

**TRA's**  
**No Name**

# **GAZETTE**

**For Northrop Grumman & TRW Legacy Retirees**

VOL. XXXV NO. 4

Our 35th Year

July/August 2023

## **Make Your Reservations for the TRA Summer Reunion**

Join us for the TRA Summer Reunion on Tuesday, August 15, 11:00 to 2:00 pm. We will meet at the Marmalade Café in El Segundo, where we will dine outdoors in their garden patio. It's a perfect setting for a gathering of colleagues and friends who want to visit, catch up on what's new, and enjoy a wonderful meal on a sunny summer day.

The 2023 Reunion will be at:

**Marmalade Café**  
**2014 East Park Place**  
**El Segundo, CA 90245**  
**Tuesday, August 15, 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

For lunch we will have a choice of: **Chinese Chicken Salad**, with umami soy roasted chicken thinly sliced and tossed with napa cabbage, sugar snap peas, edamame, scallions, oranges, roasted cashews, crispy rice noodles, cilantro and sesame ginger vinaigrette; the **Half Pound Cafe Burger**, made with naturally raised California Brandt beef prepared medium, on a brioche bun, with lettuce and tomato, cheddar cheese, red onion on request, served with french fries; **Fresh Salmon and Asparagus Farfalle** pasta with pieces of tender Atlantic salmon, asparagus tips and sweet onions in lemon Chardonnay cream and Parmesan cheese; **Roasted Turkey and Italian Veggie Wrap**, with thin-sliced turkey breast, roasted peppers, cucumbers, tomatoes, avocado, shredded lettuce and ranch dressing, wrapped in a flour tortilla and served with french fries; or **Cheese Ravioli** (vegetarian) made with ricotta, parmesan and mozzarella cheeses with herbs and tossed in a Yolo valley tomato cream sauce.

Also included: a beverage of your choice (coffee, iced tea, soft

drinks) and dessert. There is a no-host bar if you would like beer, wine, or a cocktail with your meal.

If you have a dietary restriction, email us at [tra@tra-spacepark.org](mailto:tra@tra-spacepark.org), and we will make arrangements with the restaurant.

The price for the Summer Reunion is only \$35 per person including tax and tip.

To reserve your spot, go to [www.tra-spacepark.org](http://www.tra-spacepark.org) (if you're not already registered for access to the web site take a few minutes to register,) and pay with a credit card through PayPal.

Or, you can mail in your reservation with your payment using the form below. Indicate your lunch choice by including the number; for example, if both you and your guest desire the Salmon, put a "2" next to the Salmon item on the form.

Please be sure to postmark by **August 2**.

Space is limited and we won't be able to accept walk-ins at the door. Registration will close August 9 or earlier if we reach capacity. We hope to see you there!

### **New TRA Members**

Michael Bernard	Seattle, WA
Tom Best	Steamboat Springs, CO
Martin Giebler	Redondo Beach, CA
Pete Lockwood	Redondo Beach, CA
Thomas Tolan	Lafayette, CO
Linda Yanez	Marana, AZ

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

### **SUMMER REUNION RESERVATION FORM**

#### **Mail-In Reservation Deadline: Postmark by August 2**

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership No. (from mailing label): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée Selection (indicate number): \_\_\_\_\_ Chinese Chicken Salad \_\_\_\_\_ Cafe Burger \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon

\_\_\_\_\_ Turkey Wrap \_\_\_\_\_ Cheese Ravioli

Total Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ at \$35 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Go on-line to [www.tra-spacepark.org](http://www.tra-spacepark.org) and make your reservations and pay using PayPal.

Or, mail with a check payable to "TRA" to the following address: TRA, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

## TRA for Northrop Grumman Retirees

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

### 2023 Officers

Dena Bouskos	President
Mary Ann Chory	Vice President
Janis MacRae	Secretary
Joyce Komatsu	Treasurer

### 2023 Directors-at-Large

Charles Clendening, Marcy Morrison,  
Michael Narigon, Jim Nelson, Pam Overton, Carol Schamp,  
Steve Smith, Stephanie Sundius, Jack Trost

**Email Coordinator:** Jim Nelson

**Membership/Facebook Coordinator:** Stephanie Sundius

**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 Email:

TRA@tra-spacepark.org - Your email questions will be routed to the appropriate source. Also, if we have your e-mail address, we can notify you of information of interest to our TRA members. Send us an email to get added to the TRA email list.

