

TRA's
No Name

GAZETTE

For Northrop Grumman & TRW Legacy Retirees

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Our 33rd Year

July/August 2021

Western Museum of Flight Talk by Dale Hoffman and Jack Trost

TRA has continued to provide opportunities for TRA members to convene on line and to hear from interesting speakers. On Monday, June 28, 2021, TRA sponsored an on line Zoom event with Dale Hoffman and Jack Trost, who gave an overview of the Western Museum of Flight.

The Western Museum of Flight is an aviation museum located at Zamperini Field, the municipal airport in Torrance, CA. It houses not only historic aircraft, but also has an extensive collection of historic photographs and blueprints.

The Northrop Corporation established The Southern California Historical Aircraft Foundation in 1979 to operate the museum to demonstrate, preserve, and promote the proud heritage of the aerospace community in Southern California.

The museum has several rare aircraft among its collection, including the second Northrop YF-23 Advanced Tactical Fighter (ATF) 5th-generation stealth fighter demonstrator. Also on display is the first Northrop/McDonnell Douglas YF-17 Cobra, a fighter which was the basis for the Boeing (originally McDonnell-Douglas) F/A-18 Hornet. In addition, the collection includes a Grumman F-14 Tomcat and a Douglas A-4A, plus numerous other notable jet and propeller-driven airplanes, spacecraft models and Apollo Program information.

Dale's program to the TRA membership described the heritage of the foundation and how the museum carries out its charter through community outreach. Jack gave a virtual tour of the many aircraft, spacecraft exhibits, artifacts, and displays housed in the museum.

If you missed it, the on line event was recorded and is available on our website. If you haven't registered for a website account, this is an opportunity to do so.

All of us from TRA want to thank Dale and Jack for their talk. If you have topics for an on line event, email us at tra@tra-spacepark.org and let us know.



Grumman F-14A at WMOF

HAPPENINGS AT NORTHROP GRUMMAN

NASA Statement on James Webb Space Telescope Launch Readiness

NASA's James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), which is the premier observatory of the next decade, remains on schedule for a launch readiness date no earlier than Oct. 31, 2021.

Webb will ship to the launch site in August with little to no schedule margin; launch processing will take two months. The observatory has completed all the post-environmental testing deployments, and it is in its final integration and folding stages. Final stow, closeout, and pack and ship are imminent. NASA is working closely with the European Space Agency (ESA) and Arianespace on establishing the launch date. JWST will launch approximately four months after the first launch of the Ariane 5 this year, which is scheduled for late July. Webb has no launch date constraints; hence, it can launch almost any day of the year.

GAO's Annual Review of DoD Programs Raises Concerns on Space Launch, Missile Warning Satellites

Technical challenges in the development of United Launch Alliance's new Vulcan rocket could prevent the Defense Department from ending its reliance on the Russian-made RD-180 rocket engine by 2022 as required by Congress, the Government Accountability Office said in a report to Congress.

National security space launch was one of 107 military programs reviewed by the watchdog agency in its 2021 annual report on the performance of major defense acquisitions.

GAO said delays in the development of Vulcan's main engine could make it difficult to comply with legislation that bans DoD from procuring launches on RD-180-powered vehicles beyond 2022.

DoD for decades launched satellites on ULA's workhorse rocket the Atlas 5 — which uses the RD-180 engine to power its first

Happenings - continued Page 3

New TRA Members

Linda Grossenbacher	Pacific Palisades, CA
Michael Leung	Lomita, CA
Gary Joseph	Torrance, CA
Joseph Provenzano	Torrance, CA

We hope these new members will send a note to us at mailpouch@tra-spacepark.org telling us a little about themselves and where they worked at Northrop Grumman/TRW.

TRA for Northrop Grumman Retirees

The Retirees Association (TRA) welcomes the retirees and the spouses of retirees of Northrop Grumman and TRW.

