

He’s easy to spot, but hard to keep up with.

His itinerary for the next few weeks is “typical,” Mr. Blair said. Here’s a few weeks in the life of “Banana George:”

- a flight to Paris where he’ll spend a week at his apartment;
- five days in a Monaco hotel as a guest of the House of Monaco for the Monaco Grand Prix;
- a flight back to the states;
- four days in his New York apartment;
- then a flight back home to Florida.

And that’s his leisure time.



“I’m always busy, busy, busy,” Mr. Blair said. “And I love it. I’ve been living life to the fullest my whole life.”

Prior to his trip to Paris and Monaco, Mr. Blair was the main event in a barefoot skiing exhibition in Wichita, KS that drew over 100,000 spectators.

He has also received numerous honors for his snowboarding prowess.

“I was at my condo in Steamboat Springs, CO on my (85th) birthday and Bill Kidd, who is known as Mr. Steamboat, named me the one and only ambassador for snowboarding in Steamboat,” Mr. Blair said.

“That was a real special honor.”

Mr. Blair also led the U.S. Olympic snowboarding team down the mountain during Olympic qualifying in 1998, an honor he treasures as his most prestigious.

With so much to do, Mr. Blair has little time to deal with much else, including insurance paperwork. And that’s the main reason he purchased a Medicare Supplement policy from United American 10 years ago. It’s also the reason he has maintained his relationship with UA.

“The nice thing is that I never see any paperwork,” Mr. Blair said. “I’ve had

other people come to me and say that they can sell me something different. But I just keep renewing because I’ve been satisfied with the things UA has done for me.

“You have always been there for me.”

Which is important when, like Mr. Blair, you “just can’t wait to get to the next thing.”