### 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.

### By Mail:

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

### By Phone:

The pandemic has limited our office hours and email is the best way to reach us. If you need to phone, call 310-813-7745 to reach our voice mail.

### 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.

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
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
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
Controls Systems (& Friends) Breakfast	Mimi's Cafe, 25343 Crenshaw Blvd, Torrance, CA	1st Wednesday, 8:50AM	Social	Michael Narigon 424-200-2971 mnarigon@gmail.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
<b>Northern Virginia</b>	<b>Zoom</b>	<b>2nd Friday, 11:30AM</b>	<b>Social</b>	<b>Jim Miller 703-483-5448 jmiller158@gmail.com</b>
Utah	Layton Cracker Barrel	1st Thursday, 8:30 AM	Breakfast Social	Charles Vono 801-745-5879 charlesvono@comcast.net
Temecula Valley	Various Locations	2nd Wednesday, 11:30 AM	Social	Sue Marbut 951-723-1157 dnsmar@verizon.net
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	Investment info based on monthly newsletter reviews	Bob Eshbaugh 310-376-5880 eshonnet@yahoo.com

## HAPPENINGS AT NORTHROP GRUMMAN

### Space Force Polar-Orbiting Missile Warning Satellites Move Toward Production

The Space Force's flagship missile warning program took a step forward this month, with Northrop Grumman receiving a passing grade in its preliminary design review (PDR) for the two polar satellites it is contributing to the planned Next Generation Overhead Persistent Infrared (Next-Gen OPIR) constellation.

Alex Fax, the company's vice president for the program, said that the successful review, held May 2-4, "helps us stay on track for an accelerated program time line to get to a 2028 launch. PDR is an important milestone in the life of the program."

In a press release, the company explained that the preliminary design review establishes the "technical approach for the full integration of the Eagle-3 spacecraft with the infrared sensor, auxiliary and high-bandwidth communication payloads" for the satellites.

The next milestone will be the critical design review in May 2024.

The Space Force, in May 2020, awarded Northrop Grumman a not-to-exceed contract for \$2.37 billion for the development of the two satellites, which will travel in a highly elliptical orbit crossing over the Earth's poles. That contract was "definitized" last year to a value of \$1.9 billion, a company spokesperson said.

"With the two of them you get continuous coverage of the northern hemisphere as well as direct comms back to continental US due to the orbit geometry, which is a nice feature for the program. The mission here is strategic missile warning, to include both ballistic and hypersonic missiles," Fax said.

The infrared payload on the polar satellites, developed by Northrop Grumman and Ball Aerospace, is a "scanning, multi-band system," explained Aaron Dann, Northrop Grumman Space Systems vice president for strategic force programs for payload and ground systems division. "In those bands, we have capability against a range of threats," he added.

It also is the same payload that will go on one of the Lockheed Martin satellites, something that "brings a lot of cost savings," Fax said.

Randy Weidenheimer, director of OPIR programs at Northrop Grumman, elaborated that the new infrared sensors have "greater sensitivity, as well as greater coverage than the current generation sensors, so there's a high expectation for their performance."

Under the original Defense Department plan, the two Northrop Grumman birds were to join three more satellites, built by Lockheed Martin, that will be stationed in geosynchronous orbit to make up the Block 0 Next-Gen OPIR constellation - designed to replace the current Space Based Infrared System (SBIRS) satellites.

The Space Force has asked for \$2.6 billion in its fiscal 2024 budget for the Next-Gen OPIR program, but also proposed to drop one of the geosynchronous satellites from the buy.

### Northrop Grumman Clears Critical Design Review for Transport Satellites

Northrop Grumman recently completed a critical design review for its Tranche 1 Transport Layer (T1TL), part of the Space Development Agency (SDA) low-earth orbit network designed to communicate vital information to wherever it's needed to support U.S. troops on the ground quickly and securely.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Elmer J. Bishop**, January 31, 2023.

**Ken Downing**, July 15, 2023. Ken worked at TRW from March 1965 to November 1994.

**Frank Eugene Hamell**, 91, March 9, 2022.

**David Lawful**, 69, May 10, 2023.

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.

opment Agency (SDA) low-earth orbit network designed to communicate vital information to wherever it's needed to support U.S. troops on the ground quickly and securely.