2021 Officers

Mary Ann Chory	President
Michael Narigon	Vice President
Charles Clendening	Treasurer
Pam Overton	Secretary
Dena Bouskos	Past President

2021 Directors-at-Large

Joyce Komatsu, Jim Nelson, Carol Schamp,
Stephanie Sundius, Jack Trost

Archives Coordinator: Bob Doll

Facebook Coordinator: Stephanie Sundius

Membership: Joyce Komatsu

Website Coordinator: Steve Smith

The No Name Gazette is the official publication of TRA. It is published six times a year.

Publication Staff

Editor: Michael Narigon

Contributor: Pam Overton

Copy Editors: Kim Lewis, Carol Schamp

Contacting TRA

By Mail:

TRA, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

By Phone:

310-813-7745 for voice mail.

By Email:

TRA@tra-spacepark.org - Your emails will be routed to the appropriate source. And, if we have your e-mail address on file, we send out special alerts to TRA members as the need arises. To get on the TRA email list, just send us a brief email requesting to be added to it.

By Web:

Our website is at www.tra-spacepark.org. It is an excellent source for the latest news, lists of the new retirees, travel details, party photos (more than get into the NNG), forms of all sorts, personal photographs, and much more. Register, log on, and browse.

For Membership:

TRA Membership is open to Northrop Grumman and TRW-legacy retirees at \$10 per calendar year. The application is available on the website.

TRW/NG Retirees Meetings Around the U.S.

As everyone knows by now, Covid-19 protection protocols have affected in-person meetings. E-mail or call the contact to make sure the event is occurring before you go. Changes from last issue are marked in **bold**.

If you have a group that you would like to have listed here, please contact us by email at tra@tra-spacepark.org.

GROUP	MEETING LOCATION	DATE & TIME	OTHER INFO	CONTACT
TRA Board Meeting	Zoom	3rd Wednesday, 9:30 AM, Monthly except December	Decisions, planning and actions on archives, events, NNG, coordination with NG	All members welcome. Contact TRA to receive meeting link
ATD Friends & Colleagues	Send ideas for meeting location	2 November 2021, 11:00 AM	Social, Nostalgia, Lunch	Jack Trost, Dena Bouskos, Cindy McCully 310-377-2194 cschamp@aol.com
Beach Cities Get-together	Grunions Restaurant, 1501 N Sepulveda Blvd, MB, CA	Last Monday, Even months, 11 AM to 2 PM	Social	Allen Parker 310-780-0712 777allendsp@gmail.com
Brevard Retirees	On hold due to Covid-19		Social	Tom and Vicki Moore 828-808-0457 seneca75@verizon.net, thistle33@verizon.net
Central Coast Chapter	Various Locations in the Central Coast Area	Various days: contact Zaiser for details	Social	George Zaiser 805-473-2105 gzais34@icloud.com
Houston Chapter	Baybrook Denny's, 19212 Gulf Fwy, Friendswood, TX	3rd Tuesday, 8:30 AM	Social	Gary Dinsmore 281-461-6270 samngary@att.net
Huntsville Chapter	Red Lobster	2nd Tuesday, 11:30 AM	Lunch and Social	Jim Troy 850-797-0044 jtroy28x@gmail.com
Northern Virginia	Zoom	3rd Friday, 11:30 AM	Social	Jim Miller 703-483-5448 jmiller158@gmail.com
Utah	Layton Cracker Barrel	1st Thursday, 8:30 AM	Breakfast Social	Charles Vono 801-745-5879 charlesvono@comcast.net
San Diego Chapter	Event Dependent	3rd Tuesday, Alternate Months	Social or Board Meeting	http://sandiego.tra-spacepark.org Jim Denton 858-385-0150 JWDenton@san.rr.com
Temecula Valley	On hold due to Covid-19		Social	Maureen Locken 951-818-6811 Maureen_Locken@yahoo.com
The Mountain Folks	On hold due to Covid-19		"We do have fun!"	Carl Winkelman 303-693-0034 winkelman@att.net
TRIN	Zoom	2nd Thursday, 1:00 PM, Optional lunch at 12:30	Investment info based on monthly newsletter reviews	Bob Eshbaugh 310-376-5880 eshonnet@yahoo.com
Ventura Romeos	Mimi's Cafe Thousand Oaks	1st Tuesday, Lunch	Social	Frank Yunger 805-444-1541, Harry Stroud 805-653-5117

IN MEMORIAM

Al Bailey, June 7, 2021.