In early 2022, SDA awarded a combined \$1.8 billion contract to York Space Systems, Lockheed Martin Space, and Northrop Grumman Space Systems to develop T1TL, a mesh network of 126 optically interconnected satellites. These satellites will provide a resilient, low-latency, high-volume data transport communication system supporting U.S. military missions around the world.

Designed to connect elements of an integrated sensing architecture, the network will deliver persistent, secure connectivity and serve as a critical element for advancing the U.S. Department of Defense's vision for Joint All Domain Command and Control.

"We are leveraging our commercial marketplace partnerships to deliver a rapid, affordable, highly effective solution for SDA," said Blake Bullock, vice president of communication systems, and strategic space systems, at Northrop Grumman. "Our T1TL solution builds on our decades of end-to-end mission expertise. We are uniquely capable of delivering a credible capability to support the warfighter."

Northrop Grumman will provide the agency with 56 satellites, including the 42 communication satellites in the Tranche 1 Transport layer and 14 for the Tranche 1 Tracking layer, which includes an infrared sensor payload. The Tracking layer program recently completed its preliminary design review. Northrop Grumman also provides the ground system for its Transport and Tracking constellations.

### Call for 2020 Officer and Director Candidates

Each summer the TRA Board nominates its Officers and Directors-at-Large for the coming year. These names are then submitted to the members in the fall to ratify and/or to nominate other candidates.

Officers serve for a one-year term. The Directors-at-Large are elected for a term of two years.

If you have an interest in becoming an Officer or Director-at-Large, please contact us using the information on Page 2. The time requirements are modest and you will help over 1200 retired TRW/NG employees and spouses keep in contact. We need you!



P.O. Box 1276  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

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The next NNG will be  
mailed in September.

## THE MAIL POUCH

*By Pam Overton*

◆◆◆ **David Vandervoet** continues to live in Los Alamitos, CA. In 2022 his motto was “Pain-free in ‘23” so he had both knees replaced and also had a complex hip muscle surgery. He now can travel to Hanalei, Kauai, where he was for 5 days in May for a paddle-out for a good friend in Hanalei who died in October. ◆◆◆ **Stephanie Sundius** and newly retired husband **Dave Sundius** are busily enjoying retirement after the initial period of being home together at the same time. As so many others have said, how did we have time to work, there is so much to do and to have fun with, in this new phase. From making music, gardening, cooking, reading, sports, navigating the finances and insurance maze, house maintenance, volunteering, and staying in touch with friends, we’re enjoying these go-go years. ◆◆◆ From **Nadia de-Cordova**. I’ve settled nicely into retirement and my hobbies have been keeping me busy. I enjoy sailing and have opened a sail and canvas repair business. I recently joined the TRA Archives Team. I’m enjoying working with the team and going through the fascinating memorabilia and proposals they have acquired. ◆◆◆ From **Pam Overton**. Still actively involved in three quilter guilds and keeping busy making quilts for family, friends, and for charitable donation. Two philanthropy projects at South Bay Quilters Guild keep me busy: Quilts for Wounded Warriors (currently going to WWII and Vietnam Veterans) and Read-Me-A-Quilt (quilts and books going to kids in the foster system through CASA). Are

there any other quilters out there? Let us know what you’re up to! ◆◆◆ From **Jim and Peggy Nelson**. We’re delighted to share that our son, **Tommy**, just graduated from Colorado State University with a degree in Environmental Engineering. He’s excited to be starting his career in California. ◆◆◆ From **Michael Narigon**. This spring I traveled to Minnesota/Iowa to visit family. The next generation is growing up rapidly. ◆◆◆ **Jack Trost** reports that after a two-year hiatus the TRA Archive committee is now meeting every Wednesday (except the 3rd Wednesday of the month), 10 am to 2 pm at Space Park to review, document, catalog and file TRW reports, correspondence and memorabilia. Currently the volunteer staff consists of dedicated retirees including **Charlie Clendening, Jim Cunningham, Nadia Decordova, Carol Low and Cindy Noble**. Retirees interested in supporting this activity are welcomed. Contact Jack at [archives@tra-spacepark.org](mailto:archives@tra-spacepark.org) for more information. ◆◆◆

### Mail Pouch Items

When people talk to me about the newsletter they always mention how much they love hearing from other retirees in the Mail Pouch. It is easy to send in a brief note about what you are up to. Contact us by e-mailing the Mail Pouch at [mailpouch@tra-spacepark.org](mailto:mailpouch@tra-spacepark.org) or by mail to Mail Pouch, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278.