George Gulnac, May 12, 2021. George worked QA and Test Engineering on FLTSATCOM and several other I&T projects. He was both smart and clever with a wonderfully droll and biting sense of humor. In retirement he was a valuable resource to his community.

Bud (L. J.) Orlando, April 4, 2021.

Jan Snapper, November 17, 2020.

The first step in notifying Northrop Grumman of a retiree's death is to call the Northrop Grumman Benefits Center. If the deceased was a member of TRA, please notify TRA whether you want the NNG continued or you want to be removed from future mailings.

If you know of a person that should be included in the "In Memoriam" column, please inform us by either email or mail to the TRA office. As a minimum, we request the name of the deceased, date of death, and the name of the person submitting the information. If more information is available and desired, include age, position and years at NG/TRW, any notable programs, and special skills.

Happenings - from Page 1

stage. In 2016, Congress directed the Pentagon to stop using launch vehicles powered by Russian engines and only allowed DoD to award contracts for Atlas 5 launches through 2022.

In August 2020, DoD awarded ULA and SpaceX five-year launch service contracts for approximately 34 launches starting in 2022 and continuing through 2027. For this contract ULA bid its new Vulcan rocket which uses the domestically produced BE-4 engine made by Blue Origin.

"A U.S. produced rocket engine under development for ULA's Vulcan launch vehicle is experiencing technical challenges related to the igniter and booster capabilities required and may not be qualified in time to support first launches beginning in 2021," said GAO.

National security space launch program officials told GAO that Vulcan "remains on track to support first launches and certification in 2021," the report said. "However, if ULA cannot complete engine qualification before the 2021 flight certification, the program might continue to rely on ULA's Atlas 5 to support ULA's 2022 launches, despite a nearly \$2.9 billion investment in new launch system development."

Last month, ULA confirmed that Vulcan's first launch will be pushed from 2021 into 2022 due to customer payload delays. Blue Origin said it expects to deliver the first flight-ready BE-4 engine later this year. Vulcan has to successfully complete two orbital flights before it's certified for national security launches. The company said it reached an agreement with the U.S. Space and Missile Systems Center to use the Atlas 5 to launch what would have been Vulcan's first national security mission.

Missile warning satellites

In its assessment of defense programs, GAO also raised concerns about the U.S. Space Force's Next-Generation Overhead Persistent Infrared satellites, an estimated \$12 billion constellation intended to provide initial warning of a ballistic or tactical missile launch anywhere on the globe.

The current program includes three geosynchronous orbit satellites made by Lockheed Martin and two polar orbit satellites made by Northrop Grumman.

Benefit Contacts for Retirees

The Northrop Grumman Benefit Center (NGBC) is where you can report a change of address, report a death, or apply for a pension. See the "myRetirement" menu item on the NGBC home page for retiree services.

Northrop Grumman Benefits Center (NGBC)

www.benefits.northropgrumman.com

Phone: 800-894-4194

Fidelity administers pension payments and the Northrop Grumman savings plan.

Fidelity NetBenefits

www.netbenefits.com/northropgrumman

Via Benefits handles Medicare supplemental insurance and open enrollment.

Via Benefits (a Tower Watson Company)

www.viabenefits.com

Phone: 855-832-0976 (M-F 8AM-9PM Eastern)

A small number of TRW retirees receive their medical benefits through the Northrop Grumman Benefits *Service* Center. This center is staffed by Benefits Outsourcing Solutions, Inc. Their number is 800-410-6605.

Metlife administers your life insurance if, after you retired, you continued your coverage under the Northrop Grumman group plan.

Metlife

www.metlife.com

Phone: 800-638-6420

If you were employed by TRW and retired before January 1, 2006, you may be eligible for an insurance benefit, payable on your death.

GAO said the Space Force will have difficulties meeting its target launch date in 2025 for the launch of the first GEO satellite and completing the launch of all five spacecraft by 2030.

"According to the program office, the program has 17 critical technologies, seven of which are immature," GAO said. "Most of the immature technologies are related to the payload."

The program faces significant challenges in developing and integrating new technologies, the report stated. "Driven by the 2025 launch requirement and minimal schedule margin, the program is concurrently developing mission payload engineering and flight units. Such concurrency raises the risk of schedule delays because issues identified during engineering unit testing will necessitate corrective flight unit rework."

In addition, the ground segment — developed under a separate program — may not be ready when the first satellite is delivered, the report said. "To mitigate this risk, the program is designing the GEO satellites to integrate into the existing ground architecture."

2021 Member Directory Update

Enclosed is your 2021 Member Directory Update, containing changes and additions to the 2020 Member Directory.

Thank you for being a member!

Board Members Wanted

TRA is identifying candidates for 2022 Officers and Board of Directors. If interested, contact TRA at tra@tra-spacepark.org.



P.O. Box 1276
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

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The next NNG will be
mailed in late September.

THE MAIL POUCH

By Pam Overton

◆◆◆ From **Mike Carl** – Now living down here in the Coachella Valley, La Quinta, CA. Since retiring, I have joined three organizations and keep very busy supporting them. I am on the Board of Directors of the Coachella Valley Boys and Girls Clubs, on the SCORE Organization – part of the SBA and on the Executive Committee, and the Peacemaker Organization as the Administration Manager. My wife and I and the rest of our family, including 4 grandsons living in Valencia, CA, and Berkeley, CA, are staying safe and well from the virus that is everywhere! I do miss all of you and I continue to receive emails from various NGAS individuals/executives asking when I am coming back to your area so we can talk about the Gold Old Days!! Take Care and Stay Safe. ◆◆◆ **Paul and Nadine Melancon** have lived in the Santa Ynez Valley for the past 25 years. Prior to the pandemic, they loved spending time (in person!) with their 7 children, 14 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. Paul is a docent at Old Mission Santa Ines and provides technical and managerial support to several non-profits. Nadine retired from TRW with a career in business and finance and now enjoys providing her financial expertise to non-profits. As a volunteer at Santa Barbara Cottage Heal, Nadine works in surgical pre-admit as well as providing pet therapy with her two dogs. ◆◆◆ From **Arthur Sheppard** – Hi, I retired from TRW in 1988 and am now living in Culver City with my daughter. I'm recovering from a hemorrhagic stroke. Thankfully I was not crippled. Since my wife passed away I have not done much traveling. After I finish rehab I may try a river cruise to somewhere! ◆◆◆ **James and Ann Gohl** are still enjoying life in the Palm Desert, CA area. This winter our temperatures have been in the mid 60s to low

80s. Much better than the tough weather around the rest of the country. I had to give up golf. My 93-year old legs are not up to it any more. ◆◆◆ From **John Feneck** – I haven't been doing much, because of the pandemic and my age of 93. I would rather prefer to go back in time and reminisce about my employment with TRW, STL and Ramo-Wooldridge (R-W). In October 1955 I was living in Queens, New York and working for Airborne Instruments Laboratory at Mineola, LI, NY. When a company from California by the name of Ramo-Wooldridge ran a search for employment and was having interviews in a New York hotel, I decided to go for the job interview as I was familiar with California while in the Marine Corps, stationed at El Toro. I was accepted, and hired, but my starting date would be after the holidays. In January 1956, I drove across the country in my 1948 Studebaker. En-route to California I met another candidate for RW employment by the name of **John Leone**. John and I became very good friends. During our orientation at Ramo-Wooldridge, we learned that there were three divisions. Leonne and myself were assigned to the communication division. Each division had blocks of employment numbers. Leone was given badge number 2499 and I was given badge number 2500. John Leone and I moved to Anaheim, CA and started the Anaheim car pool and spent 36 years employed at Ramo-Wooldridge/STL/TRW. ◆◆◆

Mail Pouch Items

Let us know what you are up to by e-mailing the Mail Pouch at mailpouch@tra-spacepark.org or by mail to Mail Pouch, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278.